**SUBU Summit Meeting 1 - 23/24**

**Date: 16th November – 6pm – 8:30pm**

**Location: Zoom**

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Agenda

**1. Welcome and Introduction**

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**3. Trustee Board Update**

**4. Full-Time Officer Reports**

1. President Report
2. Vice-President Education Report
3. Vice-President Student Opportunities Report
4. Vice-President Welfare and Community Report

**5. Lapsing Policies Review**

1. Should SUBU lobby to eliminate printing costs?
2. Should SUBU support student sex workers?
3. Should SUBU lobby BU to improve online timetables?
4. Should SUBU lobby for better support for healthcare students and improved course cost transparency?
5. Should SUBU implement a plastic policy?
6. Should SUBU lobby for increased wellbeing support?
7. Should SUBU advocate that students should not be liable to pay for halls that they are unable to live in due to COVID?
8. Should SUBU lobby the government to secure tuition fee rebates?
9. Should SUBU lobby BU to ensure that all contact hours outside of lectures and teaching are met?
10. Should SUBU lobby BU to amend the 6C policy to allow unit leaders more control over unit assessment?
11. Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the reassessment limit for students across all years?
12. Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the availability of recycling facilities in accommodation and on campus?
13. Should SUBU lobby to end sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence on campus?
14. Should SUBU lobby to improve inclusivity and accessibility arrangements for all students?
15. Should SUBU lobby BU to change MUSE to allow mid and end of unit feedback?
16. Should SUBU lobby BU to create a SUBU page or tab on Brightspace?

**6. Student Ideas**

a. SUBU to lobby BU to ensure timetables are released a minimum of 10 working days before semesters start.

c. SUBU to review the timing of elections for clubs and societies with unfilled Committee positions.

d. SUBU to explore options to develop a volunteer Student ALS Champion role for each faculty.

**7. AOB**

a. Next Meeting to be held on the 8th February 6pm – 8:30pm

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**30th March 2023**

**Zoom**

**Members**

Upwards of 100 members present, including:

Omuwa Ayomoto (OA) - SU President and Chair

Norah Deka (ND) – VP Education

Chike Dike (CD) - VP Welfare and Community

Fiifi Asafu-Adjaye (FAA) – VP Student Opportunities

Stephan Rodrigues (SR) – Student Rep

Esther Umeononigwe (EU) – Student Rep

Oluwatosin Olagbaju (OO) – Student Rep

O. Adenike Famodu-Titus (OAFT) – Student Rep

**In attendance**

Mata Durkin (Secretary/Democracy and Campaigns Coordinator)

Kayleigh Heckford (Democracy and Campaigns Manager)

Emma Davies (Student Opportunities Manager)

Kerry Dean (Head of Student Participation)

Sarah Corder (Student Voice and Insight Manager)

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# Welcome and Introduction

## The Chair welcomed the SUBU Summit participants and deemed the meeting quorate.

## The Chair introduced the agenda and set out the operational points and the procedures to be followed during the meeting. This included that the results of all votes would be announced via email following the meeting to ensure that only votes cast by voting members were counted and not during the meeting itself.

## Minutes of Previous SUBU Summit

## The Chair invited members to read over the minutes which had previously been circulated and a vote was taken.

# Approve: 114

# Reject: 1

# Abstain: 14

## **Minutes Approved**

# Trustee Board Update

# Presented by CD

# Key points noted:

# The Trustee Board has met once since last meeting in February. With a focus on finalising details from the year end finance audit. Indicated that priorities have been around the people plan, staff support and tracking the support provided to students.

# The board recently updated strategic vision and values with this being shown online via the SUBU website and the impact tracker will be periodically updated.

# Full-Time Officer Reports

# President’s Report

# OA presented.

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Work with BU to improve the arrivals process for international students

## Second buddy scheme session launched on the 6th of February. Having developed 2 training sessions for all applicants.

## Had 103 new international students take part and 55 volunteers from different backgrounds and cultures.

## Scheme ran for four weeks under teams mentioned last summit and weekly feedback from has been created to identify ways to improve.

## Created international student working group to tackle international student issues and provide effective solutions.

* Manifesto: To continue to work with BU and Careers BU to increase the visibility on all employability opportunities for all students
  + Collaborated with Careers BU to provide Careers fair, with a record of 50 companies and saw a record of 2,075 students in attendance, showing BU interest in career futures.
* Manifesto: To focus on creating a cycle that involves guiding all students with an Alumni Future Series, that involves career development after graduation
  + Provision for a one-on-one career advice session for life to progressively guide your career path.

# Vice President Education Report

# ND presented.

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Boost an active community by tackling student loneliness, through the maintenance of the student buddy schemes

## Launched international buddy scheme with 2 trainings and 2 pairings happen so far and the most recent social happening on the 29th of March.

## Introducing new campaign to get students to talk to others about how they’re feeling.

## Recent student Rep trip to Durdle door for students to socialize and be in nature.

## Manifesto: Improve staff-student rapport, encourage students to feel open to communicate with staff and increase frequency of academic advisors’ meetings

## Communicating with learner analytic team to make message consistent to students that it isn’t a punishment but a way to track if they start to fall off.

## Manifesto: Ensuring education is accessible for all students

## Policy in place and in monitoring stage to ensure students are reaping the benefits.

## Manifesto: Work with the library to ensure all library books are available online and for students to be explicitly taught on how to write research papers and essays

## Conducting more video promotions for workshops that the library run and old books, available on library website.

# Vice-President Student Opportunities Report

# Due to absence from FAA

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Increase student satisfaction through clubs and societies

## Working on a celebration night for Clubs and society committee members.

## Manifesto: Supporting employability opportunities

## Worked with Careers BU event to present a career in support event in chapel gate with massive potential to repeat this in the future.

* + Hosted a student owned business section at this event for student owned business to present themselves to their fellow students.

## Manifesto: Creating an Injury Support Hub

* + Attends monthly meetings with SportBU to get updates on the progress of the injury hub. Meeting with key BU staff to obtain regular updates and monitor service.

## Manifesto: Giving more funding opportunities for sports for students

* + Worked with SportBU and Estates to establish free transport to Chapel Gate with around 900 students using this service. Looking to expand provision to run every day instead of just Wednesdays.

# Vice-President Welfare and Community Report

# CD presented.

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Work with BU Residential Services to effectively improve the students’ housing experience by making it more accessible

* + Had several conversations with BU to highlight necessary changes. Looking to follow up on this moving forward to remove challenges before next student intake.
  + Working with SU President on guarantor scheme, to support international students in finding accommodation.

## Manifesto: Further develop SUBU’s allyship program to represent more marginalized communities

## Working with Comms and our Liberation Officers to create video content to reintroduce students to the concept of being an ally.

## Manifesto: Work with BU to prioritize student safety on and off campus

* + Discussing with BU to create on campus security force and remove police presence on campus due to student concern. Happy to report training for staff is on its way, with these staff to start work officially in September.
  + Creating night safety flyers to promote student safety from SUBU perspective.

## Manifesto: Collaborate with BU wellbeing team to reintroduce students to wellbeing services that champion healthy menta health practices

## Working with BU to develop student wellness services, notably the ‘Retreat’. Looking to promote and encourage students to take part in this.

* + Looking to re-host survival skills session at Chapel gate.
* Manifesto: Introduce new International Students welfare programs to enable easy integration into the BU community
  + Working on International student information page to provide all necessary information.

## The Chair invited the participants to speak further with the Full-Time Officer in different discussion groups.

# Student Ideas

# The Chair introduced the ideas up for discussion and invited the SUBU Summit participants to self-select discussion groups.

# The groups were invited to amend some, none, or all of each proposal.

# The Chair advised participants they could swap discussion groups half-way through.

# Policy Discussions:

# SUBU to lobby BU to add university bus routes that cover travel to Talbot campus from more suburban locations.

# SUBU to lobby BU to increase the developments for sporting facilities at the university.

# SUBU to lobby BU for lecture and seminar resources to be made available 1 week in advance.

# Discussion Group Amendments:

## *SUBU to lobby BU to add university bus routes that cover travel to Talbot campus from more suburban locations.*

* Amended point 3 to Problem – ‘to and from campus from the aforementioned locations.’

# Added point 1 to Ideas for Solutions – ‘For BU to explore how many students live or are on placement in the suburban areas listed in the proposal’.

# *SUBU to lobby BU to increase the developments for sporting facilities at the university.*

# No amendments made.

## *5.5.3 SUBU to lobby BU for lecture and seminar resources to be made available 1 week in advance.*

# Added point 2 to Problem – ‘For some students – reasonable adjustments’.

# Speeches and Vote:

# SUBU to lobby BU to add university bus routes that cover travel to Talbot campus from more suburban locations.

# Speech for: CD

* Current issue stands that there are no Uni Busses from the listed locations to campus and vice versa resulting in students having to pay more and take many busses to attend lectures and seminars.
* Also a risk of lateness, as one late bus will impact all other transport.

# Speech Against: None

# Call to vote.

# For: 119

# Against: 5

# Abstain: 6

# **Passes**

# SUBU to lobby BU to increase the developments for sporting facilities at the university.

# Speech for: FAA

* Policy notes a lack of space for facilities and therefore less likely to be picked up by students without this support.
* Untapped potential for students to be successful sports people due to lack of facilities.
* Solutions recommended to improve current spaces and the range of sporting facilities.

# Speech against: None

* + 1. Call to vote.
* For: 89
* Against: 18
* Abstain: 22
  + 1. **Passes**
  1. SUBU to lobby BU for lecture and seminar resources to be made available 1 week in advance.
     1. Speech for: ND
* Problem is that resources are uploaded late 1 day before or even on the day, not allow students to properly review the work and resources before their seminar and resources.
* For some students having access to resources is critical due to learning requirements and additional needs.
  + 1. Speech against: None.
    2. Call to Vote:
* For: 109
* Against: 8
* Abstain: 12
  + 1. **Passes**

# Any Other Business:

# The Chair asked if there was any other business.

# SR noted the timings for classes are quite late for international students in different time zones, representing MSC Management and Human Resources. OA responded that they would raise these concerns with timetabling team.

# EU representing MSC Psychology looking to make an adjustment for one day free as they are in every date. OA also responded they make no promises but will help address this.

# OO representing Business Intelligence wanted to know how we can help address the effectiveness of lecturers. Expanding that not all lecturers account for background experience and lack of clear communication.

# OAFT noted they brought up OO’s point previously to ND and that they have also experience a lack of understanding and accommodation for their background

# The Chair thanked everyone for attending this meeting and stated that the results of the vote would be emailed to all participants within the next 48 hours once all votes had been validated.

