

PRESIDENT REPORT

For the attention of:	Student Council	Taking place on:	17/11/16
Name:	Leigh Rooney	Action:	To note

Summary: *This paper provides an update on the work of the Executive Committee member*

Priority campaign(s) and objective(s)

1. Representation in Sport
2. Visibility campaign
3. Space

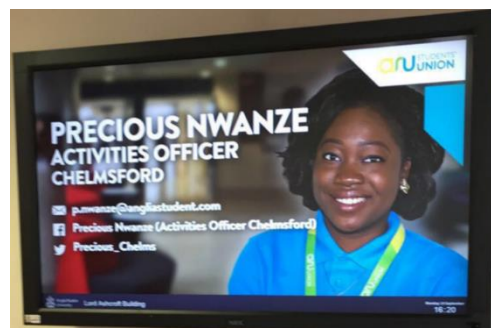
Progress on priority campaign(s)

1. Representation in Sport update

- The original aim for this campaign was to create an 'Athletic Union' type structure at ARU. As the campaign has developed I have explored options and discovered that a more straight forward agreement between students and Active Anglia (AA) will be more appropriate and achievable. So, the aim of the campaign is for students to be more centred within the decision making processes of the sport department at ARU.
- To achieve this we have written a first draft of a memorandum of understanding, with the help from our staff within the activities department. This will hopefully be finalised and proposed to Active Anglia to be agreed and used as a foundation for our work in partnership. We will then explore the different structures which we could potentially adopt at ARU to allow the student voice within the decision making in Active Anglia, using the newly introduced 'sports forums' run by AA.
- The campaign page is up and running on the website which explains a bit more about the campaign. It can be found here: angliastudent.com/repinsport

2. Visibility campaign update

- **Officer visibility and Accountability:**
During the welcome period at the beginning of the academic year I created an infographic for each of the Full Time Officers including their photo, name, and role and contact details and had them shown on the info screens around the campuses to familiarise students with our faces. *An example:*



- We created videos to be shared and played around campus (on info screens) and social media to explain what the Students' Union is and introduce the new Officer Team to students.
- We did induction talks for all new first year courses to introduce the SU and the Officer Team.
- During the rep election period in October, the Officers played a vital role in attending a huge amount of individual course lectures to encourage students to run to be course reps.
- We have created an Accountability Agreement which has a list of all of the ways the Officers should record the work we are doing, in a variety of different ways. *Picture below:*

ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT 2016-17



PRINCIPLES: be transparent, be authentic, and communicate.

You have been given authorisation to represent students, now you must be accountable when working on their behalf.

DELIVERING OUR MANIFESTO, <i>we have agreed to:</i>	BEING A REPRESENTATIVE, <i>we have agreed to:</i>
<p>Define our objectives and set targets</p> <p>Communicate our objectives to students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create sharable images of the Dream Team manifesto and distribute to students through posters and social media. • Create a page on the website to display the manifesto, include updates for each objective and a comments box. • Add an agenda item to the Clubs and Societies forum to give an update on the manifesto. • Include a reference to the manifesto in induction and re-introduction talks. • Each officer to film a short video discussing 2 objectives. <p>Tell students about the impacts we have made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use our communications channels to close the loop and tell students about the impact we have made. 	<p>Regularly communicate with students through a variety of channels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post a social media update daily. • Update our campaign and project objectives listed on the website with progress made. • Create a 'what have I been up to' diary/blog entry detailing activity at least once every 5 weeks. • Book time in the calendar to communicate with students, face to face or online. Use this time to gather feedback from students about the Ideas posted on the website. • Tell students about what has happened in the meetings I attend using social media. • Be authentic and react to local or national issues affecting our students. • When using social networks, use them regularly or not at all.

- **SU visibility/relevance:** The proposed changes as a result of the Democracy Review undertaken since September 2015 is the biggest step towards increasing the relevance of the SU to the student body. For example, the shift to Faculty based Full Time Officer Roles will improve communication and pathways between the SU through individual Officers and students within faculties. The full briefing for the Democracy Review can be found here: angliastudent.com/represent/council/review/ and the proposed changes to our democracy and representative structures can be found on the website, under the Executive Committee October 2016.

