

## SCC Report – 2011/2012

– Kajann, SCC Chair

### CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Current SCC Membership for all clubs stands at 3459 members. On the whole, the club memberships in the SCC are ticking over fairly ok. There was a bounce in club membership after the last Christmas holiday and I expect a similar situation to occur in 11/12 too. At present, 25 SCC clubs have hit the 100% mark and beyond in meeting their target membership. In particular, special mention should be given to Speakers Club (460%), Management (390%), Catholic Soc (310%), Fairtrade (260%), Anime (192.5%) and Cheese (190%).

Personally I feel the SCC are in a state of transition to an extent. With the recent introduction of new societies such as Speakers Club, Management and Not In Halls, we have more clubs, who I expect will have much larger membership targets in the future. Furthermore, these clubs run activities/events that if run competently, transcend their society and should appeal to a much larger following within the College - this is a move away from 'cottage' societies that carry out niche activities. Therefore I hope and expect that Grant allocation during Budgeting Meetings should reflect this next year and in the years to come.

### NEW CLUBS

We have 4 new societies welcomed into the SCC family this year – Not In Halls, Overseas Christian Fellowship, Management and Speakers. Energy Soc are also in their first full year as a society.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The SCC were given a measly £4200 in our Grant allocation last year – this obviously has still not been spent this early into the year. However again from last year, most of the SCC Grant was spent in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Term and especially when the clubs have had all their Grants released to them, having met their Membership Targets so I expect a similar situation this year too.

There are 6 clubs who are currently in debt – Alternate Music, Bright Futures, Christian Union, Energy Soc, Law and Punjabi Soc. Of these Alternate Music's debt is longstanding that predates the current committee. Punjabi Soc's debt is due to a deposit that they paid for their venue (Hammersmith Apollo) for their annual show The Bhangra Showdown, which attracted almost 3000 people last year and made more than £30,000 - so their 'debt' is an illusion. Christian Union's debt is carried over from last year and is partly due to overspending during one of their tour activities. Energy Soc's debt has also been carried over from last year and this was meant to be off-set by sponsorship, which they do not seem to have. LawSoc and Bright Futures are 'corporate' dominated societies and I believe their debt should be resolved in the distant future. I will follow up on these societies, alongside Rebecca, the SCC Treasurer, in looking to come up with a plan to ensure that they get their figures back to black.

No financial transactions have been made by the SCC Exec, although we have monies added into our account from the Grant allocated to Russian Speaking (who have been moved to the OSC), Every Nation Christian (who have asked for their membership cost to be free and so forfeiting their Grant) and due to the sad demise of Jain Soc, who shut down their society voluntarily at the very beginning

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of the year. Currently this has not been re-allocated to anyone and will be held as part of the SCC Contingency Fund.

My major concern is that chronic lack of funding from Grants given to the SCC has meant that vulnerable clubs may end up closing in the distant future. An example of one is Alternate Music, who are in a vicious cycle of lack of funds meaning less activities and ever declining membership, which then contributes to even more reduced funding etc. I strongly feel that such diverse clubs are important to the fabric of the Union and need to be supported more from a financial perspective to allow them to flourish, so they can stand on their own two feet and hopefully then wean them off from Union/College money.

#### CONTINGENCY CLAIMS

So far this year no-one has applied for contingency funding so it currently stands at £395.00. Although as mentioned above, this includes money transferred into the pot for re-allocation of Grant from money given originally to Russian Speaking, Every Nation Christian and Jain Soc.

#### CONSTITUTION CHANGES

So far only Anime have amended their constitution – which involved changes in composition of their committee and it was passed unanimously at the SCC Management Group Meeting. Rick, the SCC Secretary is collating the constitutions of all clubs so that they can be posted onto the SCC Website so that in future, clubs can download these without excessive searching around and hassle.

The SCC Exec are looking to amend our own constitution to recruit a Web Secretary, in place of the Assistant Treasurer and this change will be proposed to come into effect next year.

#### TOURS

SIFE (Student In Free Enterprise) and Model UN had Summer Tours, which went successfully.

SIFE visited TEKUA School in Tanzania, a school for which SIFE raises funds for, to allow it to continue running. The Project TEKUA team has held fundraising events throughout last year, but the members also used a substantial amount of personal savings to fund the trip. This was a very meaningful trip with a mission to help children in Tanzania improve their futures through education.

Model UN recently visited the UN Geneva Headquarters to promote understanding of the role of the UN as well as to allow their members the opportunity to see how the UN functions.

Jewish Soc were recently given approval for a Winter Tour to Lithuania, to visit the Jewish roots within the country.

#### EXEC MEETINGS

Unfortunately due to a mix up (the email sent to the mailing list was not delivered), the October meeting was made an 'unofficial' one and an extended meeting (by SCC standard) was held at the very beginning of November, which was very well attended (again by SCC standard). There will be a further meeting for this term, followed by further monthly meetings next term.

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AOBs

There are an alarming number of societies, who have still not completed the relevant Documentations, Training Quizzes etc that are required of them. This has led to numerous clubs having their finances frozen. I need to be even more active with regards to making sure this is sorted out quickly by emailing these naughty societies perhaps on a daily basis, as it has been suggested, from the end of this week, until these clubs have complied with what has been asked of them.

I feel the grim reaper may be stalking 2 clubs in particular, with regards to lack of activities and members – Cascade and (sadly on a personal note) Socialist Workers Society. Both of these clubs had similar problems last year but they were ultimately saved due to promises of more activity and members and to be frank, neither has met this so dormancy and subsequent culling may be the next steps.