

## WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL 1.2.11

Here are my aims for the next 6 months, some of them are quite adventurous but I have got started on quite a few of them, and completed others in the last few weeks. I will mark on the ones I have been working on recently with italic writing:

### Disabled Students

- Campaign to make the Union more accessible:
  - New Lift
  - Ensure any new layouts of the building are audited for accessibility
  - Remove the gig queues from the disabled ramp of the union
  - Ensure all offices are accessible
  - Access needs taken into consideration at GMs, website etc
  - All officers/ staff are trained in accessibility issues
  - Turn down the music in the bar
  - Fundraise for a Changing Places toilet to be put in place at the Union

*I have spoken to the people needed in order to get these things put in place/made into policy, in the coming months I will chase them up and make sure there all sorted or in the pipeline.*

- \* Complete an accessibility audit for pubs/clubs in Manchester and provide this to all societies with accompanying explanation letter. *This audit will be completed in the next few days.*
- \* Organise a big event for disabled students. *I am organising, along with Disabled Students society for the 'abnormally funny people' a group of disabled comics.*

### Black Students

- Increase the number of black students standing in UMSU elections. *Working with Emma to run an election information session for liberation groups. I have also been speaking to the black students campaign to encourage members to stand*
- Write up a strategic plan for the black students campaign
- Ensure the University doesn't decrease the number of black students at the university. *I have ensured that this has remained a KPI in the University's goal 3 strategy group.*

### Community / Crime

- Recruit community reps to work on welcome week and the crime issues relating to this. *I have planned this out and am in the process of writing up the job descriptions so that they can be interviewed and recruited by the end of Feb.*
- Continue the Know Your Neighbour Campaign. *I have got the Know Your Neighbour campaign posters on the 147 bus.*
- Represent students at the TAP. *I will continue to make sure students are still represented at the TAP and ensure that with new structures being put in place that we remain an integral role.*

### Sexual Health

- Develop online teaching resource in Blackboard.
- Continue STI screening. *I am in the middle of organising the upcoming dates for this.*
- Sexpression will deliver workshops to students

### Mental Health

- Ensure the University's Mental Health Policy is fair to students. *I am working on the review group to this and have put forward several amendments to the document. I will need help with consulting students on this so if anyone wants to help let me know!*
- Continue awareness raising – chalking/ tagging events.
- Try and get Frank Warren from Postsecret.com to come to give a talk at the University. *I have begun a campaign to try and get this to happen (can someone ask me about this at Council so I can ask a favour of people?!).*
- Organise a refreshers pack for first year with hints and tips about how to keep safe and happy at University. *I am just getting this printed and they will be putting them in a halls mail out asap.*

### Cuts

- Ensure that welfare provisions aren't cut at the University and fight for them if this is the case
- Ensure there is welfare support for activists
- Ensure the campaign/ society is accessible and the barriers to engagement are removed
- Campaign for the disabled students allowance
- Ensure liberation groups are not screwed by cuts

### Housing

- Housing tips posters. *Done*
- Rate your digs. *Working on the lawyers.*

### Advice Centre

- Increase publicity. *Posters are being designed*
- Pressure for more advisors.

### Liberate yourself

- Produce a website that is actively fighting stigma, prejudice and ignorance. *This is a massive project but I am cracking on with it slowly!*
- Develop cross liberation working, with a mixed social events
- Get liberate yourself hoodies to publicise the website

### General Stuff (these are more new year resolutions than anything)

- Only working 9 hours a day. I have been successful at this so far however students haven't been back yet!
- Don't cry because of work. Also going well, however students aren't back yet!
- Achieve things.
- Ensure that I am doing welfare/representation things.
- Don't become disheartened.