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EP4**

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**POSITION: UNION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Name: James Pheasey

Main Manifesto:**

Hello, I’m James Pheasey. I’m your current SU President and I’m running to be your Union Development Officer. My year as President has given me unique insight into what the Student’s Union is doing, and where it could be developed.

* **COVID-19**
* The past few months have been unlike anything else. The impacts of Covid-19 on the University experience cannot be overstated and are ongoing. We’re not set to return to normality for a long while. This has required a reimagining of how the SU interacts with and provides services to its members.
* The SU needs experienced leadership through this time of crisis. We need leaders with in-depth knowledge of the SU and the University.
* I have this experience and will be ready, from day one, to continue developing the SU into the digital space and improving what it can offer its members.

* **Develop Student-Facing Services**
* **Reduce Union bureaucracy**
* The Union has many complicated processes that are unclear, ill-defined, and seem arbitrary. They often feel like they’re conveniently used when the SU wants to stop or delay something.
* I propose a review of SU processes to consolidate and change them so only the important and helpful ones remain; these should be clear, easily understandable, and simple to engage with.

* **Ensure that the SU website is fit-for-purpose**
* The SU is going into the final stages of switching to a new website provider.
* I will ensure that the correct decisions are being made to fit the need of students and improve your user experience.

* **Ensure the Portland building is fit-for-purpose**
* The Portland building has undergone a large redevelopment over the past few years.
* The redevelopment is still incomplete, and the bits that are complete are yet to be well-purposed. There too many small rooms or rooms unfit for student activity.
* I propose a review of the SU’s space usage to ensure that it is being effectively used in the best interests of students.
* **Develop Student Support & Change Structures**
* **Associated Representational Bodies**
* The SU has 5 ARBs: Sutton Bonington Guild, Medsoc, NMA, SUPRA, & UNAD.
* These groups have been historically under-supported. This year, I have started putting changes in place to empower these groups.
* I propose that we review the notion of an ARB to ensure that they get the resources and support they require to effectively represent and provide for their members.

* **Student Run Services**
* The SU has 8 SRSs: URN, NSTV, Impact, PML, TEC, Karnival, New Theatre, and Nightline. These student groups provide services on behalf of the SU.
* I propose that we review the notion of SRSs to ensure that these groups are properly integrated and supported in providing a service to the Union, and that this is promoted and recognised.

* **Improve Student Leader support structures**
* The SU has many student leaders, including 15 Officers, many Faculty & Education Reps, committees and panel members, among others.
* All of these student leaders need adequate training to allow them to fulfil their roles properly and empower them to make change for students.
* I propose that we create tailored training for all our student leaders and ensure that they are appropriately recognised in our decision-making structures.

* **Develop our Governance & Democracy**
* **Develop our governance to be reflective of our practice as a Union**
* Many parts of the SU are currently not covered in our governance and are therefore not protected.
* I propose to bring our governance quickly up to date to match our desired practice.
* **Ensure that the Union’s resources are spent on its members.**
* We are a wealthy and financially stable SU. I have spent much of my time this year fighting to ensure that its money benefits its members.
* I will continue to ensure that the SU has students at the heart of its financial considerations and honours any commitments it has made to student groups, empowering them to manage their money.

* **Prioritise equity in our elections practices.**
* We elect hundreds of individuals to SU roles. The parameters and rules around these elections sometimes appear unnecessary, or even unfair.
* I propose that we review these practices to ensure that they are robust, equitable, and democratic, and that they are clear and transparent.

Thank you for reading. I hope you can see that I am the candidate with the experience and passion that we need in these challenging times.

 **What do you think qualifies you for this role?:**

Spending the last year as your SU President has given me the unique experience to be your Union Development Officer. 2019/20 has been the most turbulent academic year in memory with large-scale disruptions (including Covid-19 and multiple strikes) and political uncertainty (including Brexit and a snap-General Election)). This is set to continue and the Union requires experienced leadership to cope with these situations as they arise.

Some of my achievements during my term of office so far include:

* **Securing Living Wage for all SU staff**, along with securing student-staff pay despite our commercial outlets closing due to coronavirus.
* **Saving money from the strikes** to be given to students to improve the student experience.
* **Abolishing the role of President** and working with the Union to improve its structures.
* **Safeguarding the Union against a legal challenge** and repairing the inherited problem that allowed this to arise.
* **Overseeing the development of a new SU Strategy** which puts students at the centre.
* **Empowering liberation groups** and advocating for large amounts of funding for our Part-Time Officer projects.
* **Engaging with the university on many high level decisions**, including No-Deal Brexit contingency planning and Covid-19 responses.

