

**VP Education**

**November 2 Report**

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**Summary:** This month has been focused on increasing representation and identifying the gaps that currently exist for students such as PGR and Foundation that work in a different manner to the usual 3 year taught Undergraduate programmes. StaR awards nominations have opened, and plans are underway to planning the event. Christmas Crafternoon has been arranged and I am due to host this the 6th December.

**Key Talking Points:**

* Most Advocates now trained online, still receiving nominations who are then also referred for training.
* Met with JB (Socs Officer) regarding Academic societies and raising the profile of them.
* Meeting with Raf and Postgraduate Rep regarding representation and Student Voice
* Meeting with Head of PGR regarding assisting with elections process and modifying training for their reps.
* Governors meeting
* Meeting with C@N Do regarding creating a cracker barrel to share the expertise of Exec Officers with the staff body.
* PSR meeting with Gillian Simpson, Head of Quality regarding a new questionnaire sent out prior to PSR and the monitoring of such data.
* NSS Steering Group
* NSS meeting 1-2-1 with Raf and Education and Humanities
* Organizing Christmas Crafternoon for Students who have Children.
* Helping to facilitate Northampton Student Sports members into the open day at SU to give it a more genuine feel for potential new students.
* Day to day advocacy such as chasing Facilities emails and advocating for students who have complaints about University services educationally.
* Chasing Hearing Loops
* New Lanyards for Advocates so they are easily identifiable as a source of information/assistance.

**Manifesto Points:**

**Student empowerment, Education as liberation, get students actively involved in their University and SU.**

* Engaging new students over social media and highlighting SU to them.
* Recruiting new student representation for existing positions within the SU.
* Advertising the benefits of student council, being a PTO etc., answering any questions.

**Actively involved and well-trained course reps across all faculties, training delivered to all reps, relevant to their roles, getting them actively involved in SU.**

* Nominees have been sent training and most have completed, still some nominations coming through.
* Identifying gaps of advocates and contacting programme leads
* New Lanyards to be distributed to all advocates at the Christmas meet and greet.

**Get the lecturers to understand and support the role of reps, the importance of having them, and what it means for their course.**

* SVWG regarding election process and booking their time in for a meet and greet advocate evening.
* Meeting with Head of PGR regarding how we can support the representation of Postgrad students effectively.
* Opened Nominations for STaR Awards to share in good practice of student advocates, lecturers and support staff.
* Consulting with Foundation Team to support advocacy.

**Quality student experience –when valued and listened to, students will be more engaged and content.**

* Working with QAA on extending student voice through validations process, see above
* Feedback of student needs to SEC and Governors. Trustees
* STaR Awards, promotion of nominations, will share art work when available, good to identify good practice.
* Explained to Trustees importance of Student Voice and shared the work I have been supported on since commencing the role.

**Improve on Personal Academic Tutors- ensuring they’re well trained and supported to carry out their duties and know their students.**

* Meeting with C@N DO to put students in to workshops
* Create a Cracker Barrel with C@N DO to offer expertise of exec to Fellowship Lecturers.

**BME Mandate from BME Officer**

* Supported BME Full-Time Officer role through council
* Supported BME Full-Time Officer Role through Trustees, gave some background information on why the role is of importance.
* Collaborating with NUS and other Unions to see what they are doing to minimise the gap, especially those that are sector leading.