

IMPACT REPORT

2019-2020



 **WORCESTER**
STUDENTS' UNION

Representing and supporting
students to develop and achieve

CONTENTS

05 **OUR VISION**
Living our values in 2019/20

CORE GOAL ONE **07**
Increase the number of students who know about and use our services

11 **CORE GOAL TWO**
Facilitate wider student involvement in decisions that affect our members

CORE GOAL THREE **17**
Provide responsive, appropriate, and accessible support and advice to students

CORE GOAL FIVE **27**
Help students to be safe and enjoy university life

23 **CORE GOAL FOUR**
Create and promote opportunities for students to develop transferable skills

THE YEAR AHEAD **34**

35

**A MESSAGE FROM
MEG PRICE,
STUDENTS' UNION
PRESIDENT 2020/21**



MESSAGE FROM HARRY LONSDALE



We are delighted to share our Impact Report for the 2019-20 academic year with you. This past year has been one of our busiest and most challenging to date, in part due to the huge impact of Covid-19 and its effects on the University and our students. Despite these new challenges, we've had great success in keeping students engaged and supported throughout the year.

From the outset, the Officer team wanted to implement positive change, beginning with Welcome Week 2019. We successfully launched the new Night Bus scheme, working closely with University security to ensure the safety of all students. New events were also brought in, including the hugely successful Disco Bungalow and City Sunday at City Campus. We also ran a number of events to welcome international students and those on professional courses who arrived earlier than the main cohort.

Throughout the year, our Vice President Education, Meg, led on democratic initiatives, starting with her support of the University Democracy Day in late September. She also ran successful campaigns around registering to vote, For Futures Sake (FFS), and encouraging student involvement in local and national democracy. Meg also made great strides in further developing the Academic Representation System, with a fantastic Course Rep Conference focused on the themes of communication and sustainability. In addition to this, she ensured a very successful Change Week and helped develop our Campus Chat outreach programme, ensuring we continued to expand the student voice here at Worcester.

Our Vice President Student Activities, Mike, had a very busy year, beginning with rebranding our Committee Training to Committee-Fest, resulting in more interactive sessions and much more engaged clubs and societies. He also implemented an excellent new '#TeamWorc Points' system for those Clubs and Societies going the extra mile for their members. Gold, Silver, and Bronze accreditation was awarded to some of our brilliant student groups for their fundraising and community efforts. It was a delight to see and recognise with awards and incentives. Mike worked hard to develop our recreational sport offering, with a number of new initiatives throughout the year, including boxercise and a women's gym 'pathway'. Despite Covid-19 and the disappointment of cancelling Varsity, Mike encouraged clubs and societies to keep active throughout lockdown, resulting in our #TeamWorc members hosting lots of entertaining virtual events – we were very proud of them.

I was personally very proud to bring about our new Wellbeing Garden outside The Hangar, providing a space for students and staff to take some time to de-stress and relax. Throughout the year, I ran a number of positive mental health campaigns, including 'Walk and Talk' with the University chaplain and a Drink, Drugs, and Drive Day. To help new students settle in at Worcester and feel at home, I created a 'Harry's Hotlist' booklet of all the things to do and places to go in Worcester. I also worked hard to increase the impact of the SU in the wider community, hosting a 'Fellows Day', running a workshop for a local school, and working with the local council on outreach projects.

On an organisational level, the SU saw some big developments, most notably the approval of our new governance structure which will be implemented over the coming year. The SU also signed up to help fight the climate emergency and continued to work hard on sustainable initiatives, including another successful Go Green Week. And we have worked with the University to help improve the communications received by students, assisting with the creation of a new weekly student newsletter being sent by the University to all Worcester students.

One thing that stands out this year above all others was the Union's response to coronavirus. The team adapted quickly to home and online working to ensure students continued to be represented and supported. We used a range of engagement tools, including the creation of the #PositiveWorc Community on Facebook, to host quizzes, workouts, study clubs, and much more. We also worked with the University and the local NHS to set up the #HereToHelp volunteering project, with students recording over 900 hours of volunteering through the project. And a 'Walk 4 Worcester' fundraising challenge was started with over £500 raised for the NHS.

This hard work resulted in our highest ever engagement in our All Student Meeting, 80% satisfaction in the annual Big Worc Survey and going from 34th to 13th in the WhatUni Student Survey 2020. We were also ranked 19th out of 149 Students' Unions in the National Student Survey. These are enormous achievements that are testament to the dedication and commitment of the core and student staff. The team work tirelessly, and the support they gave me, Meg, and Mike was very much appreciated. I wish Meg, Harry, and Tish all the very best for the upcoming year and have no doubt they will do an absolutely fantastic job.

Best wishes
Harry Lonsdale
Worcester Students' Union President (2019-2020)

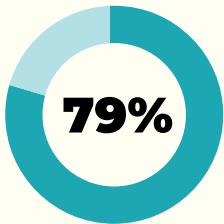
HIGHLIGHTS



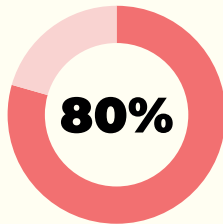
Out of 149 Unions in National Student Survey



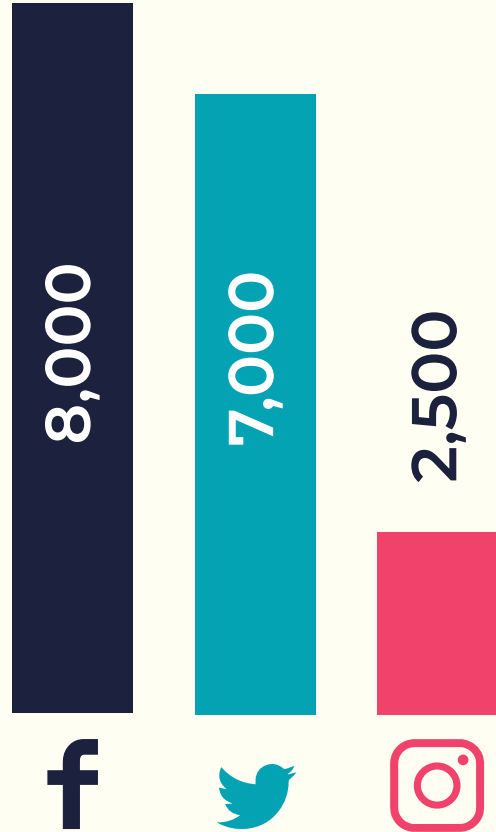
Out of 131 Unions by WhatUni



Satisfaction in CES



Satisfaction in Big Worc Survey



670

Contacts for the Help & Advice service

6,400

Help & Advice cases dealt with

323

Welcome Desk queries

1,500

Students spoken to for Campus Chat

537

Voters in the Part Time Officer Elections

1,603

Voters in the Leadership Elections

400

Academic reps recruited

702

Ideas submitted in Change Week

160

students attended the All Student Meeting

1055

47 

1,300

37 

Society memberships

Societies supported throughout the year

Club memberships

Clubs supported throughout the year

£ 23,000

Raised for RAG
(Raise and Give)

