

### Report of Richard Brinck-Johnsen, LGBTQ+ Members Officer – November 2015

Since taking office in August my main aim was to work together with my fellow sabbatical officers to help build a more a cohesive exec team who were more willing to work together than last year. Whilst we still have work to do, I believe that we have become a good team. To that end, I have made an effort to be present on campus as frequently as I have been able to within the constraints of having a second part time job. As such, in addition to regular meetings with Union colleagues and interactions with the wider student body, I have attended a number of meetings of various College committees and built a good rapport with many senior members of staff including the Master.

In terms of the LGBTQ+ Liberation campaign, we had a positive start to the year with an AGM in October which saw several committee delegates to council elected as well as an acting Trans rep who I'm pleased to be able to welcome to the Council as an officially elected Trans Officer. I am also in the process of relaunching the Birkbeck Pride social group. Unfortunately, one of the committee members has subsequently been forced to withdraw from their course for personal reasons and as they were also acting as the President of the Pride group I am currently having to regroup with the other members of that committee but I hope to have to see the group more active at the start of next term. However, I am pleased to confirm that we have fulfilled our delegation of LGBTQ+ campaign reps to the council. Another achievement which follows the work done in raising Trans awareness by my predecessor, is that we now have a gender neutral toilet near lift A on the third floor of the main Malet Street building. I am grateful to the chair for his part in bringing this issue to the attention of the College Estates committee.

In terms of future campaign plans, I am pleased to confirm that we are sending three delegates to the first ever NUS Trans conference taking place next week. I am still planning to hold an STD awareness testing event which whilst obviously relevant to World AIDS day being tomorrow is a pertinent issue all year round and so I will look to hold this early next term. I have also begun planning a special weekend event to mark LGBT History month provisionally scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February in collaboration with the Staff run Birkbeck Gender and Sexuality group.

