

Activities & Engagement Officer – February Report

Name: Ana Boikova

Here's what I've been up to!

- Met with Rachel and the team about the SU mascot and how we can promote Panthony more at Varsity, therefore, we have decided to add a paid student role for the Varsity Series week for specifically being Panthony and creating a more engaging atmosphere at the events.
- The Fair Chance is something we have been working on with the arts team from the start of the year to try and make audition processes within societies standardised in fair to make sure students have equal opportunities. This project has had a lot of progress and will help committee and directors in being more inclusive when casting for roles.
- I have also been discussing the awards ceremonies with team, talking about some changes to the categories. Jack's previously submitted discussion point from activities zone and the support from other students have been passed onto the teams so staff nominating for awards changes are likely to be implemented this year.
- As the sab team we want to make sure students feel safe on campus so we have come up with an Islamophobia Action Plan to support our Muslim community.
- Had our Term 2 Friends Trust panel, allocating the rest of the available funding to our clubs & societies.

How have you communicated with students in the last fortnight?

- Travelled to Sheffield for BUCS Nationals to support all our athletes who were competing in fencing, RAX, Badminton, Swimming, Karate, and Climbing. I spoke to many of our students.
- I helped Darcy with chairing the panel at the Postgraduate Career Supercharger event, talking to many students, gathering their feedback on what type of events they would like and helping with general facilitation.
- I attended the Varsity Captains Media Day, speaking to the captains and also to students that walk past to get some more visibility on campus of the Varsity Series.
- I watched the incredible Rhapsody 2025, supporting our Live Music Society and talking to many of the students before and after the event.
- I attended Valentines Sports Night and spoke to many students in a more relaxed atmosphere both in Phineas and Scala.
- Hosted 1-1 meetings with some committee members and student reps to answer their queries and questions.
- I helped out at the 5 a-side football world cup and spoke to students playing the matches and the supporters.
- I attended many of the international festival events: Teas tasking, CSSA's Fair, Society showcase and spoke to students there.
- Spoke to students at the Varsity Cheerleading training.
- Had a joint surgery with Sasha, one of the Welfare Reps, in the CSC common room to talk to students about any queries or issues they may have.

Sabbatical Officer Priorities

1) Sports are central to student life, helping students grow, become more resilient, and achieve their full potential.

- Met with Rachel and the team about the SU mascot and how we can promote Panthony more at Varsity, therefore, we have decided to add a paid student role for the Varsity Series week for specifically being Panthony and creating a more engaging atmosphere at the events.
- Met with Rob to discuss his idea for media societies getting involved with Varsity by writing a special publication for the Varsity series. We spoke about how we can engage the general student body in the sports sphere through them being spectators and how we can support them.
- Met with Beth from TeamUCL to catch up about some work around the Mandy Walker Games and what clubs should be involved or be encouraged to get involved. We also talked about how we want to see the structure this year and the plans for next year.

2) Students make the most of their university experience by self-discovery, learning from each other, developing skills, and having fun.

- I have met with the president of the Hiking club and did some more of the planning for a hike trip I am looking to do in Term 3 jointly with UCL Hiking Club. The trip is going to be open to all students and will encourage more people to discover new passions, meet other and have fun.
- Had a catch up with the UCL East operation managers to talk about any events that are planned for the future and how we can promote and boost more engagement on UCL East campus and to make sure that students from the East campus feel included in the UCL student life.
- Was part of the UCL Campus Run working group, discussing some of the key things we want to improve this year (particularly pre and post event) and make students feel more part of the UCL community.
- I have also been discussing the awards ceremonies with team, talking about some changes to the categories. Jack's previously submitted discussion point from activities zone and the support from other students have been passed onto the teams so staff nominating for awards changes are likely to be implemented this year.
- Met with one of the society reps, to talk about some feedback from students in clubs and societies and student leaders about what is currently working well and what can be improved. She also had some questions around the academic rep system and whether that works well so I have directed her to the education officer.

3) Students have access to a thriving arts programme that broadens their horizons while supporting their wellbeing and developing their skills.

- The Fair Chance is something we have been working on with the arts team from the start of the year to try and make audition processes within societies standardised in fair

to make sure students have equal opportunities. This project has had a lot of progress and will help committee and directors in being more inclusive when casting for roles.

- I have also discussed with the arts team about the awards and changing the categories to make sure its in line with the current structure of arts and all students have the opportunity to be nominated.

Attendance at important Union meetings and events

1) Union meetings attended and main outcomes

- Hosted visitors from Madeira SU, giving presentations about what we do and finding out how they particularly run their events. Some of the key interesting things we found was that their students hosted tours for tourist around Madeira's city centre to show the culture and also published history books in their own internal.
- As a sabbatical officer team we understand that some of our Muslim students do not feel safe on campus. Therefore, we have been having many catch ups and meetings with each other and other students to come up with an Islamophobia action plan that we will implement as a team to make sure students are able to feel safe.
- Met with Anne from the social impact team around any updates with making the set up of SLP projects that are organised by societies easier and how we can improve volunteering for student groups. We also discussed the awards and how we would be able to add officers and reps to the awards to recognise their achievements.
- Had a catch up with the UCL East operation managers to talk about any events that are planned for the future and how we can promote and boost more engagement on UCL East campus.
- Was part of the UCL Campus Run working group, discussing some of the key things we want to improve this year (particularly pre and post event).
- Had our Term 2 Friends Trust panel, allocating the rest of the available funding to our clubs & societies.
- Met with Jeff to make sure the sports rep and commuter officer change to the leadership race. The outcome was that it has been ratified to the bye laws and sent to all the union exec members to vote and if successful to be added to the current leadership race.
- Met with Beth from TeamUCL to catch up about some work around the Mandy Walker Games and what clubs should be involved or be encouraged to get involved. We also talked about how we want to see the structure this year and the plans for next year.
- Had a catch up with the comms team to discuss some of the key projects that I am working on and how we promote and talk to the student body about them to get more students engaged, particularly our mass participation events.
- Chaired the finance committee, which had really positive updates about the current position of our student union and the year ahead.

Attendance at important UCL meetings and events

1) UCL meetings attended and main outcomes

- Met with student representatives from the Philosophy department for their IQR to gather their feedback on their undergraduate course. I have then written my student submission based on the feedback from the meeting and the survey to submit to the panel ahead of the IQR.
- Attended the UCL200 strategic delivery group meeting, discussing all the events that the departments and workstreams will be running, including the Students Union. We had brainstorms around what can be defined as flagship events (those that will receive more promotional support) and how the terms can look like to make it more easier for students and alumni to engage.
- Had an ELO board talking about some potential projects and talking about updates from each work strand, making sure the projects are all aligned with what the students want and how they want to develop their skills.
- Joined the working group about E6 condition, understanding their progress in the casework team, isvirs, and also training up staff members in taking in cases. I made sure that the student voice is represented and the support is good for what the students need.
- Met with UCL's Chief of staff to show her our tackling Islamophobia action plan so she is able to support us. We also discussed the statement we released and asked for her to support us, which she was happy to do on both occasions.
- Met with the Research & Innovation Committee, mainly discussing some key progress in UCL's research.