

IMPACT REPORT

2020 - 2021



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A message from Meg Price, Students' Union President 2020 / 2021

We are delighted to share our Impact Report for the 2020-21 academic year with you. The past year has been one full of unique challenges and opportunities. Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we've had great success in providing accessible services, supporting student groups, and providing a student voice for all students at the University of Worcester.

Throughout the year, the SU team worked relentlessly to provide students with as many face-to-face opportunities as possible. We started the year with an incredible outdoor Welcome Weekend where sports clubs, societies and Networks were able to meet new students, and welcome them to the TeamWorc community. A special thanks must go to the University, and the one and only Steve Boffy, for all their support and guidance in bringing this event together.

Our Vice President Education, Harry, worked tirelessly throughout the year, taking the lead on a wide range of academic campaigns. This included a successful national campaign, alongside several other SUs, to make essay mills illegal. Harry also hosted a number of Repstival sessions throughout the year, secured an academic safety net policy for students, and ran a successful employability campaign.



Tish, our Vice President Student Activities, took lockdown in her stride and provided some amazing opportunities for students. She hosted online challenges with Battle of the Sports and Battle of the Societies, created care packages for student parents, and launched the new SU volunteering programme TeamWorc Action. Tish also helped bring the Varsity trophy back home to Worcester for the first time in many years. Both Tish and I worked together to support the University Safer Streets bid, which resulted in the University being awarded a grant to ensure that students and the wider community feel as safe as possible in Worcester.

This year also saw the implementation of the SU Governance Review. This included launching 10 new representative Networks and the introduction of our Welfare and Inclusion Council. We also worked hard to ensure engagement from across the student body, resulting in our most diverse Student Council ever. We also worked collectively to ensure internal practice at the SU worked towards becoming more inclusive, establishing an Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion working group.

We hosted a number of great events across the year including Varsity and the Varsity Fanzone and Celebration Week events, including the inaugural TeamWorc Awards. All these events were put on in challenging times and we are incredibly proud of the positive experience afforded to so many Worcester students throughout the year.

The Students' Union is the people within it and without them we wouldn't be able to provide for and support students in the way we do. I'd like to take a moment to say a special thanks to all of the SU staff for working incredibly hard to provide for students this year (including innumerable risk assessments) and to make our officer priorities a reality. A big thanks to Sophie W, Rob, Tim, Matt, Clement, Alannah, Samina, Bev, Jenko, Kate, Jack, Sophie S, Juwairiyah, Dan, Abbie, Tatenda, and all of our amazing student staff. I'd also like to thank all of our amazing student volunteers who have worked incredibly hard to help make the student experience at Worcester the best it can be.

I'd like to say thank you to Harry and Tish for working so hard to engage and represent students in a positive, constructive and progressive way. I wish Liam, Neve, and Rag all the best for their time in office.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to our students - without your help and support we would not be able to do what we do for students. I hope you enjoy the Impact Report for Worcester Students' Union 2020 - 2021.

Wishing you the very best,

Meg
#TeamWorc



70%

Satisfaction in Course Experience Survey

3,141

volunteering hours recorded

Reached the **top ten** out of all SUs in the NSS.



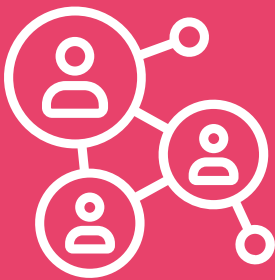
68%

Satisfaction in the Big Worc Survey

£32,455

raised through RAG

Our Year



10

Student - led Networks launched



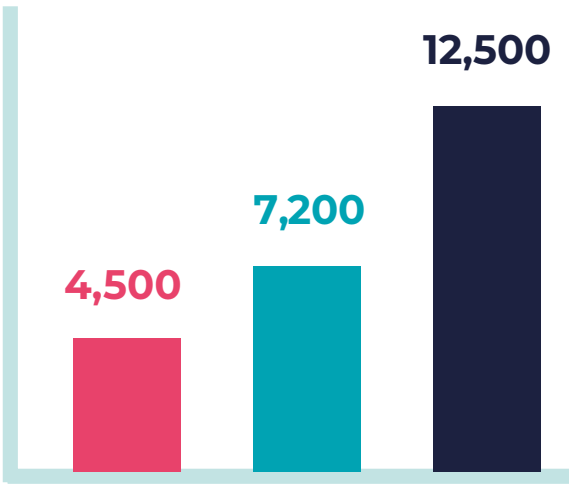
39

Sport Clubs supported



49

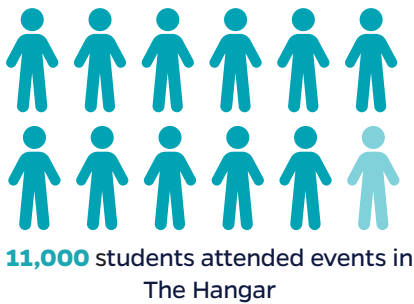
Societies supported



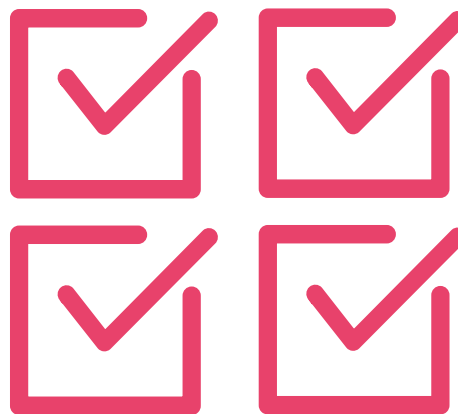
12,500 followers on **Facebook**
 7,200 followers on **Twitter**
 4,500 followers on **Instagram**



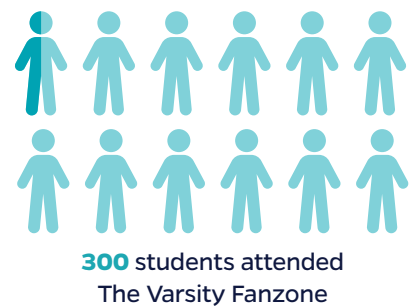
In Review



4186 total votes in the leadership elections



1482 individual voters in the leadership elections



OUR VISION



Representing and supporting students to develop & achieve.

How We Lived Our Values in 2020 - 21

Professional

- Achieved 70% satisfaction in the University's Course Experience Survey
- Ranked in the top ten Students' Unions in the National Student Survey
- Achieved 68% satisfaction rating in the annual Big Worc Survey
- Achieved 'Excellent' Green Impact accreditation
- Had 6421 enquiries through our Welcome Desk
- Achieved Gold Best Bar None accreditation

Accountable

- Achieved quoracy in our virtual All Student Meeting, with 70 students attending
- Academic representatives dedicated 347 hours to their roles
- Had 809 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
- Launched student-led Networks to connect underrepresented areas of the student population

Positive

- Hosted the Varsity Fanzone for students unable to attend fixtures in person
- Had the highest ever number of nominations in the Student Choice Awards with 963
- Held in-person awards ceremonies for the Students' Choice Awards and TeamWorc Awards
- Built on our PositiveWorc online community, introduced in 2019-20, to support students during lockdown
- Organised a range of activities and campaigns around mental health
- Introduced a pen pal scheme to keep students connected during lockdown
- Gave reward and recognition to core and student staff for excellent work.

