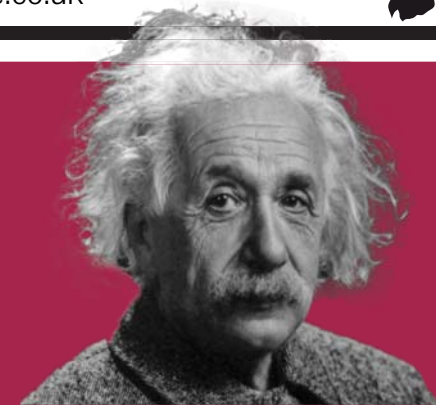


Perceptions of physics

When you think of a physicist, you think of someone like this. Why is this? Page 10



Pressure continues over Acton

College say they will answer students' questions through Felix. To ask: email felix@imperial.ac.uk and the COO and Pro-Rector (Education) will answer you.

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College Union have continued the pressure on Imperial College London over the plans for halls in Acton. There has continued to be unease amongst the student body about the plans. The issue has been raised and discussed at numerous meetings, including the Student Welfare Committee, and College Senate (which is a body that is chaired by the President & Rector, and is made up of various academics and management staff). Paul Beaumont, Union President, said that the College's response has been "seemingly positive". He said that he is "glad that some academics and staff are as concerned about the site and annoyed at the way in which the whole project was handled as we are." There has been no word thus far on the future of Garden Hall, which could be turned into office space, or the halls in Evelyn >>4



Inside...>>

FEATURES



Running in the Marrowthon >>12

FOOD



Not pasta la vista to spaghetti >>22

COFFEE BREAK



A guide to winning an election >>41

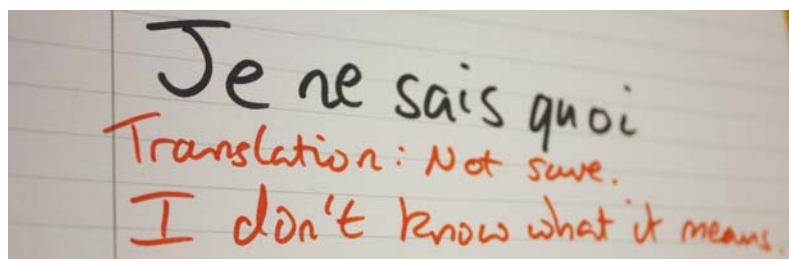
Translation Unit decision delayed

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

The decision on the fate of the Translation Studies Unit (TSU) has been delayed until June leaving all involved uncertain about their future. The Management Board of Imperial College London met on Friday 22 February to review the feedback gathered from staff, students and external interested parties on the future of the TSU. They decided that new research activities in the TSU will not be started, and that new students will not be admitted to the MSc or PhD courses

until after the final decision is made. It is also understood that they will have to try to find a new home elsewhere themselves.

The TSU started a campaign against being closed or moved. A petition was created, which has over 6,400 signatures at time of going to print, and is steadily gaining more. The signatures come from all areas of the globe, including academics at a wide variety of institutions. The Union supports their campaign, after a paper was brought to Union Council about the issue. The paper stated that the Union wants further clarity over why >>4



Medic mixup causes frustration	Page 3
Universities withdraw from ranking system	Page 4
Imperial students pay more for Parson's House room	Page 8

EDITOR'S PICKS

COMMENT

>>18

Smoke screen

Apparently smokers feel victimised sometimes. That's what one of the articles is about. Should be interesting to see what the reaction to this is.



MUSIC

>>32

Full of towels

This week the Music Editor Ross talks about going to a pretty sick sounding Boiler Room. He also wrote it heroically close to the print deadline...



SPORT

>>48

Bottle Match

A heroic effort by Sorcha to get this done. Also, a more heroic effort by RSM to all get horrifically wasted before it's even midday.



LOLCATZ OF THE WEEK:

Finding these is a perk of the job



Soap opera Acton

Tim Arbabzadah
Editor-in-Chief



The new halls saga continues. What's interesting in all of this is that the finances of keeping Evelyn Gardens seem to be being used as a reason for retaining the halls. The lease is still going to last for another 30 odd years. In 30 years time I will be a very old Felix Editor. The amount of money that would be spent renovating the halls is deemed too high. First of all, how much will it cost? I was told by College that actually they haven't had a proper evaluation done. Secondly, are you saying that all of these students having the best possible time at university is not worth that? If you are, then, well, that's your opinion, and it's not a palatable one: it's essentially putting a monetary value on their heads, with a decision made that they are not good enough to warrant a bit of a loss – how would you like that to be done to you? What atmosphere does that foster in the students? Being told that, unlike L'Oreal, they aren't worth it. If you want alumni to rave about Imperial and donate to it you need to show them that sometimes they are worth a bit of money being spent on them. This may make me sound like a massive radical, but sometimes it's worth investing in people. It's understandable that businesses (Imperial is a business in a way, as they need to make money to survive) must not lose money.

However, not every single little part has to make money. Some things can just be a service, such as having cheap halls near to campus. Why not just refurbish the halls to the standard they were at before? The fact that they need refurbishment shows either neglect or inept management: you have either saved money by not fixing cracks etc, or you have hired bad builders who haven't done a good job – the latter is a management failure and/or could be from trying to save money. Those students' happiness is worth the money to refurbish, even if we have to give the keys over to the Wellcome Trust in just over three decades.

That all got a bit abstract and "let's do it out of the goodness out our hearts-y" didn't it? Frankly, I don't care that it did, as being nice to people isn't a crime. Examining the lease terms again: there are over 30 years left. If nobody can negotiate an extension in that time then wow that's poor. Seriously, you have 30 years.

For comparison, in 30 years the following things happened: *The Beatles* managed to meet, form, become an incredibly successful band selling absurd amounts of records and break-up to pursue solo careers; Shakespeare managed to write most of his plays; two World Wars were declared, fought, and resolved; the internet burst onto the scene and became as huge as it is

now; and my parents managed to raise five children and send them all off to university (thanks by the way!). Not to hammer the point home too much, but before the lease runs out the majority of Americans will be too young to remember the iPhone being launched. The list goes on. What Imperial has to do in that time is ask if it can keep paying to rent something. When you consider that in the past someone like Lord Byron could be born, create a character type so enduring that they are still used all the time today, and die, all in just over the space of time they have, you think that maybe we've got a bit soft as a species really. College has an incredible asset in Evelyn Gardens; they must use it, don't lose it.

The bars and other such things there are not as innocent as it seems. The money made from them will go back into Campus Services' pockets. Plus, the development is in a place with two hotels near by. It's well know that halls are rented out during summer, and, coincidentally, W3 will be set up with a concierge service and 24/7 reception; making the switch into money making summer hotel that little bit easier

This backup option will hopefully remain that: a backup. The thing is, last week I had a photo that I titled "Scott Heath Backup". That was the photo that went in, as I moved on to other work and didn't keep looking for a replacement.

There is the crux of the problem really: once you have a solution, you don't usually seek out a better one unless you have the time. How many times have you re-written an essay in an exam? Or copied an answer in neater handwriting after thinking "that's messy, but I'll copy it up again later if I have the time"?

In an ideal world, the Union would be able to search for alternatives to bring to the table. However, they don't have the staff and resources for that. Besides, their job is to advise, which they have done.

Hard to translate

This week brings news that the decision has been pushed back until June. They've also been asked to find a new home themselves. This seems slightly odd. Wouldn't the people at the top of College have all of the best contacts in other universities? Would it not therefore be easier for them to find another institution to house the Translation Studies Unit? Would it not be more polite and respectful? Especially as you have stalled it until June, and are then going to give them a very short amount of time to pack up and leave. I also question how you can complete a degree without your supervisor. Find them a home elsewhere, and allow enough time for a smooth transition.

THIS WEEK FELIX WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Felix, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB.
Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk. Tel: 020 7594 8072. Fax: 020 7594 8065.
Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Winship Road, Cambridge.
Registered newspaper ISSN 1040-0711.
Copyright © Felix 2013.



Editor-in-Chief Tim Arbabzadah **Deputy Editor** Saskia Verhagen **Assistant Editor** Matt Colvin **News Editors** Aemun Reza, Nida Mahmud **Features Editors** Caroline Wood, Stephen Smith **Business Editor** Deepka Rana **Science Editors** Philip Kent, Laurence Pope, Philippa Skett **Politics Editors** Padraic Calpin, Marie-Laure Hicks **Food Editors** Carol Ann Cheah, Sophia Goldberg, Yiang Mavrococostanti **Comment Editors** George Barnett, Navid Nabijou, James Simpson **Fashion Editors** Saskia Verhagen, Alice Yang **Arts Editors** Eva Rosenthal, Meredith Thomas **Books Editor** Maciej Matuszewski **Music Editors** Mark England, Ross Gray, Simon Hunter **Television Editor** Lucia Podhorska **Film Editors** Katy Bettany, John Park, Lucy Wiles **Games Editor** Ross Webster **Technology Editors** Jason Parmar, Maximilian Eggel **Coffee Break Boss** Matt Colvin **Travel Editor** Veronika McQuade **Sports Editors** Oli Benton, Sorcha Cotter, Margot Pikovsky **Online Editors** Philip Kent, Jonathan Kim **Puzzles Commanders** Louisa Byrne, Sotirios Karamitsos **Copy Chief** Annina Sartor **Copy Editors** Thomas Lim, Gerry Hawkins **Web Uploading** Thomas Lim **Illustrators** Hamish Muir, Outi Supponen, Aaniya Ahmed

Last week I made some atrocious grammar/spelling errors in the Editorial. I worked myself to near madness, but I still will strive to improve the quality of the paper. – Tim

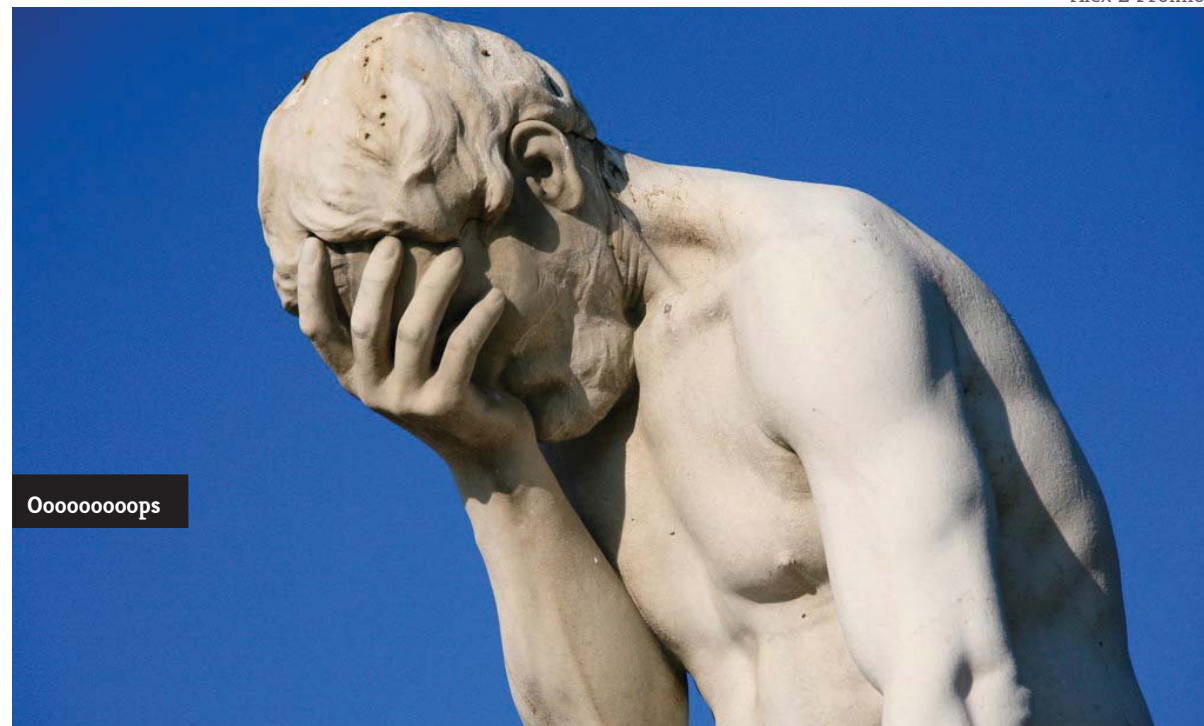


News Editors: Aemun Reza, Nida Mahmud
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

NEWS

Medics in career limbo after marking mixup

Alex E Proimos



Oooooooooops

Eoghan J Totten Reporter

More than seven thousand final year medics nationwide have been left stunned and unsure of their future following the retraction of allocated Situational Judgement Test (SJT) results. The move, taken by the UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO) on 25 February, means that medics must undergo yet another nervous wait to find out which hospital will become their training base.

An official statement published on the UKFPO website justified its actions on the basis of a 'potential error in the scanning process of the SJT', requiring the redaction of individual student marks; it is a move that has angered the medical student body who now feel deeply embittered. Many argue that it is a blunder, however unintentional, that is unforgivable, with the students in the midst of tense final examination preparations. The sense of security attributed to their prospective placements after graduation has been removed. Widespread and vitriolic condemnation has been voiced all over the UK. The feeling of many medics was summed up by an anonymous Welsh undergraduate, who debated that, "Revising for finals is stressful enough without any added misery".

Inevitably this has impacted on the final year medics studying at Imperial College London. Appeals have been made for calm and rationality in an e-mail sent on behalf of Professor Jenny Higham, Director of Education within the Faculty of Medicine, to the student body, urging them to, "remember that

the most important thing is to qualify and to do so as well as you can... Imperial College Medical School is determined to support its students; Each and every one of you." In addition to this she expressed her disappointment at the mistakes made by the UKFPO.

Some say that this disappointment is justifiable, with speculation that the 'potential error' rested upon human error. In an article recently published by *The Guardian* newspaper it was speculated that "errors were caused by ink-stained photocopied sheets that could not be read by the automated marking system". It has been confirmed that up to twelve hundred scripts will undergo revision by hand. A mounting air of cynicism has been catalysed by these revelations, being particularly vocalised on Twitter. One angry 'tweet' read as follows,

"Hilariously #SJT declared great success by #UKFPO boss who I suspect must feel the pain of chicken counting" with another expressing clear and utter dismay by saying "7,000 future doctors are being messed around today. On Monday they had jobs. Today they don't."

The above tweets hint at the possible far-reaching consequences of the SJT blunder. These are just two examples of tweets. Many users took to social media, with the hashtag #FPAS being used by many. With the impetus of time pressurising the UKFPO to remedy the crisis people are worried about the objectivity of the impending re-allocation of students, despite repeated reassurances from the organisation. Add to this the repercussions for hospitals where summer and autumn staff quotas were projected on

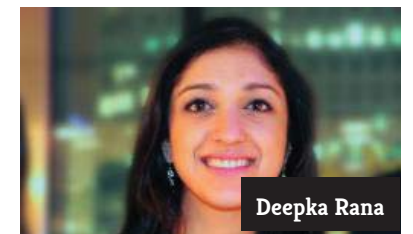
the basis of an influx of medic graduates. The situation is currently under surveillance by the British Medical Association. Alice Rutter, co-chair of the BMA Student Committee, voiced their stance: "We view this problem very seriously indeed and will be taking action to ensure students who are affected are kept updated". The Department of Health issued a terse response, stating that the incident "should not have happened."

Dr Katie Petty-Saphon, Executive Director of the Medical Schools Council, and the person responsible for commissioning the suppliers that introduced the errors, released a statement apologising "unreservedly to all applicants" for the incident. She said that she understands "how upsetting and frustrating it must be to be told that you have a particular position one day – and then to be warned the next that this might not be the case". She went on to say, "Despite extensive piloting of the test and marking processes on several occasions, an unforeseeable and previously unrevealed issue came up when the papers from the live test were scanned for us. It is with deep regret that this error only came to light after the allocation was released. This was in part thanks to close liaison with Medical Schools. Having discovered that a small number of you had been disadvantaged by the scanning error it would simply not have been correct knowingly to allow the process to stand. Let me reiterate my apologies – we shall provide the UKFPO with the results as soon as we are completely confident that we have done all we can to ensure their accuracy.

FinanceSoc named one of the top four societies at national awards



Giri Kesavan



Deepka Rana

Nida Mahmud News Editor

Last week, Imperial College's Finance Society (ICFS) was named one of the top four student societies in the country by Rate My Placement. This was the only Imperial society representing Imperial at the National Placement & Internship Awards 2013. ICFS was recognised for "outstanding commitment to generating opportunities for students – going above and beyond to

balance the needs of corporate sponsors and students."

ICFS has over 30 sponsors, 3000 members and have organised over 50 events this year. The society is led by Giri Kesavan and Deepka Rana, the magnitude of activities in a small committee of eight people was praised. The tailored sponsorship offered by ICFS and the informal feel were recognised as the key strengths of the society, which is an innovative ethos for a Finance Society.



Sponsored Editorial

More student cuts Discount haircuts for Imperial students at Fresh Hairdressers near South Kensington

Men's cuts £22 (normally £35)
Women's cut and rough dry £28
Women's cut and salon finish blow-dry £38 (normally £55)

FRESH Hairdressers has been offering high quality, fashionable haircuts for over 20 years. All of our haircuts are by highly experienced stylists, NOT trainees.

TO GET A GREAT HAIRCUT

- 1) You don't have to spend a lot of money at expensive trendy salons
- 2) You don't have to spend hours as a Guinea pig at a training school
- 3) You don't have to be butchered at some cheap Barbers
- 4) You don't have to wait till you go back home

Come to **FRESH**, ask for a student

discount and bring your student ID we look forward to seeing you.

We use only the best products, Wella, Moroccan Oil, L'Oreal, and KMS and offer free coffee and herbal teas.

To book an appointment call **0207 823 8968**.

Tuesday to Saturdays 9.30 to 5.30 We are only 70 metres from South Kensington tube station.

www.freshhairdressers.co.uk



Bird flu research restarts

Scientists end year long voluntary halt

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Research is into artificial strains of H5N1 (bird flu) is resuming following a voluntary halt from scientists in January 2012 amid safety concerns. Professor Wendy Barclay from Imperial College London is one of 40 authors of a letter recently published in *Nature*, which outlines the situation and why some countries are restarting research. The letter declares an “end to the voluntary moratorium on avian-flu transmission studies” following a list of safety recommendations for this type of research from The World Health Organization.

The letter in *Nature* says that the “benefits of this work outweigh the risks” with H5N1, as a “virus capable of transmission in mammals may emerge”. The letter states: “We consider biosafety level 3 [BSL-3] conditions with the considerable enhancements (BSL-3+) to be appropriate for this type of work”. BSL-3 is the second highest level of protection, which includes using fume hoods and filtered air to be released outside the lab.

In January 2012 influenza virus researchers worldwide took part in a



voluntary 60 day pause on research on bird flu; this was to allow “time to explain the public-health benefits of this work, to describe the measures in place to minimize possible risks, and to enable organizations and governments around the world to review their policies regarding these experiments”. However, the period was extended, and eventually lasted a year. In this time there were many open and closed meetings about the issue. On Imperial College London’s website, Professor Barclay wrote a statement, which described the reason for the halt in research: “The stimulus for this voluntary pause in research in one specif-

ic area was the revelation that two labs had actually generated recombinant viruses with increased transmissibility. Several other labs along with these two had been working in this area for some years, publishing and presenting their work openly, but only when efforts yielded up a positive result did anyone really notice. Then there was a knee jerk response from certain quarters previously naive of this approach, expressing horror that scientists were brewing up deadly diseases. It became clear that the public needed reassurance and justification about these experiments.” Research restarted at the end of January this year.

www.naturalnews.com

Imperial pulls out of new university ranking system

Niall Jeffrey

Reporter

Imperial College has announced that it is one of a number of universities pulling out of the new EU-led university ranking system, “U-Multirank”. The ranking system would not result in a league table, however many international universities and institutions have expressed opposition to the scheme.

The College has made an exit along with UCL, Oxbridge and Edinburgh via the League of European Research Universities (LERU). The League, which contains 21 European research universities, has decried U-Multirank as being ill-conceived and badly designed.

In opposition to the plans, Imperial and other LERU members will refuse to release certain information and data to the scheme. The data given by the universities is crucial as it is what the ranking system relies upon.

The plans were announced last month and U-Multirank was expected to publish its results by 2014. The scheme’s plans and timings may be scuppered by the breadth of organised opposition from the disagreeing universities.

Speaking in the THE, Kurt Dekelelaere, secretary-general and spokesperson for LERU said, “We consider U-Multirank at best an unjustifiable use of taxpayers’ money and at worst a serious threat to a healthy higher education system.”

The new system, costing 2 million Euros, aims to offer a fresh alternative and will grade universities in five areas - research, teaching, internationalisation, knowledge transfer and contribution to regional growth.

Androulla Vassiliou, European commissioner believes that “...it will contribute to the modernisation and quality of higher education”. She insists it will allow universities to better understand their own strengths and failings.

Read and comment online at
www.felixonline.co.uk

Length of journey disputed

» continued from the front page

Gardens. The College leases the latter from the Wellcome Trust, and there are 32 years left on the lease. Last week it was reported that the indications are that the Wellcome Trust are not at the moment willing to extend the lease. Felix repeatedly contacted them for comment, but they said that they “don’t comment on individual assets”.

Last week, the Union sent five re-

As mentioned in the subtitle. Simon Harding-Roots and Professor Debra Humphris will be answering questions put to them through Felix. Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk to get yours answered.

quests to College. It is understood that College Management are in the process of drafting a response to the Union’s requests. Beaumont said “I have been assured that they’re being considered carefully and we will hear back soon”.

The Union timed the journey to Acton as over 50 minutes during rush hour (door-to-door) to dispel the claim that it is about 30 minutes, which has

been mentioned by College. However it has been pointed out that they do top up their Oyster cards en-route. The video is available on STOIC’s YouTube channel. The journey back to College took about 46 minutes.

The Union’s #againstacton page on their website has now garnered over 4,500 unique visits, and a “Pledge Your Support” site was launched on Tuesday, with currently nearly 400 signatures. Beaumont said that he was “overwhelmed by the support students have shown for the Union’s campaign”, and that he would like to thank those who sent in long pieces detailing their personal experiences.

In a quantitative analysis of the participation of students in Clubs, Societies & Projects over the last few years, the Union found that those that live further away in their first year are less likely to get involved. The data also showed that students who did not participate in their first year were less likely to participate later on. The Union also looked at qualitative data from the Student Experience Survey, which it says corroborates the views with regards to a poor student experience.

The College announced the pur-

chase of land and plans to build halls in Acton, currently titled W3, on Monday 18 February. By Tuesday, the Union had launched a website and had provided their stance, which was vehemently against the proposals. The hashtag #againstacton was launched, which has been used many times. Current indications are that most students oppose the move. There was widespread criticism of Simon Harding-Roots, the Chief Operations Officer, saying that students at Imperial needed a “dose of reality” about the halls, with the Union using it in their video of their journey.

The decision to build the halls ignored the advice of the Union President and was not released to students as it was deemed to be commercially sensitive. Students’ opposition has mainly focused on the distance needed to travel everyday, the cost of the halls, especially when factoring in the cost of travel (which goes above the £150 lowest band), the safety of the area, the wardening provisions, as well as the ability to recruit hall seniors in the location.

