

# MANIFESTO BOOKLET

## ACTIVITIES OFFICER CANDIDATES



## **MANIFESTO - Johnson Rayudu**

I believe my friendliness, extrovert and empathetic personality with sense of humour makes me a go to person among my peers. I love meeting new people, understanding their challenges, listening patiently by putting myself in their shoes, and assisting in best possible ways.

Being an international student, I have gone through numerous challenges after joining my master's programme be it academic tasks, day to day duties or adapting to completely different cultural environment. Luckily, I was supported by great seniors, and I wish to pay my gratitude forward by assisting my peers through this role

As the covid restrictions are lifting, through this role, I can offer a platform for students to network, indulge and engage with their peers and build a strong community that holds everyone equal and together to express themselves and grow through every kind of challenge.

### **BUILDING AS A COMMUNITY**

I want to keep everyone connected by ensuring improved conversation for all students, after online classes during Covid to coming back to campus. My extra consideration to internationals, disabled, postgrads, LGBTQ+ and mature students, hence building a strong community.

### **ACTIVE EXISTING SOCIETIES**

I want to motivate students to join existing societies and make sure they're actively operating to therefore promoting sports, arts, innovation, and other cultural activities.

Operating,

### **NEW MINDS NEW SOCIETIES**

I want to encourage students to come with new societies and plan activities related to education might be useful as a part of their education and career.

### **MENTAL WELLBEING**

After recent Covid times more than ever, mental health will be my top priority.

### **REGULAR INTERATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES**

I will have a drop in once a week with students to hear their concerns regarding the societies and have social media updates, allowing them to promote their events and celebrate their success with a wider audience including fundraisers, sports events, trips, and gigs/performances.

### **OPTIMISED AND MORE ACTIVE SU WEBSITE**

Update all events on website and make sure the promotion is active on both website and respective social media pages.

### **ONLINE FORUM**

For new ideas and feedbacks.

# ella vating activities



**Hey! I'm Ella (she/her) and I'm running to be your next SU Activities Officer.**

## About Me

- This is my fourth year at the University - I graduated in BA English last year and I am now studying towards a masters in Digital Media & Society.
- After not engaging with any extracurricular activities for two academic years, I can now fully appreciate the enrichment that it has brought to my university experience.
- If elected, I would seek to increase society participation and Union engagement back to pre-pandemic levels and the contents of this manifesto will work towards achieving this goal.

## What I've done so far:

### Leicester Student Magazine

- Co-founded the rebrand from Galaxy Press to LSM in 2020
- Current **President** (21/22)
- Secretary, Wellbeing and Inclusions Officer (20/21)
- **Edited 50+ articles** to date, across News, Arts, Lifestyle and Opinion
- Frequent contributing writer
- Shortlisted for a National SPA Award for **Outstanding Commitment** in 2021
- Hosted workshops and directly supported dozens of students in publishing their written work

### SU Accessibility Officer

- Launched '**Not all Disabilities are Visible**' campaign, introducing stickers across bathrooms on campus
- Ran a **series of interviews** surrounding Hidden Disabilities and Sex & Relationships during Disability History Month 2021
- Due to attend NUS Liberation Conference as a delegate in March



## safe and inclusive nights initiative

- ensure that **all student groups** holding drinking socials are complying with Alcohol Awareness training and develop consent workshops - working closely with the Sports Officer to implement this across the board
- bring back the **Safety Bus** on club nights
- push for alcohol-free events hosted by Rockstar to encourage **inclusivity of non-drinkers**
- campaign for the **removal of hazing initiations**



*this is a shared manifesto point with Wellbeing Officer candidate, Iona Wagg*

## support student media to enrich the student community

While working on the student magazine, I have seen it's contribution to informing and entertaining Leicester students, and the immense potential that it has.

All Too Well (10 Minute Version) - Taylor Swift's Best Song Just Got Better

written by Ella Johnson



Leicester students vote to support UCU strike action

written by Ella Johnson



Leics Tackle Period Inequality! Wellbeing Win Sees Free Period Products Brought to Campus

written by Ella Johnson



If elected, I am interested in:

- ensuring that already allocated funding is distributed fairly, investing in **training and equipment**
- pushing for more **collaboration with other student groups** to increase their exposure
- working with the Sports Officer to bring **structured Varsity coverage** to LSM and Galaxy Radio
- cultivating **on-the-ground journalism** - speaking to students on campus directly about current events



## invest in the Community Kitchen

I am currently already working with contacts in the Social Impact Team to **secure funding for a Community Kitchen overhaul** during this academic year. If elected, this is a project that I would have the facilities to greatly upscale, including:

- streamlining food donations directly from **all LSP outlets** on campus
- move the food logging system online (rather than paper forms) for **greater efficiency**
- increased promotion, online signposting and physical signage on campus

## revamp the room booking system

- if elected, I plan to work with the Activities Team to overhaul the current room booking process
- this will involve seeking to introduce **automatic allocation** (similar to the Library system) to **shorten waiting times** and reduce uncertainty

## increase participation in student voice

- push for more students (and student groups) to get involved in student voice and Union democracy, particularly by utilising the **ideas system**
- seek to increase promotion and notice given for Student Council, supporting the **extention of voting privileges to all students in attendance**, not just those who hold official rep positions