OVER 80

Student-led RAG
events

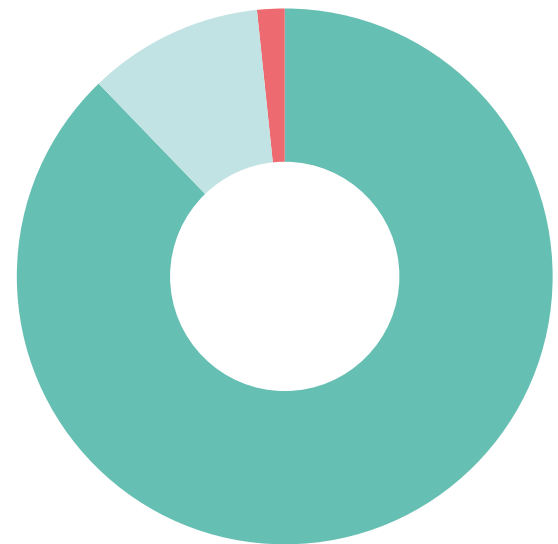
26 Members of student
staff

£55,000

Earned by student staff

6,540

Hours Worked by student staff



 154 students recorded
volunteering hours

 900 #HereToHelp hours
recorded

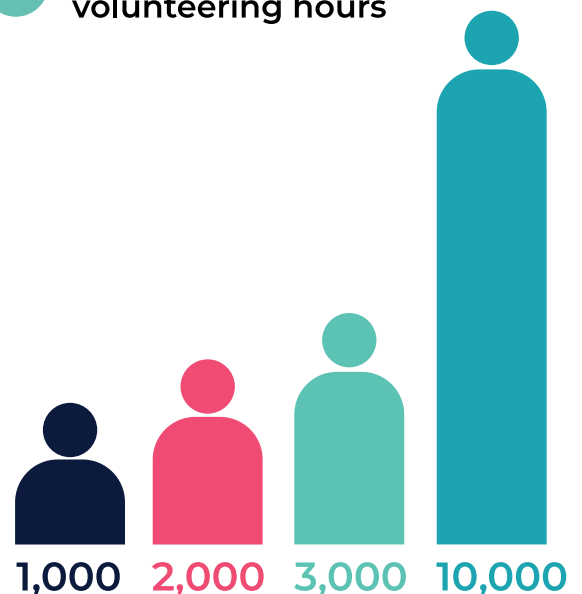
 9,200 total
volunteering hours

 10,000 students visited The Hangar

 3,000 students attended
Clubs & Societies Fair

 2,000 students attended Welcome Fair

 1,000 students attended Refreshers
Wellbeing Fair



OUR VISION

REPRESENTING AND SUPPORTING STUDENTS TO DEVELOP & ACHIEVE

LIVING OUR VALUES IN 2019-20

PROFESSIONAL

- > Student satisfaction with us increased to 79% in the University's Course Experience Survey
- > National Student Survey – increased satisfaction in all areas in which we were assessed and ranked 19th out of 149 Unions
- > Ranked 13th out of 131 Unions by WhatUni
- > Achieved 80% satisfaction rating in the annual Big Worc Survey
- > Achieved 'Very Good' Green Impact accreditation for a third year
- > Had 6421 enquiries through our Welcome Desk
- > Achieved Gold Best Bar None accreditation with a 100% score



ACCOUNTABLE

- > Achieved quoracy and our highest ever engagement in our virtual All Student Meeting with a student vote approving our new constitution and bye-laws
- > Received over 702 ideas from students as part of Change Week
- > Recruited 375 Course Reps and 21 School Reps
- > Held our third annual Course Rep Conference
- > Enjoyed a solid commercial performance despite the restrictions imposed by Covid-19
- > Had 571 students fill in the 'Big Worc Survey'
- > Produced regular Officer Vlogs to keep our membership updated on activities, on average reaching over 2,000 students on Facebook
- > Surveyed our student staff team on what it is like to work for us



POSITIVE

- > Introduced livestreaming of BUCS fixtures
- > Produced new episodes of #TeamWorcTV, including 'Spotlight' episodes focusing on outstanding #TeamWorc individuals
- > Created a #PositiveWorc online community to support students during lockdown
- > Organised a range of activities around mental health, including a Wellbeing Fair and Mental Health in Sport workshops
- > Created a Wellbeing Garden outside The Hangar
- > Hosted our second Tea Party, welcoming over 100 local residents
- > Gave reward and recognition to core and student staff for excellent work.

INSPIRATIONAL

- > Raised over £23,000 for charity and supported more student-led fundraising events than ever before
- > Supported the Black Lives Matter protest in Worcester and took part in #BlackOutTuesday
- > Helped 154 students volunteer 9,277 hours of their time
- > Introduced '#TeamWorc Points' so student groups could achieve Gold, Silver, and Bronze accreditation and recognition for efforts for their members and the wider community
- > Facilitated the #HereToHelp Covid-19 volunteering project, with 900 hours of volunteering logged
- > Helped several charities with collections including Worcester Foodbank and Coats for the Homeless
- > Encouraged students to engage in local and national democracy and campaigns
- > Supported Part Time Officer campaigns on sustainability, body positivity, and LGBTQ+ History Month

STUDENT-CENTRED

- > Dealt with 323 student cases and 670 contacts in our Advice Centre
- > Had strong engagement in our leadership elections, with 4599 votes cast by 1603 individual voters
- > Spoke to over 1500 students when we went out and about 36 times for Campus Chat
- > Increased the number of nominations in the Student Choice Awards by 40% to 816
- > Paid 26 student staff £55,600 over the year
- > Had 540 students and 48 landlords attend our Housing Fair
- > Campaigned for the rights of students in private accommodation during lockdown
- > Held our second Societies Week with a number of Society Give it a Go sessions
- > Trained hundreds of students in their various roles (e.g. Reps, committee members and volunteers)
- > Helped students create 13 new societies and supported 47 societies and 37 sports clubs over the year
- > Continued to promote student safety through campaigns like How Are You Getting Home? and Safe Sex Express

ENTERTAINING

- > Had over 10,000 students attend events in The Hangar, including 30 student-led events
- > Delivered our largest ever range of Welcome Week events, including a very popular Disco Binglow night
- > Introduced a new programme of recreational sport activities
- > Hosted our second Colour Run with over 120 students taking part
- > Hosted virtual events, quizzes, study sessions, challenges, and more during lockdown
- > Increased student engagement across all social media platforms
- > Hosted Virtual Celebration Week during lockdown, with great engagement and very positive feedback.



>>>> CORE GOAL ONE

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO KNOW ABOUT AND USE OUR SERVICES



OUTREACH

Throughout the year, SU Officers and core staff went out across the University a total of 36 times as part of Campus Chat. Before the lockdown, we spoke to a total of 1543 students on a range of topics, including:

- > Don't Rent Yet
- > Mitigating Circumstances
- > Student Volunteering Week
- > Register to Vote
- > New Year New Soc
- > Body Positivity
- > Students Choice Awards
- > Governance Review



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

It's crucial for us to create compelling and relevant content for all of our campaigns and events to ensure as many students as possible engage with what we do. We use various media to keep our students fully informed of everything going on at the SU, including social media, physical and digital platforms, and face-to-face promotion.

Students are at the heart of all of our communications. We make sure to listen to what they have to say and do our best to tailor content to what they want. Our social media platforms have continued to grow throughout the year, with high levels of engagement, and new followers being added every day.



WSU Facebook
8,100 followers
The Hangar Facebook
1,000 followers
TeamWorc Facebook
2,750 followers



WSU Instagram
2,500 followers
The Hangar Instagram
950 followers



Twitter
7,150 followers

Our fantastic student staff design team worked hard throughout the year to create professional and distinctive artwork to promote everything we do at the SU. They do a great job of bringing to life all of the ideas of our Officers and students, and we wouldn't be where we are without them.

MOVING ONLINE IN LOCKDOWN

Social media and online engagement is one of the cornerstones of our communications and one of our most effective ways of reaching out to students.

This was never more evident than when our services moved online during the lockdown. Through Officer Vlogs, email updates, focused social media content, and the creation of our #PositiveWorc Community, we were able to keep students updated on the ongoing situation and ensure their continued engagement during this extraordinary and, for many, quite stressful situation.



#TEAMWORCTV & LIVESTREAMING

#TeamWorcTV returned for another year as a way to highlight clubs and societies that make up #TeamWorc. Episodes were shared across social media and featured a variety of clubs and societies, with interviews and footage of their fixtures and events.

This year, Mike introduced #TeamWorcTV Spotlight episodes, focusing on the achievements of outstanding individuals in the #TeamWorc community. Livestreaming was also introduced in the first semester to showcase our BUCS teams and build support for #TeamWorc. Ten fixtures were livestreamed to YouTube and Facebook during the year, featuring Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Women's Cricket, Men's Football, Netball, Women's Rugby, Tennis, and Women's Volleyball. Engagement with livestreaming exceeded initial expectations, with each fixture achieving an average of more than 3,000 views via Facebook.



#POSITIVEWORC COMMUNITY

At the beginning of the Covid-19 imposed lockdown, the official SU Facebook group for 2019-20 was updated and rebranded as the #PositiveWorc Community. The group was set up to provide a positive, fun, and engaging online space for all members of #TeamWorc.

It also meant we could provide regular updates for students on everything going on at the SU during the lockdown.

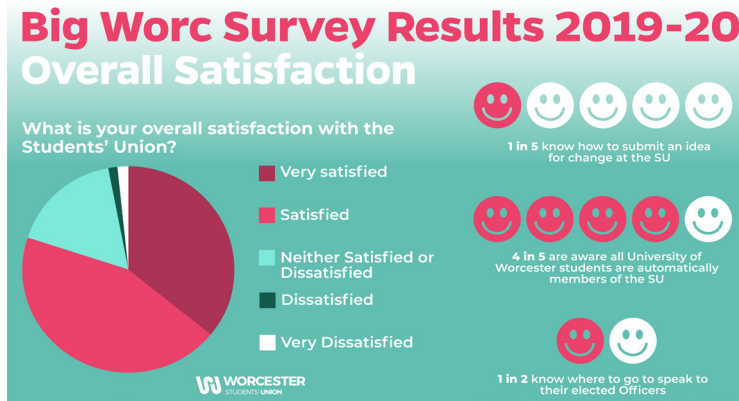
The community grew rapidly to include 1400 members and featured regular content from the SU, Officers, and students themselves, including:

- > Updates from the SU on campaigns and services
- > Officer Q&A sessions
- > Officer Vlogs
- > Interactive content such as virtual pet therapy, workout sessions, and wellbeing blogs
- > Student created content such as challenge videos, quizzes, and fundraising initiatives



THE BIG WORC SURVEY

The Big Worc Survey entered its third year and received a total of 571 responses. The survey consisted of 64 questions to gauge levels of overall knowledge, engagement, and satisfaction with the SU. Overall performance increased when compared to both 2018 and 2019 results, with 80% of respondents satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience of the SU.



