



# GEORGE BLAKE

## RUNNING FOR KPA PRESIDENT

### INTRODUCTION

I've had a really enjoyable year as KPA Vice-President, working with a really enthusiastic team to help grow the KPA and improve the well being of postgraduates at Keele. I'd love to have the opportunity to build on this work over the next year as your President and I've outlined below the key plans and policies I'd like to implement.

### CURRENT ROLE: KPA VICE-PRESIDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

More and varied KPA events  
Improved Postgrad Code of Practice  
Masters Funding Talks  
Student Voice Rep Review  
Provided Student Voice for university recruitment  
Supported mental health funding bid  
Supported student run events  
Welfare work with students  
Ran careers events  
Violence Against Women Campaign

### PREVIOUS ROLES & EXPERIENCE

Apart from a year out working in recruitment, I've been at Keele for the best part of seven years. I've been Open portfolio officer at the SU and Keele's representative at NUS and NUS LGBT conference. I've been involved in several societies from Production Manager at Keele Drama to a committee member of Think Green. I've also run campaigns across the university, encouraging people to vote, protesting the rise in PG Fees and for increased university transparency on planning issues. I am currently the KPA Vice-President and was last years equality and diversity officer at the KPA.

### PGR PAY/REMUNERATION

Making sure our student staff are properly paid for their work by:

- Ensuring all teaching is remunerated in all circumstances
- That marking is properly accounted for when assessing staff hours and postgrads who teach are rewarded for their efforts
- That lesson prep is properly considered in the same way

### POSTGRADUATE STUDENT VOICE REPS

Working with KeeleSU to ensure that postgraduates have consistent academic representation across courses.

- Currently postgraduate course are only sporadically using student representatives hindering the ability of students to feedback about their courses
- We want to have a functioning postgraduate voice rep system that feeds into the work of the KPA, KeeleSU and the University
- Good progress has been made this year on understanding this issue but that needs to be built upon in the next 12 months

### MORE INVESTMENT, MORE SPACE, MORE RESOURCES

As the university looks to continue its growth in postgraduate numbers we need guaranteed investment from the university to continue the good work we do:

- Clubhouse Redevelopment: More detail on what will be available for the clubhouse going forward
- Following Ieuan's successful campaign for study space improvement a commitment to continue this good progress
- More postgraduate specific workshops, training and careers events at both the KPA and Keele University