Imperial College Union

Bye-Law L
Constituent Unions

Approved ~~December~~ May 202~~4~~5

L. Constituent Unions

Constituent Unions

1. ~~Constituent Unions shall be ultimately responsible to the President or the President's nominee for their operation and policies.~~Constituent Unions shall operate in partnership with Imperial College Union under agreed partnership arrangements,

~~1.~~2. The leadership of the respective Constituent Unions shall be responsible to the Union President, and are accountable to their electorates, exercised through the Union's democratic structures as outlined in these Bye-Laws e.g. Motions of Censure & No Confidence.

~~2.~~3. Constituent Unions shall operate within the Union's Constitution, Bye-Laws and Policies.

~~3.~~4. Constituent Unions may be formed to represent (this is a non-exhaustive list):

~~3.1.1.~~4.1.1. students who are part of a particular Faculty or subset of the College;

~~3.1.2.~~4.1.2. students on a particular level of study;

~~3.1.3.~~4.1.3. students based at a particular campus

~~4.~~5. There shall be two types of Constituent Union:

~~4.1.~~5.1. Constituent Faculty Unions

~~4.2.~~5.2. Constituent Campus Unions

Constituent Faculty Unions

~~5.~~6. Constituent Faculty Unions shall represent students of a particular Department or group of Departments within the College.

~~6.~~7. There shall be the following Constituent Faculty Unions:

~~6.1.~~7.1. The City & Guilds College Union for students of the Faculty of Engineering, excluding students of the Departments of Earth Science and Engineering and Materials.

~~6.2.~~7.2. The Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union for students of the Faculty of Medicine.

~~6.3.~~7.3. The Royal College of Science Union for students of the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

~~6.4.~~7.4. The Royal School of Mines Union for students of the Earth Science and Engineering and Materials Departments.

The Business School's Dean's Student Advisory Council (DSAC) will act as a Faculty Union for students in the Business School, subject to equivalent expectations of representation, accountability and governance as approved by the Union.~~.~~

7.5.

Constituent Campus Unions

~~7.~~8. Constituent Campus Unions shall represent students who are based at a particular campus or group of campuses of the College.

~~8.~~9. There shall be the following Constituent Campus Unions:

~~8.1.~~9.1. Silwood Park Students' Union for the students of Silwood Park Campus.

~~8.2. White City & Hammersmith Students' Union for the students of the White City and Hammersmith campuses.~~

Aims and Objects

~~9.~~10. Constituent Unions are responsible for the following for those students which they represent:

~~9.1.~~10.1. promoting the educational interests and welfare of students during their course of study

~~9.2.~~10.2. providing social, cultural and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of students

~~9.3.~~10.3. Maintaining relationships with the alumni from their respective Constituent Union

Membership

~~10.~~11. The Members of a Constituent Faculty Union shall be each and every student in the Departments forming the constituency of that Constituent Faculty Union, as defined in Clauses 5 and 6.

~~11.~~12. The Members of a Constituent Campus Union shall be each and every student principally based at the campus or campuses forming the constituency of that Constituent Campus Union, as defined in Clause 7.

~~12.~~13. All Members of a Constituent Union shall be Full Members, entitled to participate in the governance and democratic processes of the Constituent Union.

~~13.~~14. Students who have opted out of Membership of Imperial College Union shall be deemed to have opted out of Membership of any Constituent Union of which they would otherwise be a Member. Such students may enjoy the facilities and amenities provided by the relevant Constituent Union(s) but may not participate in the governance or democratic processes of the Constituent Union.

~~14.~~15. Associate Members of Imperial College Union shall not be eligible for Membership of a Constituent Union.

16. The Standing Orders of a Constituent Union may optionally establish a category of Social Membership, which carries the right to participate in the Constituent Union's events and activities, but not to participate in the governance and democratic processes of the Constituent Union. Social Membership may be extended to a defined group of Full or Associate Members of Imperial College Union who are not Members of that Constituent Union.

~~15.~~

Constituent Union Officers

~~16.~~17. The Officers of a Constituent Union shall be the Constituent Union President, and any other Officer roles listed in the Standing Orders of the Constituent Union.

~~17.~~18. The duties and responsibilities of each Constituent Union Officer shall be established in the Constituent Union's Standing Orders.

~~18.~~19. Officers of a Constituent Union shall be elected in accordance with the Major Elections Bye-Law J, excluding DSAC whose elections are coordinated by the Business School.

20. In the event of a vacancy in a Constituent Union Officer role, or of the Officer being unable to fulfil their duties, the Constituent Union President shall be empowered to delegate the powers and responsibilities of that role, pending the role being re-opened for election.

~~19.~~21. Imperial College Union shall support the delivery of a Constituent Union Officer development programme, to ensure officers are appropriately trained and supported in governance, representation, and leadership.

General Committees

~~20.~~22. Each Constituent Union shall have a General Committee to be the sovereign and governing body of the Constituent Union, to which all Officers, committees, clubs and societies shall be accountable.

~~21.~~23. General Committees shall receive such reports from Officers and committees that it may require, with the President reporting to each ordinary meeting.

~~22.~~24. The composition and conduct of General Committees shall be established in the Constituent Union's Standing Orders.

Other Committees

~~23.~~25. Constituent Unions may have other committees, to which the General Committee may delegate certain powers and responsibilities.

~~24.~~26. The composition, powers, responsibilities, and conduct of all committees of a Constituent Union shall be set out in the Standing Orders.

Clubs and Societies

~~25.~~27. Constituent Unions may act as the Management Group for relevant clubs and societies, including the Departmental Societies of Departments within a Constituent Faculty Union.

~~26.~~28. Clubs and societies shall be managed by their committees and governed according to Union Policy.

~~27.~~29. The role of Constituent Unions in supporting clubs and societies shall be set by Union Policy.

Standing Orders

~~28.~~30. Constituent Unions shall have Standing Orders which establish at a minimum:

~~28.1.~~30.1. The Officer roles of the Constituent Union and their powers and responsibilities.

~~28.2.~~30.2. The composition and conduct of the General Committee.

30.3. The composition, powers, responsibilities and conduct of any other committees.

~~28.3.~~30.4. Arrangements for postgraduate representation, where relevant to the constituency of the Constituent Union

~~29.~~31. Changes to the Standing Orders must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote at a quorate meeting of the General Committee of the Constituent Union. These changes must then be ratified by Union Council or a subcommittee of Union Council with delegated authority by a simple majority vote.

Policy

~~30.~~32. The General Committee of a Constituent Union may approve Policy by a simple majority vote.

~~31.~~33. Policy shall lapse after three years unless presented for re-approval.

~~32.~~34. Policy shall be kept by the Constituent President and the Council Chair, shall be freely available to any Member of the Constituent Union.

Interpretation

~~33.~~35. In the event of an interpretation being sought for the Standing Orders or Policy of a Constituent Union, the Constituent Union President shall make a ruling which shall be reported to the General Committee. This decision may be appealed to the Union President whose interpretation is final.

~~34.~~36. The Standing Orders and Policy of a Constituent Union shall be bound by the Constitution and Bye Laws of Imperial College Union. The Standing Orders shall overrule Constituent Union Policy, which shall overrule the constitutions of clubs and societies within the Constituent Union.