» Editorial: page 2

Staff left in limbo as they await the decision

» continued from the front page

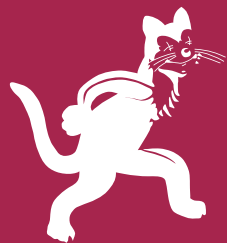
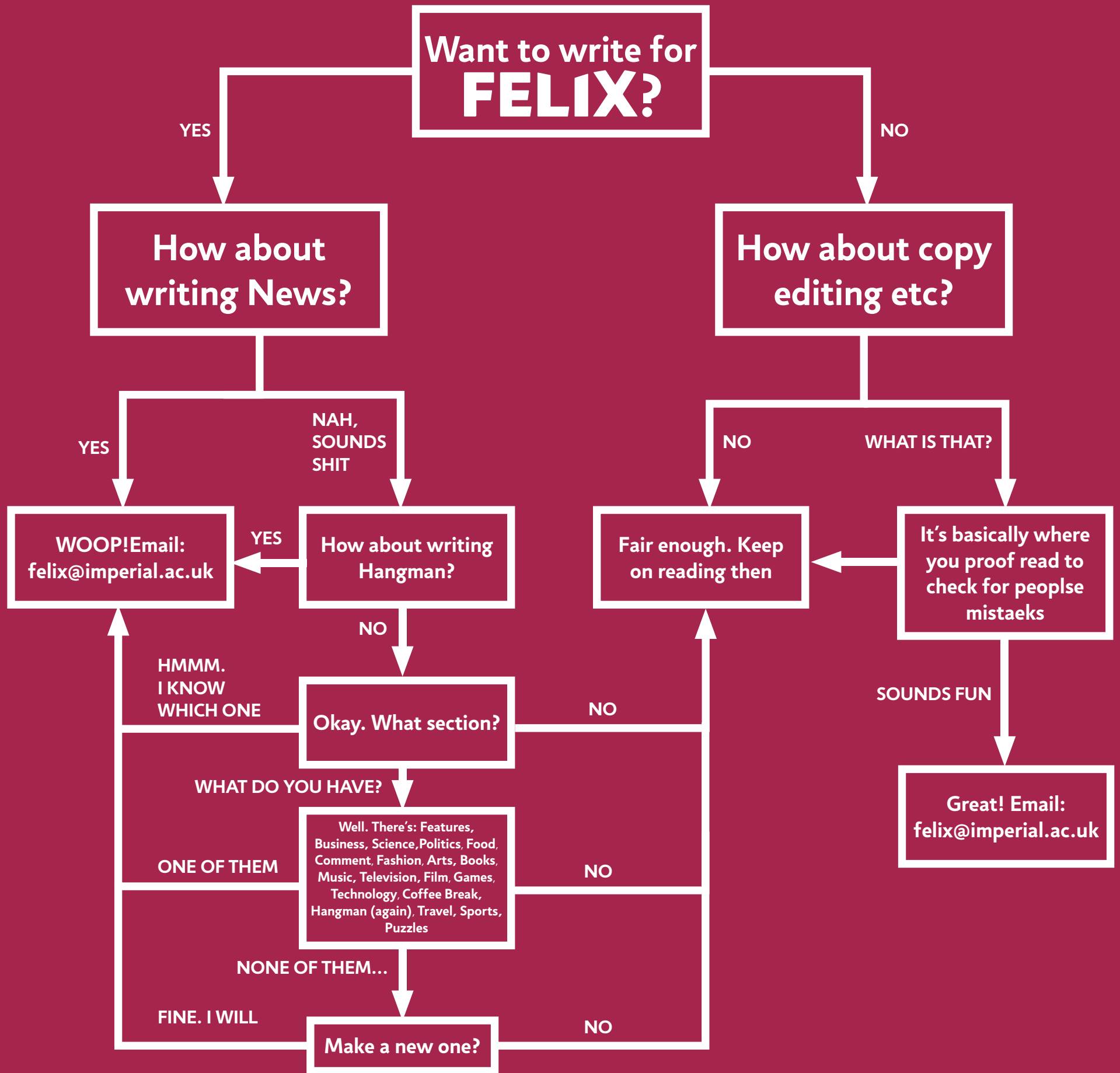
the TSU is being closed and how students would complete their degree if the TSU is closed. Thus far, the only statement from College is that “the activities carried out by the TSU are not considered core to the College strategy”.

In a statement to Felix, a College spokesperson said: “The Board reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the position of students currently registered in the Unit and agreed to commission a review including an external adviser and student input to consider the current portfolio of PhD research.” They went on to say that this review will “recommend how the studies of individual students may be

best supported to conclusion.” The Board also agreed to gather further information and options for the activities carried out by the TSU. The results of the review and any additional information will be considered by the Management Board in June. No further decisions on the future of the TSU will be made until that point.”

The TSU was founded in 2001 and specialise in scientific translation; they currently consists of around 100 students and staff. The last teaching review described them as excellent. The TSU strongly believe that they do have a place at Imperial. The TSU remains profitable and financial considerations are understood not to have played a part in the decision.

» Editorial: page 2



FELIX

felix@imperial.ac.uk

felixonline.co.uk

facebook.com/FelixImperial

[@feliximperial](https://twitter.com/feliximperial)

NEWS

News Editors: Aemun
Reza, Nida Mahmud
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Smokers told to stop lighting up by buildings

Students receive emails from Departments about the smoke free areas

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Students at Imperial College London have been receiving emails about smoking on the South Kensington campus. The purpose has been to remind students that they are not allowed to smoke by the entrances to buildings. The emails have been sent by the Heads of Departments, seemingly on the request of Facilities Management – suggested by one such email, forwarded on to students by the Head of the Department of Computing, showing the original sender (Mitul Shah, Assistant Building Manager) and recipients of the original email.

Students were reminded in the emails that “smoking is not permitted within the immediate vicinity of building entrances”. The policy is said to be “abused almost constantly dur-

ing the working day” at the Huxley building’s entrance. There was also a link to the College’s smoke free policy in the emails, which details where smoking is and isn’t allowed.

Some Departments did not forward the email, but composed their own. In the email to Bioengineering students, Graeme Rae, Department Operations Manager, told students that it “does not present our university in the best light for visitors”, as well as mentioning the smell it causes in the reception area.

Signs have been placed around Huxley’s Main Entrance, and security will monitor the area and “advise any people smoking there that they should not be”. Nick Roalfe, Director of Facilities and Property Management, will raise the issues to any students or staff who are not complying with the smoke free policy.

» Comment: page 18



New scholarship fund for Indian postgraduate students at Imperial

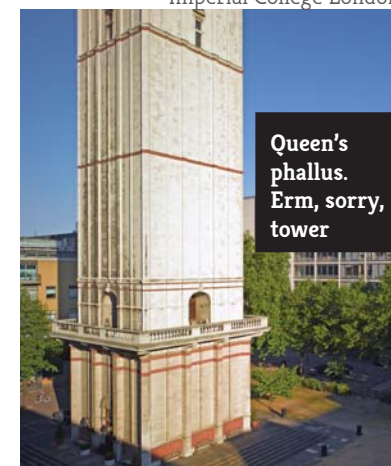
Imperial College London

Indian alumni and Imperial College London are launching a programme of new PhD scholarships for Indian postgraduates. The scholarships will be available to those who have a degree from an Indian institute and are in financial need. The website states that “priority will be given to who have not already completed a degree at a higher education institution outside India.”

For 2013 entry, College are inviting applications for PhD study in the Faculty of Engineering of the Business School.

President & Rector, Sir Keith O’Nions, said: “Imperial is proud to have an association with India and Indian higher education institutions which goes back many decades. The generosity of our Indian alumni, in supporting gifted postgraduates through these new scholarships, helps us build on this for the future.”

The scholarships were established



with the Imperial College India Foundation in January during Sir Keith O’Nions’ visit to India.

The applications website is here: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/international/prospective/newscholarships/icfischolarships>

Tim Arbabzadah

Imperial College London BUSINESS SCHOOL

“

The Business School attracts world class faculty and guest speakers giving you a real insight into the way these people do business.

Jamie Dunbar Smyth

Imperial College Business School graduate, previously studied BSc Biochemistry with Management at Imperial College London

”

Discover our full range of Master’s programmes, including Economics, Finance, Health, Management and Marketing at:
imperial.ac.uk/business-school/realinsight



*Opportunity.
It's staring you
in the face.*

pwc

Undergraduate and Graduate Opportunities

It's February already, so there's no time to lose. Apply now to make the most of your opportunities with PwC in 2013. Text 'PwC Imperial' to 60300* for a chance to win an iPad mini and get details of the events we'll be attending at Imperial this month.

Take the opportunity of a lifetime

www.pwc.com/uk/imperial

www.facebook.com/PwCCareersUK

Imperial students pay more to rent rooms in Parson's House

- Students pay £1000 more than privately renting a room
- College responds to questions over the price
- Wardening and renting rooms from company highlighted

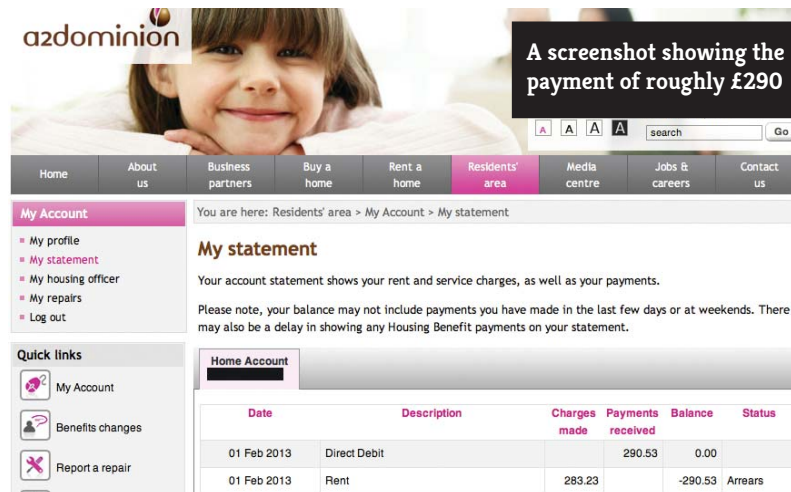
Maciej Matuszewski Reporter

Concerns have been raised about potentially excessive rents at one of Imperial's hall of residence. Imperial College rents the first three levels of Parsons House, located on the grounds of Charing Cross Hospital, from housing company A2 Dominion and then rents out individual rooms to students for £121.82 a week. All rooms are single occupancy with a shared kitchen and bathrooms.

An anonymous source, however, told Felix, that they "pay about £290.53 a month for a 5th floor room renting from A2 Dominion directly". Assuming a 12 month and 52 week year and including a £25 a month for internet access, which those renting from Imperial get free, this works out at £72.81 a week. This means that a student staying at Parsons House for the standard 39 week Imperial contract length will still pay more – £4750.98 – than a student renting privately for the whole year – who will pay £3786.36.

These figures have, however, been challenged by Paul Noke, Head of College Residential Services, who told Felix that the company who owns the building "currently charges rents of £105.51 per week for rooms elsewhere in the building". However, Felix has obtained documents showing that the rooms do indeed cost around £290 per month, as stated above.

Noke explained that the higher College rents resulted primarily from the College being "obliged to pay an annual rent for the rooms (including water, electricity, planned maintenance for the building) even though the rooms cur-



rently form part of the UG accommodation portfolio [and as such] are used to accommodate Imperial students on 39 week contracts". He further explained that "5 of the 48 rooms that form part of [the] contract are used to provide Wardening accommodation, [which] needs to be paid for"; that, "students get hall events/parties [which are] organised by the Wardens and Hall Committee [and] are paid for by the amenities fund, which is charged for within the rent" and that privately renting residents "are also responsible for some of their own minor repairs to their flats, whereas [Imperial] students would not be expected to pay for this". He concluded that "the £121.82 per week rent that we currently charge is correct once you divide all of the costs over the 39 week licence period" and was also careful to point out that private rooms "are rented on six month rolling tenancies, so a room only become available when a tenancy is relinquished". This means

"an undergraduate student may not be able to secure accommodation there for the whole of the academic year" unless renting from Imperial.

Claims of insufficient warden support, with the anonymous source telling Felix that "the wardens don't seem to organise many/any social events", were also challenged by Dr Marko Krzanric, the Head Warden of Parsons House. Dr Krzanric maintained that the Wardens and seniors have "managed to organise 60-ish events this academic year so far", including "Freshers Fortnight events, Christmas party, weekly Sunday breakfasts, Poker nights, trips to the theatre and circus, cooking competitions, London tours, Holiday themed events (Pancake Day, Halloween, Burns Night) and even a Christmas meal and New Years party for students who could not be home during holidays". Dr Krzanric, was keen to stress that "the welfare of our students is paramount for [the wardens]".

CLASSIFIEDS

SOFTWARE ENGINEER WANTED

A small, privately owned software vendor that has good communication links by road and rail. Founded in 2005, we write software that manages and assures the proper operation of IT systems in organisations like commercial banks and telecommunications companies by monitoring the performance and availability of servers, services and applications. We have a growing range of products that have been successfully deployed into several blue-chip enterprises. We are expecting a step-growth event with the imminent acquisition of a new, very large customer and as such are looking to expand our team.

Applicants should have the following:

- Experience with a popular web framework & MVC (e.g. Django).
- Experience with serialisation methods (e.g. XML, JSON).
- Experience developing web based APIs (e.g. REST).
- Understanding of UNIX and exposure to multiple platforms (e.g. Linux, Solaris, AIX).
- Experience with bash, sed/awk and Make.
- Conversant with a popular VCS (e.g. Subversion, Mercurial).
- Good understanding of Virtualisation platforms for example:
 - KVM, Solaris Zones and LDOMS, AIX LPARS, VMWare.
 - Managing virtualisation with Libvirt.
 - Knowledge of web server management and deployment (e.g. Apache, NGINX).
 - Database administration skills (e.g. Oracle, Sybase, DB2, PostgreSQL)

For more information:

Call: 01626 721212 or 07880632634

Email: suzanne@spectrumconsultancy.co.uk

Email felix@imperial.ac.uk to place Classifieds.



Website declared "hot shit"

Imperial College London's student newspaper, Felix, has officially been declared to have a "fucking sick" website that "everyone should visit" by the Prime Minister in a statement at a press conference.

The website is thought to allow students to comment on whatever they like.



"Keep the Cat Free" Felix
Like You like this.

Media Box
Photo Video Radio

Check it. We've got a website and everything. Read and comment on articles online, from the comfort of your bed.
www.felixonline.co.uk

THE

BIG

ELECTIONS

2013

Scan me to
Stand, watch
'Meet the
Candidates'
or Vote!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

3

MARCH

Nominations close at 23:59

Get your nomination in or second a candidate at imperialcollegeunion.org/elections before the deadline.

7

MARCH

Online Meet the Candidates with STOICtv at imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

Listen to the candidates' plans, ask questions and plan who you're going to vote for when polls open online.

8

MARCH

Voting opens online at 12:00

Vote online from any computer at imperialcollegeunion.org/vote, point your phone's browser to bit.ly/voteicu or scan the QR code at the top of this page.

15

MARCH

Voting closes online at 12:00

Then come to the Results Party! 20:00, Metric, free entry.

Results will be announced LIVE on the night!

imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

imperial
college
union



A problem of perception

Stephen Stopyra explores the gender imbalance in physics

I'd like to perform a small experiment. Picture a scientist in your mind. Now answer this: what gender is your scientist? What colour is their skin? I'd hazard a guess that a large number of you pictured a white male. Mine has a beard too – and he's scrunched over a desk in a solitary room, calculating something. His clothes are scruffy, and he clearly doesn't care over-much about his appearance.

We all have mental preconceptions. Of people, of jobs, and of the way life is in general. It's not really possible to get away from that. Nor would the lack of them be desirable – how would we begin to think about anything without somewhere to start from? We can't remember the properties of everything individually so we have to categorise and just remember 'if it's in this category it has these properties'.

As scientists, we like to think of ourselves as objective and rational. It's what we strive for. But we are humans like everyone else, and sometimes our irrationality gets the better of us. A recent study [1] looked into the hiring of lab assistants, aiming to determine if there was any gender bias in the way that science departments viewed the relative competence of male and female applicants. They created a group of fake applications, containing the same content, but randomly assigned the names as male or female. The differences were striking: on average, men were consistently judged as being 'more competent', and offered higher starting salaries (by about \$3500) than women.

But this wasn't a case of 'misogynistic old men' putting women down. The study found that the gender, and indeed age, of the academic judging the candidates had no significant effect. In other words, women were just as likely as men to rate female candidates as 'less competent'. Curiously, despite not offering them the job as frequently, both also consistently rated female candidates as more 'likeable': given that the CVs were identical, it would seem that this hints at yet another false preconception, though

in this case working against men.

Recently, within the Department of Physics, a group of students have started meeting to talk about these issues, and questions much wider than that: are there fewer people from ethnic minorities than there ought to be? What is life like for disabled people who want to pursue science? For the purposes of this article, I'm going to focus on women in physics in particular, though much of this extends to other sciences and engineering equally well.

There is strong evidence that far fewer women go on to do physics research than in other sciences. In 2006, only 14.78% of PhD students from the 'Top 50' departments (as rated by the National Science Foundation) were female [2]. This compared with 33.42% and 45.89% for Chemistry and Biology respectively.

First of all, why should we care? Many arguments have been proposed to explain this. I will address some of them here, and hopefully convince you that this is worth thinking carefully about. One argument that is frequently encountered concerns the relative ability of males and females in physics. Intelligence is tricky to define, but if we focus on performance in areas relevant to mathematical disciplines such as physics, then some research shows that despite there being no difference in the average ability between genders, males exhibit a greater variance. If you picture a normal distribution, you can see that a consequence of this is that there are significantly more males with very high ability (and also very low) than there are females. One figure puts this at twice as many males as females in the top 1% [3].

Does this explain the situation? Let's leave aside issues of whether the data is applicable and assume that it is for the moment (this is a complicated area – the difference in variability has been shown to be different, and even reversed, in different cultures, for example [4]). A very crude comparison of '2:1 male:female ratio in the top 1%' with the 14.78% female PhD students' might hint that this isn't suffi-

cient. More importantly, however, it has been shown that women are less likely to want to pursue careers in science, independent of their ability [5]. This in itself tells us that a difference in variability cannot explain the lack of women.

Which brings us to the second point. Perhaps women just aren't as likely to want to study physics as much as men? This is an interesting one, because it is probably true, but really just re-states the question – why don't more women want to study physics? The assumption behind this argument seems to be that women are intrinsically less interested in physics. However, there is some evidence that can be interpreted as suggesting that girls are put off physics at an early age. A recent study by the Institute of Physics [6] found that girls educated in single-sex schools were up to twice as likely to study physics at A-Level: an effect which persisted even taking into account social background and type of school. What is it about being educated around boys that makes girls less interested in physics? I don't have an answer to that, but this seems to me to undermine the idea that girls are 'innately' less interested, and suggests that something is putting them off.

Finally, I've also heard it suggested that the effect is a hang-over from the days when people were less conscious of gender equality, and that it will take time for more women to get into physics. It's certainly true that we've made a lot of progress over the last few decades, but there are problems with this line of reasoning. The first is that recent data doesn't support this. If it were the case, we would expect to see more women in the early stages of their academic careers, but in 2006 the National Science Foundation's figures for the percentage of female 'Assistant Professors' at the 'Top 50' departments were 11.15% and 21.47% for physics and chemistry respectively [2]. So even if things have improved, it would appear that physics has not improved as much as other subjects.

Now that I've raised some objec-

tions to these objections, I'd like to talk about why this matters so much to me. I began this article by talking about unconscious perceptions and this, I believe, is the root of the problem facing physics. I believe this because I know for a fact that I hold these perceptions as much as anyone else.

I first noticed this when one of my lecturers told us about the work of Emmy Noether. For those who aren't familiar with her work, Emmy Noether is best known for 'Noether's Theorem', a mathematical formulation of the link between conservation laws and symmetries in nature. It is a beautiful idea, and underlies much of

modern physics. In her day, Noether had to fight to be accepted among academics, and at one time could only lecture unofficially under the name of her colleague David Hilbert. However, what struck me is that when I first heard about 'Noether's Theorem', I assumed 'Noether' must be a man. Statistically, this was a reasonable assumption. But what bothered me was that I was surprised when I learnt that she was not. Why should I have been surprised? Is it because I don't regard women as capable of being as competent as men? I wasn't consciously aware of believing that. Counter-intuitively, however, research has shown that those who most care about believing they are objective are in fact more likely to harbour biases [7].

If we are capable of being biased without even realising it, then how

Aaniya Ahmed



much discrimination is going on under our noses without even being noticed? Playing a blame-game and crying 'misogynist conspiracy' will not help with this. Awareness will. Thinking about these issues rather than hoping they will just go away is the only way to combat our unconscious perceptions. I've made a lot of points here, and there is so much more to say. If you think I am wrong then I invite you to tear my arguments to pieces. At least we'll both be thinking about it, and I'll have achieved my goal.

The author would like to thank the Equal Opportunities Group for the many vibrant discussions which inspired this article, and in particular Sofia Qvarfort and Apostolia Tasoudi for their advice, critique, and encouragement of this particular project.

References

- [1] C. A. Moss-Racusin, J. F. Dovidio, V. L. Brescoll, M. J. Graham and J. Handelsman, "Science faculty's subtle gender biases favor," PNAS, p. vol. 109 no. 41 pgs 16474–16479, 2012.
- [2] J. Handelsman, N. Cantor, M. Carnes, D. Denton, E. Fine, B. Grosz, V. Hinshaw, C. Marrett, S. Rosser, D. Shalala and J. Sheridan, "More Women in Science," Science, vol. 309, 2005.
- [3] J. Valla and S. J. Ceci, "Can Sex Differences in Science Be Tied to the Long Reach of Prenatal Hormones? Brain Organisation Theory, Digit Ratio (2D/4D) and Sex Differences in Preferences and Cognition," Perspect Psychol Sci., vol. 6(2), pp. 134-136, 2011.
- [4] A. Feingold, "Gender differences in variability in intellectual abilities: A cross-cultural perspective," Sex Roles, vol. 30, no. 1-2, pp. 81-92, 1994.
- [5] Y. Xie and K. A. Shauman, Women in Science: Career Processes and Outcomes, Harvard University Press, 2005.
- [6] Institute of Physics, "It's Different for Girls: The Influence of Schools," 2012.
- [7] E. L. Uhlmann and G. L. Cohen, "I think it, therefore it's true": Effects of self-perceived objectivity on hiring discrimination," Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes, vol. 104, no. 2, pp. 207-223, 2007.

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk

FEATURES

The end of aid?

Isaac Obisanya Writer

In October 2012 the Secretary of State for International Development, Justine Greening, announced cuts to the UK's £1bn aid programme in India with a view of focussing on a more 'trade-based' relationship. More recently during David Cameron's skaudoodle to India in the middle of February 2013, he praised India's business acumen and strong economic growth in recent years and paraded about the UK's commitment to ease trade and travel regulations between itself and India which could be seen as a consummation of the UK's stance to development with India. Across the pond, the Sullivan Foundation, a high level international development organisation with political backing from former President George Bush that

drew attention and finances from the halls of US power, recently closed its doors and now holds a private Africa-focussed firm. Western companies and investors like these are falling over backwards to engage in the economic boom that is slowly underway in many countries around the world that were more commonly known as "third-world".

Famously, the *Economist* in 2011 produced a brightly designed cover page entitled "Africa Rising" that many contrasted with their June 2001 cover-page story of Africa branding it "The Dark Continent". From Vietnam to the Myanmar (where multinationals are moving their manufacturing processes to, away from an ageing and ever more expensive China); from Rwanda to



Kenya, where for more than a decade year-on-year GDP growth is in the +10 per cent per annum bracket and is mostly non-commodity driven, economies that used to be the underdogs are now beginning to flex their economic muscle. These countries are drawing international liquidity away from the West that is still licking its wounds from the global financial crisis and contracting or stagnating national budgets (in real terms) across all sectors; and most interestingly for me as a future healthcare professional, the NHS has not escaped the scalpel of the government as it looks for slack to cut.

In the face of all these global changes and a growing optimism, countries like Mozambique for example, which has grown steadily

at rates of 68 per cent between 1996 and 2008, still face more than a half of their populations living under the poverty line of \$0.50 a day. The Democratic Republic of Congo is still in the middle of civil conflict, and the recent unrest in Mali has done nothing to improve living standards for its people. There is also a growing scepticism that the positive economic growth of recent years has done nothing but increase inequality as Nigerian millionaires party with Kim Kardashian in Lagos and the Chinese elite drive some of the most expensive cars in the world in Beijing while community health workers administering polio vaccines are slain in Northern Nigeria and the future of China's rural populace is still in question. With all this in mind, what will the future hold for international development aid, which has been both greatly praised and at

the same time accused of holding developing countries back. The panel debate at the Future of Healthcare Development Conference on the 6th of March in the Imperial College Business School aims to explore this. In attendance will be the Ambassador of Eritrea to the UK among experts in the field of international development from a variety of sectors. It promises to be a fantastic event! For tickets, please see the Imperial College Union Website.



BIKE AUCTION

Friday 8th March
12:00-14:00 Beit Quad

Loads of bikes up for auction

icubike-user@imperial.ac.uk for details

BIKES ARE SOLD AS SEEN

imperial college union | sport Imperial | METROPOLITAN POLICE Working together for a safer London

Proceeds go to charity

FEATURES

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk

The marrowthon

Hewa Khalilifar dresses up as a superhero, and so should you...

