#### Imperial College Union

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# **COLOURS POLICY**

Approved by Union Council on 11th June 2007

#### A. Jurisdiction

- 1. This policy shall have two areas of jurisdiction:
  - a. The recognition by the Union of service, contribution and dedication by an individual, with the sole exceptions of the sabbatical Officers and the Felix Editor, over the course of the year to Imperial College Union, and
  - b. The recognition by the President of the Union of service, contribution and dedication by an individual over the course of the year to Imperial College Union.
- 2. The policy in no way rules out the recognition by the Union of an individual or group's contribution to the Union over some period of time in a manner not prescribed in this policy.

# B. Eligibility and nomination

- 3. Any individual, unless explicitly stated elsewhere in this policy, may be nominated by any Full Member of the Union for any of the awards described in this policy, save the President's awards.
- 4. Details of the awards, their descriptions and nomination procedure shall be first published at Council and in Felix at least fifteen College Days before the close of nominations. It should also be made explicitly clear that nominations received after the close of nominations shall not be accepted.
- 5. Each nomination must contain in addition to the name of the nominee, the name of the award for which the nominee is nominated and a citation of less than 200 words detailing the candidates suitability for that award, the name, department, year and signature of the proposer. No individual may propose themselves.
- 6. The date of the close of nominations shall be determined by the President in order that the nominations may be circulated to the members of the Colours Committee in accordance with regulation 5.

#### C. Consideration and confirmation

7. The nominations, with the exception of those for the President's Awards will be considered by the Colours Committee, which shall report the result of its deliberations to the final scheduled Council of the academic year. Council, as is its constituted right, may choose to

accept or amend, in part or in whole, the recommendations of the Colours Committee. The decision of Council in this respect is final. However, Council may not refuse or amend the list of individuals nominated by the President for the President's Award.

8. The Colours Committee will consider each nomination on its individual merits. Consideration should not be given to target numbers for each category of awards save that historical numerical precedence implies the grounds for that award. Equally if no nominations fulfil the stipulations of a particular award then there should be no necessity to present the award in that year.

- 9. Nominations for a particular award should not be considered simply on the basis that the individual gained, in previous years, a lower award for similar good work. Any individual may be awarded with any of the categories of award any number of times, unless otherwise stipulated elsewhere in this policy.
- 10. The confirmed Colours shall be published in the final Felix of the academic year and in the Annual Report. The Executive, at its discretion, may organise a suitable opportunity to publish elsewhere or present some or all of the confirmed Colours.

# D. The Colours of the Union

- 11. The Colours of the Union shall be the Half Colour, Colour, Outstanding Service Award, Imperial College Union Fellowship and the Imperial College Union Distinguished Fellowship. Each individual presented with an award shall receive a certificate, stating the appropriate details, and such other items or privileges as are detailed elsewhere in this policy.
- 12. **Half Colour:** The recipient of the Half Colour will have made a positive contribution to the general life of the Union in an extraordinary fashion. Each individual, so awarded, will have the opportunity to purchase a tie and or pin, the design of which shall be defined by the Executive Committee or by a policy detailing the corporate identity of the Union at such time as one is approved.
- 13. Colour: The recipient of the Colour will repeatedly, through outstanding achievements, over the course of the year, have made a significant contribution to the life of the Union. Each individual, so awarded, will have the opportunity to purchase a tie and or pin, the design of which shall be defined by the Executive Committee or by a policy detailing the corporate identity of the Union at such time as one is approved. It is envisaged that less Colours will be awarded than Half Colours in a year.

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- 14. Outstanding Service Award: Any recipient of the Outstanding Service Award will have displayed continuous outstanding achievement across a broad spectrum of Union activities. Each individual, so awarded, will have the opportunity to purchase a tie and or pin, the design of which shall be defined by the Executive Committee or by a policy detailing the corporate identity of the Union at such time as one is approved. It is envisaged that less Outstanding Service Awards will be awarded than Colours in a year and typically less than fifteen.
- 15. Imperial College Union Fellowship: The Imperial College Union Fellowship shall only be awarded to those individuals who have continuously served the Union in an exceptional manner. Each individual, so awarded, will be granted Honorary Life Membership of the Union, and given a silk tie or broach, the design of which shall be defined by the Executive Committee or by a policy detailing the corporate identity of the Union at such time as one is approved. It is not anticipated that the number of Fellowships presented each year would exceed ten.
- 16. Imperial College Union Distinguished Fellowship: The Imperial College Union Distinguished Fellowship is only awarded to those Full Members who have served the Union in a selfless and dedicated manner which is both exceptional and beyond reproach. Each individual, so awarded, will be granted Honorary Life Membership of the Union, and given a pewter tankard engraved with their name and details of the award and a silk tie or broach, the design of which shall be defined by the Executive Committee or by a policy detailing the corporate identity of the Union at such time that one is approved. Only exceptional circumstances would see more than three awards of Distinguished Fellowship being made in one year.

# E. The President's Awards

- 17. The President shall have the option of presenting, not normally more than, five awards to individuals who he or she personally feels have made a significant contribution to the affairs and fortune of the Union over the course of the academic year. In years where the position of President is held by two or more individuals and the incumbent at the time of the presentation of nominations to Council has held office for a minority of the academic year then the individual or individuals who have held the office of President for the significant period of that academic year may petition the incumbent with their nominations for this award: however, the decision of the incumbent is final.
- 18. The exact terms of reference of the President's Award shall be at the discretion of the President. Nonetheless, and only in truly exceptional circumstances, is it envisaged that the President will award the President's Award to a sabbatical Officer or the Felix Editor. In any

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case the President will not award himself or herself with the President's Award.

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- 19. The recipient of the President's Award will receive a pewter tankard engraved with his or her name and the details of the award. In addition it is expected that the President will present the individual with a small, but not insignificant, token of his or her appreciation.
- 20. The President shall present as a verbal report, the details of the President's Awards, to the final scheduled Council of the year as the last scheduled item of business. The President if he or she so chooses may also present the individuals with their award at this time.

#### F. The President's Award for Clubs and Societies

21. There shall be an award each year to the club or society of the Union-which has performed in an exceptional manner for its members and contributed significantly to the Union's aims and objects.

22. The clubs or society must:

- 1. be a Union club or society.
- have existed for a reasonable length of time as a functioning society, or if a new society, a solid foundation with a likely longterm future, and
- 3. not be suspended for incomplete documentation.
- 23. The award will be made by the President, who will take advice from the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), the Presidents of the Constituent College Unions and the Chairs of the Clubs and Societies Committees.
- 24. The President shall table a verbal report to the Council with details of the recipient immediately before the President's Awards for individuals.

#### **GSabbaticals**

- 21. The President, Deputy Presidents, Felix Editor and any other officers holding sabbatical positions shall not <u>normally</u> be considered for any of the awards.
- 22. The Council shall, after awarding Colours, consider and vote separately on conferring Honorary Life Membership upon each holder of sabbatical office in the Union that year.

#### G. Amendment

23. This Policy may only be amended by a two thirds majority resolution of the Council.

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**Deleted:**, unless stated elsewhere in this policy, until such time that the President of the Union is capable of fulfilling his or her role in both letter and spirit.