Imperial College Union
Union Council / 29th April 2025
Union Dining Hall / 1800 Hours
Agenda

		Item	Lead	Action	Time	Page(s)
Chair's business	01	Welcome, Apologies, Quoracy, Proxies, Seat reinstatement, Call for AOB	Anthea MacIntosh-LaRocque (Council Chair)	To note/ approve	18:00	/
	02	Approval of minutes of previous meetings		To approve		2-14
	03	Action tracker		To consider		15-21
Matters for Discussion	04	White City Consultation	Tom Newman (Managing Director)	To consider	18:05	/
Break					19:00	
Matters for Discussion	05	UROP Proposal	Emina Hogas (DP Education), Huaihou Yang (Council Representative (UG Engineering))	To consider	19:05	22-23
Reports	06	Clubs, Societies & Projects Board – Verbal Update to Council	Christian Cooper (DP Clubs & Societies)	To note	19:45	/
	07	Officer Trustee Update	Officer Trustees	To note	19:50	24-30
Any Other Business	08			To consider	19:58	/
End of meeting	*Vacate the Union Dining Hall as the space is in use by a student group from 8pm.*					/

Council Attendance

Role	Name	Initials	Attendance
Officer Trustee - Union President	Camille Boutrolle	CB	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Education)	Emina Hogas	EH	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Welfare)	Nico Henry	NH	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Christian Cooper	CC	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Stephanie Yeung	SY	Present
Council Chair	Anthea MacIntosh-LaRocque	AML	Present
Constituent Union President - ICSMSU	Lilia Evans	LE	Apologies
Constituent Union President - CGCU	Daniel Zhuo	DZ	Present
Constituent Union President - RSM	Amelia Spindler	AS	Apologies
Constituent Union President - RCSU	Julia Purrinos De Oliveria	JPDO	Present
Constituent Union President - Silwood	Jana Braun-Wilson	JBW	Present
Management Group Chair - Arts	Nathalie Tedfors Lindell	NTL	Present
Management Group Chair - Community	Shahmir Durrani	SD	Absent
Management Group Chair - Culture	Sheshpriya Gadiya	SG	Absent
Management Group Chair – Knowledge	William Chen	WC	Absent
Management Group Chair – Recreation	Enzo Amaral	EA	Present
Management Group Chair - Sport	Junior Mbah	JM	Present
LCO - Black & Minority Ethnic Officer	Comfort Oluwakoya	CO	Absent
LCO - LGBTQ+ Officer	Anson To	AT	Present
LCO - Disabilities	Maegan Spitari	MS	Present
LCO - Mental Health	Miriam Foulkes	MF	Present
LCO - Gender Equality Officer	Vacant		
LCO - Ethics & Environmental Officer	Hollie Meyers	HM	Apologies
LCO - Interfaith Officer	Ashay Divekar	AD	Present
LCO - International Officer	Yuanze Xia	YX	Present
LCO - Working Class Officer	Scarlett Kilford	SK	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - RCSU	Stefaniia Medvetskaia	SM	Present

Welfare Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Ketevani Asatiani-Kalandaze	KAK	Absent
Welfare Officer of CU - CGSU	Adrib Ahmed	AA	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - RSM	Gao Kamalanavin	GK	Absent
Academic Officer of CU - CGCU	Linmo Lin	LL	Present
Academic Officer of CU - RCSU	Jack Swires	JS	Present
Academic Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Yousuf Yaqub	YY	Present
Academic Officer of CU - RSM	Emma Halford	EHa	Present
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Yifeng Mao	YM	Present
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Medicine)	Ruksana Begum-Meades	RBM	Present
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Science)	Hengchang Cao	HCa	Absent
Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Business School)	Reem Al Saud	RAS	Absent
Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Injeel Syed	IS	Apologies
Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Medicine)	Srimathi Lakshminarasimhan	SL	Present
PGT Representation Chair	Nakul Maheshwari	NM	Absent
PGR Representation Chair	Jing Xu	JX	Absent
Council Representative (UG Science)	Chloe Huang	CH	Absent
Council Representative (UG Science)	Elias Fink	EF	Present
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Salman Khalaf	SKh	Absent
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Alvaro Vicente Tarrago	AVT	Present
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Huaihou Yang	HY	Present
Council Representative (UG Business)	Sofia Hueffer	SH	Present
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Haider Nazerali	HN	Present
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Rohan Boyapati	RB	Present
Council Representative (PG Science)	Alex Auyang	AAu	Present
Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Deniz Etit	DE	Absent

Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Hanqing Zhang	HZ	Apologies
Council Representative (PG Medicine)	Thea Jakobi	TJ	Apologies
Council Representative (PG Business)	Laotan Faji	LF	Absent
Council Representative (PG non-faculty)	Jordon Milward	JM	Present
Council Representative (PG Business)	Akanksha Kumari	AK	Apologies

In attendance [Students/Staff]

Helena Schofield (HS) – ICU Representation Manager [Union Staff]
Hannah Corsini (HC) – ICU Democracy and Representation Assistant [Union Staff]
Alan Roberts (AR) - Counterculture Democracy Review coordinator
Clem Jones (CJ) - Governance & Executive Manager [Union Staff]
Pip Moss (PM) - Student
Emilio Garcia Padron (EGP) - Student

1. Welcome

AML welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies & Chair's Business

Apologies received from: TJ, JPDO, LE, IS, AS, HM.

3. Council Seat Reinstatement

None raised.

4. Proxies

None raised.

5. AOB

6. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The following corrections were raised:

i. Some non-Council members were listed as being part of Plant Based Universities when they were not, they were just at Council to observe.
ii. The Grantham Institute was incorrectly listed as the Franklin Institute. Two EHs were listed in one of the voting records – EHa was erroneously listed as EH.
iii. In the voting record for additional faith-based spaces, AVT was erroneously listed as voting both for and against the motion. This has been amended, now he is only listed as voting against.
iv. JM incorrectly listed in the attendance as Jordan Milward instead of Jordon. This has been amended and will be correct for future minutes.

7. Action tracker

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7/11/23	1.5	Item 10, Resolve 10(1)	Demand that College: i) Make a public commitment to exclude all fossil fuel companies from their investment portfolio(s). ii) Introduce a publicly accessible ethical investment policy that explicitly excludes all fossil fuel companies. iii) Fully divest from all fossil fuel companies within 3 years.	CB	In progress	11/1/24 Reconvening SRI working group within College to tackle this 20/2/24 CB noted she sent a recommendation to the Provost and will give further updates in due time. 19/03/24 CB noted regarding Action 1.5 that a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) working group has been set up and will hold a meeting on 10 May, and updates will be shared to Council afterwards. 28/5/24 SRI working group met on 10 May to assess whether they need to revisit the policy. CB noted there will be changes to the policy, but they are currently facing pushback on whether they're using the Imperial index to judge investments. CB noted the next meeting will take place in June. 1/11/24 College still disputing how they will roll out the Imperial Zero Index and this needs to be decided before it is applied to investments. Currently the College has no investments in fossil fuel companies, and this will not change in the time it takes them to decide on the Index 10/12/24

						CB is still unsure as to when the university needs to decide on the Imperial Zero Index. The university has emailed her saying that they are in discussions, but they are still relatively cagey about this.
20/2/24	4.1	Item 8, Resolve 1	The Union will release a statement taking the position that part-time work as part of your studies is now a must for many and not a choice and offering support to students in part-time work.	CB, NH	In progress	1/11/24 CB: No Union-specific statement has been realised, but OTs have been advocating for more support for students working part-time with the College. 2/11/24 NH: Following my analysis of the bursary survey, which shows students have increasingly been working whilst at uni, we're working with the university to release this sort of statement.
20/2/24	4.3	Item 8, Resolve 3	To encourage Imperial to facilitate more academic-related employment opportunities within the College for students that will further their career development and align with their academic pursuits by recognising the restrictions on work due to studying needs and their financial needs as these opportunities are often better renumerated.	NH	In progress	30/04/24 The OCs have raised the Item to college stakeholders, but are yet to finalise actions. They are also lobbying the College to create a platform to set up proper advertisements and increase students' awareness of work opportunities. 2/11/24 NH: I'm in the process of writing a recommendation document for each of the faculties to work on. This will show that the proportion of students working has been increasing every year for the past 5 years. I've already started the conversation, and everyone has been very open to this, I'm working with the careers service to finalise this and have conversations with each faculty dean on reducing the stigma of students working. This will lead to set recommendations on students working.