Some key findings from the survey were:

- > Awareness of the services the SU provides was extremely high
- > Almost 60% respondents had used an SU service during their time at University
- > 80% of respondents felt the SU represents them and gives them a voice within the University
- > Over 60% respondents had attended an event in The Hangar
- > Awareness of SU-run campaigns has increased year on year since 2018
- > More than half of respondents had used the Welcome Desk, with the majority satisfied or very satisfied with the service received

The survey also highlighted some areas for the SU to improve and enhance the student experience. Following a full analysis of the results, we will work to address any issues and areas where awareness, engagement, and satisfaction can be improved.

INCREASING AWARENESS OF THE SU ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

Throughout the year, we've worked hard to increase awareness of the SU and collaboration with our colleagues at the University. Our Staff Open Day returned at the beginning of September, giving University staff the opportunity to visit the SU and find out more about what we do. Staff from a wide range of departments and Schools came along on the day, and the Open Day has helped us improve communication and collaboration with staff across the University.

Our Officer team also had a positive impact in ensuring the University provided students with effective communication about SU activities, campaigns, and events. Our President, Harry, attended monthly planning meetings and advocated strongly for the student voice throughout the year.

ALUMNI AND FELLOWS

The Officers were keen to advance the relationship between the SU, and both University Alumni and Fellows. A proposal on how to develop alumni relations was written by the President, with a new post ultimately created at the University dedicated to this area.

We also strengthened our links with University Fellows by hosting a presentation evening in January. The event was well attended with some very interesting discussions taking place. A further meeting was held between the SU and Chair of the Fellows, with an activity plan drawn up outlining how Fellows can become more involved in SU activities. We are hoping to progress this plan further in the 2020-21 academic year.



>>>> CORE GOAL TWO

FACILITATE WIDER STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN DECISIONS THAT AFFECT OUR MEMBERS

ELECTIONS

Elections for our Part Time Officer roles took place in October.

Six candidates stood in the election, with six out of the eight Part Time Officer positions being filled. A total of 2656 votes were cast from 537 individual voters, resulting in the election of the following:

- > International Officer – Samuel Kyei
- > LGBTQ+ Officer – James Gould
- > Student Disability Officer – Nadine Baxter
- > Sustainability Officer – Claudia Gutierrez
- > Welfare Officer – Amelia Price
- > Women’s Officer – Alia Moorhouse

The Leadership Elections returned in March with the 'Don't Duck Out of Democracy' campaign given an updated Star Wars theme. There were nine candidates for the three Full Time Officer roles; three candidates for President, one candidate for VP Education, and five candidates for VP Student Activities. A total of 4599 votes were cast from 1603 individual voters, resulting in the election of the following:

- > SU President – Meg Price
- > Vice President Education – Harry South
- > Vice President Student Activities – Tish Manning





CHANGE WEEK

Change Week returned for a second year in February, providing students with the opportunity to share their ideas about all areas of life at the University of Worcester, as well as what they love about the University and SU. A total of 702 ideas were submitted during the week via our 'idea boards' at St Johns Campus and City Campus, and via the online Ideas Forum. Throughout the week, these ideas received over 8,000 votes from students on campus and online.

We felt it was important to give students on placement the chance to have their voices heard during Change Week and delivered multiple 'Change Sessions' to different cohorts, resulting in 150 pieces of feedback received.

Following Change Week, a number of collaborative meetings were held with Officers, SU staff, University staff, and students. These gave students the opportunity to share their experiences of university life with staff and explore specific ideas for change.

Due to the Covid-19 imposed lockdown, the majority of actions following Change Week were temporarily halted. The Officer team for 2020-21 will be working with the University to take forward Change Week feedback post lockdown and will communicate with our members on progress.



COURSE REPS

Over the year, 375 Course Reps volunteered their time to represent the views of their peers on their course and ensure their voice was heard.

We trained 55% of our Course Reps (face-to-face and online), with a total of 91 Course Rep Journals submitted throughout the year. In Semester Two, 18 Reps gained Course Rep Accreditation, 12 achieving Merit and six achieving Honours.

Two Course Rep Forums were held throughout the year, with a planned third cancelled due to the lockdown. At the first Forum we invited the University's Learning and Teaching Outcomes Manager to come along to speak to Reps about the University's attendance and engagement protocol. The second Forum featured a discussion on the knowledge, skills, and attributes Worcester graduates leave the University with.

Throughout the lockdown we kept in touch with all of our Reps across the University using a number of channels, including emails, social media, Course Rep journals, and regular updates from University staff.



Reps were given advice on how to conduct their role virtually, and were encouraged to utilise online platforms such as pre-existing Facebook groups and Microsoft Teams. Course Management Committees were moved online and Reps were able to attend to ensure that students' voices were heard throughout the lockdown period.



SCHOOL REPS

School Reps act as the key link between Course Reps, University staff, and the SU. This year we filled 21 of our 23 School Rep positions.

Throughout the year, our School Reps met at monthly Education Council meetings, chaired by the VP Education, Meg. They discussed a range of topics throughout the year including online learning, time-tabling, and digital capabilities. School Reps also worked with their Schools throughout the year to undertake a benchmarking exercise of the Academic Representation (AR) system, which has helped to inform the SU's AR action plans for the 2020-21 academic year.

With the help of one of our Education School Reps, we also developed the School Rep Report Form, completed by Reps at the end of each Semester. This provides an opportunity for Reps to reflect on their experience and create a handover for the student who succeeds them, encouraging continuity from one year to the next.

Throughout Covid-19, the SU kept up communications and support for School Reps to ensure they were supported and able to fulfil their role virtually. This involved delivering the final Education Council and School Rep Forum online.



COURSE REP CONFERENCE

In January, we held our third annual Course Rep Conference. The Conference gave our Reps the opportunity to network, develop transferable skills, and broaden their knowledge of higher education policy. A number of staff members from the SU and University delivered sessions ranging from digital communications to effectively utilising data.

Reps also attended a high level panel debate with Sarah Greer (Deputy Vice Chancellor and Provost), Ross Renton (Pro Vice Chancellor Students), and Erica Ramos (NUS Vice President Union Development). The debate covered a range of issues such as potential changes to the higher education landscape, value for money, student debt, and the University's plans for the future.



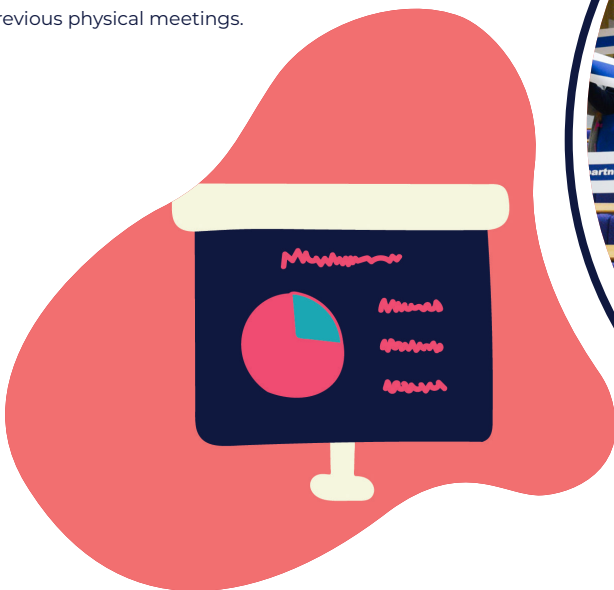
STUDENT COUNCIL

Over the year, 18 out of 30 positions were filled on Student Council, which consists of Full Time and Part Time Officers alongside representatives from different student cohorts. There were a number of motions passed by Student Council in 2019-20, mandating the SU to:

- > Ensure that there was a representative position for UWIC on Student Council
- > Declaration of a climate emergency and outlining of Sustainability goals for the SU up to 2030
- > Ensure that discounted club and society memberships were made available to all students on courses that consisted of considerable time spent on placements
- > Lobby the University for a 'Fit to Sit' policy to protect student wellbeing when commencing their studies.

Over the next three years, The Officer team and SU will now work to ensure these motions are fully implemented.

