

Kieran Minto Postgraduate education officer report: February

Hi everyone, I'm your postgrad education officer for this year. I represent your academic interests, working closely with the undergrad education officer and the reps (Faculty, school and course). I sit on many committees alongside senior members of staff across the university in order to promote student voice. I do not list all my normal recurring meetings I attend daily, unless something particularly notable is discussed.

This month was taken up mostly by work on strategy 2030 and welcome week, alongside several events.

Internal events:

- I attended a HAPP town hall a rep event in SSESW and helped facilitate a rep redback event for dentistry students.
- Accepted funding from the Queens annual fund for 2 projects and attended the associated event.
- I attended the candidate debate for the SU Elections.
- Attended a film launch "ACT NOW! The race to get a Climate Act for Northern Ireland." This detailed the story of the NI climate act, which was campaigned heavily for by some of our students.
- Attended a panel discussion on the future of higher education fees and the upcoming UK general election, this was attended by Queens and UU vice chancellors, and civil servants. It was particularly "interesting" to hear their plans for the future of the fee model in NI.

External events:

- The whole team and I attended external media training, delivered by Macmillan Media.
- Officers and staff from St. Andrew's Student Association visited the union and we hosted a 2-day strategy planning event with them.

Strategy 2030:

- Continued to work alongside the undergrad education officer as a chair of the student voice strand of strategy 2030. We continued to progress our projects around the rep system, embedding student voice and empowering rep coordinators.
- I worked with the student voice team within the union, alongside members of university staff to decide and put forward financial asks for the student voice stream for the next academic year.
- Student partnership model work continued.

Meetings:

- I attended commercial services forum, where we discussed plans for the bar and Mandella hall going forward.
- Myself, the undergrad education officer and PVC for education hosted postgrad and undergrad academic board. We used this as an opportunity for reps, lectures and staff to discuss induction and welcome week and what they would like to see.
- Myself and the other officers attended a meeting with management from ESS, and the faculty deans to discuss the propagation of class tests, and the way to stop this.

- Work on the plan for future welcome weeks continued and a draft plan was delivered to Queens management for comment.