

## Community Action Group Report

This year has been very successful for CAG. We now have only two officers who have not completed their training and 3 outstanding pieces of documentation for the whole Management Group.

A major problem at the start of the year was a mix up with memberships causing them to be higher than they should be (Projects are exempt from the minimum membership requirement). This took some time to resolve but regardless average membership is 181% of the membership target. However, this masks some large variations. Projects of particular concern are:

African Development Project 60% (3 members)

El Salvador Project 0% (0 members) – until recently no contacts either

Foodcycle 55% (11 members)

Though interact have only 84% of their membership target, this corresponds to 84 members.

### Workbench

Access to and the correct set-up of Workbench has consumed a lot of the cag treasurers time. Every time I meet a Project it seems that Workbench is set-up in a new, non-functional way. We hope this will be resolved before Christmas.

### Storage space

Foodcycle have had significant storage issues though a temporary solution has been found. CAG would recommend a meeting room be converted to permanent storage, preferably on a lift level, to ease the pressure on storage facilities as it is conceivable that others will need space in time.

### Bank accounts

Discussions are ongoing about external bank accounts for Projects many of whom need non-standard banking facilities due to the nature of their activities. We hope to have a satisfactory set-up for this by the end of next term. No CAG Projects are in debt, though the Soup Run financial situation is far from ideal as they appear to have a SGI deficit masked by their grant.

# **SSAGO**

## **Activities & Achievements**

We are a group set up to promote Scouting & Guiding at Imperial College. We've had two main achievements this year. We ran an article in Felix, and had a successful introductory meeting.

## **Membership**

Our current membership is seven, with one life associate. We're aiming for ten members.

## **Finances**

Our recent expenditures consist of 80 for hiring a minibus, and 5.11 for Guiding resources. We should also have some SGI from all members.

## **Equipment**

Being a new project, we have no equipment.

## **Other Issues**

None.

## **Future Events**

In the future we plan to run a weekend away, and the Duke Of Edinburgh award.

## **Soup Run**

### **Activities & Achievements**

We provide food & drink to homeless and hungry people once a week, on Sundays.

### **Membership**

Our membership has increased upon last year, thanks to our efforts at the Freshers' Fair.

### **Equipment**

We recently bought a 7.5L urn, and also have two older urns and a boiler.

### **Finances**

Our main expense is van hire, which runs to 20 a week. We have a grant of 1924.

### **Other Issues**

None

### **Future Events**

We have no future events planned beyond the normal scope of the project.

# Imperial FoodCycle

## Project Aims & Objectives

The aim of FoodCycle is to reduce food waste and tackle food poverty in the UK. A large proportion of food waste comes from edible foods that food retailers throw away due to supply overstock. FoodCycle redirects this to those suffering from food poverty. With FoodCycles assistance, local communities and volunteers are empowered to collect surplus food locally and prepare healthy and nutritious meals in spare professional kitchens. These meals then get served to those suffering from food poverty in the same local community people who have no access to healthy foods for a variety of reasons, such as lack of income or knowledge of healthy nutrition.

## Activities & Achievements

From January 2011 to date:

- Amount of food reclaimed: 830kg (estimated)
- Number of meals cooked: 1225 meals (estimated)
- Number of volunteer hours: 650 hours

Fundraising events organised:

- Hyde Park Relay
- Bagging at Sainsbury
- Celebrity chef Tom Aikens charity dinner

These events raised: 1979.05

## Membership

Number of volunteers increase probably about 100. However this number will drop through the year, as how the trend has always been previous years, due to the nature of our work being volunteer work and possibly from lack of social events.

## Equipment

Cooking equipment has been maintained from the start. However half a year ago knives, chopping boards and kitchen utensils have been going missing. Some have been traced back with Imperial College Union catering manager, but knives will be replaced using Union budget allocated to us. A secure storage space is being worked out to prevent further loss of equipment.

