OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

CANDIDATE FOR STUDENT TRUSTEE
2014-16

ANNA JENKINS

Student Profile Information

Currently registered course/module: MT365 Graphs, Networks & Design

Current qualification intentions: BSc Mathematics

Length of study with OU: 12 years

Past qualification(s)/module(s):

PBA Humanities
MST121
MS221
M208
M140 (also current)
5 Science Short Courses / modules

Town/City: Chessington, Surrey

Country: England

Manifesto

I would like to put myself forward for consideration as one of the two (non-SAR) Student Members of the Board of Trustees for OUSA.

I was at the OUSA Conference in 2011 when it was decided that that two student trustees who are not also members of the CEC should be part of the Board of Trustees. I voted in favour of this as it seemed sensible, to me, to have people independent of the roles and responsibilities of specific posts, and with nothing but the well-being of the Association in mind, forming part of the team overseeing at a high level the legal, financial and strategic decisions of the Association.

As someone who has never been on the CEC I believe I can offer this independent, impartial, overview. I am pretty much an ordinary student, with a good working knowledge of OUSA, gained through being involved in the region’s Assembly Executive (and was previously a post holder in the Regional Forum), as well as moderating several forums dedicated to OUSA business, where being impartial is a requirement, including OUSA Matters and the Virtual Hustings forums in previous years. I have been a student since 2003, and have gained a degree in Humanities. I was fortunate enough to have already been studying for my Mathematics degree when the new fees were announced, and am continuing to work towards that goal under transitional arrangements.

I believe that my experience gained in my day job will be beneficial to fulfilling this role – I have line management responsibility for a team of five, and financial responsibility for an annual budget of £55m, which is spent on science and audited very thoroughly by the National Audit Office. Our remit is to spend the money for the benefit of the UK taxpayer and society, which is similar to a trustee’s remit of ensuring that OUSA’s money is spent for the benefit of students. My role involves...
working within teams of scientific staff, academics and business representatives – I am used to working well with a range of colleagues from different disciplines and with different goals in mind. In my opinion this is the most important part of the student trustee role – they have no other goal than ensuring OUSA is managed and administered properly.

Thank you for reading this address, if you have any questions I look forward to answering them via the Hustings process.