

EASTBOURNE

COMMUNITY ORGANISER NEWS



Conversations with students in Greynor Canteen MAY 2016

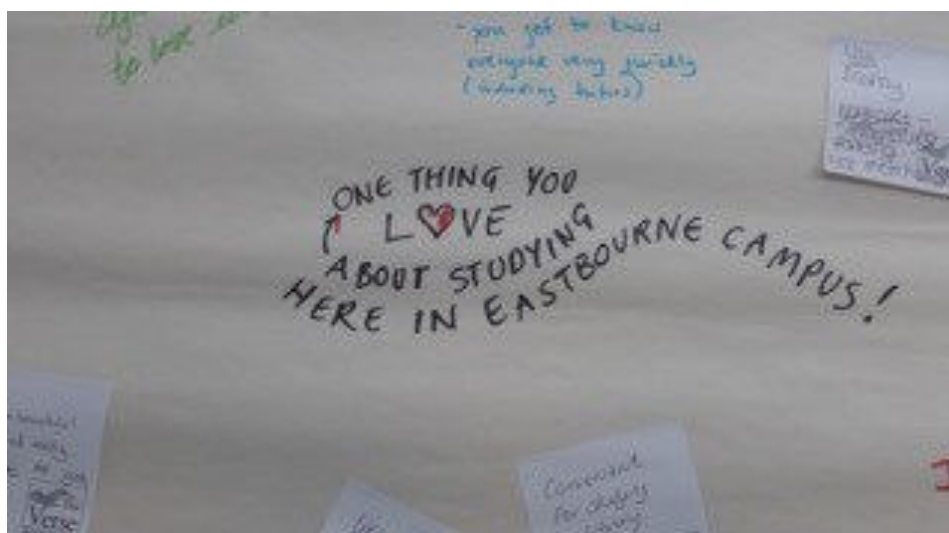
Community organiser, Tracey Johnson invited students in Greynor canteen to talk about things they love about studying at the Eastbourne Campus and to share ideas about what they would like to see changed.

Tracey spoke to around 140 students from different health science courses over five different days across five weeks. Students who chose to say what courses they studied on came from **Podiatry** (1st year); **Nursing** (1st and 2nd years); **Physiotherapy** (1st years); **Hospitality** (year not known); **PhD Service Management**; **MSc Rehab Science**.

Students in the canteen on the same days as Tracey were invited to chat informally and also have an opportunity, if they chose to, write down comments and also see what other students said. We hope that these conversations and insights into the experiences of students will lead to us working with students to take up some of their ideas! Read what they say inside!

“Small community, you get to know everyone on campus very quickly... including the tutors!”

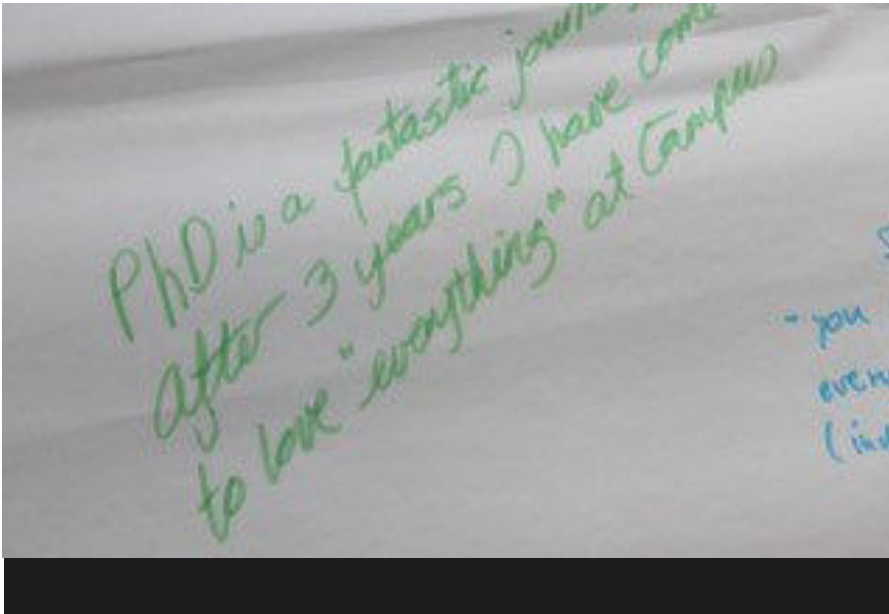
PhD student



Alongside personal conversations students were invited to share their comments!

Inside

- What students love!
- What students would like to see on campus
- Quotes
- Suggestions for actions
- What is Community Organising?



Unrefined Jan joins us in Greynor!

