Hi, My name is Samuel Adeboye and a final year forensic computing student and I am standing to be your community officer for the coming academic year 2013/2014. I believe it is really important to have someone who is extremely dedicated and concerned with the student affairs on and off campus hence why I decided to run for this post.

Why should you vote for me?

My 5 action plan

- Excellent welfare: Welfare is not just about providing a high level of well-being and social support for the student but also making sure all student enjoy this second to none welfare while studying at the university either living on or off campus.
- Re-define student life: being honest, one of the major deciding factor of choosing a university to study is the student life and with the contact we have made as a union, I intend to change the face of the student life on each campus while also adhering to rules and bye laws of the university and the surrounding community.
- Student jobs: I intend to work closely and Support the opportunities manager and the job shop manager in creating and providing more part time jobs for students on and off campus.
- Increase participation: I will ensure activities are being put in place to ensure increased participation of students living off campus and those studying and commuting from home.
- Equal opportunities: I will ensure if voted in to office that all the different student sections e.g. mature student, international student, undergraduate, postgraduate, disable etc. all enjoy same facilities and equal student experience.

My main objectives are:

- To work hand in hand with the university authorities and the SU team to provide excellent welfare for the student body.
- Provide support for the Jobshop team to create and source for more part time jobs for students.
- Work closely with elected sabbatical officers to provide a second to none student experience for the student body.

Hi, I’m Chris, a third year Biology student. I’d love to be your VP Welfare & Community so that I can make sure you get the most out of your time at university! If elected, I plan to implement the following:

**Update SenseExeter**

The website, set up this year, currently promotes student safety. I would:

- **Expand** the website to include local information on events, chances and opportunities in Exeter.
  - Develop it into an **app** for smartphones.

**Social Media**

Run an awareness campaign on its risks and dangers:
• This is a hot topic for students at the moment.
• I hope to reduce the risk of students having problems when using sites such as Facebook and Twitter.
• Top employers use Facebook to analyse candidates, so awareness of what to show/hide on Facebook will enhance employment prospects.

Support

Raise awareness of services and support the Guild and University provide:

• Use advertising spaces efficiently so students know where they can find the right support services at the right times.
• The TVs in the walls of the Forum for example, could advertise services such as Wellbeing, the Advice Unit and Voice.
• I’ll put a link on the front page of both SenseExeter and the Guild website to make these services more accessible.

Give Voice a greater publicity presence:

• This year I’ve run the university Nightline, Voice, where volunteers provide great listening support for students.
• With greater publicity presence around campus, via advertising and social media, more students will know about Voice for the times they need it.
• The service can expand, meaning Voice can provide a stronger service, and drop-ins can be set up where volunteers can listen in person.

Student Safety

Provide a blog where my contact with the community is fed back to you:

• Keep you informed with what’s going on, making it easier to stay safe in Exeter and avoid getting into trouble.
  • Ensure that you as students know that your needs are always a priority.
  • Build a good relationship and work together with the Council and police to ensure your views are heard in the city as well as on campus.

Enhance the Save Our Streetlights (SOS) campaign:

• Continue campaigning against the Council to ensure student safety will not be compromised.
  • Gain the support of influential members of the public to aid the campaign.
  • Continually feedback problems from areas that have tested switching off streetlights to the Council.

Housing

Further the success of the annual Housing Fair. Accommodation in Exeter is expensive, so:

• I will strive to make sure every student knows all available options before they sign that dotted line.
• My aim is to make all landlords sign up to the landlord accreditation scheme, where they must show professional treatment of tenants.
Why I should be elected

I work in the Guild, at the Advice Unit, to aid student welfare.

I volunteer in the Guild, running Voice, to aid student welfare.

I work for the University, as a student ambassador, to aid prospective students' welfare.

My three years in Exeter have been packed with great experiences and I want every student to have equally great opportunities. Your voice will be heard within not only the Guild but also the University, and as your Welfare officer I will represent you as a student community and make your Exeter experience the best it can possibly be.

I care about student welfare here at Exeter and your thoughts really matter to me, so if you believe, as I do, that I’m the right man for the job:

ROOT FOR ROOTKIN as your #1 for VP Welfare & Community.

VICE PRESIDENT COMMUNITY: Ellie Williams

1. HELLO SOCIAL LIFE
   - Bristol students are a talented bunch so I want to organise mini festivals throughout the year where they can showcase their skills. From comedy to poetry, jazz to film, creative writing to open mic nights, the possibilities are endless.
   - Put on events in the early weeks of Freshers' which are not centred around alcohol are still fun and encourage people to make new friends e.g bowling, laserquest, a group trip to a student performance/concert/gig etc
   - “Give it a Go Week” - I want to work with societies and sports clubs to create a well-publicised “Give It A Go” Week, where students can trial a variety of different things from Martial Arts, to Rock Climbing to a Life Art class for example before joining up.
   - Better Community - I want to create a better community for those in private halls by working with local bars close to private halls to establish a regular social night e.g Big Chill Bar, Riley's, White Hart etc where students can turn up and know that they will meet others who live in private accommodation. Support the creation of individual JCRs in private halls, with the inclusion of senior residents and first years to establish a community within each private hall individually.
   - Living in Langford - provide the opportunity for students in Langford to participate in sport.

2. CELEBRATING CYCLING
   - Increase the number of bike stands on university campus and lobby the council to provide more in student areas in Bristol
   - Second-hand bike sales - with local community scheme Lifecycle to have more second hand bike sales on campus
   - Organise Discount Days - with local bike shops to have discounted kit sales on campus every term
   - Run events with The Bristol Bike Project where they teach students how to repair and maintain their bikes
- Support the work of the Bike Repair Surgery by promoting it through student and social media. Ensure that it continues to take place on frequent Wednesday afternoons.

