

Interactive lecture styles & ability to choose how to work**In favour****Against**

Education students expected to teach creatively but little evidence of this from some University tutors.

John Sharp, the Academic Sabbatical is aware that the University is already exploring more interactive and engaging methods of delivery. He will investigate further on progress and press the University for further action. An update will be provided before the next Panel meeting.

Mental health awareness campaign**In favour****Against**

Mental Health issues have to be caught early and students encouraged to speak openly about how they feel.

We need to do more to challenge the negative images that are linked with mental health issues

UCSU, through Chris Atkins, the Welfare and Support Sabbatical, will liaise with the University to explore what information and support is available to students at the moment and how this is advertised. Also being considered is better publicity of these services when students join University.

Smoking bins**In favour****Against**

No smoking bins around some halls or campuses and very few on other sites.

It is in the University's best interest to have smoking bins to keep the areas clean and avoid fire hazards in standard bins.

UCSU, through Aden Fry, the Community & Partnerships Sabbatical, will liaise with the University to encourage the purchase of smoking bins for each halls and campus.

Cash machine & card payments on site.**In favour**

London & Ambleside have no cash machines on site at all.

Fusehill St. students have only one cash machine which is also available to the public and is often out of order.

Unable to make card purchases for food at all sites.

Against

Understand the frustration felt by Carlisle & Lancaster students but maybe priority should be given to those students who have no access to cash machines at all, as in London and Ambleside.

There are costs to having card machines on site and card readers in canteens etc. The use of card readers may mean longer queues in cafeterias too.

There is already the ability to load money onto Cumbria cards to pay without cash.

UCSU, through Aden Fry, the Community & Partnerships Sabbatical, will liaise with the University to encourage research into the demand for cash machines at London & Ambleside campuses.

Affordable, professional development courses**In favour**

Some support courses such as CV writing, etc. are not at all offered to London students.

UCSU Strategy work 2014-2018 covers employability.

Against

Costs of courses such as 1st Aid, etc. may be high but this is due to external provision.

UCSU, through Chris Atkins, the Welfare & Support Sabbatical, will liaise with the University to ensure LiSS workshops/development courses are offered to London students. Sabbatical Officers will also provide the panel & wider student body with further information on UCSU Strategy work at the next panel meeting.

Ambleside gym deal**In favour**

Fusehill & Lancaster students have a great gym deal. So should Ambleside.

There is no arrangement in London either although there is a gym on site.

Against

Aden Fry is already in conversations with local gyms in Ambleside.

Aden Fry, the Community & Partnerships Sabbatical, will update the panel will progress on this idea at the following meeting and will look into the use of the gym at the London campus.

Access to microwaves and hot water & prices on campus

In favour

Against

Should be access to hot water for soups etc.
 Seems to be no consistent cost of hot water on campus.
 A water machine that offers both hot & cold water would be ideal for students.

Maintenance cost of microwaves.
 Health & Safety concerns over use and risk assessment which will be regularly required regularly.

UCSU, through Aden Fry, the Community & Partnerships Sabbatical, to suggest to the University they investigate the cost & maintenance of hot & cold water dispenser provision and feed this back to the panel following such conversations.

Ambleside picnic benches

In favour

Against

If this is something Ambleside students would like we should feed it back to the University.

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UCSU, through Aden Fry, the Community & Partnerships Sabbatical, will speak to Megan Paylor, Ambleside Representative to seek further information on the demand for picnic benches & where ideally they would like them located before approaching the University.

Alternative access to Cumbria card

In favour

Against

If a student leaves a card at home, it's acceptable for the University to charge for a new card and/or refuse the ability to check out books.

It's a student's ID so University need to be

	able to see it on request.
The panel agreed that no further action should be taken on this idea.	

Event ideas	
In favour	Against
	<p>If students would like to see certain activities or events they should be encouraged (with support from UCSU) to arrange such events or create societies/student groups.</p> <p>Any feedback on current/previous UCSU events should be sent to Aden Fry.</p>
UCSU should continue to promote the creation of new student groups for activities that students would like to be involved with and /or provide students the support they need in order to create their own events.	

Distance learner activities	
In favour	Against
Distance learners should be encouraged to join events organised by UCSU.	<p>UCSU already provides a variety of events (see above) and, by the nature of their studies, distance Learners often have difficulty attending them.</p> <p>Again, if students would like to see certain activities or events they should be encouraged (with support from UCSU) to arrange such events or create societies/student groups.</p>
UCSU should send specific emails to distance learner students to encourage them to participate in all events & activities, and encourage them to liaise with us further in relation to what they would value/need.	

Welcome Festival in London	
In favour	Against
<p>Currently no Welcome Festival activities/events in London.</p> <p>Aden Fry is already in conversation with</p>	

other London institutions for the possibility of a joint Welcome Festival.

