



Undeb Bangor Annual General Meeting Minutes

Chair: Danny (Vp Education) and Mared (Student Chair for Accountability Panel)

Date: 06/10/2026

Location: PL5

Attendance: 236

1. Welcome

Danny welcomed attendees and opened the meeting.

Isaac – Student Union Strategy

Isaac outlined the Students' Union strategy, highlighting its core values and key themes.

2. Officer Priorities

Harry – Accessibility and Student Support

Harry provided an update on accessibility initiatives, including:

- Work surrounding Personal Learning Support Plans (PLSPs), with the Students' Union developing a report into staff and student engagement with support arrangements.
- Identification of a gap between staff and student expectations regarding accessibility support. Findings will be shared with Wellbeing Services, and additional staff training for lecturers is being explored.
- Collaboration with the Student Experience Team to review accessibility across university buildings.

- Ongoing discussions with Estates regarding improved signage for teaching rooms and facilities.
- Successful campaigning for a new university website, which launched recently.
- Plans to further support LGBTQ+ students, including improvements to the annual Pride Ball.

Isaac – Student Communities and Engagement

Isaac highlighted several initiatives:

- Involving student groups in University Open Days to support student recruitment and increase visibility of clubs and societies.
- Encouraging prospective students to connect with groups before arriving at university through early access to community networks and group chats.
- Providing valuable CV-building opportunities for students participating in recruitment activities.
- Launching the initiative at upcoming Open Days with approximately 10–15 groups participating.
- Developing postgraduate meet-up opportunities based on survey feedback gathered over the summer.
- Increasing use of the Student Living Room as a networking and social space for postgraduate students.
- Supporting the continuation of Neve's "Get Outside" campaign to encourage outdoor activity.
- Introducing greater recognition of student achievements through awards such as Athlete of the Week, Society Member of the Week and Volunteer of the Month.

Danny – Employability and Study Spaces

Danny discussed:

- Progress on the internship scheme and wider employability agenda.
- Plans to promote student-led employability events and increase collaboration with the University.
- Work with Careers and Employability services to improve opportunities advertised through CareerConnect.

- Ongoing work with the University regarding study spaces, including improvements to facilities within CoLab and the Alun Building.
- Confirmation that University opening hours for study spaces will be extended.

Ross – UMCB Priorities

Ross outlined his objectives for the year:

- Increasing engagement with UMCB among Welsh-speaking students and Welsh learners.
- Increasing occupancy levels within JMJ Welsh-medium accommodation.
- Raising the profile of UMCB across campus.
- Developing Welsh-medium learning and support services.
- Strengthening marketing of initiatives such as Ffrind Cymraeg and increasing social media activity.
- Building on previous successful campaigns such as AU Head-to-Head and celebrating Welsh student achievements.

JMJ Accommodation

Ross acknowledged the decline in recent occupancy levels and outlined ambitions to increase occupancy to 80%, including:

- Enhanced marketing of the accommodation.
- Promotion of alcohol-free Welsh-language flats.
- Highlighting the availability of Welsh-speaking nurses.
- Encouraging Welsh learners and third-year students to consider JMJ accommodation.

Wellbeing and Neurodiversity

Ross confirmed he would work with his Executive Team to improve support for wellbeing, neurodiversity and mental health through designated student ambassadors.

Ffrind Cymraeg

Ross discussed plans to improve promotion of Ffrind Cymraeg and develop tailored sessions. Discussions are taking place with the Medical School and School of Education regarding student participation as part of their training.

3. Ratification of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by attendees.

4. Annual Report and Accounts

The Annual Report and Accounts were presented to members.

Affiliations

Affiliations were approved by attendees.

5. Accountability Panel and Questions

Ffrind Cymraeg

Ross noted that:

- Ffrind Cymraeg sessions are intended as language practice opportunities and may be challenging for complete beginners.
- Students should consider Welsh language courses through Canolfan Bedwyr.
- Students can access SaySomethinginWelsh through the University, avoiding individual subscription costs.
- Online, face-to-face and community-based learning opportunities are available.

Turnitin

Harry stated that:

- The Students' Union is aware of the situation and is actively engaging with the University.
- Any proposed changes would not be implemented before September 2027.
- The Union is gathering information and will communicate updates to students when available.

Climate Change

Danny explained that officers had not seen the submitted question in advance and wished to provide a considered response.

Points raised included:

- Efforts by the Students' Union to reduce unnecessary merchandise and promotional materials.
- Retaining some physical marketing where it remains beneficial.
- Support for sustainability initiatives, including concerns surrounding the proposed data centre development.
- Recognition of the University's commitment to sustainability through its courses and wider institutional approach.

Data Centre Development

Danny advised students to:

- Follow official consultation and planning processes.
- Submit comments through the local authority planning consultation.
- Engage before the consultation deadline of 17th October.
- Monitor information shared by the Students' Union regarding its own response.

The Students' Union confirmed that it would not be organising its own demonstrations but recognised externally organised events.

