

DSU: Do Something Unforgettable!

Our Mission:

We are a student led and student focussed organisation. We aim to represent, inspire and involve all of our members to enhance their student experience.

Our values:



Community



Fun



Democracy



Quality



Growth



WE HAVE BEEN YOUR EXECUTIVE TEAM FOR 2012/13!



LYNETTE WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

"DSU have had a brilliant year, making a considerable difference to the lives of many students, building relationships and raising the profile of the Students' Union to deliver the best possible student experience.



I'm incredibly proud to be the leader of such a fantastic team, who have been instrumental in creating such fundamental and important change across the institution, driving up qualities and standards and doing as much as they physically can to ensure that all students have a great time at DMU, academically, pastorally, professionally and through extra-curricular activities.

It's hard to believe the year is almost through already, but we know that next year has the potential to be even bigger and better, building on from this year. I've thoroughly enjoyed being your President and representing you to the best of my ability."

DSU LOVES GETTING YOU INVOLVED!

We like to think that coming to University isn't just about books and studying, it's about the whole student experience. We want to make sure that your student experience is as amazing as it can be!

Getting involved with us provides you with so many skills and opportunities; from meeting new friends, making lasting memories, making a difference in the local community and sometimes even nationally too, boosting your CV and career prospects and loads loads more.

So, how are we doing at getting you involved so far?
Let's take a look!

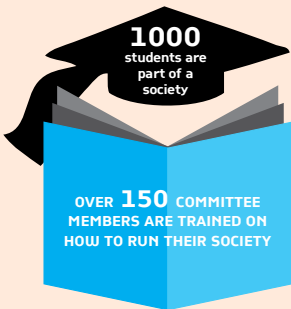


2200+
students are
registered with DSU
Volunteering

with
18,000
hours logged!



1270
students are involved in
competitive sport



1000
students are
part of a
society

OVER **150** COMMITTEE
MEMBERS ARE TRAINED ON
HOW TO RUN THEIR SOCIETY



1100 students

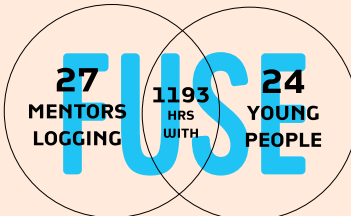
took part in DSU's biggest
survey 'Great Expectations'



582
students attended Twilight
Sports sessions



260
MEMBERS



27
MENTORS
LOGGING

1193
HRS
WITH

24
YOUNG
PEOPLE

FUSE

Freshfest12

One of the biggest events in the student calendar got bigger. With a massive range of events that ran across 2 weeks, there was plenty to get stuck in with.

Thousands of students descended upon the fair which was held outside for the first time. We had a record number of signups too!



Varsity 2013

Varsity this year went from being a Varsity 'Day' to an event that ran across 10 days! This meant that more of you got to go along and support the DMU teams.

This year gave us the best result we've seen, with 6 more victories gained compared to last year.



National Student Radio Conference

The SRACon was the biggest event in Demon Media's recent history. We saw 454 student media fans from all over the UK descend upon DMU for three days to have an informative, fun-filled time. Special guests included Greg James, Ben Cooper and Steve Parkinson.



Course Rep Conference

This was one of the most successful conferences for Course Reps that we've held. With an array of presentations from various departments in both the SU and the University, the conference meant that new course reps could meet and chat with other Reps and University staff too, and find out about new developments on campus. 80 Reps attended!



Toys on the Table

DSU became Santa! We broke our record for number of Toys donated for Toys on the Table by receiving over 350 toys from students and staff. We followed up the campaign with The Big Wrap where volunteers helped to wrap the presents and they were then distributed to children in the local area who wouldn't otherwise have received anything.



