

DPEW's Report
A report by the DPEW

Top-up fees

Publicity in the form of flyers was received from ULU last week. This will be used in conjunction with our own publicity this week to promote the national demonstration this Sunday. (All council members are encouraged to attend.) In preparation for this I have attempted to collate the three existing FE funding policies which the Union has into a single coherent document (tabled for this meeting).

Women in Science Engineering and Technology

Following on from work previously carried out by John Collins in previous years I have met with members of College staff regarding money available to promote and support the participation of women in Science Engineering and Technology. There is a significant sum of money available and it is currently envisaged that it will be split between the central union, the GSA and Faculty Unions to run events etc. I am having another meeting this week after which more details will be available.

Aldwych Group

On Friday Imperial College Union hosted a meeting of the Aldwych Group (the Students Unions of the Russell Group) which I both helped to prepare for and attended. The meeting was useful as a forum for sharing information on a variety of topics and also the proposal for the Aldwych Group to employ a p/t member of staff to assist in research and administration tasks. There was no consensus at the meeting but I believe that such a member of staff is essential if we are to keep abreast of the increasingly important role the Russell Group is taking.

IDEA League

I held a video conference with representatives from the students' organisations of the IDEA league. Numerous topics were discussed including proposals for a European Institute of Technology and a pan-European research placements database similar to UROP.

Accommodation

I attended the College Committee on student residences which raised some interesting points on the service level provided in halls, particularly Laundry, arising from the end of year survey of residents. Once I have received the full results of the survey I will be looking at what specific areas need to be improved.

Teaching Day

There have been numerous occasions recently when departments have sought to hold lectures/lab sessions outside the recognised college day (particularly on Wednesday afternoons). So far this has been dealt with on a case by case basis, but the issue has been raised with senior College management who are supportive of our position on this matter.

Misc.

Attended college as usual, and I continue to deal with individual student cases as they arise.