

Dear Members of the UCSA,

By means of this of this statement, I, Fanny Johanna Hoes, would like to announce my candidacy for the function of Committee Affairs Officer for the UCSA Board of 2009-2010.



Even though the academic year is not yet over, I think so far most of you will agree with me that the past one and a half semester have been great for UCU and the UCSA. All sorts of amazing lustrum activities contributed to a special year, and enabled students to be involved in a lot of different challenging events. Obviously, the lustrum year does not last forever. This does not mean, however, that the next year has to be less exciting in any kind of way. It is this moment where, maybe even more than the previous year, the importance of the UCSA members and their committees come in, and therefore, also the importance of the UCSA Board. Consequently, I find enthusiasm to be a crucial characteristic of next year's board, as well as the willingness to make sure that all your ideas are considered and given the opportunity to actually be realized. I feel like I meet these demands, since I am motivated, dedicated, and reliable, and that is the reason why I am running for CAO.

As a member of the board, however, I would not only enthusiastically focus on new ideas. Traditions should be kept, and work of the current board should be continued. An example of this is working on ways to integrate our students' lives more in the world beyond the gates, not only in an academic way. Is it not true that we all feel the need to escape our, even though beloved, campus terrain every once and a while? In order to make this possible, I think it is essential to continue the improvement of the UCSA's external relations. This can lead to, for example, a camping trip in cooperation with the International Erasmus Student Network, or a music festival in cooperation with the Roosevelt Academy and the University College Maastricht, to provide us with the chance to meet other international students. If we want to be a part of life outside our UCU campus, it is essential to actually go outside the gates. Therefore, I am really in favour of also organizing more non academic-related excursions. Another goal I would strive for is the continuing of archiving. This might not seem as a very innovative or exciting aim, but it has been shown that because previous boards have not always been as consistent in this as they could have, similar mistakes were made twice. Archiving is very important in order to further improve the UCSA, also in the future, because it enables the board to work more efficiently. All this requires a great deal of teamwork within the Board. Since previous experience, such as organising a huge volunteer project for mentally disabled people, hosting an international theatre project, and the UCU Festival Team taught me how to be a good team player in various environments, I think I will be a very suitable CAO.

Moreover, being a good CAO, to me, means being able to find a balance between being enthusiastic and being realistic. On the one hand, I find it important to represent the wishes of 'my' committees in the best way possible, making me the person the committees can rely on for constructive feedback and help towards realizing their ideas. This can only happen if one is well informed on, and involved in the plans, and I therefore consider weekly meetings with the chairs to be one of the most important tasks I would pursue as a CAO. On the other hand, representing the board, I think a CAO should have a good overview over what is possible and what is not. This guidance makes the planning of events run much more smoothly, and will hopefully lead to a better end result. One thing I would like to improve next year is the cooperation between the three CAOs. In the upcoming year, without all the lustrum events, there will be time for realizing ambitious ideas, and I think that cooperation of different committees can be really interesting and inspiring in this respect.

Finally, I would like to say that I would be proud to be able to represent you in the board. I sincerely hope that you will vote for me; not only because of my strong desire to become one of the next year's CAOs, but because you think I will be suitable for the job.

Hope to see you all on Thursday!

Yours,
Fanny