



EXPERIENCE OFFICER (ESSEX) REPORT

For the attention of:	Executive Committee	Taking place on:	09/06/16
Name:	Leigh Rooney	Action:	To note

Summary: *This paper provides an update on the priority campaign(s) of the Executive Committee member*

Priority campaign(s) and objective(s)

Developments in Chelmsford

Space

Democracy Review

SU Awards

Summer Ball/Fest

Progress on priority campaign(s)

Developments in Chelmsford – Following the conversations about the development of a ‘student hub’ in the heart of Chelmsford I have met regularly with David Humber (provost of Chelmsford) to discuss the progress. There have been halts on the progress with the incoming of the new Vice Chancellor Iain Martin. From conversations with Iain, there is a clear intention to grow Chelmsford and improve the student experience there. There is a meeting in June to discuss the priority for the Student Hub – where it will be/what its purpose will be etc. I will insist that it is a student led space, to be used socially by all students.

Space – I am meeting with Steve Bennett and Sandy Lynam in June to discuss the progress on finding a dance studio space in Cambridge. This has been a priority for a long time so there needs to be a push. I am aware that the activities of clubs and societies is still a struggle because of the lack of space on/near campus. I am hoping there will be a space found by the new academic year.

Democracy Review – I have been on a series of visits with Grace, Dan and Guy to research other Student Union’s democracy structures. These include; Salford, Staffordshire, Westminster and Middlesex. We will be discussing in depth what structure we think will best suit us and the needs of students at ARU, to ultimately get more students engaged in our democratic processes; elections etc. and write up some recommendations which will be available to the wider exec to comment on.

SU Awards – They happened! For the second year, we had more students attend than the year before which is good, we are hoping to grow it even further over the coming years. Congratulations to everyone who was nominated and won awards!

Summer Ball/Fest – Chelmsford summer ball was on the 27th May - this was successful! We had 200 students attend. There are improvements to be made, there have been questions on what the ticket price included as it could have been seen as just another night in the student lounge. Cambridge Summer Fest was on 28th May– We will be having de-brief meetings for both of the events to explore different options of improvements on both campus.

An update on engagement with coach and mentor/mentee(s)

Achievements and/or outcomes