**Emily Harrison, Union President**

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| **Area of work: University Liaison** | |
| **Sabbatical Plan Goals** | *Student Union refurb 10 year plan project:*  The University are embarking on a 10 year plan, a strategy to upgrade their estate and improve the student experience. Since the new VC started, Sport has now become an immediate priority so plans are underway for a new Sports Hub. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation -* ***Planning/Next steps*** *- On track - Completed* |
| *Create better links with our academic community:*  For full details, please see my previous Senate. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation - Planning/Next steps - On track -* ***Completed*** |
| **Additional work** | * **Block grant**   We have now concluded our block grant negotiations. I am delighted to have secured an additional £65,900 to expand the resources within the SUSU Advice Centre to support the growth of academic integrity and appeal cases. |
| **Comments/AOB** | |

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

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| **Area of work: Sustainability** | |
| **Sabbatical Plan Goals** | *Work with the University to implement a Sustainability Strategy:*  I have started putting together a draft of a sustainability strategy. This will include sections on: Alumni, catering, comms and marketing, estates and facilities, events, finance, HR, libraries, procurement, research and staff and student travel.  The University’s finance team have been tasked with finding out exactly how much money is being invested into which companies and how long it would take and how much it would cost to divest. After that, we will be drafting an investment policy and plan to divest from some companies. Ideally this would include fossil fuels, arms and drugs.  We are also working with the energy team to look at switching to a green tariff which would mean having fully renewable energy sources.  We have very recently recruited a new Environment manager at the University who will be responsible for carrying out a lot of this work.  Finally, I am in the planning stages of creating a joint Sustainability campaign between SUSU and UoS to run continuously to highlight events, projects, people and work that is going on in this space.  This is very much a long term project that I am unlikely to finish before my term as President ends. However, we are making really positive progress and building strong foundations for the next person in this role to build on. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation -* ***Planning/Next steps*** *- On track - Completed* |
| *Improve food waste reduction*  No updates from last time. For previous information please see my November Senate report. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation - Planning/Next steps - On track -* ***Completed*** |
| **Additional work** |  |
| **Comments/AOB** | |

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

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| **Area of work: Union Services** | |
| **Sabbatical Plan Goals** | *Set up and develop a Zero Waste shop:*  Since the last report, we have done our first round of consultation on the zero waste shop. The focus group we held raised some really interesting things which we are working on. We are looking to get the zero waste shop items on an app for people to be able to order remotely and collect. We will also be developing recipe cards to help people know how to use the products. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation - Planning/Next steps - On track -* ***Completed*** |
| *Language badges for core and support staff:*  No updates from last time. For previous information please see my November Senate report. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation - Planning/Next steps -* ***On track*** *- Completed* |
| **Additional work** | * **Freshers’**   I have begun planning Freshers’ 2020 with the staff team. This year, we have decided to rename it to Welcome Week to be more inclusive.   * **ROUND app**   We have partnered with the company ROUND to put all food and drink in Stags on an app that you can order from. So far this has been really successful. We will be trialling it for a few weeks in the Stags’ before looking to put the rest of our outlets on the app also. |
| **Comments/AOB** | |

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

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| **Area of work: Sites** | |
| **Sabbatical Plan Goals** | *Increase Union presence at all sites:*   1. **Sabbs working at sites:** We now have a rota where every Sabbatical officer will work away from Highfield from 11-3 one day a week. We are at Boldrewood and NOCS on Tuesdays and WSA, UHS and Avenue on Thursdays. You can access this rota here: bit.ly/SabbsAtSites 2. **Advice Centre Drop Ins:** Last year, I worked with The Advice Centre team to extend our drop in service to Avenue (Which now takes place every Friday 1-4pm). I have been working with them to scope out space at NOCS and UHS where we could do this there. 3. **Permanent space**: Last year, I worked to take over the reception desk at Avenue and we now have a permanent presence there which is fantastic. This year I want to work to get a permanent SUSU presence at all sites. Along with Scott, I will be working to revise and re-submit our sites strategy proposal paper to University Estates and Facilities to set out our vision for space at other sites and acquire funding. 4. **Sites strategy** |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation - Planning/Next steps -* ***On track*** *- Completed* |
| *Improve support of and communication with MedSoc and students studying at the hospital:*  For full details, please see my previous Senate report. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation -* ***Planning/Next steps*** *- On track - Completed* |
| **Additional work** | * **Harbin**   The University are entering into a partnership with Harbin Engineering University to open a Joint Education Institute. I have been working as part of the Harbin Operational Sub-Board committee to sort out the regulations and get this up and running. The business case was officially approved at the validation panel last week. |
| **Comments/AOB** | |

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

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| **Area of work: Halls** | |
| **Sabbatical Plan Goals** | *Improve laundry facilities in halls:*  No updates from last time. For previous information please see my November Senate report. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started -* ***Consultation*** *- Planning/Next steps - On track - Completed* |
| *Review and improve meal times in catered halls:*  No updates from last time. For previous information please see my November Senate report. |
| Progress stage:  *Not yet started - Consultation -* ***Planning/Next steps*** *- On track - Completed* |
| **Additional work** |  |
| **Comments/AOB** | |

