

**Summary report on matters raised at the Student Affairs (SAG) and Student Safety Groups (SSG) between April and October 2014 (inclusive, but excluding July August and September when no meetings were held).**

**Safety and security:** Norfolk Constabulary (NC) continue to report the monthly statistics of recorded crimes. In general the crime numbers, including violent incidents, are either down or the same as in the previous year.

A UEA student has been appointed as an independent adviser to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

£13,000 was raised at the bike auction in September but those currently involved are not able continue to run the auction in the future. The group suggested that the UUEAS might wish to take on responsibility for the auction in future; the opportunity to buy cheap bikes is much appreciated by new students.

Last year saw a significant drop in the numbers of students being referred to the Disciplinary Officer (DO). He saw 114 students compared to 273 in 2012/3, 243 in 2011/12 and 222 in 2010/11.

The summer period was very quiet and so it was not deemed necessary to hold any SSG meetings.

### **Students' Union**

The Students' Union building has undergone major work over the summer, with new social and office space being created.

Lucy Scott was appointed as the Head of Advice in May.

There has been a significant increase in the number of student societies supported by the SU. UUEAS won the *What Uni* award for Best Clubs and Societies in May.

The SU voted to support the marking boycott proposed by UCU (April 2014) and has continued to show their support for the action (October 2014).

The Union won a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary special award of £50,000 for its new Student Media Centre.

### **Library**

The one millionth visit to the Library was expected in April, some two months earlier than in previous years.

Library staff have welcomed the changes to exam timetables: there has been a consequent reduction in pressure on space making it easy for staff to maintain a clean and purposeful environment for study.

Work took place over the summer to improve group and postgraduate study space in the Library.

### **First Eastern Busses**

As of 1 June 2014, the annual bus pass can be purchased online or through a new smartphone app. The reduced administration costs have meant that the cost could be frozen at 2012-2013 prices.

### **Student Accommodation and Estates**

Crome Court opened as planned in time for the new students to move in. There have been teething problems, but the accommodation has been well received.

Concerns have been raised about the lack of lighting on the walkway from DOS/Careers to Suffolk Terrace.

### **Arrivals**

Home Arrivals was relocated to Congregation Hall this year; this latter, and the collaboration between LTS, DOS and ARM, resulted in a much improved experience for students.

An enhanced Orientation Programme was organised for the new International students arriving in September. This included an evening reception held at Norwich City football ground at Carrow Road. This event in particular received lots of very positive feedback. International Arrivals also took place in Congregation Hall this year and the change of location worked very well for these students too.

### **International Students**

Over 100 volunteers have been recruited to support a range of peer support and buddy schemes running in 2014/5.

Over 600 visa renewal applications had been sent to the Home Office by the DOS ISAT team by the beginning of October. The hope is that students will be able to get their passports back in time to travel at Christmas.

### **Teaching and Learning**

There has been a change to extenuating circumstances for this year: students can now self-certify for only their first time of absence due to ill health or personal reasons in any academic year.

### **Student Sport**

Over 4,200 students and staff took part in the UEA Ziggurat competition in 2013/4; BIO was the overall winner.

New student sport co-ordinators have been appointed, and a number of paid and volunteer roles have been created for students, including 50 'activator' posts that have now been filled.

**Careers**

A large increase in student usage of the Service was noted in September 2014 compared to the same month in 2013.

A skills award is being developed and will be launched later in the academic year.

**Multifaith Centre**

The Centre has seen significantly increased usage since the start of the academic year; to date, over 34 regular activities per week are now timetabled to take place in the MfC.

**Dean of Students' Office**

The DOS Division has been reorganised and now incorporates the Counselling Service as part of a new Wellbeing Section within the DOS Office.

A significant increase in student demand for DOS provision has been noted since the beginning of the 2014/5 academic year. Weekly visits have ranged between 1,500 and 3,000.

DOS Nov 12 2014