

Presidential Report – June 2016

**Staffordshire University Students’ Union Strategy**

At the last trustee board which will be held on Monday 27th June, the final draft of Staffordshire University Students’ Union will be signed off. Our latest strategy picks up and continues the vision of every student will be proud to be part of staffs. It is supported by our existing values of putting students first, being friendly, being inclusive and enabling, harnessing creativity and acting responsibly. To achieve this we have include five themes of work around the goals of:

* Students know that their union makes a difference
* Students can see things improving
* Students develop skills that get them more satisfying careers
* We encourage students to complete their course and support them when they struggle
* We are a well-run students’ union that involves its students.

**Knowing our students better**

**24/7 hour access to specialist software in Mellor building**

We have been working in collaboration with the faculty of Computing, Engineering, Sciences to ensure that from September 2016 the Mellor building will be open 24/7. We believe a key pad will be installed onto all front entrances and students will be given an access code.

**SVS**

The marketing department in the Students’ Union are currently analysing data including all comments left by students to identify themes which will inform the blueprint document written by the new officer team. The new team have learnt from mistakes made by the team this year when writing the blueprint document and briefing sessions are scheduled for July so that discussions can start at their first meetings with Deans.

**Customer segmentation and Welcome Week**

Customer segmentation data is being used to develop a new welcome week section for the union website. We are targeting ‘students moving away from home’, ‘commuters’ and ‘distant learners’. The data from the segmentation carried out in September will inform this section of the website.

**Engaging students more**

**School representatives and Learning & teaching advocates**

The role of school lead reps has worked really well this year, therefore we will be carrying on with these roles. However we are also adding more roles to this. We have also recruited a Learning and Teaching advocate to each faculty, who will be responsible for conducting student focused research around learning and teaching at Staffs.

**FACT**

School Reps:

-       JHS – Tom Hope

-       AD – Claire Igglesdon

-       FSV – Kathryn Pogue

L&T Advocates:

-       Jayne Leese

-       Matt Sharrocks

**FHS**

School Reps:

-       NM – Dion Lewis

-       PSE – Liam Howitt

-       SWAPH- Sophia Fedorowicz (currently studying in the School of PSE)

L&T Advocates:

-       Kat Barber

-       Georgina fortune

**FBEL**

School Reps:

-       Business – Birgit Allport

-       Law – Not filled

-       Education – Amy Witton

L&T Advocate: Joshua James Lonsdale

**FCES**

School Reps:

-       Sciences – Ryan Summerfield

-       Engineering – Suraj Deshini

-       Computing – Jonathan Peach

L&T Advocate: Lee Milgate

**Great donate**

The great donate took place the week beginning 6th June. Students left large quantities of food, kitchen appliances, bedding, clothing and bric-a-brac. All of this will now be taken to various charities and the food has been donated to the Union’s foodhub, ready to give to students in hardship. It was a great success and it was great to have so many students involved in the campaign.

**Ensuring students are well served**

**Shops**

Up to the 29th February the shops have served 198, 790 customers. Our best- selling basket of 21 items this month, cost £30.11; which was 32p more expensive than Sainsbury's, but 6p cheaper than Tesco. We have offered 145 price promotions and sold 346,979 items at a reduced promotional price.

**Advice Centre**From the 1st August 2015 to the 1st May 2016 Student Advisers have filled 2033 (899 individual client appointments). 57.68% of enquiries were finance related and we are still seeing students who have yet to fully resolve their issues with SFE. A total of £277,069.68 was raised for students.

**Lettings**

During this year Greenpads has advertised 1186 bed spaces. This term and over the summer period Greenpad has mainly focused on taking students on house viewings ready for the new academic year. The main way students can contact Greenpad is via email, face to face or via social media.

**Foodhub**

From 1st September the Foodhub has given out 131 food bags to students, including family bags for students with families. These bags are the equivalent of two bags.

**Developing students**

**Selling yourself**

11 student staff from Stafford and 3 staff from Stoke attended the “Selling yourself” workshop supported by the Union and Careers Network.

**Officer handover**

We have reviewed our officer induction for the elected officers based on feedback from this year’s officer team and have included a wider range of development activities to allow for all the different learning techniques they prefer.

**Proud to Be Staffs**

**Green Impact**

The Union have been awarded Gold for green impact. This is a fantastic achievement and means we have won an award for green impact since 2008 and have progressed through bronze and silver and have now won gold and partaken in excellence projects. Green impact is a national recognition from NUS towards sustainability. Various organisations take part and complete a workbook to note any positive impacts or change at the organisation.

**Proud to be Staffs Awards**

Proud to be staffs awards took place on May 12th. It was a great way to celebrate staff and student successes from throughout the academic year. 120 guests attended the award ceremony and we gave out 15 awards. A full list of winners can be found at: <https://www.staffsunion.com/proudtobestaffs/winners/>

**Miscellaneous**

**Transgender Policy**

Due to continued lobbying from the officer team and a Staffordshire University student Nieve Whitehurst from September 2016 BUCS and the NUS will now have a policy to better help and support transgender students who are wishing to play a sport in their chosen gender.

**Key Dates**

**New Officer Team take office – 1st July**

**NUS SU2016 – 5th-7th July**

**Graduation – 11th-15th July**

**Learning and Teaching Conference – 7th July**

**Bal Deol**

**President
Staffordshire University Students’ Union**

**June 2016**