

Sabbatical Officer Report
 Name: Ashley Slanina-Davies
 Position: Education Officer
 Date: 02/10/19



The Role:

The Education Officer shall:

1. Represent the academic needs of members to UCL, including within relevant UCL committees.
2. Be responsible for the Union's responses to developments within UCL and for coordinating campaigning for the Union's vision of education at UCL.
3. Support student representation at all levels and be responsible for the development and implementation of a student representation strategy.
4. Liaise with Academic Sections to assist their representation and campaigning work on academic issues relevant to their members.
5. Work with trade unions on campus.
6. Be the active respondent to media inquiries related to academic matters.
7. Promote engagement with the academic representative posts, by promoting the Autumn elections to the student body.
8. Have oversight of the elections of academic representatives.
9. Be a Sabbatical Trustee of the Union.
10. Be the ex-officio leader of the Union's NUS Annual Conference Delegation.
11. Be a member of the Union Executive Committee.
12. Be a member of the Finance Committee.
13. Oversee the Education Zone.

Democratic Meetings:

Attendance

Board of Trustees Meetings	N/A
Education Zone Meetings	N/A
Union Executive Meetings	N/A

Manifesto Commitments and Objectives for the year

Main priority area	Progress
Interrupting Students	1. Attending the working group and trying to add some amendments to the academic manual.

	<p>2. Meeting about more specific support for interrupting students, this would be in-line with the Mental Health strategy. Work is with the OVPA and with interested partners within departments – I am trying to see if we can run a pilot support model.</p>
Cohort Sizes	<p>There doesn't seem to be much appetite for examining this within UCL. Though the issue has been taken to EdComm via the Student's Priorities Booklet. I still believe that at the moment, in some areas of UCL this negatively impacts students' mental health and learning experience and learning outcomes.</p>
Skills Gaps	<p>Currently working with Teaching Fellows to try and devise a complimentary module of programmes to run alongside students' programmes. Ideally this will become an institutional ChangeMakers project. Ideally, the modules would be tailored to each programme (so specific problems devised and a facilitated problem-based session scheduled to support this additional workload) – but that requires significantly more work than there currently is resources for.</p>

Lead Policies

Check the policies for which you are the lead officer at: <http://studentsunionucl.org/policy>

Policies	Progress
UP1711: Support UCU Strike	Ongoing. There is a lack of transparency around the valuation of the pension scheme and questions around the affordability of the increased contributions for less senior (those on lower grades/spinal points) members of staff. It risks the feasibility of current students moving into academia.
UP1710: Oppose Attendance Monitoring	Ongoing. There is the rolling-out of the 'Here to Succeed' Platform with a wellbeing focus. The platform will be monitoring attendance to attempt to spot when student's are struggling. Whilst we oppose the platform, UCL's insistence on rolling it out this academic year means we are working with them to ensure the system is as fair as possible and that its true focus is student wellbeing.

Attendance at Meetings - including internal, UCL and external meetings	Date/Attendance	Significant issues discussed
Alice, the student on Provost Selection Panel	19/07/19	Support for Student and how to ensure an appropriately loud student voice.
NUS Lead and Change	23-25/07/19	Training
Additional Training, WonkHE and Battersea	31/07/19 01/08/19	Charity organisation and policy knowledge/ HE background session
Meeting with the Pro-Vice Provost Student Experience (PVPSE)	02/08/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possibility to 'refurbish' the education strategy. - TESTA project. - How to increase student voice during provost selection. - Here to Succeed. - 24 hour university and logistical problems. - Making the Student Voice Project meaningful. - Using someone from the Office of the Vice Provost (Education and Student Affairs) (OVPESA) to aid with co-ordinating the changes to SCCs and rep training.
Here-to-Succeed	09/08/19	Meeting to formally discuss concerns.
Strategy Refresh	19/08/19	Update of the current priorities and the strategy for the Union.
Meeting with PVPSE	23/09/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changing the personal tutoring system - Update on BHM - Estates advice on KSS submission

Interruption of Studies Task Group	03/09/19	Questions around the new regulations passed through EdCom. This is being worked on with the chair of the group to find a solution.
Meeting OVPESA	05/09/19	Discussing practical progress on student experience projects such as personal tutoring, student voice, module evaluations, module registration and assessment and feedback.
Provost Meeting	05/09/19	Priorities discussion
QRsC	17/09/19	Incorporating ASER into SSCCs.
Chair of Early Module Registration Meeting	20/09/19	Raised concerns about the impact of early module registrations on all students, students on specific courses and specific sub-populations of students. Tentatively suggest an Equality Impact Assessment.

Other student issues or external meetings to note:

- Lots of students distressed about not having the requirements to continue and/or not understanding the process for extenuating circumstances (ECs). As a result I am worried about the support that students are being given by their departments both when they are originally submitted for late summer assessments (LSAs) and during the LSA process/ getting their final results.

Declaration of gifts, hospitality and interests

None.