3. Space update

- **Cambridge:** The Student Union offices will be relocating to the ground floor of Peter Taylor House. We will be co-locating alongside student space as it will be double the size of the current space we have Helmore. This will provide the opportunity for clubs and societies committees and members, elected reps and volunteers to meet with Officers, SU staff and other students in a comfortable and more accessible

environment. As well as open the opportunity for all students to use the space for general socialising and studying etc.

- As a result of this, the current SU office space in Helmore will be converted into a more social space, as an extension on the seating area for Costa. This is yet to be confirmed by the University but we are in continuous conversations on the development.
- **Chelmsford:** The development of the 'Student Hub' in the heart of the campus has been postponed by the university due to a lack of funds to build a new building. So, as an interim the university has a sum of money dedicated to transform the ground and first floor of the Tindal Building into a more student friendly, welcoming and accessible space. We are in conversations with the architects to discuss what this space could realistically look like. Any feedback on this is welcomed!

4. What we have been campaigning for

- National Demo – 19th November, we are encouraging students to join us to fight for a 'United Education' as a result of the Governments recent cuts and fee rises
- 'Let's Be Honest' Mental Health Campaign – See campaign update

5. Day to day updates

- **Board of Governors:** As President I am automatically a Governor on the Universities Board of Governors. This board is responsible for the strategic direction and oversight of the University. I have had my full induction from the Vice Chancellors group to ensure I have a good understanding of my responsibilities.
- **Leadership Foundation, Students as Governors Conference:** The University kindly paid for me to attend a conference in London along with many other Student Governors around the country. This conference had a mix of information about Higher Education and the current changes and potential effects on Universities and the role and responsibilities of governors in that sense. It was a good opportunity to meet other students undertaking a similar role and explore different scenarios I could find myself in throughout the year.
- **Board Away Day:** In October, the Vice Chancellor organised a Board Away Day, an opportunity for all Governors to discuss the planning of the new corporate plan and the strategic direction ARU will be going in over the next few years. The Vice Chancellor will be releasing a consultation document in November for all students, staff, community members and partners to consult on what the joined vision for the future strategic direction of ARU should be. We will be encouraging students to get involved in this as much as possible!
- **Meetings and committees:** I am a student representative on a variety of different university meetings and committees. The ones I attend regularly are:
 - **Student Matters** – A sub-committee of the Board of Governors, used to discuss issues relating to the
 - **Senate** – The overarching Academic Board for the university. All of the individual faculties report to this board.
 - **Student Satisfaction Improvement Group (SSIG)** –

- **Faculty of Medical Science Board** – As the designated Officer for the Faculty of Medical Science I attend the Board meetings alongside the designated Faculty reps. Reps have the opportunity to provide feedback to the faculty and the SU to provide optional updates.
- **Space, Sustainability and Campus Management (SSCM)** – SSCM is the meeting that feeds into the Estates and Facilities department of the Uni, for staff and students to be updated on issues and provisions around space and sustainability on campus.
- **Campus Operations** – This is to discuss the operations on all campuses and provide any student feedback on campus matters, SSCM feeds in.
- **Regular 1-1's with the Vice Chancellor** – This is a chance for the Officer Team to update the Vice Chancellor on the work of the SU and provide him with feedback from students regularly. It is also a chance for the VC to update the SU on matters happening within the university.

- **University Students' Union (USU)** – This is a meeting between the SU and staff members within the University including Student Services. It is used to regularly update both
- **Academic Hearings and Appeals to the Board of Governors** – I attend all Students' disciplinary hearings and appeals as a designated observer to ensure that the university follows the correct procedure stated in the Academic Regulations. In the case that I am unavailable to attend, another Officer will take my place.

I am happy to talk to students about the details of any of the updates on my report, including the details of all of the meetings above.

Leigh