



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the second ordinary meeting of
the
Community and Welfare Board
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2013/14 Session

The meeting of the Community and Welfare Board was held in the Union Building on 5th December 2013 at 6.05pm in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Beit Quad, Imperial College (South Kensington).

Present:

Position	Name
Deputy President (Welfare)	Marissa Lewis – Chair
President	David Goldsmith
ICSMSU President	Steve Tran
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Kieron Creagh
C & GCU President	Lejon Chua
GSU Physical Sciences Academic & Welfare Officer	Max Boleininger
GSU Chair	Andreas Thomik
RSMU President	Emily Pennington
C & GCU Welfare Officer	Juliet Kernohan
Representation Coordinator	Zoe Richardson
RSMU Welfare Officer	Hayley Meek
ICSMSU Welfare Officer	Sunila Prasad
LGBTa Portfolio Officer	Nia John
International Officer	Nida Mahmud
Gender Equality Officer	Sarah Sturrock
Interfaith Officer	Tagore Nakornchai
CoppaFeel! UBT Chair	Ami Shirley

Apologies:

GSU Engineering Academic & Welfare Officer	Mohammad Ahmadzadeh
Education & Welfare Manager	Andrew Keenan
Deputy President (Education)	Natalie Kempston
Student Advisor	Nigel Cooke

1. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

- a) Members of the Committee introduced themselves.

2. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- a) The minute of the previous meeting were accepted.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- a) There were no matters arising.

4. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Marissa Lewis, Deputy President (Welfare).

- a) Sexual Health & Guidance (SHAG) week went well, with the sexual health clinic and pee-in-the-pot both reaching capacity. A number of students were turned away due to lack of capacity from the clinic which was regrettable. It was clarified that these students were directed towards external clinics.
- b) The Student Experience Survey is currently online for students (excepting final years) to complete. All students are encouraged to complete this.
- c) Marissa is also working to coordinate the response to Immigration Bill.

5. VERBAL REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Nida Mahmud, International Officer.

- a) Nida has visited Kings College London with David Goldsmith to discuss the International Bill with students there. There have also been talks with the National Union of Students.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Tagore Nakornchai, Interfaith Officer.

- a) Tagore has e-mailed a number of individuals from interfaith societies but has received very few responses. This has led to a number of issues regarding organising events. It was recommended that he contact other members of the societies rather than the Chair of societies to increase the likelihood of success.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Max Boleininger, GSU Physical Sciences Academic & Welfare Officer.

- a) Max has had no welfare issues reported to him.
- b) Max plans to promote the campaign regarding the International Bill to students.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Andreas Thomik, President (Graduate Student's Union).

- a) Andreas has been investigating into welfare issues at campuses, particularly those beyond South Kensington.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Hayley Meek, RSMU Welfare Officer.

- a) Has received a number of academic issues from students.
- b) Has been monitoring the welfare of a number of students within the RSMU who are under-18 years of age.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by ICSMSU President, Steven Tran.

- a) A mental health awareness week was recently organised within the ICSMSU. A number of mental health charities were promoted during this period. A questions and answer session was also held.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by C&GU Welfare Officer, Juliet Kernohan.

- a) There has been relatively little usage of welfare within recent weeks.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by LGBT Officer, Nia John.

- a) Nia has spoken to College regarding the knowledge level of personal tutors regarding LGBT issues and their ability to provide assistance to those needing welfare regarding LGBT issues. It has been highlighted that personal tutors often lack this knowledge and students sense that personal tutors feel forced into providing welfare. This is an ongoing issue.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by Gender Equality Officer, Sarah Sturrock.

- a) Sarah has worked with the Feminist Society and Marissa Lewis to organise an event in January.
- b) A campaign run by Sarah called 'The Pledge' is ongoing. She recently met with the ACC chair to discuss the campaign, who expressed a number of issues. This will be revisited.
- c) Sarah has spoken to a number of Undergraduate Medical Academic Representatives regarding the lack of use of female volunteers when undergoing practical examinations during Medical training.

RECEIVED: Verbal update by President, David Goldsmith.

- a) David has spoken to a number of Lords regarding the Immigration Bill.