You may have seen the IC Marrow team at Freshers' Week sporting the characteristic black t-shirt with bold white print. This resonates with the design scheme of Anthony Nolan, a national blood cancer charity, which surprisingly few people seem to have heard of. A big part of Marrow, a society that exists in 40 universities including Imperial, is to raise awareness regarding the work that Anthony Nolan does to match stem cell or bone marrow donors to blood cancer patients. The ultimate aim of Marrow Societies is to raise funds to support the work of Anthony Nolan, and to encourage people to sign up to be on the donor register.

There are many things in life that we take for granted or are ignorant of if they do not address our contemporary personal needs. If I were diagnosed with cancer and needed a life-saving transplant I would expect the infrastructure that could find my potential match to be in place and effective. And yet as my current healthy, non-cancerous self, I had zero knowledge about the origins of the donor register or the organisation responsible for managing and expanding the register until about a year ago...

The concept of a register was borne in the early 1970s by a woman called Shirley Nolan who was desperate to find a bone marrow donor for her young son, Anthony. Anthony was born with Wiscott Aldrich syndrome, a rare condition that left his life dependent on a bone marrow transplant. At the time, matches were made mainly through relatives as it was only in 1973 that unrelated donors began to be used. However, there was no system in place to locate a donor to match the patient at hand. Anthony's mother campaigned for the creation of a bone marrow register to do just this; although it was set up in 1974, she lost her eight year old son for lack of a match in 1979. The connectedness inherent in transplant procedures today is the legacy of a young child and his visionary, loving mother. Nine years later a team of students formed the first-ever Marrow Society in the University of Nottingham in response to the loss of a friend to leukaemia.

Cancer is a personal subject. Cancer evokes different thoughts and associations in different people, and so I'm banking on you readers to forgive me for inevitably sharing my own take and experiences with the subject. I was introduced to Anthony Nolan through a scheme of theirs entitled 'Register and Be a Lifesaver', or R&Be,



for which I attended a training day at the charity headquarters. The scheme was instigated by Adrian Sudbury, a young journalist whose life had been transformed following a leukaemia diagnosis. Throughout the course of his illness he relayed the details of his battles with cancer in an excruciatingly honest way on an online blog, 'Baldy's Blog', which accumulated thousands of readers all over the world. At the training we were shown a clip of Adrian which followed the deterioration of his health over time. We learned how he had loved to play football, how he had dreamed of becoming a big-time journalist, and how his life as he had known it had stopped after he had

checked himself into hospital upon feeling incredibly tired one day whilst washing the dishes. Had you been there, you would have noticed the pace of the background music slowing down and the frames losing colour and movement in a build-up to what you are primed to know is a tragic ending. At that point I remember looking over to the speaker who, moments later, exposed himself as Adrian's father. There was a mutual respect in the room, a room which seemed to purge this man of his deep sorrow and regret for the time he was up there speaking about his footballer-journalist-cancerous son.

He was doing everything in his power to educate people about blood cancers and what they could do to help on behalf of his deceased son who had made promotion of public education, particularly teenagers, his dying mission.

Humbling experiences lead us to reflect upon the value and significance of our own philosophies of life and our actions; of our littleness in the grand scheme of life; and of our vulnerability to unpredictable external forces. This causes us to better appreciate any opportunities we do have to control and impact not only our own lives but those around us in need of extra support.

If I haven't appealed to your sense of altruism by now I can only suggest you get out of the lab more often – oh, the joys of drawing on Imperial stereotypes! To the rest of you I propose the London

Hyde Park. The theme is superheroes but for those of us who cannot bring ourselves to presume the identity of a fictional character, normal sports attire will suffice. There is a choice of route, the shorter of which, sitting here grease-stained from my Roast Chicken Walkers, I feel truly thankful for. To the pragmatics, a former participant commented, "If, like me, your outdoor

running takes a slight dip over the winter, and you're just starting to pick it up again, this is well worth adding to your calendar". And for the competitors, the fastest times and best dressed will receive prizes. Last year these were laptops and iPods! For those who just want hard evidence to rub in the face of the haters who doubted that they

could run a marathon, everyone receives a goody bag and medal. And lastly, for those self-conscious of looking like a one-legged duck or other form of

non-human in the process of endurance sport, there are opportunities to marshal for a couple of hours.

The Marrow maxim is, 'as long as blood cancer is still around, we have to make people aware that they can cure it'. For every one person Anthony Nolan can provide a donor for, there is one person who misses out on a second chance at life. Together we can change these odds. We can leave our footprint on cancer survival.



SUPERHEROES WANTED. COSTUMES OPTIONAL.

Be a real-life superhero
Run 5 or 10km and help save the lives of people with blood cancer by raising vital funds in aid of Anthony Nolan. We'll let you decide the outfit.

London Marrowthon
Sunday 10 March 2013, Hyde Park

Entry fees:
£10 for the 5km
£15 for the 10km

For more information or to register visit
www.anthonynolan.org/londonmarrowthon

Photo: Runnerphotos.co.uk



ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE UNION SCIENCE CHALLENGE 2013

rcsu.org.uk/sciencechallenge

The competition is now open!

Answer one of the following to enter:

- in a 3 minute video, explain one scientific concept of your choice

(by 800 word essay:)

- is public debate a good forum for discussing science issues such as climate change?

- why are so many students being put off studying science at school?

- what are the challenges facing the development of effective vaccines against pathogens with hyper-variable genome sequences?

THE PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE: £1000 CASH
ALL-EXPENSES PAID TOUR OF CERN

ALL FINALISTS INVITED TO GRAND FINAL RECEPTION
AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS

Closes: 12th March 2013



A feast of arts on campus

Adam Funnell looks back at a successful ArtsFest

From the 18th to the 21st of February, ArtsFest returned for Imperial's annual showcase of music, dance, drama and everything in between. The South Kensington campus came alive for four days of the best arts events that our student groups have to offer, showing the vast array of talent hidden amongst our scientists, engineers and medics.

The week kicked off in style, with Big Band playing a superb set from the balcony of the Queen's Tower. Much to the surprise and delight of passers-by, the sheer volume of their upbeat jazz sound kept everyone entertained over their lunch, with "Mercy, mercy, mercy" and other classic charts bringing many students out of the Library and out into the glorious sunshine.

Monday evening saw a new and incredibly popular event on the ArtsFest calendar: a dance showcase and ceilidh. Belly Dancing opened the evening with a variety of routines, before a pair from the Dance Society wowed the crowds with their slick display. Dance Company were up next, and showed just why they have won so many awards of late, with stunning routines from contemporary and tap right through to ballet. The night wasn't just about watching the grace and poise of our dancers' talent however; Caledonian Society, with help from String Ensemble, led the audience participation in a raucous ceilidh well into the night.

There's no rest in ArtsFest week, and Tuesday saw another packed schedule of events. Wind Band held an open rehearsal inviting everyone to hear preparations for their upcoming American themed concert whilst LeoSoc and Photosoc launched their exhibit in the Blyth Gallery with a drinks reception. Back in the Union building, Imperial Cinema held a well attended and hilarious film quiz night, capably won by "Les Quizerables" (though DramSoc beating Cinema at their own quiz was undoubtedly also a highlight!).

Wednesday brought another open rehearsal, this time from two of our biggest societies, Symphony Orchestra and Choir. In preparation for their upcoming concert at Cadogan Hall (2nd March, tickets on sale now at cadoganhall.com!) the clubs opened their doors for listeners to get a sneak preview of their collaboration on Rachmaninov's "The Bells", and the sheer strength and power of their performance was incredible. Meanwhile in the Union Concert Hall, two of our finest vocal societies, A Cappella and Musical Theatre, presented *A Very Vocal Evening*. **The Scopes** kicked off



proceedings with a slick dance routine to match their huge talent, before the **Imperielles** presented a great cover of "Take Me or Leave Me". The stage was set for Imperial favourites **The Technicians** to deliver another flawless performance, followed by Musical Theatre giving a sneak preview of their next show *Parade*. A selection of dazzling solos from members of all societies built up to some huge joint numbers – having heard so many voices on stage with "Do You Hear the People Sing" from *Les Mis* you would never have guessed it was two separate societies with little joint rehearsal time!

The week was leading up to the showpiece, which was a collabora-



tion between the Imperial Festival Fringe and ArtsFest centring around the interplay between science and arts. An eclectic collection of societies and Imperial researchers worked together for a public outreach event celebrating the science behind a variety of creative media. Dancing robots clothed in spray-on fabric costumes designed by the Fashion Society sat alongside a display from Juggling showing the neuroscience behind multi-tasking.

Music Technology displayed the "Reactable" from Electronic Engineering and drew the biggest crowds of the evening, allowing visitors to generate electronic music from visual blocks. Chamber Music demonstrated the spatial patterns that sound waves make whilst String Ensemble explained the physics behind their instruments. Through the middle of all of this, Dance Society



and Caledonian Society lead guests in more dance displays, this time with input from the Faculty of Medicine on how balance affects dancers and a curious link to insect behaviour.

At the end of the night, the Fringe Afterparty in Metric featured another excellent set from Big Band (in more comfortable surroundings on the ground this time) and the evening closed with superb DJ sets from mem-

bers of Music Technology. Performers and participants from throughout the week joined the ArtsFest team for a well-deserved drink as they reflected upon the most successful ArtsFest in recent memory.

There are more pictures from the week at facebook.com/icartsfest – like our page now to be first to hear about next year's ArtsFest events!

Here is *The Plan*

Malaysian Society
introduce this year's event

Kee yourselves free on the 9th/10th of March – Imperial College Union Malaysian Society returns with Malaysian Night 2013, the annual production that's been entertaining audiences across the UK for years. With great moves, great laughs, great music (and amazing food after!), it promises to be an unforgettable experience.

This year, follow the life of Sophie Gan: a compassionate but bitter young twenty-something whose father was wrongfully executed for the terrorist attacks in their homeland. Raised by her grandmother, Sophie's

life is turned upside down when Nolan, a snarky man claiming to be her late father's protege, shows up at her door offering her the chance to get even. But it isn't easy – they're up against a corrupt politician and his equally greedy partners-in-crime, who happen to be tough nuts to crack.

For a tenner, you'll be treated to a showcase of good ol' Malaysian culture, humour, and our traditional Nasi Lemak after the show. Event details and tickets are available at <http://www.icmnight.com> and <http://on.fb.me/icmnight2013> – we'll see you there!

THREE CAN KEEP A SECRET
IF TWO ARE DEAD

THE PLAN

IMPERIAL COLLEGE MALAYSIAN NIGHT 2013

GREAT HALL, IMPERIAL COLLEGE 9TH & 10TH OF MARCH, 2013 1930HRS £10



imperial college union

SUNWAY

Celebrating Malaysia Truly Asia

TOURISM MALAYSIA

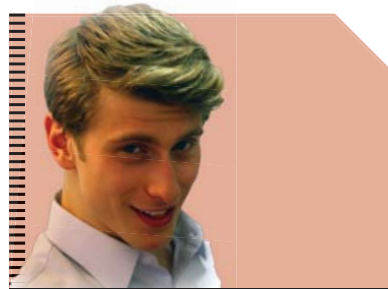
www.icmnight.com



A whole week of giving

As the committee and volunteers get back into the swing of work, RAG Chair **David Goldsmith** reflects on the week

All photos by Benjamin Lester



RAG Chair

David Goldsmith

Amidst a week of bungee jumping, cartoon collecting, pizza eating, Dark Knight-watching, serenading, raffling and masked dancing £11,305 worth of coins rained down on our buckets. This brought our total generated for charity in the year so far to £47,556.48 – more than TRIPLE that raised in the entirety of last year and we have yet to reach third term!

So how did this happen? How did Imperial College RAG make the turnaround from an almost defunct society to one that is so prosperous?

When I took the position of RAG Chair in the summer elections of last year I was making a bold move. Whilst there had been a strong tradition of RAG at Imperial for many decades, enthusiasm had waned over the years and it was failing terribly when it came to engaging students. It might have seemed as if Imperial students didn't care about charity but I was sure that this wasn't the case and set about working out why it wasn't working.

The committee of last year consisted of around 3 active members, too few to get anything done by anyone's stretch of imagination. So I rang everyone I knew over the summer and progressively formed a team now consisting of 15 central members and, thanks to the hard work of our Halls Officer Joe Gibbs, 34 RAG Hall Reps who represent RAG within the undergraduate halls.

We decided the RAG logo and branding were outdated so we scrapped them. Working with the Union we developed the new splat logo and slapped it on a load of t-shirts and stickers, ready to take over Imperial. Freshers' Fair was the chance to make our mark so we took it by storm. We danced by our DJ booth, taking it in turns to get covered in whipped cream, and engaged anyone who happened to walk past. We generated over 1000 sign-ups for our mailing list – a RAG-record for sure.

What followed was a series of incredibly successful events with maximum participation (visit union.ic.ac.uk/rag for full details).

Our Poppy Appeal collect generated 96 volunteers, raising over £10,000 for the Royal British Legion. Our Rubik's cube ball packed out Metric. We held a simple Bake Sale and managed to raise a whopping £1723! So as you can see Imperial is most definitely not short of those intent on raising for charity.

Recognition then came from the outside world in the form of a prize for the most innovative fundraising idea for our 24-hour row on the Queen's Lawn, getting our committee invited to the BBC Children in Need Live Show. We were succeeding, and when Christmas came we knew we had generated the power to grab the attention of the whole university with our RAG week. So we met with the Rector and other members of College staff and brought something to Imperial that had never been seen before... a 164 foot high Bungee Jump. Tickets sold out straightaway, sponsorship was raised in the thousands and the spectacle dazzled all.

If you had asked many Imperial students at the beginning of the year what RAG was you might have received an unsure response: 'What's that?' or 'Is it that thing medics do?' (For clarification IC RAG is a separate entity to ICSM RAG!). Now you would be very hard pressed to find someone who hasn't felt our impact.

Through the work of the RAG committee, in hand with the students of Imperial, at least £46,000 more has been raised for our charities this year that would not have been raised otherwise. But this success is compounded. We have generated the awareness and enthusiasm that will ensure a tradition of RAG that will last for many years to come.

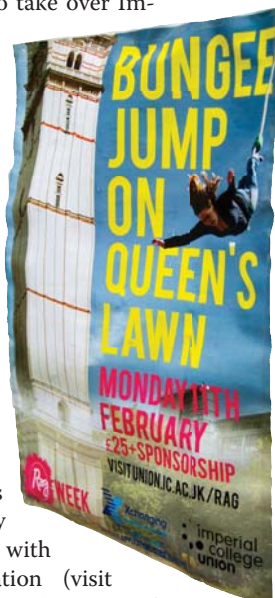
To continue we need more talented and driven people to get involved. If you want to help ensure RAG's success in coming years and to participate in next year's committee e-mail me at ragchair@ic.ac.uk. The new committee shall be formed in the third term of this year.

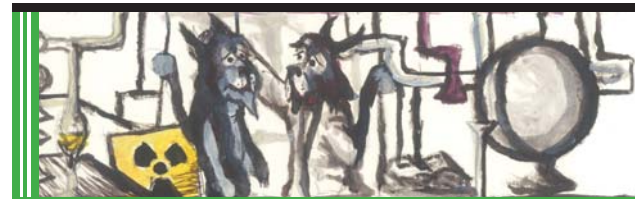
I'd like to make a special mention to the following people:

- Callum Kirk (Treasurer) whose superhuman efficiency and determination has helped ensure RAG's success.
- Christopher Winchurch (Vice-chair and Publicity Officer) who spent days on end designing the RAG guides



To continue we need more talented and driven people to get involved





Science Editors: Philip Kent,
Laurence Pope, Philippa Skett
science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

SCIENCE

Bow down to the brainiacs

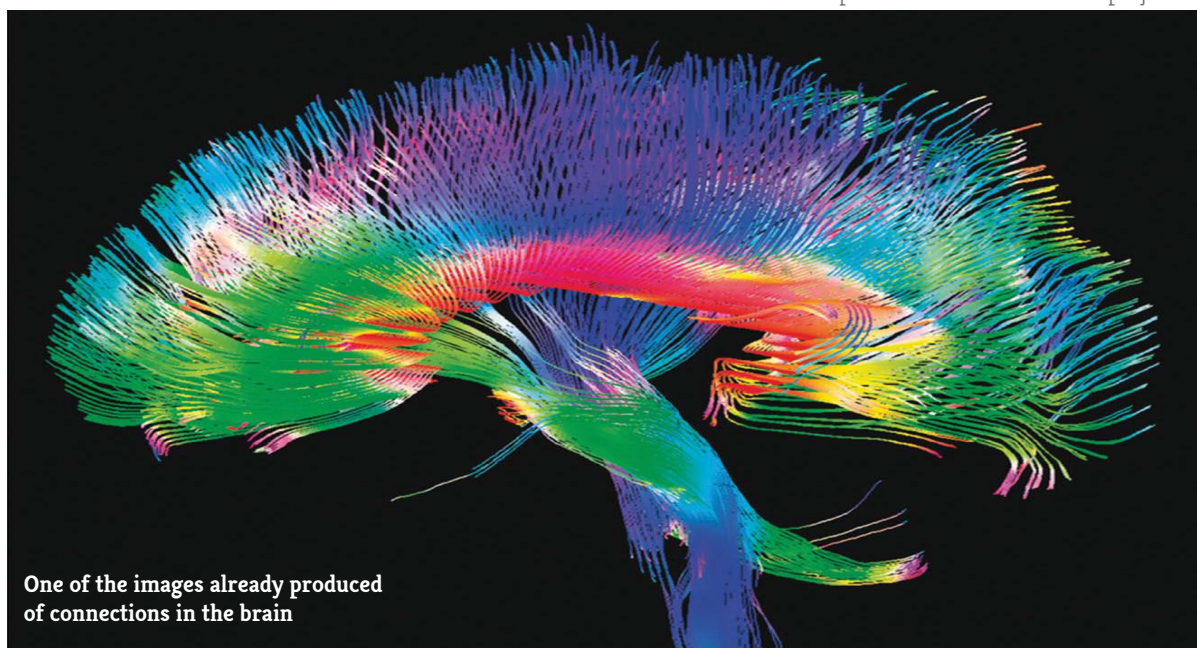
Philippa Skett on the Human Connectome Project

<http://www.humanconnectomeproject.org>

Have you ever wanted to get into the head of someone? Maybe a potential employer, your examiners or even someone you have taken a fancy to? Do you often find yourself questioning just what is even going on in your own head? Neuroscientists are planning on possibly solving the mysteries of the brain mapping as a means to treat neurodegenerative disorders, as opposed to giving you an edge in that job interview in the city, but it is exciting nonetheless. However, where is the catch, or rather, the cost?

The Human Connectome Project is an effort currently underway to build a complete network map of the brain; that is, it will be looking at the anatomical and functional connections between parts of the brain to create a digital model at a scale never explored before. Upon its launch in 2009, the Project aims to shed new light on connectivity patterns in the brain to perhaps provide an insight into how to treat Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's or even schizophrenia. In a population that is now facing an aging issue, such treatments are becoming increasingly essential for healthcare for the future, although how the Project will provide a direct platform to this is unclear.

The Project is being pursued by multiple components of the National Institutes of Health, with the aim to collate information together to form the complete model. These are split into two consortia: one is the WU-



One of the images already produced of connections in the brain

Minn consortium between Washington University and the University of Minnesota, who are studying the brain structure itself in accordance to genetic and behavioural data. The other is the MGH/Harvard-UCLA consortium between Harvard University, Massachusetts General Hospital and the University of California, where they are attempting to optimise MRI technology to give a greater spatial resolution when it comes to neurological imaging – not necessary to view individual neurons, but as close as they can get to that.

This is by no means a cost effective feat. The possibility of monetary support coming from billions of federal

funds from the American government has been sparked by rumours that it may be included in Obama's federal budget proposal, which is expected to be confirmed later this month. With the Human Genome Project costing around \$3.8 billion dollars alone, this project, with significantly more costly investigative techniques such as MRI, could skyrocket in price and this may ultimately come from the pockets of the hardworking American.

However, despite this phenomenal cost, the excitement in the scientific community is tangible. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) this month is one of the largest scientific non-profit soci-

eties globally, whose contributions to the scientific community includes the publication the established journal *Science*. The AAAS is highly influential in terms of endorsement for what may be the next big thing, and this month the AAAS showcased the emerging science of connectomics (studying connections) as one to watch, including this project.

But does the project deserve such hype? The Human Genome Project was heralded as something that will "change everything." Indeed it did, but through subsequent research based on the incomplete three billion letter sequence, that is still ongoing. No doubt the Human Connectome

Project will follow a similar path – should the project be completed, only then can research begin to truly find possible cures for neurodegenerative diseases.

Unlike the Human Genome Project however, how reliant future research in neuroscience is on this project's completion is unclear; unless the MGH/Harvard-UCLA consortium can develop a greater resolution in MRI technology, the project will still be based on the imaging technologies already available in neuroscience, which can be seen as rather crude in nature as it is. Therefore, is there a better way to spend all of this money in combating these diseases in a more direct manner than that requiring the whole mapping of the brain? For now, it seems not.

Should it be successful, the Project will no doubt be hitting the front of newspapers soon and hopefully will be the neurological equivalent to the Human Genome Project in regards to function. It very much deserves to be so based on its potential cost, but it will still only merely be the beginning of a much awaited route to deeper neurological understanding; the hard work will not end here. It could take decades more before therapeutic treatments are found for neurodegenerative diseases, and centuries more before we can actually read the minds of teachers, bosses or classmates. For now, we may have to let science fiction have that prerogative, and keep our fingers crossed that the Human Connectome Project will be a success.

Graphite supercapacitors are taking charge

Keir Little

Science Writer

In a viral video released last week from the website www.upworthy.com, Richard Kaner and Maher El-Kady of the University of California, Los Angeles revealed that they have discovered a cheap and efficient new way of manufacturing graphene, in a way which could lead to the development of affordable graphene-based capacitors and batteries.

Their method (also published in *Nature Communications*) involves depositing a film of graphite oxide on a plastic surface and then irradiating

it with a laser – they used a standard DVD and LightScribe DVD burner. Much more than merely creating a sheet of graphene, this process can be used to inscribe graphene circuits in the insulating graphite oxide layer with a resolution of 20µm; a method which could be scaled up to industrially produce flexible electronics.

"Traditional methods for the fabrication of micro-supercapacitors involve labor-intensive lithographic techniques that have proven difficult for building cost-effective devices, thus limiting their commercial application," El-Kady said. "Instead, we used a consumer-grade LightScribe

DVD burner to produce graphene micro-supercapacitors over large areas at a fraction of the cost of traditional devices. Using this technique, we have been able to produce more than 100 micro-supercapacitors on a single disc in less than 30 minutes, using inexpensive materials."

Graphene's supercapacitive ability has been under investigation for a while. The UCLA researchers discovered that by embedding an electrolyte layer on their inscribed graphene, they could produce micro-supercapacitors with the energy density of lithium ion batteries, though unlike batteries, they can charge in a matter of seconds and are far less bulky and heavy.

"The integration of energy-storage units with electronic circuits is chal-

lenging and often limits the miniaturization of the entire system," said Kaner. "This is because the necessary energy-storage components scale down poorly in size and are not well suited to the planar geometries of most integrated fabrication processes."

Kaner's team are now looking for

partners in industry to produce graphene supercapacitors on a large scale. While practical applications for these may yet be far away, they could eventually replace current batteries, leading to flexible, wearable electronic devices and phones, laptops or even cars that could be charged in a few seconds.



Love Science?

Or want to be Brian Cox? You need to start somewhere...

Why not write for us? Get in touch!
science.felix@imperial.ac.uk



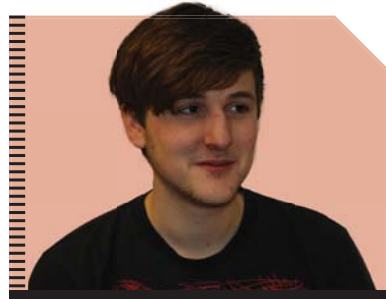
COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



There is something in the air

The College's current tirade against smokers is stupid and unfair – smokers should be proud of what they do, says **Meredith Thomas**



Meredith Thomas

College seems to be on the anti-smoking warpath again. Bins and ashtrays are mysteriously disappearing from places like the RSM entrance and my inbox is filling up with passive-aggressive emails. Interfering busy-bodies have made it their mission to enforce the ridiculous 'smoke-free' zones around campus and teenagers with the glazed look of Jehovah's witnesses, wearing NHS tabards, roam the streets ambushing perfectly innocent pedestrians. All right and good? No it is bloody not. I am a proud smoker and I am starting to get seriously peeved.