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						to the faculty deans and other stakeholders at APSG (Access and Participation Strategy Group). This was taken very well and we will be meeting starting next week to discuss expectations and impact of working students. 12/11/24: Writing recommendations on how to take this project forward
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20/2/24	4.8	Item 9, Resolve 2	Lobby the College to support increasing the UKRI London allowance.	CB, NH, DE	In progress	28/5/24 AC noted Action 4.8 was raised in a meeting with college stakeholders, with the review of the funding structure to be completed in due time. NH noted that students that can vote should do so as they can impact student experience in the years to come. CB added regarding Action 4.8 she spoke with College staff who are happy to help with drafting papers moving forward. CB noted they haven't reached out to Unions, but they will be

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20/2/24	4.11	Item 9, Resolve 5	To gather data regarding the financial circumstances of PhD students at Imperial.	NH	In progress	30/04/24 AC noted this has been raised in committee meetings but are yet to finalise actions. 2/11/24 NH: Questions around work and financial accessibility will be added to the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES). 12/11/24 NH: Keeping this action open until there is confirmation that this question will be added to the PRES 10/12/24 NH is attempting to update the PGR experience survey in

						order to reflect financial circumstances of PGR students. He has a meeting week commencing 9/12 and will update at the next council. 07/01/25 NH is meeting with the PRES Team to understand if this question will be added to the PRES. He chased this up on 7/1/25 and is waiting to hear back. They are checking if they have this question and will add it if not.
	4.12	Item 9, Resolve 6	For the Union President and Deputy President (Welfare), alongside the paper author, to make efforts to form a working group with other London-based universities to lobby the UKRI to increase the UKRI London allowance.	CB, NH, DE	Incomplete	10/12/24 DE, CB and EH have met with other London-based Student Unions on lobbying to improve the UKRI allowance. A working group has been set up. 04/02/25 DE has met with UCL, marking the completion of the final meeting for the intial stage of the UKRI lobbying plan. All 5 London Russell Group Student Unions are on board, and they will talk to their university presidents and provosts, sharing information about the financial hardships of postgraduate students. A survey was created by CB and EH and disseminated the week commencing 27/1
	4.13	Item 9, Resolve 7	For the Union President and Deputy President (Welfare), to make efforts to form a working group with non-London-based universities to lobby the UKRI to increase the UKRI base rate.	CB, NH	In progress	1/11/24 CB: The UKRI has just completed a review of the UKRI base rate so we feel we cannot influence this but have much more scope for London allowance – potential to prioritise the London allowance.

AML noted the update of the action tracker and thanked everyone for their progress.

8. Democracy Review

i. AML introduced the draft democracy review recommendations and stated that the workshop would be emphasising students' feedback.
ii. HS reminded the Council that the recommendations are not finalised.
iii. AR said that some of the recommendations would take a while to implement and some would be mutually exclusive. Overall findings are that the Union has difficulties with engaging with Postgraduate and International students and some LCO students. He also suggested that the Union's relationship with the Constituent Unions is ambiguous, and the Union is too tied up in structural procedures. However, he highlighted a positive in that students who are engaged are very engaged.
iv. Following feedback at the previous Council, AR has added a recommendation around increased accountability of finance, to increase number of students on body of finance, risk and audit.

Council worked in groups to collate their feedback on the recommendations on paper and using Padlet. The link to the Padlet is here: https://padlet.com/aem1418/council-feedback-on-democracy-review-suggestions-3gaq8n3o6rsmdobq

Key ideas drawn from the feedback:

v. DPFS removal
    a. Students were divided on whether or not replacing the DPFS with a PG sabbatical officer would be a good idea.
    b. Some students were strongly against removing the DPFS role.
    c. There was some support for replacing the DPFS with Community Engagement officer but there was also some confusion about what the role would entail.
vi. Student finance oversight
    a. It was felt that students would not want to run for FAR roles, and that perhaps paid opportunities would be a better idea.
    b. It was also raised that perhaps another idea could be to push for increased transparency on finance and publicise this more widely.
vii. PG Organisers
    a. Students agreed that PG students need more representation but worried that paying students might create tensions between paid roles and volunteer roles. They also wondered how appointed roles would be held accountable.
    b. It was suggested that CUs and DepSocs all have appointed PG reps instead, and that ties with academic and welfare reps in PG cohorts are tightened.
        LCO election order.
    c. Students were divided on whether changing the LCO and LCN election order would be a good idea.
    d. Many students felt that this wouldn't fix the issues with LCOs and LCNs.
viii. LCOs delegates to Council
    a. It was felt that this could be a good idea as it would grant LCNs more power.
    b. Some did not see the difference between this proposal and how Council stands currently.
ix. Liberation & Community Network Organisers
    a. It was raised that non-paid organisers might engage less.
    b. It was also raised that paying students for liberation activities might bring in the wrong type of person.
x. CU engagement

