**Imperial College Union**

**Liberation & Community Network Finances**

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1. **Introduction**

In the ICU Budget for 2020/21 (pending approval at a meeting this week) there is £5,000 assigned for Liberation & Community, and £2,500 for campaigns. The way this will be spent has not been determined and, in light of the new Liberation & Community Networks, thought needs to go into how to do this.

1. **Options for L&C Networks**

Previously, each L&C officer was given £500 for free spending, and the Liberation Officers were given a further £500 a year for Liberation months (e.g. Black History Month). There was also an additional £2,000 in the Union’s hands for a ‘Liberation & Community Week’ in January. As these funds have been massively underspent in the past, and the Union has been forced to make significant reductions in budget across the board to respond to Covid, the total pot has been cut back to £5,000. There are broadly the following four options for spending this total pot.

* Option 1: split the £5,000 equally between each network for free spending.
* Option 2: keep entire £5,000 in central pot and develop an application process to be allocated funding for specific activities
* Option 3: assign each network £x for free spending, and keep rest in a pot to allocate for specific activity.
* Option 4: assign networks £x in total, and reserve the rest for central L&C spending (e.g. LCO introduction videos that happened last year).

1. **Campaigns funding**

The £2,500 for campaigns also needs to be considered in the context of a review of student-led campaigns (as also being discussed in this meeting). Previously, this pot has been spent on Union led campaigns (e.g. Under Pressure during exam periods) and student-led campaigns applied through the process here <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/campaigns>. This process is under review and not really in active use right now.

Part of the review process should include how funding is allocated to student campaigns. Previously, CWB has been responsible for allocating funds for campaigns. This could be the process again, or set funds could be allocated for each campaign (e.g. up to £250 for each campaign).

1. **To decide**

At this meeting, CWB is asked to decide how to spend Liberation & Community funding (out of the options above or through a different mechanism), discuss any required allocation process, and to discuss campaigns funding.