

Imperial College Union  
President's Report - *A note by Ashley Brown*

### Trustees

I'd like to welcome Simon Maddison to the board, following his appointment by Union Council as a lay trustee for a period of 3 years.

In addition to the experience detailed in the accompanying biography, Simon was chairman of the London branch of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) and currently sits on the Imperial College Court as that institution's representative.

I first met Simon about three years ago, when I spotted that his picture on the IET website had been taken in Beit Quad (during a reunion). I feel that his active involvement in the IET and his experience in industry are exactly the qualities Imperial College Union should be looking for in a trustee.

Graham Howard and Lewis Hands have agreed to continue for one more year while we seek two replacement trustees.

### Governance

Charity Registration plans are continuing, with a target date of December 2010. The Operations Manager will cover this in more detail.

### Finance

Unfortunately the College's Education Office took the decision to cut our subvention by 5%, without giving us an opportunity to object. The entire process was a completely rushed on their part, with us being given about 6 hours to produce a plan for a 5% cut (which was not binding, merely advisory). It was decided that we were the best place to cut from all the education budgets, but were not notified of this, except by accident during a meeting with College Finance. By this point it was too late to do anything about it, as the budget had already gone to College Council.

The budgeting process was a bit disorganised and I have objected strongly, but we must be more proactive next year. We are looking at other budgeting approaches.

As a result of being notified so late (this time last week) we have had to revise our budget and reconsider our recruitment strategy. The Executive Committee will pass a budget next week, which will then be passed to the Trustee Board for final approval.

### Building

As you will probably have seen, Phase 3 is well underway. Our main bars are shut but we have a temporary bar on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, in Activity Spaces 1 & 2. Well done to the team for making this work – it's actually quite a nice bar.

### Annual Report

We have agreed with the College Council to delay our Annual Report this year until we have audited end-of-year accounts. Previously our Annual Report has included finances from the previous year, unrelated to the activities described within it.

Instead, we presented the accompanying review of the year to the College Council, with a full Annual Report (to meet our obligations under the Code of Practice) to be produced once our audited accounts are complete.

### Constitutional Changes

The constitutional changes circulated and approved via email were ratified by College Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> July. Also included were those passed by the Trustee Board this time last year.

### Elections

The election for the Deputy President (Education) completed without problems, and **Alex Dahinten** was elected to the role.

Unfortunately Victoria Masding had to stand down as Deputy President (Welfare), so a new election has been opened with four candidates fully seconded at present.

### The End

This is my last Trustee Board meeting, and my penultimate Union committee as full member after 9 years at Imperial. Thanks to everyone I've sat on committees with over the years, and those who've supported what we have tried to achieve this year.

I look forward to seeing Phase 3 when it is finished!