

VP Welfare and Community- Savanna Cutts

Area of work: Student Welfare	
Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
Goal 1 Focus on improving awareness and the uptake of mental health support services, especially for hard-to-reach student communities	Work since 18/11/21: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted a WeChat takeover on the SUSU account, with a focus on wellbeing, raising awareness of the You Are More Than your exams events Reached out to various international societies Worked with the Activities Team, VP Activities and the Wellbeing Officer to start planning University Mental Health Day Liaised with the University Wellbeing Team and external charities to get signposting materials for mental health/ wellbeing services, to go in the Wellbeing Cupboard Planned work with University and Union colleagues on the Student Minds Charter, with a focus on student voice, engagement, and input into the work
	Next steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Progress the planning of events and awareness-raising activities for University Mental Health Day, collaborating with societies Continue to have monthly catch ups with the University Wellbeing Team
Goal 2 Tackling rogue landlords and promoting safe and secure student housing	Work since 18/11/21: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ran a stall at the Home and Health Fair- promoting safe housing and SUSU's Housemate Finder
	Next steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sit on and participate in the Rate Your Crib Project Group (based on the Rate Your Crib survey results) to further work on supporting students in having safe, good quality housing throughout their university experience
Goal 3 Increase opportunities for students to raise any concerns about specific issues	Work since 18/11/21: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created and helped plan the launch of a Mature Student Network, where mature students will be able to directly feedback any concerns or issues to me, related to their experience at University as a mature student Started planning the launch of a Students with Disabilities Network
	Next steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Progress work on my themed drop-ins, giving students the opportunities to raise specific concerns Continue to plan and launch the Students with Disabilities Network- aiming to launch in March Launch the Mature Student Network, with 70+ attendees at the first event

	<p>4. Continue progression of the Social Mobility Network, including finalising the Network's Action Plan, submitting it for approval by the Network, and start formulating the Network Action Group and Communications Campaign</p>
<p>Goal 4 Improve student safety</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have further developed the strong working relationship with the Violence Reduction Unit team at Southampton City Council. This has led to SUSU being offered £5,000 worth of funding for safety initiatives. The majority of this is going to be used on the Good Night Out training, in which SUSU staff who work in our venues will have very thorough safety training and Good Night Out accreditation. We also plan to use some of the funding on reusable drink covers. • Reviewed the results from the student safety survey (with a focus on sexual violence and harassment) that was created in collaboration with the Office of Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner. I have helped feed into the discussion with this and plan actions to be taken in light of the results. I have also shared the results with certain University staff members, such as Student Services and Security, in order to help inform their work. • Attended the Southern Unions Conference and within this was a panel speaker for the sexual violence talk, sharing the initiatives we have taken at SUSU to improve safety. • I have been working with VP Activities in our fortnightly tackling harassment catch-ups, in which we created some slides on consent and signposting information, to be shown at the start of taught modules. • Met with the University security team twice to discuss various safety initiatives and current issues, with quarterly meetings now set up, to have a joined-up approach <p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Southampton City Council's Violence Against Women and Girls Conference 2. Alongside the Women Officer, review the Report and Support tool and how it is promoted so that students can have better awareness of the reporting mechanism 3. Firm up plans with Good Night Out and hold the training at SUSU 4. Acquire 'scrunchie' reusable drink covers 5. Work with multiple other Student Unions as part of the cross-Union sexual violence working group, with a focus on challenging perpetrators' behaviour
<p>Area of work: Student Communities</p>	
<p>Sabbatical Plan Goal</p>	<p>Details</p>
<p>Goal 1 Continue the development of the buddy system</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned and reintroduced the buddy system with the faculty option <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help re-launch it in February and match buddies up- as a way to help tackle loneliness