a. Students thought there should be more incentives to be part of the RCSU and CGCU positions.
b. It was raised that some committees have students who do not understand their roles
c. Regular drop-ins from the Activities Team would be very helpful
d. It was felt that CUs needed more funding, and that this could be used for paid roles too.

9. Q&A

Council participated in a Q&A with AR.

i. Discussion on Recommendation 7
    a. JS asked for clarity on Recommendation 7.
    b. AR clarified that only the ICSMU has a sabbatical officer, and that the Union should fund 10% of the ICSMU Sabb to increase accountability to ICU.
    c. YY said they did not believe it would work in practice as the ICSMU sabb may not care about the other CUs.
    d. HN said ICSCM presidents tend to be more interested in ICSM but that having some pay from ICU would increase interest in ICU and justify more ICU work.
    e. PM said in the interest of fairness all CUs should have 10% pay for their Chairs.
    f. AR said that perhaps that 10% could go towards other CUs engagement instead.
ii. Secondary portfolios and officer engagement
    a. NTL asked on the secondary portfolios and if all OTs would have secondary portfolios
    b. AR clarified that some areas need more focus on engagement – Business School, BioMed, International, Postgraduate, White City. These could be portfolios without a sabbatical officer but could also become a sabbatical officers' line of work, and that this could also include some of the LCOs.
    c. CC said that the portfolios are constitutional and are elected on. Secondary portfolios would be a way of mandating an officer to do something which is faster than Union Council. This would also Council to set priorities which are wider than LCOs and primary portfolios and officers to decide the way they will address these portfolios.
    d. AVT asked how it would be best to clearly differentiate primary and secondary portfolios.
    e. AR said Secondary Portfolios would never be a major part of the role but they would be a priority, and that after students get elected their manifesto promises could be examined and allotted. He also said some items could sit across everybody's portfolio e.g. international students as the lack of engagement is so severe.
iii. Student engagement and paid roles
    a. DZ asked if it is worth it to add more incentive to students to participate – currently engagement is because people care about it.
    b. AR said that volunteers would not want to see people doing the same role and getting paid for it. Said the evidence suggested that paying students would not automatically resolve it because of issues such as time poverty. However, he said that creating budgets for activities would be different from paying students. PTOs have an electoral mandate on their shoulders

and high expectations, so paying PTOs may result in them overworking if they are a representative but paying them to do a campaign may work. The ICU could add staff or grant resources to community instead. Could also circumvent the issue that students may not want to run for roles.

iv. DPFS role discussion
    a. JS asked if it would be better to completely relaunch the role of DPFS or to keep the name and rejig the role's portfolio.
    b. AR said it would be a debate for Imperial students to have.
    c. CC said the title has a negative connotation and is misleading. He also commented that his own title should change to Activities.
    d. JS said he saw where CC was coming from.
v. DP Community Engagement Role
    a. MS asked if adding a DP Community Engagement would have a knock-on effect on the job descriptions of the other staff.
    b. AR said that the Community Engagement role responsibility would be to get into the membership and talk to students, and it might have some impact on the other roles but not much.
    c. SY raised that the role was not there in the original recommendations and asked where it has been considered in the context of the other roles.
    d. AR said that the role might be the lead on particular service engagements and community engagements, but that it would be difficult for other officers to not have this as part of their responsibilities
    e. PM said it was not obvious what this new role would do as opposed to the other OTs
    f. AR said they would work with the "cold spots" - i.e. less engaged students.
vi. OT responsibilities and Council
    a. MS asked how changing the OT responsibilities would work in Council.
    b. AR and CJ said that Council and Trustees would decide, and that the bye-laws would be tightened up to clarify the delineation of responsibility. AR will produce a final report. Council would vote on the bye-laws.
vii. LCO election order
    a. AT raised that the election order of LCOs might give them less time to work on projects they wanted to do. They mentioned that the Rep Team organised some inter-LCO socials which allowed some intersectional approach, and that LCO handovers are sometimes not great.

