

Imperial College Union Council Report

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Manifesto points – progress updates

Goal 1 - New Sports Complex

At the time of running in the Leadership Elections 2019, Imperial College London's sports facilities were outdated and not fit for purpose.

- Over the last 12 months, £700,000 was invested into facilities in Harlington to improve the users' experience. Notably, this included the refurbishment of a 3G pitch and the installation of changing facilities on the main site over the summer 2019. Further improvements are being added to the roadmap as we collect feedback from the students.
- Heston has been recognised by Move Imperial as a not-fit-for-purpose facility and is run at a loss. After discussions involving Move Imperial, the Union and other key stakeholders in the College, a consultation workshop was jointly led by Will Hollyer (Head of Sport) and myself to talk about the potential sale of the facilities.
- A transport strategy is being devised, with the initial phase for sports club consisting of transport to Harlington for Monday night trainings. This is currently being rolled out and will be evaluated later this term.

Goal 2 - Promote CSPs' Activities

Our Clubs, Societies & Projects (CSPs) have great knowledge and experience within their respective fields and cater to their members' needs. Promoting their activities does not only provide them with a platform to showcase them but would also ensure the Union engages more adequately with its membership, reflecting their interests.

- First Arts Night happened on Friday, October 18th. The event was well attended and very successfully run by the "Arts & Entertainment" management group. A post-event evaluation is underway and will help shape future iterations of the event as well as CSP events in our social spaces in general.
- Student consultations and work with key student stakeholders are underway for the Summer Ball. Pending the Board of Trustees' decision regarding the Summer Ball, a student committee for the event is ready to be formed.
- A social media takeover app is currently being designed for Instagram and expected to be ready at the end of term. This should allow for further promotion of content that is relevant to our membership and embrace the "Students as Partners" mentality, where the Union would act as a channel for students to promote their interests better.

Goal 3 - Implement the new Athletic Union

The roll-out of the Sports Hub over the next few years is a joint project between Move Imperial and Imperial College Union that will improve students' experience within sport.

- Financial modelling for the performance teams is underway to validate the broader model that was put together last academic year.

- As part of sport's rebranding at Imperial College, branding for the Sports Hub is to be conducted this term with an external agency. Initial meetings with key student volunteers are being organised for early November before all sports clubs are consulted later on this term.
- A kit tender process will be undertaken once the branding is done.

Goal 4 - Improve spaces and processes

Our spaces are outdated and some of our processes need reviewing.

- A review of the training available across the Union and its delivery has been initiated and aims to establish best-practice in supporting our CSP officers, management groups/constituent unions executive committees, academic representatives and sabbatical officers.
- A project sponsored by the Harlington Trust is underway and will fit within the Union's Space Strategy, specifically looking at CSPs' usage of space and aiming to establish a 5-year plan as well as setting a 10-year and 20-year strategy.

Goal 5 - Better consultation & student inclusion

Despite a common aim to improve the student experience at Imperial College London whilst thriving for academic and research excellence, students have often been left out of the decision making processed at the highest level of the Union and the College. Their inclusion, and better understanding of the different groups that constitute our membership, will lead to better tailored decision-making.

- Initiatives like the Heston consultation workshop and the Summer Ball committee (*cf.* above) lead to the definition of projects/plans that are better suited for our students.
- A review of postgraduate and non-South Kensington activities within CSPs needs to be conducted to improve engagement. Meetings are being organised for w/c October 28th to establish a stronger relationship with our key student volunteers and feed into the Union's wider strategy.

Other works in progress/completed

Recruitment involvement

- Deputy Venue Manager (in progress)
- Systems Manager (complete)
- Student Activities coordinators x3 (upcoming)

Looking at the Student Experience directorate

- Welcoming Thomas Newman (Head of Student Experience) and introduction to the Union's CSPs, structures and specificities
- Mapping of the operations and outputs for a better understanding of the directorate in setting its strategy (key student volunteers' meetings to feed into this)

Operational achievements

- Due to the current staffing situation in the Activities Team, more administrative tasks have been performed to ensure CSPs' activities can go ahead and to support our volunteers.