

Key projects since last council:

Governance Review

Although hopefully no student outside the super-engaged group will have heard these words, Emma and I have been working hard gathering student opinion on a range of issues to feed into the constitutional change that is upcoming. To make sure that we hear a diverse range of opinions, distinct focus groups were formulated, populated and facilitated. Alongside this, a comprehensive survey of student opinion (reaching over 2,000 participants) was run over the last month. These together will help us to formulate a first draft of a new constitution, which can be voted on in parts at a big referenda alongside the elections.

Student Fair

In order to allay some concerns that students only get one chance to meet societies, I will continue to re-freshers tradition but with as much gusto as I can manage. I already have 65 societies signed up over 2 days, and have been organising stalls etc alongside our staff.

Halls / RAs etc

I have been doing a lot of work to bring the Union closer to the JCRs and RAs in halls. These have been unaccountable and unscrutinised for years, and the University agrees that things need to change. We hope to work with them to create a more standardised RA constitution (with room for change for specific halls) and to bring their elections along with ours in October. This will help them, help us, and help the students get more involved in democracy.

I also am working already to ensure that Welcome Week is not the debacle we saw last year.

Restructure

Not gonna lie, its been on my mind a lot. This restructure is so vital to the future of the Union, but I do understand that people's livelihoods are being affected. What I want to make sure of is that the correct information is available to students, and that I answer any questions that students (including you people at council) have. Ultimately it is the trustees, as elected representatives, that are responsible for these issues, but it is so important that people see the reasons behind the Trustees actions.

Housing

Helped Hannah make a cheeky poster (2 designs actually) to help students with house hunting. They have already had an affect we hear!

Cuts campaign

I helped students ring the Lords on the day of the vote (apparently lobbying them is not allowed, what's the point in representatives that you aren't allowed to talk to). I am also helping the cuts society in whatever way I can when asked.

NSS

Kate and I will be working hard to promote the NSS, the more Manchester students that take part, the more the University listens to the results!

Mancunion

Robyn and I are sorting out a re-jib of the Union page to allow more space for societies, Union democracy and engagement, as well as discounted gigs for Manchester students!

Book Fair

Helped Mo with the promotion of the book fair (ongoing)

Erasmus presentation

Went and evangelised about the Union to some exchange students, lots of fun and gave Joseph some glory on a slide of the presentation.

Elections

I've got the posters sorted, the timetable sorted and am working my arse off trying to get as many people as possible to stand, and ultimately, vote (ongoing)