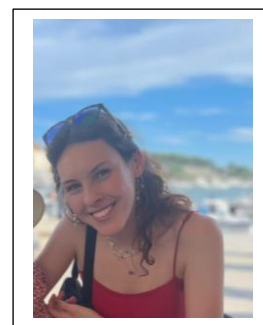


GUSA Council Member - Nomination Form & Manifesto 2024/25

Position:	Inclusion and Welfare Convenor	
Name:	Georgia Fitzgerald-Monk	
Club:	Netball, Women's Hockey and Swimming and Waterpolo	
	Nominator's Name	Signature
1.	<u>Jessica Wilkinson</u>	<u>Jessica Wilkinson</u>
2.	<u>Ramsay Newell</u>	<u>Ramsay Newell</u>



I'm Georgia Fitzgerald-Monk and I'm studying history, and for the past three years, I have been involved in GUSA through Netball Hockey and GUSWPC. As the current Netball 5s captain and former Recreational Convenor, I've gained skills in managing and supporting diverse student needs and fostering an inclusive environment on and off the court. Additionally, I have been part of welfare schemes like the Hockey Big Sister Scheme and Rainbow Laces. I want to build on this experience and would love to work towards building an incredibly inclusive and supportive environment across all GUSA clubs. I have enjoyed taking an active role within GUSA away from my clubs as well, through Freshers helping and being part of the GUSA Events team this past year. Meeting people from varied backgrounds has reinforced my commitment to a culture where everyone feels supported, recognising, and celebrating their race, sexuality, culture, or disability. Being different from your fellow athletes and teammates due to something like this can be incredibly hard and feel isolating. As someone who is queer and has ADHD, I understand the importance of a platform that celebrates differences and addresses the challenges they bring. Success in this role means listening to students and collaborating with the welfare team, council, and external organizations to ensure GUSA is a welcoming space for all.

I would love to be the new Inclusion and Culture convenor for GUSA. I am incredibly passionate about expanding the awareness and support that students need, and I know first-hand how sports can bring us together and celebrate our differences.

Manifesto –

If I am elected as Inclusion and Culture Convenor, I will continue to expand on the current wellbeing and awareness campaigns like Black History Month and LGBTQ+ History Month 'share your story', as well as build on initiatives like Beyond Equality Training and the Accessibility form. On top of this, I will work closely with the welfare team leads to ensure they are supported in their campaigns and make sure that club welfare convenors have the necessary training to support and create inclusive environments within them. I also want to work with other council members like the Outreach Convenor to implement this inclusive culture across the whole of GUSA.

Accessibility -

I want to make GUSA more accessible to students with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities so that students who may need support or some accommodations to get everything they need at their discretion. This is especially important due to the positive impact that sport can have on physical and mental wellbeing and I want to ensure that students don't face access as a barrier.

- I want to work closely with organisations like **Glasgow Disability Association**, which I already have links to, and **Scottish Disability Sport** to create a **short training programme** that council, the welfare team and club welfare convenors will go through to make sure that they are trained and equipped with to act as advocates/point of contact for disabled students' needs.
- I want to work with the Disability lead and **the Disability Services** at the university to create a **'Sport for All' initiative**, using the **accessibility forms, social media and flyers** in the Disability Services offices, that **promotes awareness and works with students with disabilities** to ensure that GUSA and its clubs are accessible.
- I want to work closely with **students, societies like the Neurodiversity Society** and **cross-campus** links to discuss their needs and what we as a student body can implement to help **support them**.

Visibility –

Representation is crucial in creating an inclusive culture. I want to make sure that current and potential students feel seen and represented by ensuring that our social media pages and publicity echo the diversity in our student body.

- I want to create a **feedback form** and offer **drop-in sessions** to get **insight from students** who may not feel accurately represented due to their race, gender, ethnicity, disability or sexuality, on what they feel is still needed to ensure that they are represented accurately in GUSA
- I want to **push and promote the 'share my story'** campaigns, not to force students, but to make them aware that there is a **platform** on which **they can use** to speak about their experiences and challenges they have faced while also celebrating them.

Culture –

I want to work on creating a more accepting, understanding and inclusive culture within and across GUSA to ensure that students feel safe from discrimination and reassure them that they always have a place in GUSA.

- I want to build upon the current awareness campaigns that happen throughout months like Movember and Black History Month by organising at **least one event each month** where students can come together to **celebrate, discuss or just be with others who have come from the same/similar backgrounds**.
- Build on previous years' work with charities like **Stonewall, Access Sport and RISE** alongside university societies like **GUSoCNET** to ensure we can **support all students in feeling like they belong in GUSA**.