A black screen with blue and pink circles

Description automatically generated

**Name: Emily Roberts Officer Role: Vice President of Education**

MANIFESTO AIMS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AIMS** | **GOALS**  **(SMART -SPECIFIC/MEASURABLE/ ACHIEVABLE/RELEVANT/TIME-BOUND)** | **IMPACT FOR STUDENTS** | **PRIORITY ACTIONS** |
| Career Exploration Days | Select a School within LHS, CEBE or BS to conduct a Career Exploration Day. A career exploration day in semester two for students without harsh deadlines for graduate roles. Moving away from traditional careers fairs, with a changed dynamic, expectation and rationale. | A Career Exploration Day will demonstrate to students their transferable skills, display the wide range of options available to them, have better opportunities both at the event and post the event, students will feel more fulfilled and involved with the event as it is heavily student driven. | Set up meetings with School career leads alongside school reps. It is essential that student voice representation is involved throughout the entire planning and delivery process. |
| Support Academic Societies | Provide support for events, social media and awareness. Furthermore, connect them with the school and faculty rep alongside their head of school or associate dean | They feel encouraged, supported and fulfilled from being a member or leader of a society. | Taking Semester One to introduce myself and become familiar with the societies, at the midway mark of the semester I can introduce them to their faculty leads. In semester two I can focus more on the support and publicity of their social media and events. |
| Support the Collective Student Voice | As officer lead in the student voice rep structure, I will support the reps throughout the year. I plan to prioritize this aim during assessment time, SSCCs and revalidations. Furthermore, offer support around the lead up to the LTAs. I have set a target of 1000 nominations for the 10th anniversary, and I believe the reps and councilors can help me achieve this, this would be a collective student achievement and record. | Feeling heard, engaged and more likely to provide feedback and get involved with the union. | Introducing myself to the reps and helping them navigate their newly elected roles. |
| Support for Breastfeeding Students | UU has no fit for purpose spaces for breastfeeding students, to feed or store milk. This is not good enough. Providing a safe, comfortable space on all three campuses by the end of this academic year is a key aim and goal of mine. I believe with the support of our equality and campus councilors alongside Breastival we can achieve this. | We can eliminate the barrier to higher education. We eliminate the guilt option students are often left with when a parent – a choice on whether or not to proceed with their education. It will additionally be a significant benefit to staff at UU. | Get the policy passed at Council then take a proposal for a liberation space to the VC. |
| Empowering Women | The femicide in Northern Ireland is becoming increasingly worse. With Northern Ireland being one of the most dangerous places to live in Europe as a Woman or Girl. I am to write a brand-new policy alongside a charter for all student unions of Northern Ireland where each union pledges to do their part in Tackling Violence against Women and Girls in NI. To support this, I am establishing a student led women’s Empowerment Network at UU. Furthermore, conducting a series of events and vlogs in the buildup of the charter launch. | Students will feel safe, empowered and supported! Simple! | Get the policy and charter written up. |
|  |  |  |  |

POLICY WORK

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **POLICY NAME (INCLUDING REFERENCE)** | **SMART GOALS** | **IMPACT FOR STUDENTS** | **PRIORITY ACTIONS** |
| Support for Breastfeeding Students | This policy was entirely rewritten to accommodate the current climate of neglect surrounding breastfeeding at Ulster University. By the end of this academic year, I hope to have used this policy to embed three, fit for purpose, breastfeeding spaces, one on each campus. | By having this policy and acting upon it, we eliminate a barrier for students with caring responsibilities. Additionally, we limit the newly growing stigma around breastfeeding. | The current priority is to get it passed with 50 signatures and present my liberation space proposal to the DVC or VC |
| Compulsory reading weeks | To conduct research on the University’s internal policy on reading weeks and discover whether students benefit from them academically. | Better awareness and understanding around what a reading week is, reduced confusion around the term reading week. | Current priority is to focus on researching the internal policies and the demand for reading weeks. |
| Empowering Women | This policy is to be lapsed and fully recreated. I intend to do this with the new women’s empowerment network to ensure it is applicable to the current student body. | Better understanding, awareness, recognition and support for women at UU. | Establishing the committee. |
| Re-enrolment fees | This policy is due to lapse and return as a new policy covering all miscellaneous fees. | The ability to re-sit an exam without being financially impacted. | Research current prices for re-enrolment and exams and assignments. |
| Timetabling | This policy requires extreme work to reflect the ongoing issues surrounding timetabling. This policy will reflect the KWAF policy in order to strengthen and support each other. | Students will have more stability, and the ability to enter the academic term without extra, unnecessary, anxiety or stress. | Work with Connor to determine the demand for KWAF. |
| Childcare  Inclusive Protection and Sexual Health Education | Without onsite or partnership creche facilities, we are creating barriers for women and students with caring responsibilities. We must continue to lobby the university to reinstate the creche facilities on each campus.  Review proposed amendments and ensure they reflect the current academic year’s SHAG campaign and EDI – Women's Empowerment campaign. Furthermore, ensure it reflects the status of the Sexual Health Clinics at each campus. | We eliminate a barrier, providing support for students with caring responsibilities. We have potential to see an increase in students attending UU, and a reduction in absences.  Better awareness of facilities and services. | Attend first committee meeting to see how UUSU can best support the reimplementation of the creches  Research the position of the Belfast sexual health clinic, as well as Coleraine. Look at statistics around the new sexual health clinic at Magee. |