6. CAMPAIGN PROPOSAL – CGCU WELFARE OFFICER

The board is directed to consider the New Campaign Start-up Form.

- a) Juliet is keen to hold a campaign in order to raise the profile of the CGCU for CGCU members. In recent years very few welfare weeks have been held.
- b) The week would involve a combination of games and welfare, with a number of events available to students for free. The week would cover a wide variety of welfare issues, with a different welfare issue being covered each day.
- c) Members of the board expressed concerns that money to spend at the bar was being offered as a prize during a week raising awareness of alcohol issues. It was agreed that Juliet would investigate into alternatives.
- d) The budgeting and cost of some of the proposed activities was questioned and seen as unrealistic. It was also raised that it may be unrealistic and confusing to have a number of welfare issues raised in one week.
- e) Events would be held on the Queens lawn, Junior Common Room, Queens Tower Room and Imperial College Union. The issue of whether events held in these locations would predominantly attract CGCU students was raised as these areas are accessible for all. Juliet clarified that no students would be turned away from events. It was suggested that Dalby court would be a useful venue to use and that timing was often key for events such as these e.g. to time events around lectures.
- f) The board also had concerns that Community & Welfare Board funding would be used solely for CGCU students.
- g) It was felt that the proposal required more work and clarification before the board could pass it.

ACTION: Board members to contact Juliet with any further feedback they have regarding the proposal and how it may be improved.

ACTION: CGCU to e-mail Marissa Lewis with any further developments regarding the proposal.

7. CAMPAIGN PROPOSAL – CANCER AWARENESS

The board is directed to consider the New Campaign Start-up Form and a door hanger from CoppaFeel!

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- a) Ami Shirley from CoppaFeel! introduced her proposal to fund the production of door hangers to be hung in showers or bathrooms. Each door hanger would contain guidance for individuals to check their breasts or testicles for cancerous growths. These would be distributed amongst Halls and public toilets within Imperial.
 - b) The question of how many to get was raised. It was suggested that Ami check with Halls to see if they would be willing to have the hangers within their public bathrooms before ordering any to avoid wastage.
 - c) It was suggested that some way of reaching other students than first years was needed as it is predominately first year students who live in Halls. Ethos and gyms at other campuses were recommended as sites that could benefit from the hangers.
 - d) A vote was held whether or not to accept the proposal. There were no votes to reject, no abstentions and all board members present voted for the proposal.
 - e) The board decided that in case demand exceeded the number of hangers due to be purchased in the original proposal that a budget of £100 would be allocated to the campaign.

8. NIGHTLINE

- a) Marissa Lewis is reviewing the funding of Nightline, a confidential listening service offered to Imperial students. The usage of Nightline by Imperial students currently is very hard to evaluate as no statistics are produced. Nightline is available during term time only, therefore it's usage for Medical students and Postgraduate students is limited.
- b) The board felt that as the listening service is peer-to-peer this offered a valuable service which differs from nationwide and non-student listening services, for example the Samaritans.
- c) Although it is not known how many, Imperial students can and may volunteer their services for Nightline. Doing so gives them access to a number of development opportunities including training. It was judged that Imperial students would be unlikely to receive the same opportunities if Imperial College Union did not provide funding.
- d) It was decided that if possible it would be beneficial to question students about whether or not they had used Nightline, and their experiences.
- e) A reluctance to remove funding to Nightline unless it could be proved that Imperial students were not using the service was established.
- f) It was established that of the overall welfare budget, the amount allocated for Nightline was significant.

ACTION: Marissa Lewis to investigate why the Nightline service cannot be provided all year round.

ACTION: Kieron Creagh to investigate into whether this question can be included in surveys in the future.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Currently all campaign forms are uploaded onto the Imperial College Union website. It has been noted that as these forms include personal information there could be some implications.
- b) There have been reports that with other student's CID numbers, National Student Survey fraud could occur.

ACTION: Marissa Lewis will liaise with Kieron Creagh to ensure that the section of the form containing personal information is removed before forms are uploaded in future.

Meeting closed 7:00pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of the Community and Welfare Board

on _____ 2013/14

_____ Chair of the Meetin