National Student Money Week

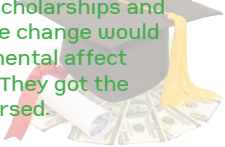
DSU's Welfare and Education Centre gave students the opportunity to share various money-saving tips via Facebook and Twitter with fellow students. The best tips received a fresh fruit basket!

We then held a "Jaffa cake challenge" and a food shopping comparison event at the Students' Union and distributed advice and information. 100 of you took part!



OUR BIG MOMENTS!

The DSU Exec team lobbied the University about a decision to alter the payment schedule of scholarships and bursaries. The change would have a detrimental affect on students. They got the decision reversed.



We got into the festive spirit by putting up a real pine tree which students then decorated with positive messages on cards. We had around **100** messages put onto the tree!



DSU's Baking Society raised £400 and we distributed lots of material on how to check for signs of breast cancer!

AUGUST

Exec reversed a decision about scholarships and bursaries

DECEMBER

Christmas Tree of love!

OCTOBER

Breast Cancer Awareness Month (Love Boobs)

Christmas Card deliveries to students in halls of residence

SEPTEMBER

Free Breakfast with the President launched!

NOVEMBER

FUSE funding bid secured

Anonymous marking passed!

FreshFest'12

BREAKFAST
WITH THE
PRESIDENT



Breakfast with the President gave students an opportunity to talk face-to-face with DSU's President and other members of the Exec team. 1100 students attended the event throughout the year.

Anonymous marking is a project that has been 5 years in the making, and this year, Deputy President Education, Caitlin, has managed to get it passed as University policy. This means that your work will be marked anonymously by your tutors, making marking free from positive or negative bias. A big win for equality and diversity!

DSU's Fuse Mentoring service secured funding from Leicestershire County Council, meaning there's now 25 opportunities for students to become mentors.

Refreshers Fair had a rebrand and LoveDSU week was born!



The event was extended and it provided societies & sports teams with an extra chance to showcase what they do to encourage more of you to get involved.

Next year, we'll receive a record breaking £1M block grant from the University. This has been achieved through extensive lobbying and a consistent effort to raise the profile of DSU.

This extra money will enable us to continue to improve our services to make your student experience better!

Green Impact

We are a conscientious organisation that strives to be 'green' and 'sustainable' wherever possible. Our efforts have been recognised and we've been awarded with silver in the Green Impact Awards this year!



We collaborated with 2 DMU students to create DSU's Marketplace. It is a free online facility for students to buy and sell used coursebooks and other wares. Launched in February, it's ever growing in popularity!

FEBRUARY

Increased block grant!

DSU Elections 2013

DSU Marketplace

APRIL

Silver Green Impact Award won

SRACon

DMU student, Daniel Grant, represented DMU in the London Marathon

JUNE

Royal Visit to DMU where our sports & socs performed!

Launch of our first Impact Report!

MARCH

Varsity 2013

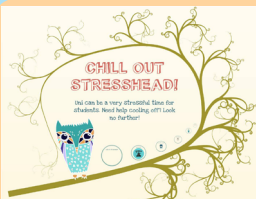
JANUARY

*DSUStresshead

Love DSU

MAY

DSU's Award Ceremonies



*DSUStressHead was set up to help reduce students' stress levels by sharing tips on how to handle stress via Twitter.

There were **369** views of the stress web resource during *DSUStressHead week!

2013 saw our first ever DMU representation at the London Marathon.

DMU student, **Daniel**

Grant, came 4th in the BUCS Marathon Championships in a time of 2.40.07



We held a whopping 5 awards ceremonies this year to celebrate the achievements of our engaged students!

Lookbook 2012/13

This year has been one of the most action packed in DSU's history, the Campus Centre has definitely been the place to be!

Let's take a look back at just a few of the events we've had the pleasure of being a part of this year!



Freshfest'12 was awesome!



DSU's Award ceremonies!



They enjoyed a free breakfast with the President



We love to fundraise!



DSU celebrate culture!



Demons <3



DSU's Colours Awards 2013 were fabulous!