3. Trustee Report

*The Trustee Board have had three meetings since the last report, these were in July (two) and October.*

*July’s meetings had a focus on staff with options presented around the Job Evaluation Project for decision and implementation.*

*The financial audit has been completed and details filed with Companies House and The Charity Commission in advance of the October meeting.*

*The Board were presented with an update on organisational wide, key performance indicators most recently, which coupled with departmental budgets should aid in SUBU managing and surpassing its targets around student support.*

*Commercial Services have also been reviewed and a new strategy document is being employed to ensure SUBU’s venues remain competitive and able to offer students the best value and experience possible.*

*Note from the most recent meetings but may be of interest to the students, that three new Student Trustees have now started as previous ones finished their term at the end of the last academic year. They are:*

*Ben Young*

*Ogechi Aikohi*

*Grace Lawalson*

4. Full Time Officer Reports

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| **Officer Report** | | | | |
| Name | | | | Chike Dike |
| Role | | | | President |
| Email | | | | supresident@bournemouth.ac.uk |
| As the student President my role is to act as the principal student representative, by being the primary point of contact and the voice for students internally and externally. I co-ordinate and ensure the effective operation of the Officer team. Ultimately responsible for the leadership and direction of the Union through the role as chair of the Trustee Board To be the key liaison with the University and Vice Chancellor on overarching and general matters. It is expected of me to attend meetings such as Senate, Estates Development Committee and a range of other meetings. | | | | |
| **Manifesto Updates** | | | | |
| **Continue to develop new initiatives to support students through the rising cost of living crisis while improving on existing initiatives** | | | | |
| Context | To lobby for a university-wide strategy and response to the rising cost of living as student feedback indicates living cost is still a big concern. Also to support SUBU Advice with the Community Kitchen | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | SUBU Advice is currently running supper clubs every month at the Community Kitchen during which fresh hot meals will be available for students to help themselves. Met with the new Pro Vice Chancellor Student Experience to discuss university-wide work on cost of living and potential student support | | | |
| **Organize more fairs with CareersBU and diversify the range of part-time work available to students** | | | | |
| Context | This is due to the feedback from students regarding the range of part-time work available as opportunities are primarily in care & hospitality | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Met with the Head of Careers to discuss student feedback and the strategy behind the fairs, recruitment, and placement support. Will be following this up with meeting with the careers team and seeing what improvements can be made as well as in university-wide placement support | | | |
| **Leverage the rapport I've built with the Dorset Police department and the Bournemouth community to ensure that student safety remains a top priority both on and off campus** | | | | |
| Context | A preventive measure to promote student safety Bournemouth-wide and reduce incidents of assault | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Have been involved over the summer with the training and launch of the university campus patrol security and will be feeding back on their performance as the year progresses | | | |
| **Continue working with the international team to make integration into the BU community as seamless as possible** | | | | |
| Context | | BU international student population has been on a consistent increase and with those unique challenges. This is to make that process a lot smoother and reduce the challenges International Students experience and tackle student loneliness | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Worked with the international recruitment team over the summer to review the fees policy and debt process, worked with BU comms to ensure that expectations are set accurately for in-bound international students taking into account the cost of living, launched the buddy scheme at the start of term and facilitated the training sessions with the rest of the officers, created and compiled an international student hub page on the subu website | | |
| **Policy Updates** | | | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby the government to secure tuition fee rebates?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | For all students not to be liable to pay full tuitions fees due to not having access to in person teaching or access to resources. Students on courses with a large proportion of practical teaching, or those with cancelled components, should be prioritised. To lobby the government to secure tuition fee rebates. BU to continue to focus on improving academic provisions, for example through an extension of booking times for on campus facilities.  For SUBU to publicly state that students deserve partial refunds/a loan amnesty/a freeze on interest rates. For SUBU to write to local MPs and lobby the UK government on this matter. For SUBU to work with other students' unions and the NUS to demand an increased national bailout of £700m, as recommended by the APPG for students (All Party Parliamentary Group) and NUS. For SUBU to lobby the university to call for national student refunds to be paid for by the UK government.Work has been done around the Costing Your Future campaign, in conjunction with other student unions, to raise awareness amongst students to the proposed changes to the way student loans will be paid back. | | |
| Progress and Outcome | | No updates on this policy at this time. Recommendation of the executive committee to lapse | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to provide a free replacement ID card?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | SUBU to lobby BU to provide students with at least one free replacement ID card. SUBU to lobby BU to provide opportunities for students who are in financial difficulty to gain further replacement cards. Lanyards to be provided to all students to prevent student ID’s being lost or misplaced If it is not possible to entirely remove the replacement fee, it should be reduced | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | No updates on this policy at this time. | | |
| **SUBU should support the NUS' New Vision for Education Campaign including supporting the NUS Student Strike** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | 1. For SUBU to support NUS’s New Vision for Education Campaign and integrate the campaigns principles into its work, while prioritising current students 2. For SUBU to support the Student Strike. This shall include providing transport at no cost for students, a small deposit may be required. . This shall also include promoting the strike via their communication channels | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No further updates since last year. Last year, we supported the NUS' campaign, and arranged for transport to the Student Strike. We are continuing working with NUS - currently their focus has been on the cost of living crisis, and collecting data on the impact of students, which we have been supporting with. | |
| **Implementing a buddy system for incoming international students** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | After giving offers of study to international students, Bournemouth University should ensure that these students have all the information they need to start living in the UK. - Having a ‘Buddy’ assigned to students when they confirm their place at BU, and who is trained and supported by BU, would allow incoming international students to gain the essential information that they need and support the student as they arrive in the UK. - These ‘Buddies’ would be there to answer students’ questions and help them with things like accommodation, transport, banking and more, as well as being a friendly face for incoming students new to Bournemouth and the UK. - SUBU to discuss this issue with the University. - SUBU to lobby the University to improve their arrivals programme for international students. - SUBU to lobby BU to implement a Buddy system for incoming international students, as a part of their arrivals programme. - SUBU to reach out to international students to find out more about their arrival experience. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | The buddy scheme has been successfully run for the two semesters last academic year and has just concluded for the first semester of 23/24. The scheme has allowed for the creation of a student job within SUBU in form of the Buddy Scheme Admin Assistant which has been filled by two students each year so far. The FTOs facilitated and ran the two-day training for the volunteers and the international students. Feedback is being collected from all who participated in the scheme to inform how it is run in the future. | |
| **The University and Union Should Stop Banking/associating with Barclays** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | The Union should seek to move all banking to a more ethical banking supplier. Triodos is recommended as the most ethical and viable choice. Co-Op and Nationwide are other viable options, though Triodos should be explored first.      The Union should cut future ties with Barclays such as but not limited to: sponsorship, corporate partnerships, advertising, careers fair.      SUBU will lobby the university to cut other ties such as but not limited to banking, sponsorship, corporate partnerships, advertising, careers fairs, ATMs and branches on campus. This lobbying should be done by the President of SUBU.      To divest any shares that they may have with Barclays. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No further updates on this from previous summit. Work is being done to action this. | |
| **SUBU to lobby to create safer crossings around campus** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | SUBU to lobby BCP Council to add sounds to the existing Toucan crossings to ensure they are safer for pedestrians.   SUBU to lobby BCP Council and the University to provide safer crossings around campus.   SUBU to lobby the University to support the above lobbying with BCP Council.   SUBU to lobby the University to promote road safety amongst students, particularly international students and disabled students. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No further updates at this time. | |
| **Should SUBU support UCU’s industrial actions, including strike action?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | The Students' Union to support UCU’s industrial actions, demonstrations and teach outs to the students.   The Students' Union to release a statement declaring its intention to support industrial actions including strikes.   The Students’ Union to ensure students are informed (including on why strikes are taking place and support available), run digital campaigns and student-led initiatives. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | SUBU has been supporting UCU's industrial action as voted for by our members during Summit | |
| **SUBU to lobby BU to add University bus routes that cover travel to Talbot from more suburban locations including; Chapel Gate (east Parley, West Parley, Ferndown, Wimborne and Ringwood** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | For BU to explore how many students live or are on placement in the suburban areas listed in the proposal  Combined Uni bus route for both East and West Parley, passing through Ferndown as well.  Additional route for Wimborne that could be combined with the others.  The buses could run every 30 minutes to an hour. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No further updates at this time. | |
| **SUBU should lobby to create women-only and men-only hours in the gym.** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | SUBU to lobby SportBU to:  Establish at least one “women-only” hour a week where only women are allowed to use the gym and the same for men.  Ensure that these hours are trans-inclusive  Establish gender specific offerings for popular gym classes (such as yoga and circuits) to ensure that these classes are accessible.  SUBU to work with SportBU and organisations like This Girl Can to ensure that the gym is an accessible place for all but especially underrepresented groups.  SUBU to work with SportBU and other relevant organisations to ensure that the gym is inclusive for all marginalised genders, including non-binary people. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | The Vice President is working with SportsBU to providing women-only hours at the university gym. | |

