

**GUSA Council Member - Nomination Form & Manifesto 2024/25**

Position:	Inclusion and Culture Convenor
Name:	Soufia Cordero
Club:	Glasgow University Women's Hockey Club



	Nominator's Name	Signature
1.	<b><u>Roddy McConnell</u></b>	<i>R.McC</i>
2.	<b><u>Alice Geoghegan</u></b>	<i>Alice Geoghegan</i>

**1) Support within Clubs and GUSA**

*Inclusion and Culture Officers:*

I am deeply passionate about providing support and a safe space through sport. Inclusion and Culture Officers are the foundation of bridging this gap. Their roles of promoting understanding and providing support for individuals in their respective sports clubs will help create a sense of unity. Inclusion and Culture Officers will be supported through diversity and equality training in sports on how to deal with discrimination and prejudice faced by individuals. I believe that they would not only feel supported by GUSA but will be able to help promote inclusion and culture initiatives in day-to-day activities. This would also help build better communication within and inter sport clubs.

Support Groups:

I'd like to form an inclusive support group for individuals throughout GUSA where they can express their milestones, worries and coping strategies freely through different aspects of their own experiences. Having a safe space is essential to feel included and present within our respective clubs and GUSA.

I would do this by ensuring that all meetings are anonymous and confidential so individuals can express their thoughts without the fear of them being passed on. In addition, I would like to establish a forum that provides individuals to share their thoughts and challenges anonymously, this would be accessible for anyone in the international, LGBTQ+ and GUSA community. This initiative will help create an inclusive environment where individuals can positively come together and support each other.

**2) Immersion of Inclusion and Culture through Sports and affiliated cultural societies in the university**

Being open-minded towards different individuals' experiences is crucial for eliminating barriers to sports participation. The embracement of diversity and inclusion helps to break down barriers to participation, be it due to financial funding, lack of access, discrimination and prejudice. Fostering a sense of belonging within sports clubs, not only helps to promote social cohesion but also forming stronger communities in GUSA.

I would like to achieve this through organising various new GUSA events throughout the academic year.

*A) Multicultural Sports Day*

I would like to propose a multicultural sports day where individuals can showcase their national sport and share the stories and occasions behind the creation of the sport. Incorporating the involvement of cultural societies in this event so that they can share their experiences through sports and also traditional dishes that represent their nation.

*B) GUSA Para-sport Day*

I believe that organising a Paralympic Day within GUSA will allow us to understand the challenges faced by athletes with physical and cognitive difficulties. Organising this event will allow us to have a better understanding of the importance of adaptive sports at all levels experienced by para-athletes.

**3) Accessibility of Sports to Students**

Ensuring a high level of involvement in sports between home and international students is essential in GUSA. I intend to collaborate closely with sports clubs during Fresher Fayre to create a comprehensive timetable for trials and taster sessions across various sports to ensure accessibility for all.

Additionally, I would also like to propose the introduction of a cross-over day initiative where students have the opportunity to interact with other sports clubs. This would bring different clubs closer together through sport and build a stronger sense of community within GUSA.