



## UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION President Report

### Executive Committee

October has been an incredibly busy month for the Students' Union and the Executive Committee. This month saw the first Accountability and Insight Sub-Committee take place, whereby Student Leaders presented their reports and activities over the previous month to a group of volunteer officers for the purposes of accountability. At the moment work is ongoing to ensure that the committee is able to adequately hold Student Leaders and that the right powers are awarded to the committee.

Due to the nature of the start of the academic term, we have been processing a number of Informal Disciplinarys on the basis of conduct in the Engine Shed. The vast majority have been for bottle throwing which has been dealt with as an immediate 4 week suspension of SU membership and privileges. This has been taken for review at an Executive Committee meeting and the decision to uphold the sanction was made. As it stands, bottle throwing is dealt with that 4 week suspension.

Work has been brought forward to the Executive Committee around Academic Societies, and the VP Education and Activities are working hard to ensure that the success of academic societies is viable and practical. At the moment we have over 25 academic societies and the work now is to ensure that the right infrastructure and support is in place. We are also exploring the potential of having dedicated university staff support in academic societies to ensure continuity of success, however this is work that is still in development.

Submitted Suggestions have had a relatively slow uptake however around six have been submitted to the vote including provisions for support for international students right through to the Suggestion for a Shrek themed Quack!. Depending on the support that each of those Suggestions get we will be able to prioritise where we allocate resource and support for the Suggestions.

The GOATing module utilised by the Student Leaders to keep record of conversations, ideas and suggestion by students has now been added as a permanent item of discussion to the Executive Committee agenda. The aim of this is to ensure and facilitate discussion around issues affecting the student body through GOATing (going out and talking). At the end of the calendar month a report will be written and submitted to the Executive Committee meeting to which trends will be deliberated and actions put in place to address any areas of concern.

An issue that has taken precedence with the Executive Committee has been around applications for societies with similar interests/activities being submitted and approved. It was decided and delegated to the Activities Hub that decisions around the validity and potential conflicts that might exist would be handled directly by those volunteer officers in which the main affect is. As such the VPA has taken a direct lead in ensuring that that support is given.

The PGR Officer has raised concerns around issues with PGR students, notably those in relation to welfare. As such we have reviewed which particular remit and officer responsibility those issues fall under and the Executive has, in principle, seen that it would appropriate to have the PGR Officer remit fall under the VP Welfare and Community. This will be enacted moving forward but it is significant move in ensuring that we understand the PGR community better.

### **Visibility and Impact**

The VP Welfare and I have continued working on supporting students in Viking House over issue they had been experiencing thus far with their accommodation. Having been directly involved in conversations with the university to address those concerns. The majority of concerns have been addressed, however there are still issues to be addressed and we are working relatively closely with the university to ensure that those still affected are supported and adequately looked after.

Black History Month has been a relative success. With eight films, 3 keynote talks, the on-campus trail and social media work we have been able to put together a programme of works that has hopefully been well received by the student body. We will be looking to appropriately debrief and ensure that lessons are taken away from BHM to be able to apply to other liberation type campaigns.

We are very near to securing Self Defence Lessons on campus as per the SUGGESTION submitted last year. This will be promoted as appropriate in the very near future, but should be an exciting opportunity for students to get involved in. Depending on how popular the sessions are we would be able to secure them for the following academic year.

**Kudzai Muzangaza**  
**University of Lincoln Students' Union President**