

Title of Proposal: Access to CitySport for the Students' Union

Background

1. City University London opened its Gym and Sports centre in February last year for student's staff and the wider community.
2. CULSU have a number of societies that require access to CitySport, particularly the studios.
3. Currently CULSU societies are charged the same rate as the general public.
4. Societies use teaching classrooms or external venues for their activities.
5. Societies get their funding from student membership.
6. The costs of CitySport are as follows:
Netball court = £40 per hour, badminton court = £10 per hour, dance Studio = £20/23 per hour, sports Hall = £60 per hour

Principles

1. Students who engage with societies want to feel part of TeamCity and students should students should feel welcomed at CitySport. "University activities have significant benefits in developing confidence and a sense of belonging to the university, which impacts positively on outcomes and perhaps more intangibly on social networks, providing more useful opportunities for future attainment and progression" (p5)
2. Society membership usually under £5 a member therefore paying for CitySport is very difficult for societies.
3. Student societies can be flexible and use the studios at off peak times when the studios are unlikely to be used.

4. Involvement in clubs whilst at university positively impacts your student life, be it sporting achievements or the social benefits that come with it. Stuart et al (2007) note that Alumni highlighted they “provided real opportunities to develop themselves and enhance their career prospects. In particular they highlighted the role of contacts and friendships ... provided. The social capital gained was of central importance to their accounts of university progression and subsequent employment”

5. Student Activities are also important for employability. Employers in the survey informing the NUS Scotland report highlighted co-curricular activities as developing transferable skills, confidence, team working, extend general knowledge, soft skills, project focus, communication and are ‘indicative of a motivated person’. One employer stated: “It is during these activities graduates will learn the real skills needed to be successful in today’s workplace: Creative thinking, teamwork, decision making and interpersonal skills”

Idea/Proposal

1. CULSU will campaign to get a discounted rate at CitySport for all societies.

2. Collect data on comparable institutions hire costs to CitySport and publicise to students and to the University.

3. Campaign to ensure City students, student groups and societies get priority access to CitySport over those external to the University.

Bibliography

Ellie Brodie, Tim Hughes, Veronique Jochum, Nick Ockenden, Diane Warburton (2011), Pathways Through Participation: What Creates and Sustains Active Citizenship?
 Mary Stuart, Catherine Lido, Jessica Morgan and Steve May (2008), “Student Diversity, Extra Curricular Activities and Perceptions of Graduate Outcomes”, Higher Education Academy
 National Union of Students Scotland & Scottish Higher Education Employability Forum (), Co-Curricular Activity and Graduate Employability: Scottish Employers’ Perspectives.