



QMSU President's Report

Outcome requested:	Council is asked to note the report from the QMSU President.
Executive Summary:	<p>The report is an update from then end of January to early March on activity within the Students' Union. It includes the following sections;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Key UpdatesStudent VoiceEducationWelfare & LiberationStudent Opportunities
Author:	Shamima Akter, Students' Union President
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Senior Management/External Sponsor	

President's University Council Report

March 2021

www.qmsu.org



President's Report

Key Updates

Elections

The Students' Union's Spring Elections period ended on 5th March, where the elected leaders for 2021/22 were announced. A total of 166 candidates had nominated themselves for the 70 positions that were available. 3970 students cast their votes, which is an increase compared to the last two years. The positions that were up for election included the Executive Officers, the Part-Time Officers and the Student Trustees.

The new Executive Officers for 2021/22 are Adi Sawalha (President), Radhika Thiagarajan (VP Communities), Muneer Hussain (VP Welfare), Robert Leo Tucker (VP Barts and the London), Saynab Sharif (VP Humanities and Social Sciences) and Bilge Kacmaz (VP Science and Engineering). The newly elected officers take office on 1 August.

The full results can be viewed at www.qmsu.org/elections/results

Aldwych Group

Students' Union President, Shamima Akter, has been actively involved with other Russell Group Students' Union's, allowing her to discuss and agree national stances on issues pertaining to the student body. The group has recently met with Dr Tim Bradshaw, the CEO of the Russell Group; which was facilitated by Shamima. She is in the process of formalising more regular meetings with Dr Bradshaw, as well as other individuals who are working on certain policies, for example looking at freedom of speech and the implications of the new legislation on Universities and Students' Unions. More work is also being done with Students United Against Fees; this was taken to the Russell Group and discussed. The core group led by LSESU, is working on doing financial modelling with London Economics. There are also continuous efforts to reach out to MPs and Vice Chancellors for support.

Rent and Accommodation Support

Vice President Communities, Tiana Dinard-Samuel, and Vice President Welfare, Jack Juckes have continued to co-lead the work surrounding rent issues. They have been meeting regularly with the university in weekly meetings about various issues such as maintenance problems and rent rebates, particularly in light of the government's recent covid roadmap. The university accepted evidence from the rent strike campaign on maintenance issues and is working to combat them. At the time of writing we are discussing further rebates/refunds for students who aren't able to return due to the Government rules. We hope a resolution will be found that recognises it's not fair for students to pay for something they cannot use. Outside of these meetings these issues are also raised in other spaces such as the Residential Strategy Group Meeting where we asked for more student consultation on any decisions made.

In addition to previous work for students in private accommodation, Jack and Tiana recorded an interview with the London Renters Union to inform students of what their purpose is, how they can support student renters in private accommodation, and how students can get involved with them. This interview is hosted on our YouTube channel and has been promoted to students. Jack and Tiana also wrote a letter to private landlords asking for sympathy towards students in these difficult times. Students are able to download the letter from our website and submit to their landlords if they are in a difficult financial situation and need the backing of the Students' Union to help plead their case. Our website also includes a link to a template from the charity Shelter which can be used to help negotiate a rent reduction during this pandemic.

LGBT+ History Month

Tiana coordinated the [LGBT+ History Month Campaign](#) with the organising committee made up of Vice President Science and Engineering, Aphrodite Murray-Liddington, Vice President Humanities and Social Sciences, Cameron Storey, the LGBT+ Representatives, society members and various other student reps. They created content for the website and social media such as student profiles, the culture list, a Spotify playlist and Instagram quizzes. They also approved funding from the Liberation Fund for things like speaker

fees, LGBT+ themed masks and badges, and prizes for events. Two events were run centrally, led by Tiana and Aphrodite. *Diverse(ish)*: Intersectionality was our anti-racism forum where we held discussions exploring the intersections between race, religion, gender and sexuality. For the second event we invited alumnus and a sex educator to deliver a workshop on “Everything you need to know about LGBT+ Sex”, a topic that is usually overlooked in mainstream sex education. Both events were well attended and received positive feedback from the students attending.

