Imperial College Union
Board of Trustees / 25 February 2026

Officer Trustee Objectives & Updates

Author: Nico Henry (Union President)
Purpose: To update the Board on the Officers' objectives for 2025/26.
Action: To note

1. Officer Objectives

Union President – Nico Henry

Objective	Description/Progress
1. Facilitating student-facing forums on key institutional topics	Description: Hosting Q&A forums with senior university staff on topics such as sustainability, investments, research impact, and science for humanity. Progress: Organising our first sustainability forum to be hosted in March for students to learn and feed into the university's work on sustainable catering, waste, education, and estates.
2. Supporting students finding housing	Description: Reviewing current housing support and exploring improvements. Progress: Advocacy to expand the rent guarantor scheme is ongoing. Progress on increasing affordable rooms for returning students has been positive. More than 250 affordable rooms have been confirmed and additional developments are in progress.
3. Increasing job opportunities	Description: Expanding student job opportunities, ensuring fair pay and working conditions, aligned with temp agency plans. Progress: We now have a full-time staff member who will be leading this work. I'm speaking with relevant university teams who offer tutoring to explore the possibility of hosting a tutoring agency.
4. Maximising Metric usage	Description: Repurposing Metric as a daytime breakout space while preserving event and night usage. Progress: A funding application for Imperial's president's community fund was rejected recently. I'm working with the university to find other sources of funding.

Additional adventures:

- Following the disposal of the chaplaincy building, we have been working with the university to prioritise chaplaincy space.
- I've spent a lot of time in interviews for the Dean of Engineering and the new Chief Property Officer.
- The UKRI work has developed further into a piece of work that will be looking at PhD candidates' experience across the country, hopefully leading to a research paper that UKRI won't be able to ignore.

Deputy President (Welfare) – Anson To

Objective	Description/Progress
1. Food Prices on campus	Description Lobby the university to provide food options at student-friendly prices. Review their opening hours for exam seasons to make sure students staying late on campus can still buy hot meals. Progress: Working with Felix on FOI request looking into a breakdown of costs and inflation indexes and brought together a group of students who want to start a campaign together Last term Pizza Pi was open late, but waiting on official communication on arrangements this term
2. Review of common room provision across departments	Description: Provision on/ quality of Common Rooms is inconsistent across departments. Reps can give us feedback on their common rooms and work on rooms for improvement. Progress: Reached out to departmental reps about funding available. ESE common room now has new furniture. Purchasing different items for other departments
3. Second Hand Swap Shop	Description: Volunteer groups across campus, have launched their own item swap/ donation events. These efforts are often sporadic and irregular. We want to launch a swap shop that students can easily access and rely on. We will work with student groups on this. Progress: Online platform will be hosted on SUMS. Waiting on SUMS to get back about bug fixes. I'm planning in-person Swap shop events with Vinesha from Events team
4. Culturally Sensitive Counselling and Mental Health Advice Service	Description: The University's MH Strategy is to provide culturally sensitive counselling. Progress: Arranging Reverse workshops between ISoc and the Mental Health & Counselling team. Sourcing the remaining half of funding required for staff training. Working on a survey for BME students that could potentially feed into another round of reverse workshops
5. White City Travel	Description: Intercampus travel (both cycle route and shuttle bus) needs to be improved as the university expands the White City Campus. Progress: Proposal for expanding shuttle bus service was submitted to the COO. Chasing emails have been sent to the COO last month, still waiting on a response.

Additional adventures:

- Working with Interfaith Officer, Faith Societies and networks that use the Chaplaincy & Chaplaincy Garden to voice their concerns over a lack of student consultation and poor governance of the university. Ensuring that everyone has had the chance to feed into the design of the new space and enquiries from students are responded to appropriately.
- Reshaping the format of Liberation and Welfare forums to boost engagement
- Taking OT drop-ins to White City

Deputy President (Education) – Emina Hogas

Objective	Description/Progress
1. Personal tutor reframing	Description: Personal tutoring at Imperial lacks parity of experience across different departments. This project aims to clarify the roles and responsibilities of a Personal tutor, as well as standardise role nomenclature at university level. Progress: Carried out initial consultation with student stakeholder group and am in the process of linking up findings with other teeams (ICU, Education Office, Student Support Services). Assessing future steps based on available time in office.
2. PG engagement	Description: Collaborate with Rep Team to embed PG coordinator position in PG student community and establish PG spaces. Progress: PhD dialogues has been successfully established, blending the campaign raising and drop-ins format. Collaborating with the Advice Service to drive campaign on PGR supervision. In the process of introducing new PG roles Constituent Unions to match existing structures.
3. AI literacy	Description: Generative AI usage should be productive and safe for both students and staff. Raise awareness and encourage usage of existing resources available to both communities. Progress: In discussion with AI working group around university guideline development – due to attend staff town hall to further drive discussions. Planning to assess student usage of Imperial's AI platform dAIsy to inform changes to support resources.
4. NSS key areas for improvement	Description: Carry on guiding work on Assessment and Feedback (AF), Mitigating Circumstances (MC) and study space development based on last year's progress. Progress: MC streamlined platform is looking favourable with switch to Imperial 2.0. Discussions now include changes to the process itself (structure of boards, accepted evidence). Study spaces – big win with the redevelopment of the Library basement and ground floor, Key contributor to board that will produce couple hundred extra spaces.

