

Manifesto: Victoria Hatch

About me:

Hi, I'm a third year Natural Science student and I'd like to take over the VP Activities role. I personally feel that taking part in sport and societies has helped me get the most out of my university experience and want to help others have the same.

Sport wise, I have competed in the following: badminton (captain); canoe polo; climbing; triathlon; snowboarding; and football (back in my first year). Society wise, I have been involved with the community fridge; Ecohub; theatre; music; caving; and I am part of the cast of Chicago 2020. I've always worked throughout my degree, and I currently work as a climbing instructor at the sports centre and also for Green Lancaster on the environmental sustainability team. I think that I can represent a wide range of people at Lancaster University, and have good judgement on policies and events that will benefit students.

In my first term at university a combination of my degree course and not getting involved in societies meant I really struggled first term. However, at the start of Lent term I got more involved with my sports and joined LUTG (theatre), assistant stage-managing and painting sets really helped turned my year around and make some great friends.

What I can do for you in 6 months of VP Activities:

Firstly I'd like to continue some of the great work that has been done this year in the VP Activities role; such as college rugby; mental health in sport and recreational sport. Through my work with Green Lancaster and the Student's Union, I have already been involved in Roses planning discussions about 'Roses Go Green', an initiative to make our home Roses in May more sustainable. It would be really exciting to be further involved in the planning of Roses and work with the team who manage this. I am a volunteer for Active Lancaster running the badminton sessions on Tuesdays, and I would like to continue support and student engagement for inclusive Active Lancaster sessions, this is great for mental health and making new friends, as there is no commitment or experience necessary to go to a session.

In addition to supporting the progress of college rugby, I would also like to gauge interest and start planning for college badminton for next year. The addition of the new sports hall adds a lot of potential for new college sport, and I would like to see what students want from the extra space.

Gender equality is something I feel strongly about, and I have been pleased to see more female BUCS teams this year and would like to run some workshops about how genders affect training plans. Having open discussions about how different individuals with different hormone levels benefit from different diets and how menstrual cycles affect performance.

I want to use my interest and knowledge of sustainability to run a sustainable lifestyle campaign, I know that getting involved in team sports, or being creative in a society can have a huge impact on mental and physical wellbeing. In addition, the food we eat and the way we travel also affects our energy and ability to be involved with activities.

I'm happy to be an open ear for any society or sports team, and as a former exec member, I think it is really important to start the conversation early with new exec members regarding re-affiliation to ensure no-one is unsure what they need to do over the summer break.