I am the only candidate that has the necessary experience to fight effectively for your interests from day one. Having worked first as a Part-Time Officer and now as President, I have a unique insight into what needs to change at the Union, but (more importantly) how to make those changes happen.

 **Marketing summary:**I’m James Pheasey, your current SU President, and I’m running to be your Union Development Officer. My year as President has given me unique insight into what the Student’s Union is doing, and where it could be developed.

The SU needs experienced leadership through this time of crisis. We need leaders with in-depth knowledge of both the SU and the University.  I have this experience and will be ready, from day one, to provide this.

Alongside the crisis management of the current period my manifesto includes the following:

* **Develop Student-Facing Services**
* **Reduce Union bureaucracy**
* **Ensure that the SU website is fit-for-purpose**
* **Ensure the Portland building is fit-for-purpose**
* **Develop Student Support & Change Structures**
* **Associated Representational Bodies**
* **Student Run Services,**
* **Improve Student Leader support structures**
* **Develop our Governance & Democracy**
* **Develop our governance to be reflective of our practice as a Union**
* **Ensure that the Union’s resources are spent on its members.**
* **Prioritise equity in our elections practices.**

Please read my full manifesto for the details of these points.

I hope you can see that I am the candidate with the experience and passion that we need in these challenging times.

 **Name: Madeleine Fox

Main Manifesto:

F**acts - What does your SU actually do? A million things but MOST crucially, it’s the middle-man between students and the University: there to express our views. To improve understanding, I want to:

a. Attend more events - hall formals, group committee meetings and socials, and open days so that the student body knows who the Union Development Officer is and to show that students can feel comfortable approaching me with any concerns.

b. Have weekly drop-in sessions where I can listen to your problems and hopefully find solutions or at least point you in the right direction.

c. Monthly round-ups of activities and SU expenditure on Facebook, the SU website and through emails of what I’ve been doing each month, to improve accountability but also make me more relatable.

As for the SU expenditure, I believe students have the right to know where we are spending our money and it means that we, as your Students’ Union, are more transparent. It also allows you to let us know where we should be allocating our money.

d. Payment for our Part-Time Officers - it is astounding that they are not paid yet seeing as they give up so much time to the SU, alongside a full-time degree. They must be remunerated for their efforts in the form of a contracted amount of hours a week that is at the living wage level.

e. Make sure that all referenda are clear, precise and understandable so that you know what you’re voting for so that we can achieve change.

f. Decentralise rules for societies, volunteer groups and sports because blanket rules are not always appropriate. There should be flexible guidelines that can be moulded to each group and each situation, and more faith in committees that they will carry out their events without abuse of SU values.

**O**penness about Mental Health - Ever felt that your concerns aren’t properly represented? Change needs to come within the structures that the University has in place.

This will be achieved through:

a. Making sure exams aren’t on consecutive days for all students to relieve stress

b. Training all tutors as Mental Health First Aiders

c. Adding a Mental Health criterion to the Scrutiny Panel assessment, making all Officers report on what they have done within their remit to improve the University’s situation regarding mental health
d. Creating a Mental Health Committee within the Union Council, alongside the DPC, Scrutiny Panel and Idea Panel so that the importance of Mental Health is reflected at the top of the hierarchy of the SU

**X**-tinguishing fear - Who’s fed up with Buy and Sell posts about antics in Lenton or hearing that someone hasn’t been treated well by bouncers? Me. Me. ME!

Firstly, to tackle safety in Lenton, we need to:
a. Turn Facebook groups, like Safe Students (Notts) and Notts Safe Space, into SU-affiliated services and provide them with resources and endorsement so that they can become fully fledged and students know to access them

b. Lobby the police into acting on the right things by focus their resources properly: patrolling of the streets in the evenings and responding efficiently to calls of burglaries, muggings or sexual offences.
This is done through: 1. First, having productive and continuous dialogues with the police
2. Second, working with the Research and Campaigns Department at the Citizens’ Advice Bureau who will help to contact relevant parties and potentially take further action to aid in resolving the issue

