

Dundee University Students' Association (DUSA)
Interim Annual Report

Registered Scottish Charity No. SC016047

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Introduction

Since taking up our positions in July we have been working hard on a range of campaigns, projects and issues. The first thing an Exec team does as part of their role is develop a Manifesto (from which this report is based) The Manifesto is based on the policies on which the Exec team ran in their elections. This allowed us to categorise those policies into 4 main themes which we have highlighted as crucial to meeting our student's needs. These are: 'Community', 'Employability', 'Representation' and 'Welfare'. To execute our Manifesto this year, we developed a collective action plan and criteria for success allowing us to measure our progress.

The Executive have worked very hard pursuing various campaigns, reviewing and optimising systems and overcoming unexpected challenges. We have been facilitating a more student-facing approach to our commercial activities by working on further incorporating the student voice into the planning and execution of our night time activities. This has helped us in continuing the success of DUSA's bars, nightclubs and retail operations. In addition, the refurbishment of the Premier shop has gained us local and national recognition, while creating eco-friendly initiatives such as the DUSA reusable mugs and water bottles (a campaign which was supported by and developed with the SRC) has contributed to the creation of a greener DUSA.

This year has been the first year that the Executive have embraced DUSA's new Business Strategy. There has been a lot of positive work done over the year which is outlined in this document, along with some challenges encountered and areas for development for future years.

Manifesto and Charitable Purposes

Our Manifesto this year was broken down into four main themes: 'Community', 'Employability', 'Representation' and 'Welfare'.

Particular attention was paid to DUSA's Charitable Purposes this year when developing the Manifesto. To ensure that our projects were aligning with the Charitable Purposes of the organisation, we used numerical references to allow us to directly relate these Purposes to each respective area of our action plan.

Further in this passage the action plan for each theme will be reviewed and the Charitable Purposes will be assigned.

DUSA's Charitable Purposes are as follows:

1. The prevention or relief of poverty
2. The advancement of education
3. The advancement of health
4. The advancement of citizenship or community development
5. The advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science
6. The advancement of public participation in sport
7. The provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended
8. The promotion of equality and diversity
9. The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

The Exec achievements are all highlighted in the appendix at the end of this document.

Manifesto Themes and Progress

Community

To maintain a safe and connected student community, empowering relationships that welcome our diverse membership which forms connections for life.

Our student body is a vast and diverse group, with students aged 16-60+ coming from all over the world to study with us. DUSA wants to continue working closer with our wider community through 'Raising and Giving' (RAG) to embrace our students becoming volunteers and fundraising Dundee-wide.

Through our commitment to educate and raise awareness of Zero Tolerance, we would like to uphold a safe environment while recommending and encouraging further implementation of this policy throughout the city.

Action plan

1. Continue our work across the whole student body but further engage with different student demographics, which has been a challenge for DUSA in the past. We have identified a variety of students that with whom we do not engage strongly enough, and with whom we would like to establish a greater rapport. These are:
 - International Students
 - Widening Access Students
 - Ninewells and Kirkcaldy Students
 - Postgraduate Students
 - Distance Learner Students
2. Increase awareness of the policy Zero Tolerance policy to our students and work alongside the local Students' Associations i.e. Abertay Union and Dundee and Angus College to further develop this policy.
3. Create an Executive Video to promote all our pastoral services with the aim to be shown in as many classes as possible.

4. Employ RAG's objectives to work with the wider Dundee community.

How have we done so far?