Inspirational

- Raised over £32,000 for charity through Raise and Give
- Created an internal Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion working group and developed an EDI policy for the SU
- TeamWorc UNITED initiative shortlisted for the BUCS Diversity and Inclusion Award
- Helped 68 students volunteer 3,141 hours of their time
- Continued the 'TeamWorc Points' scheme so student groups could achieve Gold, Silver, and Bronze accreditation and recognition for efforts for their members and the wider community
- Launched several campaigns to support students during lockdown, including Ask the SU, Officer Chat Service, and Don't Drop Out Drop In
- Encouraged students to engage in local and national democracy and campaigns

Student-Centred

- Dealt with 397 student cases and 735 contacts in our Advice Centre
- Had strong engagement in our virtual Leadership Elections, with 4186 votes cast by 1482 individual voters
- Trained hundreds of students in their various roles (e.g. Reps, committee members and volunteers)
- Introduced Repstival to boost the skills of our academic representatives
- Helped students create 4 new societies and supported 49 societies and 39 sports clubs over the year
- Continued to promote student safety through campaigns like How Are You Getting Home and Safe Sex Express
- Sent out 176 care packages to students with young children during lockdown

Entertaining

- Had over 11,000 students attend events in The Hangar, a similar number to non-Covid affected years
- Held Welcome Weekend at City Campus, alongside evening events in The Hangar and Hangar Marquee at City Campus
- Hosted virtual events during Welcome Week, including bingo, quizzes, and Netflix watch parties
- Opened The Hangar Marquee opposite the SU to provide students with a safe and welcoming environment to socialise in
- Increased student engagement across all social media platforms
- Hosted our first ever Club and Society Showcase to introduce students to #TeamWorc

CORE GOAL ONE



Increase the number of students who know about and use our services.

Reaching out to our Students

We aim to have as many Worcester students as possible involved with what we do at the Students' Union. Throughout the year, we've created relevant and compelling content for all of our campaigns and events, reaching out to students across a range of platforms including social media, digital channels, physical media, and face-to-face promotion.

Students are at the heart of everything we do, including all of our communications. Our content is created with students in mind, we listen to their feedback and ensure we're speaking to them about the things they want to hear in the way they want to hear them.

Social media

Our social media platforms have grown throughout the year, with strong engagement and interaction from students, and with more and more users following us across Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

FACEBOOK

WSU

8,650



THE HANGAR

1,200



#TeamWorc

2,800



TWITTER

WSU

7,200



INSTAGRAM

WSU

3,200



THE HANGAR

1,300



Going Viral

This year, some of our social media content went viral, at times reaching more than ten times our usual audience numbers.

In November, we produced a video featuring members of Men's Cricket and Men's Rugby discussing their mental health and the barriers faced by men in relation to positive mental health. The video reached over 19,000 people on Facebook and received positive feedback from everyone who saw it.

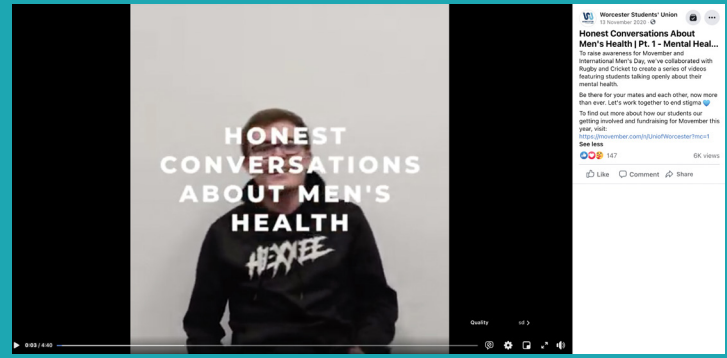
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the class of 2020 were unable to have their graduation in person during November. We still honoured their massive achievement, and our 'congratulations' post on Instagram received five times the average number of likes of our other Instagram content.

Our announcement of the final score of Varsity was one of our most viewed and liked posts on Facebook throughout the year. The post reached ten times more people than average and almost 1,000 engagements made it one of our most popular posts ever. #RatherBeASauce

Online Communications

The ongoing pandemic has highlighted how important our social media and online platforms are for reaching out to students. This year, we continued to provide information, support, and entertainment to students virtually to keep them updated and engaged throughout multiple lockdowns and ongoing restrictions.

- We sent out regular all student emails to keep everyone up to date on our response to the ever-changing situation and let students know how to get in touch and access SU services.
- Our regular Officer Vlogs allowed our Officer team to speak directly to students and keep them up to date on everything going on at the SU.
- We re-launched our PositiveWorc Facebook Community to provide a positive, fun, and engaging online space for all members of the TeamWorc community.



<https://www.facebook.com/123704497652103/videos/3858149517552276>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CHFmuQkpZZ5/>

<https://www.facebook.com/worscu/photos/a.174636169225602/4176136452408867/>

Design Work

Our three Graphic Design Assistants are current students at the University, and they produce all of our artwork and designs. They work hard all year round to produce distinctive and vibrant design work, and to ensure that it connects with our students. Our marketing and communications wouldn't be able to thrive without them and their ability to create such fantastic content.

DON'T RENT YET

HOUSING ADVICE FROM YOUR STUDENTS' UNION

This year it's more important than ever to wait until the New Year to start your house hunt. Don't rush into anything and seek advice when you need it.

#DontRentYet
worcsu.com/housing

FREE CONDOM DELIVERY

The Students' Union offers a FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL condom delivery service.

For free condoms, text your address to: 07336699275.

3 condoms per text, latex free condoms available.

#SAFE SEX EXPRESS

BECOME A COURSE REP

Recruitment now open!

- Share your academic experience
- Create positive change
- Lead the way
- Build your volunteer hours
- Be the voice of the Union for your course
- Improve your CV

Speak to your Course Leader about becoming a Course Rep, or visit www.worcsu.com/yourvoice/eps

Cocktail MENU

THE HANGAR

COCKTAILS

POINSTAR MARTINI £3.20 The perfect party mix. Made with house-made Poinstar gin, fresh lemon juice, and a splash of elderflower liqueur.	SEX ON THE BEACH £4.50 A classic beachside drink. Made with rum, peach schnapps, orange juice, and strawberries.
MUFTO - COLLINS £4.50 A refreshing and healthy drink. Made with fresh cucumber, lime juice, and mint leaves.	PIÑA COLADA £4.50 A tropical favorite. Made with rum, coconut cream, and pineapple juice.
LEMON & LIME DAQUIRI £4.50 A zesty and tangy drink. Made with rum, fresh lemon and lime juice, and simple syrup.	CAPTAIN JACK £4.50 A nautical-themed drink. Made with rum, orange juice, and a splash of cola.
LONG ISLAND ICED TEA £4.50 A classic and refreshing drink. Made with vodka, rum, gin, tequila, and blue curaçao.	SLIGHTLY OLD FASHIONED £4.50 A sophisticated drink. Made with whiskey, lemon juice, and a dash of bitters.
SOUP £4.50 A warm and comforting drink. Made with rum, orange juice, and a splash of hot sauce.	THE PRICE IS RIGHT £4.50 A classic party drink. Made with rum, orange juice, and a splash of cola.
THE WOOD TOWN £4.50 A smooth and creamy drink. Made with rum, vanilla ice cream, and chocolate sauce.	HEADING DOWN SOUTH £4.50 A refreshing and healthy drink. Made with rum, lime juice, and a splash of cola.
PINK PANTHER £4.50 A vibrant and fruity drink. Made with rum, pink guava liqueur, and orange juice.	RAINBOW FISH £4.50 A colorful and refreshing drink. Made with rum, orange juice, and a splash of cola.
DARK KNIGHT £4.50 A bold and mysterious drink. Made with rum, blackberry liqueur, and orange juice.	

ASK THE SU!

Ask us anything! No topics off limits!

Get in touch with us on social media @worcsu

REPRESENTATION

MENTAL HEALTH

SEXUAL HEALTH

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

WORCESTER STUDENTS' UNION

The Big Green Move Out

Make your move home more eco-friendly!

1. **Donate** leftover non-perishable food items to the foodbank drop point at the SU!
2. **Sell and swap** unwanted items on the Hazari Worcester Facebook group.
3. Be mindful about your **recycling**.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In association with Simers Cheerleading and the RAG Committee

We're working from home right now,

but we're still here to support and represent you.

