



University of Lincoln Students' Union Volunteer Officer Report

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Bradley Allsop- Postgraduate Research Officer

What has been worked on in the past month?

- I've continued to run my weekly drop-in sessions, 12-2pm every week in the PG Common room.
- Continued to attend UCU branch and committee meetings, raising PGR issues there.
- Attended rep reception, which was a good opportunity to meet other reps, university staff and hear about rep successes throughout the year, as well as giving feedback on a few issues.
- Attended the SU/Doctoral School regular catch up, discussing issues such as next year's PG Welcome Week, future PhD in the pub sessions and
- I've been raising the issues of which university committees currently have PGR representation on them- in essence not many. I'll keep pushing for us to have a spot on committees where needed.
- Along with Vicky, the PGT Officer, we held a movie and pizza night social for our PG Reps- great turnout!
- I lobbied Lincoln SU's delegates to NUS conference (next week) to prioritise a motion that aims to review and improve NUS' postgraduate representation structures. This is a motion that was brought up at the recent PG conference I attended in Birmingham and one which a number of PG Officers around the country have been pushing- it has been placed third in the list of motions to be debated at conference (partly thanks to Lincoln's delegates prioritising it), meaning it is highlight

likely it will be debated. I'll be pushing delegates I know from other units to vote in favour of it next week!

- I helped promote the #StudyHappy week ran by Student Life and the library, aimed at promoting positive study practices and providing a relaxing place in the library, tackling mental health problems. I attended their PG session on the Thursday and did a brief interview for their social media on my role and the importance of weeks like #StudyHappy.
- I've raised a number of specific issues with Kudzai, SU president, regarding PG employment rights issues. This came out after his meeting with Deputy Vice Chancellor Andrew Hunter who has promised to look into these issues- hopefully we'll have some rectification of these issues in the near future. I've also started to get the ball rolling on passing a motion at the next ASM (TBD) that cements a strong stance and commitment to campaign on- watch this space!
- The planned PhD in the pub social did not go ahead- neither ourselves nor the Doctoral School was able to promote the event enough and did not get enough interest. We will, however, be running one in May- if you're interested in presenting your research in an informal setting to fellow PG students, drop me an email on pgrofficer@lincolnsu.com!
- I've also attempted to develop a working group for employment rights issues, but have so far have not had many willing to get involved. The exact remit would be decided by the group itself but basically it'd be a way for the SU to keep an ear to the ground in terms of teaching conditions and help set our direction on these issues as a union. In terms of actual work it would be minimum- attending a monthly (if that) meeting and answering a small number of emails- if you or anyone you know would be interested in getting involved, drop me an email on pgrofficer@lincolnsu.com

Successes from the past month:

- Successful rep social
- Not a lot of other successes to report this month- a lot of stuff is being pushed through in various places but not bearing fruit just yet- I'll keep pushing and checking in with PG students though, keeping them updated 😊

Plans for next month:

- Continue to push on employment rights issues for PG students.
- Continue to work with VP Academic Affairs Tommy to develop a good programme of events for PG Welcome Week next year.