

**Presidents Report**

**December 2018 Student Council**

**Rafael Garcia-Krailing**

**Summary**

Since the last council, things seem to be settling down in the Engine Shed and we are all becoming settled to our new home. However, there are still significant teething problems with the rest of the campus that that sabbatical team are working hard to raise on behalf of the students and resolve issues as quickly and effectively as possible.

A significant proportion of my time this month has been preparing for the Board of Trustee meeting and making sure that the BME proposal is passed by the board. Thankfully this has been passed! The final hurdle to overcome is the university Board of Governors; I will be looking to take the proposal to the January board meeting.

I have also been working hard with attending a variety of events and forums with the local community to help smooth the students transition into their new home is the town centre. This being incredibly important so enable a positive relationship being forged with the general public.

**Key Talking Points:**

* **Working with the community (Love Northampton)**
* **Platform Marketing**
* **Student Behaviour Disciplinary Panels**
* **Beats Project**
* **NSS Presentation**
* **Town Council Scrutiny Panel**
* **Security Mandate**
* **Approve audited accounts**

**Report**

**Manifesto Pledges**

*Utilise my knowledge of the University to support students in resolving issues at the new campus.*

* The Sabbs and I have organised a forum that will take place on 13/12/2018 for students to raise their concerns directly with those university members of staff that are responsible for that area. Furthermore, it will support the dissemination of information from the university directly to the students.
* I attended the waterside operation steering group and raised many of the pertinent issues that students are currently facing.

*Ensure the commercial sustainability of the Students’ Union’s new Engine Shed and The Platform.*

* I have written a social media tactical implementation plan for the platform, which in essence was a business case for the need to employ someone who is capable of delivering a marketing function at the platform.
* I have also written a platform LinkedIn strategy document, to leverage more B2B connections.
* This is an area that myself and Ryan are investing a significant proportion of our time as it is critical that we do all that we can to make the platform a success.

*Mentor the other Sabbaticals, supporting and empowering them to make change.*

* The Sabbatical team have had a prepping session for the board of trustees so that all sabbaticals are aware of the papers and know where we stand on all of them. Which lead to them performing superbly in the Trustee board meeting!
* Shangyin and I have been having more regular meetings to push through some ideas for events for next terms welfare plan.
* Ryan and I have been working closely together in developing an events package at the platform that is likely to be commercially viable.
* Gemma and I have been working closely in all university meeting making sure that we are prepared beforehand and making sure that we are both aware of all of the papers.
* Ryan and I have been working closely together to develop a series of events for refreshers both at the platform, and the engine shed.

*Hold the University to account regarding the quality of teaching, by monitoring the impact of the campus move.*

* Gemma and I have managed to meet the majority of the Deans to create bespoke NSS presentations that can be delivered to final year cohorts to help their understanding of the NSS and empower them to voice their experience to enable student voice to shape the institution in the coming year.
* I have an organised a meeting with all of the academics who got the highest response rates in last year’s NSS so share best practise.
* Gemma and I have created the new NSS presentation.

*Make sure the University disciplinary process is conducted in a fair and just manner.*

* A significant proportion of my time since the last council has been preparing for and sitting on university disciplinary panels.

**Other Activities**

* Gemma and I have ensured we can have support in a high-level university meeting AQSC, they have agreed that one of our members of staff can also sit on the meeting to support the training of future sabbaticals.
* Bounds taxi initiative - Shangying and I have been in talks with bounds the taxi provider about offering a service that enables students to book taxis through a device in the Engine Shed and The Platform so that they don’t have to walk far to get a cab, furthermore we have negotiated a 10% off all taxi fares from Waterside campus
* I have reviewed all of the terms of references with our Governance Administrator for the Board of Trustees and all of its sub committees
* We have finalised the strategic plan, and the new document has been printed
* I have spent a significant time preparing for the Trustee meetings
* Chancellors Fund Meeting
* I met with the auditors to approve the audited accounts for last year

**Mandates**

**Security**

**Status: In Progress**

1. **President to look into security policy at the university**

There are a number of policies that the university has that relates to security

These can be found at <https://www.northampton.ac.uk/more/governance-and-management/university-policies-procedures-and-regulations/>

If council could have a think specifically what policies that they would like me to focus on and outcome they would like, I have been involved in a significant number of these policies over the last year, and the Students’ Union is consulted on the majority of these policy changes.

I will report at the January council to complete this mandate.

1. **President to explore the idea of holding security open forums**

Action complete forum to take place on December 13th

1. **President to explore if security can be stationed at ground floor security barriers**

This has been raised at Waterside operations meeting, the university are looking into the viability of doing this.

1. **President to look into ensuring houses are locked automatically**

This has been raised and contractors are coming out this week to look at resolving the issue. This should be completed by the start of next term.

1. **President to explore whether Police can walk around campus in their uniforms**

I have had a conversation with Lorna Clarke (Head of campus police) and we have talked about how they have been trying different shifts varying their attire. They are now in the process of reviewing what has been most effective.

**Declarations: None**