Following lockdown, the Student Council meetings for March and April were moved online using Blackboard Collaborate, with attendance and engagement at the same level as previous physical meetings.



ALL STUDENT MEETING

Due to the lockdown, this year's All Student Meeting in April was moved online. The meeting was held via Zoom with 160 students in attendance and gave students the opportunity to ask the Officers any questions they had about our operations and strategy, our response to the ongoing lockdown, and our plans for the future.

The Pro Vice Chancellor Students, Ross Renton, also gave an update from the University and thanked students for their contributions to the SU and University throughout the year.

This year, the meeting also had the added importance of hosting a student vote to approve our new constitution. We were pleased to see it approved by a majority of 150 votes to 3, with 7 abstentions.



GOVERNANCE REVIEW

After publishing the proposed new governance structure for the SU at the end of the previous year, we entered the final stage of consultations from September onwards. Consultations were held through a variety of means including 'Governance Review Days', student surveys, focus groups, and dialogue with University staff members and teams.

The main areas of the proposal were:

- > To remove Part Time Officer roles and replace them with student-led Networks to represent different student groups and interests
- > The introduction of an online Ideas Forum as the main mechanism for students to submit ideas for change at the SU and University
- > To streamline the membership of Student Council to ensure full engagement and participation from its members
- > The creation of three Student Council sub-committees; Welfare and Inclusion Council, Education Council, #TeamWorc Committee

DEMOCRACY

Encouraging students to engage with democratic campaigns and key political events remains a key aim of the SU. Various organisations, such as For Future's Sake, the local council, and a number of political parties, were invited to our Welcome Fair in September to speak to students about a range of local and national political issues.

We helped the University run Democracy Day in late September. The day was designed to encourage students to become informed about current political issues and learn more about voter registration. A successful hustings, for all the local parliamentary candidates, was held in The Hangar, with a great turn out and standing room only.

We also invited For Future's Sake onto campus to help promote their 'Donut Forget to Vote' campaign, encouraging students to register to vote in the December General Election. We helped give away hundreds of Krispy Kreme donuts (including one for Vice Chancellor, David Green), with lots of students registering to vote there and then. We were pleased to see Worcester do well nationally in terms of the number of students registering to vote. Discussions were also held with the Council, in partnership with the University, about relocating a polling station to the University campus.

As a result of these campaigns, the non-partisan youth registration and voter turnout campaign, Vote For Your Future, awarded the University of Worcester 100% for engaging students in democracy. This earned Worcester joint top spot in the national University Democracy Table.



EQUALITY
Diversity
INCLUSION



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The summer of 2020 saw the Black Lives Matter movement gain international attention, following the tragic death of George Floyd, with student groups and the wider public showing their support. Our Officer team, along with numerous Worcester students, attended the Black Lives Matter protest held in Worcester during June. A large number of our students, clubs, and societies also took part in #BlackOutTuesday, filling their social media feeds with black squares and freeing up the time usually dedicated to social media for people to educate themselves on the Black Lives Matter movement.

In response, an internal working group was established within the SU to ensure equality, diversity, and inclusion are at the core of everything we do as an organisation. Throughout the 2020-21 academic year and beyond, we will be working closely with the University's senior leadership to ensure a positive institution-wide approach is taken to promote equality and equity in all areas, and particularly in terms of race.

>>>> CORE GOAL THREE

**PROVIDE
RESPONSIVE,
APPROPRIATE,
AND
ACCESSIBLE
SUPPORT
AND ADVICE TO
STUDENTS**



WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is extremely important to our students and we strive to facilitate the promotion of positive health and wellbeing across the University.

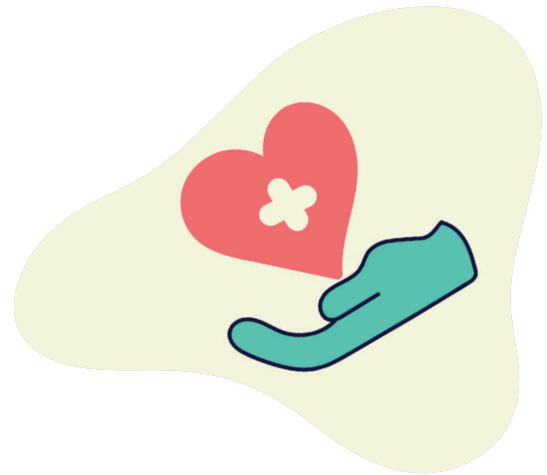
WELLBEING WORKING GROUP

We created an internal 'Wellbeing Working Group' in Semester One to ensure greater collaboration across SU departments on welfare initiatives. In addition to supporting World and University Mental Health Days and International Men's Day, the group updated and improved information on the SU website relating to drugs, sexual health, and gambling, and conducted a student survey on these issues. Feedback received from the survey resulted in the SU successfully lobbying the Campus Shop to stock condoms and affordable pregnancy tests.



REFRESHERS AND WELLBEING FAIR

In place of a traditional Refresher Fair in the New Year, we hosted a Wellbeing Fair to let students know about the support available to them during their time at Worcester. Joining the SU and key University services, were a range of charities and volunteering organisations such as Papyrus and the local NHS Trust, who told us they had really good conversations with students throughout the day.



WELLBEING GARDEN

An amazing achievement of our Officer team was the creation of a new wellbeing garden outside The Hangar. The space was the idea of our President, Harry, who, with support from the University, managed the project from its inception and design, to its tendering, and the final completion. It was a great experience for him and a delight to see his natural skills in action. Made from mostly recycled materials, the garden was completed in time for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year, and is a welcoming outside space that can be enjoyed by all students and staff for years to come.

CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY

#POSITIVEWORC

WORCESTER UNIVERSITY

WALK AND TALK

Harry also worked with the University's Associate Chaplain, Owen, to introduce 'Walk and Talk'. This gave our students the opportunity to book a session with Owen each week to take a walk around campus and talk about anything they liked, from serious issues to general chat, or to learn about faith, with a number of students taking part throughout the year.

STUDENT WELLBEING IN LOCKDOWN

One of our main priorities during lockdown was the health and wellbeing of our students. Through our #PositiveWorc community, we were able to provide a positive and welcoming online space, and continue to provide a sense of community and belonging. The community hosted interactive content such as virtual pet therapy and workout sessions, student created videos and activities, and regular updates from the SU.

SAFE SEX EXPRESS

The Safe Sex Express was rebranded with a fresh new look in time for the beginning of the academic year. Online engagement with the campaign was high, with positive feedback across all of our social media platforms. In total, condoms were posted to 155 students throughout the year.

HOW ARE YOU GETTING HOME?

We continued to work with University Student Services and Security, as well as Tramps Nightclub and Cathedral Cars to promote our How Are You Getting Home? (HAYGH) campaign. The campaign encourages students look out for each other on nights out, how to use taxis safely, and advises them on what to do if they find themselves in uncomfortable situations. HAYGH received great support from students, the University, and our partners, with social media engagement frequently above average levels.

'Walk and Talk' with your Chaplain

No conversation is off limits. Bring questions, struggles, complaints, confessions, doubts, fears, joys and sorrows.

Owen Callacher

Owen is an Anglican Vicar with All Saints church in Worcester. He is also the Associate Chaplain to the University.
Book your 20 minutes to walk and talk 1:1 with our chaplain, Rev. Owen Callacher (or sign up as a group).

Make an appointment at the SU Welcome Desk.
 Call us on 01905543200.
 Email us at studentsunion@worc.ac.uk.
 Visit us in the Students' Union building on St James' Campus.

University of Worcester | WORCESTER STUDENTS UNION

NIGHT BUS

Following a campaign from our previous President, Lucy Conn, and the hard work of our new Officer team, a new Night Bus was introduced in Welcome Week. Subsidised by the University, the Night Bus ensured students had a means of affordable and safe travel between the University, The Hive, and city centre late at night. Despite positive feedback from students, the Night Bus was discontinued ahead of the second semester due to an unfortunate lack of funding.





MENTAL HEALTH IN SPORT

During the first semester, our Sports Coordinator, Sophie Smith held a Mental Health in Sport workshop, following training she received from Student Minds in conjunction with British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS). The workshop was designed to increase the knowledge, confidence, and skills relating to mental health for students participating in sport. Nine students from club committees signed up for the workshop, with all those attending stating an increased confidence in how best to signpost others who may be experiencing problems.

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Over the course of the year we dealt with:

- > 670 contacts from students
- > 323 student cases
- > 177 cases were referrals from University staff
- > 75% of cases were for academic issues
- > 17% of cases were for accommodation issues
- > Students using the service were 71% female and 29% male

Covid-19 had a measurable impact on the Help & Advice service and the types of queries seen:

- > Face-to-face appointments were no longer possible, moving to phone and Skype
- > March-August saw an increase in queries compared to the previous three years
- > From March onwards, 43% of cases related to Covid-19
- > New issues arose, such as online exam misconduct

WELCOME DESK

The Welcome Desk is the first point of contact for students and staff looking to get in touch with the SU, either in person or remotely.

