

```
you@snowy $ YEARS=2016;2017  
you@snowy $ ./do_it
```

```
  reticulating splines ... ✓
  rebooting SAFE      ... ✓
joining CSS          ... ✓
```



COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY





# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

First of all, let me congratulate you on getting into a Top 5 University! We are the Computer Science Society, dedicated to making your first year here a great one! We have many amazing things lined up such as Hackathons, Appathons, Bar crawls, Movie nights and more! Also, unlike most other societies, we don't charge for you to become a member!

My name is Hakeem and I'm going to be your President for the year! If I had to give you some advice about University, it would have to be to get out there and try everything! Bristol is a beautiful and diverse city with so much to do! Get out of your comfort zone, join other societies, introduce yourself to and meet other students! University is meant to be some of the best years of your life and your first year is a prime way of enjoying University – Your coursemates are in the same boat as you so everyone will be looking to make friends!

Going into my third year of University and my second year on the Committee (I was Treasurer last year), I have a good mind of how to make the most out of your year and which direction the Computer Science Society should go in. On top of this, the society is backed by a committee which, I believe, is one of the best teams that could have been elected to lead the society in the right direction! You shall meet them and I soon enough and if you ever run into any one of us, feel free to pull us over for a chat or just say hi!

We, as a society, believe that feedback is critical to us becoming the best society we can be so we will ask for feedback at every available moment! If you ever have any suggestions or improvements, please feel free to drop any of the committee members an email or just stop us for a chat!

Hakeem Kushoro, CSS President

# YOUR CSS COMMITTEE

## HAKEEM KUSHORO

President  
[president@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:president@cssbristol.co.uk)



Hey, guys! 3rd year Mathematics and Computer Science student here! As President of the Computer Science Society and the head of this Python (Aha, get it?), I will do everything in my power to ensure that you have a great year. I can promise you that the CSS Committee will give their all to ensure this is one of the best years of your life! This is my second year on the committee so I have experience and know the best direction to go in. I hope at the end of this year, you'll be able to look back and say "That was a brilliant year! I can't wait to see what Bristol University's greatest society has in store for next year!"



## CODRIN POPA

Vice-President  
[vp@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:vp@cssbristol.co.uk)

Hello, I'm Codrin, vice-president of the CSS. Second year Computer Science with a big interest in computer architecture and electronics. Compete with me in the BEEES Robot Wars or come have a cup of tea together at the Peace of Mind weekly meetings. hope you will have a great time at Bristol, create awesome projects at the hackathons we organize and make a lot of friends at our events. My main focus is organising technical talks, panel discussions and activities concerned with study skills, wellbeing and mental health. Feel free to ask me questions about employability, applying for internships or any other matters.

## NICHOLAS CHEDGEY

Treasurer  
[treasurer@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@cssbristol.co.uk)



Hi. As a 3rd year CS student and as the 3rd year rep, I've been through, at least a version of, the course and I hope that this year we can all come together as part of CSS to make this the best year yet for all of us. As the treasurer, I'll be in charge of budgeting our ideas and all the events you enjoy; as well as managing our sponsorship money and paying for pizza. To all first (and other) years, I'd like to tell you well done and that, as CS, CSE and CSM students - you have a lot of pizza ahead of you.



## RINI VEERAVALLI

Secretary  
[secretary@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:secretary@cssbristol.co.uk)

Hi, I'm Rini, the secretary for CSS. I'm also a 3rd year CSE student. If you see me around MVB or the university, feel free to ask me anything about CSS, e.g. queries about events, what's going on with the society, issues or ideas for the committee and so on - and I will also be able to get you in touch with the committee. If you like sending emails, too, you can reach me at [secretary@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:secretary@cssbristol.co.uk).

## ALESSIO ZAKARIA

Sports  
[sports@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:sports@cssbristol.co.uk)



Hi, I'm Alessio, the Sports rep this year for CSS. We're hoping to do a lot this year including running a team in the 5-aside competition and plenty of sports tournaments and activities to get involved in. If you have any more ideas be sure to get in touch at [sports@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:sports@cssbristol.co.uk).



## ALEENA BAIG

Outreach  
[outreach@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:outreach@cssbristol.co.uk)

Hi! I'm Aleena, a 2nd year CS student and outreach organiser. We're hoping to run several workshops and events for children this year, including the popular Digimakers event that runs termly. We always welcome new workshop ideas (no matter how crazy!) and will help you get them off the ground. You can find me in the MVB, where I basically live Mon-Fri, and at hackathons the rest of the time. Talk to me about edtech, startups, women in tech, podcasts, musicals and hackathons.

