

Bowland

RON will be a candidate for all positions. Re Open Nominations – allows voters state they do not feel any of the current candidates standing are suitable for the role and would like to re-open nominations.

President

Sam Payne

Manifesto

Hi, I'm Sam Payne, a third-year BA Geography student from Aberdeen, in North East Scotland, and I'd love to represent the Bowland student body as JCR President!

I studied abroad last year, being fortunate enough to live, study, and work in western Canada, at the University of British Columbia. Through studying abroad, I've been able to experience how another university works in terms of student engagement, seeing first-hand different events and initiatives taking place – ideas that I'd love to see replicated here, with Bowland College leading the way. I also experienced life as an international student, living over 4000 miles from home, and so know the struggles and challenges this can bring. A naturally empathetic person, I trained and worked as a First Responder whilst abroad, being part of a small team providing round the clock medical assistance on campus.

I like taking action and making the changes that need to be made, especially when it comes to helping students or the environment. I'm the founder and Project Lead of Refillar, a Lancaster-based Social Enterprise run through Enactus. If you've not heard of Refillar, we're working to reduce food poverty and food waste, especially amongst students. I listened to the needs of students in Lancaster, and now lead a team of over 30 dedicated students in implementing a solution that works to make the lives of students easier and helps the planet.

We all know this year has been like no other, and this election brings us the chance to adapt the JCR to meet the new needs of students. I've got ideas on the changes I'd like to see, but I want the JCR to get out and speak to the college members through Town Hall style events, hearing what YOU want to see, understanding what you want from the JCR. The JCR Executive is there to represent the whole college student body, and so understanding what you want to see from the college is vital. I can't promise that with me as President I'll help implement all the changes you want to see, but I'll make sure all your ideas are brought to the table, with both the JCR Executive, senior college staff, and LUSU staff. I will listen to all your ideas.

There are two main areas I'd like to work on with the JCR in 2021:

- **Community outreach:** With over 1000 students in the college, we've got a great chance to get involved in the wider Lancaster community and give back to the city we live in! Not only am I thinking about park/river cleanups, or further promoting LUSU volunteering opportunities; I'd also love to see more off-campus events, making the most of the collegiate system throughout all years of your degree, not just the time you live on campus.
- **Greater COVID adaptations:** For those starting university this year, the start of the year hasn't necessarily been great, I'd like to use the rest of the academic year to make up for that, and ensure that next year's freshers get as good a start as possible to university. I commit to working closely with the Students Union, local authorities, and university guidance to bring as much of the university experience to you as possible, no matter whether this is your first or final year at university. I'd work as transparently as possible, letting the JCR answer YOUR questions about why events/activities can/can't go ahead, and what we're doing to make up for it where adaptations need to be made.

No-one thought Covid would still be here in November, but I commit to working with the JCR to bring you as 'normal' a university experience as restrictions and guidelines will allow at present; whilst putting together plans so that as soon as we get through this, and get the green light to hold more 'normal' events, we've got them prepared for you to make the most of. This will include working with the JCR Vice President and Social Secretaries, organising the best Summer Extravaganza Bowland has ever seen, making up for Extravs not taking place in 2020, and making sure we bring Founders home in 2021.

Bringing a wealth of experience to the table, as well as a track record of making and implementing changes that students want to see, be sure to vote for me, Sam Payne, as your **first choice** for Bowland President.

Sam Payne

Pronouns: He/Him

Vice-President

Sofia Hidosan

Manifesto

WHO AM I?

Hello! My name is Sofia Hidosan and I am a second-year student studying Philosophy and Psychology.

WHY AM I RUNNING?

I'd like to run as your Bowland JCR Vice-President as I truly believe I can make a positive impact in your university experience. To take on this role is a serious commitment, especially now as the current situation with covid-19 has significantly influenced the way we live and learn in university. If nominated, I would be an approachable, flexible, and determined Vice-President ready to advocate for you!

