



# **SOPHIE TAYLOR DAVIS (SHE/HER) PUBLICATIONS**

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT:**

**HELLO, I'M SOPHIE AND I'M RUNNING FOR PUBLICATIONS CONVENOR OF QMU! QMUNICATE HAS BEEN A HUGELY IMPORTANT PART OF MY UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE FROM MY FIRST FRESHER'S WEEK. STARTING AS A CONTRIBUTOR, BEFORE BECOMING LIFESTYLE EDITOR, AND THIS YEAR, DEPUTY EDITOR, EACH ROLE HAS DEVELOPED MY SKILLS IN COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION AND TIME MANAGEMENT.**

**MY EXPERIENCE AS DEPUTY EDITOR THIS YEAR HAS ALLOWED ME FURTHER INSIGHT INTO THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MAGAZINE AND, GIVEN THE CHANCE, I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO CONTINUE THE INCREDIBLE WORK OF THIS YEAR'S EDITOR IN CHIEF AND EDITORIAL BOARD AND CONTINUE QMUNICATE'S LEGACY.**

**ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS TO ME OF QMUNICATE IS ACCESSIBILITY. AS SOMEONE WHO IS AUTISTIC HAVING SAFE AND WELCOMING SPACES ON CAMPUS IS VITAL, AND FOR MY THREE YEARS AT UNIVERSITY SO FAR, QMUNICATE HAS BEEN THAT FOR ME. GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, I WILL STRIVE TO UPHOLD ITS WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE AND ENSURE IT IS A POSITIVE SPACE FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN STUDENT JOURNALISM. ONE WAY I WOULD DO THIS IS BY COLLABORATING WITH OTHER SOCIETIES AND GROUPS WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY WHO MAY NOT PERCEIVE THE MAGAZINE AS RELEVANT TO THEM. I WOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT OUR SOCIALS HAVE A DIVERSE RANGE OF EVENTS, INCLUDING SOBER ONES.**

**QMUNICATE HAS A LONGSTANDING REPUTATION FOR BEING OPEN TO EVERYONE, NO MATTER THE EXPERIENCE LEVEL AND THIS IS SOMETHING I REALLY VALUE. FOR SOME STUDENTS, WRITING FOR QMUNICATE IS THEIR FIRST EXPERIENCE OF STUDENT JOURNALISM-IT WAS FOR ME-, AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE THEY FEEL SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED. ONE THING I WOULD DO TO HELP ENSURE THIS WOULD BE TO HOST WORKSHOPS AROUND STUDENT JOURNALISM, SUCH AS AN INTRODUCTION TO IT, IDEAS ON WRITING AND CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS ETC. THIS WOULD BE A USEFUL EVENT TO RUN AROUND FRESHER'S WEEK AND COULD BE IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER STUDENT MEDIA'S, UTILISING OUR COMMONALITIES AND DIFFERENT AREAS OF EXPERTISE. ALONGSIDE THIS, COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES AND AREAS OF QMU IS A GREAT WAY OF BROADENING QMUNICATE'S REACH AND GETTING MORE CONTRIBUTORS INVOLVED. THE OPEN MIC NIGHTS ORGANISED BY VARIOUS QMU MEMBERS THIS YEAR WERE REALLY SUCCESSFUL, SO I'D PROPOSE TO KEEP THESE GOING, ALONGSIDE OTHER CREATIVE EVENTS SUCH AS ZINE MAKING, CRAFT AND POETRY WORKSHOPS, BUILDING ON OUR FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES THIS YEAR.**

**MORE AND DIVERSE CONTRIBUTORS WILL LEAD TO MORE AND DIVERSE READERS. ONE PRIORITY FOR ME WOULD BE BROADENING QMUNICATE'S REACH AS A MAGAZINE. ANOTHER WAY OF DOING THIS WOULD BE TO HAVE COPIES OF THE MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTED AROUND UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS ON CAMPUS, AS WELL AS LOCAL SPACES IN THE WEST END. AS WELL AS MAGAZINES, POSTERS FOR OUR EVENTS WITH QR CODES TO SIGN UP AND LINKS TO OUR FACEBOOK GROUP WOULD BE A GREAT WAY OF GETTING THE WORD OUT.**

**I REMEMBER HOW NERVOUS I FELT WALKING INTO MY FIRST QMUNICATE MEETING, NOT KNOWING ANYONE AND WITH NO EXPERIENCE OF STUDENT JOURNALISM. TO THIS DAY I AM SO GLAD THAT I DID, AND I WANT OTHERS TO HAVE THAT SAME JOURNEY.**