

Contact: Ollie Kasper
Hallam Union
Phone : 0114 2254158
Fax: 01142254251

The HUBs
Paternoster Row
Sheffield
S1 2QQ



Press Release

For Immediate Release

HALLAM STUDENTS PUT COMMUNITY FIRST

Last week Sheffield Hallam students voted to change the structure of their Students Union to ensure a more active approach within the local community. Students voted a resounding 92.67 % in favour of creating a Welfare and Community Officer on the student officer committee. This is the first time that these roles have been reviewed for 7 years and, together with other changes, signal quite a substantial change in priorities for the organisation.

Dani Beckett, Hallam Union President, explained "Students are often associated with many challenges within their community; this role represents a chance for students to be fully represented as partners within the City of Sheffield". The changes made are part of a larger review in preparation for charitable registration in 2010.

The hope is that this role can look to proactively engage with such challenges as student waste, housing, noise and safety. Dan Pine, Equal Opportunities Officer at Hallam Union was very pleased with the result, "this ballot clearly shows that although students accept that challenges exist, they really want to find solutions", he went on to add, "this shows a very positive signal of intent by students, and as a union we will continue to engage with our community partners constructively".

This change will see students compete for the role in a cross campus election around April time with the winner being in post by July 2010. The new role will see Hallam Union taking a proactive approach to representing Sheffield Hallam students within Sheffield and coincides with the creation of a far reaching Community Strategy that the organisation is formulating and hopes to launch mid 2010.