For me personally smoking is not a tragic addiction. I am not crying out for an intervention, desperate for a passer-by to save me from a crippling vice. I smoke because I genuinely enjoy it and my choice is a rational one. I find the process of rolling a cigarette and contemplatively breathing in the smoke almost meditative. I love the social aspect of hunkering down in a doorway, sheltering from the rain and putting the world to rights with a friend. I love the gentle flirting over zippo flame outside a club. I love watching smoke lazily climb into a dusky sky over a glass of red wine. I love the post-coital surge of nicotine out of a bedroom window as my girlfriend dozes in bed and most of all I live for those early morning moments, walking alone, watching the light of the moon bounce of the millpond surface of the Thames.

Here is the big scoop. I am not going to stop just because a puckered lipped old granny fakes a cough. I am a stubborn mule and the intrusion of anti-smoking crusaders is only going to make me more so. I will give up when I am good and ready and not a single minute before.

Smokers as a group have been marked out as a scourge on society and a free-fire zone for snide remarks, unwanted criticism and outright bullying. When the smoking ban was suggested a lot of people saw the sense in the policy and gracefully rolled over. However, this seems to have set a precedent for a rolling process of increasing stringent rules about when and where a smoker can indulge in an activity, which is essentially an individual's choice. Well, I no longer feel obliged to subscribe to the lip-service. The feeling

contributes billions more through VAT and corporation tax. So, I pay for my habit, a few times over in fact.

Here is another: passive smoking kills. Yes, it does affect long term health outcomes but you need a lot of exposure. The amount of smoke breathed in by waitresses and barmen in confined environments, over the course of their career has been shown to have a significant effect. However this argument does not extend to outdoor locations, no matter what your proximity to a building entrance. That is just common sense, I'm afraid.

Finally: smoking kills. No one is denying that smoking dramatically affects your chances of acquiring conditions like lung cancer and vascular stenosis. However some slightly awkward research from the University of Toronto shows reductions in life expectancy are almost totally negated if you quit before the age of 40. It turns out that smoking is bad for you in a much

more specific way than people would have us believe. If you restrain from smoking around kids or for a n

tremely long period of your life it is simply not that bad. Shock horror, the rigorous and reliable science of epidemiology has led us astray again.

So what are we left with as a justification for hounding smokers further and further into the wind and rain? What

reasons do we quote for ostracising this particular portion of society? Wait for it... Some people do not like the smell? Well screw them, quite frankly. I find lots of things annoying - bad breath, bad fashion sense, bad music - but I am not deluded enough to believe for a minute that my opinions give me the right to tell other people how to live their lives. If you do not want to smell the smoke all you have to do is get out of my face.

There is one final objection from a recent email: "[Smokers do] not present our university in the best light for visitors." This seems to be suggesting that College want to airbrush out around a third of the undergraduate community for aesthetic reasons, which is frankly bizarre and barely merits a rebuttal. If we are happy with this argument I would suggest we first focus our attention on tackling the problem of Ugg boots on campus.

Having found very little to support the current purge, here are my suggestions. If you are the type of person who rolls your eyes and tuts every time you choose to brush the edge of some transient puff of smoke, my advice is to suck it up, get over yourself, show a bit of empathy and find something more important to worry about. To my brothers and sisters who enjoy the occasional puff on a cheroot, cigarillo or humble rollie, show a bit of pride. There is no need to pretend to be quitting when you clearly do not want to. Let's keep doing our thing and when the anti-smoking Stasi kick up a fuss, smile, edge away and wait for them to turn the corner before ignoring them.

Better still, how about we all try to show a bit of understanding for other people's life choices. Now I have finished writing this I am going to have a fag and woe betide anyone who tries to get in my way.

I smoke because I genuinely enjoy it and my choice is a rational one



of being straight-jacketed into a weird self-loathing has gone on long enough and it's time smokers started standing up for themselves

Here is a common myth: by smoking I am costing the taxpayer through my future health costs. This is wrong. In 2009, researchers from Oxford University estimated the annual cost of smoking to the NHS at £5bn. That sounds like a lot, right? But it pales in comparison to the £9.5bn that excise duty on cigarettes contributed to the treasury in the same year. On top of this, the sale of tobacco

and, as such, well-practiced in calmly walking away from such explosions. However, with this daily cycle of rejection, I don't hold out much hope for my sanity. It is a dwindling resource, and its scarcity alarms me. I fear the day things overflow in the Library Cafe and people end up with ABCs where no ABC has a right to be.

The object of my temptation, that divinity made flesh, is, of course, the college-wide ICT screensaver. It is a cock-tease. A veritable lure of labia. As I peruse the news feed of highly relevant information I find my cerebral organ engorged by the thrill of it all. And as my interest reaches climax I

make that fateful reach for the mouse, determined to find out more about this bite-size serving of knowledge. My intention, cruelly conditioned by use of the internet, is to click the story that grabs me and see it in its full and unadulterated glory.

But alas, no sooner have I touched the mouse than the dream evaporates. Expecting penetration into the realm of learning, I'm thwarted. In the heat of the climax, standing between the gates of the majora, is the Gandalf of ICT, a fearsome sight bellowing "you shall not pass!" Of course, I'm confronted with "Ctrl-Alt-Delete to log on."

And as the glory of the news story fades from my memory like a dream on waking, the prospect of finding out more has all but disappeared. I resign myself to the formalities of logging on and 'getting-on-with-what-I-came-here-to-do.' Touched by divinity but unable to touch.

Thus concludes one episode of my daily cycle of desire and rejection. With what little energy I have left I can only petition the controllers at ICT to make the screen saver more interactive, or be done with it entirely.

Yours in resignation,
A. Student.

Dear Sir,

I was reading the article on Paragon halls, and although they are further than Orient, it seems important to mention how some of us at Orient last year had similar problems with regards to getting to and from uni and the extra travel expenses (not as expensive as Zones 1-4 but still not covered by our loans), and our rent was around £20 more expensive a week too! I really don't understand why Imperial feels the need to put us all in halls which are so much further than affordable.

Anonymous

Letters



Dear Sir,

Save me.

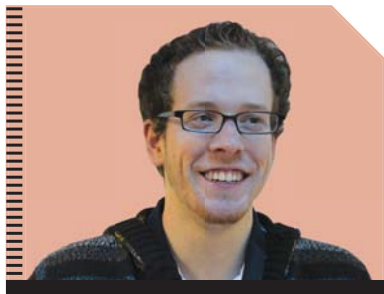
I write concerning an issue crucial for the maintenance of my sanity. I find myself, on a daily basis, sorely and flirtatiously tempted, only to have the roaring flame of my desire erupt into an unbridled explosion of anger, as I see my future dreams quashed by the iron hammer of ineptitude. I can only thank reality that I'm a tough guy

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

COMMENT

Losing My Religion

Rory Fenton on growing up faithless in a Catholic country



Rory Fenton

There is nothing more liberating than simply being yourself. There is probably also nothing harder. For many across the UK struggling to leave their family's religion, this is exactly the challenge they face everyday. I know – I was one of them.

Raised Catholic in Northern Ireland, religion was never sold to me as a matter of conscience, it was a matter of identity. To lose my faith would be to lose a part of myself. So when I started to doubt my faith as a teenager and later again as a student, I tried to sweep my doubts under the carpet, embarrassed that someone might see what seemed to me a failure to believe. All I had ever known was Catholicism and I had learnt to view atheism through Catholic eyes. To be atheist, I believed, was to lose hope, to lose morality and to lose purpose.

So at first the realisation that I did not believe the religion of my parents was far from liberating: it felt like an illness.

So I sought a cure for my atheism. I became heavily involved in Catholic groups, attending mass twice a week and going abroad on pilgrimage. I focussed on the parts of my religion I did believe in, such as charity, and told myself that belief in the rest would surely come. I remember being on a retreat, aged 19, with the intention of finally deciding that I believed in God. Looking back, it does seem incredible that I would head to the countryside with a religious group with the intention of believing in a God I wasn't sure existed. I spent the weekend reading non-stop through Catholic apologetics but yet again I could only agree with the call to be a moral person and even then felt things weren't as black and white as they were presented to

me. Eventually I realised that to believe would require not a book but a leap of faith. To simply, blindly, accept what the Church said to be true. I had to believe.

But I couldn't. I couldn't because I didn't. Catholicism went against my beliefs, it went against who I was and in truth I wasn't a Catholic. This realisation was not the liberation it is for some; it was a grim acceptance. But through chance, I heard of humanism. Actually, I heard about it through a priest who was criticising it: "They arrogantly wish to live good lives without God." That sounded perfect.

Very often at College we hear from religious societies promoting converts to their religion, but how often do we hear from those we have left it? This Tuesday the newly formed Imperial Atheists, Secularists and Humanists Society is proud to host Alom

Shaha, born in Bangladesh and raised in London in a Muslim family, to talk about his experience as an "apostate" as the author of *The Young Atheist's Handbook*. The purpose of the talk is not to gloat at Islam, Muslims or at any religion or religious people but to provide a voice for those who, like a younger Alom and a younger me, are uncomfortable in their religion but don't feel able to express this.

Too often we hear only from the fully convinced – the Richard Dawkinses and priests, rabbis and imams of our world. The doubtful majority deserve their voice too. Through this event I hope that the doubters might begin to feel more comfortable in their own shoes, knowing that there are many more who share and have shared this experience. There really is nothing more liberating than being yourself, here's hoping more people can experience this for themselves.



"AN EXPLOSIVE CLASH,
THRILLING ENTERTAINMENT AND
REAL EDGE-OF-YOUR-SEAT ACTION!"

VARSITY VENGEANCE

13.03.13

LUCKY FOR WHO?

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

IMPERIAL MEDICALS



MATCH TICKETS ARE FREE FOR IMPERIAL STUDENTS IF REGISTER IN ADVANCE!

GET YOURS TODAY AT:

WWW.IMPERIAL.AC.UK/SPORTS/VARSITY/TICKETS

JPR WILLIAMS CUP RUGBY MATCH KICK OFF 19.30 AT THE STOOP STADIUM, TWICKENHAM



COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Love Europe, Hate the EU

An anonymous response to the recent comment articles on the virtues of the EU



Anonymous

If you really love Europe then you ought to be a Eurosceptic by now.

It's been striking to see the amount of pro-EU articles in these pages over recent weeks. First Pietro Aronica wrote about the need for a 'United States of Europe', and now Leonardo Ialongo has written two pieces on 'A European Citizenship' to celebrate the launch of a European Society on campus. Following David Cameron's speech in mid-January promising a referendum on the UK's membership of the EU, this sudden appearance of propaganda should be of no surprise.

What has surprised me, however, is the level of delusional thinking that these writers and other staunch supporters of the EU have shown.

Leonardo's first article discussed the numerous benefits that the UK enjoys as part of the EU, such as consumer protection, increased mobility across the continent, and greater power as a bloc to influence global political issues. These are of course desirable. The problem is that UK citizens feel that these perks do not justify much higher tax rates – in 2008, total cost to the UK of EU membership was estimated at £65 billion. That's the equivalent of £1,000 per year for every single person in the country. Given that the UK economy is a complete mess, its aging infrastructure is in decline and its people are becoming relatively poorer, perhaps they might have a point that the money would be better spent at home? If Europhiles were to chat with the average British person, they would find that the old clichés about how where our scepticism comes from simply aren't true – most people couldn't care less about the lost empire, they just want value for their money, and the EU doesn't give it.

Leonardo tells us that this concern is misguided as this money is in the form of a loan, and 'should therefore be paid back'. The key word here is 'should'. He overlooks the inconvenient fact that many, nay, most, states cannot pay back their debts, and we are now witnessing the consequences of this across the world. It won't change any time soon.

His second article supports the introduction of Eurobonds as part of a fiscal union, since 'more central European oversight on national debt is necessary'. This is a euphemism for the transferral of the power to tax and spend from national governments to Brussels. It is also remarkably simplistic thinking. In such a scenario, it is clear that this would essentially result

in Germany, the continent's economic powerhouse, deciding how money should be allocated across local economies. It is hard to see this going down well anywhere in Europe, least of all in Greece, where Germany has imposed austerity as a condition for receiving bailouts, and newspaper depictions of Angela Merkel in Nazi uniform are now common. But it won't happen anyway, because no national government would ever permanently hand over their centuries-old power to tax and spend to Brussels. This is because in doing so they would themselves become obsolete.

This brings us on to the next point, which is that in fact the Eurozone's main problem is not economic in nature, but one of political legitimacy. Leandro correctly notes that the project has been driven by the European elite, and has alienated the European population. He thinks this can be solved by a 'process of democratisation of its institutions'. Again, this strikes me as just wishful thinking, because the whole ethos of the EU is anti-democratic. The clearest example of this was the forcing-through in 2008 of the Lisbon Treaty, a resurrection of the deeply unpopular EU Constitution which was rejected by the electorate in 2005. Aside from the usual cuts in national sovereignty, the most egregious aspect of this move was that since the people clearly didn't want it, the politicians decided that they knew better, and quietly changed the terms of the treaty so that it could be passed in parliaments, rather than having to go through irksome referenda. Who in their right mind would think that this cynical attitude could be reversed?

It's clear that what the Eurocrats want is a kind of superstate similar to the USA, as Pietro outlined in his article. But this idea is nothing more than a fantasy. Its proponents ignore the fact that the USA has a completely different set of circumstances to our continent: they are a single nation-state, which only came into being as a political entity after a devastating civil war. By contrast, Europe is a disparate region of many nations, each with their own cultures, languages, histories and levels of economic development. In the utopian world of the Eurocrat, Europe's peoples would forget these differences, and embrace a common identity as, in Leonardo's words, a 'European people'.

The problem with this is that no such people exists – only millions of humans from different nations who happen to live in a continent called Europe. Although multi-lingual, mo-



An accident waiting to happen

bile types like him and I might be able to get along well in the cosmopolitan world of Imperial College, that doesn't mean that everybody else in a United States of Europe would. He correctly notes that the EU has played an important role in suppressing the latent xenophobic and racist attitudes that many people feel following World War Two. But it is precisely because those evils are never far below the surface that we ought to be extremely wary of those who want to forge grand political projects while assuming that peoples from vastly different backgrounds will get along nicely for the sake of its continuity. As history has shown, this is particularly the case when inequality is rising and living conditions begin to decline, as they are across Europe with the gradual movement of wealth away from the West towards the developing markets. It is ironic that the recent rise of far right parties across Europe, notably in France, Hungary and Greece, is in part a reaction to the existence of the EU, rather than in spite of it.

It is well known that European Societies tend to consist of ex-pupils of European Schools, and what interests me is the extent to which these schools appear to indoctrinate their pupils with pro-EU propaganda. The USSR was a very different institution to the EU, but one can't help being reminded of the way that Soviet schoolchildren were indoctrinated with the enlightened principles of Marxism-Leninism, even when its disastrous results were clear for all to see outside

the classroom. The analogy goes further when you remember that just as Eurocrats want to create a new 'European People', the Soviets were convinced that they could create a 'New Soviet Man' – a selfless, healthy and educated enthusiast for spreading the socialist Revolution. Unlike the USSR, the EU will not slaughter millions in the name of this ideal, but the similarities are certainly instructive. Perhaps it's just a coincidence that many of the EU's leaders, most notably the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso, are former Maoists. Or perhaps not.

Why do these people so despise the nation-state? I'd like to suggest that graduates of European Schools who become proto-spokesmen for the EU simply lack a part of their own identity – that same part that Italian people get from going to Italian schools, or Finnish people get by going to Finnish schools. In absence of a school-time affiliation with any particular nation, these people find solace in the prospect of a new, European identity, and now want to impose this on the rest of us, most of whom are quite happy remaining Italian or Finnish first rather than European.

Being a Eurosceptic doesn't make you xenophobic, and you can still be a fan of our continent and its peoples without supporting the EU, as I am. In fact, the consequences of greater integration could be far more disastrous than the alternative. Perhaps if you really love Europe then you ought to be a Eurosceptic by now.

... you can still be a fan of our continent and its peoples without supporting the EU

Real Ales at Imperial College Union - tell us which one you want!



We serve real ales in the Union Bar and FiveSixEight at Imperial College Union, and we want to get your feedback on what ales you would like to see. Regular ales in the bars are IPA (£2.90 a pint) and Tolly English Ale (or TEA - £2.20 a pint) and every month from March, we'll have a guest ale available, chosen by you. All you need to do it take the poll at imperialcollegeunion.org/realales and the ale with the highest votes wins! The ales to choose from for March are Belhaven Grand Slam, Mayor of Garratt, Notting Hill Stout and Yardbird. **The current poll will close at 12:00, Monday 4 March**, and the winning ale will be on sale from the following week. Choices for guest ale in April will be on the website soon.



imperialcollegeunion.org/realales

Support our campaign

We need you to send us your #AgainstActon thoughts and experiences to help us campaign against College's plan to open a 700 bed halls of residence over 30 minutes away in North Acton.

We are very concerned about what the effect will be, of living so far away from campus, on students' welfare. Tell us your thoughts on personal safety, the disconnection from College community, distance from the many College and Union services or just the sheer drain of spending so much time on public transport each day.

Send us a message on Facebook, Tweet using the hashtag #AgainstActon or email president@imperial.ac.uk starting your message with "I'm #AgainstActon because...". We will be collating your thoughts on the Against Acton website www.imperialcollegeunion.org/againstacton and passing them on to College. Of course, if you want your message to be anonymous just email president@imperial.ac.uk stating that you wish to remain anonymous.



imperialcollegeunion.org/againstacton



Soc Off 2.0 - show your support for your Dep Soc!

The results from the 2011 Times Higher Education student experience showed that **Imperial had a below average good community atmosphere**, which I have tried to slightly remedy with encouraging Departmental Societies to start yearly Facebook groups in Easter 2012, working with Dep Socs to make the Mums and Dads scheme a success (this still does need improving though) and running an event between the Dep Socs called the Soc Off.

When I ran the first one, **I did not expect 450 students to attend Metric dressed as their subject** on a Thursday night. However, I was shocked by how much students enjoyed the night, the music and even some reporting they enjoyed the Soc Off in the Union Survey. So I see no good reason to why another Soc Off should not be run – it's called Soc Off 2.0. It's pretty much the same set-up as last time i.e. dress as your subject, £1 to get in, all the entry fees go to the 3 Dep Socs who get the highest proportion of their students to attend and students studying different subjects compete on inflatables e.g. Sumo Suit Wrestling Tournament and Gladiator Duel.

Through the success of a second event I plan to leave next year's Sabbs with a good model to run a Mums and Dads night on the second week of the Autumn term, so if Soc Off 2.0 is a success last like the last one, we will **help improve the Union's Mums and Dads scheme for 2013**.

Hopefully, you really want to attend now, so come along at 20:00, Wednesday 7 March to Metric and show that your subject is the best and help improve Imperial's "good community atmosphere".



Doug Hunt
DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)
dpeducation@imperial.ac.uk





Pasta la vista, baby

Elizabeth Crow on jazzing up Mondays and THE de-facto student dish

The idea for pasta Mondays came about as a way for my boyfriend to try to get me and my flatmate to eat more carbs. Before this we tended to succumb to 'no-carb-days' (better known as 'no-fun-days') and other such health kick fads! We appreciated being cooked for and the opportunity to eat together, but his pasta Mondays generally consisted of overwhelming 'rower-sized' portions of pasta often accompanied with some sort of pesto, occasionally some chicken, and perhaps a concession of tomatoes for us girls.

Since he has moved out of London, we have continued the tradition of substantial portions to fulfil the main aim of eating more carbs. We still enjoy having at least one evening in the week where we make the effort to sit down and eat together, but we've taken on the challenge of creating cheap, quick and exciting

pasta dishes that we really like eating. I have particularly enjoyed being inspired by pasta recipes in my favourite recipe books that I would have previously skimmed over if I was cooking for other people; it came as a surprise to me that pasta could be a impressive dish to serve for special meals too!

The Pasta Mondays rules are as follows: the meal must be cheap, simple and easy to cook (preferably all made in less than half an hour – the exception to this rule is lasagne, which is worth taking your time over), involve at least one type of vegetable (one of your 5 a day!) and exciting (no sauce from a jar!). We often try to devise healthy twists of traditional pasta dishes or take inspiration from pasta recipes found in our favourite cookbooks. I have included some of our creations to help inspire your own Pasta Mondays (or Tuesdays, or Wednesdays...).

Cauliflower and Broccoli Cheese

This is a healthy and quick twist on the traditional macaroni cheese. Penne or fusilli will work equally well. – Serves 2
250g pasta
One small head of broccoli and one small head of cauliflower (or a pack of broccoli and cauliflower florets)
One pack of soft cheese (300g)
2tsp grainy mustard
Good handful of strong cheddar to sprinkle on top.
Salt and pepper



Chop the broccoli and cauliflower heads into small pieces. Put pasta on the boil and cook as per packet instructions. While the pasta is cooking, put the vegetables in a sieve or steamer pan and steam over the pasta until both the pasta and vegetables are cooked. They should be done at roughly the same time.

Preheat the grill to medium. Drain the pasta, reserving a little of the cooking water and add the vegetables, soft cheese, mustard and seasoning to the pasta pan. Stir until everything is well combined; if it looks a bit sticky, add a little of the cooking water.

Pour the contents of the pan into a flat oven proof dish, then scatter over the cheddar and a grind of pepper. Put the dish under the grill until the cheddar is crispy and golden. Serve at the table in the dish and enjoy!

REAL Pesto



The Best-o Pesto that ever was(?) in action

I never believed this was worth making until I did one Pasta Monday – not only is it easy, but it tastes SO much better than pesto from a jar (and I like pesto from a jar!) There are many variations on this classic recipe – I have included two below that we have tried and loved.

We use a mini chopper/food processor to make ours, but you can still easily make a more 'deconstructed' pesto by finely chopping the ingredients by hand.

Basil Pesto

50g pine nuts
50g parmesan cheese
1 bunch fresh basil leaves
1-2 cloves garlic, peeled
Olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
A squeeze of lemon juice

Toast the pine nuts (by dry frying in a pan or under a medium grill) until golden. Put most of the pine nuts, the parmesan, basil, garlic and a glug of olive oil in the mini chopper and blend, gradually adding more oil until you have a pesto-like consistency. Add a dash of lemon juice, season to taste and sprinkle over the remaining pine nuts. Use in pasta dishes as desired. If you don't have a food processor/mini chopper: Finely grate the parmesan, then finely chop the basil and garlic with a knife. Combine with the pine nuts and olive oil until the pesto-like consistency is achieved. Season as above.

Alternative: Spinach, Walnut and Goat's Cheese Pesto

This is made in exactly the same way as above but substituting 60-70g spinach for the basil, 50g strong, hard goat's cheese for the parmesan and 50g walnuts for the pine nuts (if making by hand, chop the walnuts into smaller pieces.) Omit the lemon juice at the end.

So, what's the big deal?

Carol Ann Cheah
Food Editor



It's easy to see why pasta is touted as reliable student grub. It's relatively cheap, almost foolproof (RTFI, people – we're Imperialites!) and doesn't take ages. It's flexible – you can make it a simple bolognese affair, or slap on a complex sauce and bake it in some mythical way passed down to you from a former mafiosi. Leftovers keep well, so long as you don't leave them in some black hole in the back of your fridge. And like Elizabeth says, it's also one of the quickest healthy meals you can prepare so long as you follow a few simple rules (dieters need not toss their heads in disgust. No, really.)

First up, definitely forget your tinned sauces – some amazing pasta accompaniments can be whipped up in the same time it takes to boil the pasta itself. You don't need me to tell you about the nasties in pre-made sauces; your wallet will thank you for making your own from scratch. Best of all, you get to adjust your own seasoning to suit – try modding the basic sauce recipe below for starters.

Watch the time of the day. Digesting carbs can sometimes send you into a spot of drowsiness, which explains the famed mid-afternoon slump. That's not a big problem if you're winding down in the evening; but for lunch I like to balance the pasta portion out with more protein (which keeps you alert and full) and veg. It's easily done in a pasta stir-fry, which is not unlike Chinese fried rice – just with pasta instead! That way, you can control the amount of pasta that goes in with the rest of the ingredients.