Follow us on social media for the latest news and updates @worcsu

Get in touch via studentunion@worcsu.ac.uk or t.me/worcsu

WORCESTER STUDENTS' UNION

www.worcsu.com

CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY

#POSITIVEWORC

Virtual Events, fundraisers, volunteering opportunities, SU updates and more!

Join our online community of University of Worcester students!

facebook.com/groups/positiveworc

WE'RE HIRING

A lot goes on at your Students' Union... Be a part of it.

We're recruiting for a student to join our student staff team as the:

Student Film and Photography Assistant

Applications close 13th August
Apply here: www.worcsu.com/workwithus

WORCESTER STUDENTS' UNION

The Big Worc Survey

The Big Worc Survey returned for a fourth year, receiving a total of 809 responses from Worcester students. The survey gauged overall awareness, satisfaction, and engagement with SU-led events and campaigns, along with asking students about the SU’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Some of the key findings from this year’s survey were:

- Almost 60% of respondents had used an SU service at some point during their time at University.
- Over 75% of respondents believed that the SU represents them and gives them a voice within the University.
- Almost 80% of respondents had used the Academic Representation system in some capacity.
- 25% of respondents had used the Help & Advice service during their time at University.
- Almost 50% of respondents had attended an event in The Hangar.
- 68% were either satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience of the Students’ Union.

Covid-19 has had a measurable impact on the overall student experience and this has been reflected in some of the results of the survey, with over 70% of respondents stating that the pandemic and subsequent restrictions influenced whether or not they were involved with the SU.

There were also some decreases in positive feedback when compared to 2020, with results more in line with those seen in 2018 and 2019. However, there was little or no increase in overtly negative responses, with more respondents selecting neutral options in their answers

We have analysed the results from the Big Worc Survey, and will work throughout 2021-22 on areas where awareness, engagement, and satisfaction can be improved.

Do you agree that the SU represents you and gives students a voice?



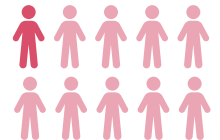
Strongly Agree – 29%
 Agree – 47%
 Neither Agree or Disagree – 20%
 Disagree – 3.5%
 Strongly Disagree – 0.5%



1 in 4 are part of a Sports Club



1 in 3 are part of a Society



1 in 10 are part of a Network



4 out of 5 took part in Welcome Week



1 out of 5 took part in Go Green Week



1 out of 5 took part in Varsity

Do you agree the SU offered appropriate support during the Covid-19 pandemic?



Strongly Agree – 18%
 Agree – 40%
 Neither Agree or Disagree – 33%
 Disagree – 8%
 Strongly Disagree – 1%

What is your overall satisfaction with the Students’ Union?



Very Satisfied – 23%
 Satisfied – 45%
 Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied – 30%
 Dissatisfied – 1.5%
 Very Dissatisfied – 0.5%

CES and NSS

Students not yet in their final year completed the Course Experience Survey (CES) and the results for the Students' Union were mostly positive. Overall satisfaction with the SU was 70%, and while this is a decrease of 9% from 2020, it is still very encouraging considering the circumstances of the past year.

Our CES scores for academic representation were very positive. 83% of respondents were aware of who their academic reps were and 73% felt their reps effectively represented their interests.

Our academic scores for Q26 of the NSS were even more positive, with 65% of respondents stating the SU effectively represents students' academic interests. This is a small increase from 2020 and puts us 10% above the top quartile in the country for this question.

This led to us being mentioned in The Times in August 2021 as being in the top 10 SU's in the country for this question, ahead of all Russell Group universities. We also went up to 7th (out of 130) and 1st in the Midlands in rankings compiled by Students' Unions that take out small and specialist providers who do not have a Students' Union.



CORE GOAL TWO



Facilitate Wider Student Involvement in Decisions That Affect Our Members.

Leadership Elections

Our Leadership Election took place in March and saw the return of our ‘Don’t Duck Out of Democracy’ campaign.

This year’s election was held virtually, with all campaigning and voting taking place online. Our Student Engagement team worked hard to ensure candidates received full support and guidance on how to campaign virtually, and we saw some great campaigns and creative online content throughout the election.

With no physical polling stations on campus, it was more vital than ever for us to engage students in the elections virtually. We held a successful online Candidate Question Time, produced Meet the Candidates videos for every candidate, provided extra resources to be shown in lectures, and ran a prize draw for everyone voting in the election.

There were eight candidates for the three Full Time Officer roles; one candidate for President, four candidates for VP Education, and three candidates for VP Student Activities. A total of 4186 votes were cast by 1482 individual voters, resulting in the election of:

- SU President – Liam Lees**
- Vice President Education – Ragnar Mularczyk**
- Vice President Student Activities – Neve Ricketts**

Student Council

Student Council consists of Full Time Officers and representatives from across Networks, clubs, societies, and the Academic Representation system. This year, we filled 24 out of 26 positions on Student Council. A number of motions were passed during 2020-21, mandating the SU to:

- Campaign for greater menu diversity in University-run outlets.
- Lobby the University for multifaith rooms across campus
- Lobby the university to relaunch the Night Bus, which was discontinued in 2018-19

The Officer team and SU will now work to implement these motions over the next three years.

NIGHT BUS
The bus for everyone

For full details visit www.worcsu.com/safeandsecure

31N NIGHT BUS ROUTE

Just £1 single fare
Pay with contactless card, Apple Pay, Android Pay, or card. Or pay in advance on the First Bus app.

- Between the City Centre and St. John's Campus
- Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays
- Every half hour between 22:00-03:00

First University of Worcester



Academic Representation

Our Course Reps and School Reps act as a key link between University of Worcester students and staff, ensuring the educational experience is the best it can possibly be. It was a very challenging year for our Course Reps and School Reps, but they did a fantastic job to represent their fellow students and ensure the student voice was heard across the University.

Over the year, Reps dedicated 347 volunteering hours, attending various forums, Repstival sessions, and attending all the meetings crucial to their role. They have also inputted on University plans around graduate attributes, ways to improve retention, and the benchmarking and development of the Academic Representation system as a whole. School Reps also took the lead on a number of crucial projects, including the development of a handover process for their role, surveying students on key topics such as course costs, and providing input into the review of Course Management Committees.

Covid-19 had a significant impact on learning and teaching across the University, as well as impacting on Reps and how they perform their roles. We made sure to keep 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. Where necessary, Reps were able to conduct their role virtually and used online platforms and communications to effectively represent students throughout the year.



Repstival

We hosted Repstival sessions throughout the year, providing students involved in the Academic Representation system the opportunity to come together to network, develop their skills, and increase their understanding of their role as Reps.

Sessions were delivered by experts and staff members at the University of Worcester, with over 150 Reps attending during the year. A whole range of topics were covered, including tips for managing student feedback, effectively representing inclusivity, networking, managing student expectations, and cultural awareness.

It was fantastic to see so many of our Course and School Reps engaging with Repstival, and the positive impact it had on them and the students they represent.

All Student Meeting

This year's All Student Meeting (our AGM) was held at the beginning of February and was, once again, held online. In total, 70 students were in attendance, meaning the meeting was quorate. Alongside an update on our key achievements for the 2019-20 academic year, as well as our priorities for the upcoming year, the meeting gave students the opportunity to ask their Full Time Officers any questions they had. Questions were raised around student welfare, assessments and academic quality during lockdown, support for students studying remotely, and the Safety Net policy worked on by the Officers.

Despite lockdown and the ongoing pressures for students, it was great to see such strong engagement with one of the key democratic processes of the SU.



BetterByU

Alongside sabbatical officers from around the UK, our Vice President Education, Harry, co-founded the national Academic Integrity Collective (AIC). Harry took the lead on their BetterByU campaign, which promoted awareness of academic integrity, highlighted the dangers of essay mills, and emphasised the importance of supporting students who find themselves in difficult situations.

