

# **Davide Dolce for Russian Convenor**

***Our department,  
your department.***



- Creation of a common database for linguistic and cultural purposes
- Continuation of the Buddy Scheme and Departmental Hoodies

- Strengthening the ties between students and teachers
- More careers events
- A stronger sense of community across all years
- **YOUR ideas to shape YOUR department**

**ТВОИ ИДЕИ,  
ТВОЙ ОТДЕЛЕНИЕ !**

**Student Elections 2021 - 4th and 5th of March**

## **Davide Dolce**

### **Manifesto for Russian Convenor**

My name is Davide, I am a third year student of Russian, French and Arabic with a profound passion for languages and communication. I am running for Convenor because of my fondness for our Russian Department, and because I wish to improve the efficacy of communication between students and staff, with a focus on strengthening the ties between them and introducing a variety of proposals, ranging from linguistic and cultural events to career-oriented opportunities for students at every level. If elected, I will campaign for active and productive discourse between students and staff concerning any problem that might arise within the department. I believe that the Department of Russian should pride itself on an excellent relationship between staff and students, which I intend to maintain and fortify, making sure that the needs of the students I will represent are acknowledged, understood, and dealt with in an effective manner. I am aware of the great difficulties and the toll that this pandemic is taking on our students' mental health, and I will strive to ensure that the department provides all the necessary support to these students. In short, I hope to be able to fulfil the role of Convenor, nurturing the relationship between the student body and teaching staff. These are some concrete proposals that I have for our department:

I intend to promote the creation of a common database for the Russian department, which will be shaped by feedback collected from the students through departmental polls and feedback forms. The idea is to have a common online database for students at all levels with a section for vocabulary and one for cultural topics. The vocabulary section would be a collection of the vocabulary taught at all levels divided by topic and difficulty in an easy-to-access format created through the voluntary contributions of the student body and the teaching staff. This would ideally provide more than the meaning of a single word, with at least one example sentence, particulars of the usage of the word and links to related vocabulary. The cultural section would provide information and useful links on a variety of topics relating to Russian culture, history and society, curated once again through voluntary contributions of the Department of Russian.

I would like to continue the brilliant initiative of our previous Convenor by once again proposing personalised wear for the students of our department. In my view, a poll should take place which would decide whether to purchase personalised hoodies, backpacks, or other items as preferred by the majority of the students in the department. I would also like to continue the successful buddy system introduced last semester.

I intend to promote communication at all levels between Class Reps, teaching staff, and the student body. I also wish to improve communication with other departments within the School of Modern Languages and hopefully organise cultural

interdepartmental events, especially with the schools of French, German and Italian, languages to which Russian has strong cultural ties.

I will liaise with the Careers Centre and the teaching staff to organise career-oriented opportunities relating to Russian language skills, as I believe it is important for students to gain a sense of where their potential careers might lie.

Finally, I want to stress that all my initiatives have the goal of strengthening our sense of community within the department of Russian, across all years. I am aware that it is often difficult for first- and second-year students to reach out for the help they need. I want to be a point of contact for all students, and I will do my best to represent each year group faithfully.

More than anything, I am open to suggestions from students at any level. If you have any, you can message me on Facebook or email me any time at [dd84@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:dd84@st-andrews.ac.uk)