

Council
13 January 2015

Student Amenities Fund Review Recommendations A Report by Tom Wheeler – Imperial College Union

The Union was commissioned at the beginning of this financial year to administer the Amenities Fund. As part of that commitment – which we were paid for – we agreed to conduct a review in time for advertising the existence and rates of the Amenities Fund to the students who will be taking accommodation in the 2015/16 academic year. A survey was carried out and anecdotal feedback was captured from Wardening Teams and Hall Committees. The output of these was used to produce this report, which was handed to the Amenities Fund Review Group (which Chris and I sit on) for discussion. The recommendations can be summarized as follows:

- For the total amount per student per week for the Amenities Fund to increase to at least £2.
- To better explain how rent prices are calculated, especially to the Halls Committees.
- More money is provided as part of the 'Warden Budget' for each hall.
- For the Amenities Fund to be renamed to the Hall Activities Fund.
- For the eActivities for Halls of Residences training manual to be reviewed and improved with input from the Hall Committees members.
- Review the eActivities system architecture with a focus on improving the speed and usability of the interface.
- Clearly state speed of payment expectations in the training manuals and training sessions.
- Invite Hall Committee members to our monthly eActivities User Group to gain an insight into improvements we could make to the system.
- To transfer the ultimate responsibility of approving hall expenditure over £250 to a trained member of Union staff.

I am presenting this to Council to ask Members whether there is anything further you would like me to significantly change before this is agreed with College.