

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

AVINASH MIRIYAM - PRESIDENT

My campaigns, policy and other work

**My campaigns**

<i>Committee for BAME students</i>	In Progress
<p><i>Updated: 15/10/2020</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>I am planning to setup a committee for BAME students to support them on a large scale. I am in the process of finding out, is there any committee to support BAME students to help them with their Academic, Employability and other tools to encourage and support BAME students. Just Started research to find information from all faculties through VP's, to carry forward.</i> ● <i>Attended AGWG of AHSS faculty and enquired them is there any committee representing unrepresented students, they shared information about it.</i> ● <i>Katie Potts, University EDI manager also attended the AGWG and I expressed my interest to set up a BAME committee.</i> 	
<i>Course Rep Communication</i>	In Progress
<p><i>Updated: 15/10/2020</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>To reduce communication gaps between Students, Students' Union and University, we need an effective communication system. To do that we should have strong relations between officers and course reps to solve issues of students in the ground level. Students' union is running faculty forums on regular basis, I am planning to attend to know more about and is there any change we make to communicate effectively with the students from course level.</i> ● <i>Earlier I had a plan to set-up WhatsApp communication for course reps, i stepped back because of privacy concerns. Recently NUS has setup a WhatsApp broadcast to support and communicate students' Union effectively, i speak with our officers and SMT in our catch-up, and they said it is good to go. I discussed the same with campaigns coordinators and they are about it and asked to run a trail how is it working.</i> 	

Access to facilities

In progress

Updated: 15/10/2020

- *Students need tools, spaces and equipment to perform up to their potential in assignments. There some needed to open more time than the normal hours at the assignments time. I would like to voice on the facilities required to students to perform to the best their ability at least few weeks before assignments. Had a meeting with James Rolfe, COO of ARU, regarding the support we need and I raised about it in the meeting. Collecting information about the courses that need more facilities from all faculties to carry forward.*
- *Gone through recommendations for accessibility of previous officers, as we me and Em, had same objectives regarding accessibility so we have shared the responsibilities between us so I am working on:*
- *Signage and Labelling around the campuses.*
- *Captions for video and audio lecturers to support students with different abled and those English is not their first language.*
- *Accessibility to Facilities: access to computer suites and edit suites for students to access the facilities to perform to best of their potential without any disturbances at assignment times. Enquired with media services staff about it earlier they used edit suites and computer suites up to 11pm and they did not receive any complaint about students. So I would like to find out why it is unable to access now.*

Other relevant updates

Updated: 15/10/2020

- *Team Campaigns: Sustainability & Mental Health and Wellbeing.*
- *Mental health and well-being: Gone through the recommendations and have discussed with SU CEO John and Roderick about it and we discussed about it in our campaigning catch-ups this week.*
- *The support from Campaign coordinator, Rachel is amazing and we had discussions about my campaigns on how take forward campaigns. She is happy to have a regular catch-up to discuss the progress of the campaigns. Thank you very much.*
- *Sustainability fashion week is from 5 to 9th Oct, 2020. All officers supported it very well throughout the week.*
- *Attended APPG for students organised by NUS, it has helped me to know about universities across the UK dealing with Covid-19 and issues that they are facing and support from the government to support students in this pandemic.*
- *Attend digital rally and students deserve better organised by NUS, in this officers from*

SUs' expressed their grievances against government in support to students'

- *Freshers week - given opportunity to speak to students after long time and hosted events along with the freshers team.*
- *University Alliance meeting helps us to understand various SU'S approach towards Covid-19, fresher's, return to campus and so on, and good opportunity to meet officers of other SU'S*
- *Attended meeting with International office to collaborate and to address students issues on a large scale. This meeting helps me to realize that students' union and international office on the same wavelength to support students. Officers team decided to have regular meetings with international office to discuss students' issues. The next meeting is on 10th November 2020.*
- *Officers had a meeting Roderick (VC, ARU) discussed current student issues like testing centres, mental health and wellbeing of students and staff, and received opinions about it from Roderick. Discussed about our campaign updates. Next meeting with Roderick on 11th November 2020 with all officers.*
- *University securing a testing centre by 16th october 2020, in Chelmsford and looking for options in Cambridge.*
- *Officers had a meeting with Aletta (DVC, ARU), discussed about current issues of students facing in face to face lecturers and encouraged our officers to have a town hall with students from all faculties to know feedback from students.*
- *As chair attended first trustees board on 17th September 2020, discussed about strategy of SU and future plans of SU.*
- *Students' Union and University had meeting(USU) where raised concerns about the private accommodation, support and well-being of students with symptoms by university.*
- *Raised issues of engagement indicator performance in students' Experience committee(SEC) and various updates students required to perform their education without interruption.*
- *Attending a meeting with Daniel, MP of Cambridge along with Cambridge Students' Union on 16th October, to discuss about private accommodation, health centre set up in Cambridge, how university supporting students in the pandemic situation and requesting his support to challenge the government and university to make the university life better for students.*

Meetings that I sit on:

Board of Governors

Senate Committees that I sit on:

Senate
Education Committee
Students' Experience Committee
Students' Matters Committee

Non-Senate committee's that I sit on:

Chelmsford Masterplan
Disabled Student satisfaction
LMS Project accessibility
Student Funds

Students' Union Committee's that I sit on:

Finance and Risk
USU(University and Students' union)