Asian Heritage Month

Tiana coordinated [Asian Heritage Month](#) in a similar way, liaising with student reps and Shamima to plan the direction of and content for the campaign. We decided the main aims would be to celebrate the diversity of the Asian diaspora, raise awareness of issues faced by Asians across the world and in the UK; and to explore British Asian Identity. We put together information for the website and social media such as the student profiles and culture list, and also encouraged students to write articles to share on the website, which have so far been about South Asian landmarks in East London and Queer Tamils and their mental health. Shamima and Tiana also organised a panel event on Asian Women in Leadership featuring four guest speakers from various industries talking about their experiences and inspiring students. They have also planned to film a Mukbang-style video testing out a variety of Asian snacks while discussing the importance of Asian Heritage Month and the experience of being Asian in Britain.

International Students

Tiana has continued meeting with the International Representatives on issues such as fees and fee payment deadlines, which has been an ongoing discussion topic in the regular meetings with the Vice Principal International and the Global Engagement team. Students have been asking for not only reduced fees due to the circumstances of the pandemic but also removing the admin fee required when paying in instalments, as well as the ability to pay their fees in more than two instalments per year as this is a significant sum of money each time. Tiana [released a statement](#) with input and support from the International Representatives to update students on this ongoing work.

Tiana has also been supporting the International Reps on a social media campaign through Instagram Stories for International Week, highlighting the diversity of the student body through profiles on different students while sharing fun facts about their country.

Tiana also met with a professor from the School of Engineering in China to discuss how TNE students can get more involved with the Students' Union here in London – for example making students in China aware that they too can nominate staff for the Education Awards, or of course being involved in International Week. We identified that more work needs to be done on communication and sharing content as the students in China don't have access to the same platforms like Instagram and Twitter that we primarily use.

Recognising Students' Achievements and Accomplishments

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and how student activity has changed to adapt, we have made adjustments to our reward and recognition offers for students. In some cases, new awards have been created to truly capture the commitment, achievements and accomplishments of our students this year and we have recently requested that these new titles are added to students' HEAR transcripts.

The achievements of our 400+ Course Representatives and Student Council Members will be recognised at the [Education Awards](#). The ceremony will be held online on 29th March, and all students and staff are invited to attend. The Education Awards also includes the Teaching Awards, where students have been able to nominate academics and support staff. In total, 190 nominations were received for the Course Rep Awards, 45 nominations were received for the Student Council Awards and 439 nominations were received for the Teaching Awards. The shortlist is now available on our website.

Reward and recognition for our 250+ societies, volunteering groups and student media outlets have now been combined into the new '[Student Group Awards](#)', consisting of a mixture of merit and nominations based awards. We are pleased to see more applications and nominations compared to previous years (52 applications and 74 nominations so far) and look forward to recognising and celebrating our groups and leaders for their commitments and achievements this year when we announce the results in April!

In the meantime, two of our Student Media Outlets, CUB and Diaspora Speaks, won three awards at this year's [Student Publication Association's Regional Awards](#), going up against London's best student media newspapers and magazines to win 'Best Newcomer Publication', 'Outstanding Commitment Award', and 'Highly Commended in the Best Journalism'.

Student Voice

Access and Participation Plan (APP)

The Office for Students (OfS) requires universities to evaluate their performance against their own APP, and this year the OfS have introduced a new requirement for a student submission for each university. Jack is leading on the student evaluation element of this. This will involve consulting with representatives to find out what they think of the university's performance in areas such as Widening Participation, and then writing a report to submit to OfS.

BLSA Annual General Meeting & Governance

Over 100 students attended the AGM. At the meeting, BLSA Reps and Vice President Barts and The London Mat Robathan, updated on their work this year and answered questions from students. We also discussed how BLSA could best support and represent students during these times. Students also voted to pass a motion of no-confidence in the UK Foundation Programme Office (UKFPO), the body in charge of allocating medical students to UK jobs after medical school.

Mat has started a new group to look at the BLSA Terms of Reference and ensure these are up to date. This exercise will involve, ensuring all roles and role descriptions are up to date, ensuring all SMD courses and student groups are adequately represented, ensuring reps are better supported by BLSA structures and working on Malta representation and structures

Education

HSS Student Concerns

At present, Cameron has been receiving enquiries from students across the faculty, regarding summer examinations and assessment policy. Cameron has been supporting the School Representatives in having conversations with the senior management team of their Schools, to make sure that the individual policies within Schools relating to examinations and assessments are fully understood by all students. These conversations are also feeding into further discussions surrounding the need for clarification over the differences between take-home exams and coursework, in terms of marking procedures and feedback.

