

Guide to Writing a Manifesto

Considering what to put in your manifesto is extremely important. A manifesto should tell Students all about you- Why you are running, your views on issues affecting students and the Union and what you are going to do if you are elected and so on.

You should seek to reach as many students as possible- If you aim your manifesto at a specific group you will not appeal to the wide variety of students at Greenwich. Remember there are three campuses that can vote in the Election: Medway, Avery Hill and Greenwich. Below are some general tips on how to write a manifesto:

1. In a short introduction, tell Students Who you are, for example:
 - a. what course you are on
 - b. membership of clubs and societies
 - c. Involvement in political activities, parties and groups
 - d. Any other involvement in student issues/activities
 - e. What skills you have that you can use to help students
2. Make sure your manifesto clearly says what position you are running for
3. To work out what to put as your manifesto pledges consider what would influence you to vote for someone. What do you believe in?
4. Considering the points that would make you vote for someone try and find which points would appeal to most students. There is not room in the manifesto to put everything you believe in
5. Make sure your pledges are achievable, Simply putting "Free Drinks for all" on your manifesto may seem like a good idea but remember you will have to answer questions at Candidate Question Time about how you will achieve your pledges, and if elected you will be a trustee of the Union.
6. Think of snappy titles for each of your key manifesto pledges, keep it concise- Chances are a student won't read your whole manifesto; they will just look at the main points.
7. Consider the position you are running for and make sure you focus your manifesto on what you will be able to do, for example a candidate for VP Student Activities will want to focus their manifesto on things like Bars, Shops, Sports, Societies and other Student Services, a focus on these things would not be relevant for a VP Education and Welfare candidate.

Your Manifesto must be no more than 500 words and should be submitted by the 27th February 2011

Simple Manifesto Template

This is a simple guideline on how to set out your manifesto; you can lay your manifesto out as you wish. But feel free to use this template as a basic idea.

Introduction:

Hello my name is....

I am running for...

I am running because...

I have these experiences which I could use to benefit students...

I have previously been involved with SUUG through...

Key Campaign Points:

If elected I will campaign on the Following things:

1. Campaign Point 1

This issue is important because...

I will achieve the aim of this through...

2. Campaign Point 2

This issue is important because...

I will achieve the aim of this through...

3. Campaign Point 3

This issue is important because...

I will achieve the aim of this through...

Closing Statement:

Please make sure you remember to go out and vote...

My name is... and I am running for... Please consider voting for me between March 14th and March 17th

(Also put contact details here in case students have any other questions for you)