



## UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION Vice President Welfare and Community Report

I can't quite believe that this is my last Officer Report as Vice President Welfare and Community! This year as a Student Leader has absolutely flown by, and it's now almost time for me to handover to your incoming VP Welfare and Community, Emma! May has been all about finishing off important projects and getting ready to handover the reins.

The other Student Leaders and I kick started the month with our annual 'Less Stress More Success' campaign. This campaign aimed to ease the stress of exam/deadline season, so each of the Student Leaders wrote a blog post with some of our own tips and tricks for handling this time of year (read mine here: <https://lincolnsu.com/news/article/less-stress-grace>). We also gave out free breakfasts over the course of the first week of May, and had a day of fun treats such as a pamper lounge in the Library, free ice-creams and a smoothie bike.

This month was a big one in terms of the Environment. I hosted our 'Time to Act: Shape the New Environment Act' event in the Engine Shed which saw members of the student body, staff and the local community come together to discuss the proposed bill. I will soon be taking the outcomes of this and our poll to our MP Karen Lee. This month the Students' Union also declared a climate emergency, and asked students to sign our pledge to encourage the University to do the same (<https://lincolnsu.com/news/article/climate-emergency>), and they did (<https://www.lincoln.ac.uk/news/2019/05/1540.asp>)! This is a fantastic example of student mobilisation in action, and I'm so pleased that as a collective we have been able to bring this to the forefront of the University's agenda.

As May brings with it the end of the academic year, it also brings the Students' Union's biggest events; the We Are Lincoln and SU Awards! It was an honour to attend both and see so many incredible students and staff celebrated for their hard work, dedication and commitment this year. I was especially proud that the Campaigns Network was the star of the show at the SU Awards, mentioned multiple times throughout the night with members nominated for numerous awards. We've had an incredible year!

May also included for me the last Quack of the year, another 'Sponge A Sabb' Guide Dogs Student-Led Project fundraising event, a student Drag Night in aid of the charity Mind, and the Hockey End of Season Meal. It was such a pleasure to attend all of the above! As usual, this month I have attended various community meetings including the Carholme Community Forum and Sincil Bank residents meeting. For the first time this year these two meetings occurred on the same evening; picture me running from one at City Hall to the other at Sincil Bank Stadium! I have also continued to promote the 'Move Out May' campaign put together by our Community, Environment and RAG Officers, helping out on Saturday 25th with the RAG Second Hand Sale!

This month I have also sat on various University groups including the Tackling Hate Crime Advisory Group, Gender Based Violence Task Force, Education and Student Life Committee, and Faith Advisory Committee, whilst also facilitating the remaining Campaigns Network Handovers. I have also sat on numerous Attendance and Fitness to Practice Panels, as well as Recruitment Panels within the Students' Union.

I want to take this opportunity, in my last report of the year, to say an enormous thank you to the student body here at Lincoln. Thank you for giving me this incredible opportunity by voting for me to be your Vice President Welfare and Community, and for making my year in office such a pleasure. It has been an absolute honour to represent you this year, and having given it my all, I am so incredibly proud looking back at what we've achieved together. Another enormous thank you to the Students' Union to staff team, who without whom none of our work as Student Leaders would be possible. Thank you for absolutely everything! I can't wait to see what's next for the Union with the new Officer team in place for the year ahead- I know that it will go from strength to strength.

All of my love Lincoln- thank you for the best four years of my life.