On one of our 'listening' sessions we invited local resident Jan Mirisola-Jones, who is passionate about living a healthy life-style away from mass produced foods and body products! Jan demonstrated how to make natural lip balm and deodorants from store-cupboard ingredients.

Another local and active resident, Pam Keen joined on another occasion to talk to students and showed off her gorgeous collection of hand-sewn quilts. She is planning on holding an exhibition of local crafts later on in the year!

Students showed great interest in both visitin residents and some said it was great to get to know what went on outside the university and also helped to make conversations flow! A lot of students said they would like to get more involved in non-course related activities, perhaps as volunteers!

What students love!

Majority of students had very positive things to say about their experiences of study at Eastbourne – with many saying it had a great 'community' feel to the campus and it compared favourably to the Brighton campus. Many commented on its friendly atmosphere and talked about the convenient location, the sports facilities they were able to use, the town and beach and that they loved the scenery. Majority of students also said they loved their courses and that they found tutors very easy to get along with and very approachable! All had positive things to say about their courses!

In their own words!

"I have come to love everything at campus"

"I LOVE MSc Rehab Science"

"Everyone is friendly"

"I love the scenery!"

"Nice campus - really accessible - good facilities"

"It's a beautiful place and really convenient to get here"

"Convenient for studying + library"

"The sports centre facilities"

"Quiet location, not too far away from home! Very scenic"

"Free hot water Finally!"

"I love being by the beach"

"Sunshine"

"The kitchen staff are great J" << "I agree"

"The area / atmosphere J"

"Intimate - location/views - food/drink"



Find out more about making your own natural beauty products at www.unrefinedjan.com

In students words

"We need a unizone in HASTINGS" STUDENT NURSE

"Meet students from other courses! Who are they? What do they Study?"

"Please, please make microwave available to students" 32 STUDENTS AGREED WITH THIS WRITTEN COMMENT

"Structure of course makes it difficult for child care" STUDENT NURSE

"Not enough parking" 2nd YEAR STUDENT NURSE

"No post-grad social events"

"Didn't know about The Starting Gate, it needs more advertising"

"Multi course events"

"Meet more students"

"I'd like to get to know some of 2nd & 3rd years"

"More spaces to relax in"

"Canteen is really expensive & poor selection"

"Why not open gym at 7am as we start at 9am every day, need more time" MSc STUDENT

"No parking if you start after 9am!"

"Don't like: Ward Hall lecture room, parking & price of canteen"



Comments and conversations with Health Science students at Greynor Canteen

What students want!

Over half the students I met said they would like to have more opportunities to meet other health science students. Many said they are likely to work with other professions in the future and it would be useful to gain insight into other practices, e.g. physiotherapists likely to work with nurses etc. ***"Meet other health care students that potentially I'll be working with when I qualify"*** Many said they did not know what other courses were being studied on campus and some suggested informal social events would be good opportunity to meet other students and find out more about the different courses.

A group of student nurses were angry that their course was changed from Hastings to Eastbourne campus after they had signed up. In the words of one student nurse ***"Let's be frank! Why were student nurses stopped from training in Hastings? I have 2 kids and no childcare—at least it's not Brighton!"*** Another common theme was lack of childcare ***"No childcare—in Brighton they have a creche!"*** this from a 2nd year nursing student.

Students who spoke to the two local residents also commented that they would like to get more involved in non-course related volunteering activities in the town.

What next?

- Identify more students in the new term who would like to take some actions on meeting other students from different courses and different years.
- Support students to make the case for creche facilities.
- Support students wishing to have more facilities to heat up their own food.
- Work with Heather Duff, Student Support & Guidance officer at the University, Angela Glynn and other lecturers to identify and support students who wish to take actions to make positive changes for Health Science students.

What is Community Organising?

The community organising process involves identifying what people care strongly about in a community through 1-2-1 conversations, building relationships and networks that are strong enough to support a long struggle for change, developing community leaders and mobilising people to take collective action to achieve a shift of power and significant social change.

Find out more and read case studies here: www.corganisers.org.uk

Brighton Students Union employs Community Organisers on each of the three sites of Brighton, Eastbourne and Hastings Campus.

www.brightonsu.com/changethings/communityorganising

For more information about
Eastbourne Community Organising

Tracey Johnson

Tel: 01273 643816

Mob: 07533 239495

E t.johnson3@brighton.ac.uk

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about Community Organising at Brighton Students Union

DOT KIRK

Senior Community Organiser

T: 01273 642791

M: 07533 033808

E: d.kirk@brighton.ac.uk

Visit us on the web at

www.brightonsu.com