Members of the AIC, including Harry, attended a meeting with Chris Skidmore MP and the Universities Minister, Michelle Donelan, to lobby for legislative change against essay mills. A Five-Minute Bill subsequently went to Parliament, proposing the prohibition of advertising and operating essay mills which has now been passed into legislation.

Don't Drop Out

In October, we encouraged Worcester students to fill out the 'Don't Drop Out' survey run by Wonkhe, which explored the issue of retention and non-continuation of studies. The survey looked at reasons for non-continuation, which students were most at risk, and what actions could be taken to ensure retention. Participation in the survey was a great opportunity for us to understand how our members were feeling during the pandemic and give us a better understanding of how to support them going forward.

Although the results for Worcester students were more positive than the national average, a number of recommendations were proposed to help improve the student experience. These included development of communication channels to students, providing more opportunities for students to meet and socialise, and celebrating the strong sense of community at Worcester.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion.



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

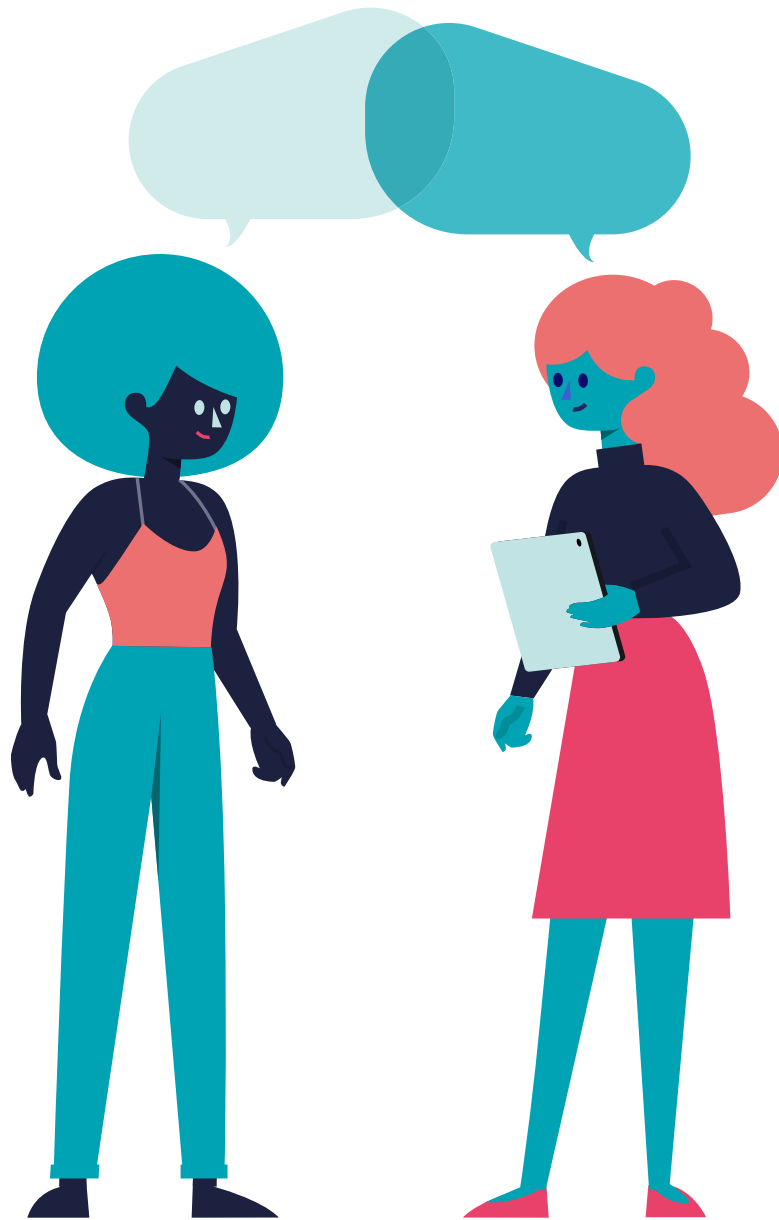
Following the death of George Floyd and the rise to prominence of the Black Lives Matter movement, we began the process of critical self-reflection, and strongly advocated for the University to do the same.

We established an internal Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion working group, chaired by the President, with representation from across the organisation. The group aims to ensure the SU more effectively addresses inequalities faced by various groups within society, reflect on its own practices, ensures change through effective action planning, and addresses any and all barriers to student engagement and success. The group developed an EDI policy for the SU, in consultation with the Welfare and Inclusion Council, which was approved by the Trustee Board and can be found on our website

The working group will now assess all of the operations of the SU in turn to review our practices and make appropriate improvements. The first area addressed was how we communicate with students and stakeholders. New practices for accessible communications will be adopted ahead of the 2021-22 academic year, with all staff trained in how to ensure their communications are fully accessible.

Our President, Meg, and our Chief Executive also worked with the University's Pro Vice Chancellor (Students) and Director of Access and Inclusion, to produce a paper on Race Equity for the University Executive Board. The paper outlined the actions we felt were necessary to become an anti-racist institution. As a result, a new group has been formed to consider these actions and how they can be taken forward.

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. The past year was especially difficult for many of our students and their wellbeing was, and continues to be, our number one priority.

Safe Sex Express

We continued to run the Safe Sex Express service, offering free and confidential condom delivery to Worcester students. Social media engagement with the service was positive and in total, condoms were posted to 16 students throughout the year. We also provided up to date information and advice from local NHS services on safe sexual practices during the pandemic.

How Are You Getting Home

Our How Are You Getting Home? (HAYGH) campaign ran throughout the year, encouraging students to look out for one another on nights out and advising them of what to do if they find themselves in uncomfortable situations. The campaign was supported by our partners at Tramps Nightclub and Cathedral Cars, and was, once again, one of our most successful and well received campaigns throughout the year.

How are you getting home?

Stay with friends and let them know if you have to leave without them. Try and remember to text them when you arrive **home safely**.

Pre-book a **Cathedral Cars** taxi whenever you can.

Download **'Callmy'**, the University's official **security app**.

WORCESTER STUDENTS UNION | University of Worcester | Cathedral Cars | TRAMPS





Ask the SU

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were unable to go out and about for Campus Chat sessions this year. Instead, we introduced our Ask the SU campaign, encouraging students to ask us questions about any and all aspects of their University life. In total, 26 students submitted a question, with topics ranging from the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on the University, to accommodation concerns, to the student safety net.

Call Out Service

With restrictions on socialising in place throughout the year, including two lockdowns, we wanted to ensure that none of our students felt isolated or alone. We implemented a call out service, with anyone requesting a call being contacted by our Officer team to have a chat about anything and everything. Six students took us up on the offer, one of whom was thinking about withdrawing from University and was directed to appropriate sources of support.

Don't Drop Out Drop in

Covid-19 had a big impact on university drop-out rates and retention across the whole country. We wanted to ensure Worcester students were fully supported and aware of all the options available to them before they considered dropping out of university. In the second semester, we launched Don't Drop Out Drop In, providing virtual drop-in sessions with our Academic and Welfare Advisor, Kate, every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. A total of 10 students booked onto the sessions, a quick way to ask about issues related to the pandemic, including mitigating circumstances, course delivery, accommodation contracts, and rent rebates.

Don't Rent Yet

Our Don't Rent Yet campaign returned for another year. The campaign ran throughout November and December, and encouraged students not to rush into any commitments for accommodation and make sure they know their rights as tenants.

As we were unable to hold our usual Housing Fair during Refreshers Week, we teamed up with the Accommodation team at the University to give students all the information around housing that they needed digitally. We fully updated and expanded the Housing section on the SU website and helped the University promote the StudentPad website, giving students access to a range of accredited properties and landlords.