*Pictures/links to blog posts relating to the work in this section:*

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| **Conclusion/AOB** |
| **Mayflower FC**  As you are likely aware, in October 2019, there was incident involving members of Mayflower FC on bus allegedly using racist language. An investigation into this was carried out by the University which concluded that it could not conclusively be determined whether racist language had indeed been used. Understandably, this outcome caused a lot of concern among the student population. Our response to this was two-fold:   1. Firstly, I invited in our BAME I invited in our BAME Officer to discuss how they wanted to respond publically. For us, it was right to get their input/ help support them lead on the response rather than us make our own as the BAME Officer is elected to be the representative for BAME student voice. Unfortunately they were not able to come in until the end of January. I therefore also reached out and emailed other students who had specifically raised concerns to us to ask them to come in so we could listen to their concerns and work with them to take the actions they wanted. However, none of them were available to feedback to us either.   It wasn’t until after January exams that some students were able to come in and talk to us which was quite far on from when the outcome was released by the University. They therefore expressed that they didn’t feel it was right or appropriate for SUSU to put out a statement at this point and suggested that people had moved on. Instead we agreed we would continue to work with the University internally to address problems. However, on Friday there was an article released on Wessex Scene which made it clear to us that there was still a lot of confusion among the student body about what had happened/ was happening. I therefore thought it made sense to put out a statement to clarify what had happened/ was happening. You can read this here: <https://blogs.susu.org/blog/2020/02/07/response-to-concern-over-mayflower-fc-investigation/>   1. In the meantime, I raised my concerns about the outcome and the process of the investigation to the senior University staff involved at the time. I then took this to the University Council, the highest governing body at the University, and called for a review which was agreed to. Once this review began, I got in touch again with several students to invite them to feed into this review process. The review is about to be concluded and once I have the report I will share all non-confidential information.   **Coronavirus**  Since the outbreak of the Coronavirus, I have been working very closely with the University to keep each other updated on any developments. So far there have been at least three separate reports of students self-isolating however they all tested negative. Currently there are no cases of Coronavirus at the University of Southampton. The University Residences team are currently reaching out to any students whose home address is in an area affected by the Coronavirus to offer them free accommodation over the Easter and Summer break if they can’t go home.  However, there have been instances of Chinese and Asian students experiencing discrimination and verbal abuse as a result of the fear created from the Coronavirus. Thankfully none of the discrimination or abuse was carried out by students or on campus but by members of the local community. However, this is still extremely disturbing and I have been working with CSSA, the University and representatives from the local Chinese community to resolve this issue. There are a number of things we have done in response:   * We put out a letter of solidarity with our Chinese students and community You can read this year: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/blog/sussed-news/2020/02/19/open-letter-on-solidarity-with-our-chinese-community/?fbclid=IwAR2HZ0GHjEMQ6sRWj85whNIZuyCBtOshBhrQm5p9MS2bEDGm9lAens9XhNg> * We worked with CSSA to run a week long campaign in the concourse against discrimination * At CSSA’s request, graphics have been created to educate people about why some Asian students are wearing masks and the fact that it is not specifically linked to the Coronavirus. These are now up on the digital screens on the UniLink buses.   **Strikes**  From 17th-19th February, we held an All Student Vote on what SUSU’s stance should be in relation to the UCU industrial strike action. We had a fantastic voter turnout of 2,541 students voted.  The results breakdown is as follows: ***I would like SUSU to support the cause and the action – 37% I would like SUSU to support the cause but not the action – 35% I do not want SUSU to support the cause or the action – 28%***  We had set a 50% threshold for the winning option to be enacted. However, none of them received this. Therefore as 72% of the vote share cumulatively voted for one of the support options, however 63% of the cumulative vote share voted against the full support actions, we have taken a ‘support cause but not action’ stance. This means we are:   1. Providing space for UCU teach outs and other activity. 2. Sharing information and communication in support of the strikes and on behalf of UCU. 3. Lobbying the University in support of the strikes.   **PGR Student Experience Strategy**  The previous PRES (Like NSS for PGRs) show that there is a significant amount of work needed to improve the PGR student experience. The main issues includes things such as payment for demonstrations, prep time, mental health support (particularly when returning back from a period of suspension) and supervision issues. I have spoken with the Vice Chancellor about the need to seriously address this and so we have launched a group to write a strategy and action plan. We will be using the data from the current PRES once it closes in April to inform this.  **Chief Exec Recruitment**  In December 2019, our Chief Executive, Scott, announced he would be leaving at the end of February. Since then, I have been leading on the recruitment of an interim and permanent Chief Executive. We have appointed Jim Gardener, current CE at Kent Student Union as interim CE. We are currently in the process of recruiting for the permanent position.  **SUSU Strategy**  Our current Student Union strategy document, Vision 2020, is due to run out this year. I am currently working with the Senior Leadership Team to begin work on creating our new strategy. We will be hiring an external consultant to do the consultation with students and staff about what is wanted from SUSU. The aim is to have the new strategy in place for December 2020. |

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| **You Make Change Update (*submissions since the start of term)*** | | | | | | |
| **Stats** | Number received |  | Number Open |  | Number Completed |  |
| **Timeline** | No reply: past 10 days |  | No update: past 15 days |  | Past 25 days open |  |
| **Summary of submission/Link** | | **Key actions taken** | | | **Relation to role/remit** | |
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