And secondly, to confront the issue of club safety:
a. Establish Mooch as a club on Saturdays, equivalent to the Trent SU. Having students on site is safer, more manageable and let’s be honest, who wants to pay for a cab? It is also embodies the University recognising the importance of work-life balance by having a student night out on campus.
b. Ensure that all affiliation and endorsement agreements that are signed with our SU include duties to fulfil the SU values (as documented in the Articles of Association), especially protection of our students when they are at their institutions. If there are breaches of these values by any employees, these are thoroughly investigated by the firm.

c. Extend the 'Report Harassment' section on the MyNottingham app to include incidents that have occurred at SU partners, like bouncers treating students inappropriately or those that are too drunk just being left on the streets. These reports will be passed to the Officer and Welfare Team where they will be fed back to our partners and if required, followed up by a member of SU staff.

**What do you think qualifies you for the role?**As Nottingham Marrow president, I’m constantly accountable to an external body and must make sure everything I do aligns with their policies. It has also put me under the pressure of being the face of a group - you are liable for the bad bits and praised for the good. This is directly transferable to being UD: ensuring I function within the core values of the SU.

Additionally, I was Lead Welcome Mentor for Cripps. My leadership style is 'lead from the back', allowing all team members to work freely within their mandates and then picking up where people are slacking. It also means I’ve had experience with how SU events function.

Being LawSoc Charity Officer signifies I can also work in a team, especially a fast-paced, large scale one who is responsible to many members, just like the SU. This teaches you to use all available resources and expertise to make your events more successful, for example publicity, sponsorship and admin.

Working with different people every day has been the best way for me to build up confidence in approaching the public (and being rejected LOADS) and public-speaking. It also means my people skills have improved because not everyone’s easy to work with!

Organisation and time management has come from juggling all the above, plus LawSoc Hockey captain, reading 1,000s of pages (how is this acceptable?!) and running from Physics to LASS between lectures as part of my law degree - this also helps with the legal side of UD!

**Marketing summary:**Facts about your SU
To improve understanding, I want to:
- Attend more events
- Have weekly drop-in sessions
- Monthly roundups of activities and expenditure
- Payment for Part-Time Officers
- Clear referenda
- Decentralisation of Activities Roles

Openness about Mental Health
This will be achieved through:
- Non-consecutive exams
- Tutors being Mental Health First Aid trained
- Mental Health Criterion for Scrutiny Panel
- Mental Health Committee

X-tinguishing fear
To tackle safety in Lenton, we need to:
- Turn Facebook groups like Safe Students (Notts) and Notts Safe Space, into SU-affiliated services
- Lobby the police
To confront club safety:
- Turn Mooch into a club on Saturdays
- All affiliation and endorsement agreements include duties to fulfil the SU values
- Extend the 'Report Harassment' section on the MyNottingham app to include incidents that have occurred at SU partners

**POSITION: WELFARE AND WELLBEING OFFICER**

**Name: Emily Coleman

Main Manifesto:

Establish a Welfare and Wellbeing Council**
• A council similar to Societies/ Sports Council for all committee members responsible for Welfare within societies, sports groups and other student run groups, to meet termly
• Solidify the role of these committee members, provide up to date training and encourage collaboration between Welfare groups as well as ensuring Welfare support for these committee members themselves
• Work with Sports and Activities Officer to connect with Welfare committee members of groups

**Improve the prominence of Welfare within commercial partnerships, specifically those linked to night outs**
• Work with partners such as Crisis, Ocean and DG Taxis to improve student safety on nights out as well as improving the process for reporting issues students may have on nights out regarding bouncer or staff misconduct
• Run a campaign to raise awareness of potential issues as well as highlight available support and services
• Ensure venues have sufficient policies regarding sexual violence and assault
• Work with Nottingham Night Owls to facilitate continual improvement for the groups work

**Student mental health and support**
• Increase awareness of where and how to access support and work with both the University and Students’ Union to improve services
• Continue to reduce the stigma around mental health issues through running a mental health awareness week
• Identify specific support required by groups such as International and Postgraduate students and work to publicise and improve this
• Ensure student support on all satellite campuses and within associated bodies is provided to the same extent as that on University Park
• Continue supporting students in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and any corresponding issues they may have, for both returning and new students

**Continue collaborating with the Welfare Network, HealthyU and other groups on regular campaigns and events throughout the year**
• Continue running existing events such as monthly Wellbeing Cafes as well as introducing new events such as drop in sessions
• Increase the regularity of STI screenings available throughout all campuses
• Collaborate with the Liberation Officer on campaigns to empower marginalised groups
• Continue work started by previous Officers surrounding free drug testing kits, sanitary products and condoms