We also created a Student Homes Charter, outlining all the rights and responsibilities of both tenants and landlords. All landlords signing up to StudentPad were required to agree to the Charter and this initiative will hopefully be a massive benefit to students next academic year.



www.worcsu.com

Virtual Refreshers

This year, we were unable to host our traditional in-person Refreshers events of the Housing Fair, Refreshers Fair, and evening events in The Hangar. As an alternative, SU social media highlighted all of the ways the SU supports and represents students, and how students can get involved with everything we have to offer. We published daily videos from the Officer team, along with lots of other content, with each day of the week centred around a different theme:

- Monday - **Housing**
- Tuesday - **Your Voice**
- Wednesday - **Clubs and Socs**
- Thursday - **Volunteering and Fundraising**
- Friday - **Wellbeing**

Whilst we would have much preferred to see our students in person, our virtual Refreshers content received positive feedback and engagement across social media. Throughout the week our reach and impressions were well above average, and we increased our levels of engagement by more than a third.



Keeping In Touch

In the second semester, our VPSA, Tish, sent out 176 care packages to students with young children, who were grappling with studying online and looking after their families. Included in the packages were activity packs, colouring books and pencils, candles and bath bombs, and some healthy snacks.

The packages were a welcome surprise for those receiving them and we received lots of great feedback for all the hard work put in by Tish. We would also like to thank Aldi for their contributions to the care packages.

“This has brought so much joy and happiness in a surprise package”

During the third national lockdown, Tish also introduced a pen pal scheme to keep our students connected with one another. The aim of the scheme was to help tackle loneliness and isolation, and introduce some of the social interaction that had been lost during lockdown. In total, 47 students signed up to the scheme and were paired up with one another, sharing letters and keeping in touch.



Networks

This year we launched our Student Networks. Our Networks are student-led groups who exist to connect underrepresented areas of the student population, build communities, enhance diversity on campus, highlight current issues, and empower like-minded students to act collectively to bring about change and make a difference.

BAME Network

Commuter Students’ Network

Disabled Students’ Network

International Students’ Network

LGBTQ+ Network

Mature, Parents, and Carers Network

Postgraduate Students’ Network

Sustainability Network

Widening Participation Network

Women’s Network

Despite the limitations of the pandemic, our ten Networks have worked hard throughout the year to establish themselves, build their communities, and run some great campaigns and events. as well as propose a range of policy motions at Student Council’. We will continue to support the growth and development of our Networks over the coming academic year.



Help And Advice

It was a record year for the Help and Advice service, with more referrals and cases than ever before, and a 23% increase on 2019-20 case numbers. Our usually quiet periods of June and July saw some of our highest numbers and June equalled our busiest month ever recorded.

Due to Covid-19, face-to-face appointments were no longer possible, and the service moved to phone and MS Teams appointments. These were successful and allowed us to easily attend University meetings with students.

Over the course of the year we dealt with:

- 735 contacts from students
- Dealt with 397 student cases from 355 students
- 23% overall increase in cases compared to the previous year
- 108 cases were referrals from University staff
- 83% of cases were for academic issues compared to 75% the previous year
- 13% of cases were for accommodation issues
- Students using the service were 70% female and 30% male
- 16% of cases came from postgraduate students
- 35% of all cases came from referrals from University staff
- 13 cases were students at partner institutions
- 70% of students using the service identified as female and 30% as male
- 16% of clients were postgraduate students compared to 8% the previous year.

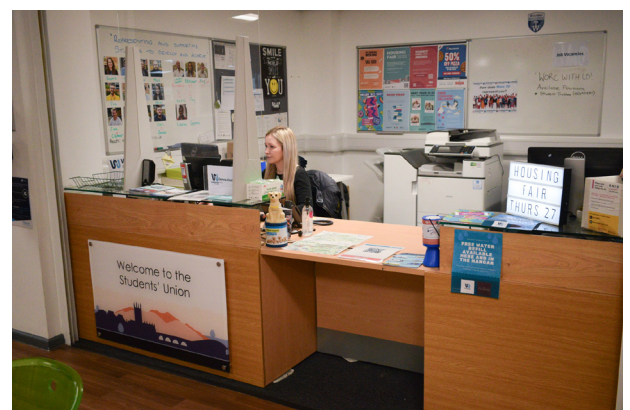
Over the year, students gave direct feedback about the service, with one saying "I cannot thank you enough for your level of support and professionalism throughout this". It was also pleasing that in the virtual world we were living through, month-on-month increases were seen in website views, following on from increases seen in 2019-20.

As a result of the significant increase in the number of cases, the need to provide extra resource in this area of the Union's operations was agreed as a priority for the 2021-22 academic year.

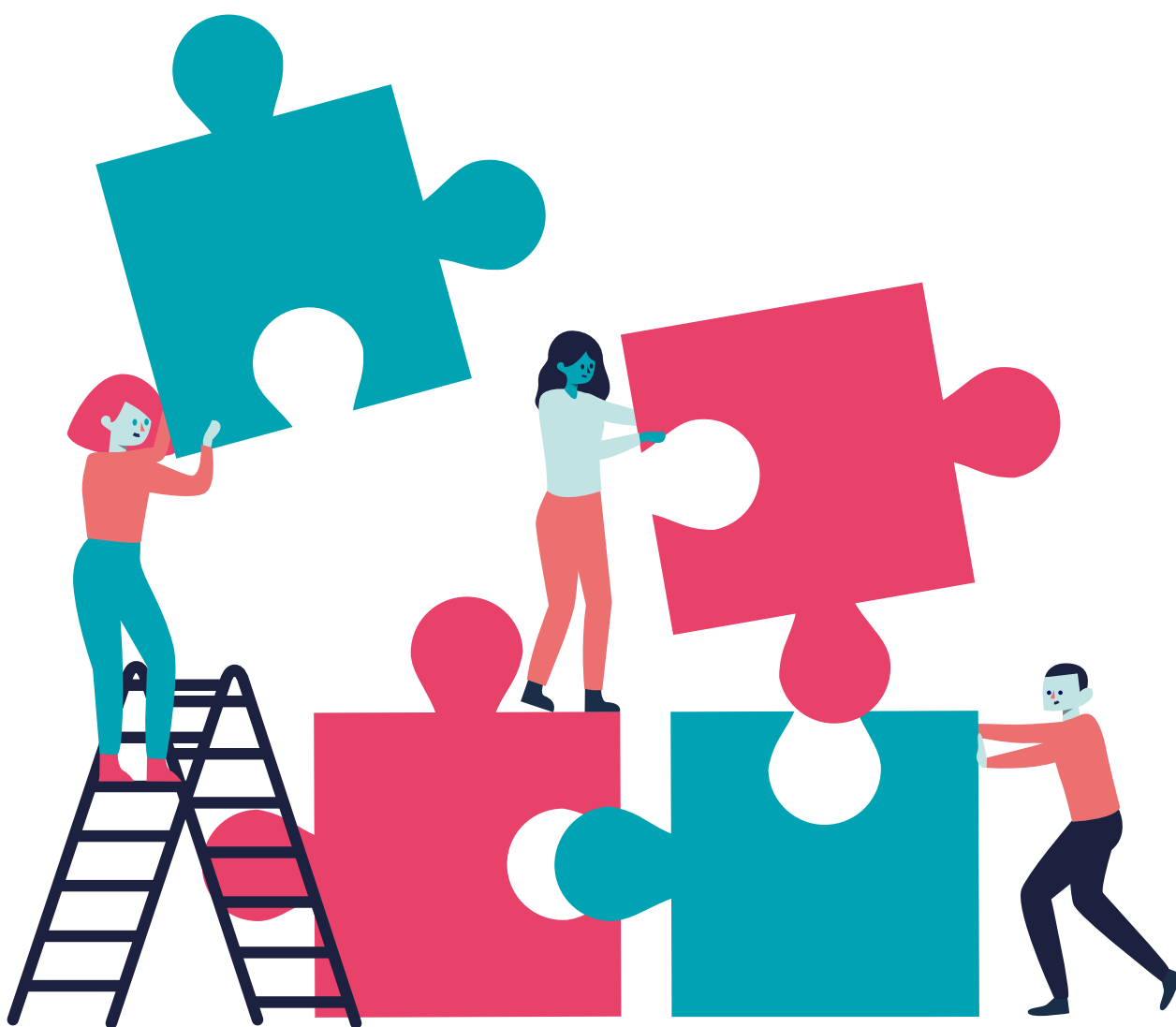
Welcome Desk

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.