A black screen with blue and pink circles

Description automatically generated

CAMPAIGNS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CAMPAIGN NAME** | **SMART GOALS** | **IMPACT FOR STUDENTS** | **PRIORITY ACTIONS** |
| Women’s Empowerment | Establish women’s empowerment network, create Northern Ireland collective union charter for tackling violence against women and girls in Northern Ireland. Have a series of events showcasing women in sport, women in politics and women in business. | To feel heard, believed, empowered and determined! | Establish the women’s empowerment committee. |
| Inclusive Language at UU | Showcase Ulster Scots wee, the Irish language in March, Braille and Sign Language. | We promote an inclusive environment and student belonging. | Continue working on the Irish Language Strategy. |
| Education Campaign - “Feedback” | Food for Thought  Coffee and Chat  What do you give a Duck about?  These three initiatives will be used in the last week of every month, each month hosting a new theme to gather feedback on a particular topic. This reduces the number of surveys going out to students. | They get to have their voices and input heard; they feel an extra level of control regarding their education. | Finalize each month’s theme. |

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY** |  |  | **IMPACT FOR STUDENTS** |
| INDUCTIONS  REP INDUCTIONS  COMMITTEE TRAINING | VISUAL ENGAGMENT WITH STUDENTS TO INTRODUCE THEM TO THE STUDENTS’ UNION AND THE NEW OFFICER TEAM. PROVIDING INFORMATION ON EVENTS, SOCIETIES, SPORT AND THE REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE. THESE INDUCTIONS AIMED TO BOOST STUDENT MORALE, ENGAGMENT AND SENSE OF BELONGING AT UU AND UUSU.  REP TRAINING FOR ALL FACULTY AND SCHOOL REPS, THE IMPACT BEING THAT STUDENTS FELT EQUIPPED AND PREAPRED FOR THEIR ROLES AND THAT THEY KNEW OF THE SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO THEM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.  ATTENDING COMMITTEE TRAINING TO INTRODUCE MYSELF, MY EXPERIENCE WITH SOCIETIES AND THE SUPPORT AVAILABLE VIA THE OFFICERS. | | |
| BREW MONDAYS | BREW MONDAYS COMMENCED AT THE BELFAST CAMPUS DURING WELCOME WEEK, THIS WAS A GREAT OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD CONNECTIONS AND TALK WITH STUDENTS ABOUT COUNCIL AND REP NOMINATIONS BEING OPEN. IT WAS A GREAT CHANCE TO ASK NEW STUDENTS WHAT THEY BELIEVED THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES FACING STUDENTS WERE, EACH YEAR WILL POSE NEW CHALLENGES... THIS ALLOWS US TO SHAPE OUR POLICIES AND CAMPAIGNS ACCORDINGLY. | | |
| FRESHERS | FROM THE SUNRISE HIKE TO SEX TOY BINGO TO THE FAYRES THEMSELVES, WE ENGAGED WITH HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS FROM ALL THREE CAMPUSES TO ENHANCE STUDENT BELONGING. FEEDBACK FOLLOWING FRESHERS WAS SIGNIFICANTLY POSITIVE, WITH STUDENTS FINDING THEIR SOCIETY, ENGAGING WITH OFFICERS AND HAVING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF UNIVERSITY LIFE. | | |
| WHAT DO YOU GIVE A DUCK ABOUT? | WHAT DO YOU GIVE A DUCK ABOUT IS A COLLABORATION CAMPAIGN BETWEEN THE STUDENT VOICE TEAM AND VP EDUCATION. THIS IS A QUICK WAY TO GATHER PRIMARY FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS, WHAT CHALLENGES THEY WANT TO SEE THEIR UNION FOCUS ON THROUGHOUT THE UPCOMING ACADEMIC YEAR. THE IMPACT FOR STUDENTS WAS THAT THEY FELT INVOLVED, EMPOWERED AND HEARD. | | |
| MENTAL HEALTH WEEK | WE PROVIDED BREW MONDAYS, MINDFULNESS CRAFT AND GRATITUDE PACKS. ADDITIONALLY, WE PROVIDED POSTCARDS WITH EMPOWERING MESSAGES, THIS WAS INCLUSIVE AS THESE CAME IN ENGLISH, IRISH AND ULSTER SCOTS. STUDENTS HAD A CHANCE TO VISUALLY WRITE WHAT THEY WERE GRATEFUL FOR. AS A WHOLE THESE EVENTS EMPOWERED STUDENTS AND BOOSTED MORAL FOR THE DAY AHEAD ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING THESE EVENTS OCCURED FOLLOWING THE RUSH OF FRESHERS AND ELECTIONS, THEY WERE A GREAT REMINDER FOR STUDENTS TO PAUSE AND TAKE A MOMENT OF REFLECTION AND APPRECIATION. | | |
| BLACK HISTORY MONTH | DANIEL, OUR VP EQUALITY AND BELONGING, ORGANISED A SERIES OF EVENTS WHICH I GLADY SUPPORTED ACROSS CAMPUSES, THIS WAS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE WITH STUDENTS TO PROMOTE INTERGRATION AND A SENSE OF BELONGING. | | |

