

Equity & Inclusion Officer – January Report 2

Name: Eda Yildirimkaya

Section 1: General Update

- With the LGBTQ+ and Women's History Months approaching, I'm working hard on the Liberate Phineas Art Gallery Project. We have just resolved our issues regarding the logistics of curating the exhibition. The next couple of weeks will mostly be focusing on getting more students involved and sharing their artwork with us. Regarding the LGBTQ+ HM, I'm working closely with our Representation and Marketing teams, as well as our relevant Student Officers and TeamUCL, to commemorate the importance of this month in the most engaging way possible.
- I am currently taking part in the Impartial Chairs Training programme, receiving training with some of our brilliant students and having debates and discussions with them regarding student politics. I have had the opportunity to have a better understanding of how they view student politics at UCL and what changes they would like to see. I will be travelling to Northern Ireland in mid-February to improve my impartial chairing skills and hear more from students about their needs and expectations.
- I have raised the issues Muslim students have been experiencing in the EDI Committee meeting. With Ramadan approaching, I will be working even more closely with the Religion and Belief Working Group to make sure their concerns are resolved and heard by the EDI team.

How have you communicated with students in the past fortnight?

Unfortunately, I have just come back from leave, so I can't report back on this yet.

Section 2: Sabbatical Officer Priorities

1) Students are confident in connecting with each other and support one another to feel safe, reassured and inspired.

I have been working rigorously to launch a very engaging and full LGBTQ+ History Month with the SU staff and the student officers. I'm in the process of launching the Art Gallery as well. I'm also now working on a paper related to Digital Accessibility to be presented at EdCom and EDIC.

2) Students can be proud and accepted for who they are in a safe community with a high level of cultural understanding.

I have been attending Impartial Chairs training programme with a number of students, and together we are learning how to navigate difficult conversations around sensitive topics.

3) Students have an equitable experience in a united and inclusive community, regardless of where they are based and from.

My efforts in the UCL East space is still continuing. I will be spending my whole day on campus, talking to students and hearing about their ideas and concerns next week.

Section 3: Attendance at important Union meetings and events

1) Union meetings attended and main outcomes

LGBTQ+ History Month Working Group: Planning all the events for February.

Section 4: Attendance at important UCL meetings and events

1) UCL meetings attended and main outcomes

Student Access and Success Committee: Discussions around whether free school meals is an adequate criteria to determine students from lower economic background.