



## UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION

### Vice President Welfare & Community Report July 2019

So we're now 6 weeks into our terms as Student Leaders, and I'm absolutely loving it! July has been a busy month, and we've finally started really getting into the role – meeting staff at the University, sitting on University committees, and of course most importantly – talking to students!

#### Training

Of course, this month has included some training, as there's always more to learn in order to be ready for September! July's training focused mainly around the student leaders as a team, particularly with our "Managing Relationships" training, and "Motivating Volunteers" training. The rest of the training was based around how we're planning our year with "Action Planning", and our big campaigns we'll be running in "Change Campaigning".

#### Campaigns Network

This month has been really exciting as I've started to have my first communication with members of the Campaigns Network and started looking at their plans for the year. I've attended meetings regarding Black History Month, the support Student Wellbeing can offer for Trans Students and the LGBT+ Campaigns Group as a whole, and how the ISA will work this year. However, the ultimate excitement had to be hearing that Lincoln had been shortlisted for 2 awards at the NaSFA (National Student Fundraising Association) awards! Massive congratulations to the Hockey Club for their nomination, and to the RAG Campaigns Group & all groups that have done Charity Fundraising this year, for their nomination.

#### University

This month we've had lots of productive communication with the University, particularly within our introduction meetings with various departments, pro-vice chancellors, and deputy vice-chancellors. In addition, I sat on my first University committee, "Tackling Hate Crime" where we discussed how the university and Students' Union are working in partnership to tackle hate crime on campus; with

better awareness of the reporting system and campaigns around respect and inclusion. Furthermore, I attended the Patient Participation Group, where I represented students on issues regarding the Health Centre and how services could be improved to achieve the best outcomes for patients and provide effective support. The support all the student leaders have received from various University staff has made the past 6 weeks a seamless transition, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who I have met with, and I look forward to working with many of them over the coming year.

### **Environment**

One of the biggest points of conversation this month has been in regard to the environment, and how both the University and Students' Union are going to respond to the Climate Emergency declared in May. As a result of these discussions, Cassie and I have attended numerous meetings with Estates regarding how Students can be involved in these changes to campus, operations within the University, and new sustainability policies that are being written. Additionally, we are now sitting on the Climate Emergency Oversight Group, and the Students' Union will be leading one of the working groups that feed into this. Furthermore, we're also working with the University to help them put on their "Climate Change and Sustainability Awareness Day" in November.

### **Events**

July has also been an exciting month for events that the Student Leaders have attended, from our first Executive Committee to our first NUS visit – it's been jam-packed! One of the most exciting opportunities I had this month was to do talks to the prospective students that attended both the Open Day and the WOW (Wellbeing Orientation Week). I had a great time talking about how they could be involved in the Students' Union, and answered lots of questions on topics ranging from Sports & Societies, to how we're addressing the Climate Emergency!

### **Operational Plan**

The biggest project all the student leaders have been working on behind the scenes is our operational plans which outline all the objectives we have for the year. They're not completely finished yet, however, a quick outline of what mine is based on Environment, Accessibility, Mental Wellbeing, Student Volunteering & Housing! It's going to be a big year, but I look forward to all the challenges ahead!