- A total of 676 email enquiries were received throughout the year
- General enquiries made up 55% of all those received
- Help and Advice enquiries made up 25% of all enquiries
- Enquiries relating to Sports and Societies accounted for 11% of enquiries received
- 5% of all enquiries came from staff at the University



CORE GOAL FOUR



Create and Promote Opportunities for Students to Develop Transferable Skills

Societies

This year we had a total of 717 society memberships from 621 students. This was a reduction of one third when compared to the previous year, highlighting the impact of Covid-19 on the overall student experience, 'as SUs have seen across the country.

A total of 49 societies were supported throughout the year, though this was unfortunately reduced to 38 by the end of the year, as groups struggled to maintain activities and membership numbers.

Four new societies were formed during the year in; **Neurodivergent Society, Criminology, Nursing** and **Associates Society**, and **the Arts Collective**.

During September, most of our societies hosted 'Give it a Go' sessions, inviting non-members to take part in their activities and sessions. There were also some fantastic society events held throughout the year, including the now annual Geek Week, hosted by Marvel & DC, Anime & Manga, and Gaming. The UniBoob team also held a series of events to raise awareness for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, including Boobie Bingo and a 24-hour Bounceathon.

Raise And Give (RAG)

Smile for Joel, a charity supporting families affected by terrorism and murder, was voted for by our students as our nominated charity of the year. Over the course of the year, Worcester students raised **£32,455** for good causes, an increase of **£9,000** from the previous year. This is a fantastic achievement and testament to the efforts of our students to continue fundraising throughout lockdown and Covid-19 restrictions.

Some of our RAG highlights for 2020-21 include:

- Supporting a large number of student-led fundraising events, including quizzes, bingo, and keep-fit challenges
- Clubs and societies hosting online fundraisers during lockdown in support of local charities and the NHS
- Students raising funds for over 25 different charities throughout the year, including Smile For Joel, CoppaFeel!, Children in Need, and Movember

TeamWorc ACTION

This year, we rebranded our volunteering offer as **TeamWorc ACTION**, bringing it in-line with other areas of our TeamWorc community.

Throughout the year, 68 students recorded 3,141 volunteering hours, dedicating their time and efforts to a number of worthwhile causes both locally and across the UK. Just over 1,000 of these hours were logged for community work with organisations including local foodbanks, Scouts, Samaritans, and many more. The remaining hours were logged for a variety of Club, Society, Network, and Academic Representation commitments.



Employability Week

In May, we teamed up with the University of Worcester Careers and Employability Service to deliver a range of webinars, resources, and tools to help our students get ahead in the job market after graduation.

Throughout the week there were workshops on CV building, how to develop your personal brand, navigating LinkedIn, and preparing for job interviews. Talk Twenties podcast host Gaby Mendes also hosted a session on navigating life after graduation, providing lots of practical tips on how students can make the most of life after education.

And the highlight of the week was our very own Chief Exec, Sophie Williams, joining VPE, Harry, to share some of her top tips for succeeding in the world of work.

Sustainability

We firmly support sustainability and pro-environment initiatives at the SU, and our President, Meg, and Sustainability Network led the way in helping us achieve our green aims.

Fancy winning £500?

Complete the NUS Sustainability Skills Survey and you could be the lucky recipient of £500
bit.ly/skillsurvey2020



Scan me!



WORCESTER UNIVERSITY **nus** national union of students University of Worcester

Green Impact

Throughout the year we worked to maintain and improve upon our achievements in the NUS Green Impact Award, embedding as many sustainable practices as possible into everything we do as an organisation. We also achieved the third highest response rate nationally for the SOS Sustainability Skills Survey, with 574 respondents. As a result, we were achieved an 'Excellent' Green Impact rating, improving on the 'Very Good' rating we received in the previous year.

Go Green Week

Go Green Week took place in February 2021, with the SU team and Sustainability Network teaming up with the University's Sustainability team to bring students some fantastic online events. Students took part in various talks, debates, and sessions, including carbon literacy training, tips on reducing food waste, health and wellness workshops, and seed-bomb making.

Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure all people enjoy peace and prosperity by the year 2030. As a signatory of the SDG Accord, the SU continued to embed the goals and principles of the SDGs into our campaigns and events. We also supported the Sustainability Network in the delivery of workshops during the UN SDG Teach In.



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.

As a large number of student staff were placed on furlough throughout the year, with only our Graphic Design Assistants working regular hours, we didn't run our usual Student Staff of the Month award. Instead, staff were asked to nominate student staff for our Student Staff of the Year award, with the following staff receiving nominations:

Kaz Batko – Bar Assistant

Kieran Haynes – Bar Assistant

Mia Radinovic – Bar Assistant

Filip Nozdrovicky – Graphic Design Assistant

Florentina Manole – Graphic Design Assistant

Jordanna Jose – Graphic Design Assistant

Laura Guest – Welcome Desk Assistant

At the TeamWorc Awards in May, we presented our 'Student Staff of the Year' Award. This year the award went to one of our extremely hard-working and talented Graphic Design Assistants, Filip Nozdrovicky, who produced some fantastic design work for key SU campaigns and events throughout the year.

We ran our annual student staff survey to find out what we're doing well and how we can improve the experiences of all our student staff members.

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

www.worcsu.com

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."

The Union also continues to support students through the job application process, with bespoke online guides on how to complete application forms, as well as a 'Guide to Interviews and the World of Work'. We also make a point of providing feedback following all unsuccessful applications and interviews, detailing further sources of guidance.



CORE GOAL FIVE



Help Students to be Safe and Enjoy University Life

BUCS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing restrictions, BUCS weren't able to facilitate leagues for our teams to take part in for most of the year.

The BUCS Cricket League was the exception and began in late April. Men's Cricket entered two teams, who both competed in Midlands Tier 2, and Women's Cricket entered one team, competing in Midlands Tier 1. Unfortunately, a long period of poor weather during May resulted in lots of cancelled and abandoned games, leading to an inconclusive end to the season.

TeamWorc Points

TeamWorc Points returned after a successful first year, rewarding the clubs and societies that went the extra mile to give their members and the wider TeamWorc community the best experience possible. Clubs and societies were eligible to receive TeamWorc Points through different criteria, including volunteering, fundraising, and online engagement.

At the end of the year, clubs and societies with enough points were awarded Bronze, Silver, or Gold level. In total, eleven received Bronze, two received Silver, and five



Cheerleading, Dance, Loco Show Co, Social Sports, UniBoob



Equestrian, Finnish Society



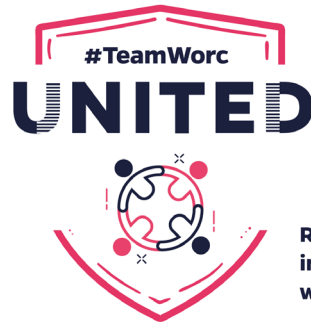
African and Caribbean Society, Anime and Manga, Arts Collective, Biomedical Science, Disney Pixar, Education Enhancement, Marvel & DC, Men's Cricket, Men's Rugby, Women's Football, Women's Hockey

TeamWorc United

TeamWorc UNITED was introduced this year to recognise the clubs and societies that have developed their practices to ensure an inclusive community that anyone and everyone can be a part of.

