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Position:	Vice President Welfare & Community
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Manifesto Point	Updates	
<p>Objective 1: 60% of students will agree that campus is accessible for all.</p>	<p>Progress this month:</p> <p>Plans for next month:</p>	<p>Sadly as we are no longer on campus, improvements to the physical accessibility of campus is very limited, and therefore I have been primarily looking at how to handover this work to the new student leaders. This month saw the Accessibility Report finally tweaked and ready to be presented to the university, as well as feedback given to the university relating to the accessibility of online learning. I have been regularly catching up with the disabilities officer in order to ensure they are supported to deal with any feedback they are receiving. In addition, I am still working with the Student Wellbeing team to refine the new Learning Support Plan Structure, which will hopefully be ready for the new academic year.</p> <p>Next month I will continue to support the Disabilities Officer, and provide support to any students that require it, as well as working on the handover for next year's Student Leaders.</p>
<p>Objective 2: 85% of students will agree or strongly agree they are "satisfied with their life nowadays".</p>	<p>Progress this month:</p> <p>Plans for next month:</p>	<p>April has seen lots of promotion for all the different wellbeing resources that are available during the COVID-19 situation, as any form of physical campaign can't be completed. I have been promoting the different wellbeing resources via Facebook Lives and different social media sites and helping to produce a series of wellbeing news articles and ideas for the central ULSU social media. Finances have been a major concern for students during this uncertain time and have caused a large deal of distress, and as a result I have been working to lobby the university to provide better promotion of the Financial Assistance</p>

		<p>Fund, particularly as the university has increased the amount of funds available in response to COVID-19.</p> <p>Next month I will be looking to put on a virtual “wellbeing café” in order to try and support students who are struggling in isolation and would benefit from having someone to talk to.</p>
<p>Objective 3: 40% of students will believe the SU are actively working to reduce the negative impact on the environment.</p>	<p>Progress this month:</p> <p>Plans for next month:</p>	<p>During April I have started to prepare my handover for the new VP Campaigns & Environment, as well as looking into what environmental projects can still be worked on during the COVID-9 situation. Sadly a vast majority of the projects we were working on with the Environmental team at the university, such as gardening and litter picks, have been put on hold, and therefore we have not be able to actively work to reduce our negative impact on the environment, however as no gigs are happening at the Engine Shed and none of our venues are opening, our energy consumption has drastically decreased.</p>
<p>Objective 4: 85% of students will be satisfied with their accommodation in the Housing Survey.</p>	<p>Progress this month:</p> <p>Plans for next month:</p>	<p>My time in April has been spent primarily dealing with Accommodation issues and concerns, although in some areas there have been massive wins for students! At the end of last month, I had just created a petition which has now got just under 3000 signatures, which I have been using to lobby private accommodation providers to try an get rent reductions for students. Some of the wins from this included: 100% off for Pavilions & Hayes Wharf (if they have left already), 100% off for St Marks (if you have left already), 50% off for Junxion, 20% off for Brayford Quay, Opt out For Brayford Court! It’s also important to support students in houses (i.e. HMOs), and as result I worked with our advice team to produce a template letter which students can use to contact their landlord. I have had an absolute influx of emails and messages relating to house, with varying different questions and concerns, and as a result a large amount of my time this month has been spent responding to these. Additionally, I appeared of BBC Look North talking about rent reductions for Student Accommodation.</p>

<p>Objective 5: 85% of students will have heard of or used "Volunteering Opportunities"</p>	<p>Progress this month: Plans for next month:</p>	<p>Sadly due to COVID-19, all volunteering opportunities have been suspended until further notice and therefore we are not promoting these opportunities. Instead I have been working with our Volunteer Officers to create social media promotion to encourage people to get involved with the Campaigns Network, and have been looking at some of the sign-up methods we use in order to make it easier to volunteer for a Student Led Project or Campaigns Group. In addition, I have been working with the fellow student leaders to produce an alternative plan for the Swanny's, in order for us to still celebrate all the volunteers involved in SU opportunities just virtually!</p> <p>Next month I will continue to look into on online volunteering and how we can publicise this in more creative ways.</p>	
<p>Student Interactions</p>	<p>Facebook Live x 4 Campaigns Network Meeting x 2 Campaigns Network Quiz 2 Officer Inductions Officer Coffee & Catch Up Accountability Forum Officer GOATing Reviews x 7 Lincoln Together Training Writing Sessions</p>	<p>Committee & University Staff Interactions</p>	<p>Student Services (Student Wellbeing, Student Support, ELSC) Meeting BGSU Accommodation Meeting DVC Mentor Meeting Catch Up with Head of Student Services Meeting RE.Accommodation</p>
<p>Summary</p>	<p>April has primarily involved lots of work regarding housing and student accommodation contracts during COVID-19, and supporting students to access the University Financial Assistance Fund. Accommodation wise, after a large amount of lobbying, some big wins have been achieved for students, including 100% off for Pavilions & Hayes Wharf (if they have left already), 100% off for St Marks (if you have left already), 50% off for Junxion, and 20% off for Brayford Quay! In order to support students in houses (i.e. HMOs), I worked with the advice team to produce a template that students can use to email their landlord, and have been responding to a very high volume of emails and messages relating to housing concerns. I have spent a lot of time this month supporting our Campaigns Network, including introducing two new officers into their roles (Womens & Community), using their feedback from students to tailor my priorities during this period, and consistently</p>		

	<p>checking in with them to ensure they feel supported. The Accessibility Report has been finally tweaked, as well as feedback given to the university relating to the accessibility of online learning, and I am still working with the Student Wellbeing team on the new Learning Support Plan Structure, which will hopefully be ready for the new academic year. Also, this month I have been working to promote all the wellbeing resources available during the COVID-19 situation, and next month I am looking to put on a virtual "Wellbeing Café". Sadly a large amount of proactive environmental projects have had to be postponed due to the current situation, however the energy consumption across the university campus has drastically reduced due to no longer being on campus! In regards to the Financial Assistance Fund, I have lobbied the university to get better publicity of this and a large increase in the amount of money available has also been achieved. Working in collaboration with the other Student Leaders, we have been working on a new plan for a "virtual Swanny's" and look forward to publishing this next month! April also saw me appear on BBC Look North talking about rent reductions for Student Accommodation!</p>
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