Imperial College Union

Deputy President (Welfare) Report

A report by Becky Lane

Stress Less Campaign

The Stress Less activities have gone really well, with over one hundred people bouncy on the bouncy castle, and over a thousand students coming along to the petting zoo. Anecdotal feedback has been really positive and the campaign hasn't finished yet. There are already plans that next year will be even bigger with more activities put on throughout the exam period. Hopefully next year the stressful January period can also be included, I obviously won't be here, but the company do also have reindeer, just something to bear in mind...

Student Experience Survey

The Student Experience Survey response is coming to this Council to be ratified, the response will then do the rounds at College. It will be taken to QAAC, the Welfare Seminar, and hopefully used as a tool by departmental staff. The report will then be used by the Dean of Students to feed into the Student Support Action Plan for the next year. This will shape his budgeting process for the following academic year for allocating funds to various welfare services. Now that the report is out (this is the first year that the Union has written a response) I can spend time drilling down some of the data into further detail. I hope to have the time to look at the Personal Tutor, pastoral support, disabilities and buddy system sections on a department by department level. This can then be supplied to departmental staff to be used as they like. It would also be interesting to see how this corresponds to NSS rankings for various departments.

STI clinics

The regular STI clinics are continuing to be well attended. Planning of dates has already started for next year. We hope to hold one after 2 weeks of term as there is a lot of partying during this time.

Health Centre

I will have supplied a verbal update with regards to the current health centre situation previously in Council. I have been involved in discussions with various College members of staff about shaping the future of the Health Centre ensuing that it is a service always run with the interests of Imperial College students at its heart. I have not been allowed to see the Memorandum of Understanding between the College and the Health Centre. The College were more than happy for me to see this document; however the Health Centre were not. A freedom of information request would have been futile due to the commercially sensitive nature of this agreement (I have been advised).

Green Fund

HEFCE have given five million pounds of funding to the NUS to allocate to students unions focusing on green projects. This money is available whether the Union is affiliated to the NUS or not. Over the coming weeks we will be doing work to gain student input into our bid. There (should) be more information about it on the website now for anyone interested. If this is something you are passionate about or would like to have input into please come and chat to me about it.