

Paper Number	
Title	Welfare and Diversity Officer
Purpose	To give an update to the Student Council about student activities and campaign updates
Author	Bobola Ajibola
Audience	Student Council
Date	04/02/2025

As part of the #WeBelong campaign, I have been actively engaged in various initiatives aimed at fostering diversity, inclusivity, and student support.

November 20th to 22nd, I had the privilege of attending the graduation ceremony, where I also celebrated my graduation. It was a tremendous honor to stand before my fellow graduates and deliver a speech as a full-time officer on behalf of the Students' Union. In my address, I encouraged the graduates to cherish the memories they had forged during their time at the university and to use the knowledge and skills they had gained to make a positive impact on the world.

This campaign ensures that the data I collect reflects students' real experiences and insights, rather than assumptions. So far, these visits have been productive, providing valuable data on student performance and perspectives. The information gathered will be crucial for making informed recommendations to effectively bridge the Awarding Gap.

On December 5, I spoke with Journalism students about my role as Welfare and Diversity Officer and the work of the Students' Union. I highlighted my responsibilities, including advocating for students, organizing events like Diversity Night, and enhancing student engagement.

The discussion provided insights into the Union's impact, and I answered questions about my role and its challenges, successes, and outcomes. It was a valuable opportunity to share my experiences and inspire future leaders.

I attended the Undergraduate International Student Forum to listen to students' experiences and perspectives about the university. The session provided valuable insights into their challenges and successes, allowing me to better understand their needs and identify areas for improvement in supporting their academic and social journey.

I have been actively participating in ongoing meetings with the Career and Employability Team and other stakeholders to explore the possibility of organizing a major NHS careers fair, along with opportunities featuring other prominent employers. These discussions aim to benefit our students by highlighting diverse career paths, including non-health roles within the NHS, and expanding their awareness of employment opportunities.

I had the privilege of attending the student-led Staff Awards event, a wonderful occasion dedicated to celebrating the exceptional contributions of staff and lecturers who have gone above and beyond in supporting students. It was truly inspiring to witness the recognition of their hard work and commitment. I felt honoured to participate in the event by presenting awards to some well-deserving recipients, acknowledging their dedication to enhancing the student experience.

I have been actively engaged in the Awarding Gap campaign, continuously gathering data, including videos, to provide key highlights and insights. This approach ensures the campaign remains impactful, student-centered, and focused on addressing academic disparities effectively.

I have been actively supporting the January 2025 intake by establishing a dedicated group to assist with their transition to university. I have provided continuous guidance, answered their queries, and directed them to the appropriate university departments and support teams to ensure they have the resources and information needed for a smooth start to their academic journey.

I am currently working on organizing Diversity Night 4.0, scheduled for 6th February 2025. Building on the success of previous events, this gathering aims to welcome students, foster a sense of belonging, and facilitate connections within the university community. As a social event, it will provide a platform for students to interact and engage, while also featuring contributions from various university teams who will address and support students during the evening.

These initiatives and activities are a testament to my commitment to the core principles of the #WeBelong campaign.

Paper Number	
Title	Education and Community Officer
Purpose	To give an update to the Student Council about student activities and campaign updates
Author	Kit Boulting-Hodge
Audience	Student Council
Date	04/02/2025

Speak week – working with the SV team to deliver sessions regarding engagement and collecting feedback for academic staff and services.

Emailing counsellors to request support revoking HMOs imposed on Gloucester – affecting student housing.

Student trustees – interviewing on Thursday, if anyone is interested in joining our BOT let me know.

Student Led Staff awards were a great success, at the further whole school meetings which I have been invited for used as a point of reference for congratulating the school. Showing our value!

The first two information collection exercises are out regarding Course and Campus experience and University Services, sitting at collectively roughly 1300-400 responses, which has not happened within the SU for a significant time.