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| **Officer Report** | | | | |
| Name | | | | Norah Valerie Deka |
| Role | | | | VP Education |
| Email | | | | suvpeducation@bournemouth.ac.uk |
| I’m here to help make sure your academic experience is worthwhile and you’re getting what you need from the university. This includes attending BU meetings, working with student voice and the reps to deal with student feedback. | | | | |
| **Manifesto Updates** | | | | |
| **Continue Working with BU to make learning accessible for all students.** | | | | |
| Context | This is so all students no matter what educational background they have, learning needs or anything else can feel like they are getting the right amount of support in uni.  1. I aim to continue working with BU FLIE and The Academic Quality team on lecture recordings, promoting personal tutors and developing assessment feedback that works for you.  2. Creating further awareness to academic support that BU offers  3. Promoting academic societies to expand students’ academic/career skills | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | I have met with Shelley, the new PVC of Student experience with the update on access to learning resources.….  Going to do a small campaign on finding who your personal tutors are as there is going to be a system soon that will make it easy for students to ask who their personal tutor is and find.  Meeting with FLIE to be happening next month, with next steps to do with assessment and feedback, presented data at ASEC (Academic Standards and Education Committee) now to share it with faculties specifically.  Spoke with ADSE (Associate Deans of Student Experience) of each faculty to share the list of academic societies in each faculty and department. I will work with them to see the courses not covered and to see if we can get a patron for all societies. | | | |
| **Continue to amplify student's voice in supporting marginalised/minority student groups** | | | | |
| Context | So, students from this background can feel welcomed into the BU community.  1. I aim to do the by creating a counter international part-time officer within SUBU and promoting more platforms for student input | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Have had conversation within SUBU into looking if we can get this implemented. Need to still have chat with Full time officer team on opinions on the way this would best work. | | | |
| **Develop workshops/events for students to manage workload and stress for academic success.** | | | | |
| Context | So, students feel supported and have a way to cope with stress while going through their assessments and assignments  1. I aim to do this by supporting the VP Welfare and Community Officer with mental health events to combat exam stress. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Set out and picked some events that I think students will be most engaged with for stress relief all booked into calendars for during exam time; events to be peaceful and relaxing. Just need to book the facilitators. As well get specific departments within BU involved. | | | |
| **Policy Updates** | | | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby to eliminate printing costs?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * The Union should research the costs of printing during a student’s time at Bournemouth University. * The Union should lobby the University to ensure that efforts are made to make sure that work can be completed digitally and without the need for printing. Thus, benefitting students and the environment. * The Union should lobby the university to ensure that where students are required to print material as compulsory part of their course, this cost should be subsidised by the university. This should be done through either eliminating printing charges, or by providing a printing stipend for every student. The Union should investigate options for providing free printing to students as part of their facilities. | | |
| Progress and Outcome | | * No updates at this current moment. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to create a SUBU page or tab on Brightspace?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU should collaborate with BU to develop a Brightspace webpage. * BU would allow SUBU to manage this webpage to allow updates to be made frequently. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Completed: Under Useful links, Students' Union SUBU has been added | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to ensure that the length of teaching days and sessions are time appropriate, with consultation from students?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU should lobby BU to ensure that the length of teaching days and sessions are time appropriate, with consultation from students. * SUBU should lobby BU to provide 5-minute breaks. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * BU is aware that timetables are not working for students, as it was one of the top 'what is not working well' in SimOn for 22/23, additionally NSS results show low scores for timetables. So, SUBU will be kept in the loop with any working groups, if not brought into any groups will speak, to head of timetabling. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to change MUSE to allow mid and end of unit feedback?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU should lobby BU to change how unit feedback is gathered, making it mandatory for staff to collect and act on end of unit feedback | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Completed: New mechanisms for feedback for units/course & more for 23/24. Survey going to be communicated to students. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the reassessment limit for students across all years?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU to lobby BU for changes to the resubmission policy * SUBU to raise this issue with NUS or other relevant bodies such as the QAA. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Need to look at sectors best practice with the amounts of reassessments students have in any other like unis. Then going to discuss this around timetable group as it links in with timing of exam boards. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to amend the 6C policy to allow unit leaders more control over their unit assessment?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * FTOs to lobby BU to amend 6C by increasing flexibility around the assessment process. * SUBU to support reps to gather feedback specifically on assessments. * Ensure that any conversations had with Academic Quality reference that BU are operating this policy as ‘best practice’ however there are students that would like to go above and beyond. * Reps can investigate issues with late feedback from course leaders. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Completed: Unit leaders have flexibility which aligns with sector best practice. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to ensure that all contact hours outside of lectures and teaching are met?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * Lobby BU to make sure all departments have shared how they will be making up for lost contact time throughout the year. * Lobbying for an increase in drop-in sessions and office hours throughout the year to make up for lost contact time and have these relayed to students at the beginning of each new term. * Confirm a specific time during every week for students to be able to informally drop-in with their lecturers across all units. * Reps can investigate issues with late feedback from course leaders. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * After COVID, now seems to be happening for students again, split between online and in person contact hours. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to improve online timetables?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * To continue working with BU on resolving timetabling issues. * To enable students to access lectures within their department that they have an interest in attending, by including them on students’ timetables. * To lobby BU to provide webinars or short videos on how to access timetables. * For Seminar Leads to give an approximate time to how long the prework/sml would take. * Notification to students if there are changes to timetable. * Be able to add voluntary classes onto BU timetable. * Match BU Timetable to Zoom timetable for individual lectures for ease. Zoom ID instead of class location as a potential solution. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * BU is aware that timetables are not working for students, as it was one of the top 'what is not working well' in SimOn for 22/23, additionally NSS results show low scores for timetables. So, SUBU will be kept in the loop with any working groups, if not brought into any groups will speak, to head of timetabling. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to ensure that it becomes compulsory for academic staff to provide learning materials in advance of teaching sessions?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU should lobby BU to ensure that it becomes compulsory for academic staff to provide learning materials in at least 48 hours advance of teaching sessions | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Completed. Currently made for 48 hours, spoke to PVC of Student Experience about this she said if this isn't happening in anyone's course, I should highlight it to her. Then she can work with these specific departments. | | |
| **SUBU to stand in solidarity with the UCU's 'Four Fights', prioritise transparent information and educate students.** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * For SUBU to support all UCU demands in relation to the four fights. For SUBU to prioritise transparent information and education surrounding why UCU industrial action is occurring For SUBU to not support industrial action that would lead to significantly more disruption to our members. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | * Completed: Any strike actions are updated on SUBU comms, so students can be informed on when strikes happen. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to issue exam supplies cost-free?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * For BU to provide basic stationery supplies, paper, printouts, calculators, and any other items that students may bring to exams for students to use. For BU to ensure that no student may be disadvantaged before, or during an exam for reasons such as lack of necessary supplies or technical failure. For SUBU to lobby BU to provide students with basic items that are needed to complete their exams. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Completed: Expectations from BU for students to bring own equipment, additionally Students will not be put at a disadvantage and can reach out for support if needed. | |
| **BU should allow students to retake Semester 1 exams during Spring Break** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * BU should allow students the option to retake Semester 1 exams in Spring Break. That the VP Education Officer lobbies the University to introduce Spring Break retakes.  That the University Exam Board should meet at the end of each semester to accommodate this change.  SUBU should lobby BU to allow students to retake exams during Spring Break. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Currently made for 48 hours, spoke to Pro Vice-Chancellor of Student Experience about this she said if this isn't happening in anyone's course, I should highlight it to her. Then she can work with these specific departments. | |
| **Should SUBU lobby for better support for healthcare students and improved course cost transparency?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * Lobby BU to include all contractual information for courses that involve placements, bringing BU in line with similar courses from different providers, allowing students to make a fair decision when applying Lobby BU to protect the status and welfare of all students on placement, including those employed in potentially dangerous environments such as hospitals Lobby BU to engage with PSRBs and the government to secure life assurance cover for unpaid students on NHS placements SUBU to raise the issue with NUS, in order to raise the issue around the treatment of healthcare students to a national level and lobby for change in the government’s legislation | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Completed. Cost available on website and regularly updated. Working closely with HSS on price transparency as well as support HSS students get. Needs to just be communicated more to students so they know that placement support is there for them. | |
| **SUBU to lobby BU to hold Python coding workshops** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * For SUBU to lobby BU to hold Python coding workshops for beginners to help them learn the language  To have the sessions run through the Faculty of Science and Technology and open to all students regardless of their faculty.  In person sessions preferred – Hybrid option as well.  Workshops suitable for all levels.  Available for all students including PGR students. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Need to have a conversation with FST (Faculty of Science & Technology) ADSE (Associate Dean of Student Experience) to get internal workshops happening in FST as library says they cannot facilitate this as there is a LinkedIn learning workshops online. | |
| **SUBU to lobby BU for lecture and seminar resources to be made available 1 week in advance** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * For SUBU to lobby BU to upload lecture and seminar resources to Brightspace one week in advance. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Currently made for 48 hours, spoke to Pro Vice-Chancellor of Student Experience about this she said if this isn't happening in anyone's course, I should highlight it to her. Then she can work with these specific departments. | |
| **SUBU should lobby BU to allow part-time work to be included for exceptional circumstances.** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | * SUBU to lobby BU to allow part-time work to be included as a reason for exceptional circumstances.  SUBU to lobby BU to provide more support for students who must work to afford to study and ensure that this support is well advertised.  SUBU to lobby BU to ensure that adequate support is provided for international students who require to work to study in the UK. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | * Exceptional circumstances is usually for sudden circumstance so it can’t necessarily be in exceptional circumstances, but will look into how we can frame this for part-time work as BU is are students are engaged with part-time work more than ever. | |

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| **Officer Report** | | | | |
| Name | | | | Holly Tyack |
| Role | | | | VP Student Opportunities |
| Email | | | | suvpopportunities@bournemouth.ac.uk |
| My role focuses on motivating students to have an amazing experience outside of their academic achievements. This presents an opening to network with various industry experts, as well as motivates students to perform activities outside of their comfort zone. I also sit on meetings with staff at the university to help ensure that students are represented in these meetings. Also, I work to help enable wider participation of all students to ensure SUBU helps every class of student feel as welcomed as possible. | | | | |
| **Manifesto Updates** | | | | |
| **Providing more mirrored Spaces** | | | | |
| Context | Many performance-based societies need mirrors to practise their sports and activities. However, the studios in SportBU with mirrors are usually booked up and expensive for societies to book regularly.  Having a visual aid is proven to assist in learning and development, as they provide immediate visual feedback and is helpful in self-correction. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | I have bought 3 large portable mirrors. These will be available for all societies to use free of charge. Once they have been delivered, they will be stored and available to use in the student hall.   These mirrors on wheels are practical to use, as they can be moved around the room or to another location, rather than being fixed to a wall in one place. They also double as a room divider making them a versatile piece of equipment.   These Mirrors are designed to stack together so minimal storage is required when not in use.   This will benefit students that learn best through visual methods. And make is easier to practise for group formations and performances | | | |
| **Sourcing affordable coach and minibus hire** | | | | |
| Context | Organising travel for larger societies and be stressful and expensive. The cost of booking a coach for societies to attend events, trips and competitions is expensive and a barrier to participation. I want to create a deal with a coach company which offers a discount for trips that societies book with them. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | After meeting with sportbu to understand how they source their coach transport, I reached out to Excelsior, Heathside travel, and South coast travel as BU already works with these companies. I have had a response back from Excelsior, but we are working on the discount and price lists. | | | |
| **Implementing a faster, easier room booking service** | | | | |
| Context | The current booking system for clubs and societies is time consuming and requires clubs to complete the risk assessment and request form at least 3 days prior to when they would like the room. As students typically don’t work 9-5, and complete committee work at the weekends this system doesn't suit them. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | I have reached out to the library service to see how they book room but yet to have a response. This has not been a prioritised for this term | | | |
| **Creating additional social sports clubs** | | | | |
| Context | Many sports clubs offered to students are at a competitive level. There are less sports clubs that students can join at a more relaxed and social level. Similarly, the cost of competitive sports clubs is not accessible to some students. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Sportbu has increased the number of social/campus sports clubs available, and these classes /activities are available all year round rather than for a 6-week course.   Further research is needed to understand what specific sports clubs are wanted by the students This goal has also not been the prioritised for this term. | | | |
| **'I will make the Lansdowne campus feel more social by increasing events on Lansdowne and adding additional seating, creating a larger SUBU presence, organising more events that don’t clash with timetables, and better advertisement of the ‘what’s on calendar’** | | | | |
| Context | Many students at BGB feel left out and forgotten about compared to students based on Talbot. The building is dull, and student are unaware of events happening at Lansdowne and Talbot. Student feedback based on BGB reinforces this, for example ‘’36% of students want more social space in BGB’’   - “I am very disappointed by the Lansdowne Building. There are no social areas like there are on Talbot Campus. It's not very comfortable and when it's busy there's not enough room in the library”. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Holding an event at Lansdowne has been added to the clubs and societies 5-star grading check list. This will encourage our 70+ societies to hold an event at Lansdowne, in turn increasing events happening in Lansdowne.   The new SUBU room has been launched on the third floor BGB, the room has been redecorated with a neon sign and notice boards. This is a chilled space for students to chat, eat and study, it even has kitchen facilities like a microwave. FTOs also work from Lansdowne and do monthly walk around to speak directly with students about their experience.   To increase the amount of seating and tables, I have done a Lansdowne seating review with BU and Lansdowne mangers. We walked around the whole building and identified where more seating or tables were needed.   To promote the “what's on calendar” the officers spoke about it in 21 induction talks at the start of the term reaching 4000 students. Additionally, in the SUBU room in BGB there is a large QR code for it on the wall and we regularly promote events that are happening through the FTO Instagram which also has a link tree to the what's on calendar in its bio. | | | |
| **Increase placement support and opportunities in Bournemouth and promotion of the graduate skills program** | | | | |
| Context | Placement up take has dropped by 50%. Many students have struggled to find a placement that is relevant to their career path and fits their situation surrounding location and pay. Placements offer essential industry work experience, therefore the drop in placement uptake will hinder graduate outcomes. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | I have met with the head of careers and employability at BU to discuss how placements are ran within BU and what support is available to students. I found there is a lack of data on placements uptake.   Following this I am running a focus group after speak week at the end of November. For this I am recruiting 8 students to share their views on how they found finding a placement and if they couldn’t, why not. The focus group will also aim to find out how useful the support available is and what other support students need. Once the data is collected it will present it to BU.   To promote the graduate skills program, I have talked about it at the president's associated night, encouraging student leaders to use the skills they have learnt through running their society toward this award which will boost their cv and employability   Additionally, am leading a graduate skills master class talk called “maximising your extra-curricular experience” in November. | | | |
| **Policy Updates** | | | | |
| **SUBU should allow for the creation of free clubs and societies.** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * For SUBU to allow the creation of free clubs/societies. * For SUBU to review the price of club and society membership fees to ensure that the membership fee is line with their core activities. * These free clubs and societies could be in a virtual form SUBU has networks in existence which are an alternative to paying for clubs and societies. Promote this to students more and allow more to be created. * SUBU should encourage clubs and societies to split their membership fees up to be paid termly/ semesterly to support students to pay for membership fees. * Expand the clubs and societies hardship fund to cover the costs of being an active member of a society Increase the promotion of the clubs and societies hardship fund | | |
| Progress and Outcome | | * Completed. SUBU allows for the creation of free clubs and societies. * Clubs and societies with a membership fee are encouraged to keep the fee as low as they can to keep the club accessible. * Two types of grants are available within the hardship fund to students, one covering up to 70% (capped at £50) of the membership fee and the other covering up to £50 of the cost to be an active member. To promote the hardship fund it has been spoken about at the first presidents association meeting in November. Presidents of societies are aware of the grants and can sign post them to their members. | | |
| **SUBU to lobby BU and Beryl Bikes to provide a Student Discount** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | * SUBU to lobby BU/Beryl to do the following:   Making cycling more financially and physically accessible to students. More maintenance on campus. To encourage students to be more active through cycling (which can have a positive impact on both mental and physical health). More beryl bikes/general cycling events happening on campus. For Beryl Bikes to improve accessibility for their bikes for BU students. Beryl Bikes to provide an annual (or other long term, such as termly) pass for students, in line with the cost of an annual pass from UNIBUS. One-off discounted annual payment or per semester payment. Beryl Bikes to provide a student discount of at least 25% on their minute bundles. To develop suitable infrastructure to manage the demand of Beryl Bikes To develop safety campaigns to ensure that students are using the resources safely and responsibly SUBU to meet with Beryl to discuss the issue and prospect of introducing a student discount. Using a student number/ID. SUBU to research the usage of Beryl Bikes among students, as well as cycling trends amongst students. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | No further update. Beryl bikes continues to provide discounts and free minutes for BU students. | | |
| **SUBU should encourage more non-alcoholic socials** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | SUBU should organise more social events outside the societies to acknowledge non-drinkers.   More societies should hold specifically non-alcoholic events, outside of clubs and bars. SUBU should help societies find non-alcoholic venues.   SUBU should increase the non-alcoholic drink options in Dylan’s and The Old Fire Station.   SUBU should make sure to clearly indicate when an event is alcoholic | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | To cater for students outside of societies SUBU holds events throughout the year such as yoga at Lansdown, plant potting and meet ups through the student community groups. Events are open to all during awareness and history months like black history month, Trans awareness month and green weeks. To encourage students within societies to host non-alcoholic socials it has been added to the 5-star grading list. Over term 2 we will work to expand the number of non-alcoholic events on offer and indicate when the event is alcoholic. Dylans bar has started a new 'take over event' where students can run a event there, including changing the menus and choosing the drinks. | | |
| **Mental Health Green Space** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | • SUBU to lobby the university to create a sheltered greenspace on Talbot Campus and Lansdowne Campus that are wheelchair accessible • The spaces should have designated smoking/ vaping areas or further work should be done to improve the sheltered smoking areas on both campuses • The mental health green spaces should be varied to accommodate a range of student needs . • The spaces could include a sensory garden • SUBU should explore the possibilities of having mental health green spaces away from campus as well as on campus | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | Smoking is now banned on campus. We will work together over term 2 to lobby for increased green spaces on campus, as well as putting on nature themes events to aid mental health for students. | |
| **SUBU to lobby BU to increase the development for sporting facilities at the university** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | To expand the current gym facilities including, more bench stations.  Increase range of sporting facilities to including a running track, additional Sports Hall and 3G pitch at Talbot campus to increase participation across of variety of sports   Increased communication from SportBu around availability of existing facilities and campus sport opportunities, including facilities at Chapel Gate | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | After receiving investment from Bournemouth University, the Premier League, The FA and Government’s Football Foundation SportBu has improved their Chapel gate facilities with brand-new multisport 3G pitch and changing rooms refurbishment. The new multi-sports pitch will accommodate either eight five-a-side, four seven-a-side, two nine-a-side or one full-size football pitch and can be used for other sports including rugby and American football. This will have a huge impact on students experience and their ability to participate in sport. Additionally, I am in regular communication with SportBu, I have monthly meetings with SportBu keeping both sides up to date with SUBU and SportBu activity. Looking forward to working with them over this year. | |