- Engaged with international students through the Mid-Autumn Festival and Chinese New Year. We hope to do so further with our upcoming Global Week. The Mid-Autumn festival was attended by over 300 students, and the DUSA-led Chinese New Year events were attended by 249 students during the festive period. In addition, the Hindu festival of colours, Holi, was a hugely successful event organised in collaboration with international students, and it gained worldwide media recognition. Exec members have visited both the Ninewells and Kirkcaldy campuses, running engagement events with students and holding feedback sessions. The Exec, led by the VPSW, visited Ninewells 15 times throughout both semesters. The Kirkcaldy campus has been visited 4 times by Exec so far, incorporating live feedback sessions in lectures. The VPSW has visited Ninewells every few weeks, and brought condoms, sanitary products and welfare campaigns to the medical and nursing students based there. This year is the first year we have regularly visited these campuses.
- Postgraduate receptions have been organised for postgraduate students to mingle, socialise and network. We've had 3 postgraduate receptions so far, each of which had an average attendance of between 150-200 students.
- Development of new software has allowed us to engage with our Distance Learning Students. This supported work carried out with the Library supporting our Distance Learners, laying down foundations to incorporate these students more into our community.
- 'Don't be a prick' campaign increased awareness of the Zero Tolerance policy. We also developed the new 'Don't Settle' Policy. Zero Tolerance training was also delivered to society and sports committees, with 204 people in attendance of a session led by our VPSW and VPSA.
- Our VPF developed our RAG constitution and incorporated elections for our partner RAG charity with Exec elections. The JAM Radio Marathon involved a 55-hour constant radio broadcast which included numerous external bodies, which saw each of these groups involved in raising money for our RAG charity partner.

The action points stated refer to the following Charitable Purposes: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9.

Employability

We will endeavour to create a network which bridges University of Dundee alumni and local volunteering opportunities with our student body while developing DUSA's relationship with the many support services provided by our University.

Moreover, we will continue to hold our own events to illustrate transferable skills for employability and give due credit and acknowledgement to different career paths, all while placing a strong focus on the skills students gain through extra-curricular activities.

Action plan

1. Connect our students with local, national and international networks to increase their employability and opportunities. This year we want to champion connections between our students, our alumni and volunteering prospects to seek support and broaden the horizons of our students. The aim of this is to encourage our students to be more confident in their abilities and employability prospects.
2. Run a campaign of success stories of students who succeeded in extracurricular activities and alumni journeys.
3. Strengthen DUSA links with different University Departments to promote employability to all students, through collaborations across the board.
4. Raise the profile of extra-curricular activities and transferable skills through events and empowerment of the student volunteer roles. Enable our students to understand the benefits and unique advantages participating in student activities while being in academia. We are employing a Volunteer Developer as part of our team, with the mission to create an accreditation system for all our volunteers.

What have we done so far?

- Employed a Volunteer Development Coordinator
- Began to develop a Volunteer Recognition Scheme.
- Affiliated many brand-new societies bringing our total up to 220+
- Organised Speed Interviewing, which helped 15 students sharpen their interview skills prior to their interviews.

- Essay Fest
- Hired 5 Student Voice Support Officers (SVSOs). 5 students were hired to become Student Voice Support Officers. As part of their role they received training and opportunities to get involved in the work which School Presidents were undertaking. In addition, the SVSOs also delivered class rep training. Championed by our VPR and DSPC, this has revolutionised the way we expand and increase student representation across schools, and we are laying down best practice within the sector.
- Student Ambassador briefing
- Organised Class Rep training with approximately 130 class representatives.
- Began to lay groundwork with through discussions with the SU President and the Director of the ISE to greater promote their relationship with DUSA. This included revision of the Memorandum of Understanding which exists between the entities and discussion of the requirement of each of the aforementioned to create an inclusive environment for students to engage in extracurricular activities.
- Collaborated with the Centre of Entrepreneurship in promoting the benefits of gaining entrepreneurial skills. We partnered with the Centre in Entrepreneurship Week and provided support and promotion of their events throughout the year.

The action points stated refer to the following Charitable Purposes: 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9.

Representation

To empower our student representatives to be able to engage with the wider student body and effectively contribute to improving the student experience. This work will aid in making all student members aware of our representation system.

DUSA will aim to support each representative to engage with the student population and be the advocate of their needs to key decision makers. We also want to make sure that students, Undergraduate to Postgraduate, know how and where to access this support throughout the year. We want our students to drive the change they want to see across our Campus'.

Action plan

1. Clarify how the representation system works for our students, both academically as well as pastorally. Working with the University we would like to clearly outline how the representation system can be utilised by students to improve the learning experience while clarifying with each the Schools, the role of the School Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Class Representatives.
2. Work with the University to tackle the feedback loop by embracing the power of Class Representatives and the use of the University Feedback System. We are improving our current Rep training while developing it for online. Moreover, we are working with SPARQS in creating PGT specific Class Rep training.
3. Make being a student representative more appealing for all students to engage further with the educational experience. As well as acknowledge the work of our representatives through the development of the open badges.
4. Explore options to improve our disciplinary process through advancement of technology and collaborating with the University on upgrading our disciplinary procedures

What have we done so far?