## Finances

Union budget of 100 allocated from last year. Fundraising money is not directly available to us as they are directed back the parent charity. Major expenditure would be to replace lost knives. Weekly expenditure on transport and some food is minimal of approximately 10 a week.

## Other issues

Storage space is urgently needed! We have been trying to arrange for one with CAG's help for a few months now but still unresolved.

Recently, a society that uses the Union Dining Hall on Sunday afternoons (which is when Imperial FoodCycle holds our cooking sessions in the Union Dining Hall kitchen) has been making it difficult for people to access the kitchen via the dining hall.

## Future events

- Weekly cooking sessions
- Fundraising: Bagging at Sainsbury, charity dinner.
- Social events: Whole Foods Market's Thirsty Thursdays at least once every term.

# **Activities for Children with Disabilities**

## **Activities & Achievements**

We provide volunteers for a charity that North London which provides activities for children with disabilities. This takes the form of volunteering in weekly sessions, as well as trips roughly once per month.

## **Membership**

Our membership target is about five, and we have between five and seven official members, with more unofficial members.

## **Equipment**

We have all our equipment provided for us.

## **Finances**

As it is free to volunteer, we have no finances. However, we could make use of additional money for fundraising, running socials etc.

## **Other Issues**

None

## **Future Events**

For the future, we plan to raise more money, get more members, and raise awareness of what we do.

## **Raincatcher**

### **Activities & Achievements**

We aim to build a 250,000L water storage tank in Tanzania We have managed to run weekly meetings since the start of the academic year.

### **Membership**

Our membership has risen against previous years, due to a change in management structure.

### **Finances**

We get no grant, but based on previous years, we expect that our SGI will be approximately 25,000. Of our SGI, about 15,000 will be spent in the summer.

### **Other Issues**

None

### **Future Events**

Our plans for the future include fundraising events and liasing with other societies to organise them.

# **El Salvador Project**

## **Activities & Achievements**

We run construction and sanitation projects in El Salvador. Our plans for the year are to fundraise, then design and plan for our six weeks in El Salvador implementing the projects.

## **Membership**

Our membership is fifteen, and we always take between eleven and sixteen people.

## **Equipment**

We have no equipment, renting or buying what we need in El Salvador itself.

## **Finances**

We have no grant or SGI, but at some point we will meet Engage for Development to discuss finances. We need to have raised about 15,000 this year for the summer.

## **Other Issues**

None

## **Future Events**

Our future events are running some fundraising events (which still need planning), and the six week project itself in July to August.

## **E.Quinox**

### **Activities & Achievements**

The purpose of E.Quinox is to provide rural electrical sources. We work in rural Africa, providing energy kiosks. We also aim to inspire students and involve them in technical and business innovation. Finally, we form specialized groups to work on E.Quinox matters.

### **Membership**

We have sixty involved members; we've got more members than in previous years due to better marketing, more exposure, an increased workload and being successful.

### **Equipment**

We have some tools, although we need more.

### **Finances**

We have around 150k from external sources, and receive 100 in grant from the Union for tools. We expect an income of about 30k next year.

### **Other Issues**

None

### **Future Events**

We plan to run a Christmas dinner, a January? trip to Rowanda, the implementation trip itself in summer, and possibly a stakeholder meeting.



## **Interact**

### **Activities & Achievements**

We organise one off volunteering projects in the community, working with local charities and organisations. This academic year we have organised projects with Age Concern (Kensington & Chelsea branches), Friends of Ravenscourt Park Walled Gardens, Spires Homeless Shelter, and Groundwork London. We plan to have run to more projects by the end of term.

### **Membership**

We have eighty three members, of which one is an associate member. We are aiming for one hundred members altogether, which is about the same as previous years.

### **Equipment**

Most equipment is provided by the charities we work with.

### **Finances**

We receive about 70 grant, although we have no major expenditures planned, and don't spend much on projects anyway.

