

VOTING OPENS MONDAY! 7-10 MARCH - VOTING 11 MARCH - RESULTS

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Candidate for the position of Postgraduate Education Officer



LAURA HO

Just keep Ho-ing - Re-elect Laura Ho Bristol SU Postgraduate Education Officer



Hello,

My name is Laura and I am running for **re-election** as your **Postgraduate Education Officer**.

I am a part-time Masters student in **Public Policy**, but I also did my Undergraduate degree at Bristol in Philosophy and Economics, during which I was involved with the **Feminist Society**, **Oxfam Society**, **Amnesty Society** and the **LGBT+** society.

This year has been a whirlwind, improving conditions for **Postgraduates who teach** and fighting for **curricular diversity** and I have made significant progress on all of my manifesto points, but it has made me hungry for more change!

If elected, I will:

1. Campaign for study Space for PhD Students in Arts

- PhD students in the Science disciplines get loads of resources and facilities while studying at Bristol, but in the Arts Faculty it is rare that a PhD student gets their own desk.
- This disparity is unfair and affects Arts students' ability to research.

ACTION: Fight for more space for those Arts PhD students who are struggling to do their research effectively.

2. Introduce a voluntary buddy system between international and home Masters students

- Doing a one-year Masters course can be full-on, especially if you are trying to do so in a completely new culture.
- Getting to know people from different backgrounds should be part of the University experience.

ACTION: Set up a buddy system for home and international students to learn from and support one another.

3. Organise roundtable support discussions for BME, LGBT+, Women and Disabled Postgraduate students and academics

- Part of making our learning truly liberated is having academic staff who are representative of the society we live in.
- In 2014, only 18% of the professors at Bristol were women.
- Only 12% of academic staff were BME.
- Only 4% of all University staff were disabled.
- This is despite student levels at Undergraduate and Postgraduate study improving in all fields. There is a pipeline issue.

ACTION: Set up forums for academics from underrepresented groups to support Postgraduate students from those groups who are looking to go into academia, to help the students tackle any

barriers.

4. Continue the work I started this year on improving the experience of part-time students

- Part-time students often have very hectic lives, e.g. balancing work, health difficulties and caring responsibilities with their studies.
- I have conducted a research project looking at how the University can better support them and I am desperate to continue working on it.

ACTION: See through my research on the Part-time student experience and its recommendations.

5. Continue to support the Postgraduate Network

- The Postgraduate Network is like a society for all Postgraduates.
- This year I have helped it to grow its Facebook membership from 600 to 1700 students and supported it to run weekly events for up to 250 students.
- The network provides a much needed sense of community for Postgrads at Bristol.

ACTION: Continue to support the Postgraduate Network's activities in any way I can.

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