**UOS Students’ Union**

**LGBTQ+ Officer report**

**Officer name and role:** Darragh Briscomb, LGBTQ+ Officer

**How to get in touch:** su.lgbt+officer@uos.ac.uk

**What has been worked over the past term?**

**Manifesto Points**

* To connect with local businesses and organisations to create more opportunities for LGBTQ+ students to foster a community at the University.
  + Following last term, the focus has been on more opportunities from within the university rather than outside of it. However, we have had regular contact with places such as Geek Retreat. We have also had some organisations such as Switchboard come in for talks during LGBTQ+ History Month
  + Within the university, there has been the LGBTQ+ anthology and the LGBTQ+ tile mural.
* To increase contact between the LGBTQ+ Society and Students
  + 14 events were held for LGBTQ+ History Month and another couple are on the way so keep an eye out!
* To increase access to gender neutral toilets on campus.
  + This hasn’t gone as smoothly as hoped – they’ve placed gender neutral bathroom signs on the disabled toilet which was against the motion passed at council. As a result, this has been raised and the presidents will be bringing this to estates during their next catch up.
* To bring the trans policy to fruition and help students through the new procedures that this policy will offer students.
  + It is live! <https://www.uos.ac.uk/sites/www.uos.ac.uk/files/Trans-Equality-Policy.pdf>
  + Please email me if you have any questions or would like some help with understanding the policy!

**Other**

* Not many issues were raised to me this term. However, I have had some students contact me about support, and these will be passed onto the incoming LGBTQ+ Officer Jess Howard.
* I have also sat on the EDI Liberating the Curriculum workgroup which has been run by Ellen, head of Learning and Teaching.
* In addition, we have the LGBTQ+ lanyard scheme at UoS! Those with the lanyards are LGBTQ+ allies and stand against homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and general bigotry.

**Motions**

* The submission of two motions: The library hours motion and the EDI committee motion. Both of these passed at council. The EDI committee will be in action from September, and the library hours were extended to 8:30 til Midnight every day.

**What will be worked on next term?**

* Unfortunately, I graduate this year! It has been amazing working within the role, getting to know a lot of lovely people and being able to make real change on campus. Congratulations to Jess Howard for winning the LGBTQ+ Officer election in March and I look forward to hearing about all the amazing work you do!
* Students can get involved in the work that is being done either through contacting the email above, or through running in the Society elections in the upcoming months. Both of these are great ways to help out other LGBTQ+ students.