Imperial College Union
Union Council / 4 February 2025
Deputy President (Finance & Services) removal from Leadership Elections 2025

Author(s): Camille Boutrolle (Union President)

Seconder(s): Christian Cooper (Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)),
Emina Hogas (Deputy President (Education)),
Stephanie Yeung (Deputy President (Finance & Services)),
Nico Henry (Deputy President (Welfare)),
Lilia Evans (ICSMSU President),
Amelia Spindler (RSMU President),
Daniel Zhuo (CGCU President),
Julia Purrinos De Oliveira (RCSU President),
Jana Braun-Wilson (Silwood Park Students' Union Chair)

Decision(s): To approve

Union Notes

1. Imperial College Union (ICU) is a charity and so must act in the interests of its charitable purpose: "the advancement of education of students at Imperial College London"[1].
2. ICU currently elects six sabbatical officers: Union President, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), Deputy President (Education), Deputy President (Welfare), Deputy President (Finance & Services) and ICSMU President[2].
3. Each Officer Trustee (all sabbatical officers except ICSMU President) costs the organisation ~£51k per annum[3].
4. A democracy review was commissioned by ICU to assess its ability to serve its membership and assessed all aspects of its democratic structures, including the sabbatical roles elected to represent the student body.
5. The democracy review was conducted by *Counterculture* and they have produced an initial six recommended permutations of the sabbatical officer team. All options recommend removing the Deputy President (Finance & Services) from the sabbatical officer team.
6. The democracy review is due to be concluded in the coming months with a final report.

Union Believes

1. The recommendations of the democracy review consider a host of views from students, university staff and union representatives and will better ICU's democratic functions in the interests of students.
2. The portfolio of Deputy President (Finance & services) predates the existence of permanent staff teams responsible for Venues, Events and Finance of ICU and so is out of date.
3. To elect a Deputy President (Finance & Services) in the Leadership Elections 2025 would be a misuse of charitable money and not in the best interests of the student body.
4. The current Deputy President (Finance & Services) has been in the position for two years and so is best placed to assist in the division of the role amongst the future sabbatical officers and permanent union staff team.

[1] ICU Constitution [https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/about-us/how-were-run/governing-documents]
[2] Bye-Law F – Officers of the union [https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/about-us/how-were-run/governing-documents]
[3] £50,724 per year - Gross costs of staff member on Level 3a, spine point 22 [https://www.imperial.ac.uk/human-resources/pay-and-pensions/salaries/]

Union Resolves

1. To remove the Deputy President (Finance & Services) role from the Leadership Elections 2025.
2. Should the democracy review recommend the removal of an officer trustee and the recommendation be approved by Union Council, that the necessary measures be taken to discontinue the role of Deputy President (Finance & Services).
3. Should the democracy review recommend we retain five officer trustees and the recommendation be approved by Union Council, that we elect the fifth officer trustee in Summer Elections (with a revised job description and name from DPFS).

Union Believes 3. To elect a Deputy President (Finance & Services) in the Leadership Elections 2025 prior to the completion of the democracy review could result in a misuse of charitable money and may not be in the best interests of the student body.

Union Believes 4. The current Deputy President (Finance & Services) has been in the position for two years and so would be well placed to assist in the division of the role amongst the future sabbatical officers and permanent union staff team

Union Resolves 1. To remove the Deputy President (Finance & Services) role from the Leadership Elections 2025 pending the results of the democracy review.