

Credit to the Women's Officer Sophia Moreau for providing the structure for this (and subsequent) Council reports.

**LGBTQ+ Officer Report**  
12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – First Council  
Ryan Auernigg

**Council Report.**

Since being elected for LGBTQ+ Officer in the Autumn 2017 Elections (being appointed on the 16<sup>th</sup> November), I have not had a considerable amount of time to get the main goals of my Campaign underway; nonetheless, I have made a start on some of the plans mentioned in my manifesto and have picked up the responsibilities as a Trustee.

As the LGBTQ+ Officer, my focus is to increase visibility and representation of the LGBTQIA+ community at Birkbeck - and not limited to hosting LGBT social events. I set out to have more of a discussion about LGBT issues; to educate, inform and empower the students. I also plan to ensure that all new LGBT students feel welcomed into the university and the student community; one of my main goals is therefore to work with the Students' Union to establish that it successfully protects the rights of every LGBTQIA+ student and provides help to new students who may feel alienated or nervous about starting at Birkbeck.

The way I plan to go about this is to do a "relaunch" of the LGBTQ+ Campaign at Birkbeck; including the reformation of the Committee and Society (both of which have been inactive for over a year). As such, my goal is to have active membership participation of both groups by the end of the academic year, and to host a stall at next year's Freshers' Fayre to further highlight the recent changes made to the way the Campaign is being run for new students. The first Campaign meeting is planned to take place in the coming month, where a majority of these plans will be discussed

My plans for the Campaign are numerous; I plan to host talks given by members of the LGBTQIA+ community as a way of broadening public understanding and education of the history, issues, and hardships that have accompanied the movement, as I feel that this is essential in raising awareness for many issues currently present for LGBT individuals. I also plan to host many Committee meetings, social events and fundraisers throughout the year, including a 'BBKSU at Pride' event at the 2018 London Parade to create a strong sense of community and as a culmination of all the work I will do as a Liberation Officer. As well as that, I plan to organise multi-university events with other UoL institutions to provide a further outreach and representation for the LGBT community in London.

One aspect of the LGBTQ+ Officer role that I haven't overlooked is to further the work done by previous LGBTQ+ Officers and the 'Birkbeck Pride' group, as I want to ensure that the Campaign is fully reflective of all the work that has been done before me - I would not want all the progress other officers have made to be forgotten or disregarded, especially since I am for a large part relaunching the Campaign (both the Committee and Society). It would seem futile for all their work to go to waste, so I will be archiving all previous Campaign work and will resurrect some of their past event ideas and resources. I am also taking the responsibility to make a clear separation between the LGBTQ+ Committee and LGBTQ+ Society, as in the past the two groups seemed to exist as a single entity. I have linked with other SU Society presidents and external LGBTQ+ related charities to discuss the actions they are taking to challenge discrimination targeted at people for their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Finally, I have joined both the College Programs Committee and Academic Board and will be actively participating in both groups.

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**Manifesto Progress.**

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| <p><b>The basics of my manifesto:</b><br/> “Relaunch” of the LGBTQ+ Campaign at Birkbeck, by reforming both the Society and Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active membership by year-end.</li> <li>• Freshers’ Fayre 2018 stall.</li> </ul> <p>LGBTQ+ Campaign events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talks/lectures given by members of LGBTQIA+ community.</li> <li>• Frequent Committee meetings.</li> <li>• Society social events.</li> <li>• BBKSU at London Pride 2018.</li> <li>• Multi-uni events with other UoL institutions.</li> <li>• Links with LGBTQ+ related charities.</li> </ul> <p>Further work done by previous LGBTQ+ Officers and the LGBTQ+ group ‘Birkbeck Pride’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archive old resources.</li> <li>• Expand upon and continue manifesto promises that were proposed by previous Officers.</li> </ul> <p>Make clear &amp; distinct separation between the Committee and Society.</p> | <p><b>Progress on these goals:</b><br/> “Relaunch” of the LGBTQ+ Campaign at Birkbeck, by reforming both the Society and Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planned redesigning of groups on SU website.</li> <li>• Plans for first Campaign meeting (as a Committee) to discuss both groups and assign roles and plan future events.</li> <li>• No substantial progress for stall, as planning for this should start closer to the event.</li> </ul> <p>LGBTQ+ Campaign events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans to invite non-binary speaker for LGBT History Month – also a stall in the library for LGBTQIA+ representation.</li> <li>• All other events and ideas to be discussed at the Campaign meeting.</li> <li>• Some links formed e.g. with Amnesty UK LGBTI+.</li> </ul> <p>Further work done by previous LGBTQ+ Officers and the LGBTQ+ group ‘Birkbeck Pride’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans to archive and review old manifestos, Council reports, blog posts, documents and resources – upload to Campaign group on SU website.</li> </ul> <p>Make clear &amp; distinct separation between the Committee and Society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans to review the constitution and see what steps need to be taken to separate from each other.</li> </ul> |
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