



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the fourth ordinary meeting of
the
Council
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2006-2007 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in Sir Alexander Fleming room G34 at 6.50pm
on the 12th December 2006.

Present:

Council Chair	Daniel McGuinness
President	John Collins
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Eric Lai
Deputy President (Education & Welfare)	Ben Harris
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Jon Matthews
Deputy President (Graduate Students)	Shama Rahman – left 8.05pm
C & G CU President	James Fok
ICSMSU President	Shiv-Karan Chopra
A&E Chair	Margaret Holme
OSC Chair	Sabena Mughal– left 8.05pm
RCC Chair	Mark Flower
RSM President	Sebastian Turner – left 7.45pm
SCC Chair	James Millen
CAG Chair	Radha Gadhok – left 8.45pm
RAG Chair	Stephen Brown
Equal Opportunities Officer	Thomas Brodrick
Welfare Campaigns Officer	Kirsty Patterson
C&GU Welfare Officer	Emma Persky
RCSU Welfare Officer	Jennifer Morgan
C&GU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught)	Alexandra Martinsson Dorff
C & G CU Research Rep	Eirini Spentza
RCSU Research Representative	Daniel Sauder
C&GCU Representatives (Undergraduate)	Steven King
	Nicholas Simpson
	Edo Abraham
	Yanyan Huang
C&GCU Representatives (Postgraduate)	Ashley Brown
	Viktor Vojnovski
RSCU Representatives (Undergraduate)	Zhibing Hu
	Arik Funke
	Adi Misra-Godwin
RCSU Representative (Postgraduate)	Alex Guite
ICSMSU Rep (Undergraduate)	Zain Sikafi
Non Faculty Rep	Andrew Sykes - left 7.15, proxy SCC Chair
Permanent observers	
Permanent Secretary	Peter Haldane
Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: ULU President Vicky Slater, Wes Streeting, NUS Vice-President (Education)

Apologies: RCSU President Jad Marrouche, ACC Chair Luke Taylor (Proxy Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), WCUS President Jay Khaneka, ICSMSU Welfare Officer Mohammedabbas Khaki, ICSMSU Education Rep 123 Eleanor Barry ,ICSMSU Education Rep 456 Zacharia Silk, RCSU Academic Affairs Rep (Taught) Matthew Hartfield, RSCU Representative (Undergraduate) Derek Wan, ICSMSU Representative (Undergraduate) Anojan Arulanathan (Proxy ICSMSU President), ICSMSU Representative (Undergraduate) Jitin Verma

Not present: Media Group Chair James Yearsley Silwood Park Chair Michael Garrett
ICSMSU Representative (Postgraduate) David Bonsall

1. ELECTIONS TO UNION COURT

NOTED:

- a) The 3 full time students recommend by Executive Committee come from a possible 7.
 - i. Those chosen were deemed to have the experience to best represent students.
 - ii. There were no objections from Council.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To appoint Siddharth Singh (Electrical Engineering IV), Katherine McGinn (Medicine V) and Sebastian Tallents (Physics PhD) as three full members of the Union nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by the Council to Union Court**
- b) The length of term for the nominated life members was undertaken by a random draw in front of Council.
 - i. Hamish Common was appointed for 1 year, Simon Matthews 2 years and Rob Park 3 years.

RESOLVED:

- 2) To appoint Hamish Common for 1 year, Rob Park for 3 years and Simon Matthews for 2 years to Union Court as the 3 life members of the Union nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by the Council.**
- 3) To nominate The Academic Registrar, Mr Vernon McClure as the one member of the academic, academic-related or senior administrative staff of Imperial College, to be approved by the Rector.**
- c) Elections were held for the 3 student representatives on Court.
 - i. Council were reminded that RON is also an option.
 - ii. The results were as follows:

Faculty of Engineering

Andrew Holland	7
Eleanor Jay	14
RON	7

Faculty of Natural Sciences

Keshalini Sabaratnam	8
RON	20

Faculty of Medicine

Sumrit Bola	6
RON	22

RESOLVED:

- 4) To appoint Eleanor Jay as the Faculty of Engineering Student Representative to Court.**
- 5) To reopen nominations for the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Faculty of Medicine for the Student Representative to Court.**

2. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) Councillors were asked to complete their Register of Interests and return them to the Administration Coordinator as soon as possible.

3. MINUTES – 13th November 2006

NOTED:

- a) Tom Broderick is the Equal Opportunities Officer.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the minutes with amendments**

4. MATTERS ARISING

NOTED:

- a) In regards to item 12.1, Charing Cross has been receiving 2 bales of Felix.
 - i. The ICSMSU President thanked the Felix Editor for following up this action.
- b) The Transport policy has not yet been presented to Clubs and Societies Board, however is in progress and should be presented to the next meeting of Clubs and Societies Board.
- c) In regards to the fallen Islamaphobia policy, the President reported that ISOC has expressed no desire to pursue this issue.

