

Honorary Junior Treasurers Report

A note by James Badman – RCSU Treasurer

RCSU Finances

At the beginning of this year, we were left with very little room for errors or indeed money to spend at all! However, after securing £7700 in sponsorship (including £5000 from Winton Capital) and £15000 from the Faculty of Natural Sciences (FoNS), we are currently in a much healthier position. As of the 18th December, the balance of our accounts sits at £15893.30, with approximately £2400 currently owed to us from Winter Ball. We have already earmarked a lot of this money for various purposes, including a large amount for Science Challenge (granted to us from FoNS for this specific purpose or obtained through sponsorship) and also a pot of money set aside for Departmental Societies and sports, with applications to the former expected to open next term.

We do not run events at a profit intentionally, which means inevitably our balance will fall overtime. However, so far this year the RCSU has only made a small loss on the two balls, and has even made a small profit on the Tri-Union Bar Night. We also have held some events such as our tea party and Science Challenge Launch where we have run them at a loss intentionally from the funding that FoNS has given us.

So far this year we have only spent a small amount of our grant (our stationary grant), however the rest of it has been earmarked for use throughout the rest of the year. This includes on travel costs for judges, an issue of broadsheet and partial funding for the Science Challenge Final.

We are currently investigating further sponsorship and also are hoping to receive at least £1500 from the RCSA in due course. By the end of the year, it is hoped that our SGI will be up from approximately £1600 at the start of the year to at least £3-4000, which should provide us with a suitable contingency fund for ourselves and DepSocs and also to give next year's committee a head start.

Clubs and Activities

This year has seen the first year where the RCSU Treasurer has been the primary point of contact in the RCSU, with this role previously held by the VPO and Treasurer jointly. The year so far has been very successful for the five DepSocs, although there have been a couple of organisational issues and one or two failures regarding communication. However, lessons have been learnt from these experiences and steps taken to ensure it does not happen again! Currently all clubs are still well within the black with the exception of ChemSoc, who are owed a large sum of money from the Department as well as a VAT refund from the Union.

There have been several very successful events this term, highlights of which include the BioSoc and BioChemSoc Halloween Bar Night, MathSoc and ChemSoc's very large and successful Christmas Dinners and PhySoc's trip to a nuclear reactor.

Looking forward, next term will bring this year's budgeting process, where the RCSU will seek to increase the grant offered to DepSocs; I will be working closely with the DepSoc principal officers to make sure that no one misses out! We are also hoping to create/re-start a couple of RCSU sports clubs this year. Previously we were hoping to start with Rugby, however in light of recent events, Football and Netball are currently being explored as options.