EXPERIENCE

As the Lead Academic Representative of our university's Politics, Philosophy, and Religion department, I am always in contact with students to ensure that the best possible learning experience can be achieved. This requires active communication with peers and fellow Academic Representatives, but also the ability to come up with attainable solutions.

I am also the former JCR Vice-President of our college and would like to continue to fulfill the role's duties. By working closely with our President and JCR members, I have aided in organising college events, such as Black History Month and Halloween, and prepared activities that students can part-take in.

WHAT I CAN OFFER!

I am interested in hearing not only what you love about our college but also what aspects you think can be further enhanced; whether it be related to accommodation, events, wellness, and more, I will raise these concerns for you in the hopes of improving them!

One of the great things about the Bowland JCR is the aim to deliver the best experience in university for its students; as Vice-President, I will dedicate my time and effort to see this through. As a sociable person, I like to use different communication platforms making it easier for you to reach me! You can contact me at your convenience and we can discuss any issues or concerns you may have.

VOTE FOR ME!

Please vote for me as your Vice-President as I will be fully committed to the role. We all deserve the best university experience, so let's achieve it together!

Reopen Nominations

Manifesto

If you wish to cast a vote, but do not want to vote for any of the other remaining candidates for this position, then you can express your desire to reopen the nominations process. If any position is not filled by a candidate, but instead Reopen nominations is declared the winner, there will be a fresh opportunity for candidates to be nominated and the election for the position in question to be re-run.

Democracy and Finance Representative

Keerthivas Venkatesan

Manifesto

i will make sure that your £40 membership doesn't go to waste.

Equality Representative

No Candidates

Communications Representative

Isabel Paniagua Coleman

Manifesto

My name is Isabel Paniagua, I'm a second year psychology student and one of three of the current social and events reps on Bowland College's JCR. This year, I am running for the role of Communications representative. Having been on the JCR for a year already, I have got to grips with how the JCR works and the best ways to work as a team to ensure that whatever we do benefits the college as a whole. Despite Covid-19 restrictions, the other member of the socials team and I, have successfully ran a range of inclusive events such as our Valentine's Day Blind Date event, Refreshers events and our weekly quiz. This is not to mention the fact that during this year's national lockdown we ran Bowland College's first online Mastermind Event. If I was successful in this year's elections, I would hope to achieve the following;

- Successful management and upkeep of all Bowland College's social media pages.
- Photographic and video coverage of all our events to encourage high attendance.
- Timed posts to ensure far reach to a wider audience than already achieved.
- Accurate minute taking at every JCR meeting, once approved, I would hope to have these published on the college's website for general viewing.
- Update of the college's website with the incoming JCR, their roles and contact details.

I think it is really important to have a smooth transition between JCR executives. Having already been on the team for a year, I would hope my appointment to this role would help make this process as smooth as possible.

Please vote for me! :)

Reopen Nominations

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Welfare Representative (Men / Non-Binary)

Michael Oldfield

Manifesto

Hi, I'm Michael Oldfield, a first-year Economics student, and I'm running for the Welfare Representative position for Bowland College, obviously the best college in Lancaster. I am hoping to improve the wellbeing of everyone in Bowland and University and help you resolve any issues you might face while studying at Lancaster University. I will be delighted to help you in any circumstance, whether it is a simple query about who to contact or a more challenging one that requires our full assistance. If there is anything that does not satisfy you, I will not hold back and will contact everyone possible to resolve the issue. I believe that I am suitable for this role as I have prior volunteering experience helping people.

There are several things I want to achieve if I am elected:

1. Resolve any issue you have within 24 hours, 2-4 hours if urgent.
2. Run online drop-in sessions with queries at least once a week (both in-person and online sessions after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted).
3. Push for increased spending for mental health services on campus.

Thanks a lot for reading my manifesto. I hope that I will be your candidate of choice.

Oldfield - your welfare shield.

