



King's College London Students' Union
for the year ended 31 July 2015

KCLSU Impact Report 14/15

Company Registered Number: 5762196
Registered Charity Number: 1136729



1 Introduction

“ 2014-15 was the start of a transformational period for us at KCLSU.”



Nadine Almanasfi
KCLSU President and Chair
of Trustees 2015-2016



Mo Wiltshire
Chief Executive

2014-15 was the start of a transformational period for us at KCLSU. Students were not only campaigning to influence the university, but actively taking an interest in how our Union is organised – including asking us to move our money to more ethical banks.

Funding has been a massive issue for students at King's, and NHS funded students have been pushing for a larger hardship fund due to the cuts they are facing. A sustained affordable accommodation campaign also saw 700 more affordable beds being made available for our students in halls of residence in 2015-16.

As we completed the first year of our five year Big Plan, we started a number of Big Thinking projects such as:

- Student Decision Making Review, which looks at all of our approaches to decision making within the Union and how to make our

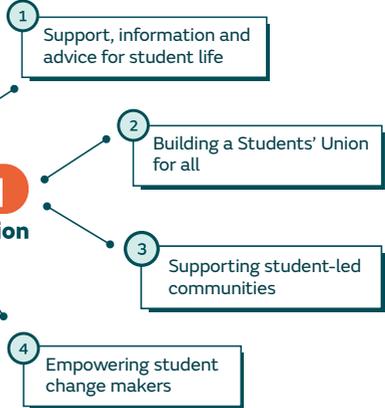
decision making as legitimate and impactful as possible.

- Working with our sports leaders to ensure we have financial support for our sports groups that can continue to meet the growing demand.
- Beginning building work on our much anticipated £4.4 million new Union building at Guy's Campus, completed for September 2016.
- Working on plans to move our Strand Union space from our Surrey Street location into the heart of campus, in Bush House Buildings.

All of these projects lay the foundations for truly Building a Better Union: one that supports more of our members in more of the ways that they need to make the most of their time at University. A big start to our Big Plan and one that we can't wait to see grow in strength over the next year.

2 How we work

27,000+
Student Members



3 What we do



Our Vision

What we want:

For every member to reach their potential, making the most of their time at King's so that they leave ready and able to shape the future.



Our Mission

What we do to realise our vision:

Together with our members we are a union of students where individuals connect, have fun, build communities, share experiences and make change.

4 Your Student Officers



Nadine, Joe, Ben, Sophia and Rachel were elected by King's students in March 2015 to lead KCLSU, represent your views to the university and make sure your student experience at King's is the best possible.

Your 2015/16 Student Officer Team was:

- Nadine Almanasfi, President
- Joe Simpson, Vice President for Activities and Development
- Ben Hunt, Vice President for Education (Arts & Sciences)
- Sophia Koumi, Vice President for Education (Health)
- Rachel Williams, Vice President for Welfare and Community

5 Key successes in 2014-15 (Year 1 of the Big Plan)

Priority 1

Support, information and advice for student life

- We supported 1,406 cases through our Advice Service, down from 1,600 last year, following proactive work to help members understand their rights and responsibilities.
- We developed student-facing casework templates, so that our members felt an improvement in service at the first point of contact.
- We established clear guidance for signposting and referrals, both internally and with KCL, so that the service to our members was joined up and efficient.

Priority 2

Building a Students' Union for all

- We responded to 30,000 enquiries through Student Centres across four campuses, from simple questions to more complex issues, and engaged with more members than ever through social media:
 - 560,692 website hits (target 478,000)
 - 7,185 Twitter followers (target 7,000)
 - 17,617 Facebook Likes (target 12,000)
 - 637 Instagram followers
- We provided a diverse range of one-off and ongoing volunteering opportunities so that 1,287 members (against a target of 1,000) could get involved in the things that matter to them.
- We influenced KCL to maintain the funding for the loss of Pavy Gym, so that our students could continue to enjoy a variety of sporting activities.

Priority 3

Supporting student-led communities

- We over-achieved our target of 7,900 memberships of clubs and societies, with a total of 13,936 memberships.
- We trained 498 student leaders from our sports teams and societies – more than ever before – so that they could manage their money better and be more sustainable for the long term.
- We gave students the necessary tools (including a Student Activity handbook, improved Finance Procedures, and guidance on our AGM, fundraising and volunteering) so they could improve their sports teams and societies and manage them more effectively.

560,692

website hits

7,185

Twitter followers

17,617

Facebook likes

637

Instagram followers

Values in action (Year 1 of the Big Plan)

Priority 4

Empowering student change-makers

- We gave Student Officers the confidence, evidence and tools they needed to influence decision making with KCL around the future for student residences
- We set up, supported and delivered democratic engagement for students, increasing candidate numbers by 10% and voting by 25%

Values in action

- We diversified our range of food and entertainment – including making halal and kosher food available - so that our spaces feel more inclusive and open to all our members.
- We retained our Gold Green Impact Award, and won both a Best Bar None Gold Award and Most Improved Students' Union for our student venues.
- We successfully completed a leadership development programme so that our leaders within

KCLSU are armed with new skills, feel better equipped and empowered to do the best for our members

What we're doing next - Our Ethics

We think carefully about the way we do business, and how we work with suppliers and partners. We've asked all our suppliers of goods and services for our commercial services to sign up to our ethical trading principles, which cover:

- exploitation of workers
- environmental issues
- youth employment
- animal welfare
- oppressive welfare
- finance and ethical banking
- responsible marketing
- supply chain management.

