

## Serene Shibli

### #Don'tBeMeanVoteForSerene!.. for Campaigns & Democracy Officer!

Hi! I'm a 3rd year Politics student, [She/They], and I'm running to be your next Campaigns&Democracy Officer. I've been involved in SU democracy for three years, consistently campaigning for advancements of students' interests.

#### Experience:

While at UEA I have held many elected positions relating to SU democracy/governance

- Democratic Procedures Committee Chair: Focused on upholding democratic policy.
- Union-Council Deputy-Chair: Co-running our primary democratic forum, Union-Council.
- Student Officer Trustee: Overseeing Union management.
- Democracy Review Working Group member: enacting the Democracy Review recommendations.

As your next C&D Officer I would enact changes improving SU transparency and accountability, building on my current work and experience, ensuring student voices are heard throughout your organisation!

#### **As POC Student Officer, (2020-2022) I've worked on:**

- Vice-Chancellor's Anti-Racism Taskforce.
- History/PPL Schools' Decolonising working groups.
- Reasonable adjustments working group: advocating academic protections for students with disabilities.
- UEA Decolonise campaign lead.

Gaining Real-life experience protesting and lobbying; making me best placed to represent your needs in the SU and with the University.

#### **As a member of UEA's community, I've taken on roles in societies such as:**

- History and Palestinian Society President.
- Latin Dance (Salsa) and Politics Society Treasurer.
- Union-Rep for numerous societies over the last three years.

In these positions I have worked in teams, managed projects and am used to listening and prioritising the needs of society members, skills needed in your next C&D Officer.

#### **Goals & Aims:**

**Democracy Review:** Student voices need to be heard. The Democracy Review aimed at ensuring the SU is accessible and able to support all students is long overdue for completion!

**Accountability & Communication:** SU communication on what the organisation is doing must improve!

- Bring back regular, accessible, Officer updates, including, publicising Officer Union-Council updates, because you should know what is happening in your SU!

**Mental Health:** I believe the University must acknowledge the long-term implications of COVID as a cultural trauma, and work preemptively to support students and student mental health.

**Renting:** Rent is increasing; safe, student homes and non-exploitative renting practises are vital. I would work with:

- Local renting charities to improve student renter's rights nationally.
- Student advice services, advocating for more advice and support, especially what to do if things go wrong. **(Continued.)**

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**Never-Okay:** The concerning increase in incidents in the LCR are never okay! To start I would:

- raise awareness by Incentivising and making more widely accessible consent training for students.
- Work with local bus, taxi companies, and clubs to ensure a safe night out across Norwich.

**Decolonise:** Continuing the work towards Anti-Racism and making sure PoC student voices are heard, I would:

- Support and expand the BAME Ambassador Scheme.
- Reaching out to STEM, ensuring ongoing student decolonial movements are supported, alongside those in Hum.

**Environment/Sustainability:** To really impact UEA's Carbon Foot-print I would:

- Continue lobbying for a better University Ethical Investment Policy and bring back the SU Ethical Spending Policy, making sure your tuition-fees are spent on a better future.

**Lastly, this is your Student Union; I pledge to support your campaigns, making sure student voices are heard, and needs are met!**

...Also! Bring back Pimp-my-Barrow!