Tj Wilson

Include. Represent. Diversify

I'm TJ, Tyler to some, and I use he/him pronouns. I'm running to be Bowland JCR's next Mens+ Welfare Representative to push for a more inclusive space within our College and University as a whole. To be able to do this, I'll reiterate my aims throughout my time here: include, represent, and diversify. I'm a second year History student and adore to study social

and cultural modern history, especially the unequal opportunities between genders and class. I have also held the position of Trans Welfare Officer for the LGBTQ+ Forum, making listening a priority to validate the student voice. Furthermore, I have contributed to welfare activities such as holding weekly welfare sessions, bi-weekly walks, as well as bi-weekly coffee evenings for Trans+ students and staff at Lancaster. Outside of University, I've been known to be the 'parent' of the friendship group- putting welfare at the centre of my concerns.

Encouragement needs to be given to make the JCR less of a white, cis gendered, heteronormative, male space. This space should be as diverse as the students it claims to represent. More emphasis and support should be given for diverse groups to run for positions on the JCR, providing a balance of representation. For this to happen, over time, listening needs to occur in order for those students to feel **heard**. During my time as a Welfare Representative, I have 3 primary aims:

1. **Work closer with liberation groups to provide a more accepting space within our college-** including the LGBTQ+, Women+, Mature and PG Students, BAME, and Disabilities forums. As a trans man who suffers from depression and anxiety, being shown that my voice was important was so empowering. Just by listening to those who are less likely to be heard, we can increase mental wellbeing by a serious amount. Thus, impacting how we run campaigns and Welcome Week to make it more inclusive and representative of the students in Bowland College.
2. **Encourage representation when tackling academic issues-** this could include aiding students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are more likely to struggle at university due to welfare issues relating to their socioeconomic/cultural background. For more statistics on this, *93% Club Lancaster* publishes statistics on their social media about inequalities around state educated children in comparison to those who attended grammar schools, etc. It will be about finding a balance between supporting those from poorer backgrounds, while still being able to support the welfare of students from higher income families. I.e looking at alternate funding to help with studies. Not only this but I would aim to work with Academic Reps to be able to increase representation across the type of education we offer at Lancaster University, the welfare of students being raised often in staff/student meetings with course convenors. Thus, pushing for the student voice to be heard.
3. **Inclusive campaigns and events that are accessible for a wider range of students-** college spirit is all well and good, but it isn't all about toxic masculinity and heavy drinking. Obviously, this year is different due to the pandemic making socialising a little different. However, that doesn't mean that we can't be considerate when making events and campaigns online. Ways that this can be done include using: alcohol-free alternatives, platforms that use closed-captions, image descriptions to assist those who use screen readers, as well as the consideration that not all students are from the UK

(perhaps using basic translations to encourage international students to get involved in college events).

I am aware that some of the things I've mentioned above are in the works. Yet, I want to consider pushing for representation to include as many students as we can. To emphasise the power of the listening, not just as a tool of communication, but as a tool of power. To be able to help students build on the individuals that they are, with hope and belief in the self as well as the wider community.

Elliott Partridge

Manifesto

This time last year, I was nervously bracing myself to go before the hustings and proposition myself as Bowland JCRs next welfare officer. I think I did a great job then, coming in with overflowing ideas for how the role could be utilised to make college life better for students and for the JCR. In the year since, I have learnt a great deal about the expectations, realities, possibilities and limitations of the role and I can say I'm happy with the progress I have made. Throughout the year I have applied myself in great effort and detail into creating proposals - some which made it to fruition and some which, for many different reasons, never came to be - that would benefit student welfare. With help from the former Women's Welfare Officer, we planned several events such as free massage sessions in Michaelmas term that put the welfare funding we received to great use. By the end of that term I felt I was a comfortable and prepared member of the group and I was teeming with new ideas, but much of that was lost to lockdown and in the 8 months since I believe I have adapted well to the new realities that we face.

