

## STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – VICE PRESIDENT SPORT AND HEALTH

### Varsity

This past month has been jam packed with Varsity events. Our darts event pulled in a record crowd at Walkabout and was a fantastic event, which also resulted in a UWE win! John House & myself were the leads on the brand new Friday Night Lights event which showcased American Football & Lacrosse turned out to be bigger than we ever expected. With figures looking to be 350+ attendance, the event was a massive success with ran smoothly & professionally. This was followed by the Basketball at SGS Wise, which again was a great event with a fantastic atmosphere. Working with UWE volunteers has been an absolute pleasure & without their help, the events would be nowhere near as good as they have been. Varsity Day seen many different sports competing followed by an after party at Analog. The event ran smoothly and although we did not get the results, we wanted; it was great to see so many clubs being able to participate.

### Sports Strategy

The Sports Strategy was first passed when I initially came into post. Alex Isaac (Head of Sport) & I have spent a lot of time over the past 8 months developing ways in which we can successful implement the strategy. We have had held many benefit mapping sessions with different departments of The Students Union & the Centre for Sport. During these sessions, we have identified our key aims and what we need to do in order to reach these aims.

There are different strands to the strategy so our sessions have included participation, performance & branding. In terms of improving our performance, we have been working heavily with Kieran Hopkins (High Performance) to see ways in which we can improve the number of BUCS point we get each year. As a result, we would improve our performance in BUCS standings and attract higher performing athletes.

In addition, we are looking at how we can increase participation to ensure sport is available for everyone at university & is inclusive. Furthermore, we are discussing ways in which the finances might change in order to benefit students. We are working collaboratively at The Students' Union with the Centre for Sport to improve the branding of UWE Sport. At the moment, some aspects are quite separate, for example students find it confusing having Social Sport, Off the Wall & Sports Passport all at £20 and available on different sites. We want to improve this so to students it all falls under one brand, even if behind the scenes it is still running separately.

It is still early days for the strategy and I am holding focus groups over the next month to get honest feedback from students. Any changes to club developments won't be implemented until September 2018 but we are looking to continually gather feedback from students throughout the process to ensure smooth implementation.

## **RAG**

RAG have worked tirelessly in line with the Varsity Series this year in order to raise money for local charities. They held a Varsity Launch Party that raised approximately £500. They also provided foam figures & spectator t-shirts & sweets to sell before and during the events which at this current time has raised around £2000. It is also almost the deadline for the fundraising league where we will find out which Sport has raised the most money for RAG & will receive a prize. This will be announced in the first week of April.

## **Sports Ball**

Once Varsity is over, the next big event will be Sports Ball. As previously stated, it will be held at Ashton Gate & the next few weeks will go into planning and ensuring it is a great event to finish off the year.