Manifesto

If elected, my four initial priorities will be:

1. Enabling Volunteers – To support our hardworking volunteers reach their full potential, I will initiate a review based on self-efficacy with the aim of creating a targeted training programme designed around personal needs, helping each individual representative develop their skills, investing in their individual satisfaction and their collective effectiveness on behalf of all members. This supports our influence and transform strategy strands.

2. Visibility – I hope to develop a reporting mechanism that enables accountability and shares the important work that all volunteers do. This will focus on purpose and methodology to ensure the work is not too burdensome. It will assist in our accountability to all members, allowing them to better understand the work conducted on their behalf, potentially giving them the desire and confidence to get involved themselves. This will support our engage, inform and involve strategy strands.

3. External Changes – Utilising my knowledge from my work as a Student Representative at the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, I will continue to represent the student body in responding to the proposed Higher Education changes that will affect our members. This will support our influence and transform strategy strands.

4. Post-Graduate Research Students – I would work with PGR students to help intertwine their experience with the Association. By introducing direct engagement with the Association’s leadership team and utilising our resources to help promote events, the Association can grow its relevance to PGR students. This supports our engage and involve strategy strands.

Pledges

I pledge to enter the role with an open mind, conscious that I do not have a solution to all the answers. Through open conversation and consideration for the thoughts of others, I hope to develop the ideas listed in my manifesto through a collaborative approach, recognising the concerns and objectives of all.

Q1.

Despite already trying to live these values, I recognise that there is always room for improvement. I will ensure that I am proactive in engaging in training and conversations to improve my understanding, whilst acknowledging this is an ongoing, invaluable process.

Through a process of openness and engagement, and utilising my confidence in representation, I will work to improve my understanding on what is important to students and their positive experience, whilst recognising that we are all unique. I will
also not be dissuaded from being honest where changes cannot be made, believing that honesty can lead to positive acceptance.

Q2.

1. **Approachability** – To be effective, student leaders need to be able to hear those that they represent, as well as build effective relationships with all stakeholders to enable progress to be made.

2. **Accountability** – Student leaders will often be required to make tough, divisive choices. They need to be capable of communicating the rationale of these decisions to those they represent, even if it necessitates challenging but honest dialogue.

3. **Appropriate Delegation** – Leaders need to recognise where their strengths lie, whilst empowering others to utilise their skills and knowledge in areas where they can have a strong, influential impact.