**Reward and thank student volunteers within Welfare groups**
• Explore new ways to reward Nightline volunteers whilst keeping their anonymity
• Run an end of year event celebrating the work of students throughout the year

**What do you think qualifies you for the role?

Welfare Network: Chair Jan 2020-present, Gen Sec May 2019- Jan 2020, Events and Campaigns Coordinator 2018-19**
• Knowledgeable about the various Welfare services and support available for students
• Worked with various members of SU and University staff as well as external groups to deliver University wide events and campaigns
• Signposted students to various services and support
• Drive to improve Welfare provisions available for students

**Scrutiny Panel & Union Council Facilitator (2019/20), member of Scrutiny Panel (2018/19)**
• Knowledgeable about what is expected of Officers and how they are scrutinised by the student body
• Passed a policy at Union Council (2019) mandating that all Societies had to have a committee member responsible for Welfare

**Social Sec of Gin Society (2018/19)
Lead Mentor (2018) and Mentor (2017) for Raleigh Park during Welcome Week**

Through my experience within these various roles as well as my general knowledge of the University and Students’ Union gained throughout my four years studying here, I believe I possess the skills to fulfil this role to a high level and make positive, sustainable change for the student body as a whole.

**Marketing summary:**

• Establish a Welfare and Wellbeing Council for committee members responsible for Welfare within societies, sports groups and other student run groups
• Improve the prominence of Welfare within commercial partnerships, specifically Crisis, Ocean and DG Taxis
• Promote and improve the range of support students can access, both for the entire student body as a whole as well as specific groups of students such as International students, Postgraduate students and students studying on satellite campuses
• Collaborate with Welfare Network, HealthyU and other groups/ services on regular events and campaigns as well as continuing to expand/ introduce access to free STI screenings, drug testing kits, sanitary products and condoms
• Reward and thank student volunteers within Welfare groups, including running an end of year celebration event

Through being on the Welfare Network Committee since 2018, as well as being involved within various other areas of the Students’ Union, I have the necessary skills, knowledge and passion for this role in order to improve the support available to students throughout their time at University.

**Name:** Chiara Parravicini

 **Main Manifesto:**

As part of the pioneering April cohort, I propose myself as a candidate for Welfare and Wellbeing officer. Especially in this time of uncertainty, it is important to have enough time to listen to others, time of which I have at my disposition due to my being a first year.
I believe that in this position, patient confidentiality should not only be practiced in the consult room, as a vet must, but at any time should anyone need it. Speaking up, sharing, and expressing your emotions fully are great sources of catharsis for the stress we encounter in everyday life, and I hope to provide the means to comfort and the solutions to welfare issues even in good times when our wellbeing can only be increased. One of my favourite sayings that I can share with you at present, "always with a doubt", guides me: it means that even when the world seems dark, with no light, never to let your convictions bring you down, but to always have the doubt that perhaps there may be a beam of light somewhere, or that this darkness might not last forever. Now more than ever is it important to remind ourselves that our health is important, physical and mental, so I shall provide my ears as a listener and my words as advice so that we may all remain healthy.
Most importantly, campaigning for increased awareness of emotional difficulties, social disparities and homesickness are my goals. No one should be disadvantaged, not because they meet a rock in their path and fall down, as there is always a chance to get back up and keep walking with a proud smile. As a supporter of equal rights, I'll try to make this achievable. We will all at some point encounter difficulties, but we can be strategic and make the most of them, and help each other out: hence I will do my best to maintain existing support networks and to create new ones if necessary. Sustaining art, music, sports and any other activities that promote personal wellbeing are also on my list.
Lastly, I can bring in ideas from my multicultural background that may seem different or novel; and you all can too, as we're all as diverse and unique. No one is to be discriminated for being where they are from or for feeling a certain way, we all experience life differently! Our pasts has lead us to this present through different paths, and I'm here to support that diversity and novelty, it's brilliant that we should have so many different stories to tell, so many I wish to compile them in a way that might make us appreciate our origins and cultures together. I like to draw in a certain style that reflects me as an individual, and that's okay! Be open and communicate clearly, as honesty and integrity are important qualities that we must dearly cherish and that I will strive to cultivate.
Thank you for this opportunity, as a new student in a pioneering cohort, to bring new ideaa and projects for our welfare and wellbeing, just as spring does ignite new life in April.

