

RAG Reform Policy

Proposer: RAG Chair

Seconders: John O'neill, Thomas Post, Irvine Howson, John Downing, Saba Shafi

Introduction:

The RAG Chair recently attended a London wide conference with RAGs from other unis. After having reviewed the way RAG is run everywhere else in the UK it has become painfully apparent that the way charities at Imperial are run is entirely ass-backwards. At the moment RAG is just a charitable society with special privileges and there are other societies within ICU that focus on charitable or fundraising work. Because of this there are societies set up which compete to achieve the same aim. Successful fundraising universities have complete unity and clarity within their charity sectors. In universities where over £200,000 a year is made, RAG is almost invariably an umbrella under which charitable subcommittees run. I suggest that we think about doing the same.

ICU Council Notes:

1. Right now we have lots of societies that, quite frankly, aren't receiving enough support. Many struggle to find sponsors, permits and the resources they need to operate efficiently. RAG or another charity society often has these resources at its disposal.
2. Many (all) aren't being watched enough. They are unregulated and unchecked, have no set financial systems and no accountability. We have no way of knowing if all the money raised goes to charity. We need to change this.
3. We also have lots of very successful societies that have a wealth of knowledge others could benefit from.
4. There are many petition and demonstration based societies that are not receiving the benefit of being part of RAG.
5. RAG is supposed to be in charge of all charitable sections of the union. This is precisely why RAG was granted special privileges in the first place.

ICU Council Believes:

1. We need to reform the way charity and demonstration based societies are looked after at ICU.
2. We should consider converting RAG into something resembling the SCC or RCC for charitable societies. (i.e. we should use RAG for what it's for)
3. RAG should still organise a RAG week and should still keep its RAGly duties

ICU Council Resolves:

1. To have the DPEW, the DPCS, the SCC chair, the CAG chair and the RAG chair meet and organise a solution to the problem. Once a decision has been made a paper is to be submitted to council to rectify the situation (or not).