

## **Vice President Community and Welfare - Siân Hampson**

### **Student Council Report - 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

- Hours worked (November-January) 386 hours
- 9 days of A/L taken
- 300+ meetings

#### **Mental Health**

In October we ran a Student Wellbeing Survey and we had 1,961 responses. This was written up into a lengthy report (over 7,000 words) which has now been shared with various members of the university directorate as well as getting sent to Learning Teaching and Student Experience Committee for discussion. In the report there are several recommendations, and we will be also asking LTSEC to form a subcommittee to discuss ways forward from this report. This has taken a significant proportion of my time since the last Student Council.

The Welfare Committee and Debating Society ran an event titled "Is There A Student Mental Health Crisis?" which had panellists from NUS, UWE Nightline, Off The Record and the Vice Chancellor. This provided an excellent opportunity for students to talk to the Vice Chancellor about mental health services at UWE Bristol, and for me to present the main findings of the Wellbeing Survey.

Working with Bahkai and Erin, I launched a mental health accreditation for societies and sports clubs. This will hopefully help embed wellbeing and mental health into The Students' Union activities. Sports clubs and societies will have to fulfil certain criteria to gain mental health accreditation.

#### **Nightline**

I have also been working hard with the Nightline committee to pre-launch the service in December, and fully launch the service January 29<sup>th</sup>. This will coincide with a Nightline Awareness Week which I will be supporting. The work done by Nightline and its committee is invaluable to the UWE Bristol community, and I am really proud of them all!

#### **SHAG Week**

Myself and Erin have been working on getting SHAG Week ready, this year it will be bigger and better! We have had a lot of meetings, and have been bringing together various stakeholders together to run a successful campaign week. We have got Terrance Higgins Trust involved and they will be running 3 HIV Fast Test clinics on campus (two on Frenchay and one on Bower), this is a really exciting move forward for SHAG Week!

We will also be re running the Chlamydia Test Drive again, which around 75% of sports clubs have currently signed up to. This is a 25% increase on sign ups from last year, and shows clearly the demand for better and more accessible sexual health testing on campus. During the week we will be gathering evidence to show the importance of better sexual health testing facilities on campus, and push sexual health up on the universities agenda.

Erin, Jamie and myself met with student conduct at UWE to discuss how we can effectively bring the issue of consent into the week. We will be doing interactive activities asking students what they think healthy relationships look like, and using this as a way of students exploring and thinking about what healthy relationships look like. We will also be sticking all the contraception we are giving out with messages about consent.

### **Accessible Parking**

Myself and Sam (Disabled Students Officer) were on a meeting discussing changes to accessible parking at UWE, and looking at parking facilities for students with access needs. Currently students who don't have a blue badge but do have access needs (such as mental health problems, are pregnant, or have unseen disabilities) are able to get an 'A Pass' which would allow them to park on campus. The university are currently reviewing this system, and we will be gathering feedback on this in the near future.

### **Alcohol Impact Accreditation**

In December The Students' Union achieved NUS' Alcohol Impact accreditation. This programme is run by the NUS that works to create a social norm of responsible alcohol consumption among students. We had a section within our Alcohol Impact submission that used data from the Wellbeing Survey that looked at the impact between mental health and alcohol consumption.

### **Accommodation**

I will be sat on the annual rent setting board again this year. Last year we took a paper titled "the cost is too damn high". Unfortunately at the time this wasn't listened to, and the recommendations put forward were largely declined (bar setting up a halls reps structure). We are now taking this research and presenting it to the directorate as part of a wider piece of work around additional costs.

We have asked for the rent setting board to have a more student experience focus than before, and we now have additional members now sitting on the board that will hopefully shift the focus a bit more in favour of students.