

Executive Report – Entertainments Officer, 2007-08 (Anso Dietrichsen)

I will start by telling you what I wanted to achieve from my manifesto, explaining how I achieved it or didn't achieve it. Then I will just tell you about the other things I have been up to.

1. Ok first of all I wanted to add a variety of nights to our students union and I think I have successfully achieved this aim. Not only by the different music genres, but also by the different events we have done. However there are still so many things students have asked for, which I am eager to try out and I think will do well.
2. I felt that after the Freshers week, the first years did not really know what was going on, therefore I wanted to involve Freshers a little more, with improved communication channels. At the Freshers fair I had a list, where people could sign up if they wanted entertainment updates and we have this system up and running. The problem we have encountered with this, is that what ever system we use, whether it is hotmail or the university email, they wont allow us to email all our contacts at once, so that is a little annoying.
3. I pointed out the lack of weekend Entertainments in the student union last year and wanted to change this. Well we have a Flirt on Fridays. This was very popular at the start of term and then died down a little, but now is slowly picking up again.
4. To reopen the C2H bar at West Downs, however this was a failed attempt before it even started, because C2H doesn't belong to the union anymore.
5. I wanted to work closely with the welfare officer to promote his causes. Well so far, we have had a Chlamydia Bop and a Bop to raise student's awareness on HIV. We have also had a really successful fair for Children in need, which took place outside the Terrace Bar. I have also tried to help the other exec officers, wherever I can.
6. My last aim was to make students more aware of the 'SSHH' (Silent Students, Happy Homes) campaign and show them how it works in their favor. As of yet I have not pushed this campaign as much as I should have, so it is something I need to look in to.

Moving on to the other things I have achieved this year. I think that we had a very busy freshers week, which most people enjoyed. We didn't just have a variety of day workshops, but also night time entertainments. Just Jack did a DJ set during the fortnight and Chappers and Dave came to the Freshers Party.

I feel that the ticket system that we have put in place, even though it was a bit tricky in the first couple of weeks, is also very helpful. It shows us the amount of people who are interested in an event, but also guarantees entry to the student.

At the beginning of last term, I did an interview on a website called www.universityblog.wordpress.com. The website allows people who are applying to university, to see discussions with members from universities about their facilities.

I have also had an Entertainments forum at the end of last year in order to see what students wanted from this term. It wasn't that successful, because not many people showed up, however we did use some of the ideas which came from it. For example the snow party, more RnB at Flirt, more freebies, a talent show and there will be a traffic light part after Valentines Day. I would really like to do another Entertainments forum before Easter and it will be advertised more, in order to get more students involved. I would also like to make use of our website facilities, so open a blogg where students can write down their ideas, if they would rather not attend the forum.

One thing students complained about last year was the over use of facebook messages, so we have cut down on this. However, we have been doing other things to advertise our events, such as flyering more frequently. It has proven to be successful, because events that we have flyered for have doubled in numbers or sold out.

The Christmas Ball was also a very popular event. The ice rink was successful as well as Karl Kennedy. Students did complain that it was in our own venue, however after coming to the night, it was thoroughly enjoyed.

And finally, due to the success of the snow party, we are having a foam part this term.