

Progress and Forward Plans

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Current Role: President of Education

Date: 25/09/2024

Progress to Date – President of Education

Over the past months, I have actively engaged in a range of initiatives and development opportunities to strengthen my role and impact as President of Education. Key milestones include:

- **Governance and Leadership Development**
 - Successfully completed Trustee training.
 - Attended Board meetings, familiarised myself with trustees and the SU's by-laws.
 - Participated in the *NUS Lead & Change* programme to enhance leadership capabilities.
 - Attended the *Southern SU* regional networking event to build connections and share best practices.
- **Strategic Collaboration and Programme Design**
 - Co-led the development of a **Graduation Rotation Programme** with Jared Gibson, aimed at enhancing student work place experience after graduation.
 - Initiated collaboration with Borough and County Councillor Nathan Wilson to explore youth engagement projects that could lead to **volunteering opportunities for law and political science students** at the University of Suffolk.
- **Public and Student Engagement**
 - Promoted student exposure to diverse university departments and external organisations, with a particular focus on **Suffolk Archives** as a hub for academic and event-based opportunities.
 - Began discussions around **student jobs and volunteering roles**, aiming to create meaningful pathways for student involvement.
 - Met with the International Officer to support and promote the **International Café**, fostering cross-cultural engagement on campus.

- **Welcome and Orientation Activities**

- Delivered **Welcome Events**, including introductory talks and visibility campaigns to ensure the SU's presence is felt across the student body.
- Initiated planning for a **Course Rep and School Officer Recognition Scheme**, with the goal of hosting a formal recognition ceremony at the end of the academic year.

Progress to Date – Student Union Team

The SU team has made significant strides in enhancing student life and engagement:

- **Welcome Campaigns and Resources**

- Produced and distributed a **Welcome Booklet** featuring money-saving tips, local hotspots, and student-friendly activities across Ipswich and Suffolk.
- Successfully planned and delivered over half of the **Welcome Events**, ensuring a warm and informative start to the academic year.

- **Digital Engagement and Training**

- Strengthened our **social media presence**, working closely with the SU Presidents to increase visibility and student interaction.
- Delivered **SOC training** to School Officers, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to represent their peers effectively.

Forward Plans

Looking ahead, the focus will be on deepening engagement, recognising student contributions, and expanding opportunities:

- Finalise and launch the **Course Rep and School Officer Recognition Scheme**.
- Continue building partnerships with local government and community organisations to create **volunteering and career pathways** for students.
- Expand involvement in **international student initiatives**, including cultural events and support networks.
- Develop further **academic and extracurricular opportunities** through collaboration with university departments such as Suffolk Archives.

- Maintain momentum in **student engagement**, ensuring visibility, accessibility, and responsiveness from the SU team.