

Miles Stewart-Compton for UJS President

I'm Miles Stewart-Compton, a 3rd year Politics and Philosophy student at Southampton University. I was the J-Soc's President last year, it's Vice-President this year and I will be running to be your UJS President.

2020 has been a year of challenge, history and division. However, as we are all so aware, the Jewish people have come to master resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity and hardship. It is clear we need to move forward and push through this period and the way to do this is through structural change and development for all J-Socs and all Jewish students.

I believe as UJS President we transform and adapt our role in Jewish students' lives by supporting J-Socs even more closely through the 'new normal', furthering inclusivity and accessibility for all Jewish students, whilst giving direct influence to all Jewish students on UJS action.

Accountability

At its core, UJS is about Jewish students and ensuring they receive the best possible student experience they can; so it is not only key that the President and the team are held to a high standard but also that the students are at the heart of shaping UJS action.

- I will hold a video meeting once a month with the Presidents (or another member of committee) of each J-Soc to hear their concerns.
- I will maintain surgery hours once a fortnight, to converse with students about what can be done to improve their student experience, but also for those to suggest what measures UJS can take to improve itself and its processes
- I will hold online Q+As for a direct and simple way to ask the President anything! (within reason)

Inclusivity

I have been registered disabled since the age of ten, which lead me to become a junior ambassador for my charity, with whom I lobbied MPs in Parliament, consulted royalty on my condition and attended events where I spoke about these challenges. Also being a member of the LGBTQ+ community, inclusivity and campaigning for change has always been greatly important to me.

- I will re-haul the subsidies for J-Socs, particularly the smaller ones, whose events (such as Friday night dinners) can become costly to their members. Shouldering such costs can become a barrier to entry for some students.
- I will assure the utmost attention and support for the LGBTQ+, disabled and Jews of colour within our community and expand UJS's commitment to education and celebration of these groups.

Support

The next year is set to be one of the most challenging ever for J-Socs. It is imperative that Jewish students receive the most attentive support throughout.

- I will ensure constant, attentive support for all J-Socs from UJS, in whatever form that takes in the coming year.
- I will demand more from student wellbeing and mental health services. It is no secret that a number of universities have underperforming mental health support systems in place and I will go the extra mile to demand more from these institutions. With a sharp rise to this already huge issue this year, it is more important than ever to push for better help.
- I will stand up for Jewish students against anti-Semitism and all other forms of discrimination. Education, celebration and information are at the forefront of these battles and will form an important structure for fighting these poisons within our society.