

ELECTION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE

Each year, Union Council has the responsibility to elect four Student Trustees to our governing body: the Union's Trustee Board. The Board is responsible for setting the Union's strategy, overseeing its management, ensuring its sustainability and its legal compliance.

We have a vacancy for one Student Trustee and have received one application before the deadline.

At the meeting you will be asked to vote for **Shriya Arya, Heather Butcher** or to **Re-Open Nominations**.

Shriya gave the following information in their nomination statement:

Qualifications

School Leadership Team (2016-17) – role: Student Welfare Officer
Universities Business Challenge (2019) – role: Finance Director
OpenUp UEA (2019-20) – role: Student Board Member Volunteer
NBS UG Accounting and Finance (2019-20) – role: Student Course Rep
UEA NBS Employability Week Competition (2019) – 1st place Prize Winner

Relevant Skills

I am a reliable, conscientious student with a keen interest in immersing myself into various aspects of the community. This, for me, has always taken the form of volunteering. I was able to take part in a varied range of volunteering opportunities alongside my A level studies; this involved working with both young children and the elderly in care homes.

As a sixth form student, I had the opportunity to undertake a four month placement mentoring primary school students, exposing me to a high level of responsibility, the importance of prioritisation and the need for making informed spot decisions.

Throughout my secondary school years, two other opportunities I was able to avail of were the roles of Young Leader with Brownies and a member of staff with Kumon. Both organisations support young children, but in different ways; hence I was able to gain the ability to be adaptable and flexible in the workplace. Moreover, with these being time-bound pressured environments, the

roles I undertook required both the need to work as a solid team and the use of initiative when conducting tasks independently.

Reasons for wanting to be a Trustee

The opportunities I have undertaken and the experiences I have had as a result, have been vast and the whole journey has been invaluable to my personal development.

This versatility demonstrated above, I believe, would be transferable in the role of Student Trustee and as a member of the Trustee Board. As a diligent, enthusiastic and ambitious member of the UEA community, I believe these are just some of the attributes that would be valuable as a Student Trustee.

More importantly, as this position is representative for UEA students, it's crucial that the individual demonstrates their values are in line with the overall general SU culture of 'Students Transforming' and everything the body stands for as a whole.

As an organisation, the SU is a pivotal part in enhancing the university experience for the students that attend UEA. I have always been an advocate of positive change, brought about by fresh perspective; thus the ability to be involved with shaping the Student Union's future strategy and together with the Trustee Board, having an impact through our contributions, is something that I am very passionate about.

As a result, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to be involved in representation of the Student Trustee for UEA's SU in such a positive manner.

In contrast to working with young people, volunteering at a care home for over a year enabled me to recognise the value of listening in making communication effective. Alongside my roles in the community, I immersed myself fully in opportunities at the grammar school I attended; I successfully secured the positions of Student Welfare Officer and Peer Mediator on the School Leadership Team. As part of this role, I was responsible for establishing and running drop-in pastoral sessions, where I learnt the importance of being non-judgemental and maintaining confidentiality. Organising this involved liaising with teaching, site and IT staff in order to promote the sessions. I was able to draw upon skills previously gained from participating in the Young Enterprise programme where my organisational and time management skills were developed and my creativity and innovation applied.

Heather gave the following information in their nomination statement:

Qualifications

Co-organiser of Animal Rebellion UEA, Vice-President of UEA Vegan Society, Vice-President and Treasurer of UEA Dharma Society, Active member of Extinction Rebellion UEA and NUA

Relevant Skills

Good communication and listening skills
Punctuality
Organisation
Problem solving
Hard-working
Motivated
Passionate

Reasons for wanting to be a Trustee

I would like to become more involved in the SU and especially want to prioritise the environment in future strategy. I would like to be a voice for this concern that I know many students share and hold the SU accountable for doing what they can to help combat the climate crisis.
