

Council
19th January 2009

Imperial College Union
PRESIDENT'S REPORT - A NOTE BY JENNY MORGAN

RAG and CAG

Since the last Council meeting I have been working with both the RAG and CAG chairs to reinvigorate the relationship these committees have with the central Union. RAG week is the 16th – 21st February and with the dedication of this years committee and our support it will be bigger and better than ever so start looking out for publicity and opportunities to get involved, I also anticipate doing some combined events with the RCM and possibly RCA which would be good for Albertopolis and get many more people involved and ultimately we can raise more money for charity! The RAG website has also been redone over Christmas and so I do encourage you to take a peek – union.ic.ac.uk/rag! CAG has been working on a new initiative with the Organisation Food Works. This is a brilliant pilot scheme which the Union is very pleased to be involved with and we shall be giving as much support as possible to get this project off the ground. I would also like the Union to be doing a lot more outreach into the community and this would be a great initiative to go through CAG with our support and we shall have more news on the progress we have working with the College Outreach dept at the next Council.

Elections

This is tabled as a separate agenda item.

Silwood and Wye

Silwood have the funding for a cosmetic facelift of their social space and we are currently trying to lengthen the time in the evenings that Wye students have access to their gym and sports hall and we are also trying to sort out a social trip to London for them.

SEC Away Day

My thanks go to Alex Grisman for filling in for me to attend to give a presentation with Hannah Theodorou to members of the Strategic Education Committee on Assessment and Feedback. Many representatives, including Hannah and I, over the last three years have been fighting to have our voices heard on this subject and we finally got our chance which is great and Hannah will be able to tell you how well it went.

Water availability

At the end of last term I met with Kevin Cope who is the Head of Building Operations to discuss increasing the availability of drinking water on Campus / improving the publicity of where it is available. He was very happy to do an audit with his team to assess the situation. I am meeting with him again in the next couple of weeks to discuss the findings and take the project forward.

Sabb Stall

In order to make the Union more accessible we are going to start pitching up in the JCR one lunchtime a fortnight for students to come and ask us anything and probably for many just to find out what the union does. Any other ideas welcome!

MDH refurbishment

Lily and I were invited to meet with the College Head of Catering, Project Manager, architects and Music Director to hear all about the MDH refurbishment. This affects the Union because it is a space that our Clubs & Socs use. The new plans will be a more flexible space allowing the ante room and MDH to be used as one big space or it can be divided into 3 separate spaces with pull out walls. These walls will be of a better grading to allow for sound damping to allow harmonious use of all the space by different parties. The refurb will allow for better acoustics which is great for the musicians. There will be improved lighting, more sockets (freshers fair!) and a bamboo floor as well. The bar is being converted into an office and the servery is being stripped out to allow for storage space for all the furniture. In terms of food they intend to cater for all different types of cuisine so that it will have an international theme which will be served from pods which can be shut up and moved into the storage areas to allow all of the space to be used if required. Input is still very much wanted for the types of cuisine so let me know if you would like to get involved.

ULU senate

An extraordinary ULU senate has been called on January 22nd at 14.00 with more information to be given at Council, but if anyone is free to go then please let me know.