

Council  
9<sup>th</sup> June 2008

## **Imperial College Union**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*A note by Stephen Brown*

#### **Seminar on Trading Activities and Governance**

The DPFS, President-elect and I attended a Students' Unions seminar run by the accountants Howarth Clark Whitehill.

#### **Elections**

I spent a lot of time administering the RCSU and ICU elections. I would like to congratulate all the successful candidates and thank all candidates for their cooperation as it meant that these elections ran smoothly. A question was raised if it was permissible to re-open voting for students who were away on a field trip whilst voting was open once they returned but the Union Court ruled that this would not be appropriate.

#### **SEC**

The DPEW and I attended the last meeting of the Strategic Education Committee during which we won the committee's support over the concerns we have raised about the status of writing up PhD students who for Council Tax purposes (amongst others) are treated differently from full PhD students. Well done to Kirsty on producing an awesome presentation which has gone a long way to seeing that the work of the Union can make tangible improvements to students experience on campus.

#### **Students' Union Evaluation Initiative**

We had our first visit from our SUEI consultant. I attended a couple of meetings with staff and other Sabbatical Officers to discuss how good/bad the Union was at certain things.

#### **Beit Redevelopment**

A meeting was held between the working group and the architects. All concerns raised by the group will now be incorporated in to the final plans for this stage of the design process.

#### **Meetings**

At the Committee for Student Residences it was agreed that the maximum fine in halls is to be raised from £100 to £120. I also met with the Secretariat to discuss the updates to the constitution and code of practice that I promised you all way back when.

#### **Disciplinary panels**

I sat on 2 residences tribunals and attended a disciplinary hearing at UCL as the external student member of the panel.

#### **Audit Committee**

The DPFS and I will be attending a meeting of College's Audit Committee to answer some questions they raised when we presented our accounts. We will also run the small amendment we are making to our Finance Regs past the committee as is required before the changes, however minor, are presented to College Council.

#### **NUS Referendum**

In light of my strong opinions on the subject I stood down as Returning Officer so that I could take part in the debate. The DPCS has been appointed as a replacement by the Court and thus all questions about the administration of the election should be directed to him.

Council  
9<sup>th</sup> June 2008

### **Finance**

I have attended several meetings in the Union regarding club finance and budgeting for 2008/09.

### **ULU Senate**

I attended a meeting of ULU Senate where we discussed their governance arrangements. I argued that it was important that an effective mechanism was kept in place for removing underperforming sabbaticals and this principle should now be incorporated in to their revised governing documents.

### **The Bottle Match and the Union Equal Opportunities Policy**

Some of you may have noticed that we have been in the news recently after a Cornish Councillor took offence at some of the material on our website about the RSM vs CSM Bottle Match. Whilst it is important to keep this old rivalry going I would encourage those involved not to accidentally insult an entire County.

### **Fun stuff**

I was kindly invited to be guest auctioneer at a bike auction organised by IC BUG. I really enjoyed this and well done to the organisers on a successful event.

### **Colours Committee**

I chaired Colours Committee last Monday and Tuesday.