Created a focus group for the School House Café – a local church-run charity that provides a wealth of affordable services from bike repairs to a coffee shops. Linked academics with this to become a thriving hub again.

Partook in the St Giles exploitation training – giving networking opportunities with local charities stakeholders.

Mental Health campaign hit a bit of a block as the charities for the commitment I am asking are requesting funding of 35,000 which is unrealistic.

Supporting our Student Voice Assistants with their projects ranging from my own personal interest like the canteen and gearing that towards being more student friendly up to ensuring transport leads and orientation for International students. And including school forums, which has guided them

Advocating for the use of Students in the university structures – such as Adrian Long in the Quality Assurance team and allowing co-creation leads provides good quality jobs for students and more rounded individuals for the graduate world.

360 appraisals with relevant stakeholders have began.

Following on from Circle2success – linked relevant academics to employers and have initiated relationships.

With the SV team – in the midst of writing a report of SV for UCC with the data captured from Course Rep training and other wider work.

Working with Josh Clare SU CEO to look at a guaranteed interview scheme and assist in plans if we ever inducted an international student

Paper Number	
Title	Activities and Opportunities Officer
Purpose	To give an update to the Student Council about student activities and campaign updates
Author	Ness Garratt
Audience	Student Council
Date	04/02/2025

Ness's campaign #kNOwmore has continued to make progress, and she has received the results of the SOSUK Drugs and Alcohol Impact Survey, the Student Wellbeing Working Group is meeting monthly as a platform to discuss updating the Student Code of Conduct and she is continuing to host event nights such as Mocktail evenings.

Ness was pleased to hear that we had reached the 100-student threshold to receive the anonymised data from the SOSUK Drugs and Alcohol Impact Survey. She has arranged with colleagues at SOSUK and the university well-being team to meet and discuss next steps that may follow receiving the data.

The working group implemented for reviewing the Student Code of Conduct has met once before the Christmas break and its membership consists of Student Well-being, People and HR, Heads of schools, Internal Comms, Disability services, Mental Health and Wellbeing colleagues. This space also highlighted the pressures on the University to meet new OfS requirements and the Mental Health Charter.

Ness and the Activities Team have been working hard to begin planning and building this year's varsity programme with colleagues at Worcester University Students' Union. Juggling the wants and needs of colleagues, Worcester and UoG Students is challenging at times but nonetheless, this year's programme is set to be an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

This year's officer Varsity campaign is called 'Play Your Part'.

Our Spectator and Player Code of Conduct say:

'Our campaign, Play Your Part, focuses on understanding your responsibility as an active bystander and feeling empowered to intervene if you identify any inappropriate, harmful or abuse behaviour.

We want our Varsity fixtures to be a safe space for all to support, participate in and enjoy and throughout Varsity, we are asking all players and spectators to:

- Call out and challenge any homophobic, transphobic, misogynistic, and any other discriminatory words, behaviours, and actions and use the Varsity Reporting Tool if appropriate.

- Call out and challenge any words, behaviours, and actions that discriminate against people based on their race, religion, or other identifying attributes and use the Varsity Reporting Tool if appropriate.

- Understand our responsibilities as active bystanders and not ignore any inappropriate, harmful or abusive behaviour or hope someone else will act'

We have our varsity pledge signing day on February 3rd with captains from both Worcester and Gloucester teams to agree on the code of conduct and to workshop some of the campaign ideas with the students.

Ness is also implementing a movement called 'Feel Good Feb' where she is challenging herself to take part in as many sports clubs and societies across the month of February as she can. This will be a social media campaign series where she takes part in a new activity each week and reviews the activity on her Instagram platform. This will review the experience she had, share what she learnt and understand the demands of each activity on a one-to-one basis. She has also asked the clubs and societies to share what they are getting up to, to feel good this February on their social media. Starting the year on a positive note and to shake off the January Blues. Other positives to this is getting students involved in coming along to the sessions with her and promoting our recreational membership.