Cheerleading, Dance, and UniBoob all achieved TeamWorc UNITED status thanks to their dedication to providing diverse and inclusive communities. This was achieved through collaboration with other student groups, creating new policies to encourage participation from under-represented groups, running inclusive and accessible events, and running allyship workshops.

We are delighted to say that TeamWorc UNITED received national recognition, as it was shortlisted for the Diversity and Inclusion Award at the BUCS Awards 2021. The award celebrates institutions that have run successful campaigns to highlight and promote inclusion and accessibility in sport.



Recognising inclusive practices within clubs and societies.



The #TeamWorc UNITED award recognises those clubs & societies who develop their inclusive practices to ensure more students feel welcome.
www.worcsu.com/sports_activities



Varsity

After the disappointment of cancelling Varsity last year, we were absolutely delighted to be able to compete again in 2021 and rekindle our rivalry with the University of Gloucestershire.

Eleven teams took part in what was a highly competitive, hard fought, and good-natured contest, with some fantastic performances from the players and teams in #TeamWorc. Some of the many highlights included Netball winning their game with a point in the last ten seconds, a match winning hat-trick from Emma Collins in Women's Football, and Men's Rugby securing their first win in five years.

The overall score was 5-5 going into Men's Cricket, the last fixture, and an outstanding performance from the team saw them secure the win, bringing the Varsity trophy back home to Worcester.

Varsity Fanzone

With help from University Estates and Facilities, IT Services, and staff at the University Arena, we were able to host a Varsity Fanzone, giving students the opportunity to watch all the fixtures in a safe and socially distanced environment.

The Arena was fitted out with two huge screens, a sound system, and pop-up Hangar bar, and an audience of around 300 students were able to enjoy all the action from the competition.





The Hangar

It was a difficult year for The Hangar, with Covid-19 restrictions and two lockdowns having a major impact on our ability to keep operating throughout much of the year.

We started off the year with The Hangar bar and a pop-up Hangar marquee on City Campus welcoming all of our new and returning students during Welcome Week. After six months of being closed, it was great to see our students back and enjoying themselves again.

We were able to stay open, with lots of Covid safety measure in place, for the beginning of the academic year. We introduced a new cocktail menu, a wider choice of products on the bar, and brought back our weekly Quiz Night. Unfortunately, lockdowns meant The Hangar was closed from the beginning of November until mid-April, and we really missed seeing our students and giving them a great time.

From April onwards, we opened The Hangar marquee opposite the Students' Union and started to welcome everyone back post-lockdown. It was great to soak up the sun (when it showed itself) and get back to some kind of normal. A big thank you should go to the University for providing the marquee and helping us get back up and running.

The Hangar was the first venue of choice for many students this year, as we offered a welcoming and Covid-secure environment, where students could feel safe. Over 11,000 students attended The Hangar throughout the year, 1,000 more than in 2019-20. Despite missing out on almost six months of trade, this is a similar number of students to non-Covid affected years.

THE HANGAR





Welcome Events

In September, we were incredibly fortunate to be able to welcome new students to the University with some fantastic in-person events and activities.

Welcome Weekend At City Campus

We kicked off our welcome programme with a huge Welcome Weekend event at City Campus. Working alongside the University and Boffy Arts and Events, we transformed the campus with market stalls, marquees, and food stalls. Over two days, over 3,000 new and returning students attended, meeting all of our club and society committees, enjoying some live music, and relaxing in our pop-up Hangar marquee.

The weekend was a huge success and an incredible way for us to kick-off the academic year. Planning is already underway for an even bigger and better Welcome Weekend for 2021.

The Hangar

Throughout Welcome Week, The Hangar opened at two locations – The Hangar bar and our pop-up Hangar marquee on City Campus. Students were able to enjoy a drink and get to know their new housemates, in a welcoming, socially distanced, and Covid-safe environment.

The Hangar also hosted some great events throughout the week, including a mini-golf fundraiser, quiz night and a slightly chaotic bingo night, hosted by the Officer team.



Club and Society Showcase

Our VPSA, Tish, organised a Club and Society Showcase, featuring a mixture of virtual and in-person events, to highlight some of the great activities students can get involved with during their time at Worcester. The student groups involved included Volleyball, Equestrian, Dance, Cheerleading, Futsal, African Caribbean Society, and the Psychology Society, putting on 'have a go' sessions, demonstrations, and virtual presentations and videos.

Over 100 students attended sessions throughout the day, and the Showcase was a fantastic way to introduce them to #TeamWorc, and show what a positive, welcoming, and inclusive community we have at Worcester.

Network Day

On the Thursday of Welcome Week, we dedicated an entire day to our newly formed Student Networks, with our Network Day in Union Square. The day gave all our students the opportunity to meet each Network Committee, discover more about the Networks and their plans for the year ahead, and find out how they could get involved. Committee members also took over SU Instagram for the day, posting photos and videos of everything going on.

Virtual Events

The ongoing Covid-19 restrictions meant that many students were unable to come onto campus and get involved with our Welcome Week activities. To make sure they still had the best possible welcome to Worcester, we hosted several virtual events to introduce students to the SU and give them a chance to get to know one another.

Throughout September we hosted online bingo, quiz nights, Officer Q&A sessions, Netflix watch parties, and a virtual Karaoke. Whilst the number of attendees was not as high as we might have hoped, it was still important for us to host these events and ensure everyone living and studying remotely had the full support of the SU and Officer team.



WORCESTER STUDENTS' UNION

WELCOME WEEK 2020

SAT 12.09.20
WELCOME WEEKEND
@City Campus
10:00-16:00
Sports Clubs & Societies Fair
Food stalls & free pizza
Pop up bars (open until late)

SUN 13.09.20
MINI-GOLF
@City Campus
18:00 - late
£1 entry

MON 14.09.20
QUIZ
@The Hangar
21:00-late
£1 entry
Prizes up for grabs

TUE 15.09.20
CLUB & SOCIETY SHOWCASE
@Union Square/online
10:00-16:00
Get to know some of our clubs and societies a bit better.

WED 16.09.20
STUDENT NETWORKS LAUNCH
@St John's Campus
10:00-16:00
Find out more about the SU's brand new student representative networks.

THUR 17.09.20
VINTAGE CLOTHING SALE
@City Campus
10:00-16:00

FRI 18.09.20
MINI-GOLF
@The Hangar
18:00 - late
£1 entry

VIRTUAL EVENTS

We'll also be running a programme of online events throughout September, including bingo, quizzes, Netflix watch parties and more!

WORCESTER STUDENTS' UNION HANGAR

www.worcsu.com/welcomeweek

@WORCSU

Celebration Week

We were absolutely delighted to be able to hold in-person ceremonies for Celebration Week. After a year of online learning and events it was fantastic to be able to see University staff and students, and celebrate everything they'd achieved throughout the year.

Students' Choice Awards

The Students' Choice Awards gave students the opportunity to nominate the University of Worcester academic and support staff that had a positive impact on them during their time at Worcester. After such a difficult year for everyone at Worcester, it was great to see our students show University staff how appreciated all their hard work and effort was. We received over 950 nominations from students across the University, our highest ever total. A huge congratulations to all those who were nominated and for all your hard work throughout the year.

