

## Imperial College Union

### COLOURS AND PRESIDENT'S AWARDS 2007

*A note by the Colours Committee and IC Union President*

#### Union Colours Awards

The Colours Committee met on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May to consider 68 nominations for colours awards. Those present for this meeting were:

- John Collins (Chair)
- James Millen
- Luke Taylor
- James Fok
- Mark Flower
- Ben Harris
- Eric Lai
- Shama Rahman
- Jad Marrouche
- Jonathan Matthews

The committee commends the nominations below to the Council for approval.

#### **Half Colour (24)**

Jibran Ahmed  
Shazia Arshad  
Steve Ashton  
Martin Bailey  
Daniel Burrows  
Junwei Chen  
Priya Garg  
Jessica Gillingwater  
Kate Harvey  
Edmund Hunt  
Andreas Koukos  
Sophie Mitchinson  
Simon Nance  
Daniel Sauder  
Saba Shafi  
Floencia Tettamanti  
Hannah Theodorou  
Jamie Thompson  
Lily Topham  
Ved Vyas  
Matthew Wallace  
Ammar Waraich  
Lara West  
Tim Wilson

#### **Full Colour (14)**

Shobhit Arya  
Ashley Brown  
Stephen Brown  
Eugene Chang  
Alex Guite  
Matthew Hoban  
David Layfield  
Kirsty Patterson  
Adele Peel  
Aidan Roche  
Nicholas Simpson  
Eirini Spentza  
Joanna Swarbick  
Mary Williamson

#### **Outstanding Service Award (2)**

Tianzuo Huo  
Jad Marrouche

#### **Fellowship (4)**

Anojan Arulanthanan  
Steven King  
Daniel McGuinness  
James Millen

**Distinguished Fellowship (1)**  
Mark Flower

**President's Award (5)**  
Prof. Sir. Leszek Borysiewicz  
Shiv-Karam Chopra  
Hamish Common  
Victoria Langer  
Robin Pitt

### **Citations for OSA awardees**

#### **Tianzuo (James) Hui**

*For outstanding service to the Union as a Steward.*

James consistently goes above and beyond of what is expected of any Union steward; working continuously to provide a safe, friendly and relaxed atmosphere. His attitude exemplary, demonstrated by his willingness to work extra hours and on extra commitments that stewards are not expected to take on.

#### **Jad Marrouche**

*For leading and effectively building a dynamic faculty Union.*

Jad's achievements this year include securing an office for the RCSU, running several high profile events and for overseeing one of the most successful Centenary events of the year, the Science Challenge. Not only has Jad led a vibrant activities programme, he has also built a strong relationship with his faculty and represented students' interests on countless issues.

### **Citations for Fellowship awardees**

#### **Anojan Arulanthanan**

*For his consistent, selfless commitment to the ICSM Students' Union.*

"AJ", as he is known, has been part of ICSM SU for five years and has given his heart and soul to the medical school students. He has set out from day one to improve ICSM's activities and improve the ICSMSU's relationship with the rest of the Union and the College. Over the past couple of years AJ has held positions as Deputy President, Vice President for two years and Entertainments Chair. AJ has brought many changes to the ICSM Students' Union which have indirectly led to a greater student experience within a large cohort of students at Imperial, which can only be better for ICU.

#### **Steven King**

*For his commitment to the Arts and Entertainments of ICU.*

In recent years Steven has been a member of numerous Arts and Entertainment societies and has organised the technical elements of almost every large event at ICU, including plays, musicals, carnivals, freshers fairs, and the summer ball. Many of these events simply would not have occurred if it had not been for Steven's efforts. Steven is extremely dedicated to his work, is always available for friendly advice and often goes far beyond the call of duty.

### **Daniel McGuinness**

*For his commitment to ICSM Students' Union and Union Council.*

Daniel has been a prominent and dedicated member of the Union for three years; having begun his involvement with the union as a fresher in the lowly ranks of Medics' RAG, and moved up into ICSMSU as Treasurer, and the following year as sabbatical President, within which time he undertook such tasks as Returning Officer for the ICU elections. This year he has presided over ICU Council as Chair and played a prominent role in the Union's governance review. Daniel is passionate about student representation and student democracy. He has been a strong and zealous advocate for the clubs and members of both ICSMSU and ICU.

### **James Millen**

*For developing the Social Clubs Committee CSC into a strong CSC and for his positive involvement in the governance of ICU.*

Developing the SCC into a fully functioning body is no mean feat and James has set it well on the way with his reforms to meetings and to budgeting. Many clubs are responding positively to the changes James has made; a sure indication of his excellence. James work goes beyond the SCC. James has raised the bar of what is expected of a CSC chair in terms of putting the Union first: prime examples being his offer of contingency money to other CSCs that had greater need and his recommendation that the SCC didn't need the budget it had been given previously and that the money should be put to better use – acts previously unheard of in the history of the Union. His work on the new clubs committee has been exemplary and his commitments to the Clubs and Societies Board, the Executive Committee and Union Council and to have shown true dedication to the Union.

### **Citations for Distinguished Fellowship awardees**

#### **Mark Flower**

*For his dedication to clubs and societies and involvement in wider aspects of Imperial College Union.*

Mark has been described by students as “possibly the only person in the union can be seen time again doing immeasurable good for the Union”. Most of Mark’s work goes unnoticed but it cannot be ignored. Over the years he has built a reputation as a man that can be approached by anybody and someone who will do his utmost to ensure that their concerns are addressed and their needs are met. His contribution to Union Committees is equally impressive; he has served on the Union Executive and has one of the best attendance records of any CSC chair at Council and other committees. This year Mark co-ordinated a review of the Union Masterplan and using a variety of publicity tools managed to involve hundreds of students in the discussion. This initiative has resulted in a positive change in the plan that will undoubtedly improve the Union’s service to its clubs in years to come. This year Mark also successfully created a new budget template for all of ICU’s clubs, saving the Union weeks of administration time and effort. No student has been awarded a Distinguished Fellowship for five years, and Mark is truly deserving of this award.