There have also been concerns surrounding support for joint honours students, in terms of differing policies between Schools and inconsistencies that can thus emerge, as well as academic and individual support. Cameron will be working with the HSS Dean of Education on this issue going forward, to actively seek to understand the root causes of the issue and support students who are on joint programmes. Part of this work relating to feedback inconsistencies between Schools will be addressed by the Assessment and Feedback Workstream.

Cameron remains involved in conversations surrounding the Covid Mitigation Measures. He continues to liaise with students and the Head of School to maintain oversight over the progress being made in individual Schools, and to provide updates on wider university policy discussions. There have been some concerns raised with SLLF, specifically for students who are on a Year Abroad (YA) this academic year, and the implications of the policy on their study while at a partner institution. He has liaised with ARCS to understand the procedure and communicate this with students, in addition to the current communications received by students regarding the YA in future years. He also has raised the idea to both the Dean of Education and Vice Principal (Education) that Schools should be encouraged to engage in regular update meetings with students, as such open forums organised so far have been hailed for their productivity and highlighted at Senate and the Festival of Education as a means of co-creation and collaboration between staff and students.

Cameron will also now be sitting on the Paris Strategy Group, to ensure that students he represents as part of his remit, who are studying at the University of London Institute in Paris are represented in conversations relating to the continued offering of teaching and operations, as well as the potential new areas of teaching and learning, and the management of activities.

SMD Education

Mat continues to work with student representatives and Course Reps to respond to any issues, especially in light of the pandemic. He has been working with SMD, University and other staff as well as student reps to work on applying the Covid Mitigation measures to MBBS (Medicine), BDS (Dentistry) and Physician Associate courses in a way that ensures the University mitigations are applied but also maintain standards and meets accreditation requirements. For MBBS, this has been completed and sent to students. For Physician Associate and BDS, plans are being finalised but largely based on MBBS measures. For non-clinical courses, Mat worked with representatives to ensure Covid mitigations were being appropriately implemented across faculties and that any student concerns or issues were addressed.

Mat has also started an exercise to review SSLC structures in non-clinical SMD courses. This is aimed at ensuring SSLCs are as effective as they can be, suited to each course and institute and also aims to improve communication between students, reps and BLSA so that representation can be improved."

SSLC Training: Co-chairing and co-creating in SSLCs

As part of the ongoing priority to improve Student Staff Liaison Committees (SSLCs) and implement student co-chairs into these meetings, Cameron has been working with other Executive Officers, the Students' Union Education Coordinator, the Faculty Education Managers, QM Academy and ARCS representatives to provide a complete and coherent training programme for staff members within Schools who act as SSLC staff chairs, with the idea that this training would also be available for other members of staff due to the emphasis on co-creating new initiatives to improve the student experience.

This training consists of quiz questions and scenarios, forums and videos, delivered jointly by academic representatives from each Faculty and the Executive Officers. The training module has now been completed and was launched as a pilot programme during the Festival of Education 2021, with the training fully opened during designated periods, September and January, coinciding with the Course Reps election. In the meantime, the working group will be working on feedback from the pilot stage, implementing changes and monitoring the training to make sure it is kept up to date.

Cameron is also planning to provide further support and resources for Course Representatives as part of this priority. The next phase will involve the creation of a Course Representatives Hub on the Students' Union website that would collect all information relevant to the Course Rep role, as well as key dates, contacting information and training materials. All members from the SSLC Training Team will be approached as potential stakeholders in the creation of this Hub, in line with the current collaborative approach the group has benefited from.

QM Academy

Cameron has continued to support the QM Academy in various formats. He was actively involved in the planning and execution of the Festival of Education 2021. The HSS Faculty Education Manager and Cameron jointly chaired a student panel as part of the Student Engagement day of the Festival, where students and recent graduates, including the Vice President HSS-elect, were invited for a conversation about the student experience at Queen Mary over the past year, looking at the transition to online learning as well as the challenges and successes that the past year has brought. All three Faculty Vice Presidents were also awarded a Special Award at the closing ceremony of the Festival in recognition of their efforts.

Cameron is also a member of the Assessment and Feedback Workstream, which feeds into the Inclusive Curriculum Working Group. Aphrodite and Cameron will be co-chairing one of the Task & Finish groups of this workstream called 'Student Voice'. At present, two meetings have been held. The main remit of the group is the connection between resources and training for staff members, peer feedback and literacy and module evaluations. Furthermore, he is also involved in the Advisor Training Working Group and the Student Engagement Educational Development Group, which was presented at the Festival of Education.

