



Union Council Officer Report
Monday, 30th October, 6pm.
Students' Union Main Room

Report provided by Bruce Wight, Union Development Officer.

Wellbeing (Molly)

- Working with knit soc on Wednesday 'stitch and bitch' sessions to better mental health and provide a safe space for people to relax in.
- Vagina monologues - got the rights and the auditions will be this week; following that rehearsals will start and the event will be promoted.
- Changing the culture, working with the Student Support team to create a better system for reporting harassment and sexual abuse on campus
- Panel for gender based violence happening on the 28th of November discussing what movements are happening nationally and locally with a number of speakers booked and a schedule to go out soon

Academic (Emma)

- Set up our first ever Part-time Jobs and Volunteering Fair, which ran successfully on 17th October. This was one of the things I promised during my pledge to work closer with the careers service and to develop employability.
- Met with Academic Quality and Records Office (AQRO) to discuss the special circumstances and extensions guidance. You can now ask a pharmacist to write you a note, rather than having to get one from a doctor and we will continue to review the forms of evidence that can be used.
- Currently working with Student Support to create a more inclusive curriculum and offer alternative and fair assessments across all departments
- Reviewed our PG employment charter with our PG Officer, Alex (continuation from last year) and in the process of publishing this, as well as working on a campaign for fair pay of PG teachers

Opportunities (Jess)

- Events so far - Pre-freshers, Freshers' Week, committee training and Homecoming the weekend just gone! All have been a success and I'm excited to start Homecoming very year as an annual event!
- This Girl Can week is the 20th-26th November which I am excited to start and promote women to be active on campus inclusively and safely!
- Storage on campus has finally taken a positive turn and the monkey huts are now cleared with new lockers and bins for clubs to store equipment safely with a salto lock

Welsh Affairs and UMCA (Gwion)

- GwNaeFWA - Biggest event of UMCA's calendar and Welsh language event of the University, Y Ddawns Rhyng-gol is happening in a couple of weeks' time, on the 17/18th of November.



- We will welcome all of the Welsh societies in other universities in Wales to Aberystwyth for a gig on the Saturday night!
- Re-open Pantycelyn campaign is still ongoing with big talks this coming month. Every UMCA top for the Rhyng-gol will include 'Pantycelyn 2019' to raise awareness of the campaign!
- Swn (Welsh Night at the Union) is on the 9th November, theme is "Your Dream job as a kid!"
- Free Welsh Lessons are available, give Gwion a message!
- UMCA is also doing "Tashwedd", Movember, to raise money through our RAG officers

Union Development (Bruce)

- I have a heavy focus on getting the message out there this year, so I'm actively trying to meet every student in Aberystwyth and get relevant feedback that I can feed in to the system, to help the union develop and grow.
- Three rules we abide by, #1 don't kill anyone, #2 don't be a dick, #3 poker face
- SU tiles on ApAber should be out soon.
- Spent the first month, successfully removing the Fake Fiesta event and improving our Comms via Facebook and website and help make sure Fresher Week night time events were good.
- We are Prevent trained as staff at AberSU.
- Chair my first Trustee Board!
- Lots of international collaborations – Cedric (International Officer) and I gave a talk to all the international students.
- Lots of environmental collaboration - Matthew (Environment and Sustainability Officer) who has two policies about waste management in accommodation.
- Improved the signage of the building, removing outdated signage and helping put up the new branded signage.
- A lot of Alumni representation - in particular made a video for the Old College which is going to be used to help with £10.4mil bids to renovate the Old College with the Old Students' Association.
- Sorted out a deal for Sports/ Societies with the Commercial Services in this building.
- Made a priority of getting to all the Aber Student Events - as Icebreaker styled to make sure that you have as many opportunities as possible to meet one another.
- Will have a GoT Sundays happening in the Cwtch with a deal on food, so come watch some Game of Thrones and enjoy some food, this is because people have asked for a non alcohol-consuming event