

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

**EMILY LONG - Vice President (Science and Engineering)**

My campaigns, policy and other work

**My campaigns**

<b>ARU Community</b> Aim: Student's and staff at ARU feel like they belong to a supportive, motivational and powerful community that pushes ourselves to be our best.	In Progress
<p><i>Updated 16/02/2021</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of December created Holiday boxes for students in and around our campuses</li> <li>• At the end of January i hosted a faculty meet &amp; greet that really opened up student and staff channels, we received really positive feedback from students.</li> <li>• following on from the holiday boxes, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor has asked me to create an initial proposal for ARU's community building events &amp; activities for the rest of the year. It's a huge piece of work but can have an equally huge impact to student's experiences. <u>So</u> I'm keen to know about events &amp; calendars that are already in place, what works well and what doesn't, <b>I'd be grateful for anyone's time and suggestions for it.</b></li> <li>• I've reached out to individual societies to get to know them more. I want to know what inspired committee members, what they get up to and how I can help them. It has been beneficial to lead projects by having those quality conversations with students so <b>I would love to have 1:1's with Exec members also.</b></li> </ul>	

<b>Accessibility</b> Aim: Students are supported by the university and the SU to access support services, their education and facilities that they need throughout their ARU Journey	In Progress
<p><i>Updated 16/02/2021</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM- working to get closed captions on all videos and lectures.</li> <li>• This campaign has moved towards digital access more during the lockdowns and has been more reactive e.g. software access, hardship funds.</li> <li>• I would like to revisit the accessibility pledge and policy</li> <li>• I am continuing to speak with Estates and facilities about an accessibility audit of our</li> </ul>	

campuses.

### Communication

Aim: Students feel confident in the communication they receive across various platforms

In Progress

*Updated: 16/02/2021*

- Currently in the review stages as trimester 1 was full of new suggestions that FSE or the SU have adopted and trialing. E.g. SU Townhall for staff, School level townhalls for students, FSE trial for course group chats & staff proactively providing platforms and channels for students.
- I'm currently writing a proposal for Education Matters & Scenario planning groups on expanding the trial to a university-wide approach of staff being proactive advocates for student voice.
- Still to plan SU Townhall for staff to staff comms.
- Explore expansion of SU Signposting from staff

### Reactive Campaigns (Previously student support)

In Progress

*Updated: 16/02/2021*

Safety Net Policy:

- ARU have agreed to work on a safety net policy proposal. Some points have been actioned already or already approved. We are working to make the approach they're taking more holistic and inclusive of counselling and wellbeing as well as an approach to grade protection.
- I've now set up evening chats to have open discussions with students in the form of Evening chats.

Student tutorials

- Awaiting feedback from departments on tutorials needed.
- Was recommended to learn OBS instead of the installed screen grab software.

2020 Graduation

- students were informed graduations would be online ceremonies, they've now offered students the option of an online ceremony or to defer until it's safe to carry out in person.

<p><b>Sustainability</b></p> <p>Aim: ARU &amp; ARU Students' Union will be nationally leading organisations for sustainability.</p>	<p><b>In Progress</b></p>
<p><i>Updated: 16/02/2021</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sustainability week has now concluded. I received a lot of feedback and follow ups from students. We achieved the aim of asking students to consider behaviour changes.</li> </ul> <p>Projects within the campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Promoting the use of ARU Green an online platform to learn &amp; record your sustainable actions and get points for prizes. Only 603 students are currently registered out of all campuses. <b>Are Exec registered? <a href="http://teamjump.co.uk">About (teamjump.co.uk)</a></b></li> <li>● Sustainability webpages, with sustainability being a core value for the SU, we should be saying as such on our website and promoting the campaigns, projects, policies, events &amp; activities.</li> <li>● Sustainable podcast series- in order to reach a wider audience a sustainable podcast series will be set up to discuss hot topics, interview local communities, students and organisations on how we can be sustainable. <b>Who would you want to hear from?</b></li> <li>● Ecosia on campus-would be the default search engine instead of bing. Searches from this search engine generate funding to plant trees. Even just one search to get to google from thousands of students and staff can be hugely impactful.</li> <li>● Sustainability awareness policy- this is both progress on the current policy and ensuring the SU are upholding their stances, as well as creation of a new policy to be submitted for the April 2021 group chat.</li> <li>● Sustainability week- launching behavioural change- complete</li> <li>● Student sustainability working group- complete and GSI have drafted a proposal for how this could be made a permanent fixture at ARU.- <b>continuing to accept new members.</b></li> <li>● <b>Eco-store maps</b> - having access to a map of local stores that are zero-waste. Student led by a volunteer, awaiting final completion of cambridge based map, ARU green staff have offered to replicate the map for chelmsford &amp; peterborough.</li> <li>● Sustainable period products- ARU previously invested in period products for students in ARU, we want to make sure that these are sustainable.</li> </ul>	

### Other relevant updates

Updated 16/02/2021

- **Mental Health & Wellbeing:** my role in the campaign is to explore how we can widen destress fest and bring that out into the rest of the year. Stress isn't felt at just one particular point in the year. **What destress activities do students want to take part in? (assume online for a start this trimester).**
- Additionally in FSE I've now set up a meeting with the dean and the head of counselling and wellbeing for our student reps to meet and discuss openly. We will be working through a problem and solution tree also to get to the root causes and find the best solutions.

**Senate Committees that I sit on:**

Senate

Student matters

Academic Regulations

**Non-Senate committee's/ work streams that I sit on:**

Access & Participation

Athena Swan

Sustainability strategy

Sustainability Strategy Comms

**Sustainable operations group (New)**

Welcome Working group

**SU Fresher's (New)**

**SU Awards (New)**

Scenario planning

Student partnership

**Student wellbeing strategy steering group (New)**