



University of Lincoln Students' Union Volunteer Officer Report

23 March 2017

Law School Rep

What has been worked on in the past month:

Subject Committee was held on 7 March.

- Welcome week events were discussed including the effectiveness of duplicate information in talks and employability in the first week.
- It was agreed that lecturers were to remind students about the use of technology in Lectures. Notices also placed in Module handbooks was suggested.
- Digital week and its clash with the Careers fayre was noted however it is unclear whether this will be the same next year.
- The newsletter is currently at the printers
- Discussed minor changes to Equity and Succession, particularly trialling assessed seminars weighted at 10%. Also discussed removing the grade for the workbook assessment from Legal Systems and Skills. Students raised concerns about this but are working with the Law School to ensure that students receive the best outcome.

On 13 March I attended the Academic Rep Reception with most of my course reps. It was a great chance to gain their feedback on what it was like to be a rep, and find out how many of them were interested in continuing as a course rep next year. It was also a great opportunity to share my idea about a handover guide for the incoming school rep focussing on school specific topics such as understanding committees and key contacts within the school.

On 20 March I attended Rep Forum which was poorly attended due to being assignment / dissertation week. However, we discussed Course Rep updates and suggested improvements for the SU. Course reps had a particular focus on closer links with the academic societies and how best both systems can be used.

The College of Social Science Programme Leader Lunch was held on 23 March where myself and the law course reps provided feedback on suggested improvements for rep communication, the SU itself and networked with other reps to share examples of good practice.

Ongoing: Students have raised concerns about their Civil Litigation grades being much lower than expected. Whilst the feedback is constructive, students have suggested an alternative mark scheme for non-essay based assignments. I am working with students to identify key areas that students have struggled with and this will be presented to the Law School once responses are back.

Successes from the past month:

- The role of course reps were well promoted and many nominations were submitted.
- One major project I have been working on has a great deal of success following a meeting with the Wellbeing Centre including;
 - Confirmation of a question regarding caring responsibilities on the enrolment form
 - Implementation of an emergency fund to assist students to get home in a crisis situation
 - Agreement with Carers First to hold monthly clinics in the Wellbeing Centre starting in the new academic year.
 - The inclusion of an additional section in the Personal Tutor Training: Supporting Students in Distress to understand how to identify a Carer and the support in place on campus
 - Creating an open day guide for Student Carers
 - With the consultation of carers, creating a Learning Support Plan for carers to ensure that their learning is not interrupted due to a caring role.
- Staff are working to refine the information delivered at Welcome Week to enable students to process the information
- The Law Society have recently been receiving recognition for its hard work and success this year. They have also been able to provide feedback and advice to other academic societies and reps working towards an ever-closer relationship.

Plans for next month:

- Working with students to construct a non-essay mark scheme
- Liaising with the Wellbeing Centre to create a Learning Support Plan for Student Carers
- Working towards continuation of partnerships into the next academic year eg BPP Liaison and Aspiring Solicitors Communication
- Determining the Careers contact for next year and meet to discuss next years planned events etc.
- Begin working on a Law School Rep Guide for the incoming School rep
- Continue to work with the Law School to ensure students receive feedback from one assignment before submitting another.
- Addressing the impact of staff absence or decrease in lectures from Family Law, Employment Law and Contract Law.