Schools Representatives and School Forums

Cameron coordinates the HSS School Representatives and Postgraduate Research Representatives, supporting these part-time officers in carrying out their duties. He has been working closely with the SEF Representative in improving communication within the School of Economics and Finance, participating in a weekly podcast to encourage Course Representatives to get involved and showcase the work they have done throughout the year in their roles. He has also supported the PGR HSS Representatives with issues in communications to PGR students across Queen Mary and formalising the Course Representatives system to include better representation for research students. These representatives are also responsible for hosting and chairing the Schools Forums, a new platform that allows Course Representatives to liaise with their School Representative. Cameron has attended many of the School Forums this semester, supporting the Representatives with questions from students, and has himself hosted the School of Law Forum due to the School of Law Representative remaining vacant this academic year.

BLSA Student and Study Spaces

Mat has worked with the university to ensure there is enough space on campus for those who need to sit a live, closed book exam as part of their studies, but do not have access to a suitable learning environment at home. This work has improved the space available for students to study on the Whitechapel campus, whilst ensuring this is done in a safe and Covid-secure way. The number of rooms in the Garrod Building to study in is being increased as a result. Mat is also working with staff to ensure students are aware of Covid guidelines and how to study on campus safely.

Mat has worked with student representatives and staff to pass on concerns about the lack of space for clinical skills practice. As a result, the Robin Brook Centre now offers bookable space for skills practice during the working day. We are also looking at plans to offer additional space for students to practice examinations on each other in a Covid-secure manner ahead of exams. We are continuing to monitor the use of study space at the Whitechapel and West Smithfield campuses and will continue to try to increase available space for students when required.

Mat and the team are developing plans for renovations at Charterhouse Square in The Shield and Shield 2. Mat has secured some additional support to fund this project that will provide a new common room/study space for students to use as well as a refreshed multipurpose space on Charterhouse Square.

We recently visited Foyer House with the Residences team to assess what areas may need improving before new students join in September. A similar walkaround of Dawson is being planned.

Finally, Mat is working with the Malta Representative to develop a policy on spaces available to students and student groups in Malta. This includes ensuring a booking system, similar to that in London, is available in Malta.

Advisor Training

Jack is continuing to attend meetings with university staff about the revamp of the university's Advisor system and the training they receive. Jack is also participating in a trial run as part of the online training that advisors will receive to then provide feedback to QM Academy.

UKFPO

Following the poor handling of job allocations for medical students this year, the BLSA are inputting into a national campaign being developed by a group of medical student representatives across the country. This campaign is asking the UKFPO to become more transparent, accountable and better consider student input in decision making.

A petition with over 6,000 signatures was sent and the UKFPO failed to listen to its concerns and make any change, and the group are now preparing a response to this. BLSA have voted to declare no confidence in the UKFPO and are planning to attend the BMA conference where more UKFPO issues will be debated. The BLSA will also develop a campaign to approach other governing bodies to raise our concerns with them.

Welfare & Liberation

Race Equality

Tiana has collaborated with the Careers and Enterprise team on a project they are doing to reflect on and change the way they support Black students and graduates, in response to the importance of the Black Lives Matter Movement. Tiana has facilitated the first two out of a series of three focus groups for black students to share their experiences so that these improvements can be made.

Tiana has also contributed to finalising and promoting a project on a University mentoring opportunity called Diversity Speaks where students can take part in group coaching. Students who identify from an ethnic diverse background will be encouraged and supported to fulfil their potential and minimise barriers that may affect their academic outcome.

A few of the Executive Officers and Students' Union staff will also be sitting on the new REAG subgroup for Student Experience which will be co-chaired by Tiana.

Hardship Funding

Jack is continuing to work with the university's finance department on hardship funding, who have received another grant of £238,000 for the fund. Jack has worked with the university to agree how this money will be used, with the university repackaging different forms of financial support into one Covid-19 support scheme with different sub-funds.

Since this change, and with additional promotion of financial support available, there has been a huge increase in the number of applications for financial support from students, with the university's Bursaries team receiving additional redeployed staff from other departments to help process the applications. We have also redeployed a member of our finance team to the university's finance department, on a temporary fixed-term agreement, to assist with the student hardship applications.

Mental Health

Jack is continuing to work with Tower Hamlets Talking Therapies (THTT) on support for students. The first wellbeing webinar, as part of Study Well, went ahead – it had a good number of registrations but a low turnout on the day. Jack, THTT, Residences, and the Students' Union Communications team are working to adapt the sessions to improve engagement, and are now introducing pre-recorded sessions for students to access at times most convenient to them.