ENQUIRIES RECEIVED

Over the course of the year we dealt with:

- > Total enquiries received was 6,421 – just over 200 more than was recorded in 2018-19
- > A total of 2,940 enquiries received were in relation to Clubs and Societies, far more than any other area
- > There were 453 enquiries relating to the SU Help & Advice service, with a drop of just over 100 compared to 2018-19
- > 225 enquiries were received for TOTUM
- > Approximately 70% of enquiries were in person, 7% via phone, and 23% via email



DON'T RENT YET AND HOUSING FAIR

We ran our 'Don't Rent Yet' campaign throughout November and December to dissuade students from rushing into any accommodation commitments too soon. We also promoted our 'Housemate Finder' group on Facebook for any students looking for housemates or accommodation for the next year. Our Housing Fair, run in conjunction with the University, was held in Refreshers Week at the end of January. We welcomed 48 landlords and 542 students to The Hangar, and gave out the always popular pasta measurers and free pasta to those attending.

HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION IN LOCKDOWN

Throughout lockdown one of the key aims of our President, Harry, was to ensure students living on campus and in the wider community were fully supported. He worked closely with the University to ensure that students were helped to make the decisions that were right for them. Whether this was staying in accommodation or moving back home. We were delighted the University moved so quickly to refund students on their remaining payment for University accommodation.

Harry also developed a plea to private landlords, asking them to help and support students locked in private contracts. He wrote a letter to local MP, Robin Walker, asking for his support on the issue and for discussions to be held about students living in private rented accommodation. Along with the University, we pledged to support all students living in private rented accommodation throughout the lockdown.



Robin Walker
Member of Parliament

3rd April 2020

Dear Robin,

We trust you and your family are well during this extraordinary period. We would also like to thank you for the response you and the Worcester authorities have shown to the COVID-19 outbreak. As a Students' Union, we are fully committed to helping our close-knit community stay well, positive and happy during this difficult time: as you may well know, we are mobilising our members to contribute their skills and energy to the COVID-19 response. This includes many of our members working to support the NHS Trusts and social care sector. We have also been working with the University and local partners to deliver a large-scale student volunteering programme to support Worcestershire communities.

We would like to bring your attention to an issue that Worcester students are having with private landlords in your constituency. As I'm sure you can imagine, many of our students are worried about the pandemic and many have already left Worcester to stay with their families during this period of online learning. Many, however, remain in Worcester for a variety of reasons - they missed the lockdown deadline and now feel it more responsible to stay, they are estranged from their families, they are international or European students and cannot return home etc. Of course, many more of our students are now vital key workers such as nurses and paramedics, who've been fast-tracked in to help support local hospitals.

A significant number of students have returned to their family homes from their privately rented accommodation to keep safe with their families. We are deeply concerned that some landlords, in our opinion, are demonstrating a lack of compassion to these students in the situation and are refusing them the ability to leave their contracts early.

As I'm sure you are aware, financial aid is being given out to help businesses, including the self-employed with mortgage holidays etc. We are concerned that there has been no such support for the private rental market and, in particular, accommodation rented by students which is often paid through part time jobs or/and a loan. The University has decided to waive payment for the remainder of the year for students in University managed accommodation who have decided to return to their family home, which we applaud, and is coming at a significant cost to the University. We feel that it would be only right for discussions around students in privately rented accommodation to be held as a matter of urgency to work out a way forward for our members, many of whom are very anxious.

We understand you will be extremely busy but would be most grateful to meet with you early next week via video call to discuss how you might be able to help.

We look forward to hearing from you and all the best.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Lonsdale, Meg Price and Mike Harris
(President, Vice President Education, Vice President Student Activities)

Worcester Students' Union
Published by Alannah Wsu [?]
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~ LETTER TO ROBIN WALKER AROUND PRIVATELY RENTED ACCOMMODATION ~

We are fully committed to helping our student community stay well, positive and happy during these uncertain times, and we are aware of the issues being faced by some students with regards to private landlords. In response, your Officers - Harry, Meg and Mike - have written to local MP Robin Walker to begin working out a way forward for those struggling with privately rented accommodation.

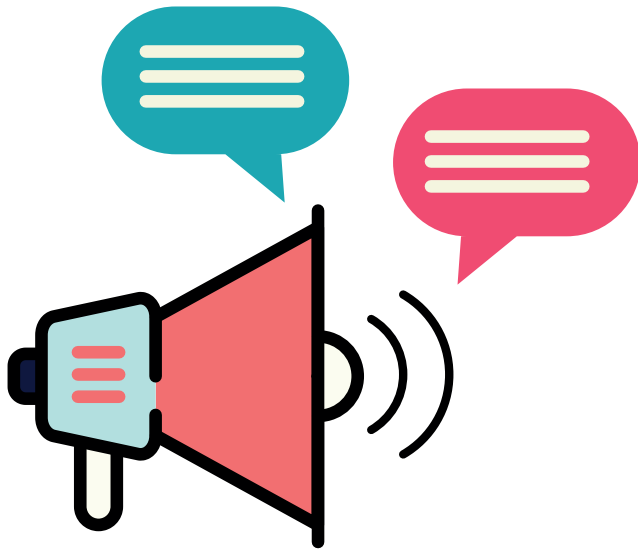
We will continue to keep you updated with any progress. Please also keep regularly checking our website for important information:
www.worcsu.com/coronavirus.

🏷 Tag photo 📍 Add location ✎ Edit

9,171 People reached 1,081 Engagements **Boost post**

👍❤️ 146 15 comments 34 shares

Comment as Worcester St...



PART TIME OFFICER CAMPAIGNS

Throughout the year our Part Time Officers delivered a number of campaigns to support the students they represent and the causes they are passionate about.

TAKEAWAY WITHOUT THROW AWAY

Sustainability Officer, Claudia Gutierrez, worked alongside the University's caterers to introduce a reusable lunchbox scheme. From the 2020-21 academic year, students will be able to buy a lunchbox which they can use to purchase takeaway food, reducing their use of single-use plastic.

LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

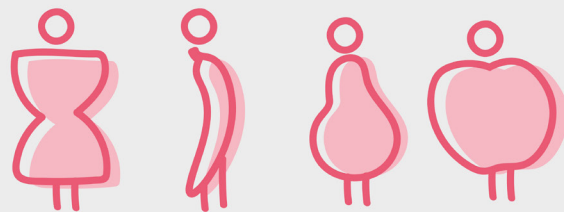
LGBTQ+ Officer, James Gould, organised a full month of events to help celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month. Events included a panel debate, quiz takeover, improv night, and 'Q and Gay' session.



BODY POSITIVITY

Building on her 2018-19 campaign, our Women's Officer, Alia Moorhouse, ran a number of Campus Chat sessions to talk about the results of her Body Positivity survey. Speaking to a number of students, she encouraged open and honest discussions around the topic of body positivity.

BODY Positive



48% always feel pressure to fit into a social norm of attractiveness

25% of people always feel that they to have defend the way they look as a part of their culture

How can I be more body positive?

There's so many ways you can boost your body image, for example:

Joining our Women's Gym Pathway:
https://www.worcsu.com/sports_activities/giveitagot/recsport/

Speaking to the Counselling & Mental Health Team:
<https://www2.worc.ac.uk/counselling/>



>>>> CORE GOAL FOUR

CREATE AND PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO DEVELOP TRANSFERABLE SKILLS



SOCIETIES

This year we had a total of 1055 society memberships from 870 students, two less memberships and three more students compared to 2018-19. Over the course of the year, 13 new societies were formed with the majority of them recruiting enough members to carry on into the following academic year. Some of our most successful new societies were the African and Caribbean Society, Journalism and Media Society, and Finnish Society.

SOCIETIES WEEK

After the success of the previous year's Societies Week, it was decided to give Societies more of an influence over the activities taking place throughout the week. Most held 'Give it a Go' sessions, inviting non-members to take part in their activities and events. The SU attended a number of these to film and interview committee members, asking them about the benefits of being part of a Society.

Marvel & DC, Anime & Manga, and Gaming teamed up during Societies Week to put together Geek Week. They hosted various events and activities throughout the week, with Geek Week awarded Society Event of the Year at Union Awards.

VOLUNTEERING

Throughout 2019-20, 154 students recorded 9,277 volunteering hours, giving up their time to a number of worthy causes, locally and around the UK. Approximately 35% of these hours were logged for community work in organisations such as Samaritans, local foodbanks, Brownies and Scouts, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, and more. Around 55% of the hours logged were for Club and Society commitments, Course Reps, and our SU Crew members who helped out during events like Welcome Week, the Colour Run, Refreshers, and Change Week.



