



You were sure once, be sure again with

MOLLY LYDIA SHAW

but this time ...

FOR KPA PRESIDENT

About Me

Hey everyone! I'm Molly and I am an Environmental Sustainability and Green Technology Postgraduate Student. I have loved being YOUR KPA Activities officer for this academic year but I now want to be YOUR KPA President. I will use my skills, knowledge and passion of being on the KPA committee to ensure that the postgraduate community is supported in the best way possible. I have previously held several student union positions, was the chairwoman of an award-winning musical theatre society and volunteered at local Girl Guiding groups (so I'm no stranger to representing groups, hosting events and being part of the KPA Committee). Since starting at Keele, I have become a regular at the KPA's events, got involved with societies and currently work with the University as a Sustainability Food Projects Intern.

Why am I running?

Through my KPA Activities Officer role, and my skillset, I feel that I achieved my goal of helping others to feel integrated into Keele postgraduate life. Let's face it, it's been such a strange time and sadly no one really knows what the next academic year has in store... Therefore, I want to represent YOU, yes YOU! YOU need consistency, someone who already understands the postgraduate community, experience of the workings of KPA, built rapport with stakeholders at the university and a fresh pair of eyes to make positive change!

As your potential KPA President, I realise that every postgraduate student is different and as we try to navigate ourselves out of the pandemic, new issues will arise. As a result, I would like to be your voice and represent YOU to make YOU feel part of the Keele Postgraduate Community. I would also like to work with the newly elected officers and the clubhouse to put on the activities you know and love while also trying to bring new events that hopefully cater to everyone's needs and remove any potential anxiety of returning back to campus. If I get elected, I hope to work with a range of officers and stakeholders across the university so that we can create a postgraduate community that focus on what is important for YOU by representing you across committees and boards, planning events, championing students and what is important to you!

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My Manifesto:

Clear Signposting

During our time at Keele we all need access to different kinds of support. Navigating your way through the Keele website can be confusing and time consuming! Therefore if you vote for me I want to provide quick links to services whilst working with the university to make it more accessible for all! Whether its alternative funding for PGR's, events that are open to students or key services such as mental health support.

Transparency

Transparency is key to any relationship; as students we need clarity and occasionally be reassured that we are at the heart of everything the university does. I will continue to lobby the university to provide YOU with more transparent information rather than hearing it first via social media pages. In addition to this, I will provide weekly feedback on what sabbatical officers have been up to and monthly feedback on what your voluntary officers have been up to so that your trust can be restored on why you chose to vote.

Post Covid

Sadly, we do not have a crystal ball to say what the future has in store! But as restrictions lifts, students will be at different stages with feeling comfortable with returning back to campus and that's okay! Therefore, I want to provide the postgraduate community with a hybrid of in-person and online events to cater for all: those who may feel anxious about returning, those who can't join us in person or are self isolating, so that no student is left behind. Therefore, I want to work alongside the University and Student's Union to enhance welcome week, introduction to postgraduate life and beyond.

Experience

At Keele we have postgraduate students who join us for a module, semester, a whole year, 3 years and more! Therefore it is vital that we cater for the entirety of the postgraduate community! Therefore if you vote for me I will lobby the university to provide further financial support, continue working with the SU to remove the stigma that societies aren't just for undergraduates, regularly ask for your feedback so that I can shape the postgraduate community to your needs, work with the careers service to provide tailored postgraduate workshops around CV writing etc and that you get the most out of us while you are here!

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of mental health and wellbeing and I want to continue the hard work of this years committee in ensuring that the support and events that we have put in place this year continue next year! Therefore, if you elect me I will work alongside our mental health postgraduate office to offer peer support services and events that are accessible for all and avoid timetable constraints. However, I would also like to provide students with training courses such as the Zero Suicide Alliance and create separate spaces for males for example to talk about their mental health in the hope to remove any potential stigmas.

Sustainability - It's time to make change!

Sustainability is not just about the environment and the world around us, it is about people too! I want to provide a safe space that represents students multiple identities, that acknowledges things that we should all champion and things we need to learn. I also want to declare a climate emergency in line with the University and SU and ensure the KPA sits on the Environment and Sustainability steering board to give postgraduates the opportunity to get involved with the sustainability community so that by the time you leave Keele and apply for jobs, you can say that you have gained sustainability competencies!