Think colourful. I'm a sucker for the creamy chicken and bacon pasta bake that my housemate makes (hey Phil!), but my favourite feel-good penne stir-fry includes a bigger variety of ingredients. Mushrooms, peppers, carrot, peas... the colour from the veg doesn't just mean nutrition, it looks more enticing!

Finally, live a little. All things in moderation is the best mantra to go by, so a little pasta won't hurt you. Besides, eating pasta triggers a nice dose of feel-good serotonin so it's a great dietary pick-me-up. If you're on a diet (really?), either decrease the carb portion, or switch out to wholegrain pasta – it keeps you fuller for longer so you may not need as much, and it's healthier. See – you really CAN have your cake (I mean, pasta) and eat it too. Viva la pasta!

Refreshing Tomato and Basil (Base) Sauce

Sweat some onion and garlic in oil, then bung in pure passata/chopped tomatoes (less than half a tin – the Italians use them too) and bring to the boil. Reduce for 5+ mins if making a 1-person portion – if making a bigger batch ahead of time, you'll need longer. Season with salt/pepper/sugar and some vinegar to taste, then add basil and Basilio's your uncle. Add chilli flakes for arrabiata, stir in mascarpone for stuff that rivals the Sainsbury's tubs, use other herbs... tweak it as you will.

MARCH GIG GUIDE

Super QUIZ EVERY TUESDAY
20:00 - 22:00
FREE

BOX EVERY WEDNESDAY
19:00 - 01:00
£2.00
METRIC

90'S FRIDAY 1 & 8 MARCH
20:00-02:00
£2.50
METRIC
WE LOVE THE 90'S

SOC OFF 2.0 THURSDAY 7 MARCH
20:00-01:00 / £1.00 / METRIC
Dress as your subject - top 3 Dep Socs with most attendees take all entry fees! Gladiator Duelling and Sumo Suit Wrestling on the night.

THE BIG ELECTIONS 2013 **RESULTS PARTY** WHO WILL WIN?
FRIDAY 15 MARCH
20:00-02:00 / FREE
METRIC

ST PATRICK'S CELEBRATIONS
SATURDAY 16 MARCH / 19:00 - 23:00
UNION BAR
A celebration of Irish music and culture, with live music and warm atmosphere

WE ARE METRIC NIGHTS
MUSICAL THEATRE Quiz Night Saturday 2 March
JAPANESE SOC Thursday 14 March 19:00 - 23:30

EASTER CARNIVAL FRIDAY 22 MARCH
ROCK KARAOKE & ALE & CIDER FESTIVAL
17:00-03:00
ALL BARS
£2.50 BEFORE 19:00
£4.00 AFTER

6 NATIONS RUGBY IN FIVESIXEIGHT
Saturday 9 March Scotland vs Wales 14:30 Ireland vs France 17:00
Sunday 10 March England vs Italy 15:00
Saturday 16 March Italy vs Ireland 14:30 Wales vs England 17:00 France vs Scotland 20:00

MARCH OFFERS
HOUSE SPIRIT & MIXER ONLY £2.00 Every Wed & Fri from 18:00 in all bars
BECK'S BIER BOTTLE ONLY £2.10 Every day in all bars
TEQUILA ROSE (SHOT) ONLY £1.30 Strawberry flavoured Every day in all bars
AMARETTO DISARONNO & MIXER ONLY £2.00 Every day in all bars
BABY GUINNESS (SHOT) ONLY £1.50 Only available St Patrick's week, 11 - 17 March
IRISH MUD (SHOT) ONLY £1.50 Only available St Patrick's week, 11 - 17 March

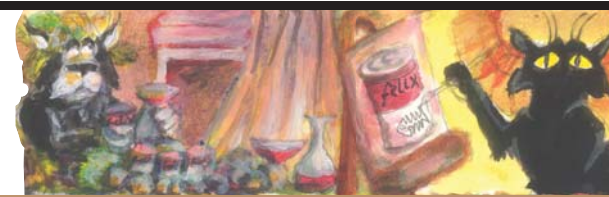
Chemistry covers all the bases



ARTS

Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,
Meredith Thomas

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk



DOODLE OF THE WEEK



Why work? Instead, doodle all lecture long and then send us your drawings to arts.felix@ic.ac.uk. This doodle was done by Ioanna Kalogeraki.

TIRED OF LIFE?

Our pick of what's on in London

Apollo/Wheeldon/Ratmansky @ Royal Opera House – The Royal Ballet presents a triple bill packed with ballet heavyweights. *Apollo*, a ballet of streamlined elegance with music by Stravinsky, is also Balanchine's oldest surviving ballet and rarely performed. This is a fantastic opportunity to compare Balanchine's work to that of two of the most sought after choreographers of the moment. Tickets from £13. Now - March 14.

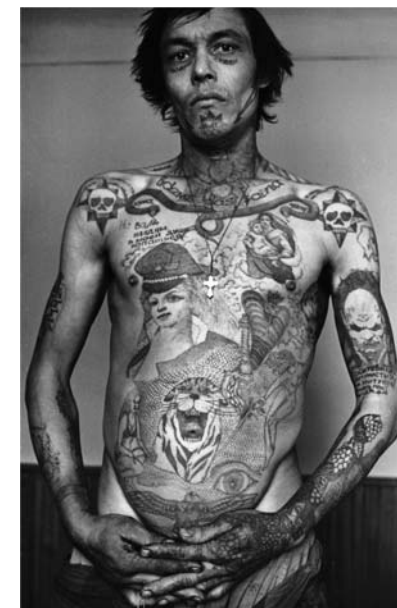
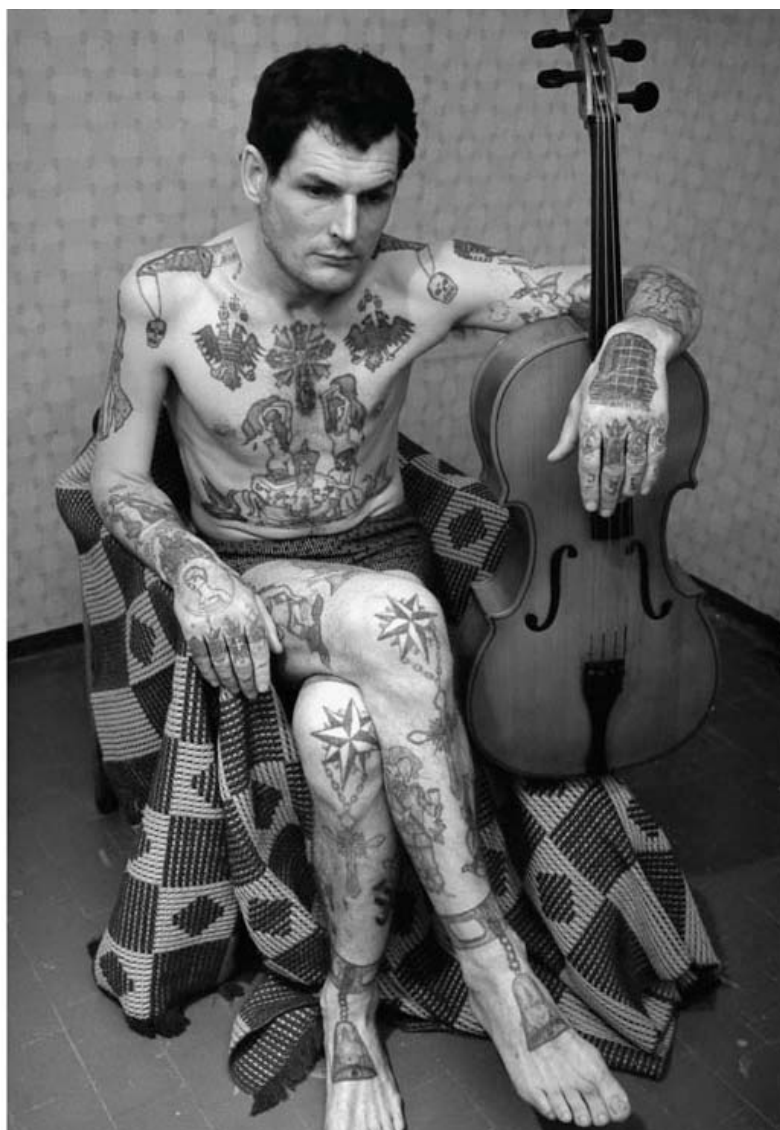
Artifact @ Metric - This Monday, see the unthinkable happen: a discussion will be taking place between artists from the RCA and The Courtauld Institute of Art and scientists from Imperial College. The desired outcome of this meeting is a marriage between art and science (and hopefully an exhibition combining the two). March 4 at 6pm.

Eugene Onegin @ The Royal Academy of Music – The students of the RAM cannot really be called amateurs. They are singers and musicians of the highest quality and Tchaikovsky's opera performed by them will be unmissable (and cheap if you can get tickets!). March 11 - 18.

Aspen Magazine: 1965-1971 @ The Whitechapel Gallery – The cult magazine *Aspen*, printed in the 1960's and with editors such as Warhol and contributors of the likes of Yoko Ono, Ossie Clark and John Cage, the exhibit of old issues will surely provide an interesting afternoon of 60's exploration. Starts March 13.



Get your tats out



Lauren Ratcliffe

Writer

If you were to get a tattoo what would it be and why? Think about it for a moment. Perhaps you already have one. Does it represent anything important to you or is it purely aesthetic?

For Danzig Daldaev, tattoos shaped his life. He was born in Russia in 1925 and condemned in 1948 by the KGB to work as a warden in Leningrad Prison – as a 'son of the enemy'. He devoted his life to recording tattoos of inmates and documenting their different meanings. What was, at first, a curiosity quickly developed into an obsession and over 50 years he accumulated a catalogue of over 3000 examples.

Tattooing within prison was illegal and severely punishable but on discovery of Daldaev's project, the KGB decided to support him in his work. His drawings provided them with an invaluable criminal record of a prisoner's life history; everything from previous crimes, birthplace, aspirations and even sexuality could be found out from their tattoos.

One example is of a winged woman dancing on a hand. The text reads 'Oh, fickle fortune, smile on me once more.' It describes the thief's desire to commit

a single large-scale theft, which would allow him to give up his life of crime.

Running in parallel with Daldaev, between 1989 and 1993, was Sergei Vasiliev, brought in to formally photograph this underground Russian criminal language. In his intimate photographs we see his subjects stripped bare, openly exposing their adorned bodies to the camera. We see pride and honour in their faces but we also sense an element of reserve and serenity. His subjects are both vulnerable and strong, which I found part of the sheer fascination that his photographs evoke.

Walking around this exhibition I was drawn to the symbolism of the tattoos and questioning what they meant and why they were there. The mystery behind the portraits was what initially fascinated me and translating the illustrations emphasised how much the tattoos acted as a secret language in the Russian criminal underworld.

If we look further into the picture of the 'Man and the Cello' we see tattoos of the 'thieves' stars' which openly display resentment and bitterness towards authority and can be read as 'I will not kneel before the police.' Furthermore the manacles on his ankles signify that he has served sentences of over five years. But

what I found most striking was the juxtaposition between the sense of vulnerability and gentleness in his expression and the tattoos of the daggers through his neck, which symbolise that he had committed murder while imprisoned and is available to hire for further assassinations.

Within the criminal society tattoos were used as a form of hierarchy, a man bare of tattoos would be of the lowest status whereas one adorned from head to toe would be almost untouchable. The temptation to boost your status by getting unearned tattoos is therefore great. However, considered a serious insult, if found to be displaying 'false' tattoos you would be beaten, raped and have them forcibly removed.

Later, in 2003, a graphic design company named FUEL brought both Daldaev and Vasiliev's work together and formed a Russian Criminal Tattoo Encyclopaedia, made of three volumes. It displays all the drawings and photographs collected from the men's joint obsession.

Go visit this exhibition for yourself. The Saatchi Gallery is just a ten minute walk away on Kings Road. **Gaiety is the Most Outstanding Feature of the Soviet Union** is on until May 5 and entry is free of charge.

Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,
Meredith Thomas
arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

ARTS

Killer rob-arts attack



Man follows
Apple Maps
into the warp

Meredith Thomas Editor

There is an underground space near Baker Street that feels a lot like a baroque sci-fi future. The half-light is illuminated by occasional flashes of neon. Blue and green lasers strafe the ceiling and an eerie soundscape of ambient electronic squawks and whirring servos greets the intrepid. Skulls in mechatronic legs stalk the space and glowing orbs shimmer with undulating constellations of colour.

The *Kinetica Art Fair*, now in its fifth incarnation is dedicated to some often underrated genres: kinetic, electronic and new media art. The fair often features the work of design students or reformed engineers, well placed to respond to societies accelerating mutability, which stems from the insatiable advance of technology. Where philosophical depth was lacking the pure visual thrill of the robots, holograms and illusions that pack the space are sure to at least titillate.

Like many commercial shows there are hits and misses. The big names, showcased at the entrance like Simon

Gudgeon and Titia Ex are, as is often the case, the least rewarding. However hidden in dark corners there are a number of pieces that succeed either through craft or design.

One big theme of the show is interaction. For example, in an installation by David John Roswell, viewers are invited to remotely manipulate puppets through their own body movements. Rainbow Winter's fashion pieces make use of a new wave of smart textiles that respond to their environments. One of her two dresses on display is covered in streaks of lightning that dart across the surface in response to ambient sound. The effect is faintly mesmerising and has earned her increasing and well deserved media attention from the likes of *Wired* and Channel 4.

When viewers are not being invited to take part in the works, they are often being tricked. The obsession with optical illusion can be seen everywhere. One mindboggling piece, *Die Falle*, from Gregory Barsamian makes reference to Karl Jung's theories on dreams. His huge zootrope dominates the space around it, making use of a strobe light and

a rotating frame to produce a seeming impossible 3D illusion of a dream sequence.

Chris Levine's work *Angel* is one of the most apparently unassuming. Utilising the 'persistent visual echo of blipvert technique' the viewer is treated to glimpses of a figure emerging, seemingly magically, from your peripheral vision of a simple strip light. The phenomenon is so alien that it really does momentarily shake belief in the tangible in a profoundly disturbing manner.

The show runs all this weekend and will also feature scheduled performance pieces. If the show by INERE is anything to go by, these will comprise of baffling medleys of abstract digital sound and audio.

I feel it should be mentioned that, at the press viewing, the wizardry of many of the pieces was too often interrupted by overloaded power supplies, spasticated robotics and the faint smell of burning filaments. Hopefully by the time the show opens to the general public these glitches will have been ironed out and you too can make the trip to the depths of cybernetic madness unafraid.

The Imperial Fringe puts on a banging show

Fred Fyles

Writer

What happens when two worlds collide? This is the question Imperial Fringe attempted to answer last Thursday, when they put on *The Arts Experiment*, a series of exhibits exploring the close links between art and science. By explaining the science between many of Imperial's favourite pastimes the organisers were able to show that the worlds of culture and research were a lot closer than many of us may think.

At the heart of the event lay Imperial's student societies, who teamed up with researchers in order to answer thought-provoking questions such as "How do dancers keep their balance?" This question was answered by neurologist Dr. Barry Semmungal, who measured the brain activity of members of both IC Dance Society and IC Rowing in response to spinning in circles. It turns out that dancing had led to the brain adapting to conditions that might cause dizziness. Who knew?

Although these questions may not seem like the basis of vital scientific research, one of the beauties of the event was how it showed that attempting to answer such simple questions has led to many fascinating scientific discoveries. And the exhibition did not just deal with scientific research. Both the IC String Society, and the Chamber Music Society explored the physics behind music, showing us how vibrations in a cello's strings can translate into a beautiful melody. This explanation of the science behind the arts exemplifies how closely the two are linked. It needn't be one or the other.

The arts can be an extremely useful medium for getting the public more interested in science, a proposition currently being explored by Beautiful Science, which promotes collaboration between artists and biomedical researchers. Developments in biomedical science, particularly in imaging technologies, has led to incredibly stunning images coming out of the research lab, which can then be used to encourage people to read about the sciences. Their exhibit included not only pieces of art, but also gave visitors the chance to create their own through paper marbling, which relies on the special properties of inks and paints.

While my own attempt was a far cry from Picasso or Pollock, the display showed how science can help the artist create gorgeous images.

Other displays showed us that, thanks to cutting edge scientific research, the future is now. The Music Technology Society were exhibiting the Retractable, a musical table that produced sounds depending on which blocks were placed upon its surface. Such developments help us explore how music may be produced in the future, as computers become more and more integral to the arts; just over a year ago Icelandic musician Björk released *Biophilia*, which features a series of apps exploring the subjects of the songs, making it the world's first 'app album'. The way music is being made is changing, and the Fringe shows us just how exciting the developments can be.

Personally, my favourite exhibit was *Nao*, a dancing robot who was clothed in spray-on textiles by IC Fashion Society. Its balance may have been a bit precarious, but Nao was able to both dance on its own, and copy the dance moves of the audience, making for some amusing interactions. The spray-on clothing, developed at Imperial College, was also particularly interesting, as it displayed a technology that has an enormous potential both in fashion and in medicine. Its use in design is something that could become more and more popular in the coming years.

We are currently living within a political climate where the arts are under attack. As the government tries to reduce the deficit, their first targets for austerity measures are often culture and the arts, with some councils cutting arts funding completely. These actions, combined with the increased focus on getting students interested in science, have led to a culture in which arts and science are often seen as competitors. This should not be the case.

Imperial Fringe have shown us just how much these two worlds can have in common, and how vital the arts can be as a source of inspiration for science. If the government's radical measures continue, we could soon be left in a world where culture no longer flourishes, and this *Arts Experiment* has shown us some of the amazing things we could miss out on.

ARTS

Arts Editors: **Eva Rosenthal,**
Meredith Thomas
arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

TOP 10 (arbitrarily selected) *under the radar artists*

1 Christiane Shillito



One gets the impression that British artist Cristiane Shillito (a.k.a Ulorin Vex) might be considered a little alternative. Currently based in Los Angeles she appears to split her time between modelling and illustration. Unquestionably embedded in the fetish scene her delicate pen and ink illustrations are mesmerizingly beautiful. Often featuring erotic, fetish, sci-fi and mystical visual imagery with bold colours, her art work has been on my personal wishlist for many years. I find myself very attracted to the visual complexity and complex layers of symbolism as well as the strong character of her portraits. Despite the fairly graphic imagery there is an almost naive innocence that runs through both the artwork and the execution that evokes a joyful impression of sexuality.

2 Helen Pynor



Helen Pynor is a London based artist born in Australia. Her work has gained an increasing following in recent years leading to a title exhibit in the Superhuman show at the Wellcome Collection last summer. However we think she still qualifies as under the radar. This recognition probably stems for her choice of subject matter. Her breathtakingly beautiful prints speak to the viewer about something very personal, our relationship with our bodies. By juxtaposing clothing, text and organic matter in the strange aquatic settings she creates, she invites the viewers to discuss the fragility of our relationship with the corporeal. Pynor is also a keen proponent of the art-science phenomenon sweeping London currently, which suggests she might be one to watch with an eye to the future.

3 Olga Zavershinskaya

Olga Zavershinskaya is a Russian photographer born in the former USSR. A latecomer to photography she now resides in Czech Republic teaching and working. She says of her fine art photography that "it tackles methods of realization, emotional and aesthetic principles". Her images blend concept and method to create starkly beautiful geometric portraits. Olga combines lines, the human form and light in brain bending ways to convey notions of style and perfection and sensuality. Her work, particularly her series *Mind Games*, has gained a considerable amount of online recognition but lacks the broader notoriety it deserves.



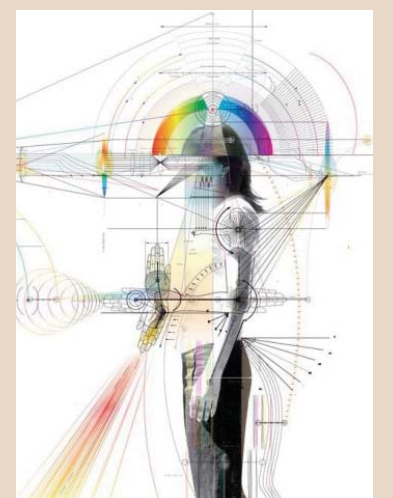
4 James Capper

James Capper makes art for our time. The times that have been taken over by machines. If machines do not quite rule the world yet, they certainly rule in Capper's head. His sculptures are like dreamed machines in a dream where the aesthetics of machines have been streamlined to useless beauty. If you have ever climbed up to the top of an abandoned crane at an abandoned dockyard, you might understand the beauty of machines (also if you are an engineer) and if so, Cappers awe-inspiring installations are something you should take a look at. He is a recognised figure on the London art scene but his work is incredibly appealing and should achieve wider renown in the coming years.



5 Minjeong An

Like many engineers, I have always had a slightly pathological adoration for technical drawings and diagrams. This is probably why the aesthetic and concept of Korean artist, Minjeong An's self portraits, appeal to me. By schematically exploring connections between the physiology of her body and her second internal landscape of thought and emotion she bridges a gap that has troubled thinkers for millennia. Her art brilliantly marries modern philosophical and scientific beliefs about mind and body in an original and very personal way. The designs are also very attractive and colourful pieces worthy of a few minutes consideration each.



6 Raqib Shaw

Raqib Shaw has already entered the art world with explosive force but he has not yet been taken up by the public consciousness. For a society who is constantly moaning the loss of the artist's craft, Shaw is the perfect antidote. Crazy and wild magical creatures, bejewelled and tied down, almost human are the focus of his work. He comes from Kashmir and the Indian influence, that of carpet weavers, spice sellers and purple and yellow crocus flowers, is evident in his work. Don't think however, that India is all you'll get from Raqib Shaw. His pieces are often painful and raw images of a different world, one full of colour and almost overflowing with richness, but also one that can very easily translate to our own experience.



Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,
Meredith Thomas
arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

ARTS

7

Charlotte Jarvis

Charlotte Jarvis is one of a growing number of contemporary artists who are collaborating with scientists and integrating scientific ideas into their work. For example, her work with the Netherlands Proteomics Centre resulted in the insertion of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights into the genetic information of an apple – you can read into it all the forbidden fruit that you want. Jarvis works in a variety of different media. She also organises mad dinner-parties (hence her website <http://www.artforeating.co.uk>) within which one can fully enter into the artist's world of choice – the naive outlook of a child, a trashy Las Vegas or The Odyssey have all been themes.



8

Hanne Darboven

I sometimes love repetition and obsessive behaviour for the organised madness it brings to this mad society. Above all I respond to simplicity and elegance. Hanne Darboven, an artist with ties to the minimalist movement, is the epitome of all these things. She was active from the 60's to the 90's and in this time filled (by hand) enough paper to wallpaper the earth, with numbers and more numbers, in carefully obsessed-over sequences, representing her particular way of viewing the world. She also worked in collages, infusing her work with a sort of posing nostalgia by using postcards and other flat forms of memorabilia. Darboven created a sort of mathematical-musical poetry, whereby each number in her number pieces represented a musical note, to be played as compositions; a combination of music, 'maths' and art before this was in vogue.



9

Alex Russel Flint

Alex Russell Flint is a rare thing, a contemporary British realist. He produces beautifully crafted, technically brilliant, soulful oil paintings. He splits his time between London and Argenton-Chateau in France, where he apparently holes up in a former school house. He has painted commissions for the Duke of Gloucester but is still relatively unknown. Despite his classical style Flint's work has an intangible modern twist. His personal work features sensitive, intimate portraits, generally of females and nudes, which are rich in texture and expression. The subdued tone often belies a depth and romantic narrative to his painting in which the viewer can wilfully lose themselves.



