

Three Words – Rise Against Hate

What's one thing students need to know about you?

I have both Autism and ADHD and was only diagnosed last year. I have personally experienced discrimination due to my disability and have a passion for building a more inclusive university. I know how it feels to be unheard and unseen, and I never want people to feel like that.

What do you think is the biggest challenge students face?

A big challenge for students with disabilities face is other students/staff understanding the barriers and how a disability affects students within studies and daily life because of their disability and feel unable to express how it impacts them because of stigmas surrounding disability as a society.

What's your biggest priority when you get into office?

My main priority is to bring awareness and education on disability, hate crime/micro-aggressions/discrimination. I would work with Report and Support to make the university a safe and comfortable space for students to express themselves, fight for their own adjustments, and speak up against discrimination.

What does the student union mean to you?

The SU means community. The SU helps students make changes for their peers; the focus is on the students and their experience. So many different parts of the SU give the students a voice.

Manifesto:

Together, we can Rise Against Hate. I am Tamia, a second-year law student and rerunning for Disability Officer. As a student who has ADHD and Autism, I know how it feels not to have a voice, and I don't want any student to feel like that, which is why I want to advocate for those who feel like they do not have a voice. I am aware of the different barriers students face, and I want to be able to represent students in the fight for equality and help make positive changes to improve educational achievements and level the playing field for those students who have a disability.

I am constantly advocating and fighting for equality and inclusion on campus. I am an Equity Ambassador and Report and Support Ambassador. Over the last year, I have realised how common disability micro-aggressions and discrimination/hate crimes are, but they are so underreported. In the office, I would want to:

- My foremost priority would be bringing awareness and education on disability hate crime, and discrimination.
- I want to make the campus comfortable and for people to feel safe when expressing their disabilities.
- I want to get this recognised for what it is and how it can impact someone, as well as make students aware of how specific phrases and words can impact students with disabilities, especially with mental health.
- To complete this, I would work with reports and support and different services within the university and outside organisations to make the university more inclusive and aware of disability hate.

I want to be a voice for people who feel unseen and unheard. I want to make sure every student with a disability, whether it's hidden or visible, is heard and seen on campus. Together, we can Rise Against Hate.