

SCC Management Group Report
Lucy McGregor SCC Chair 2012-13

Financial Report

There's still a lot of unspent Grant in the group at the moment – only one society, Jewish, have spent all their Grant, although many others have been able to convincingly explain what they plan to do with what remains to them. In particular, Not In Halls, who had a large Grant earmarked to them at budgeting last year, haven't spent any of it, which is a little concerning. Mithila and I plan to make a big issue of this in the new year before budgeting; hopefully we will be able to get a lot of that spent over the next few months.

Three societies, Conservative, Alternative Music and Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association, are in debt at the current time. Of these, Conservative and Alternative Music are aware of the problems, which stem mostly from failed events, and are working to resolve the situation. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association have the smallest debt, but they are a problem club for a number of other reasons, so I will be making them dormant.

Memberships

A worryingly large number of Clubs haven't managed to get their required 20 members yet – Baha'i, Cascade, Chocolate, Conservative, Every Nation Christian, Friends of Medicins Sans Frontieres, History, Labour, Political Philosophy, Quiz, Rocksoc, Sikh and the Socialist Worker Society are all still below the minimum membership target, and there are a number of other clubs that are over this number but still below the targets they set last year. There's often a surge of membership after Christmas, so I hope some clubs will be able to capitalise on this and meet their targets.

On the bright side, a lot of clubs this year are outperforming themselves and expanding – Debating, Catholic, Consultancy and United Nations are particularly notable for a massive increase in membership and activities, and careers based societies like Bright Futures and Finance are also doing extremely well with a more than 200% membership increase.

Documentation, Training, etc

Most clubs have been very good about filling in documentation and training, with the few outstanding issues being due to exceptional circumstances – for instance, the Chocolate Society, which had a very rocky start to the year, but has now managed to get a committee who are determined to work hard and recover the club.

However, a few clubs – the Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association, Cascade, Friends of Medicins Sans Frontieres, Hillsong, Philosophy and Rotaract – have failed to complete the majority of their documentation, have naughty officers and no training quizzes and haven't tried to contact me or provide any explanations. These clubs are also universally below their membership targets, so I will be imposing dormancy.

Not In Halls is a particularly problematic club, because it doesn't have a proper committee. I don't know if Becky actually managed to run events for the not in halls freshers, but it's clear she's struggling to make the Club conform to the Union regulations and behave like other clubs. We may need to rethink the running and official position of this group within the Union.

Constitution Changes

A lot of SCC Clubs are taking advantage of the new online Constitution tool to update and revise their Club Constitutions, and we've approved two or three Constitution changes at every meeting so far, including Finance Society, Consultancy, United Nations, History, Conservative and Overseas Christian Fellowship. I have hope that now everyone can see other societies making these updates and changes, more people will be encouraged to follow suit and we may be able to collect an almost full set at the end of the year. The impression I've received is that the technical clauses and legal language automatically inserted by the online tool is a big help to inexperienced committees and encourages them to have the confidence to set up constitutions for their Societies; however, more experienced committees and clubs that already have well established Constitutions are finding the tool somewhat restrictive.

Contingency, Tours

No clubs within the SCC have applied for Winter Tours, but a few people are considering doing things in the Spring, and at least one Society, Hindu Soc, are planning a new Tour as they haven't had one in the past, which is very exciting.

There has been one Contingency claim on the SCC, for a disappearance of equipment from a locked College facility, but as it happened it coincided with an internal budget reallocation, so the problem was solved by allocating extra budget to the Fairtrade Society to help them to replace the lost equipment rather than through the Contingency system. This is rather fortunate, because after the budget cuts in the Spring last year the SCC Exec was not able to allocate a Contingency fund, so any claims within the Management Group will have to go straight to a higher level.