AOB

Summer Ball

SY reminded everybody that Summer Ball is on the 31st June and asked for students to be in the student steering group.
Looking for student performers too. The deadline for this was 9/3//25.

Union Awards

SY announced that planning for these has begun and invited members of council to join the panel selection – invites will be sent out in the next week or two.

Society budgeting

CC announced that society budgeting would be sent out on 7 March 2025 and asked CSPB members to respond to him. Anyone else interested should contact him.

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Union Council / 29 April 2024
Union UROP Policy Consultation

Author(s): Emina Hogas (DP Education), Huaihou Yang (Council Representative (UG Engineering))

Decision(s): To consider

1. Background and Context

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP) is an extracurricular initiative providing undergraduate students with research experience at Imperial College London, typically over summer. UROPs enable students to collaborate closely with research staff, fostering academic and professional growth. Traditionally student-led, students actively seek supervisors and research topics rather than relying solely on advertised positions. More information about UROPs can be found here.

In March 2025, the College concluded a comprehensive review of UROPs, highlighting several critical issues and making initial recommendations. The Union aims to capture student feedback through this consultation to shape our official stance, to be formalised at the June Union Council meeting.

Historically, the Union has supported UROP participation, advocating for equitable access and clarity in the application and bursary processes. Recent changes in most, but not all departments, to mandate financial support (bursaries) for all registered UROPs have been pursued to enhance inclusivity and access. However, this could potentially impact departmental funding and student interaction with the scheme.

The Union is seeking student perspectives to address these recent developments, ensuring the student experience remains positive, accessible, and beneficial. During Council and following the meeting, please use this Padlet link to give feedback.

2. Issues and recommendations as presented in University UROP review

Issue	Context	Recommendations
Mandatory bursary provision	Most, if not all depts, mandate the provision of financial support (bursaries) for registered UROPs potentially limiting the number of available opportunities and altering departmental dynamics (Medicine is the only faculty not enforcing this at the moment).	University to implement formal central policy mandating the provision of financial support for a UROP to go through
Inequitable and opaque student selection processes	Historically, Imperial has favoured a student-led approach while some host departments favour the use of a list of available research opportunities or available supervisors. Followers of both approaches recognise that improvements to how students are considered for, and secure opportunities, are required.	• Consistent and structured approach to responding to queries and student selection (quality over quantity). • Promote that UROPs are an activity that a student needs to plan for before contacting staff.

Unmatched student expectations regarding ease of access and application outcome	Imperial should better explain the availability and access to internal research opportunities	To ensure that all students are fully aware that: • a UROP can only proceed when the student has secured a bursary for the duration of the project, the number of UROPs are finite because funding to provide bursaries is finite. • UROPs may not always be available in all topics, or every year, and that specific groups might have rules for involvement.

3. Questions for Council

1) As a student, what are your thoughts on the mandatory recommendation that every student registered on a UROP must be in receipt of a bursary (as the result of College's support of widening participation and removal of financial barriers to pursuing a UROP)?
2) From the student perspective, how conducive is this approach in improving access to the UROP scheme, if at all?
3) What are your thoughts on the recommendation that a supervisor might be able to appeal (make an exception to) the mandatory bursary rule?
4) What do you think of the assumption that staff are more likely to supervise UROPs if they are approached by students rather than having to advertise an existing topic? Is this assumption reflective of what happens in practice?
5) How do you see a student-led (student-proposed) approach impacting on student access to the UROP scheme?
6) What do you think about UROPs 'looking' different depending on the department (different approaches to staff participation, advertising and the ability to secure positions)?
7) What do you think the College or departments should do to better manage expectations around the availability and accessibility of UROPs?
8) What are your thoughts on including a question on your ability to self-fund during a UROP (i.e., a question asking whether you are "able to fund yourself" or "require UROP bursary"? This would be kept secret from any decision-makers in the selection process to ensure quality control, thus allowing non-funded projects to be matched up with students who can support themselves (after all funding has been allocated). Note that this scenario is subject to implementation feasibility.
9) What are your thoughts on a University-run opportunity for students to showcase their work (i.e., a UROP showcase)?