Consider UCSU Groups fair in London over Refreshers period.

UCSU, through Aden Fry, Community & Partnership Sabbatical & John Sharp, Academic Sabbatical will look into the demand for a student group fair in London during Refreshers and Aden will feed back to the panel on progress with Welcome Festival plans during the next meeting.

Sports centre bookings

In favour

Agreed student bookings should take a priority.

Promised/arranged slots and turn up to find facilities are booked by externals. Double bookings happen regularly.

Poor slot times allocated to student groups.

Against

Understand sports halls get paid for by external organisations booking the facilities.

UCSU, through Chris Atkins, Welfare & Support sabbatical will approach University on their policy/procedures for sports centre bookings.

Cleaning facilities on campus

In favour

Understand frustration students sometimes feel waiting to use washing machine & dryers.

Understand cost can seem expensive.

Against

Understand students feel the costs are high for washing machines & dryers, however on comparing prices to providers in town, costs on campus are lower.

Costs comparisons of facilities should be provided in prospectus/University website.

UCSU, through Chris Atkins, Welfare & Support sabbatical to speak to the University to see if such things could be included in the next prospectus.

London locker request

In favour	Against
<p>Students shouldn't need to travel across London with so many heavy books.</p> <p>Lockers would be beneficial so that students who travel could leave their books overnight.</p> <p>Allocation of locker space should be carefully managed to ensure travelling students are allocated a space as a priority.</p>	
<p>UCSU, through Aden Fry, Community & Partnerships sabbatical to speak to the University facilities for London to see if such a space or lockers can be arranged.</p>	

London placement disorganisation	
In favour	Against
<p>Clear issue across other campuses too.</p> <p>20 days' notice period doesn't always happen.</p> <p>Some students have to plan their own placements but there is also poor communication from the placement office regarding keeping students up to date with progress on action.</p>	
<p>UCSU, through John Sharp, Academic sabbatical to speak to the University and investigate instances of last minute placements and discuss what action is being taken before reporting back to the panel at the next meeting.</p>	

Discussion forums	
In favour	Against
<p>Clear demand for forums so that students across campuses & courses can interact.</p> <p>Lecturers should encourage discussion</p>	

forums on blackboard & between students on the same courses in general.

UCSU should promote Facebook groups & pages already in existence to all students.

There Should be a UCSU forum on Blackboard.

UCSU, through John Sharp, Academic sabbatical to speak to the University and investigate the possibility of UCSU discussion forum on Blackboard.

Democratic review

In favour

Elections are popularity contests and do not ensure that the best representatives are elected into office.

Against

UCSU constitution & policy confirms that representatives must be elected by the general membership. This is one of the underpinning principles of a Students' Union and cannot be changed.

UCSU should focus on educating students more on what the positions involve, how create an effective manifesto & the value of voting, in order to encourage elections not to be a popularity contest.

The panel agreed that no further action should be taken on this idea. Feedback on elections should be sent to Katia Riley, Student Voice Facilitator. Any student wishing to give feedback regarding the election can e-mail Katia directly by at katia.riley@cumbria.ac.uk .

Women representation at NUS conference

In favour

Agreed proposal to remove NUS Delegate from Sabbatical Officer job descriptions.

Agreed to open up 2 of the 3 delegate places to elected Panel representatives who identify

Against

as women.

UCSU to ensure 'NUS Delegate' is removed from job roles and that appropriate elected representatives are invited to NUS Conference in their stead.

Better Wi-Fi/Wi-Fi in halls

In favour

Poor quality across all halls & campuses.

This affects the learning experience of students and the ability to complete assignments and be effective in lectures & presentations etc.

Against

The panel acknowledged the work already done by the University & understand that such services come at a high cost.

UCSU, through Chris Atkins, Welfare & Support sabbatical to speak to the University regarding Wi-Fi issues & receive Wi-Fi map.

Lecture free Wednesdays

In favour

Some panel members felt strongly that sports teams need that time off in order to take part in training and events.

Taking part in sport groups encourages a healthy lifestyle and this is beneficial to all students.

Having guaranteed allocated time off could help ensure more students can be involved with sports & societies.

Against

All students should be treated equally but students on placement are unlikely to have access to this free time.

Some panel members felt the curriculum should take priority and that there would be a clear struggle to fit all lectures in on a restricted timetable.

Such activities are to be considered extracurricular and thus should sit outside of normal taught time.

There already is an unwritten tradition but that Wednesday afternoons should be free, though this is not, at present, University policy.

As the panel could not come to an overall agreement, UCSU should conduct research and provide further evidence to the next panel meeting on overall students' opinion for lecture

free or PM free Wednesdays.