

## Chun-Yin San - ICU Deputy President (Education)

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**From:** Chun-Yin San - ICU Deputy President (Education)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2015 19:42  
**To:** Asavarut, Paladd; 'AWO Life Sci'; 'AWO Physical Sciences'; Butler, Ethan L; Derrick, Alex; Haylock, Stuart; Ruxandra Luca - GSU AWO Business; Vaux, Rachel  
**Cc:** Yarlett, Sky K; Keenan, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: CRT Meeting - Wednesday September 23

Hi all,

Thanks Ethan and Stuart for coming along to our morning meeting two weeks ago. Sorry it's taken a while for me to follow-up; been manically busy. :s

As I didn't take formal minutes during the session, just wanted to summarize the main outcomes from our discussion, alongside some updates and follow-up actions:

- **Cohort-Building**
  - Recognized that while students from DTCs benefit significantly from cohort-building initiatives, students outside of DTCs could stand to benefit from greater support for cohort-building in DTCs
  - Fact-finding and discussions since our meeting have suggested:
    - Cohort-building funding is available on an informal basis from some Departments, though not necessarily well-advertised
    - Funding from the Graduate School for student activities is available, and seem to have some awareness among College staff and segment of students
    - Some Faculties, e.g. FoE, is interested in investing more heavily into cohort-building funds for PGR students, though stressing that cohort-building should be a defined process and not just giving money to students to go to pubs etc.
  - **Actions:**
    - CYS to investigate how much money is available through Graduate School schemes
    - CYS to have informal discussions with the Graduate School to understand cohort-building provisions and room for growth, including possibility of a more overt and defined central fund
- **Research Supervisors Reviews**
  - Further to ongoing discussions regarding research supervisors, initiated by EB, to explore the possibility of implementing formal reviews of research supervisors, with the aim of helping struggling supervisors become better at what they do
  - Consider deriving from the well-established 360° review processes
  - Discussions since our meeting have suggested:
    - When raised with some members of the Graduate School and Faculty staff, the responses received were more positive than initially expected
    - A potential solution would be to first implement a voluntary scheme aimed at recruiting role models, emphasizing that reviews is to help supervisors improve themselves rather than a disciplinary mechanism
  - **Actions**
    - CYS to discuss with AK about potential next steps e.g. possibility of a campaign
    - CYS to continue having informal discussions with Graduate School and Faculty staff as a starting point
- **Long working hours especially for FoNS students**
  - SH noted that some FoNS students are expected to work long hours, with no overtime pay
  - Consider some mechanism whereby students can be empowered to say 'no' to overtime work without pay
  - **Actions**
    - CYS to discuss with Jennie Watson (DP Welfare) about potential next steps
- **Rep Training**
  - It was suggested that incoming Reps should be given an understanding of SSC structure
  - **Actions**
    - CYS and AK to take suggestion on-board and structure Rep training accordingly

On the aside, I have been having discussions with the Graduate School, in conjunction with the Advancement and Outreach divisions in central College, about making available a greater array of public engagement and science communication opportunities to PGT and PGR students. The discussion was very positive and constructive, and over the next year we hope to:

- Make SciComm opportunities on campus more accessible to PGT and PGR student participation by design
- Have greater and more frequent communication of engagement opportunities through Graduate School mechanisms
- Allow PGT and PGR students to sign up to volunteering opportunities at the College's engagement events, e.g. Imperial Festival and Fringe, directly through Imperial Plus (and be able to log the hours towards an Imperial Plus certificate)
- Introduce more opportunities, and also new platforms that students can take advantage of with any idea

Hope this all sounds interesting, and I do hope that you would still be interested in contributing on the occasion! :) (Or better, run again as AWO ;))

Cheers,

Chun-Yin (Cyin)

## Chun-Yin San

Deputy President (Education)

Email: [dpeducation@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:dpeducation@imperial.ac.uk)

Tel: (NEW) +44 07739 512 129

Web: [imperialcollegeunion.org](http://imperialcollegeunion.org)



Imperial College Union,  
Beit Quadrangle, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB  
Registered Charity No: 1151241



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**From:** Chun-Yin San - ICU Deputy President (Education)

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 22, 2015 11:19

**To:** Asavarut, Paladd <[paladd.asavarut10@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:paladd.asavarut10@imperial.ac.uk)>; 'AWO Life Sci' <[awo-lifesci@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:awo-lifesci@imperial.ac.uk)>; 'AWO Physical Sciences' <[awo-physsci@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:awo-physsci@imperial.ac.uk)>; Butler, Ethan L <[ethan.butler13@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:ethan.butler13@imperial.ac.uk)>; Derrick, Alexander <[alexander.derrick14@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:alexander.derrick14@imperial.ac.uk)>; Haylock, Stuart <[stuart.haylock08@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:stuart.haylock08@imperial.ac.uk)>; Ruxandra Luca - GSU AWO Business <[awo-bus@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:awo-bus@imperial.ac.uk)>; Vaux, Rachel <[rachel.vaux11@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.vaux11@imperial.ac.uk)>

**Cc:** Yarlett, Sky K <[s.yarlett@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:s.yarlett@imperial.ac.uk)>; Keenan, Andrew <[a.keenan@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:a.keenan@imperial.ac.uk)>

**Subject:** CRT Meeting - Wednesday September 23

Dear all

Please see attached for the agenda for tomorrow's meeting, alongside the final recommendations from the Working Party on World-Class Research Supervision that we will touch on. (There's no need to read the recommendations beforehand, though you might find it of interest)

To confirm we will be meeting in the refurbished Union offices on Floor 2, Union Building, at 10:00.

Best

Chun-Yin

## Chun-Yin San

Deputy President (Education)

Email: [dpeducation@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:dpeducation@imperial.ac.uk)

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