- Our VPR had 1 to 1 meetings with School Presidents providing them with support and mentoring them in how to get the most out of their roles.
- Enhanced class rep training and trained over 140 representatives.
- Completed the Student Partnership Agreement.
- Developed the School Partnership Action Plans.
- Created the SRC room to give our students a representation hub on campus.
- Improved the Student Voice Document.
- Began to use Microsoft Teams in SRC dealings, thereby allowing one of our councillors on placement in Ireland to take part in the meetings.
- Represented students at Periodic Programme Reviews and ensured Schools maintained appropriate representation structures within their programmes.
- Took a more welfare-oriented approach to disciplinaries.
- Worked with SVSOs in a representation event for the School of Science and Engineering and the School of Life Sciences.
- Piloted new engagement events during Elections periods to increase voter turnout.

The action points stated refer to the following Charitable Purposes: 2, 4, 7, 8 and 9.

Welfare

To encourage our members to make healthy lifestyle choices, balancing their education with social/personal life and keep mental health values at the forefront of decisions made.

When focusing on welfare, we decided to brand our welfare campaigns as Healthy Self. We feel this is an easy identifier at events we are doing to promote and empower students about all aspects of their health. We would like to work with the University to combat Mental Health alongside focusing on Zero Tolerance, Sexual Health, Healthy Relationships and Unhealthy Habits.

Action plan

1. Raise awareness of healthy relationships and practises that could be beneficial to students' life.
2. Increase awareness of mental health support across all campuses and work with the university to develop and implement the Mental Health Strategy.
3. Provide mental health awareness and Zero Tolerance training for society committees and other student groups.
4. Identifying and raising awareness of unhealthy habits which students develop at different times throughout the year i.e. fresher's week, exams, deadlines.

What have we done so far?

- Worked in conjunction with the newly implemented Equally Safe in Higher Education, which is a Scottish initiative to tackle gender-based violence within the sector. We supported this through the targeted campaign to line up with our Zero Tolerance Policy, which saw the development of the "Don't Settle" policy by the VPSW and the VPCC. We also provided Zero Tolerance training to over 200 students from societies and sports clubs.
- Introduced Zero Tolerance cards which students can use to access support when the card is handed into the Enquiry Centre.

- Our VPSA began work on a pilot project with Student Services to investigate the link between student wellbeing and involvement in extracurricular activities.
- Organised society committee mental health awareness training.
- Implemented Ask4Angela initiative within the night-time activities of DUSA.
- We, with the help of the SRC, held 'Healthy Study' sessions in the library during exam time and gave out 'Study Packs' to stressed students.
- Our VPSW ran a 'Sex and Healthy Relationships' week with engaging stalls and events on both the City and Ninewells Campuses.
- Our VPSW and VPSA have worked on a 'Drugs and Alcohol Awareness' campaign with a student and an external Trustee.
- We collaborated with the Student Funding Unit in organising 'National Student Money Week'. Here, we further raised awareness of the negative results of reckless spending and encouraged students to save money more effectively.

The action points stated refer to the following Charitable Purposes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9.

Measurement and Success

The above themes and subsequent action plans have been carefully researched and based on important data from sources such as the National Student Survey, Qualitative Student Feedback, Representation Survey and the Student Matters survey.

Every campaign or project we run aims to directly impact our students. There are many existing campaigns/projects which are essential to DUSA's operations. Included in these are; LGBT+ History Month, Winter Market, Academic Skills Week, Elections, etc., which we will continue to run alongside our Manifesto. At the same time, we are aware that priority issues may arise which we are prepared to factor into our calendar of events as the year throws up student issues.

We are measuring our success on many parameters which range from NSS results to Elections turn-out. We are also measuring our success on the relationship which we are able to establish with the University, as it is crucial to deliver the best experience for our students. Below are a few examples of successful campaigns and projects beyond our Manifesto, as well as developmental work carried out with the University. The list of all the things the Exec have achieved is also provided at the end of this report.

