



UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION
Vice President Welfare & Community Report August 2019

Freshers is only a matter of weeks away, and it's all becoming very real! This month has definitely been my favourite so far as I'm finally getting to speak to more students as they begin to return to campus. In addition, August has been filled with lots of planning for various campaigns and events the Student Leaders are putting on from feedback we received from students about what could be improved and what is important to them.

Training

After 3 months, we've finally finished all our initial training (YAY!!) August included Trustee training primarily, where the SABBs and our new undergraduate trustee learnt how to be effective trustees and perform good governance. The training was really useful and taught us lots which we were then able to demonstrate at the Trustee Residential and Board Meeting this month. We also had SURvival this month, which involved all the Student Leaders living in a caravan for a week (lots of fun!) and learning how to work effectively as a team with various tasks ranging from an "Apprentice" style task to a "the year of a Student Leader in 2 hours" which taught us all about handling deadlines and prioritising.

Campaigns Network

We've now launched the applications for the RAG trips to Kilimanjaro & Three Peaks with Choose A Challenge, fundraising for Mind and have already been receiving a large amount of applications for the Challenge Leader positions! I've also been working with our Campaigns Team to plan a team building event for all our Officers and SLP Leads, as well as an awareness campaign in October to raise the profile of the Campaigns Network. In addition, I've now been having initial meetings with lots of the Campaigns Officers & SLP Leads to ensure they're supported and understand their role.

University

The most unique experience of this month was definitely Clearing Day! All the Student Leaders spent the entire day on the phones speaking to prospective students and offering lots of them places on courses at Lincoln which was a great feeling! Results day also meant lots of new students joining our university, and therefore lots of new people to reach out to and involve in all the amazing opportunities we offer. We've spent a lot of time on social media this month getting in contact with new students and we look forward to being able to have in-person interactions with as many students as possible in September!

I also attended a student finance support meeting this month to discuss how students can make the most of the additional financial support that the University offers to support them while they study. If any students want any support or guidance to find out more about this please make contact with advice@lincoln.su.com who can refer you to the relevant services.

Environment

Discussions have continued this month in regard to how the Students' Union and University are going to respond to the Climate Emergency declaration, and I have attended numerous meetings to ensure the student experience is considered when discussing proposed changes to the operations of the University. In addition, the Students' Union have specifically been asked to run a working group to feed into the discussions called "Students as Leaders of Sustainability", which we will be running in September. Georgia and I have also began attending the Kitchen Garden run by the estate's environment team and look forward to hopefully encouraging students to join us when term starts as a method of relaxation during the busy term time.

Networking

August has been filled with lots of networking between Students' Unions, starting in Leeds with our North East Officer Networking event where I discussed all about housing accreditation schemes with Teesside Union, inclusivity in sport with Huddersfield and how to make sexual health education more LGBTQ+ inclusive with Sheffield. A couple of weeks later we then had Sheffield Hallam come to visit and we learnt lots from our discussions around engaging post graduate students, putting on a high impact inclusivity campaign and cross-collaboration on cultural events.

Community

This month I attended Carholme Community Forum, where residents and representatives from external organisations discussed issues affecting residents in the West End and I fed back about all the work the Students' Union have done over the past year to improve student integration within the West End community. In addition, I attended a meeting with a team member from Lincoln City Foundation to talk about how we can make students feel more welcome in the Sincil Bank area and use their talents to enhance the community.