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| **Campaign Name:** | Disabilities Campaign | | | | |
| **Chair/Co-Chairs:** | Anna-Jeffery Shaw and Theodor Sergiou | | | | |
| **Campaign Progress** | | | | | |
| **Targets set at last term** | | **Achieved?** | **How? / Why not?** | | **Spend** |
| Events for Mental Health Week | | YES | Imogen (our MH officer) organised 3 events, including welfare drop-ins, arts and craft and a game night to meet the committee | | £50 |
| Physical Accessibility of colleges audit checklist | | YES | We are in contact with the producers who are responsible for all college accessibility reports and they are available online here: Physical Accessibility of colleges audit checklist | | Universities Money not ours, but includes the cost of two wages for this project |
| Society Accessibility Awareness | | NO | We looked into this prospect but due to committee capacity we could not achieve this | |  |
| **Next Term Targets** | | | | | |
| **Target** | | **Description** | | **Expected Spend** | |
| Build a better understanding with SU Advice Service over remits and encourage them to undertake more personal advocacy. | | At present, they may provide information, but they are not comfortable taking the students side in any situation we have brought to them so far. Our next step is to meet with them and discover their exact remit, to know what support is available in absent of DisCam. | | Time | |
| Improve our communications and start an Instagram | | DisCam’s social media? Facebook – phenomenal, numerous support groups with a combine total of over 2K members. But we are aware it is not effective and we look forward for a committee member (or anyone happy to join our committee) to walk us into equal prominence to the other phenomenal campaigns | | Time | |
| Campaigns to reduce stigma around disabiliites | | Having a stronger social media presence will help, but creating opportunities with the new and improved podcast area in the SU, as well as encouraging other events to theme events around disability awareness (FemSoc disability collab pending, student theatre productions around disabilities and awareness around our responsibilities in understanding each other differences, rather than being angry, confused and uncomfortable by them) | | Time and any time other will happily give to promoting the cause | |
| **Chair/Co-Chair’s Comments:** | | | | | |
| We have undertaken a lot of work initially not listed in our targets from last term. For instance:   * We have become students advocates for over 40 personal cases over the vacation and this term. This ranges from discrimination issues with the university and access challenges such as college migration or providing support for individuals interim of getting formal diagnosis. In many cases this involves helping people in times of crises and providing physical wellbeing and emotional support. * Building our college rep network, having a helpful platform for each to get advice from one another from college related issues. We are grateful for all our college reps and have dedicated a budget to providing them with provide care packages over the summer to ‘THANK YOU!’, we couldn’t do what we do without you * Building stronger relationship with departments and DAS, working on institutions decisions such as English department’s decision to scrap extra time as a concept and accessibility of resources for Law Students.   Ultimately, the term has had a lot of success in areas we really should not be responsible for. We are more than happy to provide the 1-2-1 support we do on a daily basis however this has negative impacts for those we are supporting:   1. We are not trained on mental wellbeing support. For all we know we can be exacerbating issues, despite us doing the best we can. We have discussed the possibility of using some of our budget to provide this training, but that would put us at a disadvantage in providing our other events. 2. We are open an honest with all we support about our time commitments in order to make this sustainable for all. Therefore, on many instances we have not been able to help people in dire need due to our own personal commitments and mental wellbeing balance, and there is no alternative to recommend them to. Disabilities Rights UK have proved essential in being interim support for our cases, but there have been still cases were which we have lost due to balancing our own lives and this often has serious consequences for people’s live (and future at the university) 3. In many cases we form bad relationships with university institutions that we must deal with in our personal university journeys which have interfered with our personal lives.   We are truly our proud of the work we do and would encourage anyone to come with us with any concerns and support needs you do. However, the current model is unsustainable and up our departure as co-chairs (AJ and Theo), in the absent of willing and able advocates to take the position, we worry that we will revert to little to no support for students with disabiliites. | | | | | |