

Graduate Student Representative
on the Council of the School of Arts and Humanities (SAH)

My name is **Konstantinos Lygouris**, a second-year PhD student in Classics, and I am currently the Graduate Student Representative at the School of Arts and Humanities, a role that I have held since January 2018.

I have decided to run again for this role for two reasons. First, I believe that I can bring the relevant experience to the role of the School's Grad Rep, whose short tenure makes it difficult to absorb quickly the inner workings of the School's organisation and to develop a comprehensive understanding of the graduate community's voice. Second, I wish to continue the work undertaken so far, with increased emphasis on the meaningful communication between Faculty Reps and the governing body of the School.

One of the challenges I faced when I undertook the role was the lack of clarity and awareness concerning the role of the Grad Rep. Many of you were either unaware that the role existed or unfamiliar with its responsibilities. Throughout this year, I have striven to bring all the Faculty Reps into a productive dialogue and a renewed understanding of the School's supra-disciplinary status: one of the role's primary responsibilities is to understand both the problems specific to individual Faculties and their ramification to School-wide policies.

Throughout this year, I have attended various Committees, among them the School's Graduate Education Committee. Topics of discussion have included copyright issues for PhD e-submission, student response to feedback surveys, research development training, and space for graduate students, to name but a few. As such, these topics are of significant relevance to our graduate experience. It is therefore hugely important that the Council's decision-making processes should be communicated clearly and directly to the student body it represents. At the same time, it will be my continuous responsibility to provide an inclusive student perspective on the problems and issues discussed.

There are many challenges that lie ahead. For example, as part of my role, I had to sit in on a newly established committee, the Examination and Assessment Committee, which has undertaken a comprehensive overhaul of the examination processes across the whole University. This is obviously a long-term project, on which I would encourage and welcome the feedback of all graduate students.

It is my firm belief that the role of the Graduate Student Representative, a challenging and demanding post, can become a constructive intermediary between the graduate community and the Council. If re-elected, I hope to make a meaningful contribution to our student life, by using my experience and skills to the best of my ability.

I would be very happy to be contacted about any relevant issues, feedback, or general comments that you might have.

Thank you

Your current Grad Rep,
Konstantinos Lygouris (kl464)