International Students

Isaac highlighted:

- Existing cultural and nationality-based student communities.
- Previous discussions regarding an International Society, noting resource limitations.
- The importance of engaging with cultural societies and attending the Cultural Fair.

Volunteering Projects

Isaac committed to:

- Improving promotion of volunteering opportunities.
- Showcasing volunteers' impact through social media.
- Increasing collaboration with volunteering groups.
- Raising awareness of their contribution to the local community.

Representation of Minority Groups

Danny reaffirmed the Union's commitment to visibility and engagement with all student groups through attendance at events and ongoing conversations.

He encouraged students to utilise democratic mechanisms such as the Make a Change process, noting that priorities such as postgraduate study spaces had emerged through this route.

Non-BUCS Sports Clubs

Isaac acknowledged frustrations experienced by non-BUCS clubs and committed to:

- Better promotion of fundraising, competitions and training activities.
- Increased officer attendance at club events.
- Greater visibility of achievements across all sports communities.

Relationship Between UMCB and Wider Student Community

Ross agreed that UMCB should be more integrated with the wider student body and highlighted plans to:

- Increase collaboration with Welsh learners.
- Work closely with student communities and societies.
- Expand participation in volunteering projects.
- Improve communication and visibility through social media.

Support for Societies Beyond Funding

Isaac outlined plans to:

- Increase opportunities for societies to participate in postgraduate meet-ups and other events.
- Provide networking opportunities.
- Encourage greater understanding of student groups across campus.

Welsh Student Voices

Ross reiterated the importance of being a visible and approachable representative for Welsh-speaking students and increasing social media engagement.

Women's Safety

Ross discussed:

- His academic interest in domestic abuse research.

- Collaboration with Equality and Diversity Committees.
- Consideration of a Reclaim the Night campaign focused on campus safety.
- The importance of wellbeing and mental health support.

Women-Only Events

Isaac highlighted existing and planned initiatives, including:

- Women in Sport panels.
- A dedicated Women in Sport Week hosted by the Students' Union.

Implementing Change Within One-Year Terms

Harry acknowledged the challenge of delivering substantial change within a single year and noted the importance of prioritising a small number of key objectives to maximise impact.

Support for Trans Students

Harry reaffirmed his commitment to LGBTQ+ students and highlighted:

- Greater engagement with LGBTQ+ initiatives.
- Continued support for the Pride Ball.
- Development of the Queer Space as an inclusive resource and community area.

Closing the Feedback Loop

Danny acknowledged that student feedback has not always been communicated back effectively and confirmed that improving feedback and communication processes remains a priority.

Funding for Clubs and Societies

Isaac discussed:

- Ongoing challenges resulting from funding reductions.
- Increased costs relating to travel, participation and activities.
- The importance of grant applications in demonstrating need and supporting funding decisions.
- Encouragement for groups to continue fundraising and applying for available grants.

Club and Society Participation in Open Days

Isaac confirmed:

- Community Executive groups will trial Open Day engagement initially.
- If successful, participation opportunities will be expanded through an application process.
- Bar Uno may also be utilised as an engagement space.

International Society Support

Danny reiterated that resource limitations present challenges but encouraged students interested in creating cultural or nationality-based societies to make contact with the Students' Union and participate in the Cultural Fair.

Accessibility in Lectures and Fieldwork

Harry emphasised:

- The need for lecturers to better understand student needs.
- The importance of improving awareness and signposting of existing support services.

Building a Unified Student Community

Danny stressed the importance of officers attending student events and engaging directly with communities. He encouraged students to submit suggestions for activities and initiatives they would like to see developed.

Translation Support for Clubs and Societies

Ross advised that:

- Translation support is available through the Students' Union and Canolfan Bedwyr.
- Student groups are encouraged to make use of these services.
- AI translation tools should be avoided where possible.

Committee Membership Fees

Isaac acknowledged concerns regarding committee members paying membership fees and recognised the significant voluntary contribution made by student leaders. He noted the importance of committee members leading by example while understanding the burden involved.

Accessibility in Sport

Isaac highlighted ongoing initiatives, including:

- Wheelchair-inclusive sessions within sports such as rugby and netball.
- Efforts to expand accessible participation opportunities across additional sports.
- Examples of inclusive activity already available through sports including fencing, judo and low-level mountain walks.

Movember Campaign

Isaac outlined plans for the forthcoming Movember campaign, including:

- Collaboration with clubs and societies.
- Increased promotion and participation.
- Recruitment of additional student ambassadors.

Environmental Sustainability and Institutional Decision-Making

Danny explained that:

- Student representatives sit on a range of University panels and committees.
- Environmental sustainability regularly forms part of institutional discussions.
- Students can utilise the Make a Change process to establish environmental priorities for the Students' Union to advocate on.

Make a Change

The meeting received an overview of the Make a Change process and the Voice Tracker system, including how students can submit ideas and monitor progress.

6. Prize Draw

A raffle prize draw was conducted, with three winning numbers selected.

7. Close of Meeting

The Chairs thanked attendees for their participation and closed the meeting.