<p>Goal 2 Increase engagement with hard-to-reach student communities and amplify all student voices</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have continued to put a good amount of time into the student liberation officers, having monthly one-to-ones with them, as well as working with them separately on campaign work, such as LGBTQ+ History Month and Women’s History Month. A recent ‘win’ was the securing of LGBTQ+ Flats in Halls of Residences- an idea put forward by the LGBTQ+ Officer, and together we brought to fruition. I also wrote a blog article on this, explaining the process behind it. • Created various student Networks as a way to amplify student voice and feedback in certain areas, such as mature students, students with disabilities and students from low socioeconomic backgrounds. • Held a liberation officer meet up to discuss intersectional work. • Planned a childcare costs discussion with student parents and Student Services University staff
<p>Goal 3 Advance opportunities and access for PGR students</p>	<p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold the childcare costs discussion- allows a space for student parents to directly voice any concerns 2. Continue to work on the networks, specifically starting and solidifying the places and existence of the Social Mobility Network, Mature Students Network and Students with Disabilities Network. 3. Increase engagement with international students through working with the International Officer.
<p>Goal 4 Facilitate campaigns that are of high quality and whose messages permeate throughout the year</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had many PGR students at the Social Mobility Network launch, where they can feed into Network discussion and the Action Plan, including looking at sharing stories/ case studies on accessing post-graduate education
	<p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start work on the communications phase of the Network Action Plan, where there will PGR representation and information on access to post-graduate education
<p>Area of work: Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion</p>	
<p>Sabbatical Plan Goal</p>	<p>Details</p>

<p>Goal 1 Create a community for students from low socio-economic backgrounds</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched the new student and staff Social Mobility Network. The main part of this was the launch event, held online, with 30 attendees. This involved discussion of what social mobility means to them and ideas they have for what they want to see from the Network. This was a huge success, with the start of a community being formed. The discussion has fed into the drafting of a Network Action Plan- the strategic priorities of the Network's activities going ahead. Further to the launch event, a Teams channel has been set up for the Network, including over 50 Network members. <p>Next steps: The development of the Social Mobility Network is one of main focuses for the rest of my term. The next steps for this include-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Finish drafting the Network Action Plan, Network Mission Statement and Terms of Reference for approval, ahead of the next meeting. Plan and chair the second Network meeting, towards the end of February Put a call out for volunteers for the Network Action Group Create, chair and support the Network Action Group, in which activities from the Communication Phase of the Plan will be planned and completed- such as case studies and 'stories' of Network members Plan and host safe listening spaces for students in which they can meet likeminded students and share their experiences and potential difficulties coming from a low-income background Present about the Network at the FACE Conference
<p>Goal 2 Represent student voice in high level University decision making</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sit on and participated in many University committees- such as EDI Committee, Race Equality Charter Self-Assessment Team, Respect Campaign, Mental Health Steering Group I am now sitting on two additional high-level Widening Participation Committees/ Groups Fortnightly meetings with Associate Director of Student Services Monthly catchups with the Head of Wellbeing and Head of Disability. <p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Race Equality Charter Editorial Team to review the student pipeline section Create an external stakeholder list of those who I should meet with to speak with about student EDI issues
<p>Goal 3 Engage in student discussion around EDI issues</p>	<p>Work since 18/11/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-chairing the Widening Participation and Social Mobility Student Advisory Board Worked closely with the liberation officers to speak about EDI issues Discussed the element of class in EDI in Social Mobility Network meeting <p>Next steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hold safe listening spaces and drop ins with different EDI themes Continue to engage in discussion within the various Networks and their meetings

Other

- I have started work with VP Education and Democracy on looking at the Special Considerations process for neurodiverse students. We are consulting with various University staff and plan to do some student research and discussion into this.
- I am working with VP Education and Democracy and the Student Success team on their Awarding Gap student panel, in which we are going to deliver a training session on SUSU to them.
- I am attending various different committees and groups, including: Strategic Major Projects Education Board; Education Committee; Enhancing Academic Support and Delivery Project Board; Mental Health Steering Group; Respect Campaign Group; John Hansard Gallery Strategic Board Meeting, Race Equality Charter SAT, Education for All Workstream, Widening Participation Sub-Committee and Widening Participation Operations Group.
- I hear stage 3 academic appeals, providing a student-focused perspective on the cases.