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| **Officer Report** | | | | |
| Name | | | | Fatima Farha |
| Role | | | | VP Welfare & Community |
| Email | | | | suvpwelfarecommunity@bournemouth.ac.uk |
| As the Vice President of Welfare & Community my role includes fulfilling my manifesto points, representing students of Bournemouth University in all spaces and encouraging BU to cultivate a community that empowers everyone regardless of their race, gender, age, ethnicity and sexuality. Within this role I lobby BU on to make change on a range of different topics such as keeping our campus sustainable, advocate for better mental health services etc.    My remit focuses on a plethora of different subjects including post-lockdown support for student. I overlook the liberation campaigns to make sure our marginalised communities are accurately represented. I encourage active allyship between the different campaigns and throughout the university. I strive to work on a range of issues such as anti-bigotry campaigns, housing, mental health, climate change, combating sexual misconduct and many other things that are affecting students.    I sit on a number of committees, panels & boards; Anti-Racism, Equality & Diversity, Fitness to Practice, Athena SWAN, Biodiversity, BU & SUBU Sustainability Committees, Trustee Board. | | | | |
| **Manifesto Updates** | | | | |
| **Prioritise improving university housing service by advocating for more affordable and accessible housing options for all students** | | | | |
| Context | - C2Recognising the prevalence of informal rental arrangements among students, lobby BU to take proactive steps to improve safety in these settings. This involves providing resources and information on tenant rights and responsibilities. Additionally, creating awareness to educate students about potential risks and best practices for ensuring more students especially international find housing in the formal sector.     - Engage with local housing authorities and establish partnerships with private landlords to ensure affordable and safe housing near our university campus.  - Conduct student surveys to inform policy updates and recommendations to enhancing housing services for all students. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | \* Housing Fair on November 23: SUBU is hosting a housing fair on November 23, with a focus on inclusivity and sustainability. I had productive meetings with the organizing staff to ensure that the event caters to the diverse needs of students, including mature students with dependents, international students, disabled students, and first-year students. We also discussed incorporating resources and practices to assist students in reducing their environmental footprint.  \* Guarantor Scheme with SU President: I've been collaborating closely with the SU President on the guarantor scheme. During "speak week," we are including a question related to the necessity of a guarantor service for students. This data will be invaluable in building a case to present to the university, advocating for improvements in this area.  \* Last term, the previous FTO team advocated for increased transparency in information provided by the university regarding housing costs in Bournemouth. This ensures that students are well-informed about their financial commitments when renting in the area. Although this hasn't been actively worked on this term, it remains a priority. | | | |
| **Increase student retention during wobble week** | | | | |
| Context | Wobble Week is a critical period in November, during which students often face increased academic and personal challenges, potentially leading to a higher dropout rate. By offering resources and events, SUBU aim to provide the necessary support to help students navigate this challenging phase and improve their retention rates. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | Collaborated with VP Education to introduce a series of events for the last two weeks of November. These events include a range of activities like theatre performances, Lego building workshops, and painting sessions. We've made an effort to ensure that some of these events are either free or offered at very low prices, making them accessible to all students. This is from feedback we received from students who expressed interest in a wider variety of events beyond clubs and societies, and more free events. This aligns with VP Education's manifesto of providing activities that help alleviate exam-related stress and promote overall well-being during this period.   SUBU advice is running a campaign during this period called “Drop in, not drop out” to inform students of support and resources available | | | |
| **Develop SUBU’s allyship hub and organise workshops and resources to promote awareness of the experiences of marginalised groups in academic and social spaces.** | | | | |
| Context | It's crucial to create an inclusive and supportive academic and social environment where all students, regardless of their background feel valued and understood. To achieve this, I aim to focus on updating SUBU's allyship hub with the help of PTOs, which will serve as a centralised resource for workshops, informative materials, and safe spaces for open discussions. Additionally, I aim to actively work towards advocating for the implementation of a clear policy on microaggressions at BU, mirroring practices already established in some universities. | | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | \* I've initiated contact with Caroline Earth, the Cultural Adaptation Officer at BU, who has already begun providing valuable cultural competency and diversity training for staff. I am exploring potential avenues for collaboration to further enhance inclusivity within the university environment. \* In addition, I've commenced research on the development of a dedicated page addressing microaggressions targeted at various student groups. This page will serve as a platform for students to identify different forms of microaggressions and seek support. | | | |
| **Streamline student feedback channels to enable efficiency in addressing complaints** | | | | |
| Context | | Implement a user-friendly online platform dedicated to student feedback and complaints, designed to streamline the process and ease resolution. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Previously, Bournemouth University operated under a stringent complaints process for non-academic concerns, which involved filling out a form on a word document and sending it via email. Now, all student complaints are centralised in a user-friendly webpage titled the 'Appeals and Complaints Tool'. This platform encompasses provisions for academic appeals, complaints related to services provided by the university, and any other issues that may not fit under these categories. While this initiative was driven by the university, it aligns with SUBU’s shared goal of ensuring a more efficient and user-friendly feedback process for all students. | | |
| **Diversify access to mental health support through BU Student well-being services and workshops, ensuring it is inclusive, culturally competent, and reflective of our diverse student population.** | | | | |
| Context | | Identify specific barriers that students encounter when seeking mental health support, such as wait times, travel difficulties, and financial constraints. Gather suggestions from students on how the well-being service can be enhanced to better meet their mental health needs.   Communicate support services available to students through SUBU and BU communication channels.   Highlight the urgency for improved and consistent face-to-face counselling options with BU. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Students will be surveyed on mental health and wellbeing services as part of our November Speak Week Survey. Questions have been prepared and results from them will provide SUBU with quantitative data from hundreds of students.  Consulted with a focus group made up of six BU students, representative of the BU community. Gained useful insights on the availability and accessibility of mental health and wellbeing services at Bournemouth University. | | |
| **Policy Updates** | | | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby to improve inclusivity and accessibility arrangements for all students?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | SUBU to lobby BU to review their training for all staff on supporting students with a disability, both academically and pastorally SUBU to lobby BU to audit all courses to identify best practice and areas for improvement SUBU to lobby BU to review policies around Reasonable Adjustments SUBU to lobby BU to ensure that all students, regardless of whether they have disclosed a disability/additional learning need, are contacted with a list of services and support options SUBU to lobby BU to remove the need to provide medical evidence to access additional support SUBU to lobby BU to end their discriminatory fitness to study procedure SUBU to lobby BU Estates to ensure that accessibility arrangements are included in building design, including the addition of dropped curbs and providing spaces for students with allergies to study without risk SUBU to lobby BU to pay disabled students to undertake an accessibility assessment of campus SUBU and BU to improve the communication between relevant services by taking a multi-agency approach to student support, with student consent SUBU and BU to ensure that captions/subtitles are included in all events and communication. Where auto captioning/subtitling is not possible, dedicated captioning support should be provided SUBU to incorporate dedicated student voice activities, through paid focus groups, a regular accessibility forum and an anonymous online form SUBU to make all clubs and societies inclusive, through mandatory accessibility training and dedicated funding for specialist equipment SUBU to commit to ongoing campaign work around addressing ableism, disability justice, the social model of disability, invisible illnesses and endorsing/promoting DSA (Disabled Students’ Allowance) reform | | |
| Progress and Outcome | | No update at this time | | |
| **Should SUBU support student sex workers?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | The Union should create policy to support student sex workers through destigmatising sex work and making students aware of the safety measures that are in place. This should include no threat of disciplinary action due to the nature of their work, and for clear guidance of repercussions against others distributing a student’s content without consent. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | No update at this time | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby to end sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence on campus?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | For SUBU to launch ‘Ask Angela’ in all SUBU spaces ensuring staff are appropriately trained to handle disclosures. This should include bar staff within Dylan’s and The Old Fire Station For SUBU to promote the #NeverOK campaign and run events and workshops around consent and sexual assault as a part of this campaign. For SUBU to provide safety care package at freshers' fair For SUBU to partner with local organisations to provide students with support accessible in their local area, including those not based in Bournemouth For SUBU to lobby BU to work with SUBU and the student body to launch a review into their sexual misconduct and harassment policies by the summer, as recommended by the OfS. For SUBU to send a Freedom of Information Request to Bournemouth University to understand the use of ‘Non-Disclosure Agreements’ at Bournemouth University For SUBU to lobby BU to make the processes for disclosing sexual harassment, misconduct and violence more visible For SUBU to lobby BU to employ dedicated staff members to support survivors of sexual violence to ensure that survivors have a consistent and specialised point of contact For SUBU to lobby BU to be transparent around instances of sexual harassment, misconduct and violence on campus by publishing case numbers and outcomes. For SUBU to lobby BU to employ trauma informed decision-making practices into their complaints processes. For SUBU to lobby BU to introduce workshops on consent and sexual violence that go beyond awareness raising and focus on bystander initiatives, reporting incidents, myth debunking, intersectionality and handling disclosures. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | |  | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby for increased wellbeing support?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | To make students feel less isolated by providing an additional wellbeing support through a ‘befriending’ service. To provide further opportunities for students to support their mental health. To lobby for wellbeing information to be readily available for students from the beginning of their university journey. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Please check update on manifesto point relating to increased access to mental health and wellbeing support for students. Regarding wellbeing information being readily available, students have been communicated services during induction and through freshers stands. | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the availablity of recycling facilities in accommodation and on campus?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | Create more accessible recycling points at student halls that will release pressure on accommodation-based recycling centres Establish recycling centres on both Talbot and Lansdowne campuses For halls to provide clear signposting and recycling information around the accommodation and near-by recycling facilities To gain a better understanding of student recycling behaviours and experiences For SUBU to lobby BU to provide a bottle bank on both campuses For SUBU to work with the local council in order to promote local recycling guidelines For SUBU to lobby private and BU owned halls to provide more recycling points that are clearly signposted For SUBU to lobby private and BU owned halls to provide a full range of recycling options, including food waste For SUBU to develop and run a survey in order to understand student attitudes and experiences towards recycling For SUBU to run an awareness campaign directed at students in accommodation about recycling, including the various types and best ways of doing it For SUBU to create an updated webpage with details on recycling, including rules, tips and external resources For SUBU to provide accessible recycling options for all students, through corresponding with private accommodation providers For SUBU to work with BU to create a clear map identifying where recycling points are, including in accommodation, on campus and around the local area | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Completed | | |
