



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

Environment

I have been working on the SUGgestion for water fountains in DCB and the issue of recycling provision in University accommodation with the University's estates team. The new Environmental Campaign Group committee and Officer have now been trained and are ready to start campaigning!

Star in VR

This month the episode of #StarInVR which I filmed with the School of Computer Science was released! It was an amazing opportunity to talk about my role, how people can get in touch with me, and have a go around the VR track! Thank you so much to the School of Computer Science for inviting me. Check out the episode here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q45y9L6KIT8&feature=share> and keep an eye out for more Student Leaders putting their pedals to the metal soon!

LGBT+ History Month and Women's History Month

This month I have been busy working with the new LGBT+ Officer Jacob and the Women's Officer Alexandra to pull together plans for their respective history months (February- LGBT+, March- Women's).

Elections promotion

In January I have been shouting about the upcoming elections! Nominations are open until the 8th of February for all Volunteer Officer and Sabbatical Officer roles for next academic year! As part of this I have been using social media to talk about what an incredible opportunity this is, and what my job involves/why I love it! I have also been having one to one meetings across the month with students interested in running in the elections so as to answer any of their questions and talk about my experience from running last year. Go to www.lincolnsu.com/elections for more information about elections and the different roles.

Meeting with Deputy Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police about the 'Lincoln Girl Gang Chat', #ReclaimTheNight, and feeling safe in the city

I recently raised the increasingly prevalent issue of street harassment/sexual misconduct in the city at the Carholme Community Forum, given that the recently created 'Lincoln Girl Gang Chat' FB group gained nearly 3000 members in such a short time period. This led to myself and the Women's Campaign Group meeting with local city/county councillors, the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector, and the Deputy Chief Constable of Lincolnshire Police to discuss the issue and find ways in which to tackle it. The meeting with the DCC I hope will lead to the SU working with the Police on some kind of educational campaign around respect in the night time economy. Along this vein, I have also been supporting the SU's self-defence classes (put on due to a Suggestion from last year), which have been a big success. Members of the 'Girl gang' FB group have been in attendance which's great to see.

Online Mental Health support- Big White Wall

Students at the University of Lincoln who are going through a tough time can now access free online support with Big White Wall. Whether you're struggling to sleep, feeling low, stressed or not coping, Big White Wall can help you get support, take control and feel better. The service provides 24/7 online peer and professional support, with trained counsellors. It is totally anonymous, so no one will know you've chosen to use it unless you tell them. To join simply go to bigwhitewall.com and sign up with your university email address and then choose an anonymous username. In January I went along with University and Union staff for some training on how to use the platform and what it can offer, and I'm so excited to see that mental health support at Lincoln is now being offered online alongside the existing support.

Other

This month I have also been sitting on various Attendance Panels, attended the SU's UV Sport session (which was so much fun!), and Refreshers events such as the Refreshers Fayre. It's been great having students back on campus after the Christmas break, and getting out there to talk about what you want to see from your SU the rest of this academic year. As usual, I also chaired this month's Campaigns Network meeting, and also attended Senior Rep Group alongside the Campaigns Network Officers (Women's, LGBT+, BAME, Mature, Community, Environmental, ISA) to find out more about this year's National Student Survey (NSS) and why it is so important in Lincoln for third years to fill out the survey! This month I also led PG Rep Forum for the first time, which was incredible as I was able to talk about welfare issues specific to PG students- such as the lack of PG accommodation contracts and mental health pressures for PG students. I'm excited to start working on how I can represent these issues to the University and make change at Lincoln. January also saw the Su's first ever 'Clash of Castles' mass sporting competition with York St. John University! It was an honour to go along to York and support our incredibly teams compete! Although it was a bit chilly!!!!

Thanks for an amazing start to 2019! Roll on February and elections!