4. Timeline

Date	Action
29th April	Consultation in Union Council 6
30th April - 6th May	Further feedback collection from Council members
6th May	Student Experience Forum (SEF)
15th May	Final Paper submission
27th May	Voting on the Paper in Union Council 7

Imperial College Union
Union Council / 29 April 2025

Officer Trustee Updates Report

Author(s): Camille Boutrolle – Union President
Nico Henry – Deputy President (Welfare)
Emina Hogas – Deputy President (Education)
Christian Cooper – Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)
Stephanie Yeung – Deputy President (Finance & Services)

Decision(s): To consider.

1. Introduction

If you have any questions or feedback for the Officer Trustees after reading this report, you are able to submit them to this anonymous Mentimeter poll. The Officer Trustees will respond to the questions and feedback during the upcoming Council meeting. You can also "upvote" any questions that you would like to hear answered, to ensure the most pressing questions are answered during the meeting.

2. Camille Boutrolle – Union President

What does the Union President do?

- Lead, and be ultimately responsible for, Imperial College Union.
- Represent the Union and our members to the University.
- Facilitate the work of the other Officer Trustees and lead the officer team.
- Deliver the Union's strategic aims.

Goal-related progress

1. Green spaces: You may have seen Beit Quad is under construction...this is to reduce the central path width, increase the planting and biodiversity of the perimeter of the quad, and install two semicircular benches on the grass. This is better the overall experience of the quad and better connect the green space to our events spaces. Works expected to finish by June graduation, with minimal disruption to the quad from the first week of May.
2. London allowance for PhD students: With Deniz (PGR Rep) and ICU staff we have been circulating a 5 min survey to our postgraduate research community to gather some qualitative data on how the lack of increase in the London allowance is affecting them. This will then feed into a written proposal which is currently drafted. Hugh Brady (President of Imperial) and our Graduate School have both agreed to sign it, in conjunction with representatives from LSE, KCL and UCL. The hope is that this will then go to political leaders who can pull the strings on UKRI.
3. Study spaces: Those of you who use the space will know that the student space on Level 3 is sadly no more as it is in works for increased teaching space ahead of the next academic year. I have argued for the same footprint on the floor above (L4) and this is due to be delivered end of May/beginning of June.

Key committees attended since last report

- College Council (and sub committees: Audit & Risk, Property, and Finance)
- People & Culture Committee
- South Kensington Redevelopment Board
- White City and Old Oak Programme Board

- Student Lifecycle Board
- Education and Student Experience Committee
- Student Experience Forum
- White City Student Engagement

Calls for actions

If you are a PGR student, please please complete the survery on PhD funding so we can best represent your interests when lobbying for an increased London allowance!

Once the Beit Quad is complete, let us know what you think! If it's a success then we want the university to produce more of the same and if it sucks we want to hear too.

3. Nico Henry – Deputy President (Welfare)

What does the Deputy President (Welfare) do?

- Represent the welfare interests of all Imperial students.
- Lead and manage the wellbeing representation networks.
- Report student opinion on wellbeing affairs to Imperial.
- Collaborate with ICU staff on training and support of wellbeing representatives.
- Support wellbeing innovation and projects in the university.

Goal-related progress

1. **Peer Mentoring for Underrepresented Students:** Finalised writing a proposal with Lilia Evans, ICSMSU President, to expand peer mentoring for underrepresented students.
2. **Study and Breakout Spaces:** Emina and I took part in a tour of Sherfield Level 4 to give input on requirements for new student spaces.
3. **Prayer Rooms:** Supported students during Ramadan by helping set up temporary prayer rooms inside the library and advancing work on permanent facilities.
4. **Campuses feedback:** Collaborating with the university to simplify feedback about facilities and the state of campuses. Union collecting input, Property team acting on this and giving us updates.
5. **Active travel:** Working with Move Imperial to secure a discounted London Cycling Campaign membership for students, which gives discounts at bike stores, legal support and third party liability insurance in case of accidents. Also have been expanding cycle-related retail stock in the union shop.
6. **GTA Contracts:** Currently investigating working conditions for Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) across faculties in light of upcoming employment rights bill, aiming to understand how practice varies across the university and to support more secure, flexible contracts.

