

Union President report to Scrutiny Committee

Hayley Wong

Updates:

- **Vice Provost (Education & Student Experience) Recruitment:** Interviewed several candidates and recruited for the College position of VP (E&SE). The VP works closely with the Union regarding all aspects affecting students' experience, and we meet with them bi-weekly to discuss current matters.
- **College Council Away Day:** Attended the away day with other College Council members and College Senior Leadership Team to discuss the College Strategy and White City campus.
- **College Council Second Student Member Mechanism:** Discussed and confirmed the mechanism through which the upcoming second student member on College Council will be selected. It was decided that, along with myself, another student member on the Union Board of Trustees will also sit on the College Council.
- **Freedom of Speech Bill:** Met with the College's legal department to discuss potential ramifications of the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill on the Union and the College. Set up an internal FoS working group.
- **College Strategy:** Assisted the College with student input on the College Strategy by promoting the survey and running focus groups. Many thanks to Jason, Nathalie, and Chris for facilitating the focus groups.
- **Director of Education Office Recruitment:** Interviewed candidates for College's position of Director of Education Office.
- **Imperial Magazine Interview:** Was interviewed for an article in Imperial Magazine on the topic of Women in Imperial.

Upcoming:

- Consult CU presidents on CU committee survey, and send the survey to students with CU committee positions
- Analyse the result of the Union strategy survey
- Write a green paper for the Union internal complaints & discipline review

- Visit other students' union as part of the Union strategy research
- Speak at the May graduation ceremonies
- President's Awards for Excellence in Societal Engagement panel

Objectives:

Objective 1: Review and improve the complaints and disciplinary procedures of both the Union and the College - [Part 1 completed, part 2 in progress]

Part 1 - College

After many many meetings of the Students Disciplinary Procedure Working Group, the new sets of procedures have finally be set. The new documents include:

- Revised Ordinance E2 - high level rules for the procedure
- New Student Disciplinary Procedure - detailed document on all aspects of the procedure
- Finalised Student Code of Conduct
- New Investigation Protocol - steps for disciplinary case investigators to follow
- Precautionary Action Protocol (Restrictions)
- Disciplinary Procedure Guidance - document to give parties following the procedure more guidance throughout the process

The new procedure, Code of Conduct, and protocol was passed unanimously by Senate on 1st March. The Ordinance was also approved by Senate, but will require further approval from College Council.

We will be writing a blog and an article in Felix to publicise these changes to students.

Part 2 - Union

With the conclusion of the main part of the review on the College's side, I have turned my focus now to the Union's internal review. A consultation plan and timeline has been drafted, in which a green paper laying out the current procedures, issues, and remedial hypothesis, will hopefully be produced by the end of April. This will then be circulated to interested parties (Council, LCOs etc.) during the consultation period of May.

Objective 2: Review the Constituent Union model and implement concrete support - [In progress]

I have spent significant time on this project over the past few weeks. I have conducted many one-on-one interviews and focus groups with various key stakeholders including past and present CU presidents and relevant staff. More interviews will be/have been scheduled after Easter. Moreover, I have created a survey which will gather data on students' engagement with and requirements for their faculty-level student organisation. This has been appended onto the general Union Strategy survey.

I am in the process of creating a survey for CU committee members. After consultation with the CU presidents, this will then be sent to all students with a CU committee position to understand the challenges they face and how this experience benefits them.

Objective 3: Foster a sense of community for various student groups - [In progress]

Along with the Head of Space Management and Planning, the Associate Provost (Estates Planning), and the Director of Estates Operations, finalised and awarded the first round of President's Community Fund. A total of £453,926 has been awarded this round.

Met with the College's Pro-Consul and the Deputy Director - organisational Development and Inclusion regarding the Imperial Together Action Group. We will be presenting an update on the work of the group to Heads of Departments on 25th April.

Question regarding students' sense of belonging has been added to the Union's strategy survey.

Objective 4: Build a relationship with the wider SU network for policy voice - [In progress]

Attended a Russell Group Students' Union residential at Sheffield. The main topic of discussion was the Cost of Living. We also met with the Russell Group CEO Dr Tim Bradshaw and had conversations with him regarding CoL strategies. Networked with several SUs and will be visiting them to gauge any learning we could take away for the drafting of our strategy.

Objective 5: Demystify the Union by improving communication and increasing transparency - [Delegated]

Finalised the concept of the Impact Page - it is now with the marketing team to be created.

Objective 6: Union strategy - [In progress]

The steering group has met and finalised the consultation plan. The Union strategy survey has recently been circulated to all students and have received 300+ responses so far. We have also just recieved the data from the Students Experience Survey which will feed into the strategy.

We have begun setting up interviews with various key College stakeholders. We have also visited UCL, and will be visiting more SUs to exchange ideas. Further student consultation will be happening at various committees and forums.