

Southampton University Students Union Presidency Nomination

By George Fairweather

Hi I'm George Fairweather. I'm a 3rd year physics student running for Union President.

I've been a keen player of badminton and football since I've been at Southampton, making many great friends in the process. I've also enjoyed social events during my time as a fresher and other events provided by societies.

However, I'm not all about sports; I am passionate about people's emotional wellbeing, and having experienced difficult times myself, I can empathise and know how challenging the student experience can be. I have always been open with my friends about my problems, and can understand the importance of friendship and support at university.

I believe it is crucial for students to have the emotional support they need so they can have a fulfilling academic and social experience while at Southampton. From personal experience, when the right support has been provided, I have had a positive experience.

While the Union has achieved many things I believe there is room for improvement and I would like to improve the experience for all students. If I'm elected my aims are:

- To engage with the student population, and hold surgeries on a regular basis to discuss individual student issues
- To make sure the union is actively communicating with the student body
- To provide students with mental health support via trained practitioners that have diagnostic capabilities
- To provide support and awareness for people suffering from alcohol misuse, including 1-to-1 support as well as integrating an Alcoholics Anonymous support group into the union
- To provide appropriate support for victims of sexual abuse
- To continue engagement with external charities
- Trial meal deals at The Shop

My physics degree has turned me into a hard-working problem solver, and if I am elected, I will be determined to complete these aims as President for the benefit of all students.