Additional adventures:

- The most recent Education Forum was a massive success, with 76 attendees, 18 of which were online. We will be moving to delivering this in hybrid format to increase accessibility. Feedback was positive, with 2 ad-hoc projects resulting from it.
- Assessing PG accommodation content for students as this has been flagged as lacking.
- Embarking on attempt to map available exam preparatory materials vs University policy and identify ways to standardise/encourage policy adoption where necessary.
- Slight delay with overall projects due to medical leave

Deputy President (Activities) – Tom Gordon

<table>
<tr><th>Objective</th><th>Description/Progress</th></tr>
<tr><td>1. Expand and increase the usage of the Student Experience Fund</td><td>Description:
The Student Experience Fund aims to ensure that students, who may otherwise be unable to due to financial constraints, are able to engage with clubs and societies and ICU events through the provision of credit on their Union accounts. The fund is currently only available to home undergraduate students in receipt of the Imperial Bursary, and only 34% of the allocated funds were spent last year. This objective includes improving the usage among currently eligible students, and an expansion of who can access funding.

Progress:
• SEF was launched on October 23 this year, two weeks later than 2024-25. A summary of spending is as follows:

<table>
<tr><td>Date</td><td>Students accessing fund (% of eligible students)</td><td>Total spend</td><td>Proportion of pot spent</td></tr>
<tr><td>10/02/2026</td><td>985 (41%)</td><td>£31,971.33</td><td>25%</td></tr>
<tr><td>10/02/2025</td><td></td><td>£29,039.72</td><td>22%</td></tr>
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• Work is ongoing to establish more formal governance to guarantee funding in the future, and a SEF designation has been included in our block grant bid.
• For the first time, students will now be able to “partially pay” for a product using their Student Experience Fund. For instance, if a student has £10 left in their pot, they can put these funds towards a £20 product. This should improve the proportion of the pot spent.</td></tr>
<tr><td>2. Improve training quality for student volunteers</td><td>Description:
Training is currently provided to student volunteers via a range of online training articles, as well as two days of in-person sessions prior to the start of term.

Last year, a new platform – Freshdesk – was introduced to host online articles, and many legacy articles on eActivities were unpublished as a result. Gaps have been identified in our online training provision, so an objective is to fill these in.

Progress:
Most training is carried out at the start of the Academic Year, in line with committee handover periods. Hence, the bulk of my work is planned towards the end of 2025-26. I have, however:</td></tr>
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	• Modified training articles as and when to ensure information is up to date and accessible • Written a "starter pack" for new societies, which is sent upon their approval. This teaches them the absolute basics and hasn't been done historically.
3. Improve the fundraising and funding provision for clubs and societies	<u>Description:</u> Our official donation process requires a donor to write a letter to the Union stating that they are happy to donate funds to a society, and a sales invoice is raised. An objective is to streamline this process to accept instant donations online. Additionally, I will explore how the Union can support societies to fundraise through other means such as crowdfunding. I will also tailor our funding pots to the current day so they are utilised more often. <u>Progress:</u> Nothing so far in terms of donation processes / crowdfunding. Work on funding has included: • Changed the Activities Development Fund (ADF) policy to allow the funding of food and drink if contributing to the society's aims and objectives • Changed the ADF policy to give £100 to each new club or society on its approval • Allocated £23,642 in round 1 of ADF, compared to £21,235 in the entire 2024-25 academic year. £46,358 remains in the fund.
4. Improve our response times and feedback to students	<u>Description</u>: The Union reviews documentation for clubs and societies such as core risk assessments, activity proposals and financial approvals over £1,000. The Union also respond to ad-hoc questions via an online ticketing system (Freshdesk). A frequent complaint last year was that it was common to wait extended periods of time for these – occasionally months. <u>Progress:</u> • January: tickets receiving a first response in 1d18hr (on average), fully resolved in 5d20hr. • December: Activity Proposals approved in an average of 5d8hr, with a 2025-26 peak of 6d2hr. • Activities Team "Service Level Agreement" taken to Activities Forum in January, solidifying a baseline standard for response times.

<u>Additional adventures:</u>

- Interview panels for two new Activities Coordinators (one for Operations, one for Events)
- 18 new societies approved in December 2025