COVID-19 #HERETOHELP

The SU felt it was important to work with the University to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and help those less fortunate than ourselves. A new initiative was established where students could help people in their local community who were unable to leave their home or access the support they required. Over 900 hours were logged by our students collecting and delivering food parcels and pharmacy prescriptions, helping parents deliver home schooling to their children, and calling isolated individuals to check in and keep them company. We're incredibly proud of our students for taking it upon themselves to help others during the crisis and believe they embody what being a part of TeamWorc is all about.

TEA DANCE

After the success of the inaugural event in December 2018, the Tea Dance returned bigger and better than ever. Once again, it was organised in collaboration with the University's Senior Physical Activity and Adapted Sport Programme, with the aim of bringing together two very different communities. Funding was secured through a grant from Worcester City Council and this enabled us to invite over 100 attendees to The Hangar for an afternoon of music, dancing, and lots of mince pies. Over 30 student volunteers from the SU Crew and our Clubs and Societies helped make the event a truly special occasion. The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and we very much look forward to the next one!

STUDENTS OF WORCESTER ARE #HERE2HELP

Are you taking part in any volunteering related to COVID-19? If so, you can log them as volunteering hours through the Students' Union. If you attain 50 or more volunteering hours, it will get recorded on your official degree transcript. Get your hard work recognised. Start logging your hours at: www.worcsu.com/volunteer.



RAISE AND GIVE (RAG)

This year, our students chose Papyrus as our RAG charity of the year. Papyrus is a national charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide in young people. Our students helped to raise just over £23,000 over the course of the year. While this is lower than in 2018-19, it is still a fantastic achievement in a year disrupted by severe flooding and the Covid-19 outbreak, and we're proud of everyone in #TeamWorc that helped make it happen.

Some of our RAG highlights for 2019-20 include:

- > Holding more student-led events than ever before, including themed quizzes, karaoke takeovers, Take Me Out, and a Frat Party at Tramps Nightclub
- > The return of the Colour Run to mark National Fitness Day
- > Clubs and societies hosting online fundraisers during lockdown to help support local charities and the NHS
- > Students and staff members at the University taking part in 'Walk 4 Worcester' to raise money for the Worcestershire Acute NHS Trust
- > Students raising money for 37 different charities throughout the year including Papyrus, Guide Dogs UK, St Richard's Hospice, Children in Need, and Movember

GREEN IMPACT

We have continued with our commitment to supporting sustainability, with our Sustainability Officer leading the way, supported by core staff members. Over the year we:

- > Achieved a 'Very Good' Green Impact rating
- > Undertook a project alongside Aramark to introduce a reusable lunchbox scheme
- > Helped the Sustainability team win the NUS Recycle League competition
- > Welcomed onto campus our new campus hedgehog – 'Snoop Hoggy Hog'

STUDENT TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

This year we trained club and society committee members, our new student staff intake, SU Crew volunteers, along with candidates and campaign teams in our Autumn and Leadership Elections.

This was our third year of running a two-day training conference for club and society committees, to give them the key information and guidance needed to fulfil their role. This year the conference was renamed as Committee Fest. We ran role specific information and practical sessions on topics such as fundraising, health and safety, marketing, how to use our website, and GDPR, as well as some fun team-building activities, which the attendees really seemed to enjoy.

SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS TREE

In December, we took part in Worcester Cathedral's Christmas Tree Festival, displaying a sustainable Christmas tree. The tree and decorations were entirely made from reclaimed and recycled materials, with the decorations designed and made by University of Worcester students. Cotswold Friends Men in Sheds were also kind enough to offer their time and carpentry skills to help build the tree and wooden star decorations.

STUDENT STAFF

Our student staff are an integral part of the SU team and we wouldn't be able to achieve the outcomes we do without their help. We have continued to employ student staff in frontline roles and back office support wherever we can. Over the year, 26 staff members earned £55,650 working 6,540 hours.

Each month we rewarded their amazing work with the Student Staff of the Month award, where core staff nominated student staff they felt had gone above and beyond in their roles. Winners over the year were:

- > **Kaz Batko** – Bar Assistant
- > **Kieran Haynes** – Bar Assistant
- > **Ashleigh Sweet** – Graphic Design Assistant
- > **Alex Serbanica** – Graphic Design Assistant
- > **Svetlana Plasilova** – Student Engagement Assistant
- > **Lauren Maguire** – Welcome Desk Assistant
- > **Laura Guest** – Welcome Desk Assistant

At our Virtual Celebration Week in May, we presented our 'Student Staff of the Year' Award. This year the award went to one of our extremely hard-working Bar Assistants, Kaz Batko, who has also shown her artistic side with some amazing designs on our bar chalkboard.

We conducted our annual survey of student staff to ask them what it's like to work for the SU.

Positive findings were as follows:

- > All understood what their role in the organisation was
- > All had appropriate knowledge to perform their job well
- > All felt they were supported and kept informed by their supervisor
- > All had developed new skills while working for the SU
- > All had regular meetings with their supervisors
- > All felt customer service was a priority for the SU
- > All enjoyed working for the SU and would recommend it to others
- > All felt they were able to ask for help when needed

The one area for us to work on was:

- > Having regular meetings with other student staff

We received some lovely comments from some of our student staff about working at the SU:



"It made my studies over the last year so enjoyable! Thank you, and I can't wait until next academic year!"

"Working with the SU bar staff and alongside Matt and Neha has been the nicest job to date. They have both been great supervisors and I will truly miss them."

"The SU is an amazing team and I am proud to have been part of it."

"Working at the SU has been an amazing experience and I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity."

>>>> CORE GOAL FIVE

HELP STUDENTS
TO BE SAFE
AND ENJOY
UNIVERSITY
LIFE



NATIONAL FITNESS DAY

National Fitness Day takes place every September with the aim of getting as many people as possible involved in some form of exercise to help boost their physical and mental health. Alongside Social Sports, Dance, and Zumba, we hosted a number of free sessions, including wheelchair basketball, dance lessons, and a Zumba session, to get students and staff involved and physically active. Almost 100 students took part throughout the day, with really positive feedback from all those involved.

REC SPORT

Throughout the year, we developed a programme of recreational sporting activities to provide a fun, relaxed, and non-competitive environment for students to participate, regardless of their ability. We were able to use ring-fenced funding to ensure these activities were free for students, to help maximise participation.

GYMFIT

Delivered in partnership with British Gymnastics, the GymFit programme was launched in the second semester. The programme offered a way for students to improve their general fitness and physical condition, with varying degrees of difficulty for those at beginner, intermediate, and advanced level.

WOMEN'S GYM PATHWAY

We worked with the University to put together a women's only weight programme, to provide a safe space for female students to increase their confidence and knowledge in weight training. The programme consisted of two one-hour weekly gym sessions over a six week period and was led by two trained instructors. 32 students signed up for the programme throughout the year and all participants stated they would take part in the programme again, and that it had increased their confidence in using weights, which they had previously avoided doing.

GO ROW

We were accepted as one of 10 institutions to carry out the Go Row Indoor Rowing pilot scheme set-up by British Rowing. The scheme aims to get more people indoor rowing whether for fun, fitness, and competition. Two of our students were trained to deliver the Go Row exercise classes and they each began to deliver a 30-minute class every week at the start of semester two. Unfortunately, classes were stopped due to lockdown part-way through the year, though the pilot scheme will be extended in the near future.

COLOUR RUN

Our on-campus Colour Run returned for a second year as part of our Welcome Week lineup. This year we changed the route of the run to take in more of the St John's Campus and give more opportunities for runners to get covered in paint. Our Officers also led a dance session before our runners started to help everyone get nicely warmed up.

Despite having fewer runners than our previous Colour Run, over 120 students still took part and enjoyed a lovely, sunny afternoon. Over £600 was raised on the day for our RAG charity of the year, Papyrus, and to help fund future RAG events.

BUCS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, the BUCS league and knockout competitions ended prematurely mid-way through March. As a result, the overall BUCS points table was voided. However, promotion and relegation were still implemented for a number of individual BUCS leagues, with final outcomes decided on a league-by-league basis by BUCS. That meant that Netball 1st, Netball 2nd, Women's Badminton 1st, Women's Football 1st, Men's Football 4th, and Men's Table Tennis 1st were all eligible for promotion.

FURTHER SUCCESS

The Saints Dance Society travelled to Royal Holloway University to compete in the London Dance Competition, coming home with a total of nine trophies. These included 1st place for Jazz, and 2nd place for Ballet, Contemporary, Tap, Street, Wildcard, Best Female, Best Concept, and Overall Team Spirit. They had a superb year, running a number of wellbeing campaigns and successful charity events, including the annual Tapathon at Birmingham New Street Station for Children in Need. For this reason, they were the deserving winners of our Club of the Year award.