10

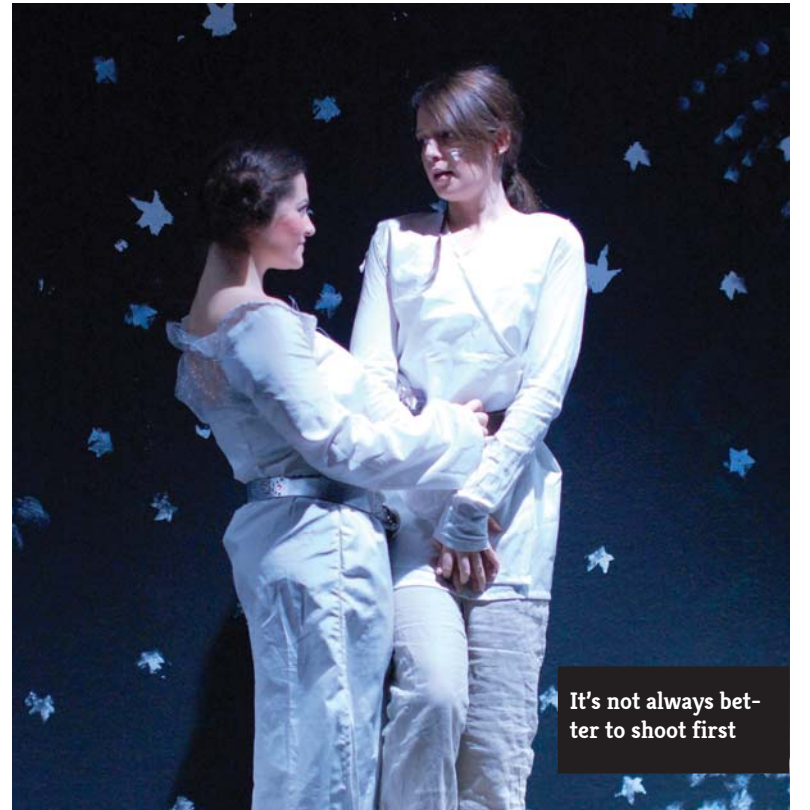
Terence Koh

Terence Koh is a Canadian artist living in New York. That is about the most boring thing one can say about him. His life has been like a sparkling fairytale for our dreary world (his pseudonym used to be asian-punkboy). You might vaguely recognise his name; he has worked with Lady Gaga since 2010, creating all sorts of outlandish and wonderful sets for her. However, it is his work as an individual, which has all the magic, simplicity and downtrodden otherworldliness that you could ever want. His art is full of poetry, sometimes literally and his word plays are childish but certainly not naive or innocent. Check out his website <http://www.terencekoh.com>. Not only is his art and poetry available there, but he also occasionally sells drawings for cheap (and they will be worth a lot some day).



May the farce be with you, young one

© Ben Fry



It's not always better to shoot first

Laurence Pope

Writer

"No. I am your father," is a line that has gone down in film history. It is at this point that Luke Skywalker finally confronts Darth Vader, his arch enemy, and, as we find out from that immortal line, his biological father. Would the moment have been ruined by an eager audience yelling out "OH NO YOU'RE NOT!" directly after? As if! This is *Andromedan Nights*, DramSoc's latest performance, a farcical sci-fi pantomime written by Imperial's own Owain Jones. Pantomime and farce are always to be approached carefully by directors. The strength of the performance relies almost entirely on how much energy the actors have and how well they perform physically. With enough 'oomph' the play is a riot, but without it everything falls depressingly flat, with little able to salvage the remains. So what did I get when I went to the dress rehearsal, the night before the first 'official' performance?

I got excellent farcical comedy and a jolly good panto. There is no denying that at times some of the humour fell flat as the cast's energy flagged, but for actors who had been rehearsing for three days straight right before the dress rehearsal their overall verve and the strength of the performance was impressive. The pantomime element was not helped by the small and lacklustre audience of techies, directors and the lone reviewer, whose lack of cheering did little to fuel the actors' fire. An enthusiastic audience are key

to a successful performance (take this as a hint, readers!)

The dialogue and action are clichéd and filled with sci-fi and pop culture references to the point of sheer ridiculousness, but *Andromedan Nights* mercifully subverts this by continually breaking the fourth wall and recognizing itself for what it is: a farcical sci-fi pantomime with some hilariously cheesy writing.

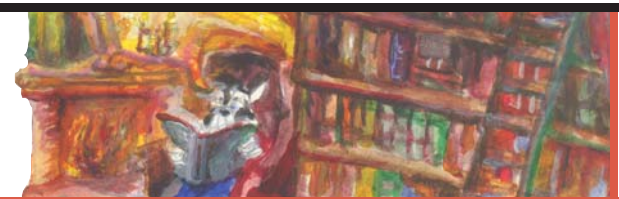
Along with some seasoned veterans, *Andromedan Nights* marks the DramSoc debut of several actors. The show is stolen by one such fresh face, Jack Williams, who assumes the role of Mince the Merciless, the play's (pretty much useless) antagonist. Williams's maniacal energy and evil laughter fit the incompetent supervillain to a tee, acting as the perfect comic foil to his two far more competent and grounded henchmen, imaginatively named Minion and Goon (Frank Machin and Kristen Farebrother respectively).

Those with absolutely no interest in sci-fi may want to give *Andromedan Nights* a miss, as a large proportion of its humour derives from the more serious works of fiction it parodies. However, even those with a cursory knowledge of *Star Wars*/*Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy*/*Lord of the Rings* etc. will enjoy this highly entertaining performance by some of DramSoc's finest.

Dramsoc's *Andromedan Nights* is running on Friday March 1 and Saturday March 2. Student tickets are £6 on the door, or £5 online at dramsoc.org/tickets.

BOOKS

Books Editor: Maciej Matuszewski
books.felix@imperial.ac.uk



World War Z

Maximilian Eggel looks at an unusual depiction of the zombie story

Last year was the year of the Vampire, and it seems set that 2013 will be the year of the Zombie. Don't understand me wrong, Zombies have always been present in movies, TV shows, games and books. However only recently this genre has achieved mainstream success, probably through a larger amount of zombie games than ever, the show *The Walking Dead* as well as a large amounts of movies dealing with the topic.

Max Brooks, son of the famous director Mel Brooks, has popularised this genre in literature, with his books the *Zombie Survival Guide* (2003), *World War Z* (2006) and *The Zombie Survival Guide: Recorded Attacks* (2009). In fact, one of his books, *World War Z*, is being released as a film in June 2013 with Brad Pitt as the main character. This should tell you how "mainstream" they have become. While I had read his books soon after their release, my recent re-reading of them as well as this now rising popularity of Z's, made me think about writing a review for his second book, namely *World War Z*.

Inspired by a similar book based on World War II, as well as George A. Romero, the man nicknamed the "Godfather of Zombies", it is styled as a set of personal recollections and interviews which deal with a global outbreak of Zombies. Each person's story describes their own fight to survive, and together they describe the

whole arc of the apocalypse. These anecdotes range from the human level, where a single person fights to make it through, all the way to the top dealing with the governments' attempts at stemming the flood.

The underlying emotional themes (e.g. fear, patriotism, greed etc.) that underlie each recollection also lead to a well-rounded book. Not really bloody or gory at all, this book deals more with economics, politics, and human feelings. The book looks at how society deals with possible extinction, which makes the book all the more powerful and much less "cheap" to read.

At the same time Max Brooks uses *World War Z* to describe the survivalist attitude that is permeating culture at this time, as well as criticising the weakness exhibited by our political system. Basically, he says that democracy is great, but in time of crisis political willpower may be lacking, as is shown by the example of the world governments (excluding Israel) in the early days of the war.

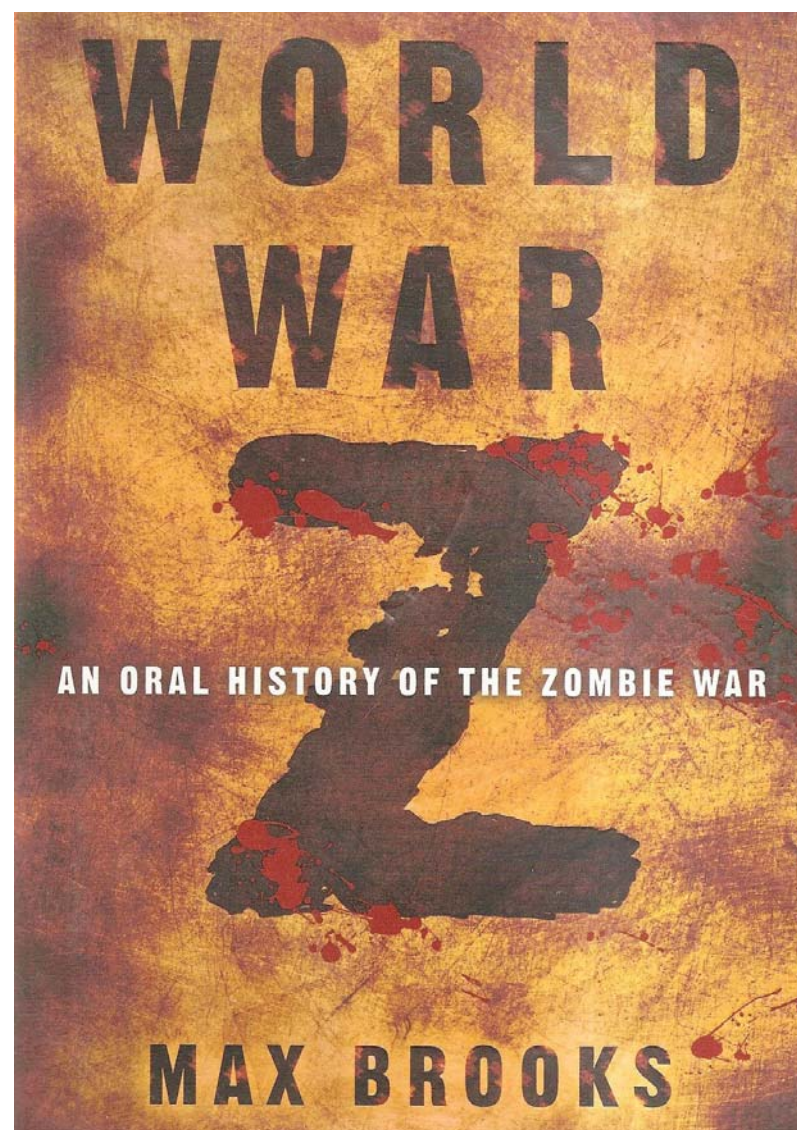
Another thing that struck me was the attitude of one of the survivors, a Palestinian youth, who in the book does not believe in Zombies, thinking instead it is an Israeli trick to reclaim Palestine lands. You may be able to laugh at this short-sightedness since you are reading a book called *World War Z*, where zombies are obviously not a trick by any governmental institution. However, if you were in the

same situation, with no prior knowledge, would you really believe in Zombies? I didn't think so.

This interesting format was a great contrast to the usual zombie fare, as instead of focusing on one group and their needs and stories it tries to describe the effect such an epidemic would have on the world as a whole. This international approach encouraged me to read more, as it shows many different aspects of the human condition, as well as how different cultures deal with the same threat. Also, who doesn't like reading about a huge battle between the United States army and a horde of zombies that just destroyed New York, with the whole tanks and missiles thing!

One thing that did annoy me about the format, though, was that Brooks wrote some of the short stories so well that I just wanted to know what happened next. In fact some of the anecdotes were so gripping that I could have read a book with those stories expanded to novel length. Thus, when the end of that particular recollection came, I was slightly frustrated. That made it slightly hard to have a continuous flow throughout the book.

Max Brooks creates a well-crafted book that does redefine this genre in times of renewed interest. With an enthralling array of stories, it is well worth the read. If you are a fan of the zombie genre, get to it! If you are not, and are just curious, get to it! Trust me, it's worth your time.



Richard Morgan's *Altered Carbon*

Maciej Matuszewski Books Editor

I had heard a lot of good things about Richard Morgan, but a glance through the blurbs of his novels didn't turn up anything that I thought I would particularly enjoy. However, upon reading that *Altered Carbon*, his first book, had been voted as the fifth best SF novel of the twenty first century by the readers of *Locus* magazine, I decided that I just had to check it out.

Altered Carbon is set in the not too distant future where mankind have discovered a way to store human consciousness electronically, effectively guaranteeing immortality; when someone dies they can just be downloaded into a new body. The novel follows Takeshi Kovacs, a former UN

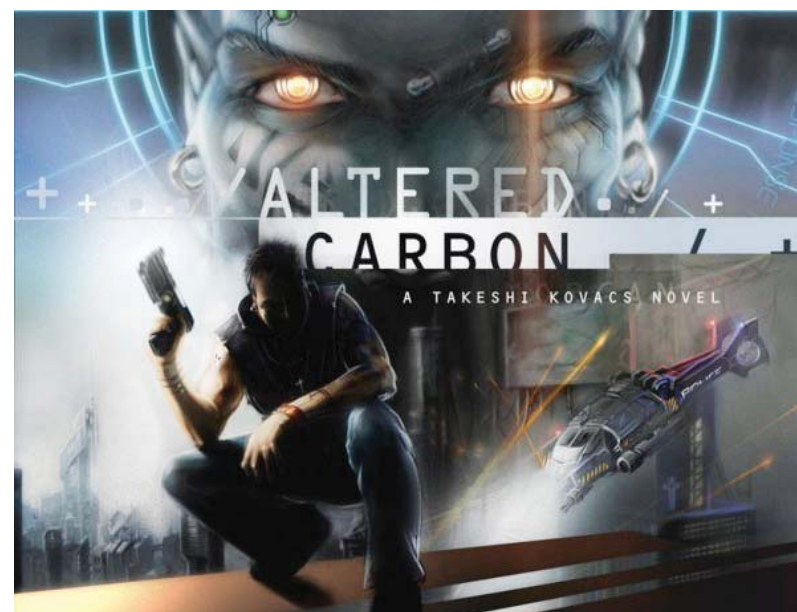
special forces soldier turned criminal and part time private investigator. He is bailed from electronic storage – the futuristic equivalent of prison – by rich industrialist Laurens Bancroft to investigate who killed his last body.

The book is essentially a hardboiled detective story in a science fiction setting. Indeed, most of the characters are instantly recognisable genre clichés – the cigarette smoking cynical detective, the femme fatale, the corrupt power figures. Few of these are likeable – Kovacs himself coming off as particularly brutal. Morgan himself has said that the ultraviolence directed by Kovacs against his enemies was meant to act as escapist release, both for himself and the readership, but it just makes Kovacs seem little better than his opponents. The

science fictional elements add very little either. The cyberpunk themes explored are nothing new and, for someone well versed in the genre, simply seem very tired.

Despite all of this, however, the book somehow comes together to work remarkably well. A combination of very good writing and a well thought out plot mean that you can almost forget all of the previously mentioned problems. The action is fast paced and it is certainly very easy to become engrossed.

I expect that how much you enjoy *Altered Carbon* will depend strongly on what you're looking for – if you like well-written, clever detective stories you'll probably love it, if you're looking for something fresh and innovative you'll probably be disappointed.



Imperial College Islamic Society Presents

Discover Over Dinner...

Get to know the religion of
2 million Brits
and **2 billion people**
around the world.

Friday 1 March
6:30 pm, EEE 509

What are Islamic Values?

A talk by Shaykh Fahimul Anam

Spoken Word Poetry

Free full course meal

Email islam@imperial.ac.uk for tickets

Q&A

Get your questions about
Islam answered!

FREE FOOD!



Boiler Room bikes and b2bs

Ross Gray gets a taste of the Red Stripe Make Session series

When I first considered writing an article on Boiler Room, I thought it would be redundant. I always thought that it's just one of those things that everyone who would be interested knows about, but when I started chatting to people about it I realised this is not really the case. Considering how electronic Imperial's tastes seem to be, as well as our churning out a pretty incredible number of DJs and producers, I felt this needed remedying.

So, the basics: Boiler Room is essentially a promoter who gets incredible line-ups of electronic musicians, shoves them in a tiny room with a number of the city's biggest hipsters and broadcasts a TV stream live over the internet. That said, they're not always electronic people; just last Friday they threw an incredible event with BEAK> (live), Anika (DJ set) and Jaakko (live) and on Wednesday had the whole Boy Better Know crew live in the place.

The whole thing is sponsored by the great folks over at Red Stripe – yet another perk, free beer – and for a good

few events now they've paired up officially with Boiler Room to present Red Stripe Make Sessions. I was first introduced to this concept at the NTS one back in November, where 11 painfully obscure artists were crammed into a 4 hour slot and their sets recorded live onto reel-to-reel tape. The product of the evening was a sweet compilation vinyl; particular highlights include the incredibly bass-heavy Insomniac's 'Speakers Blow' and Graham Dunning's loop-manipulating experimentalism.

The real spark for this piece was Red Stripe Make Session 007 on Monday, which Red Stripe kindly let us tag along to. The musical line-up was simple but heavy: xxy b2b Steve Braiden and Midland b2b Paul Woolford. In a slightly surreal centre stage, 14 Bike Co were brought into the building to hand make some damn fine bespoke bikes with the DJs names painted onto the frames.

It must be said that as much as I love it, Boiler Room does have a bit of a reputation (especially in London) for not getting crazy at all – have a look through the Facebook comments on

almost any of their photos and you'll see what I mean. I was hoping that having purely b2b sets would bring the energy up, and I'm not sure whether it was that or the sheer size of the venue relative to normal but it certainly got pretty mental. The end of Midland and Woolford's set in particular was not only one of the most impressive pieces of track selection I've seen but also sent the crowd absolutely wild. Definitely watch it if Boiler Room archive it, and watch out for IC Radio's head of programming with his hipster glasses at the front.

www.boilerroom.tv



AMS album of the week

Eels: *Wonderful, Glorious*

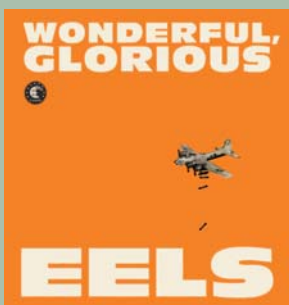
The release of *Wonderful, Glorious*, the 10th album from long-tenured indie rock band Eels presents a worrying fact about music: sometimes, artists are overshadowed by their own success.

Almost wholly the project of frontman Mark Oliver Everett, Eels' music has been intensely personal: their debut *Beautiful Freak* presented twisted love songs and scathing wit under deceptively poppy beats. After the death of his father (physicist Hugh Everett III, famous for inventing the Many Worlds Interpretation of quantum mechanics), mother and sister in the short space of a few years, Eels' 1998 sophomore album *Electro-Shock Blues* is a hauntingly beautiful masterpiece exploring suicide and bereavement.

From these great heights, Eels' have fallen far. The greatest art is born out of suffering, and *Wonderful, Glorious* screams complacency. There are still some emotions explored here, still some witty hooks, but the highs and lows of Eels' earlier work is nowhere near matched. This isn't an album about death, break-ups, or even love: more than anything else, it sounds like an album about the mundane life of an aging, successful rock musician.

Musically too, there is a lot to be desired. Instead of almost-twee hooks and sparse piano sounds juxtaposed against sorrowful lyrics, this album presents only bland, middle-of-the-road indie rock. This isn't the tired, inevitably-awful album of an old band reforming way past their peak: clearly, Mark still has talent left in him. Although he may never produce another *Electro-Shock Blues*, there may be some good albums yet to come from Eels, but only if he progresses again as a musician. Either that, or if all the rest of his family die.

Keir Little



Johnny Marr scores above par

Plabon Saha

Writer

At 49 years of age, it seems slightly odd that it took Johnny Marr this long to put out a solo album. Renowned for being the guitarist of the influential indie pop band *The Smiths* in the 80's, Marr has been busy since then playing in many bands such as *Modest Mouse*, accompanied by *The Healers* and *The Cribs*. So, it's fair to say that he's been around the block a few times, mostly in groups without taking the role of the frontman. Well, you can argue that Johnny Marr and the Healers was a bit like Marr's own band but I reckon *The Messenger* has a lot more guts than *Boomslang*, the Healer's only album to date.

The album has all the markings of Marr's trademark guitar riffs and manages to sound like a new age 80's record without being tacky. The jangly riffs in the opening track 'The Right Thing Right' are quite reminiscent of the upbeat guitar playing on many Smiths tracks. You would hardly think this is a musician that's been around for a while and despite all the nostalgia, the record manages to sound vibrant and fresh. The title track and 'The Crack Up' are fit to be



played in any trendy bar where the DJ/Bar Staff has some good taste in music and don't listen to Gangnam Style over and over again. 'Upstarts' is the second single to be released off the album and Marr's guitar here is strongly backed by his strong vocals. All in all, it's a solid debut effort from one of the best guitarists of all time.

It's worth noting that the album has a nostalgic feel for any Smiths fan because while you recognise that familiar guitar-playing by Marr, the

lyrics remind you just how good the Morrissey-Marr pairing really was. I have followed Morrissey's solo work quite closely as well and the same can be noticed in his stuff as well, great lyrics that are just begging for Marr to lay the beats down. Some will say that The Smiths were good for their era and we shouldn't temper with it. Knowing very well that they will (probably) never re-unite, I guess all I can do is listen to *The Messenger* and wonder what it could have been.

CHURCH

everynation.co.uk



SUNDAYS
ACTIVITY SPACE 1
STUDENT UNION

Free café – 5:30
LIVE BAND



FILM

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
John Park, Lucy Wiles
film.felix@imperial.ac.uk



The Academy voters cho

Best Film:
Argo

Best Director:
Ang Lee - *Life of Pi*

Best Actor:
Daniel Day-Lewis - *Lincoln*

Best Actress:
Jennifer Lawrence - *Silver Linings
Playbook*

Best Supporting Actor:
Christoph Waltz - *Django Un-
chained*

Best Supporting Actress:
Anne Hathaway - *Les Misérables*

Best Screenplay - Original:
Quentin Tarantino - *Django Un-
chained*

Best Screenplay - Adapted:
Chris Terrio - *Argo*

Best Foreign Language Film:
Amour

Best Animated Film:
Brave

Best Cinematography:
Life of Pi

Best Editing:
Argo

Best Production Design:
Lincoln

Best Costume Design:
Anna Karenina

Best Original Score:
Life of Pi

Best Original Song:
Skyfall

Best Make-up/Hair:
Les Misérables

Best Sound Mixing:
Les Misérables

Best Sound Editing:
Zero Dark Thirty
Skyfall

Best Visual Effects:
Life of Pi

Best Documentary:
Searching for Sugar Man



Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
John Park, Lucy Wiles
film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FILM

oose Argo and Life of Pi



FILM

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
John Park, Lucy Wiles
film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Nicholas Sparks: vom-inducing



Message in a Bottle - 1999

The Photogenic Couple: Kevin Costner and Robin Wright

The Plot: She is the journalist who discovers intriguing messages in a bottle (duh) in the sand and tracks down the writer of these letters, a widower mourning the death of his wife. They meet and start to fall in love, although it's not too long before he discovers her secret with regards to how she managed to find him in the first place.

The Puke-worthy Twist: They have a fight after he uncovers her sneaky, journalistic ways, but before he can come back, apologise and make up, he dies in a sailing accident whilst trying to heroically save someone. A story she's told by his elderly father. And with him there's the final letter he wrote, confessing his love for her. Boo-hoo.



A Walk to Remember - 2002

The Photogenic Couple: Shane West and Mandy Moore

The Plot: He is the bad boy who has to join the lame high-school drama club to avoid expulsion. He meets a cute, well-behaved girl there and they start dating, with the moody angry young lad showing signs of changing his sinful ways with his charming new girlfriend, and he decides that school isn't so bad after all.

The Puke-worthy Twist: She has leukaemia and is close to dying. He fulfills her dying wishes, and in the end she does die of course, but not before spending the perfect summer honeymoon with her new husband. He then enrolls in medical school (it's that easy), and it all gets very religious with the whole "God sent me to you" type nonsense.



The Notebook - 2004

The Photogenic Couple: Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams

The Plot: They're hot, they're young, they meet in the summer, they share a passionate moment, they split apart, they misunderstand, they move on with others, but eventually find their way back to each other again. They're initially divided by wealth, social classes and many, many intercepted love letters, but love does conquer all.

The Puke-worthy Twist: It's narrated from the future, where the older version of the man is telling the story to his wife who has Hollywood-dementia (only becoming lucid, then senile again at the most perfect opportunities for the corniest, cheesiest narrative impact). And how does the elderly couple die in the end? In each other's arms...urgh.



Nights in Rodanthe - 2008

The Photogenic Couple: Richard Gere and Diane Lane

The Plot: She is the divorced, frustrated ex-wife and mother, he is the traumatised, guilt-ridden surgeon. With these kinds of emotional baggage, the two connect almost instantly, sharing in their pain when he checks in as a guest in a bed-and-breakfast she's looking after for a friend. You're never too old to embark on a romantic journey, it seems.

The Puke-worthy Twist: Whilst separated as he goes on yet another emotionally-charged trip to mend the fences with his estranged son, he dies in a mudslide. The news is delivered by his son who thanks her for bringing back the father he knew when he was a child. She's delirious of course, but soon she gets over it, after she sees some horses thundering by. Yay.

