

# VOTE DAVE

FOR

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Proposed By:  
**Matt Knowd**  
(President of Geogsoc)

Seconded By:  
**Nic Bunce**



### My involvement so far

- Course Rep
- Member of the Student Communication Team employed by Student Development.
- 3 years presenting Lush Radio
- Lush Radio Social Sec
- Ancient History and Archaeology President
- Ancient History and Archaeology Society Member
- Geogsoc Member
- Politics Society Member
- Public Speaker Society Member
- Ripple Member
- Zoology Society Member
- Amnesty International Member
- Founder of the Petition to repaint the Charles Wilson Building in the style of Optimus Prime
- Winner of the Union's Best Halloween Costume

### MYSELF

My name is Dave Scammell, I am an extremely active member of our Student Union and I believe in the power of the student voice. I am currently in my third year at Leicester and have loved every minute of it, all I want is to for you to be able to do the same. I have seen the Union at its highest point, and its lowest, and in the dawn of a new era for Percy Gee I would be devastated to not be there to see it rise to glory once again. I am applying for the role Academic Affairs officer because I would be honoured to be the relay for your voice at Leicester.

I am a very open minded, fun and approachable person, with the patience to listen and the passion to act. I love a good laugh with my mates, I love my music, my games and my comedy, as well as my work both for the university and the union. I have already helped numerous students and services through a variety of positions throughout the university, and I would love the opportunity to further represent and serve our Union.

### MY OUTLOOK

The key theme I hope to explore as Academics affairs officer is that of connectivity, of integration, and vocalisation. Every student has a voice, and every voice counts. An increase in vocalisation is an increase on communication, which leads to greater integration and an unbeatable connection, with that in mind my policies focus on specific, achievable goals. I hope to work with each of the other sabbatical officers to solve every problem and promote every success to you, the student. I believe that all together we can guarantee the newly resurrected Percy Gee as the centre of your university experience.

## **MY POLICIES**

### **Increased awareness of the course rep scheme and the education unit.**

This year the course rep scheme has proved very effective indeed, but so many people are unaware of its existence and even a vast number who don't know the power it can wield in each and every department. Likewise the education unit offers a fantastic level of assistance over a vast range of academic, but too many students are unaware of its potential for help. I hope to change this for both. Within the union I would place a comments box in a prominent place so that students can instantly, and with optional anonymity, give suggestions to their course rep. Outside of the union I would ensure the advertisement of the education unit and course reps in each department and around campus. Online I would ensure the Union website is updated with course rep news and solutions to common problems from the education unit.

### **An increased web presence for academic affairs**

I hope to be able to interconnect the bulletins, news and events of the University with that of the Union, so that you the students have a more accessible link to everything that is occurring on and off campus, so that no one misses out on a thing. As academic affairs officer I will also strive to provide this service available through blackboard, so that services such as the course rep scheme and careers can be instantly accessed at anytime from anywhere in the world.

### **Further support for Combined studies and Joint Honours students**

As a cross department joint honour student myself I know how bewildering and varied the communication can be for students in my position and those opting for combined studies. A lack of communication between departments causes a gap in communication to the students, which is extremely damaging to their overall university experience; I hope to finally bridge that gap, and provide a central point of communication for all students in this position. As academic officer I will propose the introduction of an official cross-department liaison within the education unit.

### **The introduction of a Department Rep to the course rep scheme.**

In its current form there is no official chairperson for the student-staff committee meetings attended by department staff. In my experience this is left to the department's discretion, and I hope to change that with the introduction of a Department rep. College reps do already exist, but operate at a level that to the humble student seems unfathomable, the course rep would be a new level between that of college and course rep. I hope to be able to arrange meetings for all department reps to attend so that universal problems and solutions can be discussed and solved across the entire university, and provide key feedback for higher level committee meetings attended by myself. I also hope to work with the activities officer in tying this Department Rep with the academic societies to allow a full and clear picture of what you want from your university experience.

### **The continued and furthered support for post-graduates and medical students wishing to be fully involved with sport**

The sport societies offered in Leicester are amongst the best in the country, and for too long now has the University denied postgraduate and medical students the free time on a Wednesday afternoon to fully participate. I plan on working closely with the Campaigns and Involvement officer, and the Activities officer to fight ever harder for this cause, and ensure that all students have full access to our facilities, and that all societies have full access to any denied talent.

### **Increased communication and integration with the Student Development service**

The Student Development service is a fantastic system based in David Wilson Library offering career support, advice, workshops and open days, that is also vastly under acknowledged. I hope to establish a mutual connection between the Student Union and Student Development, increasing the service's availability through the student union, giving yet more opportunity for you the student to unlock your potential.

### **Proposing that the University colours the Charles Wilson in the style of Optimus Prime**

As founder of the "Petition to have the Charles Wilson Building painted like Optimus Prime!" facebook group. As Academic Affairs Officer I will be in the perfect position to liaise with the University on making this goal achievable. If elected I would consider it a disservice to a vast proportion of Leicester students and over 2700 group members to not propose action on this matter to the Union Council.