Trampolining also enjoyed their most successful season yet, competing regularly in the South Universities Trampolining League. Over the course of the season they came away with five gold medals, two silver medals, and four bronze medals.



TEAMWORC POINTS

Our Vice President Student Activities, Mike, created and implemented TeamWorc Points as a way to reward the clubs and societies that go the extra mile to be the best they can be. All clubs and societies were eligible to receive points through different criteria, including volunteering, fundraising, Give it a Go sessions, and social media engagement. At the end of the year, those with enough points were awarded Bronze (125 points), Silver (250 points), or Gold level (400 points). A total of eighteen received Bronze, five received Silver, and four received Gold.

The success of this new accreditation scheme means that many other SUs are now looking to implement similar schemes for their student groups.

BRONZE

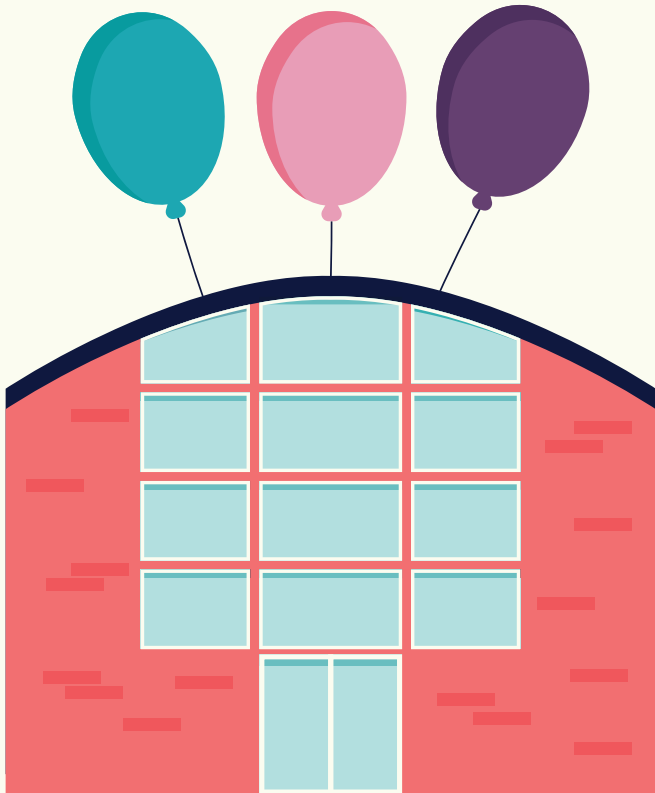
African Caribbean Society,
Anime and Manga,
Climbing & Mountaineering,
Creative Writing,
Fencing, LGBTQ+ Society, Men's Cricket,
Music, Netball,
Paddlesport & Surf,
Social Sports, Swimming, Trampolining,
UniBoob, Women's Basketball,
Women's Football, Women's Hockey,
Women's Rugby

SILVER

Biomedical Science,
Cheerleading,
Men's Rugby,
Pole Fitness,
Rowing

GOLD

Dance,
Equestrian,
Loco Show Co,
Marvel & DC



THE HANGAR

Up until lockdown in March, The Hangar enjoyed yet another successful year. We updated our cocktail and mocktail menus, and introduced a number of new draughts, gins, and spirits. Following student feedback, Karaoke returned as a permanent feature on Friday nights, proving as popular as ever.

Throughout the year we had over 10,000 students attend events in The Hangar, just 1,000 fewer than the previous year despite losing out on three months of trading and events. We also hosted 30 student-led events throughout the year such as quiz nights, game nights, charity events, and student showcases. Once again, we achieved Gold Best Bar None accreditation with a perfect score of 100%.

External bookings continued to be a valuable source of income, with a total of six bookings prior to lockdown generating an income of just over £8k, up from £4.8k. Unfortunately, several further bookings had to be cancelled following the national government restrictions.



WELCOME EVENTS

We began welcoming new students to the University at the beginning of September, with a number of events for students on vocational courses and the international students who start earlier than the main cohort. We held meet and greets, karaoke, quiz nights, and also hosted induction events for Nursing and Education students.

The majority of new students, along with returning students, arrived in mid-September and we had a full line-up of events and activities for them to enjoy.

Our Welcome Fair was held on the Tuesday of Welcome Week, with over 2,000 students speaking to representatives from a number of commercial businesses, charities, and University services.

Our Clubs and Societies Fair was attended by over 3,000 students, with hundreds signing up to interest lists and ultimately joining the TeamWorc community.

We also hosted a number of successful events in The Hangar including our Welcome Party, Hangar Fest, Big Quiz, Worcester Wednesday, Open Mic Night, and Karaoke. The Monday night also saw the introduction of our brand new Disco Bungalow event, which saw The Hangar filled to capacity for an amazing (and very lively) night



VIRTUAL CELEBRATION WEEK

This year we were unable to host the normal ceremonies for the Union Awards and Colours Ball. This was a great shame, as it is always such a highlight and fitting way to end the year. However, we still celebrated all of the amazing successes of our student representatives, volunteers, fundraisers, and club and society members, through our Virtual Celebration Week.

For two weeks in May, the Students' Union Facebook page was dedicated to the Awards. Shortlists for the Students' Choice Awards, Union Awards, and Colours Ball were officially announced from 11th-15th May. The following week all of our winners were announced via specially designed Celebration Week animations and videos from our Officer team.

Engagement was high across both weeks, with large numbers of students and University staff interacting with social media content. Reach and engagement on Facebook for Virtual Celebration Week was almost double the usual levels, and feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive. Many told us it had been uplifting and motivational for them, at a time that was otherwise fairly challenging.

STUDENTS' CHOICE AWARDS WINNERS

Deputy Vice Chancellor Award for Excellence in Teaching

Daniel Farrelly -School of Psychology

Clare Taylor Worcester Business School

Doctoral Supervision Award

Rosie Erol -School of Psychology

Allain Bueno School of Science & the Environment

Exceptional Personal Academic Tutor Award

Dave Robson -School of Nursing & Midwifery

Extra Mile Award

Kirsten Brown Counsellor

Module Excellence Award

Philip Woodward - Inner City Education School of Education

Outstanding Lecturer Award

Allie Sewell -School of Education

Jo Thomas -School of Nursing & Midwifery

Sustainability Award

Daniel Coverley -Green Impact Project Assistant



COLOURS BALL WINNERS

Charity Fundraiser of the Year	MEN'S CRICKET
Club Promoter of the Year	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Committee Member of the Year	ISOBEL LINES- EQUESTRIAN
Tramps Club of the Year	NETBALL
Female Athlete of the Year	SARAH FERRIS - ROWING
Male Athlete of the Year	TOM SADLER - RUGBY
Sports Club of the Year	DANCE
Sports Team of the Year	NETBALL PERFORMANCE SQUAD
Special Achievement Award	JACK BUFTON - SOCIAL SPORTS
WSU Special Recognition Award	EQUESTRIAN



UNION AWARDS WINNERS

Course Rep of the Year	Sophie Monks - Sports Therapy
School Rep of the Year	Kelly Chamberlain - School of Education Luke Ford - School of Sport & Exercise Science
Student Staff Member of the Year	Kaz Batko - Bar Assistant
PTO of the Year	Samuel Kyei - International Students' Office
Community Volunteer of the Year	Luke Ford
Tramps Society of the Year	Education Enhancement
Most Charitable Society	Music Society
New Society of the Year	Finnish Society
Society Committee of the Year	Biomedical Science
Society Committee Member of the Year	Phil Morgan - Marvel & DC
Society Event of the Year - Geek Week	Marvel & DC
Society Promoter of the Year	Loco Show Co
Society of the Year	Loco Show Co



FUNDING AND INCOME

The University continued to recognise the efforts and impact of the SU by providing us with a block grant for the year of £529k, the same figure as for 2018-19. This funding from the University is vital for us to maintain improvements to the student experience and for us to engage our diverse student body.

We entered into the fourth year of five year contracts with both Tramps Nightclub and Domino's Pizza, as well as a new partnership with Cathedral Cars. These partnerships provided us with £68k in income for the year, a small decrease compared to the previous year due to the effect of Covid-19 on revenue. Our relationship with Tramps remains strong, with effective communication and collaboration, and the Tramps team continuing to support our students and #TeamWorc.

Up until the national lockdown in March, The Hangar had a hugely successful year, with bar sales up by £8k year on year. Full sales for the year were £145k, down from £161k in the previous year. This was still a very strong commercial performance, achieved despite the cancellation of key second semester events such as the Varsity After-Party and Dissy Day, and the loss of a number of external bookings.