Students' Choice Awards Winners

Excellence in Doctoral Supervision - Prof. Ian Maddock
- School of Science & the Environment

Excellence in Online Teaching - Daniel Whittaker -
School of Education

Exceptional Personal Academic Tutor - Michelle Clarke
- School of Humanities

Extra Mile Award (non-teaching and support staff)
- James Atkins - Technician - School of Science & the Environment

Module Excellence Award - Group Dynamics in Sport
- Dr. Andrea Faull-Brown - School of Sport & Exercise Science

Outstanding Lecturer Award - Dawn Goodall - School of Allied Health & Community

SERCC of the Year - John Dutton - School of Science and the Environment

Sustainability Award - Lucy Robson - Student - Chair of the Sustainability Network

Deputy Vice Chancellor Award for Excellence in Teaching - Dawn Goodall - School of Allied Health & Community



TeamWorc Awards

Our TeamWorc Awards combined many of the awards from our traditional Union Awards and Colours Ball, as well as some brand-new awards recognising the great work done by students during the pandemic. It was so incredible for us to celebrate our amazing clubs, societies, Networks, volunteers, fundraisers, and representatives, and such a pleasure to do it in person at such an enjoyable (and at times unruly) occasion.

TeamWorc Awards Winners

Charity Fundraiser of the Year Award - Movember (Men's Cricket, Men's Rugby, Men's Football)

Course Rep of the Year Award - Amy Mellin (FdA Integrative Counselling) - Jane Furey (FdA Integrative Counselling)

School Rep of the Year Award - Lisa-Marie Vaughan (Three Counties School of Nursing and Midwifery)

Network Campaigner of the Year Award - Eve Baker-Sullivan (LGBTQ+ Students' Network)

Network Committee Member of the Year Award - Lucy Robson (Sustainability Network)

Network Virtual Engagement of the Year Award - Endometriosis Campaign (Women's Network)

Network of the Year Award - LGBTQ+ Students' Network

New Society of the Year Award - Arts Collective

Society Committee Member of the Year Award - Rachel Holland (Uni Boob Team)

Society of the Year Award - Uni Boob Team

Special Achievement Award - Jordan Ingamells (Dance)

Sports Club Committee Member of the Year Award - Lucy Bradley (Cheerleading)

Sports Club of the Year Award - Social Sports

Virtual Event of the Year Award - Galentine's Day (Women's Network)

Volunteer of the Year Award - Isobel Lines

WSU Special Recognition Award - Bartek Kusmierz



Funding and Income

Following discussions with the University regarding our plans for 2020-21, the university increased our block grant to £540k for the year. With limited commercial opportunities, the block grant is a vital part of the funding which allows the SU to continually improve upon the experience it offers to students and increase our engagement with the ever diversifying student body.

The trading restrictions enforced upon us during 2020-21 due to the pandemic also affected our commercial sponsors. With nightclubs unable to open, and much reduced student numbers on campus, our partners Tramps, Cathedral Cars, and RedBus Media were unable to fulfil their contracts for the year. The SU was sympathetic to the predicament of these organisations and we will renew discussions with them for 2021-22. Commercial losses due to the shortfall in commercial contracts totalled £56k.

Despite a 6-month closure during lockdown, and moving to an outdoor venue with limited capacity, takings for The Hangar were very positive. Overall bar takings were only slightly below our entire takings for the 2016-17 academic year, demonstrating how well we might have performed if lockdown and restrictions hadn't been in place for much of the year. Celebration Week and the Varsity Fanzone were not just great events for students, but helped contribute to the success of The Hangar. Our biggest shortfall of the year was from cancelled external booking including several weddings and parties, resulting in lost revenue from venue hire.



Totum

The promotion of TOTUM continued to be a challenge, with sales continuing the decline seen in previous years. A total of 400 cards were sold during the year, a 62% decrease compared to 2019-20. Revenue generated from sales was £1.3k, with most of these sales attributed to University staff and mature students.

Affiliations:

NUS	BUCS	Advice UK
£13.3k	£6.8k	£0.3k



The Year Ahead

Ensuring we provide students with the best possible experience during their time at university is at the core of everything we do. We have had a successful but challenging year and there are still many challenges ahead. During the 2021-22 academic year, we aim to:

Continue To improve mental health support and awareness for all students at the University.

Work with the University to develop the processes for reporting discrimination and harassment.

Support our student-led Networks, and help their committees increase memberships and deliver effective campaigns.

Work with the University to develop a consistent framework for recording face-to-face lectures.

Launch WorcStar and celebrate students and their achievements as widely as possible.

Work alongside the University in establishing a pilot recreational sports league, with a view to future development of widespread rec sports.

Continue campaigning on issues such as consent and healthy relationships.

Lobby the University to develop a more inclusive curriculum and adopt more inclusive and accessible academic practices.

Play a leading role in supporting students returning to the University, or arriving for the first time, following lockdown.

To increase awareness amongst staff at the University of what the Students' Union does to support and represent students.

Utilise the Academic Representation system to gather feedback on timetabling issues.

Develop a programme of Life Skills sessions for students.

Work with the University to continue to improve sports facilities at the University.



A message from Liam Lees, Students' Union President

With this year being a unique one, adaptation has been key. The Students' Union has had to evolve with the uncertainty of the country and world, with student voice being at the forefront of these changes. The Union focused on supporting the student body with accessibility, access to education, and keeping up morale even in the most difficult of times. This was successful thanks to the hard work of the incredible SU team!

Meg, Harry, and Tish worked tirelessly throughout 2020/21 to ensure that students received the best representation possible. Meg and Harry were essential in the process of creating the Student Safety Net, put in place to ensure that the difficult and unavoidable circumstances created by Covid-19 did not affect the grades of those who were struggling the most, and I could not be more thankful and proud of their success. It is important to reflect on some of the amazing Officer wins from this year.

Meg was an integral part of creating the 10 student-led Networks. She was supportive, encouraging, and an inspiration to the committees. She created training sessions and always encouraged them to use their voice to better the student experience for all. Meg worked hard to enhance inclusion by supporting an amazing Black History Month and renaming a building after the incredible Mary Seacole.

Harry created a community for Reps, he made the roles exciting and ensured that every Rep knew that their voice is important. The Repstival sessions that he held were so well attended by students because they were led by his enthusiasm for educating and supporting them. Harry was passionate about the abolishment of essay mills. His brilliant work to ensure that no student fell victim to these schemes, saw him play a key role in the national campaign, Better By You. A Bill has now been passed making these essay mills illegal thanks to the efforts of Harry and other Sabbs across the country.

Tish did not let the pandemic stop her from building the amazing TeamWorc community. She created a virtual Battle of the Sports and Societies, where Club and Societies went head-to-head to complete challenges and create social media content that entertained the student body and kept spirits high. Tish's kindness spearheaded a Care Package campaign, with packages delivered to the parents and carers who were struggling with their studies the most.

This year, I am looking forward to ensuring that student welfare is at the forefront of everything that we deliver, working with the Networks to make sure that the University and the Union evolve inclusive practice, and delivering events and opportunities to help students build the skills to create a brighter future for themselves and others.

Rag aims to develop the Rep system, creating connections with the students and ensuring that the student voice is always heard. He seeks to improve accessibility at the University by campaigning for better lecture recording, promoting the benefits for all students but particularly those who need it most.

Neve wants to build upon our lovely TeamWorc community by further bonding Clubs and Societies through initiatives such as WorcStar, which celebrates student achievement and highlights those who go above and beyond for others. She is also passionate about students gaining life skills during their time at university, creating a more confident and well-rounded Worcester graduate.

Although what this year will look like is uncertain, we are all excited to create a safe and positive experience for all students, creating life-long memories for all.

Liam Lees (Worcester Students' Union President)



Full-Time Officer Trustees

President – Meg Price

Vice President Education – Harry South

Vice President Student Activities – Tish Manning

External and Student Trustees

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to 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 – Drew Humphrey, Isobel Lines, Deborah Andrews

External Trustees – Margaret Jolley, Melanie Brittain, Rebekah Williams

Impact Report designed by Filip Nozdrovicky.

Photos courtesy of Alannah Williams and Filip Nozdrovicky.



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