# JOHN GRIFFITH

Events

[events@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:events@cssbristol.co.uk)



Hi, I'm John, a third year CS student and your CSS events organiser. Throughout the year, I plan to organise a good mixture of Socials, Tech talks and Hackathons. If you have any suggestions for events just email me or find me in MVB.



# ROSS GARDINER

Webmaster

[webmaster@cssbristol.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@cssbristol.co.uk)

Hi, I'm Ross, this year's CSS webmaster. That means I have to plug the website: go check it out at [cssbristol.co.uk](http://cssbristol.co.uk)! We're in the process of adding all sorts of useful information about our sports teams, outreach, activities, events, job offers and more.

I can often be found around the department, grumbling about JavaScript. I play water polo and I'm an avid music fan. If you have any questions at all, just drop me an email or come and find me in person!

# THE CSS CALENDAR

We have many events coming up this year, hosted both by us and our industry sponsors.

Here's just a taster of what we have planned:

Bar crawls | Hackathons | Pub quiz | Film nights | LAN nights | Days out | Socials | Summer BBQ | Discussion Panels | Sports tournaments

## WELLBEING

We wish we could tell you that Computer Science is a walk in the park but it can take its toll on people sometimes. Unfortunately, stress is usually a part of University life, especially in CS. You may start feeling angry, upset or even homesick. But there is no need to worry. The important thing is you take care of yourself. This includes doing things such as eating right, getting enough sleep, talking to friends, your tutor, your senior tutors, your lecturer, other members of staff, etc. You will quickly find a lot of people around here are more than willing to support you and look out for you.

You will be assigned a personal Tutor who will be responsible for making sure you know your way around the university and to provide academic support. For most things, your tutor will be your first official point of contact. They are most effective with helping you with academic matters, however, if your problem goes further than academia, your tutor will point you in the right direction to seek further assistance.

You will no doubt be bombarded with information over the next few weeks, so we've put together a comprehensive guide on the CSS website. Go to [cssbristol.co.uk/wellbeing](http://cssbristol.co.uk/wellbeing) for more information.

# PREPARING

First of all: don't worry. The course is designed so that you'll be able to follow it even if you have never programmed before. Also - nobody is expecting you to do any reading! (you'll forget it all during freshers' week anyway).

However, there are a few things you can do to make your life easier:

If you really have never programmed before, you can learn a lot in just a few hours by having a look at the tutorials for Scratch and Python. If you already have some experience, note that the course starts by looking at both C and Haskell. Remember though - CS isn't just programming!

Go and have a look at our website, [cssbristol.co.uk](http://cssbristol.co.uk). You'll find some tutorials that may be useful later (particularly the instructions for connecting to Snowy, the departmental server). There's also lots of information about who we are, the events we run and what we have planned for this year.

If you've never used Linux before, have a go at using it. The easiest way to get started is by creating a Live USB of Ubuntu - see if you can figure that out! For those who have used \*nix in the past: the lab runs CentOS, and most first-year coursework will be designed to work on those machines. You can do everything from your own machine if you want, though!

## JOIN US!



[/groups/CSSBristol](#)



[cssbristol.co.uk](#)



@CSSBristol



[/cssbristol](#)

# ADVICE

Here's some choice advice from current students. Warning: some advice may be more accurate than others!

- “ Always ask questions!
- “ Keep a good work/life balance. Don't spend huge amounts of time on optional assignments.
- “ Bunker is the marmite of Bristol - you'll either just tolerate it or you'll hate it!
- “ Only code in assembly - that way the lecturers will know you are a pro!
- “ Go to CSS events!
- “ Join a sports club. Trust me, you will be forever grateful. You make the best friends, meet the coolest people and have something on the side to keep you sane when deadlines get tough.

- “ Get to know the lecturers!
- “ Bring a laptop...
- “ Make the most of the free time you have in first and second year.
- “ Make sure you eat well, get enough sleep and take care of yourself. A sound mind is more valuable than you might think – your mental health is very important to maintain!
- “ If you have not done any programming before - do some! CodeAcademy has some great and short crash courses. They normally say previous programming experience isn't required, but if you've at least seen some code and seen how terminal looks it will help you feel less out of your depth. Good luck!

over to you

... ✓

you@snowy \$ █

**C·S·S COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY**