

# Ella

# Edwin

## Disabled Students' Liberation Leader



# About Ella's Role:

Ella is a **Disabled Students Liberation Leader**. The purpose of this role is to represent the needs and views of all disabled students at Birkbeck. You will work on behalf of Birkbeck students to improve the student experience; lobby the University to make positive change at Birkbeck, attend University committees and meet regularly with leadership and create a Birkbeck community.

## Her main responsibilities include:

- Represent the views of students at Birkbeck.
  - As a representative of Birkbeck students, be the face of the Students' Union
  - Be a point of contact for Birkbeck students
  - To proactively collect feedback and input from students regularly to ensure work is representative.
  - Attend University meetings and committees, elevating the student voice at these levels
  - Sit on Academic Panels
  - Meet regularly with key leaders in the University
- **Work with Birkbeck University to ensure their work meets students' needs, and improve the student experience.**
  - Chair and organize the Disabled Students Network
  - Create initiatives to improve the student experience for disabled students at Birkbeck
  - Lobby the College for change
  - Negotiate best outcomes for students
  - Run campaigns, events and activities to benefit and enhance the student experience
- **Develop a community for Birkbeck students.**
  - Create initiatives to improve the student experience
  - Create opportunities for students to network with other students, or to increase engagement with Union activity
- **Attend Student Union meetings.**

# Ella's Manifesto:

*“To achieve my dreams towards a more aware and inclusive environment for students, my top priorities for the year are:*

## **1. Creating awareness and understanding around disabilities.**

*This is crucial to promote inclusion and eliminate stigma. I plan to organise two disability awareness workshops for students within the year and establish a resource center with information on disability-related topics, support services*

## **2. Make accessibility a fundamental aspect of our campus design.**

*Conduct accessibility audits and take surveys from students to understand what needs to be met and implement necessary modifications to our facilities.*

## **3. Advocate for the rights and needs of students with disabilities.**

*Develop a feedback mechanism to ensure students can express their concerns and suggestions, ensuring their voices are heard. This will be done by including a feedback widget to our website to collect student feedback*

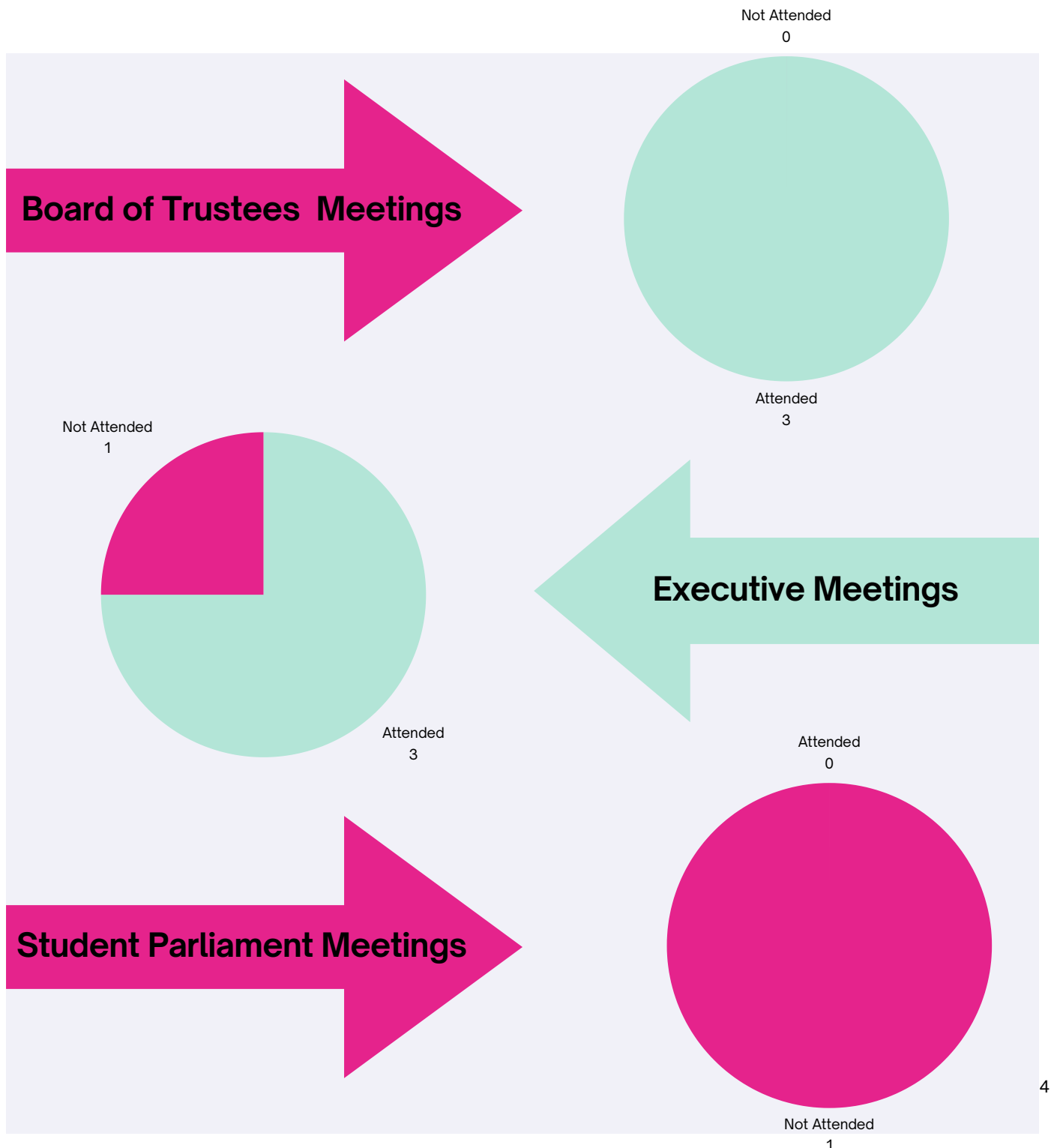
## **4. Encourage community building and collaboration.**