Recruitment of students for the mental health workshop initiative from Rethink Mental Illness, which will train and pay students to deliver mental health workshops to other students, is due to start shortly.

Jack recently participated as a panel member in an event about LGBTQIA+ Mental Health for LGBTQIA+ History Month. The event was successful with good audience participation and feedback, and a recording of the event will be available shortly for students who were unable to attend.

Jack also chaired a panel event for University Mental Health Day on Thursday 4th March, called "How Are You Really Feeling? Let's Talk About Mental Health". This event was a collaboration with the university, the Alumni department, and a member of alumni.

Jack also passed a motion at the last Student Council to ensure Students' Union staff complete Suicide Awareness Training, and this was subsequently approved by the Board of Trustees.

Study Well

Work to revitalise [Study Well](#) is ongoing, with plans to invite student groups to run their own Study Well style events and exploring the idea of virtual libraries. Jack is working on plans for later in the semester as assessment seasons draws closer, and is exploring on-campus options for if and when more students are able to return to campus.

Drugs and Alcohol – Harm Reduction

Jack is exploring options for a Drugs and Alcohol Harm Reduction campaign later in the academic year. He has met with an academic from SMD and a PGT student who are working on these issues and is working with them to link the projects together. This will involve research into students' attitudes towards alcohol and how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected this.

Jack has also now received the results of the drugs and alcohol survey that was conducted in December and will be working internally to review the results and identify salient themes. Jack hopes to present these findings to the university and use them to help inform the harm reduction campaign later in the year.

Jack has also reviewed the university's outdated Drugs and Alcohol Use policy and will be lobbying the university to make adjustments to this.

BLSA security

Mat met with Security to talk about recent changes, lighting on campus and other areas that need improvement. The Students' Union are working on a letter outlining particular concerns that students have with some recommendations on how to address these. Some of the areas of high priority included:

- Improving CCTV provision on the Whitechapel and Charterhouse Square campuses
- Improving secure bike storage on all campuses
- Improving the relationship between security staff and students.
- Improving the visibility of security on all campuses.
- Improving response times
- Improving relationships with local authorities, particularly for dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- Ensuring all security staff are aware of and work within the University's principles and values.

Umii

The Umii trial launched as planned on Monday 1 February 2021, and the team have been meeting regularly with the app creator to discuss progress and data. The initial uptake was somewhat slow initially, but has since increased to levels comparable with other universities which is very promising. The data also seems to suggest that the quality of the connections made is high, which is just as important as the number of connections.

Student Opportunities

Project: Doctorate

Tiana and Cameron have continued to work on Project: Doctorate. This project is now solely focused on two strands. Firstly, the creation of a Postgraduate Engagement Intern role within the Students' Union. The roles main responsibilities are to actively seek to address issues and better engage the Students' Union with the postgraduate community. Both postgraduate taught and research students are underrepresented across the Students' Union's various activities, including student groups and societies, as well as events and activities. This role would come into place next academic year and will receive a limited consultation form both University and Students' Union staff.

The project is also planning on executing a Postgraduate Celebration / Awareness Week in June. This week would host a series of networking events, workshops and social events to engage postgraduate students. At present, Cameron and Tiana have met the Doctoral College to discuss joint collaborations and support. They will be involving the postgraduate representatives in developing ideas for the events.

Online Safety

To support our student groups to run safe and inclusive events and activities online we have created and circulated revised guidance on Zoom and MS Teams safety settings and are in the process of updating our general online safety guidance for events and activities.

Sustainability

In partnership with the University, the Students' Union recently formalised the voluntary adoption of the stretch of the Mile End canal with the Canal and River Trust who own the waterway. This framework creates a more strategic approach for the Canal Clean-Up student volunteering opportunities, and opens up opportunities to launch more substantial voluntary enhancement and biodiversity projects with student and staff involvement. Additionally, we have been in contact with the Public Engagement Team about best utilising the canal as a local asset and academics in Business & Management and Geography about incorporating the canal into their academic curricula in 2021-22.

