**Full Time Officer Report**

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**Meeting:** Annual General Meeting

**Date:**  09/11/2015

**Action:**  To approve

This AGM report is aimed at summarising the achievements marked so far in this term of office which is to last from 1st July 2015 until 31st June 2016. It will first state what has been successfully completed or are near completion, followed by ongoing projects that will be completed by the end of this one year term, with the final section comprising of projects in which the foundations will have been placed in order for the VPAD of 2016/2017 to carry forward.

Justification as to why each project has been carried out will be provided and any problems encountered or foreseeable issues that may arise in the future will be stated with recommendations on how to avoid these (For future VPAD’s will be provided if possible).

To begin, the completed points from the current manifesto of actions that were to be achieved/campaigned for will be referenced and discussed below (In no particular order):

1. ***Designated sports club nights (Every few weeks at a club and the City Bar) – This will include fancy dress and other themes.***

Actions taken:

* Re-established a weekly Sports that occurs every Wednesday of term time (7pm-11pm with a live DJ from 8-11pm). Formed in a partnership between City Sport, The Students’ Union and Sodexo
* Each sports team at City has the chance to host their own version of Sports Night with help from The Students’ Union, Sodexo and City Sport
* Special Sports Night themes occur periodically

Details:

* Partnership comprises of:
  + Sodexo hiring a live DJ every Wednesday night for the Sports Night (Booked for three hours of play time plus one hour of setup and shut down time)
  + City Sport informs Sodexo of the Team of the Week (The team who is selected by City Sport as the highest achieving/most outstanding team out of all of the teams who competed that week), with Sodexo then charged with providing the Team of the Week with a special ‘TOTW Punch’ that only members of the Team of the Week can purchase
  + City Sport has provided a trophy for the Team of the Week punch to be served out of, and have agreed to pay for a large roller banner with the Sports Night logo on it to advertise the Sports Night
  + The Students’ Union facilitates the Sports Night takeovers by liaising with the relevant members of the sports team who are organising the takeover night and the relevant people from Sodexo (The contractors of City Bar) in order to ensure that the sports night takeover goes according to plan (SU helps organise special drinks/food requests and the schedule of the night is to the sports team’s specifications)
  + The Students’ Union handles promotion of the event on a weekly basis and the Vice President of Activities and Development is there to ensure that the night goes smoothly and according to plan
  + The Students’ Union is also tasked with the poster design, poster redesign (After feedback inquiries), and attaching the Sports Night takeover banner to the top of the Sports Night takeover poster designed by each team

Further actions to be taken:

* After party possibilities are being considered to compensate for City Bar closing at 11pm - Red Card and Tropical are current possibilities (Both hosted by our external partners – Wicked Student Nights
* Consultation of more sports teams is required to determine if an after party is wanted, and is only feasible once other Wicked Student Night events that the Students’ Union is promoting have been successfully promoted and have a good following
* If Varsity is re-established by the end of the year, then a Varsity party will be held on a designated Sports Night with an after party
* Late licences (TEN licences) may be applied for to use in an end of year Sports Night to end the Sports Night Wednesdays on a high note

1. ***More exclusive events for City University students during Freshers week and integrated events with other London universities.***

Actions taken:

* Several exclusive events that were new to Freshers week were present this year including both ticketed and free events.
* A partnership/contract with a student events company called Wicked Student Nights (WSN) has been established between WSN and CULSU. This consists of multiple WSN events being promoted on the SU website and City University students being one of the universities who have access to these events
* Occasional daytime events are held on campus to offer more activities for students (For example, a follow up showing of Back to the Future occurred)

Details:

* The new events in Freshers week that started up this year included:
  + Blackout (A UV neon party with a live DJ, face paint, glow sticks, fire/flame decorations, and live UV staff spinners) *[Ticketed]*
  + The bar crawl – (A tour of some of the bars that the areas around the university have to offer which ended in the club XOYO at one of the Wicked Student Night events – SNEAK) Included free bar crawl t-shirts, marker pens, free fries at one of the bars, and free entry to XOYO. *[Ticketed]*
  + The Playoffs (A sports themed party with red cups, bar games and a live DJ) *[Free event]*
  + Welcome to the Jungle (A jungle themed party with a live DJ, jungle props etc.) *[Free Event]*
  + Back to the Future movie showing (Movie showing with free popcorn) *[Free event]*
  + Bubble Football (Set in City Sport, was a charity fund raising event) *[Ticketed]*
  + Freshers Festival (A chance for new and current students to enjoy some fun activities such as the climbing wall hired by the SU etc. Fund raising element was present for Amnesty International UK charity

*All of these events were new and were exclusively for City University Students but did allow City Students to bring one guest per student with them if they wished*

* The WSN events are student nights (Exclusively for students) and are aimed at ensuring the safety of students while providing them with a good time
* The WSN nights are in collaboration with other London universities Students’ Unions including Kings College London, Westminster University, University of the Arts London, and University College London which offers students at City more opportunities to meet students from other London universities
* Competitive entry prices (£3 entry for tickets bought online) with venues all within 20-30 minutes from the main university campus (Venues are fairly close by)
* Currently two nights are promoted on the SU website, SNEAK Tuesdays and Magic Thursdays

Further actions to be taken:

* Look into hosting more daytime activities for students
* Add promotion of a Wednesday WSN event as an after party to Wednesday night Sports Nights at City Bar

1. ***Further integrate societies at City through inter-society competitions/sports events.***

Actions taken:

* Interfaith week 2015 will mark the first of these sports matches between different societies (Consisting of mixed teams of both male and female members playing a chosen sport) with another inter-society sports event to be held in RAG week (Pending successful outcome from Interfaith week sports tournament

