

SMART Goals Setting - Vaishnavi

Manifesto Point:	SMART Goal:
<p>Increase the number of hours during the work week in vacation times for postgraduate students specifically. This is to make sure that students can full time outside of term dates so they can afford to study etc.</p>	<p>S- Contact university management directly and discuss with higher university figures and the Visa team and International Student Services. UPDATE- Contacted the university management and Education officer- Prachi Bhatt. Had multiple meetings with Vice chancellor and the results of the meetings were that this is very huge change that includes the university, UKVI, UK government and council. This change will be made in coming years but not immediately. The management is looking into this and will take necessary steps so that the future international student intakes will be benefited from this project.</p> <p>M- Increasing the number of hours for students to full-time during vacation times so students don't have to worry about finances during term times and can focus on studying and increase experience and exposure to the job market. UPDATE- All reasons are valid as per the management and this will be taken into consideration for a solid change to be made in near future.</p> <p>A- Already working with Visa team and international student services and Education Officer. Emailing different people and hoping to implement this change (other universities have already done this) UPDATE- Had various meetings with Full time education officer Prachi and the steps will be taken in near future.</p> <p>R- The UK allows 40-hour work weeks so legally students can work full-time outside of terms, but the university doesn't permit this. Other universities allow these working hours elsewhere.</p> <p>T- As this is a very big change involving multiple authorities, it will be important to go step by step to make the changes. Due to restricted tenure of being a part time officer, this changes will be made for future intakes/years. This change will definitely benefit all international post graduate students and help them survive in this competitive cost of living crisis.</p>

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<p>Timetable issues and location issues. Many postgraduate students are finding timetabling an issue because of the large gaps between classes and there is a lot of travelling involved so it would be more ideal to make classes on one campus each day if possible</p>	<p>S- Would like to have lectures more condensed for postgraduate students in future terms. UPDATE- Had meetings with professors and SU staff. This change will be taken into consideration after taking into account the schedules of each specific professor with their specific module and course.</p> <p>M- Making sure that lectures are more organised and there is more freedom for students to get involved with societies (limiting the amount of lectures form 5-6pm). UPDATE- This change is going to benefit all students and help them to manage time. As per the meetings and discussions, this will be done when next intake starts or new academic year is about to begin. The time table will scheduled according to availability of each professor and also availability of seminar rooms/lecture theatres.</p> <p>A- Discussed with university management, professors and Prachi and Liz Jones. Taking into considerations the professors' commitments. Make the lectures hybrid or have timetabled classes on Monday to Wednesday rather than coming to campus every day.</p> <p>R- Students travel from Coventry, Birmingham and are time constraints coming to campus just for one hour on campus which can make the journey not worthwhile.</p> <p>T- Next intake</p>

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<p>Holding events for postgraduate students and helping with promoting more job fairs, volunteering and other opportunities such as part-time jobs.</p>	<p>S- Having events for job-seekers and volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>M- More opportunities for the students at the University of Leicester and a higher employability satisfaction ranking from student satisfaction. Improving the University reputation.</p>

	<p>A- Start with volunteering events on campus then work with careers team for summer internships and placements including small and medium businesses. Having more exposure to businesses with stalls or events about specific skills. Have more job opportunities circulated.</p> <p>UPDATE- Have meetings scheduled with career team and SU. The idea is to provide effective list of recruiters for particular role and individuals with specific skill set. Rather than a job fair, the idea is to provide job vacancies and help in applying for them.</p> <p>R- Many postgraduate students are international but they need experience in the UK job market so there should be more job opportunities for students to ensure they get placements and help with their employability.</p> <p>UPDATE- Had a chat with many classmates and colleagues, but the result was that job fairs are not much helpful for students and giving a particular on point solution will help them more.</p> <p>T- Provide list of recruiting agencies, HR contact details of specific companies by AUGUST END. Also, CV clarification, support after course completion in September -and after dissertation submission.</p>
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Attended 1:1 in person meetings with SU staff- Amelia Jones and provided update on my work, new challenges and ideas. The meetings were held fortnightly during term time and once a month during vacations.	

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Attended NATIONAL UNION STUDENTS CONFERENCE AT BLACKPOOL.	Attending the National Union Student Conference in the UK as the representative of the University of Leicester's postgraduate officer was an exhilarating experience. With a fervent dedication to advocating for international student issues, I engaged in fruitful discussions, highlighting the importance of inclusive policies and support structures. Through collaborative efforts, we explored strategies to enhance the academic and social well-being of our diverse student body, fostering an environment where every voice is heard and valued. It was a privilege to champion

	the rights and concerns of international students, ensuring their perspectives were integral to the discourse shaping our educational landscape.
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REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	Attending the representative committee meeting at the University of Leicester as the postgraduate officer was a dynamic and enriching experience. As a dedicated advocate for the postgraduate community, I actively contributed to discussions surrounding pertinent issues such as funding opportunities, academic support, and campus inclusivity. Collaborating with fellow representatives from various faculties, we strategised ways to enhance the overall student experience and address concerns raised by our constituents. Through constructive dialogue and effective communication, we worked towards implementing positive changes that would benefit the entire student body. It was inspiring to see the collective commitment of everyone involved to create a supportive and inclusive environment for all students at the University of Leicester.

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RUNNER UP FOR EDUCATION OFFICER POST FOR THE COMING YEAR	Participating as a candidate for the full-time officer position of Education Officer at the University of Leicester was an invaluable learning experience, despite ultimately finishing as the runner-up with the second highest votes. Through the campaign process, I gained insight into the diverse needs and aspirations of the student body, honing my ability to effectively communicate ideas and engage with stakeholders. While the outcome may not have been as desired, I embraced the opportunity to understand the nuances of student politics and the importance of grassroots mobilisation. This experience reinforced the significance of perseverance, resilience, and the power of collective voice in advocating for positive change within the university community. It also highlighted the importance of collaboration and building alliances to advance common goals. Moving forward, I am committed to utilising these lessons to continue serving as a passionate advocate for student welfare and empowerment.

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