

Imperial College Union
Deputy President (Welfare) Report
A report by Becky Lane

Campaigns planning

Currently I am planning campaign strategy for the rest of the year. This has included several things:

- Meeting up individually with the Welfare Officers to see what ideas they have and how they would like to progress over the coming year.
- Working out when each of the officers want to run a campaign to make sure the times of year don't cross over.
- Designing Welfare Officer training material, deciding when this will be delivered so that preparation is increased in the coming years.
- Set up the first all together meeting of the Welfare Officers.

Gender Equality Campaign

This launches on Friday 9th with a blog post, a Felix article and a poster campaign across campus. It is a call for anonymous accounts of sexism occurring at Imperial. The aim of this will be to produce a display of the accounts and also a report with hard facts and figures about discrimination to present to key members of college staff. I feel that it is a new way to think about running campaigns about discrimination and so far the response has been reasonably good and (mostly) positive.

I hope to potentially extend this project to the website to improve the method of anonymous reporting. Maybe taking on a project with a similar layout to Everyday Sexism (<http://www.everydaysexism.com/> - if you are interested). I am also aware that this project has the potential to span different types of discrimination, under the umbrella term Unseen Imperial.

Green initiatives

The Green Forum was a success with both staff and students coming together to discuss ideas. The students who attended formed a cross section of environmentally active students, members of ESoc and students on the Environmental Policy course. What was clear from this is that the idea of establishing a Student Green Network to unite all of the different groups with an invested interest in the environment. This network will act as a launch pad for campaigns and form ideas about what green issues students would like to lobby college about.

This network will firstly be based around getting people to sign up to a mailing list, and then begin discussing exactly what we would like to campaign about and how. I am also keen for a subset of this group to represent student opinion to key members of college staff who make the high level decisions about Imperial College's sustainability.

Fairtrade Status

I have been working with the head of college catering and a staff member from the Energy and Environment department to hopefully ensure that the college can retail its Fairtrade status. I also hope to get the Fairtrade society involved in the process.

FIE Conference

I have been working with staff members at FIE (Foundation of International Education) on Cromwell Road with reference to this project. There will be 25 free places for Imperial students as delegates at the conference which is themed around student leadership. I think this could prove an exciting opportunity for some students.