

**Vice president Union Development Report**

**October 2018 Student Council**

**Ryan Bradshaw**

**Summary**

Over the summer break the Students’ Union has faced a period of unprecedented change, not only the change in strategic alignment of the organisation but also with the move to the Waterside campus. These monumental changes have undoubtedly been challenging; however, the opportunity we now face as a student body is enormous and we have the opportunity this year to set precedents and policy that will shape the future of our organisation.

**Key Talking Points:**

* **Funding from Changemaker to launch and run ‘SU Talks’**
* **Freshers’ 18**
* **Varsity**

**Report**

**Manifesto Pledges**

***Focus on activities and entertainment catering to the variety of students at university***

***‘Meet expectations of what the students want from the students union’***

* Ensured there was events in Fresher’s week that cater to all students. This year I decided to run two Freshers’ weeks that would run along-side each other catering to students who are party animals and the students who are not as interested and motivated by drinking events. The two weeks were split into commercial entertainments and activities and the charity side. We had some of the best numbers for all of our freshers’ events this year.
* Encouraged uni to have a focus on a ‘green impact’ agreed behind the green campus idea with the use of reusable cups.

***Raise awareness of methods in which your voice can be heard***

* Worked on Marketing platforms in which to engage with students and provide authentic content to engage with different students, for example – I used Facebook to target our mature students and Instagram to target our younger students.

***Encourage participation in Sports Clubs, societies and Volunteering Projects***

* Change of varsity to focus more on ‘give it a go’ to sports than just competition this will encourage participation from all students to promote a wellbeing campus and healthy lifestyle
* Worked closely with students to start new societies such as ‘mixing society’
* Building partnerships with local business such as ‘daily bread’ to encourage volunteering opportunities for our students
* Working with I love tour to organise a sport trip to Italy in the Easter 2019
* Working with the council to encourage partnership with the town centre and bring societies into the town’s projects such as parades, where the suited society can play music and perform at the parade.

***Create a synergy between the students and the union. Allowing for more student input within the union; developing the student experience***

* Focused on being active on my social media platforms to encourage student voice
* In Progress of working with Entertainment’s officer developing forums and polls where the student can vote on what they want.

***Launch at least 10 new events that cater to everyone***

* In progress of launching ‘SU Talks’ November 2018 which will feature speakers coming into the SU. Each speaker will have different themes such as LGBT, Sport, Business, Welfare, Education this will cover 10-15 speakers across the year, appealing to all different types of students.
* Launch of Milk it Monday’s

***Ensure adequate facilities are available at waterside to all students especially for sports, societies and volunteering projects.***

* Meetings with University addressing the issues around sports and facilities and working on the SU managing keys for the sports facilities which will allow for better engagement and usage for our students’.
* Built Partnership with local bars for sports teams to hold their socials (*Fever & Bridge 26)*

***Other activities:***

* Looking to do a Refreshers in January which will be similar to freshers’ September 2018 and will include events that cater to all.
* Marketing within the SU for engagement with our students