

# EVA CROSSAN JORY VP WELFARE

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VP WELFARE

## EXPERIENCE

Welfare is political. When we lobby for more resources on mental health, when we fight for cheaper rent for students and when we stand with student survivors on our campuses and in our national movement we are making a political statement. We are redefining and reshaping what we stand for and what we stand against. I stand for a transformative Welfare Zone, one that fosters communities of care on each and every campus and mobilises collective action against austerity and oppression.

For this manifesto in a different format, or if you want to ask any questions, please drop me a message!

‘Eva has done so much at Goldsmiths - from supporting student survivors of sexual violence to resisting the housing crisis. The Welfare Zone must be radical, transformative, and political for it to actually make a difference to students’ lives. We need so much more than just another toolkit, we need powerful, collective action, and who better to deliver this than Eva.’

**Hareem Ghani, NUS Women’s Officer**

## HOUSING

When students across the country are priced out of accommodation and living in dangerous conditions, nothing short of radical action will suffice. As a student I led a successful rent strike at Goldsmiths and subsequently co-authored NUS’ guidance on rent strikes. Now, if you elect me as VP Welfare, that guidance will finally be put into practice. NUS is a renter’s union 7 million strong, it’s time we acted like it.

### Elect me and I will:

- Support rent strikes up and down the country, creating tenants’ unions on every campus, and across every city.
- Run ‘Know your Housing Rights’ workshops with groups such as Acorn
- Tackle LGBT+, estranged and international student housing insecurity by creating guarantor schemes in colleges

Goldsmiths SU President 2017/18

NUS NEC Union Development 2nd Place 2017/18

Goldsmiths Activities and Campaigns Officer  
2016/17

Co-founder and President of the Visual Cultures  
Society 2014-16

Led a rent strike at Goldsmiths, winning tenants  
£650,000 in compensation

Successfully bid for money from HEFCE to run  
an institution wide campaign to tackle sexual  
violence, paying students and staff to deliver  
bystander training to student groups

Made Goldsmiths employ more counsellors,  
including an Independent Sexual Violence  
Advocate

Ran ‘A Woman’s Place is in her Union’ campaign  
- encouraging more women, particularly those  
who face multiple oppressions, to run for Officers

Worked on the ‘Gold Paper’ analysing the role the  
whole institution played in causing and solving  
student mental ill health.

Established Goldsmiths’ Hate Crime Reporting  
Centre



## TACKLING SEXUAL VIOLENCE

A third of women have experienced sexual harassment or assault on campus. Whether in halls, on nights out, in our workplaces, this cannot be tolerated. Student survivors are not getting the support they need. The Welfare Zone must act immediately - demanding properly funded specialist services for survivors. Sexual violence and harassment also plague student politics. Elect me and I will fight for an end to it both inside and outside of our movement.

### Elect me and I will:

- Work with the Women's Campaign to establish 'Against Sexual Violence' campaigns on every campus, involving student societies and sports teams.
- Campaign for properly-funded, specialist support for those who have experienced sexual violence.
- Support the review of NUS' own policies on sexual violence and those of SUs across the UK.

NUS is a political organisation and thus it is important that I am transparent about my politics. I am a member of the Labour Party who has consistently supported Jeremy Corbyn and the movement he has created. I was proud to campaign for the Labour Party in the 2017 General Election in the hope of building a society For the Many Not the Few.



## MENTAL HEALTH

Profit is increasingly being put before patients in our NHS so we must recognise that SUs have the power to foster communities of care. Our education system is being marketized, but competition is incompatible with collective care. When it comes to mental health, our solutions cannot be individualised - they must be communal.

### Elect me and I will:

- Launch a campaign for colleges to get ring-fenced funding for fully resourced counselling services
- Commission research into the relationship between student mental health, financial pressures, and retention
- Fight NHS cuts and privatisation, linking SUs to wider local and national campaigns

'Mental health is in crisis in FE across the UK - with colleges under equipped to deal with students coming to them in desperate situations, and NHS services overstretched. Eva will be the person to holistically campaign to change this - from ensuring that our education is debt free to campaigning for ring fenced funding for FE mental health services, to making sure CAMHs is available to all that need it'

**Nia Nash, Woodhouse College**

## NO WELFARE WITHOUT LIBERATION

"Liberation at the heart of everything we do" has become a mere a slogan of our movement. From LGBT+ inclusion in sports to running 'Demo HQ' so disabled students could participate in the fight for free education my record shows I have turned the slogan into a set of tangible actions. If the Welfare Zone does not fight for the welfare of all students, then it fights for the welfare of none.

### Elect me and I will:

- Work with the NUS Liberation and Sections Campaigns to integrate intersectional demands into all welfare campaigns
- Prioritise anti-racism and anti-fascism in the Welfare Zone
- To work with the Black Students' Campaign and UCU to continue the fight against PREVENT



@EvaCrossanJory



/eva4vpwelfare