



Impact Report

2017/2018



Message from the Chief Executive

I am immensely proud of our staff team, our trustees and our student volunteers who have all helped us to make tremendous progress over the past year.

We have launched our new four-year strategy which will work to transform the student experience at Oxford, this document will help us to place Oxford SU as a key aspect of students' time at Oxford.

To reflect this, we have updated and modernised our brand, including changing our name to Oxford SU. This has enabled us to deliver engaging and impactful projects over the past year. Alongside that, we have realigned our staff roles to ensure we can deliver on our new plans and moved to a new office which not only gives us new space for student groups but a chance to expand the range of activities we offer to students.

This report provides a snapshot of the year across our strategic themes of education, wellbeing and communities. Over the coming years, we will be striving to further increase our impact in these areas of the student experience.

As a membership organisation, we will only ever be as good as the students say we are, so we remain firmly focussed on ensuring that students' priorities are our priorities. We are well positioned both in terms of finances and plans to deliver against our new Strategic Plan.

As an organisation, we are looking forward to working with students, staff and stakeholders to build a strong and dynamic students' union that we can all be proud of.

Ryan Bird

Chief Executive

Message from the President

If we thought last year was transformational, we had no idea what was on the horizon. Last August, just as the new sabbatical team were settling into our home at 2 Worcester Street, the entire organisation uprooted and moved ourselves a couple of doors down the road to number 4 Worcester Street. A new name, a new brand, a new building, soon a new strategy, and within six months a complete staff restructure – and “new beginnings” seems to be an accurate characterization of the year gone by.

A focus on meaningful introspection, whilst both important and necessary at times, is never without its challenges, and I can't pretend that this year has been all plain sailing. Internal change coupled with a turbulent political climate for higher education has been both a challenge, and a learning experience for the team.

What I'm incredibly proud of, however, is the way that our organisation has responded to this environment. The largest teaching strike in recent history was met with phenomenal support from the student body, our decision to boycott the NSS for the second year proved successful once again, and we've made sure our members' voices were heard loud and clear in the avalanche of government consultations that have come our way.

And, we've never stopped putting students at the heart of everything we do. From our community partnerships providing students with a range of new opportunities, to a wellbeing programme that has done more than ever before for the most marginalized within our membership, to lobbying for academic improvements based on thorough research and a unique understanding of the student body, this report is proof that internal development has in no way halted our achievements.

