First Year Representative Manifestos

Joanne Yuqing Lin

I believe that I should be the first year rep because I am a very active member of your course and I would love to be able to represent you all.

I have made a Discord server where everyone can ask questions and share their answers. Many of you have already used my server to go through answers together. In addition, we sometimes host social events there and I plan on making it a more regular thing- don't worry, my server is only for our year group (plus a few sneaky CSS people) so don't feel intimidated :) I would love to implement for features so we can interact more as a community!

Furthermore, everyone was unable to see the Proof 2 videos and were panicking about it as we were supposed to have labs on those videos, but I messaged Kerstin Eder about this issue, and it was resolved quickly. It also meant that those of you who did not watch the videos did not need to do those questions on proof by induction.

I would like to be able to share your suggestions to CSS so that we get the best course, especially considering our current situation surrounding Covid-19. I have been very successful in my previous school with relaying the information to the school and sharing it back with my form and have accomplished many things, such as handing out free water bottles. However, with CSS, I would love to be able to work with them to deliver you all free pizza (because like Jon Bird said to me (before he was switched to become another group's tutor): "pizza + coffee/tea = a good programmer). Of course there are many more things I would love to set up, such as more social events for our year as our social interactions have been severely limited.

If you vote for me, I will work with CSS to deliver you all the best uni life you can possible have!

Robin Ruddick

I'm very organised - I made over 30 WhatsApp groupchats so that people would have an easier time finding people they were in groups with for Maths for CS A, and Imperative & Functional Programming (and I don't even take Maths for CS so it was entirely out of kindness rather than my own benefit). I'm quite nice, and am a solutions-based empathiser (i.e. when people are unhappy about something I work to find solutions to their issues rather than just comforting them). I always get things done on time, even if I end up doing it at 2 in the morning before it's due. I remember really specific things people have said and thus will be good at feedbacking info about what people feel could be improved. I'm an active member of the whatsapp groupchat so I know about what people want because they never shut up about it... and I like to hope I'm a nice person to work with! (:

Tegan Roberts-Morgan

I really love for Computer Science and I equally enjoy helping people and organising events. Being a first year rep would allow me to do both of these things simultaneously. In the past I have helped to organise numerous events as deputy head girl of my old school. We did cake bakes, decade day (you dressed like a decade), online quizzes, scavenger hunts etc. I have also been a peer mentor, prefect, and other roles in my school that I have used to help others. I think I can use the experiences I have had to represent Year 1 Computer Science students well and organise some really fun events for you to take part in.

Viet-Anh Tran

I love computer science but what I have always loved most, above everything else, is to help and support people. It often feels like university is one big race: you have the fast sprinters, who have been at it for years, you have people who are here and have no clue what they got themselves into, the new people and many more, but in spite of all of these differences I'm sure we all feel the same right now: nervous and ripped off. I had to isolate recently for 2 weeks and if it had not been for the support from the other members I probably would've concluded that my university experience was shit at the end of my degree. But, after talking privately with some people, I could say I am one of the lucky ones.

We are in 2020. Our whole programme is online, people are starting isolation left and right with people whom they barely just met, all of this while the tuition fee and rent prices still remain the same. Seeing how the academic year has turned out to be, it is now more important than ever to make sure that the Computer Science students are feeling safe and part of a community who understands them and has been through some of the challenges that they might encounter during their university days. As CSS fulfills most of these points, this brings me here.

WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE IS FEELING PART OF SOMETHING. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE DOESN'T FEEL ALONE, ESPECIALLY NOW, IN A TIME WHERE FEELING LONELY IS THE NORM. This is why you would always find me active on the whatsapp group chat, making sure that everyone has their questions answered and that everyone is aware of the events that are going on, whether online or in-person. But, this is not enough. After talking with close 1/5 of the freshers this year, there are many more things that I would love to make available for freshers that do not exist right now, such as a weekly stream of events, both online and in-person, but the main point is that we need coordination and we need to get more people involved. We can be nerds and do nerdy things but we have to have each other. This is why I want to be the first year representative. I don't want anyone to feel left out. I know that feeling very well and definitely would not want people to go through that.