

Student Council (26.01.22) – Updates from Rhi

Manifesto Themes:

Preventing Harassment and Discrimination on campus.

What progress has been made / what has been achieved?

- The #16pledges campaign pledges have been added to our #NeverOk commitments and we are currently working on implementing them throughout the Union.
- I have also been working with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and other members from the SU on the safer streets campaign. More information will be released about this over the next few months from the University, but we have been discussing getting active bystander awareness training provided to student leaders.

What are my next steps / what do I hope to achieve by the next meeting?

- To continue working on expanding our #NeverOk campaign and finalising full plans on how we are going to be implanting our new commitments.
- To have a meeting with a licencing officer about the process of getting sexual harassment/misconduct added to night club venues licencing policies to ensure that all incidents are investigated and dealt with. This will ensure that victims are supported and protected and any venue that does not abide by this could have their license revoked.

Improving the disabled student experience.

What progress has been made / what has been achieved?

- At the end of last semester, I raised student concerns around SNAs not being implemented correctly to the Deans and Deputy Vice Chancellor and made some requests that I have been advised have been implemented.
- I have been working with Emma Diston from the disability team around understanding what support is currently available to students and how to bring more of awareness of this.
- I have joined an accessibility working group to help improve the accessibility of campus for students.

What are my next steps / what do I hope to achieve by the next meeting?

- To push the University to undertake a full accessibility audit of the campus.
- To work with Zara to launch a Student Rights campaign in March which will cover SNA implementation.

Mental health and wellbeing of students.

What progress has been made / what has been achieved?

- I have been working with Liv our campaigns coordinator on break and breathe which is the mental health campaign that is currently being run – so far a yoga session has been organised and cereal bars were handed out to those studying in the LRCs.

What are my next steps / what do I hope to achieve by the next meeting?

- To plan the rest of the break and breathe events for the rest of the academic year with Liv.

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Bits and bobs:

- I supported final year international students who were waiting for their final grades, but their visas were about to expire and were at risk of not being able to apply for the PSW visa. I worked with SIT to get the grades of those that were likely to pass reported to the Home Office so that they were eligible to apply for the PSW visa. I will be continuing to work with the team to prevent this from happening again.