| **Inclusive Campus: Masks, Toilets and Facilities** | | | | |
| Policy actions | | For inequalities on campus to be addressed SUBU to fight the targeting of students with hidden disabilities who cannot wear face masks. For staff and students to be tolerant and respectful of those who cannot wear masks instead of making them feel uncomfortable and different. Increase the quantity of gender-neutral bathrooms so students do not need to leave their current building to find one To change the signage on disabled toilets to reduce stigma To increase the calming measures within the disabled toilets To replace stools with backed chairs for the comfort, health and physical support of all students who use the lab Creation of a sensory space on campus | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | No update at this time | | |
| **Should SUBU lobby the university to ban smoking and vaping on campus other than in designated sheltered smoking areas?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | For SUBU to lobby BU to create suitable and sheltered smoking areas around campus For SUBU to lobby BU to ban smoking and vaping on campus other than in designated sheltered smoking areas For SUBU to lobby BU to improve signage around the smoking rules. | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | Completed | | |
| **Improve sustainability through bettering the plant-based options available on campus** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | Increased plant-based and gluten free options across campus, these should include breakfast items, snacks, treats, sandwiches and hot meals Improve the promotion and signage of plant-based options everywhere on campus, such as clear areas within the SUBU Shop, signage outside outlets providing signage comparing environmental impacts of dairy and various plant milks so that informed choices can be made Rotate the plant-based options regularly to ensure that there is a variety of options Ensure that plant-based and non-plant-based items are similar in pricing Consider implementing a surcharge for dairy milks in line with environmental impacts For all on campus food outlets to take part in Veganuary annually as part of BU's environmental initiatives this should include promotional materials and concepts such as meat free Mondays Consider implementing meat free Mondays across the year Bournemouth University to provide funding if necessary to scope and implement a carbon neutral campus Provide items that cater to multiple dietary requirements such as plant-based and gluten free | | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | No update at this time | | |
| **Should SUBU advocate that students should not be liable to pay for halls that they are unable to live in due to COVID?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | For SUBU to lobby remaining private halls providers to provide financial compensation for accommodation that was unused by students due to COVID. For SUBU to lobby BU to end formal partnerships with halls providers that do not offer any financial compensation for unused accommodation due to COVID. For SUBU to lobby BU to end formal partnerships with halls providers that do not offer any financial compensation for students whose accommodation has otherwise been affected by the implications of COVID. For SUBU to provide transparent information about rent strikes. For SUBU to support students’ right to take action. For Student Reps to be provided with information about financial support packages to inform their cohorts. For SUBU to further promote financial support packages and encourage BU to do the same. For SUBU to lobby halls providers to provide discounted rent where services have been limited | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No update at this time | |
| **Should SUBU implement a plastic policy?** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | Work in partnership with NUS, BU, suppliers, and other stakeholders to meet policy objectives Work with our supply chain to develop capability and capacity for recycled plastic products (not just recyclable products) Work with students, staff and suppliers to encourage them to take practical steps to reduce the use of plastic and the production of plastic waste SUBU should apply this policy across all aspects of its activities including commercial services, activities, visitors, freshers fair, campaigns, media | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No update at this time | |
| **Rename the Students with Disabilities Officer and Campaign to the Disabilities, Accessibility and Neuro-Diverse Officer and Campaign** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | Change the name of the Disabled Students’ Officer to Disabilities, Accessibility and Neuro-Diverse Officer Change the name of the Disabled Students’ Campaign to Disabilities, Accessibility and Neuro-Diverse Campaign Amend the following references in the Bye-Laws to reflect these changes Bye-Law 2, Clause 8.1.a.iii Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.c Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.c.i Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.c.ii The proposed Bye-Laws can be viewed in the appendix Change the logo to a more inclusive design | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | Completed | |
| **Environmenstrual Policy** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | SUBU to lobby BU to assist in providing free and sustainable menstrual products for students in need, where they:   Cannot afford products   Come on their period unexpectedly   Have forgotten products   SUBU to lobby BU to provide free and sustainable menstrual products for their staff members.   SUBU to continue to campaign for periods to be free of stigma via the Environmenstrual Collective.   SUBU to stock a range of sustainable menstrual products in the student shop.   SUBU to continue to sell menstrual products at the cost of purchase within their outlets.   SUBU to lobby BU to stock sustainable menstrual products in the machines in toilets   SUBU to share and communicate the collective and policy more widely to students | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | There is now a sanitary station at Yeovil campus. | |
| **Rename the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Plus Officer and Group, and the Trans and Non-Binary Officer and Group to be more inclusive** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | Change the name of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Plus (LGB+) Officer and Group to the LGBTQ+ Officer and Group   Change the membership of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Plus Officer and Group from:   Current: ‘The members shall be all students who self-define as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and any other sexual minority’   Proposal: ‘The members shall be all students who self-define as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, Questioning, Asexual, Pansexual, or otherwise identify as a sexual identity within the LGBTQ+ umbrella. This group is inclusive of LGBTQ+ identities and shall work closely with the Trans, Non-Binary and Gender Identity Group.’   Change the name of the Trans and Non-Binary Officer and Group to the Trans, Non-Binary, Intersex, and Gender Identity + Officer and Group   Change the membership of the Trans and Non-Binary Officer and Group from:   Current: ‘The members shall be all students who self-define as Trans and/or Non-Binary.’   Proposal: ‘The members shall be all students who self-define as Trans, Non-Binary, Genderqueer, Gender Non-Conforming, Gender Questioning, Intersex or otherwise identify as a gender identity within the LGBTQ+ umbrella. This group is inclusive of LGBTQ+ identities and shall work closely with the LGBTQ+ Group.’   The changes should take effect across all of SUBU’s informal communications as soon as possible, pending formal approval in the Bye-Laws.      The Bye-Laws, which can be found in the Appendix, should be updated to reflect the amendments. Specifically, the following clauses should be amended:   Bye-Law 2, Clause 8.1.a.iv   Bye-Law 2, Clause 8.1.a.v   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.d   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.d.i   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.d.ii   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.e   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.e.i   Bye-Law 9, Clause 3.2.e.ii | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | Completed | |
| **SUBU should encourage more non-alcoholic socials** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | SUBU should organise more social events outside the societies to acknowledge non-drinkers.   More societies should hold specifically non-alcoholic events, outside of clubs and bars. SUBU should help societies find non-alcoholic venues.   SUBU should increase the non-alcoholic drink options in Dylan’s and The Old Fire Station.   SUBU should make sure to clearly indicate when an event is alcoholic | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | To cater for students outside of societies SUBU holds events throughout the year such as yoga at Lansdown, plant potting and meet ups through the student community groups. Events are open to all during awareness and history months like black history month, Trans awareness month and green weeks. To encourage students within societies to host non-alcoholic socials it has been added to the 5-star grading list. Over term 2 we will work to expand the number of non-alcoholic events on offer and indicate when the event is alcoholic. Dylans bar has started a new 'take over event' were students can run a event there, including changing the menu and choosing the drinks. Student rep socials now include trips and non-alcoholic activities, such as trip to Jurassic Coast. | |
| **The Allyship Policy** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | For SUBU to:   host an annual Allyship Fair   create a Live-Experience Liberation Panel where students will get renumerated for their time   pledge and adopt the Allyship Commitments and Strategy   encourage students to register as allies on the SUBU website   promote the Allyship Hub and related projects through BU/SUBU welcome comms   infuse allyship within the Liberation Campaigns structure. This includes, but is not limited to, each Liberation Campaign having a minimum of one allied event each year.   organise and facilitate allyship training for student leaders   keep the Allyship Hub up to date   For SUBU to lobby Bournemouth University to:   pledge and adopt the Allyship Commitments and Strategy   ensure that correct language is used in lectures around marginalised communities, particularly for terms relating to LGBTQ+ and disabled communities.   allow an option for BU staff and students to include pronouns on ID badges   support SUBU with their allyship events and campaigns where possible | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | No update at this time | |
| **Mental Health Green Space** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | • SUBU to lobby the university to create a sheltered greenspace on Talbot Campus and Lansdowne Campus that are wheelchair accessible • The spaces should have designated smoking/ vaping areas or further work should be done to improve the sheltered smoking areas on both campuses • The mental health green spaces should be varied to accommodate a range of student needs . • The spaces could include a sensory garden • SUBU should explore the possibilities of having mental health green spaces away from campus as well as on campus | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | Smoking is now banned on campus. We will work together over term 2 to lobby for increased green spaces on campus, as well as putting on nature themes events to aid mental health for students. | |
| **Make campus safer for marginalised students** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | This proposal would be to prioritise the usage of the facilities we have on campus and the staff who run security over the police, not inviting external police to events where they effectively are present for show and not actively handling an issue and pushing for staff and students to be given more information on the impacts of calling the police, and the situations where this is not necessary. Some of the things that should be done are as follows, and continue to be the case:  Onsite security to be trained in De-escalation and Conflict Resolution, being prioritised as the port of call for minor incidents  Student facing staff, including security to be trained in Unconscious Bias Awareness  Police and Police-adjacent organisations not to be invited as guests to any "vanity" events such as Freshers and Refreshers, also including organisations aiming to improve the police's public perception.  The SU and its staff to be required not to call police on protesters/strikers/students unless there is a direct threat to people, and seek to resolve incidents with onsite security wherever possible  SUBU Advice to be given training to help give support to those students who are affected by police incidents, or help students access external organisations where necessary  SUBU to use current connections with Dorset Police to lobby for reform  What this does not mean:  Banning police from responding to emergency incidents/crimes - these are a necessary interaction, in any situation where things cannot be deescalated.  Doing away with campus security - this policy encourages greater campus security so the police are no longer necessary.  Emergency services prevented from accessing campus - in any case it is determined that external emergency services are necessary, they should remain able to act.  To summarise, this proposal will utilise existing security staff to ensure that they are trained to protect students, minimising the need for police involvement | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | SUBU is currently exploring training including diversity training given to security staff to reduce policing required on campus. | |
| **SUBU should lobby BU to allow part-time work to be included for exceptional circumstances** | | | | |
| Policy Actions | | | SUBU to lobby BU to allow part-time work to be included as a reason for exceptional circumstances.  SUBU to lobby BU to provide more support for students who must work to afford to study and ensure that this support is well advertised.  SUBU to lobby BU to ensure that adequate support is provided for international students who require to work to study in the UK. | |
| Progress and Outcomes | | | Exceptional circumstances is usually for sudden circumstance so it can’t necessarily be in exceptional circumstances, but will look into how we can frame this for part-time work as BU is are students are engaged with part-time work more than ever. | |