Key committees attended since last report

- Student Experience Forum
- White City Student Engagement
- Campus and security operations
- Regulations and Policy Review Committee

Calls for actions

- Are you or your friends a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)? If things could be better or you have any comments please do reach out.

4. Emina Hogas – Deputy President (Education)

What does the Deputy President (Education) do?

- Represent the educational interests of all Imperial students.
- Lead and manage the academic representation networks.
- Report student opinion on academic affairs to Imperial.
- Collaborate with ICU staff on training and support of academic representatives.
- Support educational innovation and projects in the university.

Goal-related progress

1. Assessment and feedback tailoring

- In progress - I have been attending regular meetings with the Faculty Review Coordinators. Next steps include establishing a way to share best practices across Faculties as well as carrying out Assessment Mapping across the College.

2. Masters in year resits

- Halted and likely unfeasible due to prioritisation of other projects (module catalogue, case management system implementation) as well as incompatibility with Imperial's Academic Calendar structure.

3. Mitigating circumstances review

- In progress – MC Working Group was rehauled – key stakeholders were now engaged as part of 5 comprehensive consultations (one of which includes an all-student session). These meetings will focus on updating the policy and regulations around MCs which will aim to be implemented for AY 25/26
- Central Digital MC submission platform mock-up has been generated, however changes to policy are being prioritised before this is implemented.

4. Alumni networking event

- In progress – Given the lower-than-expected engagement due to summer exams the event will be integrated in Campaign Activities carried out in Autumn Term.

5. UROP and UKRI funding

- In progress – UROP review is being discussed over the next months in relevant committees (SEF, ESEC) and I am collaborating with Huaihou and Anthea to carry out student consultation on proposed recommendations and inform the Union's stance.
- Collaborating with Camille and Deniz to produce a proposal with other London Universities (QMUL, LSE, King's, UCL) to lobby UKRI for increased London PGR allowance. The proposal will be fortified with qualitative data from a 5-minute survey we've created aimed at capturing how current London funding impacts PhD experience.

6. Increased communication with Reps and student body

- Record Leadership elections turnouts (25%) and 34% aggregate with CSP positions
- Moved away from forums (TARF/RARF) as single interaction point with reps and now meeting Faculty and Departmental Reps 1:1 every ~1.5 months

- Exploring opportunities to make rep training digital on SUMS platform next year to streamline the rep experience.
- Speaking to Faculties about monthly Rep mingling opportunities over tea/donuts.

Key committees attended since last report

- Sentate
- QAEC
- RPRC
- PC
- ESEC
- Digital Education Platforms Project
- Learning & Teaching Strategy Group

Calls for actions

- Please share the PhD survey with your networks and encourage engagement with it!
- Similarly, if you could also consult your networks about the proposed changes to the UROP scheme and share your thoughts before the 6th of May Student Experience Forum that would be much appreciated :)

5. Christian Cooper – Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

What does the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) do?

- Represent the extracurricular interests of students at Imperial.
- Responsible for the provision and support of extracurricular activity within the Union.
- Work with the DPFS to deliver CSP budgeting & finance.
- Collaborate with ICU staff on training and support for clubs, societies & projects.
- Report on student opinion extracurricular activities to Imperial.

Goal-related progress

1. **CSP Sustainability Framework**
   First draft of the framework has been created, for consideration by key stakeholders, then consultation with CSPB in May. After further consultation, the framework is due to be released as part of handover for the 2025/26 academic year. The areas the framework focuses on are procurement, travel, and community impact, targeting them with “basic” and “further” criteria which CSPs are expected to follow. Following all criteria in each level will grant the CSP access to recognition through various means, including dedicated sustainability funding.

2. **High-performing CSPs/Volunteer Experience**
   Recent developments with the Activities team, creating improvements to the events and trips process for the 2025/25 academic year, with the aim of significantly reducing processing times. This is on track to significantly improve the volunteer experience in Activities next year.

