

**Student Council**

***11th March 2014***

**Report from Executive Committee**

**Purpose: To regular written reports from the Committee regarding activity**

**Author: Executive Committee**

**Executive Committee Overview**

The last Student Council rightly asked a lot of questions of the Executive Committee in terms of activity and accountability. From that meeting the Executive met briefly to reflect and work on some of the motions that have come forward from Council. Due to the timing of the next Student Council and with the Elections taking place at the time of writing, less work as a committee was going to take place, so we therefore decided to focus on the motions as areas of work, as well as outlining work going forward.

The first motion passed was the Nightline motion. The ball has started rolling on this one, with the Chief Executive of the SU being invited onto an initial University meeting regarding the setting up of a nightline. He will report back to the Executive Committee once the meeting has taken place.

In regards to the Halal meat motion, the Executive Committee were struck with an early win in moving this forward. The Chief Executive has been selected to mentor the new catering manager of University facilities, which has allowed us an opening. Again the Executive Committee has asked the Chief Executive to discuss this with the catering manager and report back.

With the ATOS motion, the first step was for the President to ask the Vice-Chancellor about ATOS recruitment on campus. This will be done in the March monthly meeting. As will the motion regarding the money saved from Lecture Strikes. Similarly, the Living Wage motion will be presented to the Students’ Union’s Board of Trustees on 18th March. We will report on both of these at the next Student Council.

Following on from this, we have decided to outline what each officer is planning on doing up until the April Student Council meeting. Again, this is the same as to how we did the officer reports for the February meeting in terms of each officer providing a written report on their work.

**President**

One of the main things leading into April is finishing up the SU on Tour campaign and analysing the results of this, which will hopefully lead to some discussion in the April meeting. Two key meetings I have that Council may be interested in are the Trustee meeting where the living wage motion will be going for discussion, as well as a senior staff meeting with the University where the ATOS motion and Hardship fund/strike motion will be discussed. I also have an Energize-Worcester meeting in place to look at how we drive this forward.

The next few weeks will also involve (or may not involve) a by-election for the unfilled positions; however this is pending a Council’s discussion later.

**Vice-President Student Experience**

From now until the start of April I will be focusing on ensuring everything is in place for Varsity, Colours ball and the Voscas and ensuring everything is ready and students are prepared for the trips to Spain and Amsterdam in the Easter holidays.

With regards to Varsity, I am working with Gloucester to ensure the new website is in place which will be found at [www.bluvarsity.com](http://www.bluvarsity.com) once it goes live. I am working to finalise all promotional material and ticketing via the website.  I will be working to implement a new ticketing system for Varsity and hope to have an online nomination system for Voscas and Colours set up in the coming weeks.

I have met with Carol Bottomley from the University Mental Health services to discuss a number of issues surrounding the service, further to this I will be meeting with her later in March to get the ball rolling on a ‘Time to Change’ Campaign. We are arranging more dates for SU on Tour and will be visiting Pershore college on Thursday 6th March

Finally, I plan to start putting together the Handover for the Incoming officer as my time will be extremely limited for the most part of April and early May.

**Vice-President Education**

For the coming months I will be attempting to drive home the campaign to gain printing credit for all students. Talks and discussions are on-going with the relevant members of University staff and I hope to report of an even more positive outcome in time for the next council meeting. I will be aiming for around £50, with the expectation that the University will not give so much. However I would rather aim high and get cut rather than aim low and for them still to cut it.  
  
The second half of the Level 6 StARs Forum will take place, working once again alongside the Head of Educational Development and Pro-Vice Chancellor Students. With the focus being on the two remaining topics of ‘Institute and University’. Once again finding out what a student would regard as good practise from these and what their expectations from each of these areas are.

Planning will begin to take place for the following years StARs elections. I will be beginning to put together an election template that can be passed onto the StAR Co-ordinators. This will provide them with a structure to follow to hopefully enable a fair and proper election process to be held at the beginning of the year.

**International Students Officer**

In between the last council and the 1st of April, the Spring Ceilidh will take place on the 12th March. Secondary to that, I will be supporting a few international students with the Worcester Bright Futures Society event. I will be attending the Diversity and Equality Committee on the 12th of March representing international students and discussing mitigating circumstances claims.

Throughout the month, I will be communicating other events and ideally working on the development of the new role to attract more candidates, as well as encouraging people to apply for the by elections.

**Representation Officer**

By the next council meeting I will have met with a number of relevant executive officers to try to resolve any issues that have arisen in which they feel any of their committee’s or students that fall under their categories have faced.  
  
I will be attending regular meetings that are being held between the executive officers to try to work together to our maximum efficiency as a team.

I will also work closely with the VP education to try to promote the upcoming National survey of students to try to get a large amount of feedback as possible. This also relates to the Worcester on tour scheme, which a number of the executive officers, myself included, will be heavily involved with.

As representation officer I feel like it is my duty to also help to promote upcoming events and fairs, I aim to do this within plenty of time to make students aware of what is happening around campus and that other campuses are aware of them.

**Diversity Officer**

No report submitted

**RAG Officer**

In semester 2, we will be holding several large fundraisers based around our four partner charities. A date hasn’t been set yet but having discussed the possibility of a ‘RaG day’ with our partner charities, I aim to get their fundraising officers/student liaison officers to the SU and run a full day of events. Again, this is still in the pipeline but as it stands this day will run shortly after the Easter break, giving us enough time to get everything sorted and maximize the days potential.

Outside of our four partner charities, I have been organizing a bone marrow donation awareness day with a charity called delete blood cancer. This is a motion that is very personal to me and I think its important more people are aware of donating bone marrow, so we will be running a stand in the SU either one Wednesday or around Varsity where students will get the opportunity to learn about the situation, and will also get tested to see whether they are able to donate if they need to.

Furthermore, I recently attended a ‘choose-a-charity’ fair at Loughborough University, whereby I had to both listen to pitches from a number of charities, as well as present back to them explaining what Worcester RaG is about and what we do. This was a very successful weekend where I gained a lot of useful contacts that could really help our RaG expand and develop over the next few years.