

Imperial College Union
ACC Chair's Report
By Chew Shen Liew – ACC Chair

1. ACC Financial Summary

The ACC received a total grant of £135,866.26 for the financial year 2013/2014, a 2% decrease on 2012/2013 and 9% decrease on 2011/2012.

At the time of writing, over half of the allocated grant had already been spent with much of the remainder expected to be spent in the near future.

As of December 6th, the ACC had a total membership of 3,238. Despite reaching 112% of the required total membership target, 20 out of 52 clubs are still below their target. Special mention should be given to ACC Golf, Kendo and Archery for reaching membership levels of 171.4%, 195.0% and 197.7%, respectively.

2. Facilities and Spatial Concerns

The ACC relies heavily on both Union and College owned facilities that are essential to the continued success of the various clubs.

2.1. Union Gym

Several clubs have raised concerns over the gaps between wooden tiles due to poor fitting of the Union Gym floor (even after the refurbishment) which poses a risk of injury. This issue has been brought to the attention of the Union through Anthony Crowther (Student Activities Manager) and there are plans to resolve this problem early next year.

2.2. Union Gym Storeroom

In the summer, equipment from the converted snooker room was moved out and relocated to the Union Gym storeroom. Clubs have complained about the lack of storage space in the storeroom which has forced clubs to leave their equipment on the floor. There were also concerns about the safety of the equipment in the storeroom as there is no system in place to safeguard it.

2.3. Storage Space

A restriction on storage space is an inherent problem for a university located in central London. Store Room 5 in particular (used by Football, Gaelic Sports, Hockey, Netball and Rugby) would benefit from proper allocation of space. The Rugby Club Captain had a walk around Store Room 5 and laundry area with Alex McKee (Central Services Manager) early November and a list of refurbishments has been submitted to Alex. We are waiting to hear back from him.

2.4. Closure of the 3rd Squash Court

The closure of one of the squash courts at the end of the last year has severely affected ACC Squash. Requests have been made for extra time in the remaining courts but were unfulfilled. With 188 members, they are currently facing a serious issue of insufficient

training space and time. Efforts have been made to find alternate training courts but the cost of hiring them is out of their budget.

2.5. Hyde Park Charges

At the beginning of term, clubs were notified through Sport Imperial and the Union that the Hyde Park Management was going to start charging for the use of the old football pitches. Clubs have not yet been formally charged but must book the pitch before using it. Clubs are opposed to the changes and the affected clubs have raised concerns about their finances given that they had not budgeted for this last year.

3. Sport Imperial

Sport Imperial's support for the ACC continues to be vital in the success of clubs. Sport Imperial has awarded scholarships to clubs through the Development Excellence Scheme (DES) to which any high-achieving or expanding club can apply, and grants. Additionally, the Sport Partnership Office officers offer substantial logistical and administrative support for clubs. ACC would like to thank Sport Imperial for their continuous contribution and investment to the development of sport clubs at Imperial.

4. ACC Executive Meetings

There have been three meetings in the Autumn.

4.1. Contingency Claims

Due to the merger of ICU and ICSMU sport teams, ACC Netball's 10 home fixtures were moved from Ethos to Teddington. ACC unanimously voted in favour to pass the motion of awarding £400 to ACC Netball to relocate as many matches as possible to South Park. At the time of writing, Netball's request has yet to be presented to CSPB for final approval.

5. Barnights

5.1. ACC Bar Nights

The ACC Vice Chair (Gilles Stassen) has been working closely with the Commercial Services team to organise bar nights. The first bar night was a success, producing profits of £249.08. The most recent bar night was held on 4th December.

5.2. Improvements to Commercial Services

There were complaints after the first bar night on the lengthy wait to purchase drinks from the bar. Commercial Services reported that the number of staff working that night was double the usual number of staff. A few changes were made and implemented during the second bar night to improve the waiting time. Instead of pints, only bottles and cans were served in Metric while pints were served in 568 and the Union Bar, and a limit of 4 drinks per order was imposed.

6. ACC Individual Club Reports

All clubs submitted their reports. The individual reports can be provided upon request.