

Part-time officer report- Final 2023/24

Part-time officers work consistently throughout the year to provide for their cohort going above and beyond whilst balancing their courses alongside this responsibility. Whilst they have limited time and funding, all of these individuals have been able to make a lasting impact on our Students Union and the wider University with their dedication to enriching our educational experience.

Dr Vaishnavi Chaudhari (Postgraduate Officer 2023/24)

Vaishnavi had a productive year as our Postgraduate part-time officer, they worked hard to advocate for their cohort including attending the National Union of Students conference in Blackpool to represent our University. They were consistently productive with their role to do what they could for students such as pushing for the changing of timetables to work in students personal schedule commitments as well as organising events for postgraduates to network and connect. Unfortunately, Vaishnavi's timetabling pursuit, in collaboration with Madhavi, met a dead end with University non-compliance due to the complexity of the task and the size of the various departments this would occur in.

Vaishnavi has been working on the limit on working hours for students during vacation periods like the Easter holiday, a month without timetabled events where students remained capped at 20 working hours per week, disallowing some students to catch up with their finances during the cost-of-living crisis. Work on this is slow moving but the ball is rolling, and Vaishnavi will be handing this project over to their successor. They have also been working with employability to begin a match making scheme for graduates with companies that seek their qualifications and aptitudes for certain roles.

It is clear that Vaishnavi has contributed wholly to advocating for their cohort. Their projects have been relevant and sorely in need of addressing and I am glad to see that Vaishnavi took the initiative to begin making the necessary changes to ensure a great experience for students at the University.

Vaishnavi has managed to do fantastic work with their role and will receive a pass from Scrutiny committee.