Bath Insights Internship Programme Project Brief

Project title: Students' Union Operations Internship

Department: Students' Union

Project theme: Operations

Capabilities: Adaptability; Collaboration; Communication; Creativity and innovation; Critical thinking; Drive and initiative; Leadership; Professionalism; Resilience; Social and cultural awareness

Project brief: As universities continue to expand their global reach through transnational education (TNE) partnerships, international campuses, exchange agreements, and collaborative programmes, Students' Unions have an increasing role to play in supporting students studying across diverse educational and cultural contexts.

While many Students' Unions have established services, representation structures, and communities to support international students on UK campuses, there is less understanding of how SUs effectively engage with students studying through international partnerships, overseas campuses, franchised provision, and other TNE arrangements.

This project seeks to identify and evaluate approaches used across the Students' Union sector to support transnational partnerships and enhance the international student experience, generating recommendations that can inform future practice.

Main outputs or deliverables: The intern will be completing research, as well as an analyse on how Students' Unions across the UK support students studying within transnational education partnerships and international student communities, identifying effective models, challenges, and

opportunities for development. They will also be asked to map a first draft model we can develop with the SU.

Note: This project is not designed to be a formal research project.

A meeting early in the internship will be scheduled for the Intern to meet with colleagues from the University who can provide background context of transnational partnerships, international campuses, exchanges etc and the University’s direction of travel. This will provide an opportunity for gaining understanding into the different types of partnership agreements and expectations regarding student engagement with the University who study internationally.

The Intern will be tasked with searching online for UK universities who provide transnational education partnerships or international campuses as part of their offer.

They will create a list of questions with support from the Data, Research & Insight Manager and Student Voice Team and contact the relevant students' unions at each institution. They will evaluate and decide on the best method for gathering the insight, for example, email, online form, TEAMs call with individual students' unions or collective calls with multiple students' unions in attendance. Through this they will build an understanding of the challenges faced and best practice in how students' unions engage with and support these students.

The Intern will also research online for articles or papers related to this topic in the HE sector, using this sector insight to triangulate with what students' unions have shared with them to create a report and suggested recommendations for The SU.