

Imperial College Union
Deputy President (Finance & Services) Council Report
A note by the DPFS – Michael Foster

Admin

Much of my time is occupied by day-to-day administration, such as approving payroll and authorizing payment of inch-thick piles of invoices, as well as dealing with Club, Society & Project finances. Club officers are often bypassing their Management Groups and coming straight to me with queries; I will soon have to start redirecting them.

Online Finances

The move to online financial administration is proceeding smoothly. Some users are having trouble uploading the correct evidence, but this number is decreasing. Internal charging and transfers are planned to go up by the end of November.

We Are Metric

All but four of this term's We Are Metric slots have been booked. There are a lot of very original themes and ideas, and I am working with the Entertainments team to ensure students have the support they need to run a successful night. There is already a lot of interest in running nights next term. Applications will be opening this month, with the Entertainments Committee set to meet in early December to consider on the proposals.

Reynolds Bar

I attended a bar steering meeting at the Reynolds Bar in the evening of 7 November, where there was discussion on the state of the bar, and any potential refurbishment that might happen. I am keen to discuss this with the ICSMSU President to see if we can put a plan together for the Reynolds' successful future.

Event Budgets

I am keeping a much closer eye on trip, tour and event budgets, and will soon start requesting reports from clubs once the event is over. With this, I hope to ensure clubs don't run unsustainable events. It also allows clubs to learn from previous events, so that they plan future events more confidently, and assists in future committees' planning.

Finance & Risk Sub-Committee

The Trustee Board has created a new sub-committee, to which it has delegated the responsibility to ensure the Union remains solvent and in good financial health. The

committee will meet at least every quarter, and will also ensure the Union's compliance with financial legislation and will manage the Union's financial risks. There will be at least one student and one lay trustee as members, with the General Manager, Finance Manager, President and Deputy President (Finance & Services) in attendance.

College Audit Committee

The President, General Manager, Finance Manager and I presented our year-end accounts and internal audit findings to the College Audit Committee on 8 November. Questions were raised about the reasons for the large Summer Ball loss, and we were asked to confirm that we would work to implement the changes suggested by the internal auditors, some of which are already in place.

Manifesto Update

Two and a half months in, I have made progress on a good number of my manifesto points. Additionally, since taking office, I have formulated some more precise objectives, which you can find on my blog.

CASHLESS PAYMENT:

College are currently considering a move to using CID cards for cashless payment across campus, much in the same way as an Oyster card. We are following the developments closely, and we will work with College on a system to meet our mutual requirements.

REFORMED ONLINE FINANCES:

I have reported previously on how quickly the various aspects of online finances are going live. My thanks go to Union staff for all their work in making the move so successful.

POSTGRADUATE EVENTS:

The Postgraduate Mingle was a phenomenal success, and the GSA and Hammersmith Students' Community have been organizing a wide range of events for postgraduates. The Reynolds Bar is also considering organizing postgraduate-targeted nights.

SERVICE IN METRIC/568:

We have a great team of dedicated permanent and casual bar staff, with a very healthy new intake in September. However, there are still some issues with levels of staffing, especially on busy nights. I will be working with the bar management to use the experience of the last few months to ensure a consistent level of high-quality and efficient service.