5. Lapsing Policies Review

 The following policies are currently set to lapse. The Executive Committee, which is made up of the Union’s Full-Time and Part-Time Officers have made recommendations as to whether the policies should be retained for a further two academic years or whether they should be lapsed. The SUBU Summit shall take a vote on whether to uphold the Executive Committees recommendation.

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| **Proposed by** | Christopher McGonigle |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby to eliminate printing costs?** |
| **Problem** | * UK/EU Undergraduate students pay £9250 annually in fees to attend university. * At Bournemouth University this fee does not cover additional course costs. * Bournemouth University estimates that it will cost between £210 and £630 per year for additional course costs, including printing. * It costs 3p to print a single page of black and white and 18p for a colour page. * Printing is a necessary part of some courses. * The University and Union does not provide free printing or any free printing credit. * This results in students having to pay out of pocket to complete necessary parts of their courses. * Universities such as Aston, Hull and Nottingham Trent provide either free printing, or provide a certain amount of free printing credits to students each year and therefore it could be possible for Bournemouth University to do so as well. |
| **Solution** | * The Union should research the costs of printing during a student’s time at Bournemouth University. * The Union should lobby the University to ensure that efforts are made to make sure that work can be completed digitally and without the need for printing. Thus, benefitting students and the environment. * The Union should lobby the university to ensure that where students are required to print material as compulsory part of their course, this cost should be subsidised by the university. This should be done through either eliminating printing charges, or by providing a printing stipend for every student. The Union should investigate options for providing free printing to students as part of their facilities. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * VP Education to take ownership and provide an update at the next BSM |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to retain. |
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| **Proposed by** | Toluwa Atilade |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU support student sex workers?** |
| **Problem** | * Potential student sex workers at Bournemouth University who are opted-in at SUBU are not protected/supported. * Neither SUBU nor BU have a policy in place to support student sex workers. |
| **Solution** | * The Union should create policy to support student sex workers through destigmatising sex work and making students aware of the safety measures that are in place. * This should include no threat of disciplinary action due to the nature of their work, and for clear guidance of repercussions against others distributing a student’s content without consent. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * To ensure sex workers do not get discriminated against for their line of work. * Ensure there are financial advice for those involving themselves in sex work (as some students get involved in this line of work due to financial struggles). * Safety advice. Including – safety measures to ensure student sex workers are safe and are comfortable. This would include students who were seeking guidance before participating in sex work. * Support students who are being outed/bullied/trolled, by both students and staff, for their line of work. * Regardless of why someone got into sex work, sex workers of all backgrounds should be and have the right to be protected. * Lobby BU in the instance that a student is threatened with an academic offence due to their nature of work. * Clear guidance on the repercussions of distributing another’s content without permission. This would include disciplinary actions such as suspension or criminal charges brought forward. * Develop a peer support network for student sex workers. This would be anonymised and would allow students to seek confidential advice. * Signpost students to organisations who can support them for topics such as sex worker advocacy and emotional support. This support would be online or in person, to support students who wish to anonymously access information. * A document showcasing the reasonings for people going into sex work (including disabilities) and why it should be equal to other job roles. * To develop an inclusive definition for a sex worker as someone who provides sexual services for money or goods, including those who engage in digital sex work and ‘sugaring’. This will reflect the increased popularity of platforms like Only Fans and the sale of non-nude material that is sex related. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare and Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to retain. |
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| **Proposed by** | Alicia Kelly De La Orden |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to improve online timetables?** |
| **Problem** | * You cannot add sml and your own entries to organise your time. * Students are currently provided with two versions of their timetable, one that exists within the centralised timetable and one which exists on Zoom. This has created issues with accessing relevant lectures and seminars. * Previously some students had been able to view additional lectures taking place within their department on their timetable, but this is no longer possible. |
| **Solution** | * The solution would be that students were able to edit them so it was treated more like a calendar, this would mean that you could put in times to organise when to do SMLs and other work. This could help students plan out times for sml times for assignments, and revision as well as breaks to ensure a good school free time balance. * To improve timetable function. * To enable students to access other lectures. * Be able to add BU calendar to existing calendar. Calendar centre does this but doesn’t allow to re-upload it to BU timetable. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * The student wouldn't be able to change what's already there but be able to add extra boxes to be able to organise when they will do certain tasks and assignments. * To continue working with BU on resolving timetabling issues. * To enable students to access lectures within their department that they have an interest in attending, by including them on students’ timetables. * To lobby BU to provide webinars or short videos on how to access timetables. * For Seminar Leads to give an approximate time to how long the prework/sml would take. * Notification to students if there are changes to timetable. * Be able to add voluntary classes onto BU timetable. * Match BU Timetable to Zoom timetable for individual lectures for ease. Zoom ID instead of class location as a potential solution. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Chiko Bwalya |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby for better support for healthcare students and improved course cost transparency?** |
| **Problem** | * Students on unpaid healthcare placements are currently not covered by life assurance. In the event of death in service, their families will not be eligible for financial support. * Healthcare students on placements place themselves at risk daily. Unlike their NHS colleagues, who are working in the same environment, they are not covered by life assurance in the event of their death. * As unpaid students, FHSS students do not feel like their lives and skills matter as much as their paid colleagues. * There is no information on BU’s website to state that students are expected to pay for their own life assurance as an additional course cost |
| **Solution** | * BU should state all additional course costs on their website, including books, field trips, travel, and life assurance. * BU should provide clear information on how students can obtain funding for these additional costs. * BU should provide clear guidance on the additional work students are able to take on to financially support their studies. * BU should amend their policy for courses that require undertaking unpaid NHS contracts, covering life assurance for all students. * For the University and NHS trust to split the cost to cover the life assurance for students if neither side will cover it in its entirety |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * Lobby BU to include all contractual information for courses that involve placements, bringing BU in line with similar courses from different providers, allowing students to make a fair decision when applying. * Lobby BU to protect the status and welfare of all students on placement, including those employed in potentially dangerous environments such as hospitals. * Lobby BU to engage with PSRBs and the government to secure life assurance cover for unpaid students on NHS placements. * SUBU to raise the issue with NUS, to raise the issue around the treatment of healthcare students to a national level and lobby for change in the government’s legislation |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse |
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| **Proposed by** | Angela Barton |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby for increased wellbeing support?** |
| **Problem** | * Increased numbers of students declaring mental health issues growing from 270 in 2015/16 to 524 in 2018/191 [Report Here](https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/sites/default/files/asset/document/ed-annual-report-201819.pdf) * Up to 6 weeks waiting lists to be seen by Student Wellbeing * Increased isolation due to COVID. * Students feel a desire to speak to someone. * 34% of students report having psychological difficulties for which they needed professional help. [Report Here](https://uploads-ssl.webflow.com/561110743bc7e45e78292140/5c7d4b5d314d163fecdc3706_Mental%20Health%20Report%202018.pdf) |
| **Solution** | * To make students feel less isolated by providing an additional wellbeing support through a ‘befriending’ service. * To provide further opportunities for students to support their mental health. * To lobby for wellbeing information to be readily available for students from the beginning of their university journey |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * Work with external organisations to provide befriending support to students, potentially through Dorset Mind, who already run a befriending scheme. * The befriending scheme should match Bournemouth University students with other students who have received appropriate training to undertake the role, including safeguarding. They would only be befrienders for other students, not for people outside of the university. * Befriending would take place in prearranged meetings, either on the phone, via video call or in person where safe to do so. * Have a specified staff member who would oversee the befriending process. * The befriending volunteers would not replace frontline mental health services or provide crisis support. * To provide workshops on topical mental health issues facing students * To provide further opportunities for peer support in relation to mental health. For example, volunteering with Dorset Mind or other external wellbeing organisations. * Lobby for a specific member of staff to reach out to Bournemouth University students about wellbeing topics. * Supply wellbeing signposting as part of introductory lectures. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | SUBU Executive Committee |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU implement a plastic Policy?** |
| **Problem** | * SUBU recognises that waste plastics pose a global threat to the marine environment. * A clear policy is needed to raise awareness of the issue to students, staff, visitors and suppliers |
| **Solution** | * Measure our use of single-use plastics and set targets for reduction as the ‘worst offenders’. * Develop an assessment of the environmental impact of plastics we buy and use to inform the purchase of goods and services. * Where the use of plastics is unavoidable, aim to buy only those plastic products that can be easily reused or recycled. * Seek and encourage innovative recycling opportunities for the plastic waste we and our supply chain partners produce in our buildings, cafés, and daily operations. * Promote behaviours that reduce reliance on plastics, particularly encouraging the use of tap water over bottled water and the reduction of plastic packaging waste. * Support and encourage student and community initiatives to remove plastic waste and litter from the environment. * SUBU will have processes that ensure visiting organisations see this policy and submit their own plan prior to visits outlining how they intend to comply with the policy. Particular attention will be given to preventing ‘give aways’ that are not intended for any reasonable future use (i.e. they are just disposable) * SUBU will encourage BU to consider research into the sustainability of plastics, use of alternatives and protection of the marine environment from plastic waste. SUBU should also expect BU to encourage the sustainability use of plastic and protection of the oceans to be included in academic programmes. * Nothing in this policy should negatively impact any student, staff member or visitor. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring people with disabilities are not disadvantaged. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * VP Community to take ownership and provide updates at the next BSM. * Work in partnership with NUS, BU, suppliers, and other stakeholders to meet these policy objectives. * Work with our supply chain to develop capability and capacity for recycled plastic products (not just recyclable products) * Work with students, staff and suppliers to encourage them to take practical steps to reduce the use of plastic and the production of plastic waste. * SUBU should apply this policy across all aspects of its activities including commercial services, activities, visitors, freshers fair, campaigns, media. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse |
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| **Proposed by** | Raf Stainsbury |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU advocate that students should not be liable to pay for halls that they are unable to live in due to COVID?** |
| **Problem** | * Students are currently liable to pay for accommodation that they are unable to live in due to COVID. * The Minister of State of Universities (Michelle Donelan) has called for all large-scale private companies to offer refunds or other financial compensation. * Around 80% of Bournemouth University students living in halls are living in privately owned halls. * Several privately owned halls providers have provided some form of financial compensation. These include Student Roost and Unite. * Students living in Bournemouth University owned halls are entitled to 50% financial compensation for the period that they are unable to live in their halls, due to the 2021 national lockdown. * Presently, the following private halls in Bournemouth are not providing any form of financial compensation: The Student Housing Company, Fresh Student Living and Campus Living Villages. * Students whose provider did not provide a rent rebate/credit are entitled to access Bournemouth University’s Accommodation Support Fund with a one-off payment of £300, but this does not go far enough. Furthermore, there is limited funding available, and BU are unable to guarantee and award, even where a student meets the criteria. * Where students have been present in halls, they have experienced reduced services despite paying full rent. * Where students have made complaints regarding financial support to their accommodation providers, there have been several instances of providers not responding in an appropriate manner. |
| **Solution** | * For halls providers to provide financial compensation, of at least 50%, between January and March that was unused by tenants following government guidance to remain at their non-term-time address. * For halls providers to provide financial support to students who have experienced reduced services due to the closure of facilities * For hall providers to allow students to leave their contracts early without financial penalty |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * For SUBU to lobby remaining private halls providers to provide financial compensation for accommodation that was unused by students due to COVID. * For SUBU to lobby BU to end formal partnerships with halls providers that do not offer any financial compensation for unused accommodation due to COVID. * For SUBU to lobby BU to end formal partnerships with halls providers that do not offer any financial compensation for students whose accommodation has otherwise been affected by the implications of COVID. * For SUBU to provide transparent information about rent strikes. * For SUBU to support students’ right to act. * For Student Reps to be provided with information about financial support packages to inform their cohorts. * For SUBU to further promote financial support packages and encourage BU to do the same. * For SUBU to lobby halls providers to provide discounted rent where services have been limited. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Dylan Lintern-Mole |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby the government to secure tuition fee rebates?** |
| **Problem** | * Due to COVID-19, a significant portion of teaching has been moved online for students across the UK. * Some students do not feel that the online learning is equal to face-to-face learning. * Some students are missing out on essential resources, such as practicals, and access to materials and software. * Neither the UK government, nor universities, currently support blanket refunds. * Students are presently eligible for partial refunds through contacting the OIA (Office of the Independent Adjudicator). * The OfS (Office for Students) has stated that refunds will not be granted on the grounds of online learning only. * Refunds presently come out of pocket from universities who still have significant overheads, even whilst students are not on campus. * It is the government and not individual universities who should be responsible for national student refunds, as this is a national issue. * Currently, the UK government argues that fee refunds will only immediately benefit the small proportion of students who pay their fees up front. * The UK government has recently announced an additional £50 million in hardship fund to be distributed across England; however, this is not nearly enough. |
| **Solution** | * For all students not to be liable to pay full tuitions fees due to not having access to in person teaching or access to resources. Students on courses with a large proportion of practical teaching, or those with cancelled components, should be prioritised. * To lobby the government to secure tuition fee rebates. * BU to continue to focus on improving academic provisions, for example through an extension of booking times for on campus facilities. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * For SUBU to publicly state that students deserve partial refunds/a loan amnesty/a freeze on interest rates. * For SUBU to write to local MPs and lobby the UK government on this matter. * For SUBU to work with other students' unions and the NUS to demand an increased national bailout of £700m, as recommended by the APPG for students (All Party Parliamentary Group) and NUS. * For SUBU to lobby the university to call for national student refunds to be paid for by the UK government. |
| **To be implemented by** | President |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Dylan Lintern-Mole |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to ensure that all contact hours outside of lectures and teaching are met?** |
