

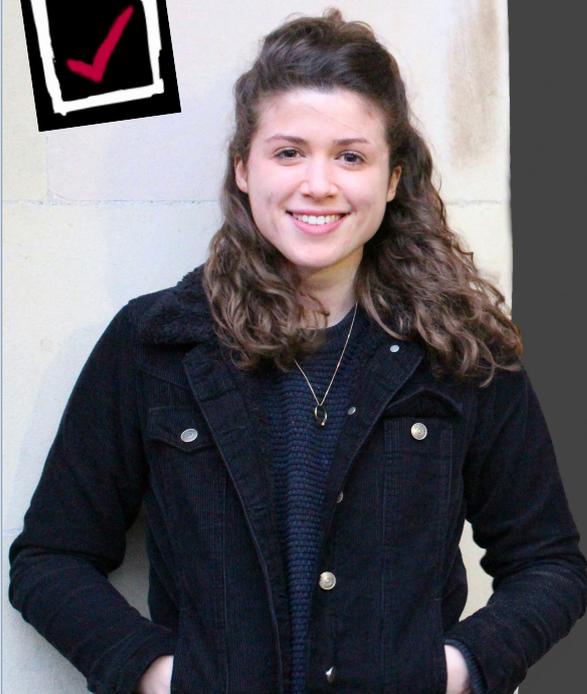
Vote SOPHIE BUCK

for CUSU-GU Welfare and Rights Officer

Feb 29 - Mar 3
vote.cusu.cam.ac.uk



#buckhasyourback



EXPERIENCE

General organisation Experience

- Emma June Event Music Co-Organiser (2014)
- TCS Deputy Features Editor (Michaelmas 2014)
- ECAPS (college art society) Vice-President (2015)
- TEDxCambridgeUniversity Publicity Lead (2015)
- TEDxCambridgeUniversity Co-Organiser (2016)

Welfare-specific Experience

- Sixth-Form House Welfare Prefect (2013)
- ECSU Female Welfare Officer (2015)
- Subject Parent; College Parent; PBS buddy; Faculty Rep
- Regular attendance at CUSU-run welfare training
- Personal experience with University Counseling Service and Disability Resource Centre
- Academic experience in welfare and rights from my degree, Psychological and Behavioural Sciences (PBS). Topics I've covered in depth include anxiety, depression, psychosis and addiction; social representations of mental health problems; well-being; prosociality; unconscious discrimination; "intellectual disabilities"; policy; justice and human rights.

POLICIES

1. Better use of college welfare officers' time

I plan to run more time-efficient training for welfare officers so that more people can attend, as well as flesh out the existing handbook with, for example, thorough comparisons of welfare facilities available at each college for the benefit of idea sharing, and step-by-step guidance with what to do in different welfare emergencies. Given my background in Psychology, I'd be in an informed position to arrange this.

2. Improving the intermission process

I will carry out an in-depth investigation into the intermission process at different colleges, gathering testimonies together from a variety of students and devising ways in which the process can be improved (e.g. making it less isolating), and then presenting this to the University Council to encourage change.

3. CUSU as an actual Student Union

The Union, JCRs, and societies are not sufficient as forming a Student Union. The Union is expensive and competitive; not all colleges are equal in their welfare provision; and arts and sport events at society levels are often fairly ability-driven, meaning not everyone can access their mental and physical health benefits. Using the Grad Building more, I want to run relaxed events open to the entire university, such as Art and Chill evenings, yoga, and an intercollegiate sports day (at the athletics track) with egg & spoon races etc.

4. Facilitating access to sexual health supplies

To allow efficient restocking, college welfare officers will be allowed to collect more sexual health supplies. Moreover, measures will be taken to make it less embarrassing and easier (for anyone) to ask for supplies.

5. More widespread engagement with welfare

Firstly, I will work more with autonomous campaigns to ensure a consistent and integrated welfare system that addresses all welfare-related issues. Secondly, I will target mature colleges, which are currently neglected in the welfare system despite entrant age being as young as 21. Thirdly, I will run welfare discussion groups, open to the whole university, with a different topic each week: such as perfectionism, 'manning up' and eating disorders. Lastly, I will push for DoS training, since most stress is work-related.