Court Workshops

Based on discussions at the Court retreat in August 2018, a series of workshops were organised to explore key areas of the student experience and identify how Dundee University Students' Association (DUSA) and the University of Dundee (UoD) can enhance key strategic aspects of their partnership. It was agreed in discussion between DUSA and UoD that we should focus on two areas: student representation and student welfare/support.

Three meetings were held with members of the University Executive Group, staff from UoD professional services (incl. student services), DUSA Executive members and DUSA Senior Managers. The three key themes of the workshops were as follows: DUSA Executive Committee Review, Representation and Student Welfare.

A brief overview of these workshops is provided below. For the Exec this is a great success as we are reinforcing the foundations of the bridge between DUSA and the University of Dundee. This work is crucial for long-term partnership and continued success of both entities.

Court Workshop 1 – DUSA Executive Committee review

The first session was held at the beginning of December and focussed on the range of committees, working groups and forums that DUSA Executive members were attending with a view to identify whether the student voice was being effectively heard at the right meetings.

The agreements of the workshop were:

- To review how committees could structure agendas to maximise the value of the student input.
- To provide appropriate training around empowering representatives to speak up at meetings, and ensuring their voice is heard.
- To engage more representatives such as SRC Councillors with different committees to ensure appropriate student involvement.
- To determine whether there are committees where the student voice was not absolutely required.

Court Workshop 2 – Representation

The second workshop was held on 25 January 2019 and focussed on the current representation system. Attendees were asked, using a traffic light system, to indicate how they felt about a range of statements regarding the current system. This provided insight into those areas which seemed to be working well, and those where further work might be necessary, and this provided a fruitful basis for a wide-ranging discussion. This concluded with the following areas for potential enhancement:

- For School Presidents, administrative leads, Student Voice Support Officers, Associate Dean (Learning & Teaching) and DUSA leads to meet annually with each school to coordinate the year ahead;
- To establish a process to review the current class representative system;

- To investigate how to develop a strong engagement culture looking at best practice from the School of Life Sciences;
- Arrange for all Executive members to attend Student Experience Oversight Group twice a year.

The discussion identified a range of positive and innovative initiatives that the University & DUSA were involved in. Furthermore, it recognised the shared commitment necessary to enhance the current approach to student voice and engagement around representation.

Court Workshop 3 – Student Welfare

The third workshop was held on the 13th February and looked into student support - specifically support for international students. A series of questions were posed to determine what attendees thought was working well and where attendees thought there was scope for improvement. Again, there was a very positive discussion which included:

- The need to investigating internationalisation plans for DUSA and adjust facilities to accommodate international students' needs;
- The requirement to providing further training for academic staff in terms of student support/welfare;
- The need to improve integration between home and international students;
- A plan to look at DUSA staff being equipped to support international students.
- Assigning Student Services staff to Student-Staff Liaison Committees in each School to help gain a better understanding of welfare issues among students, with the goal of identifying mechanisms to prevent issues from arising in the first place.
- Identifying how the university could recognise good practice in student welfare.

Next steps

Once the notes of the meetings have been finished and compiled together, the full report will be presented to Court at the April meeting. This will include an action plan which is to include short-term, medium-term and long-term plans to further improve the student experience.

Additional Campaigns

In addition to our manifesto projects, the Exec also runs additional events and campaigns. As Exec we work with challenging cases and respond to student incidents and crises. Whilst running our campaigns we are always on hand to provide support to students in need.

The success of the Exec can be summarised in many ways. The main ways we measure success are: tracking our collective work and campaigns against our Manifesto and by the engagement we receive throughout the work we do. We conduct a review of our effectiveness in achieving our Manifesto on a weekly basis in an Executive Meeting.

Freshers' Fair and Refreshers' Fair

This year's Freshers' Fair was an amazing success. With over 3000 students attending and hundreds of stalls present, it was something to marvel at. We made sure it was accessible to all our students through designated time-slots for students with accessibility requirements.

Our Exec stall made an incredible presence with a queue spanning the length of the building where students took up a crash course in Zero Tolerance training to receive their Zero Tolerance cacti.

Our Refreshers' Fair was also a great success with an incorporated mini Sports Fair. We facilitated an eco-friendly initiative through our SRC councillors who raised awareness of the importance of water conservation and engaged students with our reusable DUSA water bottles.

