

Full-Time Officer Manifestos 2019-20

VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION **Bee Morgan**

Hi, I'm **Bee Morgan**, running for **VP Education**. I'm a third year Natural Sciences student from Fylde college and a Lead Academic Rep within LEC. I'm Vice President for LECSoc and Art Society. You can also catch me with the Welsh Society in my spare time.

I feel if you want change to happen, you should make it happen. I've always had a strong advocacy for educational issues, and I want to make change that improves life for students now and in future. As an Academic Rep, I regularly listen to and campaign for students. Being Natural Sciences, I also have a unique understanding of the shortfalls of our current Joint Major system. **#BEElieveInBEE**
#Jointhehive

Find me on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram **@BeeforVPEducation**

Consistency

- Continue to work with departments to **reduce bunched exams and assessments**, improving the wellbeing and performance of students overall.
- Lobby the university to **reduce the number of 6-7pm lectures** where possible - Over 5000 students had 6-7pms in Michaelmas term 2018. I will encourage the university to **implement live streaming**, and campaign for **all 6-7pms to be recorded** so students who can't attend (e.g. due to sport/society/work commitments) aren't unfairly disadvantaged.
- **Review group work marking** - Look for a fairer, consistent method of marking to **compensate students for their proportion of work**. Allow an equal and clear reporting system, so students and staff know what to do should you experience problems.
- Continue and expand **work on closing the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) attainment gap** - With a specific **focus on black students**, work with the university to identify barriers and help students overcome these.
- Conduct a **review of the Academic Tutor/Advisor system** - **Creating a set of fair, consistent requirements**, allowing students to know where they stand and what to expect. This means staff can be held accountable when this isn't met.
- Campaign with President for **consistency across departments in supervisor and resource provision for Postgraduate Research students** - Alongside campaigning, **raise awareness of the PGR Code of Practice**, so students know what they are entitled to and where to access support.

Clarity

- Lobby the university to **avoid extreme fee splits and increases** - With publication of the governmental Post-18 Education Review nearing and leaks suggesting tuition fee changes up and down depending on each course, look for **clarity for students particularly FST, FHM, EU (post Brexit), and international students**
- **Challenge the university on hidden course costs** - Present the university with evidence of unfair spending by students (e.g. field trips). **Establish a clear, equal, university-wide budget baseline** for any essential course extras, with as many included within fees as possible.
- Be a strong **voice for students impacted by new construction** - Make sure **students are the clear focus in new builds** (e.g. the Library extension). I will also continue to **push the university for an off-campus study space that is accessible and inclusive**

for both students with **disabilities** and those who **struggle to make the journey to campus**.

- Push for the **university to release an individual departmental breakdown of spending**. Currently the best we have is 'Academic Departments' as a whole - How can we hold the university accountable if we don't know how our money is spent?
- Publish an '**Alternative Spending Review**', breaking down the complicated, jargon-heavy University report to just **give you the facts on where your money is spent**.

Communication

- **Better communication and support for the first year Minor system and module choices** - Students don't feel they understand Minor or module selections, wanting **advice on their degree and module flexibility** both before and during university, including how their options now might affect their studies down the line.
- Push for departments to **update module descriptions and handbooks** - Information is often out of date and misleading, meaning students can't make informed decisions.
- **Introduce post-exam feedback** - Currently module reviews are submitted too early to include views on exam papers, this new system will **allow students another way to voice their opinions**.
- **Create an equal, university-wide feedback communication system** with Academic Reps - This **informs all students what changes they've benefitted from** in their courses and **allows for accountability** when change might not have happened.
- Encourage a **sense of belonging for Joint Major students** - **Push for a departmental staff contact** so students know where they stand and who they can go to for advice
- **Facilitate discussions for Joint Major and Natural Sciences** students through a Sub-Academic Rep system - Giving these students a **platform to have their often overlooked voices heard**.