Our Welcome Fair in September generated revenue of £9k, slightly lower than the £10.5k generated for both the Welcome Fair and Refreshers Fair in 2018-19, in line with the experiences of SUs nationally. This year, the Fair and all commercial bookings were organised solely by SU staff. In previous years the majority of commercial bookings were handled by NUS Media Local, which is no longer in operation.



TOTUM

Promoting TOTUM and converting sales continued to be a challenge, with little brand awareness from students and a number of competitors offering free discount cards. In total, 940 TOTUM cards were sold, generating an income of £2.8k. This compared with £16k generated in sales from NUS Extra Cards in 2017-18, the last year of NUS Extra.

AFFILIATIONS



NUS - £19.2k

BUCS - £10.7k

Advice UK - £0.4k

>>>> THE YEAR AHEAD

We work hard to live our values and give our students the best possible experience during their time at University. We have had another fantastic year, but we know there are challenges ahead and ways for us to keep improving. During the 2020-21 academic year, we aim to:



Monitor the wellbeing and experience of our students during the challenging situation created by Covid-19, making sure our own environment is safe and welcoming.

Innovate to ensure we engage our students in different ways, especially those who may be self-isolating or anxious about taking part in physical events.

Ensure effective implementation of the Governance Review, including student-led Networks, the Ideas Forum, and changes to Student Council and its sub-councils.

Develop the SU's role in promoting Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion in all aspects of student life and beyond.

Identify barriers faced by students with protected characteristics and work to remove barriers that affect engagement in education and activities.

Create a series of Positive #TeamWorc campaigns to address various aspects of student wellbeing, including student safety, safe sex, and community spirit.

Link the student voice directly to Student Services to identify gaps in provision and raise awareness of services available.

Increase engagement and integration of international students in our services, representation, and activities.

Develop the volunteering opportunities available to students through #TeamWorc Action.

Continue to encourage the University to develop their student communications and create a Student Information Hub.

Work to address areas where satisfaction with the Academic Representation system has been found to be lower in student surveys.

Raise awareness of the Academic Representation system and ensure greater accountability of Course Reps.

Establish and address barriers faced by placement students in participating in sport and physical activity.

Continue to develop the social media presence of clubs and societies.

Implement monthly SU highlights in lectures and seminars to promote activities and opportunities, and help bridge the gap between the SU and University.

Investigate ways of supporting students in financial hardship to provide them access to clubs and societies.



A MESSAGE FROM MEG PRICE

STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT 20/21



It's been another fantastic year all round for the Students' Union, with lots of projects and initiatives which have had a genuinely positive impact on the student experience. This is shown in the increase in student engagement and satisfaction (evidenced by national and University survey results), and is all down to the hard work of our fantastic core staff, student staff, and volunteers.

I want to say a massive thank you to Harry and Mike, who both worked tirelessly throughout the year to help give our students an amazing university experience. Highlights include Harry's Wellbeing Garden and Mike's introduction of #TeamWorc Points. So thank you both!

We're all looking forward to the coming year and building on the great work of 2019-20. This year, all three Officers are passionate about reaching out to students to help increase engagement with various student groups and opportunities, and further develop the inclusive nature of the SU and our activities.

I am particularly looking forward to supporting the launch of our student-led Networks and helping our members have their say on the student experience here at Worcester, ensuring a student community where diversity is celebrated and equality and inclusion the norm. I'm also looking forward to working closely with the International Team to enhance the experience of international students and help their integration with home students.

Harry is planning to develop the inclusive nature of the Academic Representation System and increase the role of the student voice by removing barriers to students who want to give feedback. He is also working on a peer mentoring system to ensure that all students feel supported during their time at Worcester, further building the #TeamWorc community.

Tish is looking forward to increasing engagement with placement students by offering discounted membership in clubs and societies, and promoting SU opportunities and activities in lectures and seminars. She is also excited to develop volunteering opportunities, as part of TeamWorc Action, to ensure as many people as possible can get involved.

Despite the ongoing challenges of Covid-19, we're all really looking forward to the year ahead and making it one of the best yet.

Meg Price
(Worcester Students' Union President 2020-'21)

Full-Time Officer Trustees

President – Harry Lonsdale

Vice President Education – Meg Price

Vice President Student Activities – Mike Harris

External and Student Trustees

We would like to extend our sincere thanks our Student and External Trustees this year.

We truly value their support, guidance, and scrutiny, which continues to motivate, challenge, and reassure us.

Student Trustees – Ivan Stebyluk, Isobel Lines, Deborah Andrews

External Trustees – Margaret Jolley, Melanie Brittain, Rebekah Williams

Part-Time Officer Trustees @ May 2019

BAME Officer – Vacant

International Officer – Samuel Kyei

LGBTQ+ Officer – James Gould

Mature Students' Officer – Vacant

Student Disability Officer – Nadine Baxter

Sustainability Officer – Claudia Gutierrez

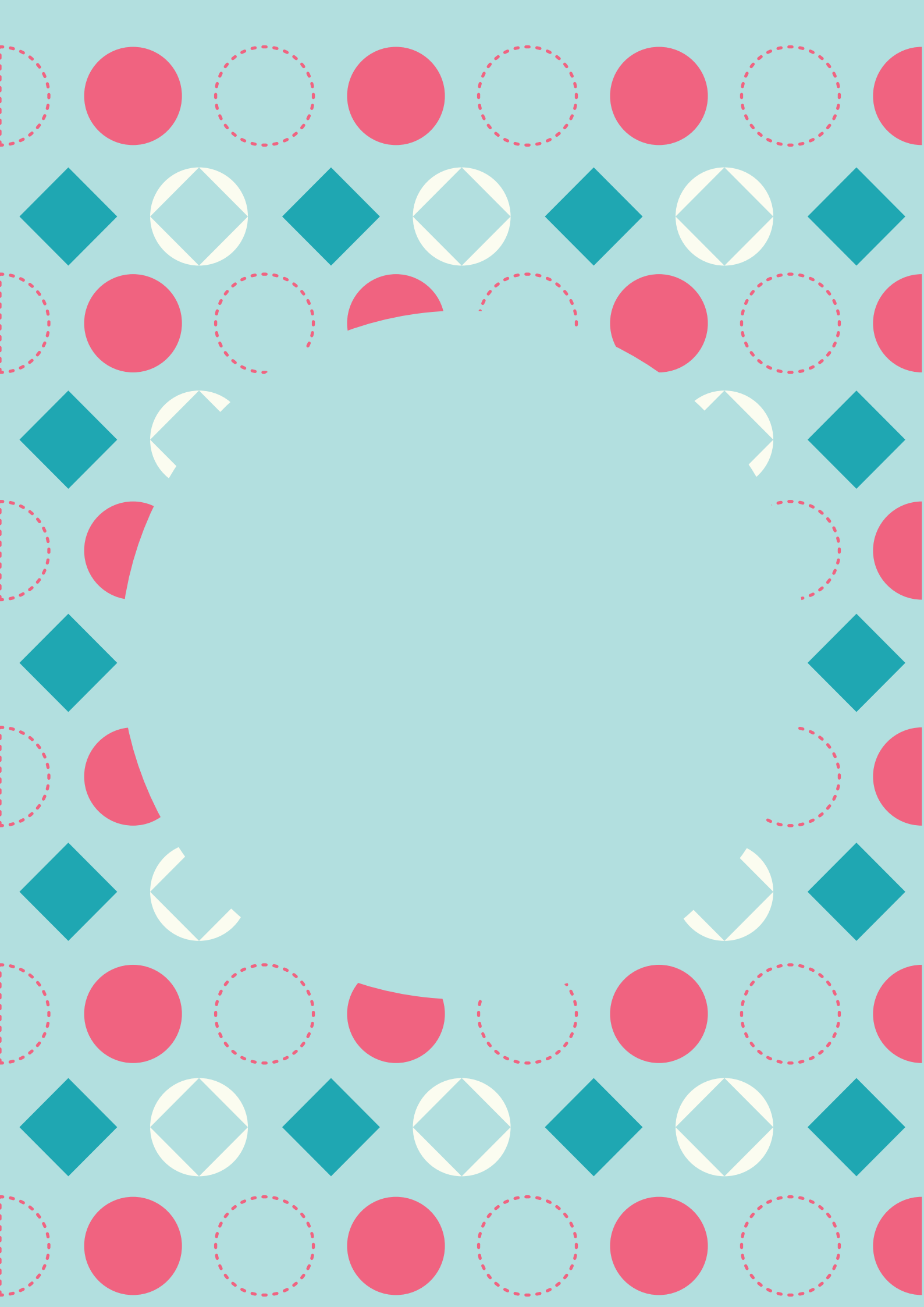
Welfare Officer – Amelia Price

Women's Officer – Alia Moorhouse

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