### **Other Issues**

We had some issues with membership fees. Our fees are were 2, and trying to refund them As the union won't refund amounts less than 5 this was problematic. We're also having trouble getting more members as term progresses - this may be due to people being busy or not reading emails.

### **Future Events**

We plan to organise more projects throughout the year. Some will be with organisations we already work with, but we also hope to work with some new organisations.

# **Kenyan Orphan Project**

## **Activities & Achievements**

We fundraise throughout the year to run a trip to Kisumu, Kenya. We do this each summer.

## **Membership**

Due to good publicity, we've met our membership target, and exceeded previous years' membership figures.

## **Equipment**

We have no equipment.

## **Finances**

We have about 1000 in SGI from a LightIQ sponsorship, as well as 150 from selling Christmas cards in December. We've had no major expenditures.

## **Other Issues**

None

## **Future Events**

For the rest of the year, we plan to do Christmas Carols, run some socials, and more next term.

# **Global Brigades**

## **Activities & Achievements**

We have run two fundraising sessions, and had 3 information sessions there was a talk on the sustainability of medical work in Africa during one of them.

## **Membership**

Thirty people have signed up to far. We hope to have fifty by the end of the year after another recruitment drive in January. We had 11 last year.

## **Equipment**

N/a

## **Finances**

We will raise approximately 1500 to use to purchase medication to send with our medical brigades

## **Future events**

Send out 1 'medical brigade' to Ghana & 1 to Honduras Send out 1 'water brigade' to Honduras Run 2 'Public Health' symposia Have various fundraising events Have a London uni-wide event Run medical Spanish training sessions

# **Maternal Health**

## **Aims & Objectives**

Run an obstetrics revision course for medical students (February 2012) Provide lacking medical resources to a hospital in rural Kashmir in January 2012 Put together templates for documentation and information leaflets for patients for the hospital mentioned above (to be implemented by January 2012)

## **Membership**

We have six members currently We will get more as we open our revision courses to members only.

## **Equipment**

N/A

## **Finances**

We have around 3000 to purchase medical resources for the hospital After returning from Kashmir in February we will hold a fundraising dinner

## **Future events**

We will run two information sessions after returning from Kashmir for people interested in volunteering in the future.

# **African Development**

## **Aims & Objectives**

We aim to engage the analytical skills of IC students in international development.

## **Activities & Achievements**

So far this year, we've partnered with three student groups- e.quinox, MASH and Kyampasi to work with them on project evaluation. We've also organised a Project Fair attended by 25 people to advertise these projects and connect students with them. Students have since engaged with these projects. We have also partnered with the Schistosomiasis Control Initiative to provide data entry for a large project working in Mozambique. We have some volunteers, seeking more.

## **Membership**

This is our first year as a project; we have one hundredy and twenty people on our mailing list, but no members yet because of a website issue.

## **Equipment**

N/A

## **Finances**

We neither hold nor need money.

## **Other issues**

N/A

## **Future events**

We plan to focus on SCI partnership and get more undergraduates involved in data entry.

## **IC Buddies**

### **Aims and Objectives**

IC Buddies work with students who attend disadvantaged schools in London, helping them reach university to study the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This is achieved by providing help in academia and also in the university application process.

### **Activities and Achievements**

Personal statement clinics at Greenford High School Recruitment of volunteers IC Buddies welcome meeting (although it was poorly attended) Mock It workshop day in collaboration with U.CAN (to be held on 26/11/2011) In the process of organising tutoring at Hammersmith College

### **Membership**

Currently we have 12 members, so have exceeded our target of 5. This is probably higher than the previous year, but we believe with full commencement of our projects we will get more members.

### **Equipment**

N/A

### **Finances**

We have a grant of 200 for travel reimbursement, which has not been used thus far. We have no major planned expenditures. We also hope to raise some funds for publicity costs.

### **Other Issues**

N/A

### **Future plans**

Regular tutoring at Hammersmith College (and possible Ealing College) Workshops for sixth-form and GCSE students