| **Problem** | * Students have lost contact hours outside of lectures and teaching time that they would normally receive from unit leads. * Biochemistry has not had the amount of contact hours that are normally assigned to each module. * Within the second year of the Forensic Science Degree in which Biochemistry sits, 310 hours are marked as scheduled learning and teaching time. Biochemistry also sits within other courses across different years, predominantly second and third year. * Conversations are continuing within faculties about the drop-in contact time, and how this will be improved when students return to campus |
| **Solution** | * Unit leads should be available for 40 hours unless external circumstances prevent them. * All Unit leads to maintain contact hours by having drop-in sessions available. * Students are made aware of the contact hours they have available to them at the beginning of the year, and how these can be used. * A minimum number of compulsory lectures to be set per unit to be carried out throughout the year |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * Lobby BU to make sure all departments have shared how they will be making up for lost contact time throughout the year. * Lobbying for an increase in drop-in sessions and office hours throughout the year to make up for lost contact time and have these relayed to students at the beginning of each new term. * Confirm a specific time during every week for students to be able to informally drop-in with their lecturers across all units |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Joshua Whiteman |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to amend the 6C policy to allow unit leaders more control over unit assessment?** |
| **Problem** | * Under the current 6C policy every single unit across BU, regardless of which degree course, must adhere to the 6C policy. * One aspect of this policy is that no one unit can exceed 3000 words of assessed work. If a unit has an exam and coursework component, the word count is split 50/50 between the assignments. This is classed as ‘best practice’ across the sector. * Whilst this word count is sufficient in some cases, for many it means that students are unable to demonstrate additional knowledge and reading in so few words. * This curtails a student’s ability to show their interest in a topic and results in students feeling unmotivated to research above and beyond a topic they find interesting. * In addition, this policy prevents unit leaders from being able to conduct regular small pieces of assessed work, something which would be valuable for many units. * The process to make amendments to assessments for a unit is also inefficient, as implementing any changes based on student feedback takes a long time. * Course leaders often don’t meet coursework result/feedback deadlines however students must submit on time. It is seen as unfair on the students to receive late feedback. Within the policy it states that communication must come 48 hours prior if the deadline is not met by the course leader |
| **Solution** | * The 6C policy should be amended to allow a unit leader more freedom and flexibility in how to assess their own unit- The policy contains the word ‘normally’ when referring to the word count which does provide some flexibility. To reflect the differences in course disciplines, changes should be made to the policy to be less ridged. Courses differ greatly and have different assessment needs. Eg Nursing and Computing * Student feedback should be implemented by BU in a timely manner, and they should be made aware of where proposals have made a positive impact. Currently, changes are made the next academic year however changes could be implemented within the same academic year with a specific cut-off date. * Students should be able to achieve high quality academic work, without the restrictions of a word count. * Students should be better prepared for final year projects or post-graduate study. * Students should have a greater number of opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge, through varied assessment methods. * More rigorous penalties for late feedback from course leaders |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * FTOs to lobby BU to amend 6C by increasing flexibility around the assessment process. * SUBU to support reps to gather feedback specifically on assessments. * Ensure that any conversations had with Academic Quality reference that BU are operating this policy as ‘best practice’ however there are students that would like to go above and beyond. * Reps can look into issues with late feedback from course leaders. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Motunrayo Omotade |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the reassessment limit for students across all years?** |
| **Problem** | * There has not been any change made to the current reassessment policies which determine the reassessment limit for students. * The current policy allows resubmission and resit if you have failed up to 60 credits for Level 4 and up to 40 credits for Levels 5 & 6. There is some flexibility around this for exceptional circumstances and for students who choose to ‘carry credit’. * This year has been hard on so many students causing them not to perform as usual. * Currently, Level 5 and Level 6 students must repeat the whole academic year if they fail 40 credits or more |
| **Solution** | * Students should receive the same reassessment allowance at all levels of study. * All students should be able to resist or resubmit work if they fail up to 60 credits, as part of BU’s Protecting Student Outcomes * Once this has been secured, there should be a long-term discussion around supporting students academically beyond Covid. * Students at all levels should be academically supported throughout the ongoing pandemic and beyond |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * SUBU to lobby BU for changes to the resubmission policy * SUBU to raise this issue with NUS or other relevant bodies such as the QAA |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Ellie Hamilton |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to increase the availability of recycling facilities in accommodation and on campus?** |
| **Problem** | * The University has excellent recycling options for people on campus, but for some students, the positive impact of this is negated by their accommodation not offering recycling options for household waste. * There is a distinct lack of recycling points available at student halls accommodation and private student rentals, where waste is not always managed by the council. * First year students living in halls of residence are more likely to need additional support to achieve improvements in recycling behaviour, and are known to recycle less than other year groups (NUS) * The NUS Report also states that students are less likely to recycle as they think nobody else in their accommodation also recycles. * All accommodation has recycling bins available for students, often kept alongside their traditional rubbish bins. * Presently, Bailey Point, owned by the Student Housing Company, have a kitchen-based recycling system in their accommodation. * A food waste recycling system is currently in place across households in Bournemouth, however it is uncertain how many students engage with this |
| **Solution** | * Create more accessible recycling points at student halls that will release pressure on accommodation-based recycling centres. * Establish recycling centres on both Talbot and Lansdowne campuses. * For halls to provide clear signposting and recycling information around the accommodation and near-by recycling facilities * To gain a better understanding of student recycling behaviours and experiences |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * For SUBU to lobby BU to provide a bottle bank on both campuses * For SUBU to work with the local council to promote local recycling guidelines * For SUBU to lobby private and BU owned halls to provide more recycling points that are clearly signposted * For SUBU to lobby private and BU owned halls to provide a full range of recycling options, including food waste. * For SUBU to develop and run a survey to understand student attitudes and experiences towards recycling * For SUBU to run an awareness campaign directed at students in accommodation about recycling, including the various types and best ways of doing it * For SUBU to create an updated webpage with details on recycling, including rules, tips and external resources. * For SUBU to provide accessible recycling options for all students, through corresponding with private accommodation providers. * For SUBU to work with BU to create a clear map identifying where recycling points are, including in accommodation, on campus and around the local area |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby to end sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence on campus?** |
| **Problem** | * According to HEPI (Higher Education Policy Institute) only “(59%) [of students] are ‘very confident’ about ‘what constitutes sexual consent’ but only half as many (30%) are ‘very confident’ about how to navigate sexual consent after alcohol has been consumed”. * In January 2020, the OfS, (Office for Students) announced a ‘Statement of Expectations’ on sexual harassment and misconduct, providing guidance for university providers including working together with students’ unions to deliver a clear and consistent message. * In March 2021, the Instagram account ‘Everyone's Invited’ was launched, documenting victim testimonies from schools and universities. Nearly 16,000 testimonies were submitted by the end of April 2021, with the majority from UK based universities. * Universities across the UK still use non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) to silence victims of sexual violence, with the BBC finding that in 2020 nearly one third of universities had used an NDA in a student grievance dispute between 2016-19 * Sexual violence is a global issue with a report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for UN Women finding that 71% of women of all ages had experienced sexual harassment in public spaces |
| **Solution** | * To reduce survivor stigma surrounding sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence * To ensure that Bournemouth University is a safe space free from sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence. * To ensure that there are appropriate mechanisms in place for survivors to disclose. * To ensure greater transparency around issues and incidents at Bournemouth University * For students to be clear on the process for how to report sexual harassment, misconduct and violence * To ensure greater support and targeted communications for groups of students who feel unable to report incidents or who feel marginalised by existing legislation. * To secure dedicated support services for survivors |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * For SUBU to launch ‘Ask Angela’ in all SUBU spaces ensuring staff are appropriately trained to handle disclosures. This should include bar staff within Dylan’s and The Old Fire Station * For SUBU to promote the #NeverOK campaign and run events and workshops around consent and sexual assault as a part of this campaign. * For SUBU to provide safety care package at freshers' fair * For SUBU to partner with local organisations to provide students with support accessible in their local area, including those not based in Bournemouth. * For SUBU to lobby BU to work with SUBU and the student body to launch a review into their sexual misconduct and harassment policies by the summer, as recommended by the OfS. * For SUBU to send a Freedom of Information Request to Bournemouth University to understand the use of ‘Non-Disclosure Agreements’ at Bournemouth University * For SUBU to lobby BU to make the processes for disclosing sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence more visible. * For SUBU to lobby BU to employ dedicated staff members to support survivors of sexual violence to ensure that survivors have a consistent and specialised point of contact. * For SUBU to lobby BU to be transparent around instances of sexual harassment, misconduct, and violence on campus by publishing case numbers and outcomes. * For SUBU to lobby BU to employ trauma informed decision-making practices into their complaints processes. * For SUBU to lobby BU to introduce workshops on consent and sexual violence that go beyond awareness raising and focus on bystander initiatives, reporting incidents, myth debunking, intersectionality, and handling disclosures. |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to retain. |
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| **Proposed by** | Timothy Albiges & Luci Phalp |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby to improve inclusivity and accessibility arrangements for all students?** |
| **Problem** | * Students who report a disability have lower degree results and lower rates of employment when compared with non-disabled peers [*site*](https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/differences-in-student-outcomes/disability/) * Disabled students at BU currently face a range of issues, including a lack of information, barriers (including financial) to accessing support, a lack of effective wellbeing support, a lack of social opportunities for those with diverse needs, and a range of physical and online accessibility issues. * Disabled students also face barriers to academic work, with a lack of consistency around the application of Reasonable Adjustments, insufficient staff training and a general lack of information on how to support students’ learning |
| **Solution** | * Bournemouth University should adopt a whole institution approach to provide inclusive access and wellbeing support in a flexible manner. * Students should be made aware of the support services available, with all barriers to access removed. * All discriminatory policies at BU should be reviewed by staff. * All courses should be audited for inclusivity and accessibility and use of the Brightspace/other software’s Accessibility Checkers should be mandatory. * Improved support and training for lecturers on disability, for example on the use of non-spatial language. This is also needed where a disability might intersect with other characteristics. * All staff to receive training on how to make all learning material accessible and how to mark work against ALS marking guidance. * Reasonable Adjustments for coursework across all units should be automatic, in line with what is already in place for exams. * All staff should receive advice, guidance and training on digital accessibility. * All course materials and delivery should be Web Content and Accessibility Guidelines compliant, ensuring that content is adaptable, distinguishable, keyboard accessible and compatible. * Ongoing considerations should be made to ensure that the learning environment remains accessible, including the availability of tactile information, and adjustments made when designing new buildings. |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * SUBU to lobby BU to review their training for all staff on supporting students with a disability, both academically and pastorally * SUBU to lobby BU to audit all courses to identify best practice and areas for improvement. * SUBU to lobby BU to review policies around Reasonable Adjustments * SUBU to lobby BU to ensure that all students, regardless of whether they have disclosed a disability/additional learning need, are contacted with a list of services and support options. * SUBU to lobby BU to remove the need to provide medical evidence to access additional support. * SUBU to lobby BU to end their discriminatory fitness to study procedure. * SUBU to lobby BU Estates to ensure that accessibility arrangements are included in building design, including the addition of dropped curbs and providing spaces for students with allergies to study without risk. * SUBU to lobby BU to pay disabled students to undertake an accessibility assessment of campus. * SUBU and BU to improve the communication between relevant services by taking a multi-agency approach to student support, with student consent. * SUBU and BU to ensure that captions/subtitles are included in all events and communication. Where auto captioning/subtitling is not possible, dedicated captioning support should be provided. * SUBU to incorporate dedicated student voice activities, through paid focus groups, a regular accessibility forum and an anonymous online form. * SUBU to make all clubs and societies inclusive, through mandatory accessibility training and dedicated funding for specialist equipment. * SUBU to commit to ongoing campaign work around addressing ableism, disability justice, the social model of disability, invisible illnesses, and endorsing/promoting DSA (Disabled Students’ Allowance) reform |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Welfare & Community and VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to retain. |
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| **Proposed by** | Rebecca Leeming |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to change MUSE to allow mid and end of unit feedback?** |
| **Problem** | * MUSE feedback is a brilliant tool to ensure students can have their voice heard regarding their experiences with units. * However, the quality of teaching and support for assignments, and exam preparation, has reduced across the semester. * For many students there is a difference in student experience mid-unit and at the end of a unit * Students need better feedback opportunities closer to end of unit assessments. * Departments need to be aware of any changes to the learning experience for students. * Currently, it is optional for staff to use other methods of feedback alongside MUSE |
| **Solution** | * MUSE should be redesigned to allow students to submit feedback both mid-unit and at the end of the unit * This feedback should be gathered after the final assignment deadline to allow students to comment on their entire unit experience. * Staff should use this end of unit feedback to support their development and improve the experience of future students taking their units |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * SUBU should lobby BU to change how unit feedback is gathered, making it mandatory for staff to collect and act on end of unit feedback |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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| **Proposed by** | Sophie Pegler |
| **Proposal** | **Should SUBU lobby BU to create a SUBU page or tab on Brightspace?** |
| **Problem** | * Students feel there are too many different places to access information relating to SUBU. * Some students do not always have access to social media channels and cannot rely on this to obtain information. * Whilst Brightspace is currently an academic platform, it is the main webpage students use to find information |
| **Solution** | * As students check Brightspace on a daily basis, there should be a central SUBU page or hub. * This page would contain information including announcements about events, reminders about financial deadlines and progress on current policies. * This page could also include a discussions board to allow students to contact reps or officers. * As learning becomes more digitalised, this platform could be used as a central location for students to engage with SUBU’s services. * This would help to streamline student queries and would relieve some strain on student services. * This would also allow students to fully engage with SUBU and improve the overall student experience |
| **Ideas for implementation** | * SUBU should collaborate with BU to develop a Brightspace webpage. * BU would allow SUBU to manage this webpage to allow updates to be made frequently |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education |
| **Executive Committee Recommendation** | Recommendation is to lapse. |
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6. Student Ideas

