

Manifesto

Hi, I'm Kate Andrews (or Essex as I'm often known) and I am running for your VP Activities officer. I'm a third year studying Drama, Theatre and Performance studies,

As well as being a Digby flat rep, I am currently one of the Campaigns officers within the RSU and the year before I was the Activities officer. I believe that the experience I have had at Roehampton is a direct result of the RSU and I would love my chance to give back to it.

I put my heart and soul into everything I do and I do not give up easily. This is one of the reasons I think I would make a great VP Activities for 2011-2012. Over my last two years I have been heavily involved with the RSU and as the Activities officer in my second year I had the opportunity to Lobby parliament, firing questions to the minister for education David Willets, among others, to persuade them to pledge that they would vote against higher education fees in the upcoming election, I then also joined the group of protestors who were fighting for their rights through the streets of London in my third year. I think the higher education issue is something that needs to be seriously looked at. As Activities officer in my second year I worked closely alongside the outgoing VP Activities Sabb Natasha Blake, and in my third year have worked with the outgoing VP communications Sabb Anant Naik and have learnt a lot through them.

Societies, Sports and Volunteering are hugely important to Roehampton University, I would go as far as saying they are the heart and soul. They are indicative to team spirit, friendship and health and wellbeing in many cases, and have become a massive part of the Roey culture.

Sports - I will admit now, I am not a sporty person within Roehampton, as I have a disability which prevents this, but I am hugely supportive of our teams! (There are currently 31 sports teams!) I want to help them continue to flourish within the university the way they are already doing. I would want to work closely with whoever becomes sport Roehampton president as well as Dave Bush to ensure Roehampton has a winning year and also work with the new VP Welfare on health and wellbeing week, and on how sports can play a vital role within this. Maybe even having an old fashioned primary school style sports day?

Societies - Societies make up a huge number of the students at Roehampton (There are currently 36 societies!) and I would like to help them to develop further. The current society's president has done a great job of trying to bring about more structure, but societies still massively lacks this. A lot of societies exist, which as students we do not know about and maybe would enjoy getting involved with. There are a few societies which you may hear about on a weekly basis, (Film society, Roehampton players, dance etc) because of fundraisers they are doing or performances they are putting on or events, but there should be some way that every student can get involved in all the societies. I want to help societies gain more momentum and standing within Roehampton. I am currently the Vice president of the Roehampton players and the woman's officer within the LGBTQ society and feel I can give a well rounded view on all aspects of societies.

Volunteering –With the installation of volunteering opportunities on Jobshop it's now easier to find out about what students can get involved in. The new R.U.M.A.D. scheme will ensure there are tonnes of ways to get involved and I hope to be able to develop this. 'Give it a go' has been a scheme I have championed since I first heard about it. I would like more trips, maybe to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, plays that aren't musicals, more classes including first aid, and computer skills (for when those pesky laptops break down) etc. Because these days, a degree really isn't enough, having any other skills on your CV will help you become more employable. This year saw a volunteering fair which highlighted opportunities for students to get involved in. I would like to see one of these each term so students are reminded about how they can get involved!

I am a passionate and enthusiastic person and feel I would bring a lot to the role of VP Activities; I want to encourage students to become involved in RSU and what it has to offer as it can enrich a Roehampton experience.

If you see me around campus feel free to come up and talk to me I'm very approachable! Give it a go, Vote for Kate and get involved!