Here are my ideas:

- Football World Cup event to campaign for diversity and against discrimination as well as to promote healthy sportsmanship
- Monthly digital newspaper or blog to promote ideas and inspire
- Art or group therapy sessions to destress/prepare for exams
- Awareness weeks
- Importance of checking sources, where you get your information from (fact-checking courses)
- Equal rights campaigns
- Practicing philosophy in a modern world (healthy debating and exchange of ideas)
- Healthy lifestyle discussions - what does it mean to be healthy?
- Mental Health Awareness Week - informing students on the prevalence of stress, clinical depression, anxiety disorders, what OCD really means and how therapy, friends and family are there to support you, asking for help is not a sign of weakness: let's demystify mental health!

**What do you think qualifies you for the role?**

As a new student starting the vet course after a gap year that has brought me plenty of experiences and reflection, through meeting new people and places and discovering new customs and adapting to different climates and cultures, I believe I have the skills required for this role, as well as being motivated and happy to be helpful and learn more about the people I will encounter in Nottingham! For me this is an opportunity to share a bit of myself with others and to explore new ideas.

**Marketing summary:**

Always with an inkling of a doubt that things will go better, because a global pandemic should not let our mental, emotional and physical health down!
Proud supporter of equal rights and hopefully a facilitator for clear communication and free speech, I would like to help everyone and to deliver the best of my abilities so that we can live in a motivating environment that doesn't put anyone to any disadvantage. I am open to everything.
Here are my ideas:

- Football World Cup event to campaign for diversity and against discrimination
- Monthly digital newspaper or blog
- Art or group therapy sessions
- Fact-checking courses
- Equal rights campaigns
- Practicing philosophy in a modern world
- Healthy lifestyle discussions
- Mental Health Awareness Week
- Student-led podcasts

**Name: Edward Robert Crawley

Main Manifesto:**Hi, I’m Ed, and I’m running for SU Welfare and Wellbeing Officer. My aims are to make welfare **more** **inclusive**, **clearer**, and **less affected by Covid-19.**

*Due to the nature of the role, this manifesto discusses some distressing themes.*

**Introduction**

It is really hard to write this manifesto. Due to Covid-19, there is so much uncertainty within the Students’ Union and within the University that I cannot make the promises I would like to. Having had a difficult time at University myself, it is disheartening to hear that budgets are going to be tight for welfare. I cannot promise more counsellors or new University-funded services. But there is still so much that we can do.

This year, the Welfare and Wellbeing role will be all about **flexibility** and **communication**. We must have the flexibility to be constantly adapting to the situation presented by Covid-19. To do this, I will engage with the Part-Time Officers to understand the impacts that Covid-19 is having on different groups, I will engage with the University Welfare Team, and I will engage with the student body as frequently as possible. Too many students are unaware of what SU Officers do, and that is often due to poor communication by the SU Officers.

Furthermore, working from home has become the new normal. This means that many services can now be accessed remotely, such as counselling. Counselling by phone can be easier for some students, such as working students or Parents/Caregivers. There is an opportunity to understand how we can offer more remote services, and how we can make these services easier to understand. From this testing time, we can leave a legacy of increased options and support for students. Once restrictions are lifted Post-Covid-19, we must emerge with a more inclusive, clearer welfare network.

**Reducing the Impact of Covid-19**

It is impossible to ignore the huge and tragic consequences of Covid-19. The uncertainty prevents us creating complete plan for how to cope as a Students’ Union, because it is so difficult. What we do know, however, is that the Wellbeing of students is already suffering.  We need to

* Hold regular meetings with the incoming LGBT+, Disabled Students’, International Students’, Mature Students’, BME Students’ and Women\*’s Officers to ensure that individual groups are being supported, particularly during Covid-19.
* Prepare a proactive plan to ensure that students engage with welfare if they have not returned to campus by the Autumn Semester. This includes supporting welcome week, often where students engage with welfare first, and prioritizing funding for vital services for vulnerable students.
* Seek to increase online engagement with SU officers. I will communicate regularly and encourage other officers to do so, to ensure regular contact during and Post-Covid-19.
* Support clubs and societies: clubs and societies can and often do play a vital role in welfare. It is therefore important to work with other Full-Time Officers to ensure that they continue for form a part in students’ lives. If students are not on campus, it will be important to encourage this to foster community.

