Imperial College Union Board of Trustees Report

Alex Chippy Compton, President

This year the Officer Trustee team are trialling a new style of reports. These goals were developed from our manifestos at the Trustee residential in August. We are always happy to answer specific questions on our reports and work or anything you think is missing. We welcome any feedback you have on our report style.

Goals

Governance & democracy review

- This year we will be re-writing our Constitution & Bye-Laws and so I am leading a democracy review to ensure effective, engaging and wide-reaching structures.
- I will be providing updates to every Governance meeting on this.
- Once I have received confirmation from all the members we will schedule a meeting for the end of the month to agree on scope, aims, timeline and consultation strategy.

Development of our key volunteers

- I am focussing on Constituent Union Presidents, Management Group Chairs (with Tom) and Liberation Officers (with Fintan).
- This year Constituent Union Presidents and Management Group Chairs were invited to first two days of the induction period for Officer Trustees. This allowed them to meet all the Union staff teams and I hope this has helped them identify where to go for different issues.
- This year we are trialling a CU discussion and support forum. I hope this will be a monthly meeting where CUs can come together with the Officer Trustees and discuss common issues and share good practice.

Wellbeing strategy

- Working with Fintan, we have approached College about authoring a wellbeing strategy. This has received a positive response and we are excited to undertake this project.
- We hope to bring together the wellbeing work happening all over College into one overarching strategy and hold College to account on improving the wellbeing support and culture at Imperial.
- We hope that this will also secure funding for wellbeing at Imperial which has been chronically underfunded for many years.

Understanding our membership

- In the Union's strategy, we talk about understanding our membership. We still break our membership down into measurable criteria rather than behaviours: postgraduates and undergraduates, international and home, South Kensington and non-SK. I want to break it down into groups based on interaction with the Union and behaviours: students who look for development opportunities, students who want to socialise, students who want to compete in sports.
- This goal feeds into the governance review in making our structures more wide reaching and engaging.

Team Goals

We also developed four team goals for the year. Some clearly fall under one/two Officers' remit while others are collaboration between all of us. These will feature on specific Officer's reports where they have worked towards these goals.

Wellbeing strategy

- Please see above.

Year-round democracy

- This year we have tried to put a greater focus on Autumn Elections and are hoping for an increased turnout.
- The governance review should highlight some possible ways to increase our democracy throughout the year so it isn't just confined to the Leadership Elections.

Support & development of volunteers

- This is a team goal and we've identified a segment of our key volunteers that each Officer Trustee works with.
- Please see above for my report.

Accessibility & openness

- The website has just undergone a redesign which has changed the look and several key features such a side bar on the pages.
- Hopefully the redevelopment of many of the menus will make navigation easier for our members.
- There is still a lot of work to improve eActivities and some of the less user friendly areas of our systems (such as eVoting, Union bookings).

As always, I am available in person and via email for any questions you may have on my report or the Union's work.

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