



OFFICER REPORTS – STUDENT COUNCIL

VPUD Officer Report

October 2019 Student Council

Ryan Bradshaw

Summary

Over the summer, I have spent a lot of time working on engagement with current, but more importantly the new students starting in the academic year. I also spent a lot of time regarding budgets for our groups to ensure they do not suffer from funding cuts. Worked on creating a Freshers programme that appeals to everyone and is value for money.

Key Talking Points:

- Freshers 19 as a whole
- Union Day
- Wednesday Free policy
- Green Impact Award
- Development plan
- Art shop (Waterside)
- Thank you for all the hard work and making a buzz on campus, hoping for a great year.

Report

Manifesto Pledges

1	<p><i>Ensure that sports, societies and volunteering groups do not suffer from the funding cut.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Worked with management and various colleagues to debate the importance of Free sports and socs. Saved Free sports and societies for the year regardless of the budget cuts across the board.- Set up sponsorship deal for sports teams with the platform club, to essentially improve groups finances and be more sustainable.
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	<p>- Created a development plan that can be used by both sports and societies group with the end goal making them a 'Great committee' and will be sustainable in the years to come.</p>
2	<p><i>Encourage and support students undertaking employment and work experience opportunities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pushed for students to be taking up employment roles within the SU. Talks with uni temps to manage all of our student staff to take a workload of staff, leaving more time to spend on the students.
3	<p><i>Launch at least 10 new Events that cater to the wide variety of Students.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freshers events both on the charity and commercial side with a focus on inflatable Playground. Also the launch of Karaoke, after a lot of students asking for the weekly event.
4	<p><i>Raise awareness and challenge the stigma around mental health.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attended meetings with Katy Baker (Welfare VP) with external companies in the town centre with a focus on mental health and exploring integrating it into sport / active lifestyle.
5	<p><i>Create a 'Buzz' on campus through activities and events.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Worked heavily on Social media through the summer 'hyping' the new freshers intake to create a buzz before they even step foot on campus. Worked all the VIP days in the summer as well where we got to meet some of the students starting this academic year. Engaging and communicating with the students on a level and having a good presence of the Students' Union. - Worked with senior management about the engine shed space and regards to staff usage and making it feel more homely to students (Create an atmosphere) Use of SUBTV in the engine shed to create atmosphere and give the students to request the music they want to hear. - Over 1000 people on the #MyFreshers event, which is one of the biggest engagement we have ever had on an event.
6	<p><i>Encourage Participation and engagement in sports, societies and Volunteering.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used the SU social media to push and have write ups on all of our student groups. - Took names from new starters and communicated them to the groups. - Big push for union day and to encourage students to get involved. - Created a sports and socs handbook to be given out to students and potential new students as well. Show casing the amazing groups we have at the union. - In the process of creating a Men's Futsal team.
7	<p><i>Focus on entertainments, events, activities, sports and Societies.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fortnight Freshers Programme - Promoting and helping our sports and societies so they're set for the year. - Launch of Karaoke tying it into a pre event to the weekly student night – Milk it Mondays.

Other Activities

[Are there any other things you have done or been involved in during this reporting period that you would like to celebrate or are concerned about?]

- Brought Curly fries back to the engine shed after listening to a lot of students, expressing they prefer curly fries over chips.
- Worked on the bye laws for the Referenda, developing our union through bye laws and policy.
- Explored the need for socials to be in one place for sports. Explored and found that the Optimist in town would be the most suitable location for socials to take place with regards to space and alcohol prices. Teams are aware of the deal.
- Ensured the art shop was on campus and ready for when term starts, listening to the views from students from council last year.
- Explored the options of having an alcohol license in the engine shed with various parties such as the university and ch&co and after a number of reasons there is no way possible to facilitate in the near future.
- Attended meetings with the university to ensure the importance of room bookings for our groups and to push the uni to prioritise our student groups as it's crucial, to have the space so that groups can carry on with activities.
- Uno bus – New route number 17 which will be going down Kettering road way. As there are a number of students who live in this area.
- Explored avenues for Varsity – Visited various locations in Northampton to host and explored a number of ways of hosting. Needs to be discussed at AU on what the committee would prefer (Most likely have to be away again)
- Awarded 'Very good' with the green impact award.
- Confirmed with the university about the Wednesday Free policy.
- Attend and engaged highly with trustee's over the summer looking more into the strategy of the union.

Mandates

N/A

Declarations

N/A