

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION

Vice President Education Report July 2020

Operational Plans

My plans for the year are taking shape and I want to take more of an active role in supporting students through their academic year. By providing more educational materials on Academic Offences and more attention to the support services in place such as the library workshops to help students prepare for assessments I think I will be able to enhance the academic experience by helping relieve some of the stresses associated with deadline season. I also want to work with Abi to help Academic Societies build their networks within the activities and academia. My plans will be developing over the summer to also incorporate anything I did not manage to achieve last year due to the pandemic.

Committees

In the Curriculum Working Group recently we have been discussing developments with library, pastoral care and blended learning. This group is an incredibly useful source of information but also a useful platform to feedback student's opinions on teaching in learning in the new academic environment.

The Digital Education Sub Group discusses developments with digital learning and the tools used to help form modules, as well as teaching for a blended learning environment. At the latest committee we were talking about the different ways in which learning is being adapted to suit a blended approach with a mixture of online and in person sessions.

The Student Attendance and Engagement Committee has been meeting to discuss how to keep students engaged and appropriately signpost when we know they are struggling with the new learning environment through the attendance system. I attend to provide student feedback on the systems we use and to let the university team know how students wish to be supported and have their attendance monitored.

Working On

We held the first BAME working group and focus group this month that aim to keep us to the principles we have pledged to and also to make sure we are taking into account the lived experiences of our students at Lincoln so we are being representative and reflective of their feedback. We are starting these groups and conversations so we can put actions in place to support students and make sure Lincoln creates a community for all students.

The other sabbatical officers and I attended a sign language session with the BSL Society where they taught us the alphabet and how to introduce ourselves and our roles. This is important to us so that we can engage with more students and provide more of a welcoming environment by being more inclusive and accessible. I have also been looking into some apps that provide live subtitles in case I ever have to wear a mask on campus to make sure I can help anyone who asks for assistance.

Training

This month we have been finishing off our training and for myself and Abi it has been good to revisit some of the sessions for a reminder on how to properly make sure of our networks

and tools. In media training we have been learning about how to make full use of our social media accounts, for example with the Facebook Lives when they relaunch and more meetings occur with the incoming students virtually.

This last month has seen us train the Part Time Officers, having the opportunity to see everyone together acting as one community of representatives was such a great experience. The Senior Rep Group and I stated talking about our plans for the year and what they all want to achieve, I am excited to support everyone in achieving their goals and representing their cohorts.