

VPEd Student Council report 2 December

Bower Bus

Based on student feedback about the bus timings at Bower Ashton, in February we plan on providing a mini bus to run from Bower Ashton to the city centre and possible Frenchay campus at 8:00pm and 9:00pm Mondays to Fridays. I am also running a survey among Bower students and staff to get feedback on the current bus services. The usage stats from the mini bus trial would be used to shape the campaign and also possibly look to influence first bus to extend the timing of the Bus services at Bower Ashton.

Attainment Gap

In celebration of Black History Month, I had the pleasure of organising and leading a panel discussion titled 'Beyond Barriers'.

The event focused on inspiring Black students at UWE Bristol. There were discussions around experiences panellists faced as Black students in academia, we explored the attainment gap and brainstormed possible ways of tackling it at UWE Bristol.

In addition, I have been attending key meeting to discuss and work collaboratively with some members of UWE staff on ways that the university can tackle attainment gap. I also intend to run a focus group among BME students at UWE to listen to their experiences and opinions on what they would like the University to do to tackle the attainment gap.

Student accommodation (International student buddy scheme)

Due to the large amount of international students that have arrived homeless this semester. in collaboration with some members of staff at UWE we intend to set up a Facebook chat which will be covered on a regular basis by Global Ambassadors to allow applicants to talk to existing students and ask any questions they may have which will include tips on finding accommodation, locations in Bristol etc. We will inform students of this through applicant communications, Regional Offices and Agents.

Also, for September 2020, we will be exploring the Unibuddy platform as a way of managing a buddy scheme to support students coming to UWE. The aim of the scheme is to encourage international students to plan and be prepared to study abroad.

I understand that a lot more can be done to tackle the issue of accommodation, however, this could help international students to be more aware that they would need to factor in accommodation and other necessary essentials before leaving their country.

Moving Registration back to Bower Ashton

Discussing and working with members of the start of the year group to explore the possibilities of moving registration back to Bower campus next year.

As well as the above points, I have been committed to writing and uploading blogs to the SU website on a monthly basis.