

Academic Affairs Executive Manifesto – Priya Kaler

- **Experience**

- One of the Women's and Non-binary officers on the JCR this year, and as part of this role I co-chaired Fitz FemSoc
- I know how the JCR works, have experience of JCR meetings and I know how best to collaborate with other members to get things done
- Equipped to take the step up from subcomm to exec
- As part of my position on the JCR this year, I have sat in on a meeting with the Dean, and have had meetings with housekeeping
- I am one of the football captains for Fitz/Corpus Ladies Football this year, and have had meetings with a JMA representative as part of this role
- Currently helping on the Winter Wonderland Committee

- **Why me?**

- Approachable – this is important, as people need someone as Academic Affairs exec that they feel they can talk to about academic concerns
- Experience with meetings means I would be well-equipped to represent Fitz students at the termly Education Committee meetings, that I would be attending as part of this role
- Being football captain, and helping out with stewarding and freshers week events as part of my role on the JCR, I have good organisational and time-management skills

Policies:

- **Scrap the Scholar's Ballot**

- I passionately want the Scholar's ballot to be scrapped, and will do everything in my power to achieve this
- College have a responsibility to respect the outcome of the referendum, with 72% of Fitz students having voted to scrap it
- Fitz is one of only a few colleges who still have the Scholar's ballot. I will make clear to college that it's a T&A issue, as it makes Fitz stand out for the wrong reasons and could put people off applying.
- Will be demanding of college that it is abolished
- Have had the Senior Tutor as a supervisor, I'm on a first-name basis with him and this rapport would be useful in further meetings with him about scrapping the scholar's ballot

- **Strikes provisions**

- UCU strike dates are currently set for 25th Nov – 4th Dec, but thinking ahead, they may go on into Lent term, when there will be a new JCR in place
- My attitude will be a practical one, to support students: making sure all students are informed about the strikes, in terms of why they are happening, how different subjects will be affected, whether or not content is examinable, the option to move supervisions in faculties to take place in colleges
- I will work to set up subject-specific groups where relevant so that people from higher years can help others who may have missed certain lectures

- Publicising to students the provisions that CUSU are putting in place, such as hosting teach-outs, facilitating book-sharing and student-led study sessions
- **Welfare**
 - Welfare and academics are closely interlinked, and it's important to find a good work-life balance at Cambridge
 - I want to collaborate with the welfare committee, such as helping with ideas and provisions for Week 5 welfare support
 - Running drop-in sessions in the café, more regularly during exam term, and early on in Michaelmas for freshers who may have academic concerns/questions
 - In exam term, helping to deliver the snacks for late-night workers in the library
 - Publicising information about options to remove yourself from Class Lists
 - Working with the JCR President to ensure that all tutors have a concrete knowledge of academic concerns that students may come to them with e.g. knowing the steps to take for the process of intermission
- **After Cambridge**
 - Careers – it's important the students are aware of all the resources available to them, which is why I will publicise the Careers Service, and ensure people know that they can register with the service, and attend events to receive reports for applications, online tests, interviews
 - Post-graduate study – the process of applying for post-grad study, and the many paths available, are things that should be made more common knowledge for those yet to enter their final year
- **Library reforms**
 - Getting recycling bins in the library (helping green officer to achieve this), so that all the many people who work in the library can recycle!
 - Looking into getting printing credit in the library