The below ideas have been submitted through the ‘Your Ideas’ platform as a recommendation for change and policy that SUBU should explore. These were voted on by the student body and have passed the threshold to be drafted into the below policy outlines and require ratification or dismissal from SUBU Summit voting members.

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| **Proposed by** | *Alex Caton-Bradley – 2nd Year Psychology Student* |
| **Proposal** | *SUBU to lobby BU to ensure timetables are released a minimum of 10 working days before semesters start.* |
| **Problem** | * *BU do not currently have a hard deadline for timetable release, and this often means timetables can be released last minute as semester starts.* * *This has significant implications for students with other commitments such as student parents, commuting students, students involved in sports and students with medical conditions.* * *Students with prior arrangements or commitments experience difficulties in rearranging last minute due to the current release of timetables and the short notice before the commencement of lectures and seminars.* |
| **Ideas for solutions** | * *SUBU to lobby BU to guarantee that timetables are released at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled start of term for all faculties.* * *BU to ensure timetables across all faculties and courses are released no less than 10 working days before the start of semester* |
| **To be implemented by** | *VP Education, Faculty Officers & Faculty Reps* |

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| **Proposed by** | *Hope Hampton – 2nd Year Computing & Informatics Student* |
| **Proposal** | *SUBU to review the timing of elections for clubs and societies with unfilled Committee positions* |
| **Problem** | * *SUBU clubs and societies require 3 mandatory committee positions to run: President, Treasurer and Sectary* * *These Committee members can be elected at the following times: in May (ahead of the next academic year), in September (a by-election for anyone not elected in May), and a further by-election in January (to fill any positions that may have become vacant during Semester one).* * *Societies with one or more unfulfilled Committee positions are prevented from operating until the next By-Election.* * *The current process has meant that several societies have been deemed inactive.* * *Many of these clubs and societies have members happy to temporarily fill vacant positions until the next by-election but are unable to due to the current processes in place.* * *Length of time between elections can mean a long time before societies can start running again.* |
| **Ideas for solutions** | * *SUBU to explore the feasibility of permitting students to step forward and assume a committee role temporarily until next by-election, where a maximum of one position is vacant.* * *SUBU to explore the feasibility of an additional by-election in Semester One* * *SUBU to explore amendments to constitution that may be needed to allow for flexibility for clubs and societies without a fully elected committee.* * *SUBU to communicate with clubs and societies members with Committee election information, to ensure information goes beyond Committee members to increase awareness and engagement with elections.* |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Opportunities, Student Opportunities Team |

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| **Proposed by** | *Alex Caton-Bradley - 2nd Year Psychology Student* |
| **Proposal** | *SUBU to explore options to develop a volunteer Student ALS Champion role for each faculty.* |
| **Problem** | * *Currently any strengths or weaknesses surrounding ALS potentially go unheard and are at risk of being underrepresented.* * *The lack of ALS student representatives means students of this background have no specific representative who accommodates their ALS needs and issues.* * *The lack of ALS student representative provides students no point of contact for feedback on these issues.* |
| **Ideas for solutions** | * *SUBU to explore developing Student ALS Champions to support ALS students within faculties to support other students who have Additional Learning Support needs.* * *Support offered by Student ALS Champions could include signposting, liaising between ALS students and faculty staff to help students who have issues, and working closely with SUBU’s PTO DAND Officer* * *SUBU to explore introduction of more official ALS role to work alongside reps, officers and department leads.* |
| **To be implemented by** | VP Education, Democracy and Campaigns, DAND Officer |