**Clarity**

It can be unclear what the University offers. For example, many students have left feeling aggravated at the counselling service, because the service is communicated badly to students. Furthermore, there must be more clarity on what students can expect from the University and the Student’s Union from a welfare perspective. This requires closer communication with the University.

* There must be more transparency with how services, such as counselling, work.
* We have to make sure that the Students’ know what they can expect from the University in terms of welfare and wellbeing. This requires working closely with the University to develop resources together. Now, more than ever, a close relationship with the University is vital.

**Inclusivity**

Covid-19 has shown that there is a lot that we can do remotely. For example, the counselling service being remote has opened counselling up to a range of people who could not previously access it.

* We must explore the potential for online services to become a staple of welfare and wellbeing. For example, the potential for mindfulness workshops to be delivered to many people online, and increased support for students at times of personal crisis.
* We should explore and advertise DSA\* funded mentoring. This is something offered by Nottingham Trent University, and can provide those with disabilities and long-term mental health illnesses with the necessary support they need.

\*DSA is the Disabled Student Allowance, a UK Government Scheme, so this would not require University financing.
 **What do you think qualifies you for the role?**

My university experience has been hard. My friends and I have gone through mental health difficulties and bereavement whilst at Uni. The death of our friend to suicide was the toughest thing we have ever had to deal with.  But I want to use this awful experience to improve the University’s Services and to improve the Students’ Union.

The University did not handle the death well. The communication was poor, there did not seem to be a structure in place to handle bereavement, and the situation was made more stressful than it needed to be. Now, however, the University is much improved.

I will not take all the credit; the welfare staff are excellent, and progress was being made. But as soon as I felt emotionally able to discuss the tragic events, I started talking. I began volunteering my time to help the University work out what went wrong and what went right, how things could be better. I took sheets of data and recommendations that have helped inform policy for staff and students, and from this I have been able to help with other projects. For example, I have helped write advice on being concerned about a friend, and we are continuing work on an improved bereavement support package.

I know, more than most, that University can be an incredibly hard time. But I also know that the University is open to challenge, and as a students’ Union, we can make a difference.

**Marketing summary:**

It has been really difficult to write a manifesto. Due to the uncertainty created by Covid-19, I cannot make big spending promises. Instead, we must tackle the constantly evolving Covid-19 developments with the resources we have available now.

This year is going to be hard. From international students to first year students, it will be vital to be ready to adapt. Therefore, my campaign is about the flexibility to cope with Covid-19 and budget constraints, and the need to improve communication. Given this, I have three main aims

**Reducing the impact of Covid-19**

* Hold regular meetings with the Part-Time Officers to ensure that all groups are receiving appropriate levels of welfare support
* Prepare a proactive plan to engage students if they have not returned to campus by the Autumn Semester, including supporting welcome week and clubs and societies.

**Increase Clarity**

* Make services such as counselling more transparent.
* Foster a closer relationship with University Welfare to develop targeted and comprehensive welfare support and resources

**Increase Inclusivity**

* Explore the delivery of welfare and wellbeing services online to increase access
* Explore and advertise Disabled Student Allowance funded mentoring, to provide those with disabilities and long-term mental health illnesses with the necessary support.

**POSITION: LIBERATION OFFICER**

**Name: Sam Hawkins

Main Manifesto:**Hi, I’m Sam, a third-year Psychology student and I’m running to be your first Liberation Officer at UoNSU!

We are currently at a turning point at our Students’ Union. The introduction of a Liberation Officer is an important step in our fight for equity for marginalised students. Liberation activities are close to my heart and the passion has only been strengthened this year as the Chair of a Liberation Network and through my work as your LGBT+ SU Officer.

As your Liberation Officer, I will:

**Decolonise the University of Nottingham**

As an equity movement, we need the University to go above and beyond rating its success through quantitative measures of diversity. Rather, we should strive for transformational change through decolonisation, and the dismantling of barriers that prevent our marginalised students from engaging and succeeding. Projects such as my ‘Rainbow Crossings’ campaign do this, but we shouldn’t stop here. Therefore, I will:

* **Hold the University to account** to address and combat its own institutional discrimination.
* **Set up decolonise focus groups to empower marginalised students** to make change in their classrooms. The results of these groups will be**published to create a “Decolonise Nottingham Students Manifesto’** to challenge the barriers of a non-inclusive education system. I will work with the Education Officer and Part-time Officers to achieve this.
* Lead a University-wide, cross-campus **anti-microaggressions campaign** to tackle unconscious biases towards marginalised students.