It seems unanimously agreed that running welfare-themed events during lockdown and through digital means is incredibly difficult. The ideas are hardly there in the first place, and the attendance is even weaker than it may have been in person. However, I have shown my adeptness through this time; making dozens of high quality and informative graphics both to promote JCR events and with the intention of highlighting days and events of importance to welfare, such as World Mental Health Day and concerning the Black Lives Matter movement in July. I went far beyond the expectations of my role to help with matters like running the E-Founders online gaming tournament which engaged upwards of 40 people in a manner of gaming competitions and helping to create, and to cost and plan pirate-themed party pack for locked-down students. I have always aimed to be a supportive and inclusive member of the JCR who aimed to resolve issues for my teammates and put their wellbeing first. I'm also very proud of successfully recruiting and running interviews for upwards of 50 welcome week reps in order to ensure an engaging freshers experience.

Additionally I had to do portions of this work as the only welfare officer when my teammate had to step away from the role for personal reasons, and I believe I continued to work with consistency and quality.

If re-elected, my hopes for the following year are to:

- Run a sexual health and sex positivity campaign
- Continue to highlight and signpost important issues and resources to students through social media
- Promote student welfare in digital and socially-distanced times by providing fun and inclusive activities for them to take part in
- Aim to use an inclusivity checklist to ensure all events we run are as diversified as possible and accessible to all
- Create a list of green/eco friendly essential items which students can order and have partially subsidised by the college in order to promote sustainable living
- Run a second online gaming tournament, allowing students from across the University to engage with each other in a supportive competitive environment
- Zero-tolerance and inclusivity based postering around Bowland halls
- Ensure resources purchased for Bowland events are as sustainably sourced as possible
- Support the restoration and continuation of recreational sports leagues, whose future is yet to be determined.

Sports Representative (Women / Non-Binary)

No candidates

Welfare Representative (Women / Non-Binary)

Georgina Taylor

Preferred Pronouns: she / her

My name is Georgina Taylor and I'm a third year BA Politics and International Relations student from Halifax in West Yorkshire. I'm applying for the role of Women's / Non - binary Welfare Officer, with every intention of ensuring the continuation and extension of a welcoming and diverse environment for every student.

I believe an integral part of this role is being able to recognise and understand the experiences of those I hope to represent. During my second year, I took part in the Richardson Institute Internship. Within this, my team and I conducted research on student

values, with a particular emphasis on what mattered to you, and how individual experiences embodied perceptions of belonging and tolerance within the university community. Additionally, from my own experience as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I know that inclusion, tolerance and belonging is an essential part of university life. Such an awareness I believe, will provide me with the ability to acknowledge the individuality and distinctiveness that accompanies welfare issues, and allow me to offer the relevant support in any circumstance.

My dedication to seeing positive change also encompasses environmental awareness. I am Vice President (Impact + Development) of Refillar, which is a Social Enterprise run through Enactus. As a team, we are dedicated to reducing food poverty and food waste, particularly amongst students, whilst also doing our bit to help the environment. Providing this support through Refillar and continuing on this path has been a meaningful part of my university life, as it has allowed me to be actively involved with various communities, and hopefully build the foundations for a project that will have a positive impact for the foreseeable future!

Welfare and wellbeing is a combination of every aspect of a student's life; and particularly at such an unpredictable time, the interest in social, economic and academic welfare is a top priority. In this position, I would hope to adapt and restructure the foundations of this position, so that it reflects an active response to the changing needs of the university community. Therefore, there are some key areas I would like to focus on with the JCR in 2021:

