**Officer Report**

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| **Name:**  |  Jenni Lynam  |
| **Role:** | VP Undergraduate Access and Education |
| **Council meeting:** | Hilary week 7 (27.02.2024) |

# Section One | Manifesto Updates

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| **My Pledges**  | **Progress**   |
| Mandate to work on vacation residence  | Following a motion passed at the last student council, the sabb team are working on lobbying the colleges on making vacation residence more accessible for students. VP Activities and Community has organised a meeting with the Head of Domestic Bursars Committee in order to initiate this conversation and work out the best routes of creating policy change in this area.  |
| Ensuring that first-year students from underprivileged socio-economic backgrounds receive sufficient support in adapting to Oxford | I am using the APP as an opportunity to shape this into a university target for the next 4 years. Through consultation with students, there has been lots of feedback every college should provide a base line of academic support for students.  |
| Creating a university-wide Bridging-Programme that is open to all state-school students to provide academic support and reduce the attainment gap | Through my work on the APP, I have been in discussion with the university on expanding OpOx as a programme that is open to more students. Additionally, I have been involved in discussions on how OpOx can be expanding as more than just an initial transition, but something that could expand into students first year at university.  |

# Section Two | Projects

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| **My Projects** | **Progress**   |
| The Access and Participation Plan (APP) | The deadline for the university’s APP is the 31st May 2024 which is also the deadline for the student submission which the SU is working on.  |
| Rolling out mandatory class awareness workshops for students | During trinity term, I will organise meetings with JCR Freshers reps in order to lobby them to add class awareness workshop into their freshers week schedule. A previous version of class- awareness training that I created needs to be updated for this.  |
|  Working with the careers-service to promote events for access students to improve employability | Next term, I will be engaging in discussion with the careers service on how they can run specific events for students from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds. Progression to graduate employment or further study for this group is something that is on the radar of the university.  |

# Section Three | Events

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| **Events/Media**  | **Date**  | **Outcomes / Impact**   |
| Renters Rights Workshop | 19.02.24 | Alongside SU Advice and VP Activities and Community, we led a workshop on ‘how to rent’ for a group of students. This was received by the students as useful and informative. This is definitely something that could be expanded to increase reach next year.  |
| APP Student working group meeting 1 | 21.02.24 | As part of the SU’s consultation process on the APP, we held our first working group session which welcomed students from a range of identities to get feedback on their experience of Oxford. A member of the university was also present and this feedback will be taken to the university’s  |
| Access Rep Com | 20.02.24 | We held an repcom that brough access reps from a range of different colleges together. This was a really good discussion group that touched on outreach work in college and paying conditions for students. This feedback will be used to create a common framework approach to take to colleges in the Outreach Forum on a best practice for paying students for their work in these roles. |
| Disability Rep Com  | 12.02.24 | Chaired by DisCam, this repcom was really useful to get feedback on central welfare services and potential projects that the campaign will be working on. Personally, this was really useful for the APP to consider the most effective initiatives to improve on course support and success for disabled students.  |

# Section Four | Committee meetings

Please give a summary of your committee meeting attendance and detail key outcomes/impacts.

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| 1. SWSS Forum (31.01.24)

Discussion points during the meeting included:* Increasing awareness of the forum to get more feedback from students on central welfare services.
* Service update on DAS: this service has been understaffed and has recently taken on a number of new positions to deal with its demand. Restarted drop-ins can ask anything about the DAS. New tiering models of the SSP.
* Service update on the counselling service- appointment availability and waiting time is good, number of students is as high as ever.
* Sexual violence support service update- working on bystander training and cultivating a culture of consent. Currently, there is no waiting time for an appointment. Working on Porters training (safe lodges scheme).
1. APP University working group (31.01.24)

Discussion points during this meeting included:* Confirming the university’s admissions access targets for target groups including FSM students and IMD students.
* Discussion was had on on-course initiatives that the university will include in their new APP. This was centred around the Equality of Opportunity Risk Register (EOORR) which identifies the ways in which students with different identities are impacted in succeeding at university.
* Initial student consultation has been facilitated through the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL).
1. Education Committee (01.01.24)
* Reports were given on the OfS’s approach to free speech and students unions.
* Annual reports given by the Quality Assurance Sub-committee, Research Degrees Panel, Taught Degrees Panel and dispensations and appeals.
1. University Council (05.02.24)
* Reports were given on the strategic plan for the humanities division.
* Updates given on admissions testing plans
* Updates given on the APP
1. Education Select committee panel (06.02.24)
* I sat on a panel with reps from other student unions which included The Open University, University of Birmingham and the NUS. The following panel had reps from the UCU and OfS.
* The panel was asked questions on the impact of the marking and assessment boycott on students, the scale of industrial action and student sentiment towards striking action
* The panel was also asked how the impact of strikes can be minimised on students, to which the unanimous response was to solve disputes with unions and improve the working conditions of staff at the university. I stated the importance of communicating with students clearly during periods of industrial action in order to protect student welfare.
1. Admissions committee (08.02.24)
* Discussion points in this meeting included admissions testing and its function in the Oxford admissions process.
1. APP university working group (12.02.24)
* This working group continued its discussions on on-course support for students. The CTL outlined what the university considers the greatest risks to students education and the possible initiatives that the APP might contain to mitigate these risks.
1. Continuing Education Strategic Management Board (13.02.24)
* Discussions here centred around the working conditions of staff members in the department and the need to reduce fixed term contracts because of the precarity that it puts on staff members.
1. Bodleian Libraries catch-up (16.02.24)
* This was a great meeting which had the following discussion points
1. Update on new chairs in the upper radcam and more possible improvements that could be made to this library.
2. Increased number of vending machines in libraries- a concern which had been raised to me by students.
3. Possible collaboration with the Bodleian to create an ‘out of term card’ for students who remain in Oxford over the vacation.
4. Student Union Review (16.02.24)
* This meeting had discussions on recommendations for change in the SU. The outcomes of this process will be consulted with students for their feedback and input during March.
1. Senior Tutors committee (19.02.24)
* Important discussion points included:
1. Funding for central university services
2. Consultation on the Norrington table
3. Undergraduate work during term time
* A member of PresCom was also in attendance at this meeting who gave feedback and student perspective on work during term time which they spoke on.
* We highlighted the fact the student work is normal especially during the current cost of living crisis.
1. Admission Executive (22.02.24)
* Updates were given on the Astrophoria Foundation Year and its future access targets for increasing the number of places that are on offer for students.
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# Section Four | Future Plans

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| **Event/Project** | **Date**  | **Anticipated outcomes / impact**  |
| APP Meeting (2) | TBC | Following our initial meeting with the Student APP working group, we will be running a second meeting to expand on the conversation that was started with students and to continue with consultation which is key to this work.  |
| APP identity forums  | TBC | Additionally, following the first APP session, we are considering expanding our student consultation by creating specific identity forums so discussions can be concentrated, and students can have more input in shaping the university’s decisions.  |