

Area of work: Transparency and Communication/Student Engagement and Representation	
Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
Goal 1: Microsoft Teams Group Chats	<p>Work so far: Creation of Microsoft Teams Group Chats for both IM and AU Clubs. The main point of contact for each club has been added into a group chat with Sport Coordinators, VP Sports and IM Officer to simplify and improve the communication process. Club Captains and Presidents have been the chats as mean of communication to raise any issues, ask questions, share ideas while anything that requires their attention has been shared on behalf of SUSU Stakeholders.</p> <p>The group chats have worked brilliantly as feedback by Club Presidents suggests. They have been used to contact presidents regarding important issues such as but not limited to the Sports Pass and Team Southampton Awards when seeking consultation, ensuring that the sporting community’s voice is always present when decisions are being made.</p> <p>-</p>
	<p>Next steps: Continue using them as the primary form of contact between Clubs and stakeholders.</p>
Goal 2: Regular and effective communication with Clubs and all relevant Stakeholders	<p>Work so far: Regular meetings have been conducted with key stakeholders from both SUSU (Weekly meetings with Activities Coordinators (Sports) and Southampton Sport (weekly meetings with Head of Community Services, monthly meetings with Head of Sports Development and Director of Sport, Residences and Community). I have also been visiting Clubs whenever I got the chance; even training with them aiming to create meaningful relationships based on trust and mutual respect.</p> <p>Since my last update, I have attended home games in support of our teams and was very happy to have committee members reach out to me for issues such as but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant Round applications - Block Bookings - Social Media - Home Game invitations
	<p>Next steps: Continuously stay in touch with Clubs and key stakeholders, ensuring a fair representation of students’ interests and communication of those to key stakeholders.</p>
Goal 3: Open Sports Forum	<p>Work so far: Ongoing conversation to confirm availability and attendance of key stakeholders.</p> <p>As part of the Sports Pass discussions in light of a petition that was submitted at the start of November, we are currently in talks with the University’s Senior Management team to have these Forums at least once per semester. I am hoping to hold the first ever Open Sports Forum this semester, as soon as the Sports Pass related negotiations have been finalised in order for a clear cut agenda to be presented and receive constructive criticism</p>
	<p>Next steps: Announce dates, book The Cube, advertise the event, share the agenda with Club Committees and key stakeholders</p>
Area of work: Accessibility and Inclusivity	

Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
Goal 1: Ensure equal opportunities and encouragement of participation in sports.	<p>Work so far: Contacted international students that have been part of clubs and societies to write testimonials about their experience. Their stories were included in the International Student Welcome Pack, aiming to encourage newcomers from all over the world to embark on their sporting journey at university. Over Freshers, I have done my best informing newcomers about Clubs and how to join. Last but not least, lobbying Southampton Sport for a discounted Sports Pass (50%) to be made available to students eligible for the Activities bursary has been successful.</p> <p>In light of the Sports Pass petition that was submitted at the start of November, I have been reviewing our Sports Strategy 2020-2025, the University of Southampton's EDI Commitment Statement to Active Lifestyles, the SUSU Sports Pass Feedback and Cost of Living Survey. This insightful review has informed our discussions with the University and sparked a debate with regards to primary and secondary issues that concern the student community. We have now received an offer from the University and will be seeking student consultation for the best approach moving forward in the students' best interests.</p> <p>Furthermore, I have been discussing the possibility of expansion of SUSU's Buddy Scheme to Clubs and Societies ensuring that newcomers feel welcome to join our clubs and societies.</p>
	<p>Next steps: 1. Finalise discussions around the Sports Pass petition and act in accordance with the student voice</p> <p>2. Strive to expand the Buddy Scheme by reaching out to Club members and introducing them to the idea.</p>
Goal 2: Raise awareness about Disability in Sport and increase sporting opportunities for disabled students	<p>Work so far: Got in touch with clubs that were willing to run sessions during Disability in Sports Week.</p> <p>I have worked alongside our Head of Activities for a paper to be submitted to the SLT for the purchase of wheelchairs to be available for disabled students to use in sessions given that those sessions underwent risk assessments and are well thought out.</p>
	<p>Next steps: Further explore the scope of purchasing wheelchairs, ensure that appropriate consultation has taken place before any further actions are taken.</p>
Goal 3: Ensure that the Jubilee Sports Hall Extension accommodates the needs of all students	<p>Work so far: EPAG Project board – continuously highlighting the importance of an accessible and inclusive facility that is slowly but surely coming to life. Been on sight while building works are in progress to ensure that accessibility is never compromised. I also took on a consultation role with regards to the signage strategy.</p>
	<p>Next steps: EPAG meetings continue up until the completion of the project.</p>
Area of work: Collaboration and Partnerships	
Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
Goal 1: Explore the possibility of reopening the Wide Lane Bar	<p>Work so far: Have been on site at Wide Lane, having conversations with coaches that have witnessed the Wide Lane Bar back in the day. Union President, VP Activities and I conducted a survey asking students whether the reopening of the bar is something that they would like.</p> <p>Union President and I have been planning trial days on the 25th and 28th of February to further explore the possibility of the Wide Lane bar operating on Wednesdays and weekends, when the majority of trainings and home games take place.</p>

	<p>Next steps: Review the demand that is to be observed on trial days and further explore the capacity of SUSU's Social Enterprise team to take on the project having had the University's approval.</p>
<p>Goal 2: Further support Clubs in acquiring sponsorships</p>	<p>Work so far: Support regarding sponsorships has been made available to clubs. Loads of information has been made available on SharePoint such as but not limited to Sponsorship Contract templates and 1:1 meetings depending on availability of Sports Coordinator currently leading on the project.</p> <p>Grant Round applications have pointed out that there is further need for clubs to find alternative means of funding. Clubs have been advised to seek support from SUSU in acquiring external Sponsorships in order to be sustainable on their own without being dependant on Grant Rounds to be able to operate as limited funds are available.</p> <p>Next steps: Further raise of awareness and encouragement of sponsorship initiatives.</p>
<p>Goal 3: Collaborate with external companies and organizations where further resources are needed</p>	<p>Work so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stonewall Sport: got in touch with clubs to join the rainbow laces campaign in support of LGBTQ+ community in Sports • External transport companies with fixed pricing have been made available to Clubs • Southampton Fight Night <p>Next steps: Brainstorm and further explore campaign initiatives to optimise engagement and raise awareness. Map the essential resources and budget required for a fruitful collaboration between SUSU and external companies</p>
<p>Goal 4: Offer Exposure and Celebrate Success</p>	<p>Work so far: Clubs have been offered the opportunity to win 'Club of the Month', have their photo being showcased in The Stag's and doing an instagram takeover on @team_soton Instagram account. I was very pleased to be contacted by clubs such as Volleyball who wanted to share their achievement of qualifying for Nationals this year. I am currently working on a blog post with them and a few other clubs have booked their takeovers during home games.</p> <p>When given the opportunity at home games, I always try to get some footage to post and tag our clubs to offer them recognition and further encourage their engagement with the SUSU.</p> <p>Next steps: Continue using our SUSU Success badge and encouraging clubs to share their achievements; creating a strong sense of pride in the community and a sense of belonging.</p>

Other

Please note that while many actions have been taken since our last meeting, the Sports Pass discussions have been my main area of work as it had been flagged as the primary student concern that lies within my remit. I hope to reach an equilibrium outcome, having represented the sports community to the best of my ability and embark on other projects that would further benefit our student athletes.