Council Report – Grace Rahman, FELIX Editor

Handover

Handover spanned two weeks in July. It all went well, and is definitely necessary preparation for the job. Two weeks seems enough, and it was good to attend some of the officer trustees' training as well. I also went on a media law course, along with a member of union staff. This was really useful and I would strongly advise that future editors should attend a similar workshop.

Freshers' Issue

We managed to put 2500 or so copies in 13 halls this year, with help from hall seniors, sub-wardens and members of the FELIX editorial team. This happened in my first year, and was something that instantly ups FELIX's profile in the first week. We had lots of people coming up to us at Freshers' Fair with a better idea of what we did, because there had been a copy in their bedrooms when they arrived.

Freshers' Fair

There seemed to be slight confusion over where media clubs were meant to go if it rained. Since this seemed so likely on the day, we moved inside. Our allotted space was on the third floor of the union building and since the footfall up there was likely to be low, we moved of our own accord to the UDH. Although it was a little incongruous being with all the volunteering societies, we got a great number of sign-ups there.

New section editors

The tidied up media hub has proved an excellent place to train groups of new section editors. We have had several freshers volunteer for important section editor roles, which is fabulous, as well as a new layout editor, photographers and cartoonists all in their first year.

Basement access

Unfortunately, the new access policy, meaning that only my card can get in to either the hub or the FELIX office, is proving to be incredibly difficult to work with. There is one key in the security office for FELIX office access, but obviously on a Wednesday and Thursday, when I have fifteen or so people coming in and out of the office over the day, taking out a card just doesn't work. One person will take it out, obviously bring it down, meaning no one else can get in. On a busy day, I can't leave the office to return the card every time someone takes it out. Lack of access to the hub for everyone seems ridiculous to me, and has prevented freshers from dropping by unless I am expecting them as they can't get as far as my office door to knock. It seems odd that the only member of staff in the basement, who has to deal with this, wasn't really consulted. I don't know why I can't give section editors personal access like last year, as this worked well.

Website

We're getting there!