

## STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018

### ERIN MILLS, VICE PRESIDENT SPORTS AND HEALTH

#### Varsity

The last few months have been extremely busy in the world of Varsity. We have had various stand-alone events which I have been involved with the planning and running of. On 11<sup>th</sup> February we had the first ever stand-alone event for netball, with over 200 spectators coming along, which was a great success. We also had Varsity Volleyball which was the first event that was a product of the bidding process (mentioned in previous reports), which despite Bristol winning both games (unfortunately for us!!) was a great way to showcase what the process has achieved.

On 21<sup>st</sup> March we had Varsity Day which was spread all across Bristol and had over 1100 students competing on the day!

The most recent Varsity activity I have been involved with is the preparation for next year's series. Myself and John House (Bristol Sports Officer) created an online form for all sports to fill out who would like a stand-alone event in the 2018/19 series. Clubs had to ensure it was a joint application form both UWE and Bristol, and include input from incoming committee members. Clubs were then invited to present their idea of an event before the panel (made up of staff from the Students' Union at UWE, Bristol SU, incoming and outgoing elected officers and the Varsity Manager) on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of April. The presentation had to include information such as where and when they would like the event to take place, more general information about logistics, health and safety etc and of course why they their club should have a stand-alone event. We had 11 different presentations and at the next Varsity Board meeting in May we will present the proposals to the Board and then produce a calendar for events for next year's series. We will try our best to create a schedule that reflects the students wishes, but this may not always be possible, but there is hope that by doing the process at this time, we can work with students if things need changing within plenty of time.

I have also been chair for the Varsity Boat Exec meetings for the Boat Race which is taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> April and is one of the biggest events in the calendar this year. We will have some important people attending the event such as the Mayor of Bristol and some high up people in British Rowing, which we're very excited about.

#### Sports Club Development:

##### - Sports Strategy

I have been working closely with Alex Isaac (head of Sport), aswell as the CFS and Opportunities Team on the Sports Strategy. We have been working hard on a pricing model that will suit all clubs, and to say it has been a headache is an understatement! We will be working more on this model, and work will most likely run over to next year where Jade will take over.

Also with the Sports Strategy, I have been working with the Opps and CFS to introduce the pathway model to all our sports clubs. We have presented the idea of the pathway at Sports Conference explaining how there are effectively 4 areas which clubs will fall in to: Performance, Potential (to earn or premiership), Representation (BUCS or Non-BUCS) and Play (social/rec sport). Due to feedback from students and staff we are currently working on the criteria and wording of each section and we will be rolling it out to sports clubs over the next couple of weeks and clubs will be placed in an area of the pathway. Different sections have different benefits and clubs can receive various things, such as S&C, a professional coach etc. Placement in the pathway will be reviewed on a 3-year cycle.

#### - Sports Club Development Training – Planning

I have also been working with the Opps team to develop how we offer committee training for our sports clubs. Instead of having a separate development meeting for all sports clubs, we decided this year to host 'committee development training' across 2 days. All new committee members were invited along and had the opportunity to 'Meet the team' (SU and CFS staff who they will be interacting with over the year), learn more about the sports strategy, go through TIGER training, understand committee roles and responsibilities and take part in club development mini-meetings. The two days offered a great opportunity for new committees to think about how they will run their club next year, whilst meeting the relevant people and it is something the SU will look to do in years to come too.

### Sports Ball

Preparations for Sports Ball are well underway and we've sold over 200 tickets for the event. I have also created a short-list for nominations alongside the Opps team and I will be sitting on the panel in the next couple of weeks with SU and CFS staff to decide the winners for this year's sports awards.

I have also started to collate images and videos for the infamous video that will showcase a year of UWE Sport at the ball. Also, as mentioned in my previous report, I have taken on feedback from students at Sports Conference and have hired a photographer where photos will be put on Facebook following the event, instead of the photographer who has been doing the event for years but students then have to purchase any photos taken on the day.

There is still more planning to be done, so with the event just over a month away, I will be spending more time on organising the event to ensure it's the best it can be.

### Meetings Attended:

- Sports Facility Strategy Meeting
- F & GP (Finance and General Purposes)
- SHAPE Alumni Event Planning
- 1 -1 with Alex Isaac (Head of Sport) – Every 2 weeks
- Executive Meetings with Part Time Officers

- Varsity Meetings: Varsity Board, Varsity Executive and Meetings for various stand-alone events e.g. Varsity Boat Race, Varsity Netball and Varsity Basketball
- Board of Trustees - 20<sup>th</sup> March
- JCS (Joint Committee for Sport – SU and CFS)

#### **Other Events:**

- SHAG Week 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February
- BUCS Conference Cup Finals at UWE – 7<sup>th</sup> March
- Sports Conference – 15<sup>th</sup> March
- Team Photos – 15<sup>th</sup> March
- BUCS Regional Meeting (all South West SU's get together) in Gloucester – 16<sup>th</sup> March
- Interview Panel for various roles – Societies Coordinator, Venue Supervisor
- Student Union Investigations
- Elections Week
- Easter Holidays
- 12 days of Annual Leave used
- Surgeries at Frenchay, Bower and Glenside

Unfortunately I am unable to attend Student Council on 25<sup>th</sup> April due to prior commitments with working at the Total Varsity Wipeout Event, Please email me with any questions or queries you may have on [vpsports@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:vpsports@uwe.ac.uk)