A black screen with blue and pink circles

Description automatically generated

SHARE YOUR WINS AND MILESTONES (BIG & SMALL) ￼

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **AREA** | **IMPACT FOR STUDENTS** | **HOW WAS IT SHARED WITH THE MEMBERSHIP** |
|  | Women’s Empowerment Network | This network will give students the opportunity to feel empowered in university, support eachother and have a level of control on how they move forward with women’s empowerment. So far, their has been great engagement with a significant number of students providing ideas for policy, events and collaboration. | Via social media |
|  | EDI Campaign – Women's Empowerment Strand | This campaign has been taking off exceptionally well. I have a great deal planned and just the start of the social media engagement has been powerful. From students with caring responsibilities, to reps and leadership to expression of interest in the network. | Social media and through socieities so far. |
|  | Breastfeeding Students Policy | This policy is completed and pending council approval, this policy will eliminate an additional barrier to students studying at UU. | Shared at Council |
|  | Creche Facilities Talks - Survey | We eliminate another barrier facing students and impacting their potential within higher education. We can potentially, additionally address | Via council at this current moment, I will not share with membership until progress is made. |
|  | Timetabling and Attendance Monitoring | Students were given reassurance | Via reps and officers as well as social media |
|  | Liberation Space Proposal | This has so far captured the attention of staff across the university, with a physical proposal and actioned space this liberation space will benefit a host of students for different reasons. | Via social media, council, reps, socieities, direct engagement and social media. . |
|  | What do you give a duck about? | Great way to increase belonging amongst students, happy that a group from Magee formed a friendship from the duck search! | In person and via social media |
|  | Education Campaign | A series of meetings have allowed me to represent students, from assessment to attendance to handbooks. I believe I have represented students well, ensuring they receive the best possible outcomes.  From the range of committees I am on, with my education campaign each month shall host a new theme, this camoaign is aimed to achieve small and rapid wins, which can shape future campaigns, events and our structures. | Direct with membership, via social media, reps and societies. |
|  | Mensturation Matters | Addressing the ongoing issue of period poverty amongst students, the university has began supplying free period products across each campus however we, as a students union, need to ensure we continue to lobby the university for consistency and transparency regarding period products. | Via social media, reps and societies. |