

Chair Manifesto – Mark Farrington

Position: Chair

Candidate: Mark Farrington

Station: 1449AM URB, University of Bath

Who Am I?

I've been involved in Student Radio for the past 4 years, having held several positions in URB including Chair/Station Manager. I have also held chair positions for the Students' Union Media Executive and several Union Council Working Groups. In my time at Uni I've worked in event management with the university conference office and won funding for a complete refurbishment of URB's studios – I will bring the skills these experiences have given me to the chair role.

I've been involved in the SRA as a regional officer for the South West & South Wales for the past year and most recently helping to organise the Spring Conference. The experience of working with the SRA executive has made me increasingly keen to have further involvement in student radio on this national level.

As Chair I would provide a friendly first point of contact both for stations looking for information and for external contacts, as well as trying to bring more stations into the SRA from across Britain. I also aim to increase the profile of the SRA on a national and international level, working more with other organisations in the radio industry and beyond.

What Will I Do?

After the recent difficulties with the chair position, I will re-define the role, ensuring the responsibilities are more clearly defined, and the chair fulfils a more useful function among the executive. I would also like to increase the number of face-to-face meetings of the executive through the year, ensuring that all Executive Members are able to work effectively as a team.

I want to facilitate improved communications within the SRA. In the last year we've seen the SRA Newsfeed ensuring members are kept aware of happenings in the world of student radio. I'd like to see this developed more on a regional level - as regional officer I often found it frustrating trying to contact the stations within the region, fighting with old contact details and bouncing emails. The new members area on the website has gone a long way to improving this, but I feel communications can still be improved.

I'd also like to see more collaborative projects between stations such as the fantastic 'Hearing Aid' and 'Student Radio Chart'. I see development in this area leading to an Administrative officer appointed to look after collaborative programming projects.

In the past 4 years I've seen the SRA improve dramatically in communication, profile and standard of events (not to mention the improved financial situation), as chair I would work hard to ensure this good work can continue as part of a more united SRA executive.