

## NEWSLETTER



### Hello you lovely lot!

I'm so excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Chester Students' Union newsletter!

We listened to you, and now we're delivering what you all asked for. This monthly newsletter has been created to bring you the inside scoop on everything you need to know about what is happening at CSU and in the wider University community. Our goal is simple: to keep you informed, connected and inspired. Whether it's letting you know our upcoming events or student campaigns, to bringing you updates on our manifestos and any student feedback you have given to us.

At CSU, we believe communication is at the heart of a strong student community. This newsletter is your space — a platform to share your voice, your ideas, and your experiences. So, we will also be featuring fun opportunities for you to get involved in the newsletter so watch this space!

In our first edition, you'll find highlights from Welcome' Week, a chance to get to know us - your elected student officers - more, and a run down on everything that is to come this term.

Let's make this newsletter a celebration of our commitment to always be proactive, collaborative and inclusive in everything we do here at CSU.

Lily, Luis, Will



## MANIFESTO REVIEW -LILY

Take a collaborative approach in working with the local community to allow CSU to develop its growth strategy

#### **IN PROGRESS**

I will look to find opportunities for CSU to expand its footprint by working with local businesses and exploring new funding opportunities that allow us to explore new and diverse income streams to support student initiatives. Work has started, you may or may not know but we have now signed with Cool It events to be our official night time events provider. This is one of the many ways we are now expanding the CSU footprint to bring you partnerships that add value to your student experience.

Create more inclusive studentowned spaces

#### **IN PROGRESS**

I will look to work with the University to see how we can create more studentowned spaces, while revamping the existing spaces we know and love already.

We have already started to see change over summer with the Bar being revamped and 2 new dedicated event spaces, but the conversations and developments haven't stopped there. I am continuing to healthy and positive conversation with the relevant team to ensure the space works for you!

Be proactive in identifying campaigns that matter to you

#### **IN PROGRESS**

From anti-spiking, to sexual health, my fellow Officers and I will be bringing you campaigns that matter and endeavour to make institutional change.

Planning has begun to bring you a wide range of campaigns over the year with the first being SHAG week. If you have any suggestions on what you want to see from us please email –

SUPRESIDENT@CHESTER.AC.UK

# MANIFESTO REVIEW LUIS

Advocating for teaching and learning that meets diverse needs

#### **IN PROGRESS**

From student-led forums to gather lived experiences to partnerships with university departments.

Planning is underway for student-led forums to gather lived experiences and co-create inclusive learning recommendations that reflect the realities of our student community.

Strengthen student voice mechanisms

#### **IN PROGRESS**

Champion the student voice by closing the feedback loop and advocating for different ways of collecting feedback.

Recruitment for Student Voice

Representatives (SVRs) is underway to amplify perspectives. We are also launching our bright pink feedback post-boxes to encourage low-pressure, creative ways for students to share their thoughts.

Supporting you through your academic journey

#### **IN PROGRESS**

Collaborate with faculties to address academic pressure and promote wellbeing during high-stress periods. Planning has begun for a new campaign focused on reducing academic stress during assessment periods, working in collaboration with university departments to align support services and academic expectations.

## MANIFESTO REVIEW WILL

Being collaborative and working alongside my fellow officers

#### **IN PROGRESS**

Movember campaign centred around men's health in the month of Movember and also I have loved working with Lily who has led a magnificent SHAG week campaign. The pre night social at the start of the year was another example where anti-spiking equipment was given out, these are also available within CSU along with other sexual health products such as condoms.

I have also had a pleasure of working with the purple flag working group who work towards a safe night time economy. This group is lead by the council and has members from the university, police, the street-angels, pub watch and many more to ensure Chester is a safe night out!

Being proactive to create more opportunities for sports and societies

#### **IN PROGRESS**

Made a weekly round up for all sports fixtures in collaboration with team Chester, CSU newsletter about to launch with a society and sports section. Partnership with cool it events offering opportunities for sports and societies. Whilst working with catering has led to team teas after games.

**Ensuring student spaces are inclusive** 

#### **IN PROGRESS**

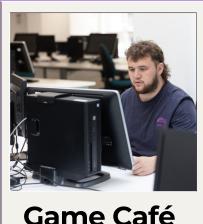
We have been very happy with the new CSU Studio which has been refurbished behind the bar this has come after consultation with students. You said you need more student space and this is a step towards that. This space is a win for the student voice and we want to keep using your voice to make change.

Officers on Tour

## **EVENTS**



**Speed Friending** 







Paint your place





**Murder Mystery** 



## **CHECK OUT ALL OUR EVENTS**

Let us know what events you want to see next!



## SOCIETIES

University isn't just about lectures and deadlines - it's about discovering who we are and where we belong. One of the most powerful ways students do that is through our societies. As VP student life, I'm here to ensure societies feel supported. If you need anything please message

@CSUOFFICERTEAM on Instagram or email me at sustudentlife@chester.ac.uk.

Over the past few weeks I have had the honour of getting to know society committee members during training and the sports and societies fair. It never ceases to amaze me how much hard work our committees do behind the scenes to make sure that their society is at it's best for their members.

