Shiv Chopra

Report to Council

5/6/07

This is the final report to Council, as we currently know it, for this academic year. ICSM SU would like to thank Council and Executive in all their hard work in supporting the medical school.

Clubs and Societies

Some of our clubs and societies have been less active or completely inactive this year, examples include; Sub-Aqua, GP society, Mountaineering and, the authors personal favourite, Tropical medicine society. These clubs have been called to a meeting to explain their lack of activity this year and what future their club has. ICSM SU executive will vote to close or suspend their activity.

Many thanks to Eric Lai and Gulix for mentioning the state of medic's clubs in BUSA this year. However, we have had great success in Netball and Rugby this year. For a faculty Union that gets very little funding for its entire spectrum of activities, the figures are something to be very proud of. Medics Athletics have also provide a large amount of points for Imperial in track and field meetings and were unfortunate not to win the ULU shield last month. However, ICSM still maintained the UH shield.

Financially, our clubs and societies have also been awarded the money they deserve to maintain the many benefits to their members and also a high standard of achievement in competitions. Imperial College Union recognised our achievements and after several hours of intense talks and jiggery pokery (mainly from Mark Chamberlain and Maggie Holme) ICSM SU were awarded an increased grant.

Charing Cross

Behind the scenes, there has been some refurbishment in storage and rehearsal facilities at Charing Cross. The old beer Cellar has been repaired and fitted with industrial shelving so that our clubs can safely, and fingers crossed neatly, store their equipment. The units also allow more space to become available for new clubs in the future. Another major project the Students' Union is undertaking is "music room" in the basement. The room itself is currently being used for everything but music and so it is time that we correct that and make it accessible for everyone. Before September, there will be better acoustics, ventilation and mirrors to facilitate the rehearsals

Just one floor above we have the infamous Reynolds' Bar, which has given me just as much pain as pleasure at times this year. Mike, James and Laura with staff members have done a fantastic job. The bar is now run more professionally than ever before, introduced new drinks (both alcoholic and non) and food to our students. All of which has, in part, allowed us to make a tidy profit this year.

Sports Dinner and the Summer Ball

The annual Sports dinner was again held at Tiger Tiger in Haymarket, London. The event allowed all clubs to meet together to celebrate their achievements and say goodbye to the competitions' calendar for another year. Team of the year was awarded to men's rugby second team and Club of the year to netball. The next big event to come is the summer ball, so here is a brief reminder of what is in store in

case you do not know already...To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the merger of St Mary's and Charing Cross and Westminster medical schools ICSM SU will be holding the Faculty of Medicine 10th Anniversary Ball on Tuesday 19th June at Stamford Bridge Football ground, Chelsea The after dinner speeches will be led by Mr. Barry Paraskeva, senior lecturer and consultant surgeon in the department of biosurgery and surgical oncology at St Mary's hospital, Paddington. Any proceeds from the event will be donated to The Royal Marsden Cancer Campaign. For more information and to purchase a ticket please visit www.icsmsummerball.com. For any questions please contact ball chair Olivia Kenyon at icsmsummerball@imperial.ac.uk. All dinner tickects, 600, have all sold out and we are now only promoting the after dinner tickets. We expect to hit the capacity of 1200 people,

RAG

Shameless plug over, we can continue to other matters, like RAG 2006/7. After many day collecting on the tube, hitch-hiking to Amsterdam, a Fashion show and, just very recently, a musical produced in 24 hours it seems that the collecting is nearly over. Our charity this year was Demelza House, a children's hospice in the South East of England. Richard Breakey (RAG Chair) deliberately decided on Demelza as it was such a small organisation and would greatly appreciate any figure we raised. This year Will and his team have been working us all to hit the tubes and streets of London and it has resulted in a total of over £58,000. A RAG record for some time, which im sure will do wonders for the hospice. Thank you to all of you who took part in the events this year.

Job applications

The final year job application system has had its ups and downs this year. Locally for our students at Imperial the year seems to be satisfied with the result of over 93% obtaining their first choice deanery. However, there are still some issues that need to be addressed over the summer before our next cohort of students. Firstly is with the application process, there needs to be solid review on the questions students have to answer and the way in which they are marked. We need to ensure that hospitals get the best doctors and that is difficult to obtain through just 6 questions and a set of grades. Secondly, it does none of our final year students any good when they are reading that senior administrators of the system have resigned or that there has been a breach in confidential information. The government review will be helpful in shedding some light on this fiasco, however, any changes to the system must be communicated to our students before the first elective group leave in July.

ICSM SU Matters

Now on to Union matters and all our recent activities deep within the students' Union offices. Over the summer we are re-developing our website to allow it to become more accessible to our students as well as our alumni.

May is a busy time for us as we hit election fever and this year seems to be no exception. We had over 30 candidates standing for a position this year, from social secretary to sites and services, so hustings this year promised to be good fun. The executive structure has been adapted to support the Biomedical science students and the Post Graduate medical course that starts next September. Our new president next year will be Mr. Timothy Wills, best of luck to him and the new SU. The full listings is on the website www.icsmsu.com

Council 11th June 2007

The ICSM SU Strategy policy is nearly complete and will be unleashing it on all the masses over the summer. The document is an organic one to ensure that the great ideas and actions that we have agreed on in the past get to see the light of day.

From next year we will see a new direction in the way in which we deliver medicine to our students. The Year 5 course will be shifting all of the specialty examinations to the end of the year, a change that has concerned students this year. The undergraduate course in its entirety is currently being reviewed, which the students are involved with, to enable a course suitable for "tomorrow's doctors". Along side this review is the launch of the graduate medicine programme to begin next year. It may pave the way for a Post-graduate only route into medicine (Similar to the USA), which I personally feel would be a real shame.

Many thanks for reading, have a great summer and see you all at the ball!

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