3. **CSP Annual Budgeting**
   CSP Annual Budgeting is underway at the date of submission. We are on track to release allocations for Easter break, followed by an appeals phase and trialing of the new income/membership phase, where CSPs decide their membership structure and income after

receiving grant, in order to reduce over-charging membership or underspending of grant. The new process aims to reduce scaling for all CSPs and make grant allocation more equitable. This is set to be achieved and a full report, documenting the outcomes after the process has happened, will come to CSPB in May.

4. **Student Experience Fund**
   Work is currently underway to recommend a permenant funding and governance model to support the fund, after two successful years. This will be presented to the Board of Trustees and CSPB in May. Additionally, a data-sharing agreement is due to be submitted to the College to enable better insight in the fund usage.

Key committees attended since last report

- Clubs, Societies & Projects Board
- Student Activities Board
- Student Experience Forum
- Imperial Council
- Exploration Board

Calls for actions
Annual Budgeting allocations will have been released by the time Council meets. Please encourage your CSPs (if you're a CU/MG) to review their allocations. Appeals will be open until 2nd May, with an outcome by 9th May.

6. **Stephanie Yeung – Deputy President (Finance & Services)**

What does the Deputy President (Finance & Services) do?

- Responsible for representing students' interests with regards to sustainability to Imperial.
- Work with the DPCS to deliver CSP budgeting & finance.
- Responsible for representing students' interests with regards to the Union's commercial services and events.

Goal-related progress

Sustainability

- **Student-facing Strategy:** Reworded the strategy alongside the Officers to make it more comprehendible to students, to be launched in June alongside the opening of the Beit Quad green space
- **Funding Pot:** In discussions with the university Sustainability Director to set up a funding pot to support sustainability initiatives & projects from the community
- **Operational Updates:** Positive uptake of the strategy within the ICU, with all our staff contributing to our first submission to Green Impact Students' Union for accreditation and ongoing work to embed sustainability into operational plans. On track to undergo carbon audit and more exciting progress that's too long to list here! Reach out if you're interested to find out more, we're working on a way to communicate this progress better to the wider student body. A shoutout to our staff sustainability champions for leading a lot of the work for the past few months!

Inclusive Events

- **Cultural:** Positive feedback and attendance for the Year of the Snake celebration events. Currently working on developing plans for Culture Day in May/June 2025, alongside longer-term conversations about a wider Culture Week celebration from 25/26 onwards.
- **Postgraduates:** Launched postgraduate event series (Karaoke & Board Games Night) based on ideas from postgraduate students. Positive feedback from attendees at both events, with plans to continue developing the series.
- **Feedback Box:** Working with the team to launch a feedback box mechanism for students to drop in ideas & suggestions for events
- **Summer Ball:** Factoring multiple aspects of this project into planning for the event

Transparency of CSP Costs

- Systems created and developed to allow for CSPs to assign costs to members of varying participation levels (shout out to our Systems Specialist!). Implementation due to be completed during Annual Budgeting Income Phase (May/June).

Allergen Labelling

- **Union:** Allergen labelling for the 14 major allergens completed for Fusion 568 [see here]
- **University:** Conversations ongoing to integrate allergen categorisation into My Imperial Campus app, and improved labelling around dietary requirements for college catering outlets (Thank you to Nico for a lot of the progress made!)

Key committees attended since last report

ICU Committees

- Sustainability Forum [January]
    - Spotlight on the Plant-Based Universities campaign to provide them the opportunity to hold discussions with students & Union Council members about their paper
- Clubs, Societies & Projects Board (Union Council Board) [January, February, March]
- Annual Budgeting Committee [April]
- Summer Ball Student Steering Group [March]
    - Discussed creative direction and gather student input on activities for Summer Ball, with ongoing dialogue as plans are developing
    - Selection of our student performers alongside a panel of students from the group

University

- White City Student Engagement Group [February, March, April]
- College Sustainability Strategy [December, March]
    - General updates on net-zero progress & challenges faced by university teams, discussions on how to reduce residual emissions (e.g., student international travel)

External

- Grantham Advisory Board [December, April]
    - Both board meetings discussed how the research institutes should direct their efforts to mitigate the impact of the Trump presidency on research & climate.

Calls for actions

- **Submit your nominations for Union Awards by 2 May (10AM)!** Recognise those amazing individuals and groups that you've had the pleasure to witness achieve great things :)
- **Cultural Day 2025:** Come and join us for the event! Save the date: Thursday 29th May