Winter Market

This was definitely an event to remember. With most of the Exec dressed as Elf helpers, this event allowed our students to get into the Holiday spirit. Inspired by Christmas markets around the world, we had food stalls outside, and inside we had our students selling their homemade goods, along with specially selected traders. This event was led by the VPCC with Moira Dean, Retail Services Manager. By taking this collaborative approach, we were able to increase the quality of production and execution of the event compared with previous years, due to coordinated input from all DUSA Departments.

Academic Appeals

This is a huge part of what the Executive Team do. This year so far we have supported over 200 students with academic appeals and represented students in fitness to practice cases.

Disciplinaries

In the interest of ensuring DUSA is a safe environment, disciplinaries are essential for enforcing Zero Tolerance in the building and keeping our students and staff safe within our facilities. Safety procedures within our building now also include the national Ask4Angela initiative.

Advice

The Hive is a fantastic service always open for our students. This has been crucial for delivering academic, money, welfare and housing advice to our students. The Hive is the DUSA support network for any student in need. It is also a place to find out about representation and extra-curricular activities as well as information on how to join societies.

RAG (Raising and Giving)

Having gone through a complete rebrand and restructure this year, 'RAG Dundee' is the student fundraising campaign run by DUSA.

RAG Dundee encompasses all student fundraising on all of our University campuses. Whether it's a student society raising money for Meningitis Research, or a student doing Sober October, it all comes under RAG. Any amount raised for any charity (that is registered in Scotland) is totalled up, and at the end of the year, we show how our students are making a huge difference to the communities around them. To encourage this, we offer support and advice to our students on planning events, booking venues and anything else they need to run a successful fundraising event.

Alongside that, DUSA contributes to the amount raised by partnering with a local Dundee charity every year, which is elected by our student body. Our new 'RAG Ambassador' scheme encourages our students to get fundraising for that charity (this year, the Dundee

Foodbank) by helping out at fundraising events, or our VPF helps them to plan their own. This is the first year of the RAG Ambassador scheme, and we have over forty volunteers already, so we're off to a strong start. Alongside this, we have had a lot of other changes this year:

- We've built on the work of our predecessors by hosting two academic Book Fairs, allowing students to make some extra money by selling their old textbooks, as well as introducing a new event, Drag for RAG. This was a huge success and the first time that DUSA had held an event like this. It inspired the team to use it as the basis for a commercial event.
- A lot of work was done to encourage students to fundraise for DUSA's Charity Partner, with multiple societies as well as the SRC holding events in aid of the charity.
- We moved the elections DUSA's Charity Partner from September to March to run alongside the Exec elections, and we increased student engagement from 600 votes to over 1400.
- We revived the historic RAG Week to put on four great fundraising events for the Dundee Foodbank, as well as partnered with JAM Dundee for a fifth.

Overall, this has been a year of growth and change for RAG Dundee. We have taken steps to increase involvement with our students, and further changes will be made going forward. The main aim of this campaign is to link our student body with the local Dundee community, and use our influence to bring about positive change to our campuses, Dundee itself and the wider community. We are incredibly excited about the progress we have made so far and are even more excited about where we have yet to go.

Welfare month

We kicked off the Healthy Self month with Healthy Relationships Week. Part of this week has been outlined previously in the document, such as the Don't Settle Policy, Zero Tolerance training and Support Cards. We also had STI testing with UoD Health Service, as well as stalls from WRASAC and Women's Aid to inform students of wider sector services. We then progressed to Student Money Week. This was done in partnership with the Student Funding Unit which is part of Student Services. We did a recipe competition where students had the chance to win a soup maker if they gave us their best homemade recipe idea. We also gave away sanitary products to reduce the amount of students facing period poverty.

Furthermore, we gave away informative booklets on budgeting advice in Dundee, soup bags and free goodies. There was a huge amount of engagement around this, with students also giving us their best budgeting tips. Our third campaign was Alcohol and Drugs Awareness Week with Addaction. We had informative stalls in Ninewells and DUSA to educate students on the danger of misusing dangerous substances. Students in Ninewells and DUSA were engaged with the stall and we will be doing further work with *Addaction* for students to be able to recognise the signs of a drug and alcohol use and overdose. Our final campaign is Housing Week, which will be held in both the Global Room and DUSA. The aim is to inform students on their rights as a tenant, to find flatmates and to inform them of the legal housing advisor support DUSA offers.

