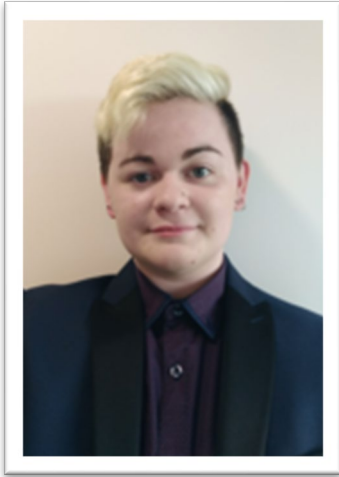


# LEE THAIR-WHITE (VICE PRESIDENT, ACTIVITIES)



**'Vote Lee for Equality, Inclusion, Support, and a diverse range of opportunities in your Student Union!'**

In my time at The University of Winchester, as Chair of the Spectrum Students (LGBTQPIA+) Network for 3 years, and employee of the Student Union Shop, as an Assistant (2 years) and Supervisor (1 year), I have developed a real knack for understanding the core issues at the heart of The University of Winchester, and how the Student Union can impact and make a positive difference to the lives of students.

## **Prepare, Train and Support**

As the Government rolls out the vaccine program, we must prepare for a staggered return to campus activities in the next academic year. But, we must also consider that not all committees will have a pre-pandemic frame of reference for running their Activity Group (Society, Sports Team, Network) on campus. As VP of Activities, I would:

- Include a **Safety Briefing** alongside Committee Training for Activity Groups, to prepare them for a safe, no-risk return to campus.
- Provide a range of **training opportunities for committees** to learn new skills to run their Activity Group, such as, but not limited to, **social media training** and **mental health first aid training**.
- Provide further support and guidance for students wishing to **form new Activity Groups**, to cater to a wider range of student interests.
- Promote the **continued use of online events**, even once it is safe to return to campus, allowing a greater proportion of students to take part, such as distance learner and commuters.
- Advocate to continue funding for the **Representational Networks Assistant** role, providing support and guidance for Representational Networks to maximise their positive influence on student life.
- Ensure that Activity Groups, are provided with **fair and equal use of facilities** at the university once it is safe to return, i.e. room allocation, sports facilities.

## **Clear Communication**

Feedback from The Big Survey shows that there are still students that feel disconnected and uninformed about the opportunities available to them, from Student Union events to Activity Groups they can join. To resolve this problem, as VP of Activities, I would:

- Run a campaign at the beginning of the year, highlighting the importance of **creating an online account with the Student Union**, so that students can receive regular updates about news and events via email, and **following the Student Union on social media**.
- Use my skills and experience as a Creative Writing graduate and Masters student, to work on a **Student Union newspaper**, available monthly/semesterly online, which would include: news and events from the Student Union; current social, volunteering, and academic opportunities; the events and achievements of Activity Groups; and more.
- Continue to work with Activity Groups to provide regular opportunities for students to attend free **'Give It A Go' sessions**, and have a **Refreshers Fayre** each semester to showcase what Societies, Sports Teams and Networks have to offer.
- Continue to celebrate and reward the achievements of individual students and Activity Groups through **Award Ceremonies**, emphasising the different ways students have made an impact on university life and the local community.