THANKS FOR MAKING



We had our say!
DSU Elections 2013



DSU's staff did their bit for
Red Nose Day 2013!



We loved giving salsa
dancing a go!



We love Demon Media!



World Religion Day 2013

OUR EVENTS A SUCCESS!



We loved knitting with
community nanas!



DSU held a virtual
treasure hunt!



Rubbing shoulders with royalty
was a proud moment for us!



We love our Freshers' Reps!

STUDENT VOICE!

Your voice is central to everything we do at DSU.

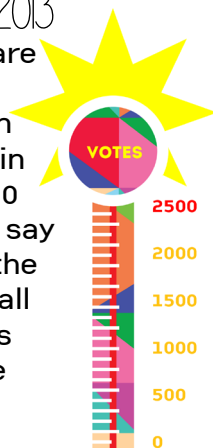
Democracy is important to us and we've seen lots of exciting changes happen to our democratic systems this year.

We've revamped the rep system and made the elections easier than ever to get involved in.



DSU ELECTIONS 2013

The DSU Elections are a key event in the student calendar. In the main elections in February, over 2,500 students had their say by voting and it is the first year in which all 5 Executive Officers were elected at the first stage.



Key fact! There were 650 nominations for the Vice Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Awards which we ran alongside the Elections!

LOOKING AHEAD

We want to make sure that every DMU student knows that they are automatically a member of DSU and they are eligible to take part in all of DSU's Elections.

The Big Meet, DSU's Annual General Meeting, was held in December 2012 and was the best attended in years, with 60 students taking part. Various topics were discussed including revisions to the constitution and lapsing policies.

DSU LOOKS AFTER YOUR WELLBEING & EDUCATION

DSU's Welfare and Education Centre (WEC) is like "the parent away from home" for some students.

Although rare, sometimes things go wrong while at University and students just need somewhere to turn for support or advice. This is where the Welfare and Education Centre helps.

The WEC is completely impartial and free to use and it's open all year round. They help a wide variety of students from those accused of academic misconduct, to international students needing help with visas, and students who have problems with their landlords in housing too.

Here's what users of the WEC have to say!

"Thank you for all your help and for all your support. I can't not tell you how much weight this has lifted off my shoulders!"

"I'd like to say a really big big thank you to you. You have no idea how big a help you've been. Before meeting you I'd rang many places but they weren't helpful at all"

"Words cannot describe how grateful I am. I appreciate your time and help"

"You are a star! Thank you so much for all of your help. I couldn't have done it without you and it means so much to me"

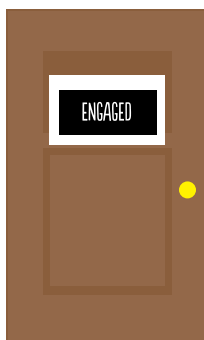
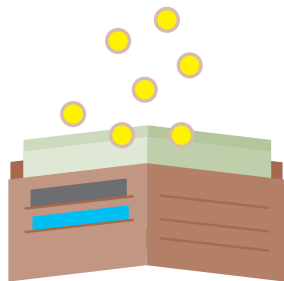


Did you know?

We have distributed over 2,500 condoms at DSU's SECS Clinic since October 2012 and more of students know about the clinic and its services than before!

The SECS Clinic has a drop in every Thursday from 10am.

This year, students will have saved an astonishing £225,604 by using the WEC service!



303 students have used the WEC drop in service so far this year!

So far for 2012/13, the overall number of enquiries we've had at the WEC are 4954.



Student Visa applications submitted via the WEC are up by 30% on last years figures.

Student Case Study: WEC



“Sarah*” originally sought the WEC’s help at the start of her studies at DMU. At the time she was living in a refuge hostel following an abusive relationship she had been in. Due to her benefits being cut when she became a full time student, she was asked to leave the hostel as she was not in a position to financially support herself.

