

Deputy President (Welfare) – Union Council report

Shervin Sabeghi – 03.12.19

Intro:

Boy, it's been a busy month. Very relieved that training is now complete for this term and that our reps are better equipped to do their work. Dealing with the halls rent debate has been a big-time commitment, but this is a really important issue that Council has a big responsibility to do right.

How I've spent my time over the last 4 weeks:

College Meetings and 121s	Volunteer + Union Meetings	Operational work (day-to-day)	Project work (major goals)	Rep training
16%	27%	31%	10%	16%

Highlights & Operational/Other Matters (not in my key goals):

- ☺ Year Rep training is now done! Personally trained 78/81 of Wellbeing Reps. Also had training with Liberation and Community Officers.
- ☺ Spent a significant amount of time producing options for Council for Halls Rent. Look forward to the discussion today.
- ☺ Have started having 121s with Wellbeing Rep teams and L&C Officers
- ☺ Been working with the College on reviewing policies and procedures around Sexual Harassment. We've been meeting regularly to go through the journey of those involved in various scenarios. This will likely lead to the Union considering our procedures around this and how we're aligned with College.

Key goals:

Goal 1: Reform the Liberation and Community work of the Union, and ensure the College's EDI strategy works for students – *in progress*

Progress:

- ☺ The Liberation Reform Working Group has been set up and has met twice. We have mapped out the current structure of L&C within the Union and began to discuss Student Networks/Advocacy Groups as a potential wayway forward. There is also discussion around adding a 'socio-economic' Officer (or something to that effect).
- ☺ Applications for the College's EDI Seed Fund have closed and, following me pushing to have it opened to students, 8 applicants have been submitted by students!
- ☺ Work is ongoing for the College's application/renewal to the Race Equality Charter and Athena Swan. The Self-Assessment Team of the former met last week and a need to collect more data from students was recognised due to very low turnout to focus groups. More will be run soon with a more carefully thought out plan to encourage people to sign up.

Goal 2: Fully review and set a course of action for the Wellbeing Representation Network – *in progress*

Progress:

- ☺ I hadn't officially started yet as of last Council, but have made a bit of progress now. The scope of the project has been outlined and a question in the Student Experience Survey has been added to help inform the review. Furthermore, rep teams are being asked questions to feed into this in ICU / Wellbeing Rep Team 121s.

Goal 3: Improve student support services – *in progress*

Progress:

- ☺ I have now received the data from the DAS about the amount spent on assessments over the last 3 years. I'll begin to formulate a way forward (with guidance from CWB) with the Director of Student Services.
- ☺ I attended an NHS 'Primary Care Network Patient Participation Group' meeting to represent students using the Health Centre. There is discussion around creating an app for the health centre and around ways to make sure the provision of care is inclusive for all people.

Goal 4: (Re-)establish the Felix Welfare Section – *in progress*

Progress:

- ☺ This has fallen woefully to the wayside and there has not been anything since the first edition. Off the suggestion of Francesca (EEO), we'll be featuring/officially introducing the Liberation and Community Officers in this week's *Felix* and I hope to properly establish a routine of writing/encouraging others to write more regularly.