**Develop comprehensive and inclusive mental health services**

It is clear from reports on the ‘Notts Buy and Sell’ Facebook group and instances with friends that racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and sexual-and gender-based harassment are still prevalent on our campuses and within our local community. The experiences of each are incredibly unique, and thus our mental health services should reflect this to be as inclusive and comprehensive as possible. This will build on my campaign with Cripps Health Centre, where I redeveloped the support available for Queer patients as your LGBT+ SU Officer. I am confident that I can build on this experience and scale up my work to the counselling service and:

* **Ensure that** **culturally competent care is being provided** and that **robust practices** are in place when marginalised students need it the most, for example, following hate crime and/or harassment.

**Establish Liberation Forums to engage and support marginalised students**

Following consultation with Presidents of a number of student groups relating to liberation, it was common to hear that they felt disengaged and unsupported by the University. Through my own experience as the Chair of a Liberation Network, I understand the importance of collecting insight to ensure that the student voice is heard and acted on. As Liberation Officer, I will **establish Liberation Forums to:**

* Meet regularly with **the relevant Societies** to better disseminate information from the University to students (and vice versa) to increase engagement and make sure that the student voice is listened to.
* Meet regularly with **Chairs of Liberation Networks** (BME, LGBT+, Women\*’s and Disabled Students’ Networks) to ensure both the Part-time Officers and the cohorts that they represent are **fully supported and have sufficient funds**to celebrate their retrospective awareness months and day.
* Carry out **constant consultation with students** to ensure that the issues I work on as your Liberation Officer are guided by your needs.

**Set equity as University-wide agenda**

Equality is often a word you’ll hear in relation to liberation. However, we shouldn’t stop at sameness, as marginalised groups will still be disproportionately disadvantaged. Rather, our system should focus on equitable support by ensuring that individuals get what they need to succeed. After consulting with both students and staff, it was clear that the following issues needed to be addressed. Thus, as your Liberation Officer I will:

* Implement **accommodation price caps** for estranged students, refugees and care experienced students.
* Lobby for **secure storage** for international students during the winter, spring and summer holidays.
* Provide **short term on-campus summer accommodation** for postgraduates and other students staying in Nottingham at the end of the summer term.

Inclusion, widening participation and minority representation are some of the core values to my work ethic, especially as your Part-Time Liberation (LGBT+) SU Officer this year. I hope this assures you that as your Full-Time Liberation Officer, I will engage with the student body to ensure that your voice is listened to in order to identify what needs fixing and follow through with this.

**Are you a Sucker 4 Sam? Vote Sam for Liberation!**

**What do you think qualifies you for the role?**Liberation activities are close to my heart and the passion has only been strengthened this year as the Chair of a Liberation Network and through my work as your current Part-Time Liberation Officer (LGBT+) SU Officer.

For instance, as your LGBT+ SU Officer, I have:

* Introduced **Inclusive Rainbow Crossings** to University Park, Jubilee, and Sutton Bonington campuses,
* Spearheaded a campaign alongside the Pro-Vice Chancellor for EDI (Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion) to lobby IT staff to **reform over 650+ University systems** to be digitally inclusive,
* **Raised £2000 for Stonewall** with the help of over 35 sports teams through my #RainbowLaces campaign,
* Implemented a ‘**Gender-Inclusive Language Policy**’ at Union Council, formalising this as Union Policy,
* Sat on UoNSU **Democratic Procedures Committee**,
* **Redeveloped support for Queer patients** at Cripps Health Centre,
* **Organised LGBT+ History Month 2020** at the University of Nottingham, including intersectional workshops and discussion panel with special guests from around the country.

Inclusion, widening participation and minority representation are some of the core values to my work ethic, especially as your Part-Time Liberation (LGBT+) SU Officer this year. I hope this assures you that as your Full-Time Liberation Officer, I will engage with the student body to ensure that your voice is listened to in order to identify what needs fixing, and follow through with this.