5. PRESIDENT REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) If the vandalism in the Union building continues, drastic action will be taken.
 - i. CSC chairs were asked to cascade this information down to their members.
- b) Council were asked to contact the President if they wished to be involved in the Governance review pertaining to the legal identity of the Union.
- c) If the ULU delegates fail to attend the next meeting of ULU Council, the President will bring a motion of no confidence in the delegates.
- d) Any Union member interested in standing in the upcoming Sabbatical elections were urged to contact the current Sabbaticals if they had any queries in regards to the roles.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

The agenda was reordered to receive agenda item 9 as the next item of business.

9. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (GRADUATE STUDENTS) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Graduate Students)

NOTED:

- a) In regard to the Post Graduate Common room, The College Head of Commercial Services had given 2 options; The MDH ante room and the media centre on the walkway.
- b) When questioned by why the Deputy President (Graduate Students) did not attend the last meeting of QARC, the Deputy President (Graduate Students) stated that she was dealing with the GSA dinner.
- c) In addition to the report, the Deputy President (Graduate Students) has been visiting departments for talks.

RESOLVED:

1) To accept the report.

The agenda was re-ordered to receive agenda item 6 as the next item of business.

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

NOTED:

- a) The Clubs and Societies working group, convened from the last Clubs and Societies Board meeting, was generally productive, however dissolved in to disorder due to the amount of alcohol consumed.
- b) It was questioned when the recently formed Clubs and Societies will be advertised.
 - i. The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) stated that they will be advertised on the Website shortly.

RESOLVED:

1) To accept the report.

7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION & WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) asked those interested in feeding back to the SEC to contact him.

RESOLVED:

1) To accept the report.

8. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:

- a) The Union has not given the £1000 that in the past been granted to Explo board.
 - i. The money was not spent by the Explo board last year due to the exploration being called off due to bad weather and the money has gone in to a reserve.
 - ii. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) explained that the decision not to fund the Explo board this year was made by last years Deputy President (Finance & Services) and had not been budgeted for.
 - iii. The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) expressed concern that Imperial College Union may lose its seat on the Explo board
- b) The ICSMSU President questioned if there would be a Wye event this year.
 - i. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that if an event was to take place, there is a criterion of 5 specific conditions that must be met before the end of January.
 - ii. The ICSMSU President suggested if an event does take place, it could be Century branded.

RESOLVED:

1) To accept the report.

10. FELIX REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Felix Comments Editor, Stephen Brown

NOTED:

- a) The President stated that he has concern raised by College with Felix being just 'dumped' in some areas on campus.
 - i. The Comments Editor suggested that more distribution bins may solve this issue.
- b) The President congratulated the Comments Editor on the recent handling of complaints.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

11. CGCU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the C & G CU President

NOTED:

- a) It was questioned if College have given an explanation as to why the Careers Fair has been taken from the CGCU.
 - i. The C & G CU President stated that he had meet with the Faculty and College and it was agreed that the event has grown to a size where it is an impossible task to expect volunteers to take on whilst studying.
- b) Concern was raised in regards to the McKinsey event in that the selection did not appear to be fair and equal.
 - i. The C & G CU President stated that participants were chosen on merit.
 - ii. The President suggested that selection should have been on 'first come first served'.
 - iii. The C & G CU President stated that he will discuss with McKinsey a plan in how to screen the CV for next time

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

12. ICSMSU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the ICSMSU President

NOTED:

- a) The ICSMSU President apologised for the misspelling of Constitution.
- b) In regards to MTAS, the ranking system for Imperial College students will change next year.
 - i. A working group has been set up to ensure that the ranking system will be as fair as possible.
- c) In regards to the recent exam that was in severe breach of College regulations, the Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that College is currently approving regulations that will ensure that mistakes such as this will not happen in the future.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

13. RCSU REPORT

NOTED:

- a) The RCSU President was not in attendance to present the report.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

14. NUS REFERENDUM – RETURNING OFFICERS REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:

- a) In regards to point 6.2, the 'Department of Administrative Affairs' is the Sabbatical Officers.
- b) In regards to point 5.1 the RAG chair expressed his severe displeasure in that the YES campaign had unfair access to resources by having those who were not full time students, such as full time NUS staff, campaigning for them.
 - i. The President stated that external campaigners were not necessarily NUS staff; there were also students and sabbaticals campaigning.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

15. NUS AFFILIATION

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) NUS can make policy which Imperial College Union can agree to, however this is not compulsory; the union can stay independent.
- b) Imperial College Union will join in February if approved.
- c) Wes Streeting spoke of the future of NUS and the opportunities that Imperial College Union has to participate.
- d) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) is leading the Transitional Steering group.
- e) The President stated that College have indicated that they will cover some of the joining fee and the rest will possibly come from Executive Committee reserve.
- f) Imperial College Union will have 9 voting members at NUS Conference; 1 being the President.
 - i. It is possible that more delegates attend as non voting observers.
- g) It was questioned as to whether NUS representative will regularly attend Imperial College Union Council meetings.
 - i. Wes Streeting stated that a NUS representative will certainly endeavour to attend any meeting that they are invited to.
 - ii. Wes Streeting stressed that Unions are still autonomous even though affiliated to the NUS.
- h) A motion is being submitted to the NEC in regards to Medic representation.
- i) There was concern that delegates would not have a united view on issues and motions being proposed to NUS Conference.
 - i. It was reminded that Council can mandate representatives to vote in a specific way.
- j) The RAG Chair expressed concern that the Conference takes place in Blackpool.
 - i. Wes Streeting stated that there are logistical constraints in organising Conference.

