



ACTIVITIES OFFICER (E) REPORT

For the attention of:	Executive Committee	Taking place on:	28/06/17
Name:	Precious Nwanze	Action:	To note

Summary: *This paper provides an update on the work of the Executive Committee member*

Priority campaign(s) and objective(s)

1. Graduation Guest Fee
2. Made A Difference Award
3. Quick Rundown of what I have down throughout one year

Progress on priority campaign(s)

ARU Graduation Guest Fee

ARU students struggle across the board to attend their graduation, and while you are reading about the experiences of the following students, I want to take this opportunity to remind you that the University claims:

“This is **your special day** – so be sure to **savour it** and **celebrate** with those who are closest to you”

What can the University do to improve the situation?

Recommending what should be part of the ticket's 'value for money' regardless most graduating students will be at the ceremony also what other opportunities students will gain as a well-deserved experience offered as a cost-effective alternative.

1. Provide greater flexibility of opt-in graduation services such as photography options based on personal circumstances.
 - a. Such as having your photo taken for free by student photographers instead of being forced on to photographic companies.
 - b. The ability to opt in to paying for a buffet
2. The SU should be selling all graduation merchandise during the ceremony which will be very affordable to students.
 - a. In doing so there will be cost effective similar to the offers made across the sector at majority of universities such as Coventry University.

3. Make academic dress optional & affordable
 - a. The majority of students will still likely wear it, but there are those who would not if it still meant they could attend their own graduation.
 - b. Use the cheapest provider of gowns similar to other local institution and/or subsidise the cost of hire.

4. Provide a graduation bursary for individuals based on personal circumstances to help their families attend their graduation.

Made A Difference Award

At made a difference award, I and the other officers gave out award to our excellent tutors. Personally I gave out the “Innovative Teaching Award” the award was to highlight people who stand out from the crowd with their inventive and inspiring teaching and there was 3 winners for this award.

Overview

iBuddy Scheme

As part of our mental health campaign [“Let's Be Honest”](#), we the SU elected officers have decided to make a conscious effort to spend more time with students who might need a friend.

This is why I personally got involved with the iBuddy scheme. The scheme based around peer to peer support run for students, by students. I made sure that as many new students as possible receive a conducive environment for learning, catching up with their studies and helping them feel at home while studying as they move away from home for the first time.

Personally, beginning of every semester I am always there offering support based on my experiences as an International Student from the LAIBS faculty and currently as the Activities Officer for the Students' Union. I worked together with other LAIBS international students.

The ARU International Office and LAIBS Student Engagement and Placements team are in partnership in making this a huge success.

Aim: The primary aim of the iBuddy scheme is to help new students feel settled, welcome and part of the Anglia Ruskin Community. Although there is a focus on International students, but all students are welcome no one is turned away!

- I believe I was able to help students make the journey of achieving their academic and career goals less stressful.
- As Students' Union Officer I believe I effectively used every available resources given to me to support new students throughout their academic time here at ARU.

Diversity

2017 Global Week

Global week is one event at ARU I look forward to, this is because it promotes diversity and it is student led. This Year 2017 Global week was fun I was among the organisers.

Personally, I brought Nigeria attire for culture swap where students came in to wear this attire and took pictures with the cultural attire. Also I and my colleague Katie organised clubs and societies to perform on that day such as music and dance performance. There was a lot of food and drinks. Some individual students came in to display their native costumes, it was a great exhibition.

Globalisation and inclusion is the way forward, it brings **Peace, Unity, and Friendly Relationship Among Countries.**

International Society

The International Society is open to all students regardless of where they are from. It's an opportunity to make new friends from different countries and cultures or meet new friends who share similar interests. Personally, I created the International society to promote diversity on campus.

The International Society celebrated International students' day which is a national celebration that happens once in a year every 17th of November. The International society also organised Christmas party for all students who couldn't travel home to celebrate it with their family. The international society organised international conference during Global Week festival. **The International Society brings rich cultural awareness to ARU community.**







Black History Month

This is my highest campaign of the year and was celebrated 19th of October which was titled "The Pride of Black History". About 60 people turned up for this event which includes ARU staff and students. Program of the day includes Afro-Caribbean food, spoken word on black history month, Dance performance, external guest speaker conference, culture speed dating, and Black history quiz.





