

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

EMILY LONG - Vice President (Science and Engineering)

My campaigns, policy and other work

**My campaigns**

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| ARU Community | In Progress |
| <p><i>Updated: 18/09/20</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the last update I have been getting involved in a lot of social media and working with my faculty to encourage student leaders. The faculty has agreed to follow my recommendations for recognising and rewarding student leaders in the faculty and then how the academic staff themselves can encourage student leaders (reps, societies, volunteers, ambassadors etc.) • Welcome period, supporting with move-in's & Welcome events. • The faculty has agreed in their NSS action plans to include community building events such as networking, rep lunches, school level society fairs. • ARU in the local community- Putting students at the forefront of the local community. This aims to improve local attitudes towards students, having local working groups and utilising liberation networks to get their voice in the facilities that are available to them e.g. Chelmsford city theatres will be redesigning their programme to be student friendly and inclusive of different liberation groups and cultures. | |

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| Rep effectiveness | In Progress |
| <p><i>Updated: 18/09/20</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have been working with the executive committee on various different projects. The new structure of our exec meetings by including a campaigns workshop means that we get to open up and explore more with the reps and this has seen a lot more engagement with reps being more involved in leading the union. • The faculty newsletter has a student leader shout out section, where reps can highlight the work they've done. • This week nominations open for course reps and it has seen a big push from the faculty to send that message in course inductions. • The faculty have included in the NSS action plans that they will include the SU more in visiting lectures, opening opportunities for us to speak with students about what it means to be a rep and how they can nominate themselves. | |

How can we as an exec committee be more transparent & accessible to our students?- potential for discussion @ campaigns workshop? What works well, what doesn't etc.

Accessibility

In Progress

Updated: 18/09/20

- The university will be going through an accessibility Audit, per Mary's previous campaign. I have now received confirmation that this is happening and will be working on it also.
- For the other element of this campaign, trimester 1 will see many teething issues and access to the facilities/ software that students need to complete their studies.
- Some issues will be resolved easily, I will then be collecting & resolving issues that are more complex throughout the trimester, specifically access to facilities, e.g. what software students need for assignments and exams, so these issues are highlighted earlier in the trimester so as to cause as little effect to the hand in period as possible.

Communication

In Progress

Updated: 18/09/20

- The FSE Faculty have agreed to facilitate school town halls once a trimester, to open up that honest and frequent communication with students as well having one each trimester enables larger changes to be made and reviewed across the year.
- Rep email text, having prepared rep emails that reps can end out each week helps to keep frequent comms open with students and greater feedback methods.
- FSE have requested for the officer to have a blog post up on their main webpage.

Other relevant updates

Updated: 18/09/20

- Team Campaigns: Sustainability & Mental Health and Wellbeing.
- Hidden disability sunflower lanyards, This is now an initiative that the university is keen to include and incorporate into their teaching and learning. And enabling training for staff and students on supporting those with Hidden disabilities.
- I have been having several meetings with academic staff with regards to the Athena

Swan award, not many people know what it actually is (Women in STEM subjects and ensuring different liberation groups are heard and have a say in how we as a university can be more inclusive. An introductory powerpoint has been created for our executive committee.

- International student fee's- international students are now able to set up payment plans to pay their tuition fee loans.
- I plan on writing weekly blog posts to keep students updated with my work.