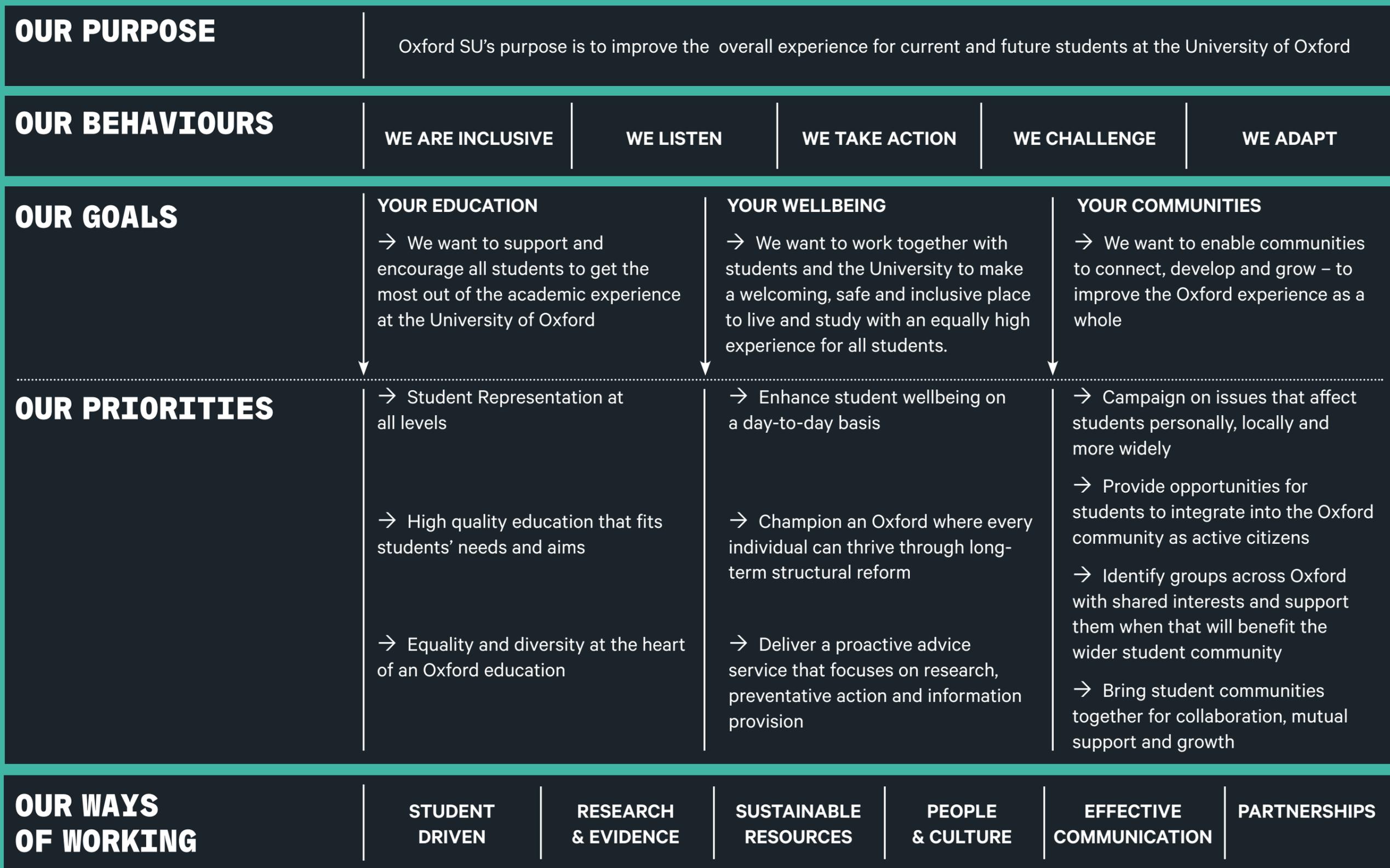
I honestly believe that I will leave this Student Union in a much better place to the one I inherited a year ago, and I'm excited for the incoming team who now have an incredible opportunity to push forwards with the full support of a revitalized organisation.

Kate Cole

President 2017/18



Strategy



Your Education



Continued last year's
**successful
boycott of
NSS**

(31% fill-in rate for 2016/7)



We've celebrated

**412
students**

from **30 colleges**
through access recognitions.

Established a **working group
for students** that are keen to
improve graduate access.

Have **lobbied for Graduate
Access and Funding** to be
included as **strategic priorities**
in the University's new
strategy.

Launched a survey to **collect evidence
from grad students about the impact of
Continuation Charges.**

More than **100 graduate students** gave feedback
on the proposed changes to the Suspension Policy
and their responses helped us ensure that students'
concerns are being addressed.



100



Nearly **100 responses** to a **survey on common
room provision for suspended students,**
which will be built into a lobbying pack to help
better support these students.

**140
course
reps**

were trained,

with a further
600 supported
with information
and resources

**Target
Schools**

have hosted

over 300

Year 12 students
on shadowing days.

One of these was in
conjunction with the Oxford
African and Caribbean Society
(ACS), which was specifically
for around 30 BME students.

Over the summer, they
are running their annual
roadshow, this year to North
East England.



**Eight divisional
representatives**

appointed, meaning
students had a voice
across the university.



The fifth annual **Teaching Awards** saw over 500 staff nominated, 25 winners and 200 people attending an award dinner to celebrate the most inspiring staff across the university.

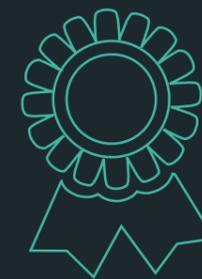


Sabbatical Trustees sat on 68 university committees, helping shape policy on everything from Gender Equality to the Museums of the University.

Submitted responses to consultations by the following bodies:

- ▶ the Post-18 Education Review
- ▶ the Office for the Independent Adjudicator
- ▶ the Office for Students
- ▶ the Quality Assurance Agency
- ▶ Joint Committee on Human Rights.

Introduction of a



Merit award

for

Postgrad taught courses.

