

Officer Report November, 2011 from Jamie Robertson – President

Previous Work

Attendance at Inclusive Practice Forum; a great forum that is attended by students who define themselves as disabled. I am currently chasing the University to get the details of an already formed Disabled Students' Group, in order to create our Forum and elect a Chair to sit on Council.

Planning for Semester Two's Events; We have now planned out our events in the new year, and will be publishing them live on our website soon. As always – we would love for Councillors to get involved in areas of interest!

Children in Need; me and Gary got soaked with freezing water outside the Ember Lounge for Children in Need. It was really good fun. Honest.

University Plan; the final draft of the new University Plan has been written, and I'm very pleased to report that thanks to lobbying from Your Officer Team, we have ensured that a Partnership with Students, and 'Students at the heart of everything we do' are a mainstay of the Documents contents.

Board of Governors; a great meeting, and I wanted to include a very brief note to mention that at every meeting I have been to so far, our Board of Governors always talk about students and their needs, what is best for them and always differentiate them from customers.

Ongoing Projects

Blueprint for the Future; the production of a document which we have presented in draft form to the University, which details how we as an organisation can inform and steer what the institution does and needs to improve on, all from student evidence. This is currently being 'finessed' and we would love to have Council's input into it.

Strategy Development; This year, your SU will be developing our first ever long term strategy, looking to plan for the next five years (in line with the new University Plan). This will be a huge a piece of work going forward, and will entail a lot of consultation with many student groups-it would be brilliant to get Councillors' input if interested at this stage.

Nominations and Remunerations Committee; Now that we have 'pushed the big red Charity Button', the next step is to find our appointed trustees, which I am keen to get right! This is an important part of us adhering to Charity Legislation, and will be an immediate and important process for the Trustee Board.

Future Work

Law and Business Schools; recently myself and the team resolved an issues for Business Students in Stafford, and this has furthered my efforts of trying to up my presence in the Faculty and 'nip issues in the bud' as well as increasing StARs attendance/output.

Disciplinary Processes; it has come to my attention that our disciplinary process is currently disjointed from the University's; and also internally. This has led myself and Gary to question whether someone suspended from a venue should also be suspended from all Union services, and likewise for myself to ask whether a suspension from University Campus should also mean suspension from SU venues/areas.

Prep for Annual Forum; the annual forum is this week! We're really hoping to get a good turnout for the event, of which the first half will be our first AGM in very many years. After this in the 'forum' section, we want to gauge student opinion on three big issues: car parking, Wednesday afternoons and what our 'End of Year Event' should look like.