### **Citations for President’s awardees**

These awards are given by the President to those who have supported him in his work this year. Usually up to five awards are given each year. This year’s awardees are:

#### **Hamish Common**

*For his outstanding contribution to Union democracy and for his commitment and highly professional input into the Union’s governance review.*

Hamish’s unwavering support for the governance review and willingness to contribute a considerable amount of his free time into providing administrative and legal support throughout the entire review process has been remarkable. Hamish has also contributed to the growth of the new Union Court, which I hope will prove to be a successful addition to our governance structure. Hamish’s legal expertise and efforts have saved the Union literally tens of thousands of pounds in legal fees, enabling ICU to introduce a formal Trustee Board in a matter of months where it has taken others years. Most impressive of all, Hamish has managed to do all this without ever uttering the immortal line “in my day...”.

#### **Shiv-Karan Chopra**

*For serving as an outstanding Faculty Union President and for co-ordinating the entire student centenary programme with great distinction and care.*

Shiv has consistently demonstrated enormous commitment throughout this year to the welfare of students and the success of both the ICSMSU and Imperial College Union. I have personally been struck by his willingness to sacrifice his own projects in order to help others with theirs. The level of pastoral care he has afforded to students in need has been exemplary, going far beyond the call of duty on several occasions. Most impressively of all (and

unusual for a Medic!) is his humbleness and willingness to allow others to take the glory for events that without his commitment would never have got off the ground.

### **Victoria Langer**

*For her support of ICU, before, during and most importantly after the NUS whirlwind hit our College this year.*

Many individuals contributed to the NUS referendum (on both sides of the fence) and they are all deserving of accolade. However, there is one individual from NUS who I believe has made an outstanding contribution to ICU throughout the entire year and is therefore deserving of a President's award. "Vic", as she likes to be known by friends, was introduced to me at the start of the year and has been present throughout a turbulent and stressful period of transition for ICU. Months after the referendum pandemonium had quietened down Vic was still there, always willing to support me and my officers when asked. Not only has Vic and her team helped steer ICU through a turbulent transition from a ULU affiliate to an NUS affiliate, she has provided invaluable support and advice on issues such as staffing, strategy and management.

### **Robin Pitt**

*For being a mentor, a friend and a champion of the student cause.*

It is highly unusual to award a staff member a President's award but I feel that one individual in particular deserves recognition for his efforts this year. Not only has Robin Pitt made an exemplary contribution to the whole organisation through his leadership of the Student Services Division, he has been a helpful mentor for all of the Sabbatical Officers in tougher times. Robin has been more than willing to take phone calls at 2am and step in to calm nerves and tension when necessary. His values and belief in the organisation are an inspiration to me and my colleagues and I am delighted to award him a President's Award. His commitment to building a stronger Union at Wye is also deserving of credit and the students of the Wye Campus are greatly indebted to his efforts.

### **Professor Sir Leszek Borysewicz**

*For championing the student cause at the highest levels in the College*

"Borys", as we prefer to call him, has consistently championed the student cause throughout this year, using his influence to win battles for students across a variety of issues. On PhD pay he has not only supported the Union's position but has driven it further than we could have possibly imagined. On the degree classification debate he has shown a willingness to challenge the culture within the College in the interests of students. He is a formidable sounding board and works in an open and refreshingly honest manner which I have found particularly helpful this year. He also, and I have no idea how,

managed to persuade the Rector to donate £17,500 to fund the Union's affiliation to the National Union of Students, demonstrating his uncanny ability to influence the Rector in way few can.

### **President's Award for Clubs and Societies**

Three nominations were received for the President's award for clubs and societies. Advice was sought by the President from CSC chairs and the Deputy President for Clubs and Societies.

### **President Award Winner: Pakistan Society**

The Pakistan Society has, without doubt, been one of the most active student societies of the year. Not only has the society grown in membership and profile this year, its members have managed to organise several highly successful events, averaging one every two weeks in the autumn and spring terms. The society has demonstrated a commitment to forging links with wider society both within and beyond Imperial College. In particular I was impressed with the highly successful "Asian Expression" event that was held at the end of the spring term. This event was a celebration of Asian arts and culture including art, poetry and dance. It was attended by over 200 people from a variety of different ethnic backgrounds, ages and universities. Guests included the UK High Commissioner of Pakistan and dignitaries from the city, the College and students from universities as far away as Manchester. The society has also co-ordinated charity events raising thousands of pounds for good causes. It is therefore with great pleasure that I award the President's Award for clubs and societies to the Pakistan Society.

### **Highly commended: Wye Fashion Society**

Also nominated and highly commended was the Wye Fashion Society. 18 months ago, this society didn't exist. This year its membership has rocketed and its members have used their enthusiasm to organise one of the largest charity events of the year, the Wye Fashion Show. What was particularly impressive about this event was that it was held 70 miles away from their base right here in South Kensington. A considerable amount of sponsorship was raised for this event and thousands of pounds were raised on the night. I wish to congratulate the committee for delivering such a fine event in such difficult circumstances.

### **And finally**

I would like to thank my Deputies for their unwavering support this year. Without Ben, Jon, Eric and Shama I would not have been able to deliver the promises I gave the student body 18 months ago. They have achieved an enormous amount of good for students between them and Council should be proud of their achievements. I hope that next year's Sabbatical team will be as successful as we think we have been and I wish you all the best for the future.

**JC 08/06/07**