Your Community



#VeggiePledge2017

saw

929 people

sign up

This helped save almost **19 tonnes of carbon** during the #VeggiePledge month.



82

student clubs, publications and societies registered on the **Online Directory**

Held

MP's surgeries



– a chance for students to meet their local MP's and discuss issues

We ran

75 meetings

to support **common room reps**



Ran

6xBike Doctor

events, a chance for students to get a bike safety check.

Ensured



student tickets were reserved for the **Ashmolean's Live Friday events**, and strengthened the partnership with the GLAM division.

Helped the **University Church** run the first **Community Activism Fair**, connecting local organisations with city residents and students.

Launched Marks out of Tenancy

a website that helps students become better informed about housing providers.



Our work was not just in Oxford, on the national stage **15 students participated in five conferences to influence NUS** and set the direction for national lobbying.



Hosted the second **Freshers' community**, and developing new sessions for improving accessibility and inclusion in Freshers' week (e.g. for parents / carers)



137 people signed up and attended the inaugural Oxbridge

FEMINISM

IN THEORY AND IN ACTION

conference

(many thanks to support from Cambridge SU and student campaigns)

Launched a campaign with UCU

and other SUs to encourage grads-who-teach to sign up for free UCU membership.



14 days

of standing proudly in solidarity actions on pickets,

with striking University staff members and students, and supporting the largest strike action in modern history.

We now have policy to support future UCU actions and work collaboratively with them in future.

Collaborations with many student societies and common room reps, including:

- ▶ Co-hosted 2 events on **building opposition to immigration detention**, with a number of student societies, including **Oxford Amnesty International, STAR, Oxford Migrant Solidarity** and **Oxford for Dunkirk**.
- ▶ Hosted an event with **Common Ground**, on education being a tool for social change (including speakers from the **NUS, LSE** and **Oxford**)
- ▶ Hosted a programme of events for **University Mental Health day** with the Oxford Mental Health Network
- ▶ Worked with **SANE**, the mental health charity, to make Oxford SU a regular host of their anti-stigma workshops

Your Wellbeing

41

people signed up for our **MCR Conference** about

Equality & diversity

(The Oxford ApplyED Conference), with critical work from Lincoln College.



Oxford SU
sofa
sessions



Hosted our new **sofa sessions**

The first event was renowned Mental Health Campaigner, **Jonny Benjamin MBE**.



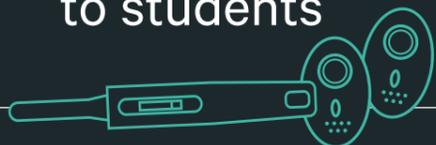
We have run

nine outreach events

across the collegiate university covering topics such as **Living Out, money advice** and **meditation**.

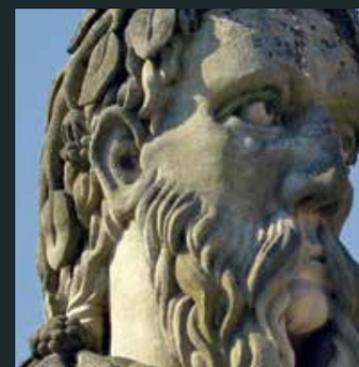


Provided **welfare supplies** to students



Shaped the University's new **transgender policy**

Launched a wellbeing hub of resources for **students** and **JCR committee** positions.



Launched our

#ThisIsOxford

mental health anti-stigma campaign, aiming to raise awareness of those in our community who are studying with a range of mental health conditions.

Partnered with **Yoga Quota** to deliver two

free yoga sessions

for Oxford Students.



11 Wellbeing dog walks

for students, a chance to meet other students and get fresh air.

We have run five **Consent Workshop training sessions** which saw **100 students** attend.



Ran a programme of events to recognise the first national

ESTRANGED STUDENTS SOLIDARITY WEEK

and helped front a national campaign from the NUS and the charity Stand Alone.

Oxford SU
Student Advice

Our **Student Advice Service** have held

69 student appointments

since January 2018 and have helped **Bystander intervention training** launched.

Trinity Term saw us launch a new **Triage Advice service** to help and support students more effectively.

Hosted a programme of events for **University Mental Health Day, World Mental Health Day, and Mental Health Awareness Week**.