Challenges and Areas for Development

Each year the Executive faces new challenges. During 2018/2019 so far, we have been met with the following:

Charitable Purposes

This year we have highlighted the fact that we do not do enough for the Charitable Purpose: “The Advancement of Public Participation in Sport”. We do provide facilities for some sports clubs who do not use the ISE, but the charitable purpose is not covered by any of our Manifesto themes. As a result, we are now working on this with the affiliation of the Participation and Aerial Societies. The former creates an inclusive environment for students who are less-competitively minded to ‘give it a go’ and get involved in sport, while the latter hosts regular Aerial strength and conditioning classes for its members. As previously mentioned, we are also discussing our partnership with both the ISE and Sports Union, with a view to creating a more streamlined, collaborative approach to student activity.

Elections

Getting students engaged in elections is a challenge. We had the highest SRC voter turnout, yet it was only above 5% of the student population. The same holds true for Exec elections with 14%. This is something we struggle with, so in the future years we are looking to work closer with Schools in promoting elections and encouraging students to vote. In addition to this, the VPR this year was re-running for the position and so was unable to run Exec elections, thereby distributing the workload onto the rest of the team which was challenging. There was also a very high dropout rate of candidates from elections this year (something which has not happened before), so this is another area for development.

Handover

Work is being done on optimising the handover given to newly elected Exec members to give them the best start. This year we have highlighted that sometimes the Exec don’t know the responsibilities which they carry with their positions, such as being a trustee of a charity. We have hosted “what it means to be an Exec” sessions to give candidates running in elections more insight into what being part of the Exec really means. Moving forward, handover and year-round support is also being discussed with Human Resources at DUSA, highlighting what additional training could be given to the incumbent Executive in order for

them to feel more prepared. The Executive team this year have however piloted a new Careers Service course - the 'Graduate Careers and Professional Development Certificate' (GCPDC). This has allowed us to establish clear goals as a team and as individual professionals throughout our term in office.

Night time accessibility

To keep delivering a fantastic night time experience for our students we need to focus on tailoring our facilities to different cohorts of students. The challenge is to continue delivering exciting and diverse night time activities for the ever-changing culture, habits and practices of our student body.

Hive Shifts

Due to the extremely heavy workloads surrounding our respective remits, the Executive team have found it difficult to uphold the Hive shifts at certain times. The increased number of campaigns, projects and activities of the Executive has meant that sometimes we are not able to be there physically, but we are consciously making the effort to get shifts covered to rectify our absence. In addition, the Executive team often resolves to use the Hive bell rather than being present on Hive. In most circumstances this is due to the confidential nature of the work being undertaken which cannot be completed on The Hive. The difficulty here is being able to see the value that Hive shifts hold but not having the time resource to rigidly stick to our rota.

Commercial Success

Unlike most charities that obtain the majority of their funding from donations, DUSA only receives in the region of 13% of its funding from the university in the form of a grant. This means that the vast majority of our funding has to come from commercial trading with our members.

As such, we operate a number of high-profile services including affordable catering, entertainment, food outlets and bars. In 2018/19 so far, as one of the organisation's strategic priorities to improve our environmental credentials and sustainability, DUSA has replaced old coffee cups with biodegradable ones. This is in conjunction with our '*bring your own*' coffee cup initiative, which has incentivised the development of DUSA's branded reusable coffee cups, available to buy for £3 as a non-profit venture. Our pledge to reduce non-recyclable consumable items has also made good progress, e.g. phasing out plastic straws and bringing in paper straws, etc..

We are also exploring and providing more gluten free, vegan and vegetarian foods at our commercial outlets.

Further to this, a record number of Black Card sales have allowed us to invest in our Entertainment infrastructure offering a lot more one-off events.

In our other operations, the refurbishment of the Premier Shop has been a great success resulting in the shop being nominated in the Scottish Grocers Award 2019, and being shortlisted for 2 awards.

Conclusion

We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of DUSA over the last 6 months. We strive to have a positive impact on our students and cater to their needs to the best of our ability. The entire organisation is committed to working together to overcome internal and external barriers to continue to provide our student membership with the best services possible.