You can find a list of suppliers we work with and our Ethical Supplier Checklist at www.kclsu.org/ourmoney/ourethics/

We're continuing to work on how we can operate ethically, driven by what students say is most important, including moving our finances to more ethical banks.

Training and tools for student leaders



With such a supportive activities team, the KCLSU have made being a student a great experience and always provided an open platform for discussions to make us feel valued. So the impact is; students feel valued and heard. ”

Simrath Mangat
3rd year Dentistry student and Bhanga Society Co-President

Empowering student change-makers



I recently applied for the hardship fund and was given some money. They really helped me out and I hope other people can apply for this lifeline as it is so important and does so much good. It's really what can make or break a student who is struggling. ”

2nd year Medical student



Training and tools for student leaders



KCLSU gives a platform for societies like ours to exist and in doing that ensures that we can continue to express ourselves through the arts. I owe a lot to the Dance Society and the Dance Society owes a lot to the Union. It supports us in everything from simple day to day running of the society to bigger scale things like keeping our finances in order and planning our annual show.



Alex Theoklitou

2nd year Biomedical Sciences student
and KCL Dance Soc President



Empowering student change-makers

The Lifeline to Learn campaign ringfenced hardship funding for NHS students:

“

During the third year of Dietetics we were required to undertake a full time, three month placement unpaid in a London hospital. As an NHS funded course that was not recognised as a “long course”, money was tight, and with no time over the summer to earn money I applied to the Access to Learning fund. This was a life saver and meant that I could continue my placement.

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3rd year Dietetics student



**Values in action –
making our spaces
more inclusive**

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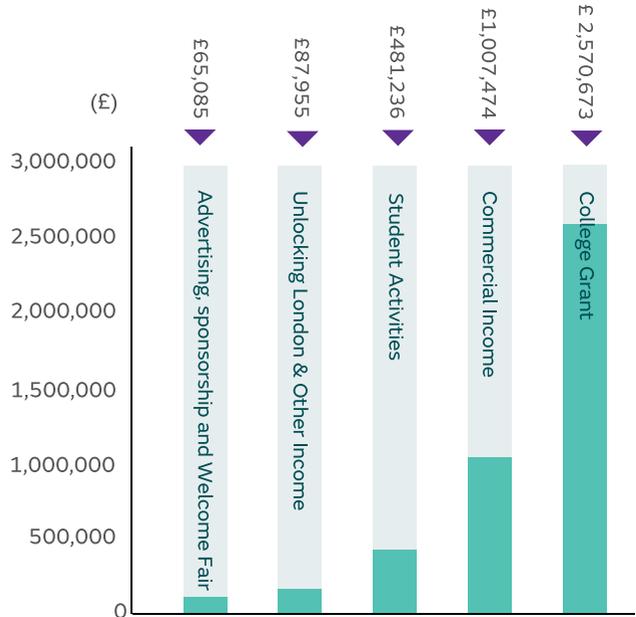
If you're hungry, you can't study. And if you've got special dietary requirements, it can be quite hard. So if you want something kosher, you just go to the Waterfront and grab one of our four kosher sandwiches.

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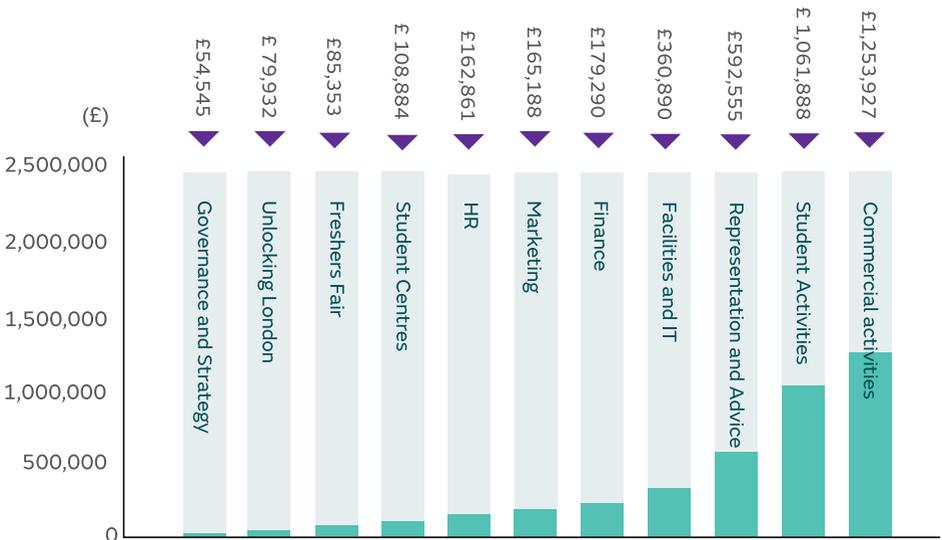
Nik Jovicic-Sas
3rd year theology student
and Student Councillor

6 How we work: Our Money

Money In: KCLSU 2014/15



Money Out: KCLSU 2014/15



Total : £4,105,313

Overall surplus : £107,110

Get Connected

Like us, follow us and get connected. It makes us really happy when students engage with us on our social media channels, so next time you're online, tweet us, share your photos or write on our timeline.



kclsu.org



facebook.com/kclsupage



[@kclsu](https://twitter.com/kclsu)



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King's College London Students' Union trading as KCLSU

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