

Council
19th January 2009

Proposal to split the Deputy President (Education & Welfare) into Two Sabbatical Officers; Deputy President (Education and Development) and Deputy President (Welfare)

A supplementary note by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

At the Union Council held on the 15th of December 2008 the proposal to split the role of Deputy President (Education and Welfare) into two sabbatical officers with the titles Deputy President (Education and Development) and Deputy President (Welfare) fell, with 20 votes in favour and 12 against with one abstention. There were issues that needed further discussion, but the meeting had to end due some Councillors having to leave. We have identified the main issues as follows:

- Funding for the role
- Concerns about not reviewing the other sabbatical officers' roles and workloads.
- Questions about delegation of the workload to part time student officers/ staff.

While some of the issues were mostly addressed during the course of the Council meeting, the issue of funding is one that Councilors felt needed further clarification in particular.

As the funding debate currently stands, there is a £45,000 surplus in our subvention from College because of our withdrawal from the NUS. This money is to be allocated as deemed appropriate by the Union's Executive Committee. We now need to establish whether we will be receiving this extra money annually now we have taken the decision to withdraw from the NUS.

There have been amendments to the original paper which take into account some of the points raised after discussions with College staff, the ICU Trustee Board and the ICU Executive Committee. The main ones are:

- Further clarification about the funding position including a clause so that the paper will not pass if we lose the NUS funding.
- Changes to the job description so they have broader aims. This means that if we want to include a new role in the job description we won't have to change our constitution.

Copies of my diary for the first term will be circulated in the meeting of Council, to give Councilors some idea of how my time is broken down. Some one-on-one meetings have been removed for confidentiality issues while other impromptu meetings may, of course, have been excluded.