Details:

* Use Interfaith week as a test run to see if societies are willing to participate in sports matches played by teams formed from members of each society
* Brings people from multiple societies together, is good exercise, allows people to open dialogues post-match about faith and also allows people from multiple courses to meet each other

Further actions to be taken:

* Hold more sports tournaments for society teams over the year pending the completion and analysis of participation figures from the Interfaith week sports tournament

1. ***Campaign for a discounted gym membership for sports team members.***

Actions taken:

* Discount is now available for members of sports teams who now pay £15/month for a City Sport gym membership, whereas normal student membership price is £22.50/month
* Discount is applied once a sports card is purchased (£35) which is required to represent the university in competitive sports, and is available in three month blocks of £45

Details:

* Three month blocks are used to ensure membership for each term of university is covered for gym access
* Encourages students to participate in sports and try new sports
* Allows for those on sports teams who want an affordable gym membership with access to extra free classes an opportunity to sign up and become fitter and stronger

Further actions to be taken:

* Foundations have been set for a price drop for all student’s membership to City Sport gym, however, it is unfeasible to attempt to get this reduced price for all students as City Sport have just opened recently and won’t offer that discount to students for at least a few years or possibly not for the foreseeable future
* Following this, a few years down the line is the best time to approach the subject of all students getting a reduced membership price

Next, it is necessary to state the projects that will be completed by the end of this year. First, the manifesto of actions included:

1. ***Set up charity week events between multiple societies at City where they compete to raise money for charity.***

Actions to take:

* Approach societies about partaking in RAG/Charity week in February and see if they wish to collaborate in events together including
  + Social events
  + Sporting events
  + RAG collections
  + RAG challenges

Details:

* Societies could potentially raise more money through collaboration events than alone
* Allows members of societies to meet members from different societies
* Helps to creates more of a community feeling at City
* Wining society who raises the most money could get a prize

1. ***Further integrate the Students’ Union media outlets with society events.***

Actions to take:

* None until SU media outlet editors have been recruited
* Once editors have been recruited, involve media teams in society events and use both the media teams platform and society platform for mutually beneficial advertising to gain more exposure for media outlet and more exposure for the society so new members can join.
* Once the media outlets reforming process has taken place, this point can begin to be achieved
* Currently it isn’t possible to achieve as editors for the media outlets are still being recruited (Finish recruiting editors)
* This point will only be partially/slightly achieved due to the late start of the SU media outlet teams

Next, explaining about projects that were present on the manifesto of actions is required but will be strived to be completed or will be carried forward for the next VP Activities and Development to finish. These are as follows:

1. ***Campaign to re-establish varsity sports events against a rival London university at the end of the year over a period of a week.***

Actions taken:

* Discussions have been had with City Sport about varsity have been had which have evoked a negative response due to previous experiences and feasibility (In terms of monetary constraints and time constraints)
* Conversations have been had with the Vice Chancellor and Head of Research and Internationalisation at the university to explain why varsity is wanted and how it creates more of a community feel for university

Further actions to be taken:

* Discuss with City Sport a small scale varsity involving only specific BUCS sports which takes place using the City Sport gym hall for home events and the rival universities facilities for away events to allow for a cost effective and time effective varsity
* Begin upscaling the size of varsity to include more sports each year that varsity occurs
* Find a sponsor or funding for varsity
* Find a rival London university (Of equal or academic stature) interested in varsity

Next, explaining about projects that were ***NOT*** present on the manifesto of actions is required but will be strived to be completed or will be carried forward for the next VP Activities and Development to finish. These are as follows:

1. ***Reducing the price of the studio space used by societies at City Sport gym complex.***

Actions taken:

* Discussions have been had with the relevant people (The Vice Chancellor and Head of Research and Internationalisation) about this issue and the fact that the current price that societies are paying is far too expensive

Details:

* Current cost of booking studio space for rehearsals at City Sport gym complex is £23/hour, and as two hour blocks are usually used by societies, this amounts to £46 per session
* This is far too expensive for our Dance Society, Bhangra Society, and for any other society under CULSU (E.g. Tamil Society) to cope with and is unsustainable
* This rehearsal space is core to the success and student participation in society events and training for competitions where these societies represent the university

Further actions to be taken:

* Have a meeting with City Sport to reduce prices
* Rally students for support in the form of a petition or something else that is equally compelling calling for the prices to be reduced
* Involve the university and university staff to help facilitate this

**Attendance at key meetings/events of note:**

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| **Meeting/Event** | **Date** | **Purpose and anything to report on** |
| City Bar Staff Meetings | Ongoing | Help to straighten out any incidents that have occurred and to organise society and sports clubs events and other ongoing weekly events |
| TEDX Conference Hosting Meeting | 22/09/2015 | To facilitate and discuss how to go about hosting another TEDX conference at City |
| Student Media Advocates Group Meeting | 02/10/2015 | Discuss SU media and new website, and also discuss better methods for the university to use to engage more students on social media |
| London University Sports League (LUSL) Meeting | 11/09/2015 | To discuss the upcoming events and opportunities for the London region of sports |
| Wicked Student Nights Meetings | Ongoing | To establish a contract and partnership with Wicked Student Nights for events for the year |
| Interfaith Forum Meeting | Ongoing | To discuss Interfaith activities on campus and possible facilities and events for faith societies/groups on campus |
| Student Society/Student Sports Clubs Meetings | Ongoing | To discuss student ideas for events that occur on campus and off campus |
| Friday Prayer Working Group | Ongoing | To discuss and Facilitate Friday Prayer on Campus |
| Senate Meetings | Ongoing | To discuss the larger issues affecting the whole university and each school including student experience and ways to improve the university both academically and socially |