- Make sure that Bowland College is doing its best to provide financial support during the pandemic: I know that there is brilliant work going on currently, within and outside Bowland College. Nevertheless, in this position, I would like to bring more awareness to the economic perspectives of being a student. This hopefully, would incorporate work with certain groups on Lancaster campus, and potentially include external communication, to offer students education in the matters of alternative food options/ cheap meals and how to budget.
- Be responsive to the opinions of current academic methods: The pandemic has ensured that our approaches to learning have shifted considerably. In this position, I would like to open links and create a strong connection with other positions focused on education within Lancaster University. I believe this will allow me to understand what approaches work best, and potentially take advice on how this could be better improved for every individual.
- Inclusion and expression of gender identity: Although shifts are already occurring in this area, I would like to increase the awareness around the use of pronouns, both in social and academic fields. I know this is a topic that can greatly affect people's involvement in activities, and whilst this is not something that can change overnight, I would hope to work with the LGBTQ+ Officer in the Students' Union to create a sphere where this is largely enacted.
- Sustain a safe and diverse environment: This a key focus of this position. I will strive to provide a safe and welcoming college for everyone; regardless of their identity. Within this, I would like to create a larger network amongst clubs and societies on campus; with the aim of providing communication and support channels for people.

This position would offer me the opportunity to create change I know is possible; and my dedication and drive to see an equal, inclusive and more aware environment means that I will do everything in my power to represent and speak for every individual in Bowland College. Please vote for me, Georgina Taylor, as your first choice for Female / Non - Binary Welfare Officer!

Hannah Eyres

Manifesto

Hello, my name is Hannah Eyres and I am currently in my first year studying Biology (with a Placement Year). I would love to be an active member of Bowland's JCR's team to help support students and work with others, which I believe I will best be able to demonstrate with my skills as the JCR Welfare Representative for Bowland.

I have gained a thorough understanding of the importance of this role as a connection and support role to students joining for their first years here at Lancaster University. This has never been more apparent than this year, where students have moved away from home and taken a massive leap of independence in these unprecedented times. This process is usually unnerving as it is, but with the added pressure and unknown that covid-19 has brought, new students have never felt so isolated and mentally drained than this year. But while adjusting to university life this year new students always had people to turn to during this time of uncertainty. These people were the JCR Welfare Representatives. These individuals went above and beyond to help us all become more comfortable and excited for the beginnings of our university lives, which included regularly checking in on us through the Bowland freshers group chat, answering any of our queries and even going above and beyond by buying food shopping for those students in self-isolation. It was this selflessness and dedication to the role which has inspired me to apply for this position, so I can also help new students acclimatise and enjoy this exciting new chapter in their lives.

I am a friendly and approachable person who is passionate about ensuring people around me are comfortable, and that they're having a positive and fun time. In this role I will use these skills to ensure new students feel like they're in a safe space where they are fully supported, and not alone during the massive transition coming to university. This will include implementing methods and activities I have experienced first-hand and experienced the benefits of, such as regularly communicating with students to answer any concerns and offering advice and insights on university life to reassure nervous students. As a student who was unsure of what to expect coming to university, the support I experienced from the current JCR Welfare representatives was invaluable to me and many others. Therefore I want to assist students who felt the same as me and show my compassion and understanding while helping their transition.

Additionally as the Welfare Representative, one of my main priorities will include the mental health and wellbeing of all students and ensuring that they feel recognised and supported. I will aim to make myself a very approachable member of the JCR, so students can come to me with any issues they're facing without a moment's hesitation (as I have previously demonstrated in my role as head girl). I will be able to offer the appropriate advice to students while ensuring they are fully aware of the numerous services the university offers to help with their academics, mental health, future careers and general wellbeing. Alongside offering this

knowledge and support to students, I will also ensure I am offering the most appropriate and useful advice by working with the JCR team and the college's wellbeing team, so I can responsibly and consistently help students to ensure I fully fulfil my roles as a part of the JCR.

Being elected as Bowland's JCR Welfare representative would truly be an experience I would love and thrive in, where forming a nurturing and supportive environment will be my main priority to ensure each student has the best university experience possible!

Sports Representative (Men / Non-Binary)

No candidates

Publicity Representative

No candidates