**Marketing summary:**

If elected as your Liberation Officer, I will:

**Decolonise the University of Nottingham**

* **Hold the University to account**
* **Set up decolonise focus groups to empower marginalised students** to make change in their classrooms. The results of these groups will be**published to create a “Decolonise Nottingham Students Manifesto’** to challenge the barriers of a non-inclusive education system.
* Lead a University-wide**anti-microaggressions campaign** to tackle unconscious biases towards marginalised students

**Develop comprehensive and inclusive mental health services**

* **Ensure that** **culturally competent care is being provided** and that **robust practices** are in place when marginalised students need it the most, for example, following hate crime and/or harassment.

**Establish Liberation Forums to engage and support marginalised students**

* **Meet regularly with liberation-relevant Societies and Networks** and carry out constant consultation with the wider student body to ensure that the issues I work on as your Liberation Officer are guided by your needs.

**Set Equity as University-wide agenda**

* Implement **accommodation price caps** for estranged students, refugees and care experienced students.
* Lobby for **secure storage** for international students during the winter, spring and summer holidays.
* Provide **short term on-campus summer accommodation** for postgraduates and other students staying in Nottingham at the end of the summer term.

 **Name: Xiyi Zhang

Main Manifesto:**

I am a person who has ideas but is very willing to listen to everyone's opinions. I am full of enthusiasm for my work, with a sense of responsibility, like teamwork and innovation. I am willing to serve students and try to do my best. Attentiveness, willing to learn and a certain degree of independent ability are my strengths. At work, I will actively reply to my classmates, seek solutions in time, and make plans in advance. In the university, I served as the deputy director of the sports department of the student union, and successfully organized the school-level basketball and volleyball leagues. **What do you think qualifies you for the role?**

This requires a sense of responsibility, a passion for work, good at communicating with students and teachers, and a reasonable arrangement of time. It is also important to understand the process of dealing with problems and be good at learning new skills.

**Marketing summary:**Being positive, enthusiastic and responsible is my original intention. I hope I can contribute myself to provide the best service for students.

**POSITION: LGBT+ OFFICER**

**Name: Samuel Boath

Main Manifesto:**

Hey! My Name is Samuel (he/him). I am a current NUS delegator for University of Nottingham, each year we meet with different universities around the UK to discuss policies for the following year.

I have attended a few LGBT+ events and made feel very welcomed, I want to carry this on for our students so they feel supported and can enjoy social events with other like minded individuals all having something in common. I want to echo the importance use of pronouns throughout the University to defend and extend the rights for students.

We have other social events such as trips to cities such as Birmingham and Manchester as well as pride prom! This is an opportunity to make new friends and feel proud and support the LGBT+ group, I want to keep this running for the upcoming year.

Roll out more gender neutral toilets to Nottingham campuses to follow on from the Portland building as standard.

Providing free gay pride lanyards during welcome week, as well as promoting the group. Sometimes signposting for support can be many links and clicks away. I want it to be clear and precise and to be the first thing you see on our home page so it's easy and accessible.

Be promoting our Mental health Services and guidance for students who are struggling. All the staff of Cripps health centre should be wearing our gay pride lanyard, it feels less daunting and gives you as sense of relief knowing they support or are apart of the LGBT+ community.

I want to liaise with other universities such as London, Manchester and Liverpool to create social events to build our community and friendship background as well as having some fun!

The rainbow crossing has been a great way of recognition and support by the university and I want to continue this!

Of course most importantly, I want people to feel welcomed and apart of a community knowing they have the support of us when they need it.

I want to encourage everyone to speak up and contact me with any suggestions they might have or questions! Have fun and much love, Sam x

**What do you think qualifies you for the role?**

I am motivated to develop the LGBT+ students network and lead the committee next year, to make more supportive changes as well as promoting the diversity of our community. I am apart of the LGBT+ community so I can understand the stresses at times whilst studying at University and I want every person to be confident who they are and know they have support when they need it. I am confident person which enables to lead the committee driving discussions and ideas into actions. My most important quality is listening to people and can feel safe to get into contact with me which whatever question they have! I want to make changes for our current and future students so their studying is healthy fun and safe.

**Marketing summary:**- Clear signposting of mental health guidance and wellbeing support
- Lanyards for all staff at Cripps Health Centre
- Continue with weekly social as well as movie night, Pride prom and nights to other cities.
- Liaise with other Universities to join social events
- Roll out more gender neutral toilets across all campuses
- Echo the importance of pronouns in the community
- Keep our social media up to date with news and support
- Be BOLD during Pride Month
- Organise events during welcome week for a new and returning students