I have also seen countless events going on around campus this term: CRAGS helped CSU run a well attended games night during welcome, I've also seen the Christian Union around campus with hot chocolates which was certainly a nice treat after a long

day of meetings, Criminology hosted a tour of Chester which looked amazing, the David Attenborough society hosted a pumpkin carving session in the back bar which looked like it was really fun. I could go on all day as our societies are really the life of the party when it comes to university life.

So to all members of societies - keep up the good work, and if you are not involved yet - go and check out the A-Z of societies on our website!





## **SPORTS**

The season has well and truly began with nearly all our teams back in action and overall I think its been quite a positive start for team Chester. Plus, we're all looking very smart in our brand new kits. Here are some updates for the term:

#### Our new round up

We've introduced a weekly round-up of all sports fixtures, developed in collaboration with the sports and active lifestyle team, to enhance awareness and bring the results straight to you.

#### Social media

Big shoutout to all the social media officers who have been smashing the socials over the last few weeks, a personal favourite has been the midnight gameshows which are hilarious!

#### **Charity events**

The charity events are coming thick and fast, and teams are absolutely smashing it! The energy has been incredible, with an impressive amount of money already raised for some amazing causes.

Good luck to everyone in all their fixtures and remember if you need anything you know where to find us.

## STUDENT VOICE

Welcome to your latest Student Voice Update! Whether you are new to campus or returning for another year, there are plenty of exciting ways to get involved, share your views and help shape your university experience!

#### What Are You Looking Forward to This Year?

We're popping up across campuses with one simple question: What are you looking forward to this year?

Answer it and you could win a £10 voucher! Keep an eye out for activities happening near you and don't miss your chance to share your thoughts.

#### **Become a Student Voice Representative (SVR)**

Want to make a difference in your course? SVRs represent the academic interests of their peers by gathering feedback and working with staff to improve the student experience. It's a great way to build skills and make your voice count.

#### **Apply to Be a Student Voice Partner (SVP)**

Ready to take it further? SVPs receive a £500 bursary and play a key role in supporting SVRs, responding to feedback, and keeping CSU in the loop. You'll help build a more connected and engaged community, linking students, staff, CSU, and academic societies.

#### Feedback Post-boxes Are Live!

We're launching feedback post-boxes across all sites, making it easier than ever to drop in your thoughts, ideas, or concerns. Quick, simple, and anonymous.

Get involved and let's make this year one to remember. Your voice matters!

### **OUR CAMPAIGNS**

## October - Lily President Launches SHAG Week: Sexual Health and Guidance Week

This October, Lily, your Students' Union President, launched SHAG Week (Sexual Health and Guidance Week) again but bigger and better than before. Throughout the week, students took part in events, challenges and received advice from professionals. Remember, you can access free condoms and STI testing kits in the CSU toilets whenever you need!

## November - Will VP Student Life Leads Movember Campaign for Men's Mental Health

This November, Will, your VP Student Life, is launching a Movember campaign dedicated to raising awareness and support for men's mental health. The initiative encourages students to start conversations, break down stigma, and support one another throughout the month.

Movember is about more than just growing a moustache - it's about growing understanding. Will's campaign will include awareness events and opportunities for you all to come together to raise money and support men's health causes.

## December - Luis VP Education Launches "Home Away from Home" Winter Campaign

This winter, Luis, your VP Education, is launching Home Away from Home, a campaign designed to support students who are staying on or near campus during the winter break. The campaign focuses on creating community for you all and understanding what makes Chester home for you.

Throughout December we have many events for you to get involved in that give you that cosy feeling. The campaign will also highlight available resources, including wellbeing support and letting you celebrate the festivities in whatever way you wish.

## **GET TO KNOW YOUR OFFICER TEAM**



#### **ABOUT ME**

Lily

**Degree studied: BA Acting** 

**Favourite food: PASTA!** 

**Top artist: Adele** 

One thing I'll never do again: Dress up like a

condom

Typical Sunday: A day in bed followed by a

roast dinner

Bet you can't: beat me at pub quiz

**Try to guess this about me:** The strangest place on campus I've ever hosted a meeting



#### **ABOUT ME**

Will

**Degree studied: Sports** 

and exercise science

Favourite food: Sausage roll!

**Top Artist: Noah Kahan** 

One thing I'll never do again: play an ugly

sister in a school play

**Typical Sunday:** Golf

Bet you can't: say a really long Welsh town

name as well as I do!

Try to guess this about me: what team I

support



#### **ABOUT ME**

Luis

**Degree studied: BA Acting** 

Favourite food: Lasagne

**Top Artist: Ariana Grande** 

Ask me anything about: The Scream

franchise.

Cry-in-the-car song: Run for the hills –Tate

McRae

A random fact I love: The Eiffel Tower can grow and shrink due to thermal expansion.

Try to guess this about me: How many

languages do I speak?

## **GET INVOLVED**

Join a Society

Tune in to our podcast

<u>Become a Student Trustee</u>

<u>Become a Student Voice Partner</u>

#### Follow us:

- **csuofficerteam**
- chesterstudentsunion