

The Council

Thursday 6 November 2014
8:15pm

Title	Report: Women's Officer
Author	Linda Paul
Purpose	For consideration and approval. Linda will present her report and questions may be taken if time permits. The report is formally accepted by a simple majority vote.
URC	14110610f

During the Month of August our first newsletter was released, along with our blogsite www.bbk>womens.wordpress.com . I met with Antonia Bright regarding the Birkbeck women's campaign and movement for justice planning an event relating to FGM in October. I met with the communications officer on a number of occasions to plan the year ahead and the freshers fair.

The committee positions were also advertised on the Blog site and via the newsletter email.

I was closely supporting two students who were experiencing difficulty in their personal life that was adversely affecting their decision and ability to return back to study.

I made telephone calls to Family action and London Borough of Camden. I also spent time researching charities that financially support postgraduate students.

I attended all meetings within the month of August and did some foodbank initiative groundwork research.

September

I continued to work closely with the two students in last months report. I met with these students and drafted plans for each student for the academic year.

I attended the meeting with the executive team to university square stratford. Researched sustainable funding for the Foodbank initiative. Made contact with potential distribution sites in and around Bloomsbury that would maintain students anonymity.

Brainstormed filmed to screening for the women's campaign throughout the year.(films relating to campaigns such as fgm and Zero tolerance).

Met with the communications officer to prepare for freshers fair and report back regarding foodbank research -also to go over social network statistics.

Also set dates for Ladies day out, Chai and a Chin wag, the book club, and the joint event with movement for justice.

Represented the SU at the Stratford campus induction.

Spoke at the international students welcome meeting.

Attended the freshers fair. Unfortunately missed the first hour of footfall due to the women's campaign material not being prioritised for printing, even though submitted before deadline. This was a real setback and inconvenience. Luc helped the women's campaign with initial sign ups before i arrived with the material. We had a really good list of sign ups, and i met many students who were optimistic about being a part of the women's campaign.

During the month of October, i had a series of problems with room bookings. Rooms i had booked well in advance had become unavailable. I was offered rooms that did not cater to the numbers we were expecting (this is reflected in the initial bookings requested)

I also assisted a no. Of international students with looking for accommodation; a no.of students were homeless for the first few weeks at the start of term.

The problem with room bookings affected the women's campaign being able to host a welcome meeting, as there was no room to cater for numbers expected. The women's campaign will not use bar facilities for meetings or socials.

Another challenge the women's campaign faces at the moment, is being able to host our monthly social 'chai and a chin wag' which is our social and fundraiser for the women's campaign foodbank initiative. We are now having to look for public venues

item 10f

to host our monthly social.

I am planning a meeting to meet with Stratford students in November.

All events in the month of October that have not taken place will be moved to November.