**SUBU Summit Ideas**

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| **Proposed by** | *Zainab Abdul-Obitayo – 3rd Year Psychology Student* |
| **Proposal** | *SUBU to lobby BU to revise criteria and accessibility of BU DSA grant.* |
| **Problem** | *The University has limited support for students seeking financial grants to aid in receiving a diagnosis of Additional Learning Needs and has made the criteria to achieve this more stringent resulting in a lesser rate of accessibility.*  *To access any element of support for ALS and disabilities, you require evidence of a diagnosis which is often time-consuming and restrictive in how to obtain.*  *BU’s DSA support fund currently is inaccessible to non-UK national students and there is also significant financial barrier due to the fact it required evidence of household income for consideration as well as proof of “little to no funds available” which often does not account for true financial circumstances (especially considering that diagnosis can cost £400).*  *Due to limiting circumstances and accessibility to financial support from the University in obtaining a diagnosis, many students are feeling as though their specific learning needs are not being met and are unable to seek a path to help remedy this.* |
| **Ideas for solutions** | * *SUBU and BU to research the support other universities provide and use this to review their own support processes.* * *SUBU to lobby BU to introduce self-diagnosis with regard providing evidence required for support or in the application for the professional diagnosis.* * *SUBU to lobby BU to remove the household income and financial insecurity aspect of the application process for BU’s DSA fund.* * *SUBU to lobby BU to explore student cost-friendly methods of providing ALS support to international and non-UK national students.* * *SUBU to lobby BU to consider prior diagnosis when providing additional support across studies. E.g. diagnosis obtaining during early schooling years as there is no expiry on ALS.* |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education and VP Welfare & Community |