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
John Park, Lucy Wiles
film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FILM

g one-trick pony (spoiler alert)



Dear John - 2010

The Photogenic Couple: Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried

The Plot: He's the soldier on vacation, she's the doe-eyed college student on spring break. She drops her bag in the sea, he goes to rescue it for her, and for that she is eternally grateful. They start dating, and he even considers quitting the army, although that's before the terrorists knock down the Twin Towers.

The Puke-worthy Twist: His father has Hollywood-dementia, she has another love interest who isn't thousands of miles away, but has lymphoma instead. They both die, and with these annoying obstacles out of their way for good, they appear to rekindle their romance in what can be considered an ambiguous ending but isn't really.



The Last Song - 2010

The Photogenic Couple: Liam Hemsworth and Miley Cyrus

The Plot: She's the grumpy musical genius who hates life, lacks passion in life, and has serious daddy issues, he's the handsome beach volleyball playing hunk who falls for the city girl. He slowly starts melting her ice-cold heart, which also paves the way for the dysfunctional father-daughter relationship to improve.

The Puke-worthy Twist: Her father is ill (cancer that spreads), and dies, but not before finishing his musical composition masterpiece that he wrote specifically for his daughter. The young couple do stay together however, as she decides to accept her place in Julliard, and he gets a transfer to Columbia University. They're just so clever and talented, that's all.



The Lucky One - 2012

The Photogenic Couple: Zac Efron and Taylor Schilling

The Plot: He's the wounded soldier looking for a peaceful life, she's the woman who indirectly saved his life in Iraq (a seemingly random picture of her distracted him whilst the rest of his team was getting bombed). He keeps this a secret and approaches her, developing close relationships with both her and her cute son.

The Puke-worthy Twist: Her picture was intended for her now-dead brother, which makes things slightly awkward. She has an ex-husband who is a touch abusive and hot-tempered. The ex reveals the male protagonist's secret, but before he can do further damage, he, too, dies, making everything all-so easy now for the two to carry on as normal.



Safe Haven - 2013

The Photogenic Couple: Josh Duhamel and Julianne Hough

The Plot: She's the helpless victim running away from her abusive, alcoholic police officer husband, he's the widower with kids and a tortured soul. She also meets a kind neighbour who helps her through these tough times. He could really be the new fresh start she's been looking for and yes, her husband does track her down, but she ends up shooting him.

The Puke-worthy twist: Possibly the worst offender of all - remember that friendly neighbour she became close with? Turns out she's the GHOST of the guy's dead wife. Even in her afterlife, she wants what's best for her husband who's been left behind. It's creepy, clingy, not at all smart or touching, and almost ruins what already was a flimsy film.



La Playstation formidable?

Ross Webster ponders the alpha of the next-gen pack

And here, in the wilderness of the internet, we can see grainy footage of the species, that many of us expect will beckon in a new age of couch-based gaming.

This beast has been in hibernation for a long time. Few have stumbled upon this elusive animal, and we had sketchy reports of its capabilities, but nothing was confirmed until this new footage was found. Now, hunters, there is something new to mount on your next-gen desk, beside your Wii-U – the Playstation 4.

The really bad David Attenborough impersonation aside, the biggest gaming announcement of last week is that of Sony's latest console – their entrant to the world's 8th generation console

championship.

Despite the announcement, there's still quite a lot we don't know about the PS4 – but what we do know is interesting. There seems to be a move away from unique console-oriented architecture (such as the Cell processors of the PS3) and a move towards more PC-ish hardware, such as x86_64 cores. The widely-touted reason for this change is because the games are developed on the PC anyway, and swapping between architectures is a waste of time and money. Why not just build on a PC, for a slightly altered PC? Both CPU and GPU are AMD-supplied, and are backed up with 8GB of RAM – 16 times as much as the PS3, and 8 times as much as Microsoft's Xbox360. As with the departing generation, we've been told that there's

sizeable internal storage in the PS4, which is good, as one of the latest news snippets is that all games available on the PS4 will be available as a direct download. Kinda Steamy-ish, I guess.

Images and prototypes for the new DualShock controllers are out, and they've kept the style of the older DualShock controllers, added some rounded bits from the Xbox controllers, and thrown on a capacitive touch screen on the front, a la Wii-U and PS Vita (sort of). I really like where this new controller is heading, with a 3.5mm audio jack (something I severely hate companies for not already doing), but also a mono-speaker on the back.

With regards to the button layout, it's the normal configuration when it comes to playing games, but the Start and Select buttons (of the 90s) have gone the way of the Dreamcast, and been replaced by a single 360-esque 'Options' button. Added to the controller, however is a new 'Share' button, which ties in the some of the new online features promised by Sony.

You'll now be able to watch your friends playing on their console, online through a stream (kinda like a built-in Twitch service) and you'll be able to stream games directly – it looks like neither Sony nor nVidia got the On-Live memo. At least it saves on internal memory.

There are a few things which are unclear (especially due to Sony's liberal breaking of promises (see: 'Other OS'



of PS3)) such as the use of pre-owned games. There's still quite a market out there (especially if the games are still ~£40), as a lot of people like to sell on their completed games, when they've milked it for all the trophies you can get. Sony has continued to be a little vague, with cryptic messages along the lines of 'We'll do what's best' (I'm imagining a Fagin-like Sony representative, and a sly wink). Well, best for whom? It'll all come down to the vast amounts of scaremongering, and latest draconian DRM, so I can't see it working out well for the second-hand market, I'm afraid. I actually want to be wrong though.

Unusually for a game-based device, the PS4 is said to ship with the new Playstation Eye (now with two cam-

eras) and a variable-colour light-bar on the top of the controller, for use as a PS Move – style device. They're not making you pay extra for these bits – they're included (well, they are making you pay extra, but hidden away in the original price, rather than an extra purchase, a few months after release.)

Release games are a little hand-wavey at the moment. As with Nintendo always bringing a Super Mario title upon release, Sony's bringing out a new *Killzone* for the PS4, but most importantly – *Watch Dogs!*

As you might have noticed, I'm quite a PC-oriented guy (and also an equal-opportunities employer), but I feel pumped by what's been happening with the development of the PS4, and I like the shape of things to come.

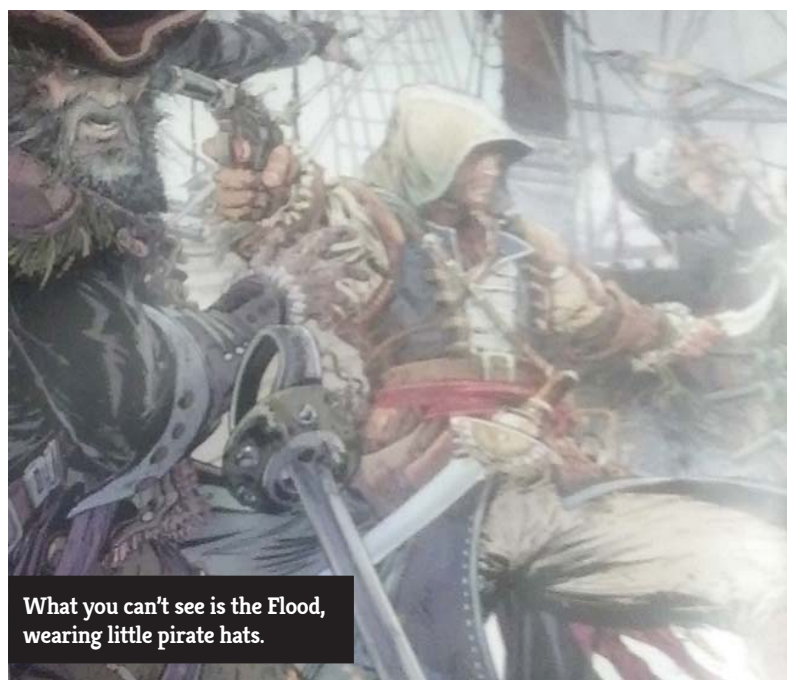
Got some great news on sale... stranger

Ass(assins) on the horizon

Looks like my wishes may have been answered. An image has made its way, supposedly out of a Gamestop back room, showing a promotional poster (just in case there's another type of poster out there) of the next instalment in the Assassin's Creed series – *Assassin's Creed IV: Black Flag*. The poster depicts a character wearing a Connor-style assassin's outfit, on the deck of a ship, amongst a horde of grizzled pirates. Unsubstantiated word is that you play Connor's grandfather...

There's a couple of good and bad things here – firstly, as I mentioned a few months ago, Pirate Assassins are only a few more words away from being awesome – acceptable additions are ninja, mutant (probably not teenage, nor turtle), and robot. However, it's not been long since AC3 came out, so what seems to be a look-alike game, being advertised less than 6 months since the last game seems kinda early to me. There's a good chance that the image is just a good fake, brought on by someone mentioning a slideshow they saw being written on a plane. This is a bunch of strangers on the internet by the way, so they could have been talking about the dinosaur expansion for *Battlefield 3*, and there would be just as much evidence behind it.

I'm kinda split 50:50 on it – I think it could be a great game, but it's way too soon. – Ross Webster



What you can't see is the Flood, wearing little pirate hats.

Passionate about games?

(Heck, if you know the difference between Mario and Master Chief, you're welcome here.)

We're always looking for more voices and opinions in the Felix office, so if you feel like flexing those creative muscles, rather than those thumbs, then come and get RSI with us instead?

If you want to moan about the current state of affairs regarding MMOs, or if you're looking for a team to start developing your ideas, drop us a line at games.felix@imperial.ac.uk



burnt out?

Confidential listening,
support and information
for students

Open every night of
term,
6pm - 8am

Students there for
students

020 7631 0101

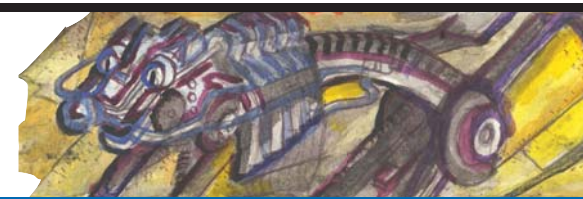
listening@nightline.org.uk

Free calls on Skype
or talk to us online via
our website

www.nightline.org.uk

night line





Charging your Phone... Wirelessly

Will the lack of Wires (or lack thereof) ever conspire to be desired?

Yong Wen Chua

Tech Writer

Qi. This sounds like some sort of Chinese “life energy” philosophy, but that’s not what we are talking about here. Pronounced “chee”, Qi is a wireless inductive power standard that is increasingly being adopted by handset manufacturers such as Nokia and LG for inclusion into their handsets. For phones that do not support the wireless charging standards, there are cases designed to envelope the devices and provide wireless charging capabilities. But is wireless charging even necessary, or is it just a solution to no one’s problem?

Wireless charging works in a similar way to induction cooking. A changing magnetic field induced by the charging mat causes a potential difference, or a voltage difference, across a conductor inside the phone. By Faraday’s laws, this causes a current to flow inside the conductor, and we’ve got a steady power source for the phone. So, in order to take advantage of this technology, you would need to both have a phone that supports wireless charging, and a wireless charging device.

The wireless charging mats are not cheap. I bought a Maxwell Air Voltage Wireless Charger off Amazon for £43, but the price has now gone up to almost £50 at the time of writing. Google offers a trendy “charging orb” for its Nexus 4 device, retailing for US\$59.99 (£40) and not yet on sale in the UK. If the various manufacturers wish to see

wireless charging take off, they are not doing themselves a favour by charging such a high price for the charging mat. The upside to this is that these charging mats should work with future devices, if the Qi standards remains dominant. (Caution: if you are looking to buy a wireless charging mat, avoid the ones sold by “Powermat” – they do not conform to any standards, and you will need a separate case for all of your devices.) But how do these wireless charging gizmos perform?

I do not speak authoritatively on this matter, but from my experience with wireless charging on my Nexus 4, I would say that the wireless charg-

It is really convenient to just place the phone on the mat

off every few seconds. I suppose with more iteration, the hardware would be more efficient, and the heat produced through the charging should reduce. But is this even necessary?

Advocates would say that wireless charging is very convenient, and helps in bringing about a wire-free environment. This is absolutely true, as I have noted in the previous paragraph. However, pardon my cynicism, this also sounds patently like a first world problem. There is also a wire that goes from the AC wall socket to the charging mat, something that you can’t really be rid of. You are just trading one cable for another. There are arguments saying that the mechanical act of plugging in and taking out the charging cable can lead to mechanical failure on the phone, although I have yet to

ing has good performance. In fact, I might say that it performed better than I expected. Charging is almost as quick as using an AC adapter. It is really convenient to just place the phone on the mat and watch it start charging automatically, without my needing to plug in anything. The downside to this is that the phone tends to get a little warm when charging. I notice that if I use the phone while it’s charging, the temperature can get up to 42 degrees, at which point the phone would decide to stop charging (for safety I presume). This leads to the phone and the charging mat getting into what I call the “spasm” mode where the charging indicator would toggle on and

see it really happen to me.

Sceptics would call wireless charging a fad. I would call it something cool. While I can see the added convenience of wireless charging, the whole solution doesn’t really bring much more to the table. What we need are batteries that last longer, and components that use less power. Wireless charging does not even address any of these problems. When you add in the cost of buying one of those charging mats, there is simply no added benefit. So until these charging mats become more affordable, there is simply no point in using wireless charging.



The wireless charging mats are not cheap

The News Bubble

General news from around the tech world, so you can keep up to date with the newest, weirdest and most futuristic things around.

Nokia Release Phones

At the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Nokia has just released 4 new phones, all aimed at the lower end. The two new Windows 8 smartphones called the 720 and the 520, retail between £220 and £120 respectively. Both of these are quite well equipped compared to their cheap price. On the other hand Nokia also released two new feature phones, the 301 and the 150. The 301 is your bog standard feature phone and will be available for about 50 quid. However the 150 has created quite a buzz on the internet, as not only is it priced at the very lucrative price of £13, but also apparently has a battery that lasts for an entire month without recharging. Nokia really wants to regain that top mobile vendor spot, and this strategy seems like it may prove very successful.

Chromebook Pixel

Google has also released a new product, the Pixel. An apparently high-end laptop, this device is aimed at power users with a bit more cash in their pockets. Coming with the Chrome OS, a purely browser based operating system and with a pixel density of 239 ppi (which by the way makes it the highest resolution laptop currently on the market) it looks like quite an interesting laptop. However, without an internet connection, it just becomes a \$1,499 paper weight.

Galaxy Note 8.0

All good things come in sets of three, and fittingly Samsung also has released a new product. The Galaxy Note 8.0 used with a smart stylus, which allows you to use the buttons on the tablet without actually pushing them, is going into direct competition with Apple’s new iPad Mini. With a higher screen resolution and generally good reviews, when this comes out later this year, it may prove to be a good adversary.

iPhone Ahead of S3

Recently Apple has been hammered, its stock has lost a third of its value from its \$700 high, and everyone has been predicting that the days of the Cupertino Company are numbered. However recent data related to mobile handset sales puts the Samsung Galaxy SIII, Android’s most popular phone, only third in the list. Number one spot is taken by the iPhone 5, Apple’s flagship. The surprising thing is that the second spot is taken by the iPhone 4S. Apple’s phone which is more than a year old, and is quite outdated compared to other handsets out there is still outselling everything except for its bigger brother. Seeing that kind of data really makes me wonder why Apple is being ripped apart by all the critics and investors.

Maximilian Eggel Tech editor



Coffee Break Boss: Matt Colvin
felix@imperial.ac.uk

COFFEE BREAK

A super handy guide to winning a student election

Warning: may not actually tell you how to win a student election

The most exciting event of the academic calendar since the last exciting event of the academic calendar is fast approaching, with nominations for the Union's emphatically named 'Big Elections' closing imminently. A few weeks back we put forward a few suggestions towards the kind of people you'd want to back you up on the campaign trail, but don't worry if you haven't got Obama on your side just yet, here's Coffee Break's ultimate guide to winning an election.

Write a manifesto

For the love of Kriss Akabusi, write a manifesto. Personally, I love voting for that one enigmatic individual who refuses to list what they'd do with the role – it's a little like voting for a legendary beast, like Godzilla, or the Loch Ness Monster. Everyone else though? I'm not sure about them. Just face it; if you haven't submitted a manifesto to either Felix or the voting website, then your plans for Union domination are pretty much scuppered. Of course you could cunningly counter this by getting your friends to vote for you, if you have literally hundreds of friends with a keen interest in student politics. Best of luck with that.

Campaign Posters

Always a solid bet to put a few of these around. Judging by past years, it doesn't even matter how much sense they make. A jazzy slogan's always nice, and if your name is particularly suitable for publicity-based manipulation then go for it. I'm not sure about QR codes though. Thinking about it, I believe that I have never seen an individual take out a phone and scan a QR code, for any-



Independence Day is vaguely related to elections

thing. Have you? Heck, do you scan QR codes? Answers on the back of a postcard please.

Lecture shout-outs

Sure, great idea. That is, if you get

permission from the lecturer beforehand. It'd be more than a little cringeworthy if you're in the full throes of delivering an impassioned spiel about improving the student experience only to be drowned out by a microphone-equipped lecturer battling to

actually teach.

Maybe try for a bit of coordination too and grab a whole lecture theatre for yourself. Indeed, I was once subjected to five speeches in a row. All well-meaning, doubtless, but personally I can only withstand a monologue about why you are the greatest person to have ever lived if it's under two minutes, give or take a second or three.

Confectionery

Appeal to the stomach. Maybe associate yourself with a specific brand if you're feeling particularly entrepreneurial. Offer people solely Caramacs, for example, and they'll associate you with dated policies and condensed milk. Haribo or any

Haribo-esque derivative is the gold standard, but experimentation may yield even greater success on the field of battle.

Standing on tables

I swear down, right here, right now. If you or anybody else has the sheer chutzpah to stand on a table that I'm eating at, I will unequivocally and assuredly RON you into devastation. But that's just me. Judge the situation in advance or something.

To those running for any position, good luck for the campaign period. If you do succeed in your goals and get into power, try not to cut loads of things or lower any credit ratings or anything like that. We're in enough trouble as it is.

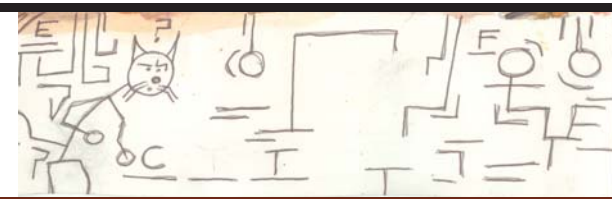
FELIX



If you want to experience the Felix Office first hand, drop us an email.

We always need writers, illustrators, photographers and probably more.

felix@imperial.ac.uk



Rap Lyric of the Week

Devin the Dude: "Kush Is My Cologne"



"By all means,
I keep my balls clean"

By all means? There is only one means, and that is basic personal hygiene. Just have a shower every day and you balls will be clean. Plus, nobody wants to hear about your scrotal cleansing regiment when walking down the road with their headphones in. Keep this shit to yourself in the future.

Think you're funny? Maybe you are. Or, more likely, people are just laughing at you. Send stuff in: felix@imperial.ac.uk

Are you happy?

If semen be the food of love, eat on. As Shakespeare almost said or something

It is all too easy to twist and fold the world into a sweet smelling version of what it really is. A stolen moment of intimacy can seem an incapsulating whirlwind of passion, desire, and sexual supremacy. To an outsider, however, things can appear a little differently. You might, for example, stumble into your flatmates very own whirlwind of passion not to see a couple pushing the boundaries of human desire, but instead two greasy drunken failures, who despite his valiant efforts to thumb in a quarter-chub, find themselves so painfully alone. You scan the room for a condom wrapper. Nope. Poor kid hasn't got a fucking chance.

People insist on forever seeking the most positive outlook on life, and yet seem so bitterly disappointed when things don't work out as they expected. Reality is all too real for these verity-phobes, who proudly march

onwards through the steaming piles of shit that life endlessly throws at us only to come out the other side wondering why they have a nasty taste in their mouths.

We see this delusional behaviour throughout society. Critics forever pounce on about food, relentlessly picking apart a dish as if eating it is some holy grail of human experience, rather than what it is. Ingestion. The first chapter of a horrible book in which the main character enters the damp mouth-hole of a greedy machine, has all the goodness sucked out of them, passes through 5 sphincters and ends up spinning down a filthy tube to join the rest of their unfortunate comrades deep within the steaming mess of London's Victorian sewer system.

When the sequel to *50 Shades* was announced, the sound of wet Mum beans around the world simultaneously quivering in pre-schlick joy

How can you possibly be THIS happy about anything



could be heard from space. Why? Because in the book things are so much more interesting than their actual, miserable lives, and their husbands are far more beige and pie-driven than Christian Grey.

But fear not, mortals! For true happiness can be found in reality. Accept

that things won't always work out as expected, and seek joy in the little things. So the next time you're on your knees in a toilet cubicle, feeling a stranger's love juice burning the back of your throat and wondering how the fuck it came to this, ask yourself – does it really taste so bitter?

People you'll meet at Imperial who you probably shouldn't be friends with

3. Someone still wearing a festival wristband from last summer

They probably don't take hygiene too seriously. Then again, that goes for most Imperial people. They presume it will be a 'conversation starter' or some other drivel. The clue here is that they feel that they are so unspeakably dull that they need something to remind them how to make conversation. "Oh hi I went to watch a band that actually only made one song I like in a muddy field in England". Not exactly going to get the heart pumping with excitement and sexual attraction, is it.

Most likely they will attempt to tell you over-exaggerated and usually made up stories about how wild it was when they went. If they are wearing a Reading and Leeds wristband then assume that they are either 16 or just a bit slow.

Some are repeat offenders. You'll see a few (usually male, let's be honest) people parading around with about three year's worth of cloth attached to

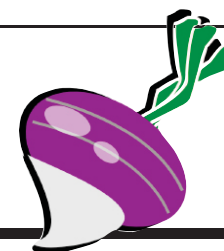


their wrist.

It's your own funeral if you indulge them and ask inane questions like "who did you see" and other shit. They saw whoever their friends wanted to see, as they are not the charismatic leader of the group. They got bored after a few hours and the music started to blend into a generic noise of try hard accents and boring chords. They then did a shit in a small shed made out of plastic, and slept in a poorly made tent.

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Slave driver policy announced Plans will 'revolutionise education'

In a shock announcement today, Imperial College London have announced that they will employ people to work as slave drivers in the Library. The announcement comes after Imperial released the results of a study of two pupils that they once pretended to do.

After plummeting in the NSS scores, Imperial has decided that it is now 'time to just except everyone is fucking miserable, and just run with it'. The slave drivers, fully equipped with loin cloths and a lack of respect for people who work hard, will be just the tip of the iceberg. Other plans include still not looking into the heat in the Library, spitting on students as they walk out of labs, and making sure computers never connect to printers.

In a shocking twist of events, the halls at North Acton turned out to



The whip that will be standard issue for the Library slave drivers.

just be part of a bigger 'strategic review'. A spokesperson said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for Imperial. We are now global leaders in the field of education, despite the fact that we don't give you useful feedback from lab reports and projects" going on to say that "improving those sorts of issues would just be really silly".

The plans are thought to be aimed at distinguishing Imperial from UCL,

Kings, and other London universities where students enjoy themselves and don't regularly regret their degree and university choice.

Critics of the move say that happiness and well being should be a top priority. However, they were dismissed by College as "just the sort of backward thinking that causes students to love their university and enjoy life".



TOOL OF THE WEEK

Hey, she may have vommed, but she's a classy lady. She has chewing gum at the ready. If she decides to get with you, at least the chunks will be minty fresh

Got a photo of someone being a waste of a student loan? Get permission, then just send it to us at: felix@imperial.ac.uk

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



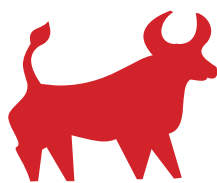
BORIS IN HOT WATER AFTER BEING LATE FOR AFTERNOON CLASSES

Slugoscopes – The horoscopes, but slimy...



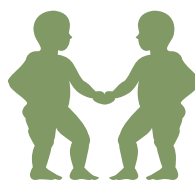
ARIES

This week your lecturer turns you into a giant slug as a punishment for handing your coursework in late. Capping the pass mark at 40% for late submissions just hasn't been getting the message across, so you are made an example of in front of all your coursemates. You suddenly, unexpectedly morph into a Taurus...



