

Deputy President (Education) – Council report

Michaela Flegrova – 11th May 2021

Wow, it really has been a while since the last Council meeting, although it does not seem like that much has been happening with Easter, annual leave, bank holidays and taught students being busy with exam revision in the meantime.

Highlights:

- (Unsuccessful) Rep Coordinator recruitment
- Annual Leave
- Digital Education Recording Policy - PASSED 🎉
- Chemistry Building Level 4 refurbishment progress

College Meetings & Prep	Student + Union Meetings & Prep	Operational work (day-to-day)	Project work	Miscellaneous
30%	20%	25%	10%	15%

Updates:

Rep Coordinator Recruitment

- We received quite a lot of applications for the rep coordinator role, out of which we interviewed six
- While there were some good candidates, we unfortunately did not feel that any of the ones we interviewed met all of our criteria and would be a good fit for the role; we therefore did not offer the job to anyone
- We will be going out again, looking for more candidates, and hopefully we will be able to find someone perfect for us this time around (at least we're not recruiting for the THIRD time yet like Sam is for the web developer role... not that it's a competition or anything)
- It is of course unfortunate that we will be without this support in the team for longer than we anticipated, but we think it is really important that we find the right person for the role, who will be able to support the DPE and DPW, as well as all the reps, in the best way possible

Annual Leave

- I was on annual leave for a week, which took up about a week of my time
- Things I did on my leave: petted a cute cat I don't own a lot, went to IKEA, walked around London to see all the sights yet again, got screened for a covid vaccine trial and still have not heard back about whether they want me, made a skirt out of IKEA fabric, cycled to Reading (nothing to see there really – change my mind), ate out to help out a bit, did a lot of walking around, and it was overall quite a nice and very sunny week

Chemistry Level 4

- The first phase of the student consultation has now finished, with all the spaces being roughly divided into different zones with different purpose (silent study, group study,

food prep, food consumption, socialising, chill out space – there is a lot of space, it's the whole floor, everything fits there)

- The next step will be to choose the small details like furniture, colour schemes etc – not too important but still good to have student consultation
- There will be a lot of microwaves there
- We keep calling it “Chemistry level 4” but please remember the space will be open to ALL STUDENTS (especially taught ones), not just Chemistry students

Digital Education Recording Policy

- Remember Panopto for everyone, forever? (Unless students agree that they don't want Panopto) - Well that has now been agreed by Provost's Board! *throws confetti*
- It has not been publicised yet but will be very soon
- The implication is that all lectures will be recorded by default, unless the lecturer believes there is a good reason not to AND students agree with him - i.e. you will have a recording of all lecture courses unless you, as a cohort, don't actually want it

Working Together Task Group

- We have now entered the consultation phase, as you would have seen from an email I sent to you last week. This unfortunately clashes with the exam season so it is likely student input will be lower than perhaps it would have been otherwise.
- If you are still interested in taking part, please let me know – you can either take part in the leadership sessions (mixed with staff and students, run by an external facilitator) or the open sessions for any students who want to contribute (student-only sessions, run by someone in the College)

Other things happening in the College

- **Covid impact statements for PhD** students have now been implemented – any PhD student writing up their thesis now (or in the next... however many years, basically everyone affected by covid) will be able to outline how their PhD was impacted to their assessors, and this will be taken into account when they assess their PhD thesis. More info [here](#).
- I am on the panel for three different **President's Awards** (given out by Alice Gast, not Abhijay Sood), which recognise staff members with outstanding and innovative teaching, and contribution to student experience.
- The College is now **planning next academic year**, making decisions about how much teaching will be on campus, how assessments will/should be done, and generally worrying about timetabling issues a lot

Other things happening in the Union

- Nominations are open for the Student Choice Awards! If you know of a staff member and/or a Union volunteer who did a lot of great work this year, please do nominate them for an award [here](#)
- We have now started planning for
 - Summer By-Elections (nominations open end of May)
 - Welcome 2021
 - Training for incoming reps

Thanks for reading! If you have any questions, feel free to email me at dpe@imperial.ac.uk, send me a message on Teams, or call me at 45646 (internal only, and it works only when I'm in the office, but if you're ever on campus then give it a try, maybe you'll be lucky enough and reach me). You can also send me a letter to the Union Address (I love receiving letters).

And here's a cute picture of the cat I'm sure you all wanted to see