A motion was passed at the December Student Council which called on the University to re-evaluate and update its Ethical Investment Policy, to empower the University to take more deliberate and ambitious action to combat the climate crisis. Proposed changes include reinvesting at least 10% of funds into renewable solutions and tackling social injustice, freezing new investments in fossil fuels via a screening process, terminating sponsorships with fossil fuel companies and increasing transparency and student participation by publishing annual reports, including student representation on the appropriate committees. It also proposed subjecting the Ethical Investment Policy to review every 3 years to ensure continuing alignment with the changing expectations and core values outlined in the University's 2030 strategy. Subsequent to this motion a meeting has been arranged between the Chief Financial Officer, Vice President for Policy and Strategic Partnerships and the student representatives who prepared the motion to discuss next steps.

Queen Mary recently achieved the Bronze Hedgehog Friendly Campus accreditation, awarded by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, thanks to the efforts of students from the Green Mary student group and Dimi, the Grounds and Gardens Supervisor. Activities undertaken to achieve this award included the building of several hedgehog houses on campus, an online fundraiser and spreading awareness about common challenges faced by hedgehogs in blogs written by students.

Employable Me

Cameron has now successfully hosted four events in the Employable Me series. Employable Me is a series of network sessions and workshops focussing on certain social aspects of employability. Through conversation and discussion, these events will help students understand how their unique skills and experiences can impact your employability and future in the workplace.

The third event 'Your Degree doesn't have to Define your Career' took a closer look how your degree doesn't have to dictate your future career, that regardless of what you have studied at university, you can venture into different fields and industries. The fourth event 'Imposter Syndrome in the Workplace' focused on how Imposter Syndrome is caused, its effects and consequences, and how we can better understand the impact it has on us as people in the workplace. Eight Alumni from Queen Mary were invited for the two events from a variety of industries to share their own experiences and journey to the workplace. Each event had over 40 Queen Mary students, Alumni and Staff attend and ask questions to the panellists.

At the time of writing, Cameron is preparing for the fifth event in continued collaboration with the Alumni Engagement Team: [Female Empowerment in the Workplace](#), scheduled to take place at the end of March. In conjunction with International Women's Day this March, the event will be celebrating the accomplishments of women in the workplace! We will be looking at raising awareness of diversity within leadership, support for professional development, equality of treatment, and workplace culture. There will be one last event held in April, to coincide with World Earth Day.

BLSA Flagship Events

The team are developing plans for BL week. This is a week celebrating our community, its students, staff and partners. BL Week will happen from 12th April and will consist of activities such as; a "do it yourself" heritage trail that students can do with their households, a social media campaign promoting recent achievements and our history, talks from notable alumni and individuals linked to Barts and The London, volunteering/fundraising initiatives and the Association Dinner.

Mat is working with the BLSA VPs to develop plans for the Association Dinner which will now be held virtually as an award type ceremony. This is a great opportunity for students to come together and celebrate our

achievements. We have also planned how to change the awards for this event in light of Covid-19. Nominations are open for students to submit nominations celebrating fellow students and student groups.

Graduation and Rites of Passage

Mat has met with the Honours Committee to go through Colours and Blues nominations for SMD finalists, as well as the Graduation team regarding planned communications about Rites of Passage following confirmation that Graduation is being postponed. Mat also working with the Alumni Association, BATLAA, to develop a fundraising campaign for student projects including this year's Rites of Passage ceremony.

Club Sport

24 of our clubs have been involved in Club Sport Marches On, which is a month of fitness and well-being challenges, 100 people have signed up so far. We currently plan for 10 clubs to resume outdoor training during semester 3.

Social Leagues & Recreational Sport

Social Leagues for 11-a-side football could start back on 31st March. Netball and Football will run in Semester 3 for 5 weeks. Beginner and intermediate Tennis sessions will also begin.

Performance Sport

Through the Talented Athlete programme, we have started a new working relationship with TASS (Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme) which is a Sport England funded partnership between talented athletes, education institutions and national governing bodies of sport. Five athletes are still receiving support both within and outside of their sport.

We have signed an expression of interest to become a Dual Career site which will take us closer to becoming formally recognised for our commitment to supporting gifted student-athletes which will subsequently give us the potential to attract future talent. Most importantly we want Queen Mary to be leading the sector in terms of academic support for student athletes who require it.

Community Foundation

We have run a Sport Consultation with 12 local primary and secondary schools. We are providing free activity packs for young people during the Easter Holidays. Packs include sport equipment and healthy snack ingredients.

Students have facilitated virtual sport sessions during lockdown with over 270 participant engagements. We have presented our Community Foundation to other institutions at a BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport) regional meeting.

Shamima Akter
Students' Union President
18th March 2021