The agenda was reordered to hear AOB 1 – ULU update as the next item of business.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19.1 ULU UPDATE

RECEIVED: An oral report was given by the ULU President, Vicky Slater

NOTED:

- a) A Student Think Tank on London Student Issues is currently being coordinated with ULU and the GLA.
 - i. The first meeting is on the 16th February.
 - ii. 24 students will be elected to sit on the committee.
- b) The Transport For London Discount Campaign is going well.
- c) A student consultation in regards to ULU Governance will be taking place on the 12th January and all students are invited to attend.
- d) The ULU President expressed wanting to keep links with Imperial College Union even though the union has opted out of ULU.
- e) It was questioned by the RAG Chair why it appears that ULU have a 'top heavy' permanent staffing structure.
 - i. The ULU President stated that to her knowledge, there was 68 members of permanent staff but was unsure how many had 'manager' in their job title.

16. MOTION: TO AMEND THE UNION CONSTITUTION TO PREVENT 'TWO-TERM' SABBATICALS

RECEIVED: The motion was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) was asked if he wished to accept the proposed amendment by the President.
 - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that he would accept the amendment on the proviso that points 2 and 3 be struck and replaced with 'No person may be a Sabbatical Officer in a central union post for 2 years'. The President accepted this amendment.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the proposed amendment to the motion**
- 2) Strike points 2 and 3 of the amendment.**
- 3) Insert point 2 to read 'No person may be a Sabbatical Officer in a central union post for 2 years'**

- b) Central Union is defined as the President and all Deputy Presidents.
- c) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that he wished to make it explicit that it is 2 years in total.
- d) The C & G CU Welfare Officer stated that this prevents those who have held a position previously as an Undergraduate and have returned to Imperial College as a Postgraduate.
- e) It was proposed to insert 'consecutive' in to the resolve.
 - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) did not accept the proposal. Council moved to a vote. To insert 'consecutive' in to the resolve.

FOR 18
AGAINST 12
ABSTAIN 2
Passed

RESOLVED:

- 4) Point 2 to read 'No person may be a Sabbatical Officer in a central union post for 2 consecutive years'.**

- f) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) made the following argument for the paper:
 - i. Presidents in the past may be considered to be dictatorial and disassociated.
 - ii. Second term candidates have the advantage of having recognition.
- g) The C & G CU Welfare Officer proposed procedural motion e. An objection to consideration of a question or motion.
- h) The C & G CU Welfare Officer argued that 2 year Sabbaticals provide continuity and especially with current projects, this is valuable.
 - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) spoke against the procedural motion and state that Sabbaticals are not there to provide continuity; that is the role of permanent staff and Court Life Members.
- i) It was stated that the motion is an outcome from the Governance working group where this was highlighted as an area to investigate.
 - i. It was suggested that the proposal be taken back to the working group, however it was pointed that this needs to be resolved now as sabbatical elections are approaching.
- j) Council moved to a vote on procedural motion e, to not consider the motion.

FOR 8
AGAINST 20
ABSTAIN 3

Falls

- k) The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) opined that being in office for 2 years is beneficial as 1 year is a short time to try to carry out projects.
 - i. The Clubs and Societies review was given as an example of a project that was handed over from the previous Deputy President (Clubs & Societies).
 - ii. The President stated that in his opinion, achievements are reliant on focus.
- l) The C & G CU President stated that it is unfair to deny a good Sabbatical to stand for a second term due to past poor examples.
- m) It was proposed to insert a point 3 to read 'No central Union President can undertake the role of a Deputy President in the following year'.
 - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) accepted this proposal.

RESOLVED:

4. To insert a point 3 to read 'No central Union President can undertake the role of a Deputy President in the following year'.

- n) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) opined the following:
 - i. The union must allow students the choice to vote for who they think to be the best candidate.
 - ii. Sabbaticals are required to live in Halls and thus are connected to the students.
 - iii. Council must consider that election regulations have changed so that campaigning on record can occur.
- o) Mr Guite stated that this motion was motivated by history and inherent problems.
- p) The RAG Chair opined that the roles of Sabbatical Officers are that of leadership and not operational.
- q) The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) called to procedural motion m, to move to a vote. There were no objections and Council move to vote on accepting the motion.

FOR	13
AGAINST	19
ABSTAIN	0

Motion Falls.

18. CHOOSING THE RECTOR'S SUCCESSOR

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) Those interested in sitting on the committee should contact the President before the end of the term

Meeting closed 9.05pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 22nd January 2007

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Council

on _____ 2006/07

