

Council Report
By Deputy President (Education) Pascal Loose

ICT Student Forum

We held the first ICT Student Forum this year on 26 November. We invited the Dep Reps, AAOs, AOs, AWOs, Constituent Union presidents and members of the Union Council in order to get a diverse representative group of students. A couple of students turned up, unfortunately no PG students. We'll try to contact a wider group of students next time. Many staff members attended and we discussed Panopto, Office 365 and other items that were raised by students. The full minutes will be available soon.

ERB

The second Education and Representation Board was held 27 November, with the majority of the Dep Reps attending. The topics we discussed included having rep elections before summer, the funding situation of UROPs and IROPs and the possibility of viewing the provisional grades. Outcomes included setting up a focus group regarding the UROP/IROP situation with more detail, a report on how grades are displayed in different departments, The minutes will be available soon.

Westminster Higher Education Forum

I attended the Westminster Higher Education Forum that was having discussions around the topic "Innovative approaches to curriculum design and delivery in HE". The discussions included allowing flexibility within the course design, engaging employers in design, responding to advances in technology and involving students in course design. Ultimately none of the ideas were new to me and Imperial College is already a step ahead and is implementing the majority of the ideas.

FoNS Town Hall Meetings

In order to engage more with the students the FoNS has trialled some town hall meetings in each department and all the students were invited. However the turnout was quite low and instead of having a broad discussion with many students it became a small conversation between the staff, students and I. The topics included student satisfaction, the future of education in FoNS, upcoming and past projects and the involvement of the Union.

Operational Excellence

Operational Excellence is continuing and they require constantly student input. I am currently working with the OE staff to define a system or framework to provide quick student input without constantly relying on the input of the sabbs.

Horizons Rep Structure

Horizons was introduced two years ago and the Horizons rep are therefore a relatively new rep structure. I was approached by some Horizons rep that suggested to have a look at the current structure as it is very difficult for the reps to engage with the students since the classes are so dispersed. I am currently working with the Horizons staff and reps on improving this system.

PG Engagement Strategy

The PG Engagement Strategy has now undergone some final planning and the timescale will be presented soon. Those who wish to participate are more than welcome to!

SACAs

The nomination for SACAs is open but the uptake was slow. However, they haven't been properly advertised by the dep reps and we hope that once they promote it, we receive more nominations.