



CAMPAIGN UPDATE REPORT

Prepared for:	Faculty Voice Committee (FVC) and Liberation, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (LEDIC)	Date:	20/12/2017
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Summary: *This paper provides an update on the implementation of the campaign(s) of the Executive Committee member*

Retention

Aim: Does involvement with the SU correlate with good student retention/continuation rates?

Objective(s):

1. Email key stake holders to register interest and begin process
2. Collect Data and analyse
3. Create Report
4. Use Recommendations to Create Working Group

COMPLETE

NOT STARTED
NOT STARTED

NOT STARTED

Updates:

1. Email was sent to key stake holders and experts. Awaiting reply to finalise data needed and then will begin data analysis.
2. I collected data however an issue with data protection has meant re-contacting Teesside to discuss how they got around this. Conversations about how we move around this seem positive and will be picked up in the New Year. Currently we receive data two years behind (so I would be working with data from 2014/15 which makes our research out of date before it's even begun. I'm talking to Ash Mcgregor (Academic Registry) and Ruth Taylor (ProVice Chancellor for Retention) around the the possibility of using our data before it's sent to the regulator and becomes out of date. The meeting will be early in the new year.
The report will be in the style of our Let's Be Honest report in keeping with our strong feeling that what we do to improve student mental health will ultimately improve retention.

UPDATE: I am in the process of drafting a proposal document to explain to the university why this research will benefit both organisations. I need to ensure that I am clear about how beneficial the Students' Union is to retention. This proposal will go to the Student Retention Steering Group on 13th February.

Teaching Excellence

Aim: Lobby the university to create an internal teaching excellence framework which has students as partners to actually measure teaching excellence

Objective(s):

1. Lobby the university to create an internal measurement for teaching excellence
2. Create a working group of university and students to feed into the definition of ARU teaching excellence
3. ARU feedback mechanisms fit for purpose review

COMPLETE

IN PROGRESS

IN PROGRESS

4. Lobby the university to use this measure to benefit students

IN PROGRESS

Updates:

1. Emailed Adam Longcroft (Anglia Learning and Teaching) to discuss my proposal. He suggested emailing a colleague as they already looked into this however the idea was dropped when the government mandated TEF was introduced. Waiting for a reply.
2. **UPDATE:** I have confirmed with Anglia Learning and Teaching that we will look into an internal measure of teaching excellence.

I am bringing to executive committee a number of questions as well as some content so that we can collectively consider some criteria to go towards the end framework. After executive committee have agreed a list of criteria these guidelines will be taken to a group including the Anglia Learning and Teaching subcommittee so that we can dissect, consider, debate and ultimately condense the guidelines into 10 key criteria agreed by all.

3. The module evaluation survey is under review, I intend to be in those discussions and will update further when these meetings begins.
4. Once this framework is in place it will be created by staff and students collectively to create a 'best practice' framework that staff can then use to develop their teaching and students can use as guidelines to support their learning. We could potentially use this to redevelop the MAD award criteria.

Other relevant updates:

Conversations about graduation being moved to July have restarted and are looking positive. This does however, mean re-submitters will not be able to graduate with their class in the ceremony.

UPDATE 20/12 Chasing the Academic Registry to be a member of the group which discusses this. Unlikely to be in time for 2019 graduations.

UPDATE 31/01 I am now invited to these meetings – unfortunately this meeting clashes with a Trustee Subcommittee meeting but I will be sending Johanna in my place and will fully brief her beforehand.

I'm writing to local MPs to discuss the Let's Be Honest report as well as the possibility of student discounted public transport in Cambridge. UPDATE: Both MPs have replied, setting up dates currently.

UPDATE 20/12: Daniel Zichner came to visit the union on Friday 8th to discuss the Let's Be Honest report. Overall he agreed nothing in the report was a surprise. He discussed taking the report to his parliamentary group and we will continue to chase in the new year.

UPDATE: 31/01 After a successful meeting with Vicky Ford she is a big advocate for the promotion of being able to register at your local GP and your university GP. She has also given us numerous contacts within parliament to discuss the relevant recommendations around the Let's Be Honest Report.

She has asked that we give her the contact details for all the professional companies we have with regards to paramedics, nurses or any other course that has a practice based placements around the travel costs and how that affects students mental health (with fees and finance being the number one contributor to poor mental health).

Dance Studio

UPDATE 20/12: The Students' Union and Active Anglia are in conversations about who/how the dance studio will be ran. We are very much keen to give students priority and Active Anglia are working collaboratively to ensure a good partnership.

UPDATE 31/01: The Students' Union and Active Anglia have confirmed the timetable split for the dance studio. We are not waiting for budget to be released so we can refurbish and modify the dance studio to suit all our needs. We are still unsure of an opening date.

I am also still championing for the deal with the university (they will facilitate an appropriate off campus site for societies who used to use the dance studio) to continue for those societies where the dance studio still won't accommodate them – for example pole fitness until we get suitable poles.

University Mental Health Day

University Mental Health Day is March 1st and we are planning a collective event with Student Services. On the day we will be holding mindfulness sessions in PTH and Chelmsford (venue to be confirmed). Throughout the month of March we will also be running a whiteboard campaign with the theme of 'community' as well as social media updates and sharing student content so keep an eye out for that.

FMT UPDATE:

Hopefully you've all seen/heard about my video on social media. After the abolishment of Faculty Board (FB - a strategic level faculty meeting) there has been no replacement mechanism for students to share feedback at a strategic level. All the items that went to FB have now been distributed to either meetings that officers already sit on or to the Faculty Management Team (FMT). We have requested that students have a seat on this meeting and the topic is being discussed by the Deans of the faculty on Thursday (17/01/2017). I will update on the results of this and the next actions we intend to take after we have heard from this meeting.

FVC/LEDIC are asked to **DISCUSS**