We helped Sarah to apply for student funding through Student Finance England. Once her student funding had been approved, we provided housing support in order for Sarah to secure a more permanent residence. We gave her housing hunting advice and checked her contract before she signed.

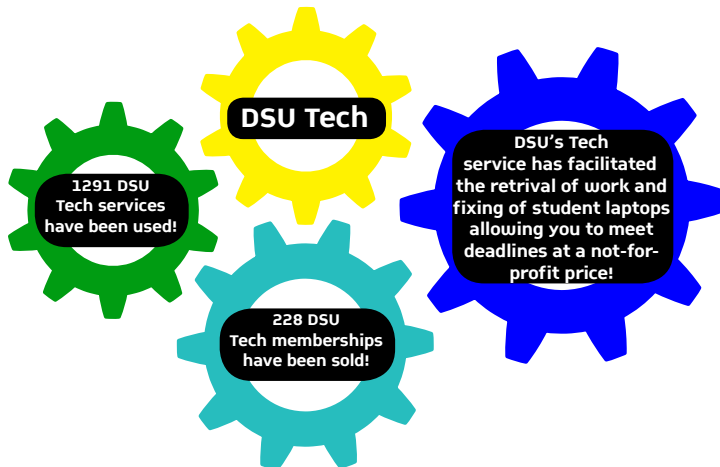
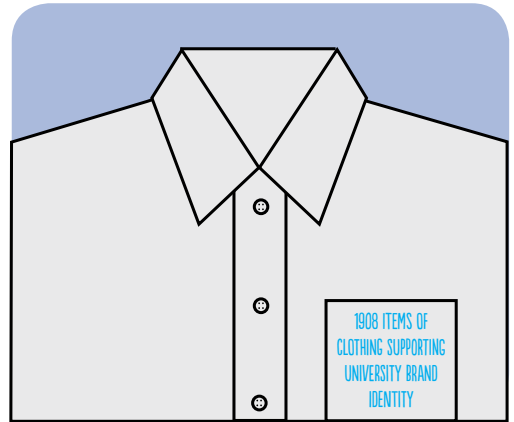
We also signposted her to supportive counselling services to assist her to deal with the abusive situation she had experienced.

During the following years, Sarah unfortunately lost both her parents and during this emotional period, we assisted in securing extensions and deferrals for exams and coursework.

Most recently, the student encountered problems of an academic nature. She asked us for help when her faculty requested that she meet with them regarding two potential academic offences. We advised, assisted and represented her through two Academic Practice Offence meetings and also an Academic Offences Panel Hearing where we were successful in assisting her to remain on her course until its completion.

The WEC have supported Sarah through advice and representation during her entire time at DMU and with that help, she is scheduled to complete her course in the next few months.

HOW YOU'VE USED OUR



SERVICES IN 2012/13

78,234 unique visitors to the brand new website launched in August 2012

153,632 visits to the site overall!



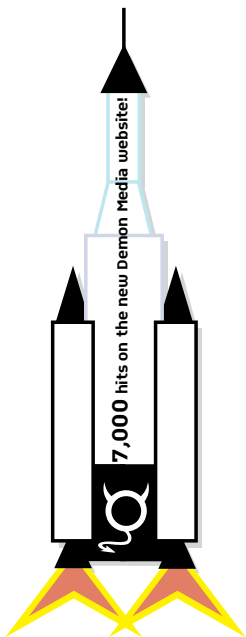
6,626 LIKES ON THE DSU PAGE.

1,427 NEW LIKES THIS YEAR



3,692 FOLLOWERS

892 THIS YEAR



6,000 Christmas cards from DSU were delivered to students in halls of residence.



We gave out **2,500** 'I love DSU' stickers which gave you access to a secret freebies area of our website via a QR code



WE UNDERSTAND OUR STAFF AND THEIR NEEDS

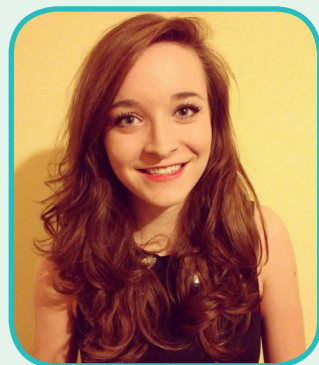
But don't just take our word for it, here is [Alice Wilson](#), 1 of 70 of our student staff members, talking about what it's been like to work on DSU's Reception desk over the past year:

"I have been working as a receptionist at De Montfort Students' Union during my final year of study.

I was motivated to apply for the job because of its flexibility. DSU explained that I could fit the job around my studies, rather than the other way around, which as a third year student and someone who's heavily involved in sport and media, this was very important!

I quickly settled into the role and believe this was mainly because of the friendly staff and the enjoyable, relaxed atmosphere at DSU. My colleagues are approachable and on the occasions when I haven't understood how to fulfill a task, they've always been happy to help. There has never been a shift where I haven't wanted to go in, even when I've had a lot of Uni work to do!

I think my role at DSU has enhanced my CV through the number of vital employability skills I have gained. Having a part time job, as well as doing extra curricular activities that DSU has provided, is something that I think will look great to future employers. Thanks DSU!"



60 out of 62 of DSU's permanent staff and executives responded to this years survey for DSU employees, with 95% of respondents agreeing that they are proud to work at DSU and would wholeheartedly recommend DSU as a good place to work!

DSU'S WINS & AWARDS THIS YEAR!

Gold Investors in People

Silver Green Impact

Investing in Volunteers

Advice Quality Standard for the WEC

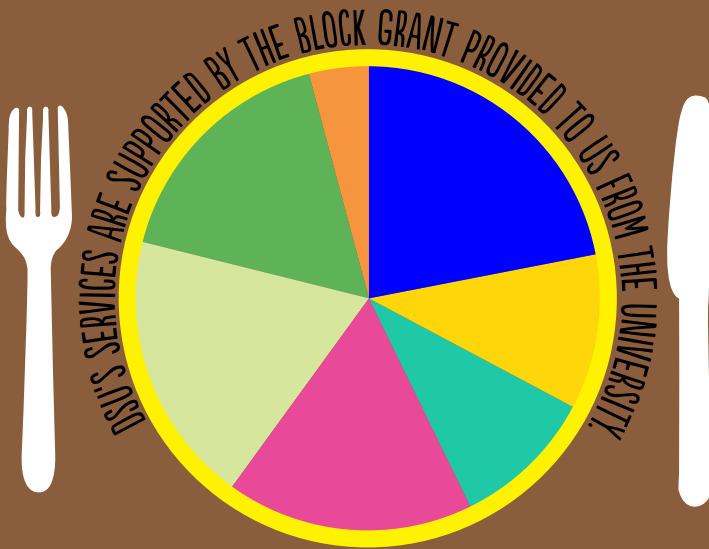
SUEI Bronze

Level 1 won 'Best Independent Club' at the Leicester City Council Best Bar None Awards 2013 for the 4th year in a row! We have also been accredited as a bar that offers "best practice in safe and enjoyable surroundings".

Demon Media have been nominated for 'Best Student Media' at the NUS Awards. Results will be announced this summer!




DSU IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION.
THIS MEANS THAT ANY PROFITS THAT ARE MADE ARE REINVESTED
STRAIGHT BACK INTO DSU'S SERVICES TO BENEFIT STUDENTS.



FOR EVERY £2 BREAKFAST PURCHASED IN LEVEL 1, THIS IS
HOW THE PROFITS ARE SPENT ON YOU!



7500 £2 BREAKFASTS HAVE BEEN SOLD THIS YEAR!



**Thanks to everyone
who has helped
make 2012/13 at
DSU amazing!**

We hope that you continue to get involved with us!



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