*Organise networking events termly to bring students with disabilities together, fostering a sense of community and support. One of these events would be held during the welcoming week to sensitise incoming students of the community and support they can access during their time on campus*

## **5. Promote academic support and empowerment.**

*Organise study groups and mentorship programs specifically tailored to the individual needs of students with disabilities. This is to eliminate the “one size fits all” approach we have towards providing support to students with disabilities.”*

# Committee Attendance Stats:



# Ella's report

NAME: ELLA EDWIN  
ROLE: DISABLED STUDENTS' LIBERATION LEADER  
TERM: 1

## **INTRODUCTION:**

MY NAME IS ELLA EDWIN, I AM THE DISABLED STUDENTS' LIBERATIONS LEADER. MY ROLE IS CENTERED AROUND PROVIDING AN INCLUSIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ON CAMPUS, AS WELL AS CREATING AWARENESS AROUND THE ISSUES FACED BY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.

## **MANIFESTO OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES:**

- **CREATE AN AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF DISABILITIES**
- **MAKE ACCESSIBILITY A FUNDAMENTAL ASPECT OF OUR CAMPUS DESIGN**
- **ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY BUILDING AND COLLABORATION**

## **OUTCOMES:**

- ORGANISED THE FIRST WORKSHOP FOR STUDENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF DISABILITIES
- VISITED SOME DEPARTMENTS WHERE I WAS ALLOWED TO ADDRESS ABOUT 60 STUDENTS TO SENSITIZE THEM OF DISABILITIES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE AT BBK
- CONDUCTED A SURVEY AS PART OF MY ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS
- COLLABORATED WITH THE DISABILITY AND DYSLEXIA SERVICES DURING WELCOME WEEK WHERE I GAVE A PRESENTATION TO OVER 70 STUDENTS
- COLLABORATED WITH STUDENT UNION SUPPORT SERVICES TO RUN CLUED UP STALL WHERE I SPOKE TO OVER 50 STUDENTS RAISING AWARENESS OF DISABILITIES, STUDENT UNION SUPPORT SERVICES AS WELL AS SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO DISABLED STUDENTS
- ORGANISED EVENTS FOR DIABILITY HISTORY MONTH WHICH IS CURRENTLY ON GOING
- CURRENTLY WORKING ON A LETTER TO THE VC WITH THE OUTCOMES OF THE SURVEY

## **OTHER OUTCOMES:**

- CURRENTLY WORKING ON COCREATION PROCESS WITH NADP UK TOWARDS THE DISABLED STUDENTS' COMMITMENT
- CORRESPONDENCE WITH STUDENTS TO SUPPORT AND SIGNPOST THEM FOR ADEQUATE HELP
- ENCOURAGE 4 DISABLED STUDENTS STAY ON IN BIRKBECK
- CURRENTLY ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES FOR DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH

## **ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- CREATED A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DISABILITY TEAM
- DESIGNED SURVEY FOR STUDENTS
- GAVE PRESENTATION TO OVER 70 STUDENTS DURING WELCOME WEEK AS PART OF THE DISABILITY AND DYSLEXIA SERVICES
- GAVE PRESENTATION DURING DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH TO 4 CLASSES
- BUILDING COLLABORATION THROUGH WHATSAPP GROUP
- UPDATED POSTERS FOR AND SPREAD AWARENESS FOR DISLEXIA AWARENESS WEEK