TAURUS

... Too ashamed to leave your house, you are free to concentrate on your studies without distractions. Typing with antennae is painfully slow and your sticky mucus glues your textbooks' pages together. Your housemates kick you out for leaving slime trails on the toilet seat and you are forced to live in Hyde Park. You fail your degree.



GEMINI

This week slugs are the new model organisms (*Drosophila* were so last century) so you'll be getting all the attention! But then the researchers put you in a blender and make you into a slug smoothie for lunch. You don't even get to die to further scientific understanding – you were just the unlucky target of a hungry post-doc.



CANCER

Life as a slug can sometimes be hard. This week is especially tough when you pass cousin Snail in the garden, showing off its shell to the lady slug you have a crush on. Later, you see them exchanging hygroscopic fluids behind the garden shed but are bitterly smug in the knowledge they'll never have viable offspring.



LEO

This week you can't get over cousin Snail sucking your crush's antennae so propose that you all go on a family holiday to France for some winter sun. As soon as you land in Calais the French notice Snail's exotic English shell and devour him with garlic sauce, leaving you free to get slimy with Lady slug. SCORE!



VIRGO

This week you exchange some premium compost for a special baggie of slug party pills. But turns out they're cut with slug pellets and as you're shrivelling up, you curse your dealer Ernie the backstabbing earthworm. Your family plan a funeral and a grave in your favourite lettuce patch, but the birds get to you first.



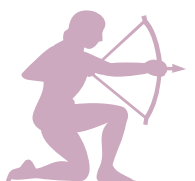
LIBRA

This week you run out of lube and decide to improvise: you grab a nearby slug and rub its slimy surface on your lady bits for improved lubrication (wetter is better!), inadvertently transferring some slug eggs along with the slime. They hatch and grow in your womb, and slither out a week later, 1ft long. It's strangely arousing...



SCORPIO

This week you fall in love with a giant slug and eventually marry him. After a few years of home cooking and romantic meals out, Slug gets fat. The increasingly restrictive wedding ring around his paunch causes pressure to build up and he eventually bursts. You are left to weep in a pool of his slime.



SAGITTARIUS

This week you have slugs living in your drain. They develop a taste for human hair and soon enough, the shampoo-caked plughole pubes cannot satisfy their cravings – they want gourmet hair. They emerge from the bathtub and devour your eyebrows while you sleep. When you awake, a thin crust of slime is all that remains.



CAPRICORN

This week you've heard that slug faeces is very moisturising and apply it liberally to your face to complement your spa treatment. Unfortunately, you're allergic to slug digestive products and you become permanently disfigured with antennae-like protrusions extending from your nose and a constant film of slime leaching from your eyes. Pint?



AQUARIUS

This week a poisonous slug takes up residence in your appendix and its toxic mucus slowly spreads through your organs. The doctors amputate body parts one by one to try and contain the infection but eventually all that's left of you is your eyes. The last thing you see is the gaping cavity of the slug's digestive tract.



PISCES

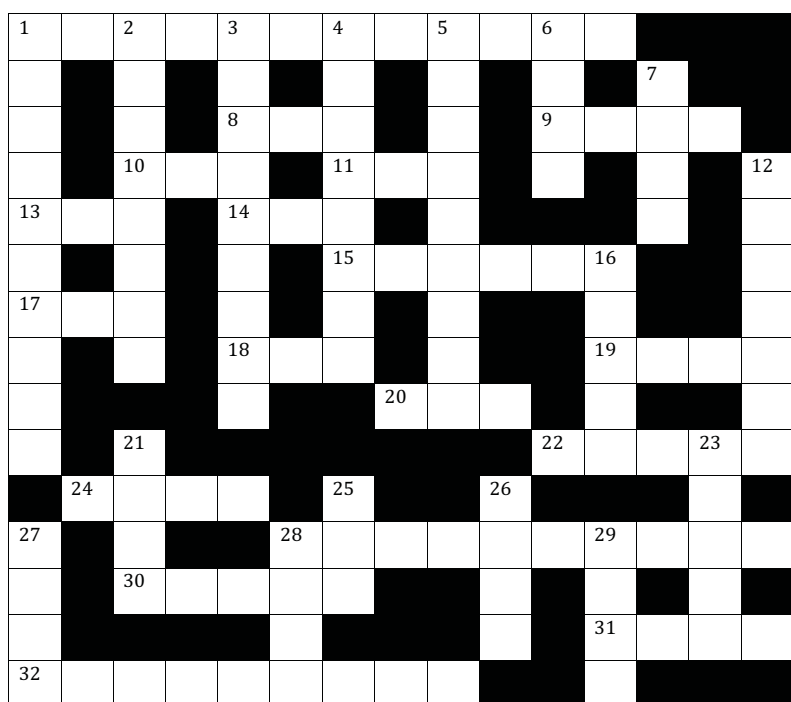
This week you must choose between eating a giant slug burger (with slime relish) and having a slug permanently residing in your nostril. The nostril-slug wouldn't be aesthetically pleasing, it would be fairly harmless, while the slug burger wouldn't permanently disfigure but would probz put you off cheezburgers 4 lyf. What's it going to be?

PUZZLES

Puzzles Commanders:
Sotirios Karamitsos,
Louisa Byrne
 puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Crossword



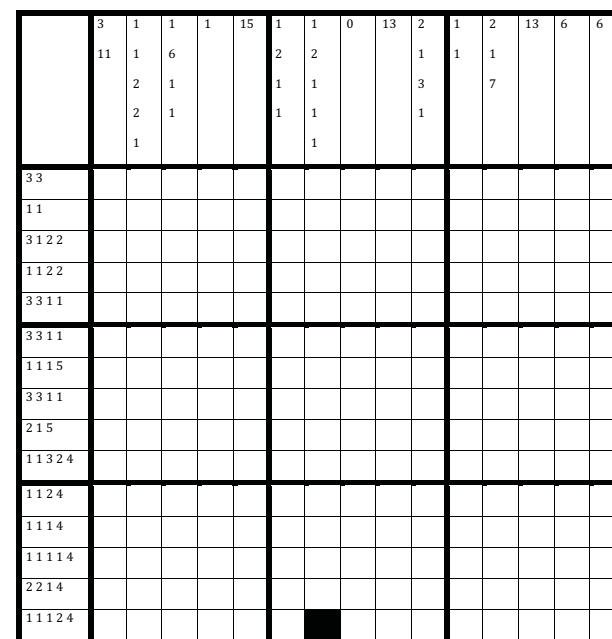
ones face? (10)
 30. Pretty reports, substitute for rubber (5)
 31. Men, London Bridge hospital (4)
 32. Number the same as upside-down (5-4)

Down
 1. Determined stationary, horizontal (10)
 2. Utensil cuddling (8)
 3. Beneath clothes, just pants! (9)
 4. But in socket, like a cork (8)
 5. Examine icicles in balls (9)
 6. From the mouth (4)
 7. Explosive sound (4)
 12. Processed fish (7)
 16. Do lids feel good? (5)
 21. Bland (4)
 23. Bendy, with ink in (5)
 25. Gender (3)
 26. Round object to play with (4)
 27. Large rolls (4)
 28. 13-19? (4)
 29. Sagg with restraint (4)

Across
 1. Chief of pleasuring oneself (12)
 8. Point on its tod (3)
 9. Alan's behind in this way (4)
 10. A single unit (3)
 11. A bluebird, or breast (3)
 13. Positively attractive (3)
 14. Tear in trip (3)
 15. Tasted when did this (6)
 17. A good girl, really? (3)
 18. Front of summer month, abbreviation of (3)
 19. Blub everywhere, oils (4)
 20. A donkey, harassed behind (3)
 22. Cages with locks, male bird type (5)
 24. Feathered duck curses (4)
 28. Hot drink in carrier, putting in

This one's hard...

The numbers in each row and column tell you how many groups of black squares are in a row or column, as well as how many black squares each group is made up of. Filling in the grid produces a pretty picture, which in turn produces points if you send it in, so get solving

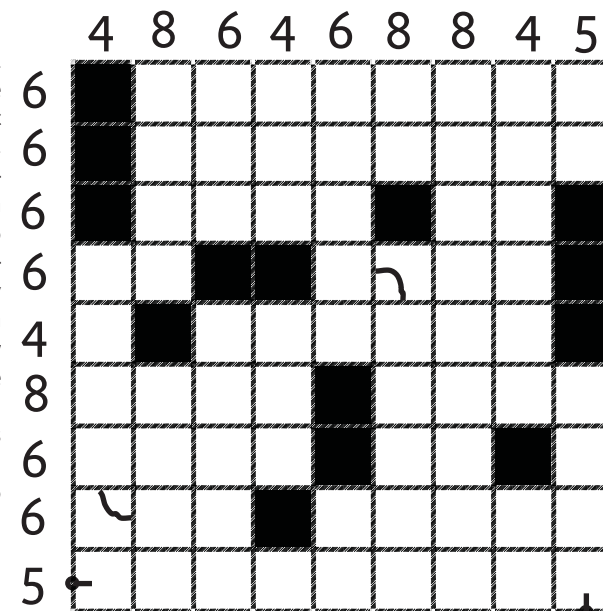


Last week's solutions

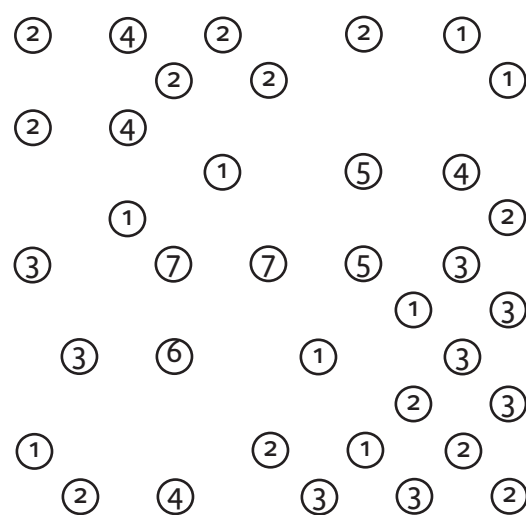


Ophis

Fill the cells with a continuous line (the "snake") that does not pass through a cell twice, doesn't intersect with itself, and passes through all white boxes (but no black boxes). The numbers show you how many times the snake turns in the corresponding row or column. The snake enters and exits the grid at the shown points (and only those points). There's a couple hints to get you started.



Hashi



Connect all the islands with bridges so that you can get from any island to any other one. There are restrictions, though: the bridges have to be either vertical or horizontal and they must not intersect. You can have up to two bridges between any two islands and, last but not least, each island must have exactly as many bridges stemming from it as the number on it.

FUCWIT League Table

TEAMS

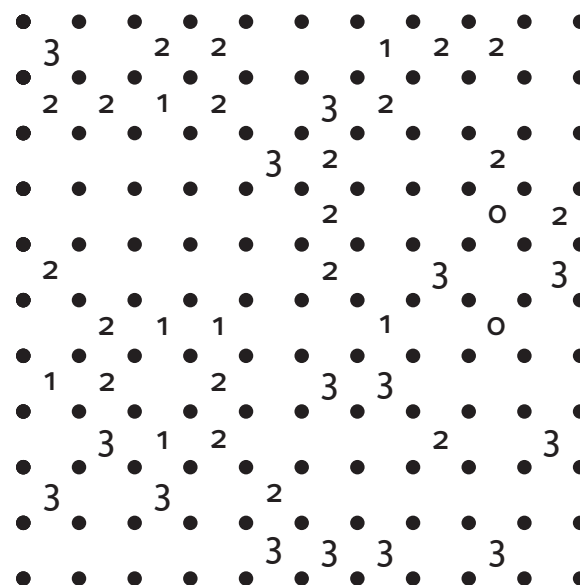
Requiem for a Bean	54
Sexy Beasts	26
G.A.Y.S.	4
I ate all your bees	4

INDIVIDUALS

Yufan Zhao	41
Wael Aljeshi	39
Helix	22
M-Soup	20
Tan Wei Jie	7
Tan Yu	5

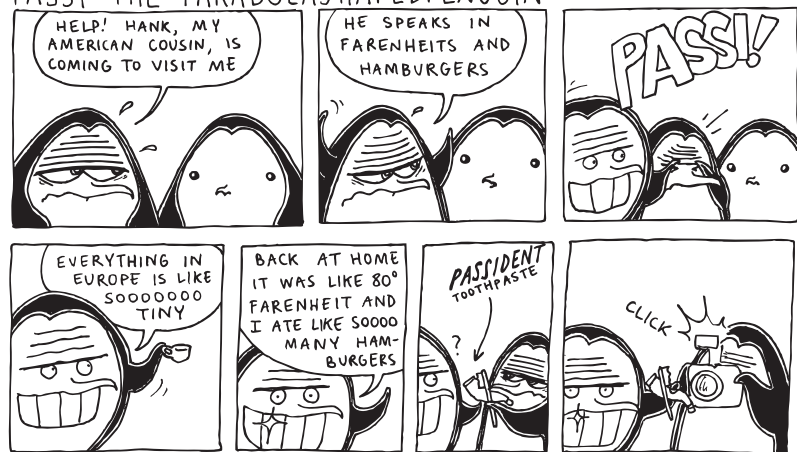
Send your answers to puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk.

Slitherlink



The rules, again: draw a single closed loop by vertically and horizontally joining the dots so that the numbered squares are surrounded by the corresponding number of lines.

PASS! THE PARABOLASHAPED PENGUIN

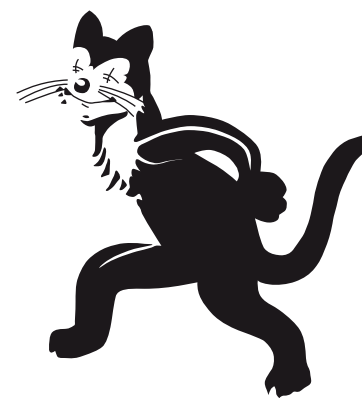




HOLY SHIT. THE CAT HAS THE CHEESEBURGER.

**Well, it seems the internet is over.
So you might as well write for Felix.**

Email felix@imperial.ac.uk
to get involved



 **Website** Visit us felixonline.co.uk

 **Twitter** Follow us [@feliximperial](https://twitter.com/feliximperial)

 **Facebook** Like us facebook.com/FelixImperial

FELIX

Women's Rugby top of BUCS

Charlie Stephens Sports Writer

After a slow start to the BUCS campaign with matches cancelled due to weather and the other sides being unable to field teams, Women's Rugby kicked off their second BUCS game against Surrey. The squad were ready to take on what was thought to be a tough match since Surrey were topping the table before the game.

Once the other side came out of the dressing room, it was apparent that Surrey had only 12 players. Dropping both flankers and full back, the game took on a fluidity and openness much more likened to playing rugby 7s.

Imperial started the game by kicking deep into Surrey's half and the scoring opened with the backs being fed off some strong rucking from the forwards. Inside centre Lucy Olliff had hold of the ball inside Surrey's 22 and made an excellent offload

over the heads of Surrey players to Carolanne Vouriot who ran in support and evaded several tackles to go over the line on the wing. In difficult conditions against the wing, kicker Lana Lee made an impressive conversion attempt, which unfortunately hit the posts. After this missed attempt, Lana would go on to convert all the other tries scored.

At the restart, Pip Heggie caught the ball running full tilt and broke several tackles to advance into Surrey's half. Following several powerful scrums, Imperial were awarded a penalty which was taken quickly by scrum half, Kath Fok, took advantage of Surrey's slow reactions and poor organisation to go over and score. In fact, this same trick would be pulled off by Kath in a later try.

For the rest of the first 40 minutes, Imperial dominated and camped inside Surrey's half. With ball in hand following the restart, another try was scored when the ball was passed out

into the backs where Lucy, Carolanne and Amy Humphreys broke the line and ran circles around Surrey's wingers and put Lucy in over the line under the posts.

The game gave Imperial the opportunity to try several different combinations. Both Charlie Stephens and Juliette Lennon were called to play for both the backs and forwards. By half time, the score stood at 54-0 and the forward pack were able to experiment with short lineouts from Lana as hooker. Just inside the 22, the ball went to Sarah Burns who powered over the line. Unfortunately, the referee deemed that the ball had been held up.

Before second half went underway, the referee explicitly told Imperial that he would be stricter with the whistle and also reduce the half to 30 minutes. Surrey were able to respond and with penalties going against Imperial, the opposition finally put Imperial on the defensive. The ball was



turned over with Charlie and Sarah Burns both ripping the ball off the opposition on several occasions and Kath broke from deep with a kick chase that saw her score again under the posts despite being impeded off the ball. The other second half try was scored by Carolanne who demonstrated her 7s background to evade tacklers in a run that spanned half the

pitch.

Forward of the match was tightly contested with special mention to forwards Charlie and Pip and Carolanne in the backs. Ultimately the honours were awarded to Sarah and Kath. This result puts Imperial at the top of BCUS 2A and setting up the remaining fixtures of the season as an exciting battle for promotion.

Driving Lessons For Imperial Students

•A special offer for **Imperial students**
from **Denis Smyth**

•Driving Standards Agency (DSA)

Accredited Instructor

•Mock Test Examiner

*Free Mock Test from
retired Driving Examiner*

*5 Driving Lessons for
£95*

"Denis is a fantastic teacher and knows how to get people from completely inexperienced and utterly hopeless driving up to the standard to pass their test. He is always calm and his comments are constructive; his knowledge of London and his knack of engineering driving routes that test the learner make the lessons more than worth it. Since I have met him he has shown a great desire to offer cheaper lessons to Imperial students and with the backing of other students I am more than happy to support him."

- Alex Kendall, IC Union President 2010-11

"I learned to drive in one of the busiest cities in the world. I passed first time. Would I recommend Denis? Without hesitation."

- Leon Vanstone, Aeronautical Engineering

To make inquiries and book lessons,
call 07808 610 898

Sport Editors: Oli Benton,
Margot Pikovsky, Sorcha Cotter
sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

SPORT

Tenpin Bowling climb BUCS Rankings

Tsz Ki Chiu Sports Writer

BUCS Tenpin Bowling Championship took place in Sheffield last weekend.

The results were resounding. Former Captain Michael Lau and Former Vice-Captain Hui Erh Tay, our favourite bowlers, achieved 605 and 601 three-game series. Consistent and skilful, Xin Yan Goh and Gabriel Lim had overall averages of 155s. With high averages of 137 and 141, Hamizah Nor and Karson Wong, who joined this year, demonstrated how well beginners could bowl in tourna-

ments. Big improvements were also made by our Captain Kelvin Wong, Treasurer Brendan Lo, and Jackie Leung, who maintained high averages of 159, 152, and 129 respectively.

As expected, the performance of Imperial Women Team was superb even though our competitors were strong. The number of bowlers with an average of 200 or above doubled compared to previous years. This tournament had never been so exciting. The team started off perfectly, defeating Warwick in the first round. The hiccup in the second round did not disrupt their spirit. Xin Yan Goh, Hamizah Nor,

and Hui Erh Tay secured the third place after beating Warwick by 172 pins in the third round. They scored 4165 pins in 27 games. The first and second places went to Leeds Met and Nottingham Trent.

The departure of our BUCS Tenpin Bowling Representative Christopher Chan did not affect the position of our Imperial Men Team. In fact, our team was 434 pins better than last year, moving our position one step up to the 13th place.

"It was great to see our women team winning medals in BUCS Championship again. They played incredibly well today", Team Captain Kelvin Wong said. "Very happy that our hard work paid off after plenty hours of practice. I am really proud of my team (not just the girls of course)".

Thanks largely to our coaches Matt Miller and Mike Quarry for their support the past two weeks to brush up our skills. The experience and knowledge they brought was fascinating. Having the right coach is important, yet at the end of the day it comes down to the bowlers' ability and hard work.

Our team believes that another success will emerge in the BUTBA Cup



Final after the Easter break. We are confident and excited to play against Sheffield, Loughborough, and Portsmouth, who made their way back to the final after the play-off round. With the best squad in the recent years, Imperial should not be far from cutting

the cake of success in the bowling alley.

If you are interested in supporting us, please drop us an email at tenpin@imperial.ac.uk or join our Facebook group (Imperial College Tenpin Bowling Soc 2012-13).

ICSM conquer IC in LUSL Vase



Michael David Sports Writer

Following talk of an unbeaten season following three wins from three games at the start of the season, the ICSM FC 2nd XI had taken a nose dive. A string of losses left Captain Ali Brown and his

men dejected and in desperate need of a win. A quarter final tie against rivals, IC 5th XI, in the LUSL Vase, was cited as the perfect opportunity to turn our fortunes around.

In truth, we medics could not say we played to the best of our ability and IC may even argue they had the better

of the game for periods of the initial ninety minutes. However their 'cynical' football just simply wasn't clinical enough and neither side could break the deadlock by the time the referee blew for the end of normal time. A rallying talk from the aforementioned skipper sent the future life-savers out

onto the field with real determination. Finally our quality prevailed and the deadlock was broken thanks to this correspondent. After stealing the ball from a teammate I was delighted to net my first goal for the club and subsequently let out a Stuart Pearce-esque cry of delight and relief. I gladly netted

a second to put the game beyond doubt and the final whistle was met with ecstasy from the boys in red. We had actually won a game, and it felt great.

So, after a bye, a walkover, and a scrappy win over a defiant IC team, the 2s are into the semis of the 'infamous' Vase.



The Bottle returns for the third year in a row

Sorcha Cotter Sports Editor

Last weekend saw the battle commence in this year's Bottle Match, which for anyone who doesn't know what this is, it's the varsity between the Royal School of Mines and their rivals Cambourne School of Mines. The varsity consists of seven different sports starting with the tame contests of squash and golf on the Friday afternoon, the tense netball in the evening followed by an early start for hockey and football on Saturday morning, these lead into the main event; the rugby.

This year we couldn't have had a better start with a whitewash in the squash; with only one set being dropped by an RSM player. The success of the golf came soon after due to some good old Irish luck that boosted the team through the freezing conditions. Some players took the miners tradition to steady their hand, merry spirits and ignite fire in our strictly athletic bodies. Golf brought home a 3-1 victory.

Netball was going to be tense this year, with a tightly contested match last year that resulted in the RSM losing for the first time. The RSM girls had prepared well but CSM had obviously still been training hard. After the third quarter the RSM had built up a 21-14 lead and were looking dominant. CSM put in a storming last quarter, but luckily RSM held out for a narrow winning margin of 27-25.

Then came Saturday's activities. At an unsociable hour of 9am the Ladies Hockey pushed-back, with the supporters already preparing themselves against the weather with trusty beer jackets. RSM were dictating play winning successive short corners but failing to convert. Just before half time Gigi managed to score an amazing reverse stick goal into the bottom corner. However as was a common fate of the Bottle Match this year CSM came back fighting and got a lucky goal, with the RSM failing to convert their multiple opportunities the result ended in a draw, meaning that CSM retained the cup.

The men's hockey was up next, this proved to be much more tense than previous encounters. The ball moving quickly from end to end but some brilliant defence from Jonney Jones, Freddie BM Briggs and Harry Fisher and some dramatic saves from Keeper Jonney kept the CSM attack at bay. Half time was 0-0 and looked promising. Early in the second half a save on the line unfortunately came off a foot and gave CSM a penalty flick and a 1-0

lead. The game was so close and this was the only goal, hopefully next year we can right the score line.

Saturday had not had the best of starts but the supporters make the day enjoyable for all. The additions of a burger van helping to keep everyone going for the all important rugby.

The football was a tricky match for the RSM team and the strength of the CSM through the midfield just gave them too many chances on goal, despite the valiant effort from the RSM keeper. The final result being a disappointing 4-0 loss, however with some key players returning from years abroad next year we hope to take a strong team down to Cambourne next year.

Finally the Rugby! With an emphatic victory last year the RSM didn't know what to expect from CSM this year. The RSM started well breaking the CSM defence and putting them on edge but some scramble defence just saving CSM. A turn in play gave CSM a penalty and they took an unexpected 3-0 lead. Their points were quickly answered by a try from James Cox whose pace and kicking was just too much for CSM to handle. The rugby became hazy for some supporters but all I can say is that we were all over them running in tries from Robbie Cowan and Ali Jones. CSM did manage to sneak in a try in the second half making their score more respectable. Fred White who had been dangerous all game, causing trouble on the wing got a try at the death and bringing the Bottle home! Credit must be given to Captain James Scaife who lead the team on the field and made some tough tactical substitutions during the game. Also to Henry Bleech for organising the weekend so brilliantly.

