## LEEDS TRINITY STUDENTS' UNION

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### 2017 - 2020





WINNER

Winner of the Students' Union Award Winner of the Students' Union of the Year

NUS Awards 2017

Educate North & UK Leadership Awards 2017

### ISUPPORTING YOU TO REACH YOUR POTENTIAL

## **LTSU AND THE BIG PLAN**

Leeds Trinity Students' Union exists to empower and support students to reach their potential. We are run by students, for students - so every decision is made by you! The BIG PLAN 2017 – 2020 outlines what our priorities are over the next three years based on student consultation and research.



You elect your President, Vice President, Students Council, Course Reps and Sports Club and Society Committee members each year and you can decide what we prioritise through our 'Students Say' and campaigns decided at your Student Council.



We run Freshers' events during Intro Week and Refreshers, as well as organising the students' Grad Ball, Clubs and Societies Awards, Student Led Staff Awards and one off social events throughout the year.



We look out for all students, offering a range of advice and support on issues you may encounter whilst at University.



We want every student to have the best academic experience, build relationships and feel empowered to succeed whilst they are at Leeds Trinity University.



## **WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED**





STUDENT WELFARE Receive impartial and confidential advice from our student welfare service STUDENT STAFF Work for us as a student staff member



CLUBS & SOCIETIES Join one of our 35+ Sport Clubs & Societies



**FRESHERS' WEEK** 

Take part in our Freshers' Week which has over 60 diffrent events taking place



#### **BE THE CHANGE**

Become a Course Rep, Student Council Member or Sabbatical Officer leading and making positive change for students



#### **GIVE IT A GO**

Make friends and try new hobbies by getting involved in our 200+ programme of social events throughout the year



#### **STUDENTS SAY**

Submit an idea for 'Students say' on our website which, if enough students like, we will work with you to make it happen



#### **AWARDS**

Nominate students and staff across a range of award ceremonies including our Clubs & Societies Awards and Student-Led Staff Awards



## **OUR VISION**

Supporting you to reach your potential





## **OUR MISSION**

To ensure you have the best academic experience, build relationships and feel empowered to succeed



### WE HAVE IDENTIFIED 3 PRIORITIES TO ACHIEVE THIS:

1. Advocating students' academic success through support and representation 2. Developing a sense of belonging through inclusive and varied student communities

3. Becoming an exceptional, innovative organisation that understands students' needs

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Everything we do will be for and directed by students. Our success will come from ensuring students can reach their potential and ensuring the student voice is articulated



to the University.



We are a Union for all students. Our activity and services will meet all students' needs and we will continually evaluate the diversity and inclusivity of participation.

# **PERSONALISED**

Our community at Leeds Trinity is close-knit and supportive. We will have a relationship with every student at Leeds Trinity University and be approachable, flexible and friendly in how we operate.



EXCEPTIONAL

We will always strive to be better, identifying ways to ensure we maintain and increase our relevancy to students whilst positively influencing students' time at

Leeds Trinity University.



### **HOW WE MADE THE BIG PLAN?**

We ran a student survey about your "Dream Life" asking you to identify what mattered most to you whilst at University

1-to-1 interviews with stakeholders to find out what the current perception of the Union is and what the big issues were looking forward

We conducted

We organised focus groups with students of varying levels of involvement with what the Union currently does We looked at research from across other Students' Unions and Universities șimilar to ourselves We ran the 'Big Ideas Groups' bringing students and staff together to look at how we bring the Plan to life between now and 2020

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## THEME 1.

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#### ADVOCATING WITH AND FOR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC SUCCESS THROUGH SUPPORT AND REPRESENTATION

### WHAT YOU TOLD US:

- Your main reason for coming to University is for a great academic experience.
- You want us to prioritise campaigning, being represented and advice in the work we do.
- Feeling part of an academic community is important.
- You want support for a range of issues from mental health to money advice.

#### **OUR AMBITIONS BY 2020:**

- 1. Ensure every student has the best possible opportunity for academic success and has the support to complete their studies.
- 2. Students will have their voice heard and represented by the Union through Course Reps, other elected representatives and annual 'School Reports' highlighting the key issues students have shared with us.
- 3. Our Student-Led Staff Awards will receive 850 nominations annually and we will hold in partnership with the University an annual session on good practice in teaching and support for students with the winners.
- 4. Every student will receive access to advice on life skills such a budgeting, health, contract checking on housing and access to a peer to peer Mental Health project.
- 5. Every student will have advocacy support through a trained member of staff for any University academic or personal misconduct hearings.
- 6. Our Union democracy will be robust and fit for purpose with 50% of students voting in Union Elections.

## THEME 2.

#### DEVELOPING A SENSE OF BELONGING THROUGH INCLUSIVE AND VARIED STUDENT COMMUNITIES

### WHAT YOU TOLD US:

- You want more and different opportunities to make friends and feel part of a community including celebrating the diversity of our campus.
- You want us to provide more day time, low cost opportunities for you to meet people.
- Societies and Sports Clubs want to feel part of a wider on-campus community.
- Addtional support in improving employability skills.

#### **OUR AMBITIONS BY 2020:**

- 1. Every student will be automatically enrolled on an Academic Society and have access to over 200 events annually as part of a Give it a Go programme that will provide pre-induction, day time and halls activities.
- 2. BUCS teams will have year on year improvement and we will support individual athletes.
- 3. At least 25% of students will have signed up to a Sports Club or Non-Academic Society, forming part of a vibrant, thriving on-campus student community.
- 4. We will continue to run an extensive Freshers' programme that welcomes new students and launches a Returning students programme to ensure all students feel welcomed to the campus each September.
- 5. We will run events celebrating key liberation milestones throughout the year such as Black History Month, International Women's Day and LGBT\* History Month as well as an annual Interfaith Week in conjunction with Faith Societies and the Chaplaincy.
- Support students in their employability by launching a Union Volunteering training programme, encourage the University to increase student staff roles by 10% and all Union volunteering roles included on every students' HEAR Transcript.

## THEME 3.

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#### BECOMING AN EXCEPTIONAL, INNOVATIVE ORGANISATION THAT UNDERSTANDS STUDENTS' NEEDS

### WHAT YOU TOLD US:

- A Union that understands your needs, and supports you to succeed during yout time at University.
- A Union that communicates effectively about what it can offer you.
- More space for students to be students.
- Once involved in the Union you typically enjoy the experience.

#### **OUR AMBITIONS BY 2020:**

- We will become one of the leading Student Unions in the country achieving Quality Students' Union, Green Impact accreditation and in the top quartile of comparators in student engagement in key participation activity. Furthermore, we will ensure our space is fit for purpose for students.
- 2. We will implement our Communications Strategy seeing year on year increases in engagement and further understanding of the Union's purpose through an Annual Rate Your Union Survey.
- 3. We will become an 'Investing in Volunteers' accredited organisation ensuring students who are involved in voluntary Students' Union roles have the best possible experience.
- 4. We will measure student satisfaction with our services annually recognising an increase in satisfaction.
- 5. We will use our data intelligently, actively demonstrating our positive impact on progression, retention and attainment for any student who has involvement with the Students' Union.

6. We will have completed a project on 'Embracing our Values' ensuring in all roles of the organisation including trustees, staff and volunteers reflect on how they meet the organisation values and how we embed them within the organisation activity.

Just because we have written our plan does not mean we have stopped listening to what students want. If you still want to tell us something then contact your President and Vice-President at: student.union@leedstrinity.ac.uk



Winner of the Students' Union Award



educate

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Thank you to all students, staff and trustees who have been involved in helping us come up with the Big Plan 2017 – 2020.