3. HOUSING
- Reduce the number of students being ripped off by private agencies fees by working with the accommodation office to develop the union as an agency where landlords who have received exemplary feedback from their tenants get subsidised advertising on the boards. Landlords that receive negative feedback will not be able to join the scheme.
- Produce a guide to help students know their rights and what to look for when seeking new accommodation, signing a tenancy agreement and looking to claim their deposit back.
- Increase the support that the union can give students who are struggling with Landlords who won't fix problems or return deposits. I will set up routes by which the union can campaign on students' behalf in these cases

4. CAMPUS LIFE
- Fair Trade Café - Publicise and promote student initiatives such as fair trade café and the Food-Co-Op
- Farmers’ Markets - Hold more regular Farmers’ Markets on Tyndall Avenue
- Increase dietary options on campus - Work with the Source Café’s on campus to ensure they provide variety of gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options at a reasonable price
- Encourage the university where possible, to replace all lights with automated ones which turn off when not in use.
- Seek something better: Vote Ellie Williams. Improving your social life, home and your transport at no extra cost to you!

VICE PRESIDENT WELFARE AND EQUALITY: Alessandra Berti

1. Bristol Needs to Chill Out!
It's hard to take the time out to relax, especially if you are under deadline and exam stress. Bristol students should be equipped with the skills they need to be able to relax and manage the demands of getting a degree.

If re-elected:
- I will organise Revision Roadshows during the summer and winter exam periods including free relaxation and exercise classes
- Organised revision breaks in the form of guided mindfulness walks to encourage you to leave your library desk
- ensure that these services are provided over the summer break for postgraduates
- lobby the University to make relaxation and time management skills an integral part of study skills sessions in the curriculum

2. Proactive not Reactive
When it comes to equality Bristol has seen an exciting year. Something I have realised is that there is a need to be more proactive in explaining what we mean about equality and what the implications are of having an equality policy and safe space policy and how students can input in these policies.

If re-elected I will:
- re-write the safe space policy including a student consultation
- provide training for clubs and societies on how to diversify their membership, look after their members and get rid of discrimination
- work with VP Activities and VP Sport and Health to make sure handover covers Union policy which has an implication for student activities

3. Activism on Campus: Student-led and Union-funded
The Union’s vision is one of 'students creating a world class experience for themselves', however, historically we haven’t been a very strong campaigning University. I seek to change this and enable more students who are passionate about a cause to access Union resources in order to organise campaigns.

If re-elected I will:
- ring-fence money for student-run campaigns
- create a developed campaigns section on the UBU website including tool kits and examples of best practice
- make sure the Union signposts what it can offer in support beyond money (think marketing, events organising etc.)

4. Better Support for Part-time Officers
If re-elected I will:
- provide PTOs with better training and support from the Union including staff mentors
- give them a clear performance framework and opportunity to report to Student Council: accountability leads to responsibility
- hold regular executive meetings with the full-time officer team to foster a sense of a genuine Student Executive

5. Understanding the 21st Century Student – The Bristol Student Welfare Survey
Our welfare is affected by a myriad of things – housing, student funding, mental health and study stress. In the past welfare has been seen as the fuzzy role that hands out free condoms, and runs campaigns that involve standing around on campus with a banner. This survey is about capturing information that will make the welfare officer a more evidence-based and representative role. At the moment we pick up information of those who access services but no information about the needs of the broader student body.

If re-elected:
- I will run a big welfare survey seeking to capture an overview of the student body and its needs
- Including focus groups with mature students, student parents, UGs and PGs, students on placement
- I am going to use the results of the survey to present to the University with some key recommendations for improvements, resource allocation and priorities.

The accommodation standards in Plymouth vary greatly and what I want to see is the University rethink their accommodation rating system so that students are completely aware of the standard of living provided by the landlord.

I will also work very closely with Plymouth Union Accommodation Agency, so that students are provided with the best forms of accommodation at the best prices.
What I also want to address is the exorbitant rise in accommodation which is completely disproportionate to the maintenance loans we receive. I want to do this by getting the University to only approve accommodation which fits into the budget of students, and to also freeze the cost of halls accommodation which has risen by at least £20 a week over the last 3 years.

At the beginning of this year I designed and ran the Safe and Secure Campaign. What I want to do is make this campaign an integral part of freshers fortnight, a time when students are most vulnerable. I will also make it bigger better and inclusive of all students.

There is a significant lack of understanding of the services the Student Union Advice Centre offer. I want to address this key issue by raising students’ awareness of the facilities available.

Throughout the next year I want to work closely with UPSU:Radio, UPSU:TV and The Knowledge to express student views on key issues within the community, embracing diversity and ensuring that all voices are heard.

The success of Green Week and the One Green Bottle Campaign are something that I want to concentrate on, it is important to focus on the Green issues within our day to day student lives.

The SSHH campaign I’m running with the current Student Union President is a campaign that I want to see grow. The campaign focuses on nightlife noise effecting local residents and the student population. Part of this campaign is getting the party bus back from Oceana on Monday and Thursday nights, something I want to see introduced next year.

To finalise I want to work with volunteering initiatives across the university to increase volunteering opportunities, further engagement, and ensure it benefits community relations.

- Make the Safe and Secure Campaign I designed an integral part of freshers fortnight, a time when students are most vulnerable.
- Work with UPSU Radio, UPSU:TV and The Knowledge to express student views on key issues within the community, ensuring that all voices are heard.
- Get the University to rethink their accommodation agency rating system. To also work with the Student Union accommodation agency to provide better housing at a better price with better accountability. No longer will students be ripped off.