# VOTE JACK MCDONALD FOR ACTIVITIES OFFICER



## Who am I?

4<sup>th</sup> Year Maths Masters Student

Club President and Co-Founder of the Multisports society

Social Secretary of the University of Leicester Rugby League team

Voluntary member of the Societies Council

## Why would I be a good fit?

- With the creation of my own society, I have a complete experience of the ins and outs of running, developing and organising events for a society at Leicester University.
- I have already worked with the Student's Union and current SU officers to help to organise events and activities.
- As part of my voluntary role in the Societies Council, a group designed to focus on new student group applications, grant funding requests and projects with the current Activities officer, I have the crucial background knowledge necessary to truly understand how societies and activities work within the university.
- As a social secretary, I have had many opportunities to communicate and work with organisations outside of the university.
- As a covid officer for Rugby League, I guided our return to play as we returned to normal life. Carefully reviewing current coronavirus trends and local restrictions is my bread and butter.
- I have direct, clear and achievable goals as Activities Officer, which you can see below.

## WHAT NEEDS FOCUS

New student groups get little to no support following their creation and affiliation.

A significant lack of interaction between the wider student population and the Student's Union.

Societies at Leicester appear more as a group of individual and isolated clubs rather than parts of a much wider network of students.

Events and Activities that are run on campus are not widely known about.

A lack of clear volunteering groups or opportunities at the university.

Very little focus on Sustainability within the university.

## HOW I PLAN TO MAKE CHANGE

Emphasise and restructure the way we create societies at Leicester.

More in-person interaction and support following affiliation.

Fully utilising the societies council to act as a point of contact and help for new student groups.

Continuing Manoj's plans to improve student group support.

Bolstering the Student Union officer presence and involvement in activities around the university.

Interacting more directly with student groups and their activities at the university.

Work closely with different student groups to encourage and help to organise and promote more public, accessible and collaborative events. [E.g. Charity sports matches]

Help to transition from faceless emails to more personable and face-to-face interactions and support from the Student's Union.

Improve and explore new promotion techniques to best reach students within the university beyond social media. [Posters, leaflets, promotional staff on campus, etc.]

Exploring local volunteering opportunities and presenting these to student groups to encourage their members to consider helping in related voluntary work.

Work closely with sustainability student groups and organisations to see how best to educate others and promote a cleaner and better university in all levels.

## Some more specific goals

Reviewing the whole process for society creation would involve providing further details for those interested, such as “What succeeds what doesn’t” etc. Continuing the fundamental idea that any group, no matter the size, can create a space for themselves. More clear promoting and welcoming of newly affiliated societies as well as helping them with their next steps.

Providing additional details and information about student group grant funding, such as more detailed idea on what sort of things do people request money for, what succeeds and what doesn’t and in general exposing this system more widely so that groups know when they can or should use it.

Being more transparent with the workings of this system with clear dates for meetings and creating consistent and regular meetings for societies council.

Strong collaboration with sports officer and sports council, promoting many more events open to all as well as encouraging further transparency on their end too. This would involve advertising the group and its work to promote the voice of sports at the university.

Aiming to make facilities and venues that are available around the university as well as the city of Leicester (such as Victoria Park) more accessible and clearer to student groups that need them but may not know where to go or how to access these facilities.

Reviewing the best methods for promotions of events around campus beyond social media. As stated previously, with more in-person and physical promotion which is now more available in a ‘post-COVID’ campus.

Closely monitoring the current climate with regards to COVID-19 and its impact on the events and activities of our clubs. (International trips, potential new waves and new restrictions)

Generally trying to have an open and clear presence within the university and community. Meeting and interacting with as many societies and students as possible. We are part of a community, not a clump of separate groups with different interests.

Helping to organise TOUR within the university. It was a bit of an anomaly this year but next year I will take charge and reduce the stress and confusion of different tour dates and lack of communication within the university.

Helping to promote potential social ideas for societies. Creating a clear list of venues for weekly socials as well as places for alternative style socials such as Ninja-warrior, Laser Tag, Club meals etc.

Contacting establishments around the city to see where is best for student groups to organise events and socials as well as finding sponsorships.

**Have any other ideas, suggestions or questions? Please contact me via these methods:**

Student email: [jwm17@student.le.ac.uk](mailto:jwm17@student.le.ac.uk)

Instagram: [jackmacdoland293](https://www.instagram.com/jackmacdoland293)

Facebook: Jack McDonald



## MANIFESTO

My name is Rishika Reddy Madduri nominated me for the Activities officer role.



Why am I the best candidate for the role:

- I am a very good listener.
- I interact with people easily.
- I do my work with passion.
- I am very much punctual about time.

My Goals:

My goal is to help students in every aspect I can, and I will give my 100% to solve any issue. I would like to interact with students face to face and listen to their problems. As I am an international student my main goal is to make

international students' life easy and comfortable in the university. And I even like to conduct live events for the students where they can showcase their talent.

How To Vote:

- Login to your student union page with university mail and respective passwords.
- Go to spring elections 2022.
- Click on VOTE HERE.
- And you can see my name for the Activities officers.
- Voting opens on MARCH 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 am.

Thank you to everyone who has seen my manifesto and please do vote for me.