Investigated bringing **mental health first aid training** to Oxford SU and our student members

Hosted a programme of events with **St Antony's College** and **OSDC** for

Mental Health Awareness Week

The launch event for this week considered race, cultural competency, and hosted high-profile speakers (including Jacqui Dyer of Black Thrive)



Launched **consent training** for JCR and MCR Women's Officers

Bystander Intervention for MCR and JCR committees

Oxbridge Girls Can saw us team up with Sports Fed to run more than 20 events to celebrate active women who are doing their thing



Developing a **strategic priority to focus on student welfare** rather than just wellbeing.

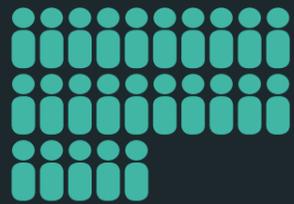
Oxford SU continues to recognise that long-term structural change is part of an ongoing process, and we are building on the work of the Welfare Survey 2016 to continue with this.

Supported Nightline, in their **'5th week Freddos'** project



We have run **5x Consent Workshop** training sessions which saw 100 students attend.

Hosted **2 Welfare Communities**, to bring together **25 welfare officers** across the collegiate university

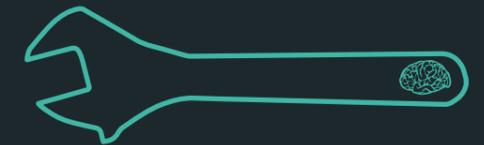


SU representatives spoke at **5x Year Abroad** information sessions, and co-hosted one event for Modern Languages Faculty for year abroad students.



Supported **City Council Mental Health panel**

especially raising issues on **suspension** and **BAME communities**



Implementation of new **Student Mental Health** policy in Welfare forum

Co-hosted one event with the **Conference of College's BME Welfare Sub-group** on **race / wellbeing** at the University

Hosted **2x sexual health testing days**

attended by almost **150 people**



Working with **student campaigns** in hosting welfare events and **ensuring relevant training provision**



Vote!

Elections



Our annual Sabbatical Trustee elections had **4162 individual voters**.
They cast over **30,000 votes** across the **22 different candidates**.



Council

Student Council is our main policy setting body.
This year so far **2891 votes have been cast** on a huge range of issues.
In ensuring that council is open to all, we held **10 Meetings in 7 different colleges** across the year.



STUDENT COUNCIL



Media

OXFORD STUDENT delivered **24 issues** and **reached 100,000 people** with their print editions.
www.oxfordstudent.com



OXIDE broadcast over **50** diverse shows.
www.oxideradio.live



Last year (2016/17)...

Raise and Give (RAG)
raised:

£34,629.64!



will all be receiving **£8657.41** each

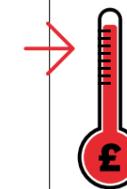
Thank you for helping us achieve this total; here's to another year of excellent fundraising!



Jailbreak 2018 contributed

£14,220.30

to RAG's 2017/18 fundraising total
compared to £13,878 in 2016/17



The average fundraising per participant was **£206.54**
The maximum fundraised by any one team was **£1468**.

58 people
in 19 teams participated



15 different
countries visited

One team visited 7 countries in total: UK, France, Belgium, Spain, Germany, Switzerland and Italy.



Barcelona

- furthest point away from Oxford reached by the winning team

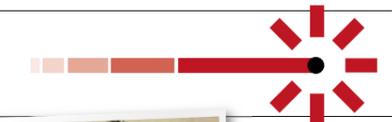
1181 km as the crow flies.

10 teams managed to travel further away but did not return within the thirty-six hour period.

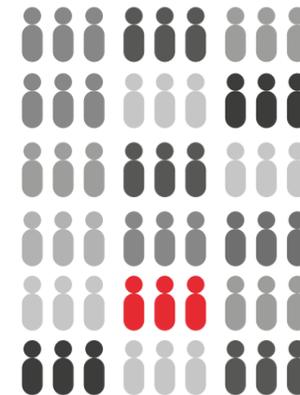


Of the 19 teams, 3 returned within the thirty-six hour period.

There were over **300 updates** sent to the tracking software over the thirty-six hour period.



There were **18 teams** of three people



and **one team** of four people



The winning team

"Great Escape"
Caitlin Benham, Charlie Wright & Izzie Ritchie



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