There are a number of new challenges facing the organisation and we are currently planning on how we enhance the student experience at DUSA for our future students in what is a rapidly environment.

Our work this year has been recognised through being nominated and winning three awards (voted for by students) which recognises DUSA as the best Students' Association in Scotland for student experience, student support and academic support. We were ranked top in Scotland for student experience in the NSS. Secondly, we were voted top in Scotland and top 3 in the UK by Student Crowd. In the University Student Survey 2018, we were also placed #1 in Scotland. More recently, we have been shortlisted for the top Students' Union in the UK in the WhatUni Awards.

With reference to above report, the Executive have contributed a significant amount to the student voice and experience at the University of Dundee. As noted in the Appendix, this covers a vast range of campaigns, governance, student support, appointment of University Staff, extracurricular opportunities and more. All of these can be directly related to the four themes: Community, Employability Welfare, Representation as outlined in our Executive Manifesto, and we plan to continue to build upon our work this year to ensure we are even better in the future.

Appendix

Exec Achievements 2018/19

Freshers Week	Mid-Autumn Festival	Ninewells engagement
Volunteer Development	10k+ votes for SRC	Freshers'/Refreshers' Fairs
Zero Tolerance – 'Don't be a Prick'	No Shave November	Societies Booklet
RAG Charity – Dundee Foodbank	Dundee Pride	Period Poverty
Sober October	3 Candidates for Medical School President	Book Fair
Sex and Healthy Relationships Week	3 PhD Candidates for SRC elections	Essay Fest
RAG Constitution	Creation of RAG Ambassadors	Ambitious, yet realistic, manifesto
Speed Interviewing	Establishing society GDPR rules	Presented manifesto to University Management Group, Court and SRC
5 Student Voice Support Officers	Distance Learners Working Group	Free Condoms
Sex and Healthy Relationships Week	RAG Elections in March	University Challenge
189 appeals	Distance Learning Development with the LLC	Marketing student projects
Kirkcaldy visits	Student Ambassador Training	Zero Tolerance cases
Student feedback sessions	226 affiliated societies	Volunteer task and finish group
Taught postgraduate class rep training with SPARQS	Part time job guide	120 students involved in class rep training

Engagement with Ninewells	Engagement with SU and ISE	Exec committee review
SRC Room	Mental Health calendar/Hope event	Mental Health month
Hot water tap - Kirkcaldy	Visited Kirkcaldy with CoE	Halloween Auction (£700+ for Foodbank)
Joint representation agreement	Disciplinarys (training + panels)	School Partnership Agreement
Society/sports club Zero Tolerance training	Society committee mental health awareness training	24 complaints in 2 weeks
Diwali collaboration (Indian and Singapore Societies)	Dandiya night collaboration (Indian Society)	Healthy Study
Rector Elections	Drag for RAG	SPARQS Visit
Review job descriptions and by-laws	World Aids Day	Winter Graduations
Winter Market	Supported Medic event (1500 students)	Deans interviews
Harnessing diversity plan	First media guidance panel	MoU between DUSA, SU and ISE
New director of QAS	Christmas staff party	MFA support
Sane Dog event	Annual Report	Foodbank collection
Social Justice Challenge	Societies Handbook	Volunteer Workshop
Ask for Angela	Increased awareness of DUSA Exec to DUSA staff	One to one meetings with School Presidents
International Student Scholarship Awards	Changed focus of VPE	Periodic Programme reviews (Mechanical Engineering, CEPMLP, Forensic and Medical Art, Electronic Engineering, History, Psychology, Drug Discovery)
Postgraduate Receptions	Discovery Day talk	Ratification/Scrutiny (CLD)
Campaigns Working Group under review	New Trustee	New student advocate
Public engagement forum membership	Joint grad ball with Abertay	Annual Public Stakeholder presentation
Distance + blended learning	ET application launch	Society by-law review

SLTA		
Added Zero Tolerance to Society Constitutions	Chair of Court interviews	GCPDC
VPR winning book pitch in step up class with articulation students	Global Room welcome presentations	Social sciences January intake presentation
SWITCH pilot which student services	Ranked top globally for 'clubs and societies'	Holi (Festival of Colours)