|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | Hannah Slack |
| Region: | Midlands and East |
| Email: | hslack@live.co.uk |
| University: | University of Nottingham |
| RCM Membership Number: | C1428861 |

|  |
| --- |
| Manifesto: *(demonstrate who you are, why you are looking for a seat on the group and what you can offer)* |
| I am currently a third-year student midwife and I have actively engaged and contributed to my university from both a faculty and wider community perspective. I have held multiple positions, using these to improve the student experience and provide welfare support for healthcare students especially.  I feel the skills I have developed through these roles will be transferable, if I was successful in becoming a member of the Student Midwife Forum. Being involved in these, whilst maintaining a high standard of academic work and advancing my midwifery skills in practice has taught me time management and organisation skills. I am a self-motivated, enthusiastic and organised individual who sets high expectations and standards for myself. Prioritising tasks is important, and I will aim to attend all meetings required of the role. Other skills, such as leadership and adaptability will also help facilitate change.  As Course Representative, I readily collected feedback. In meetings, I ensured action points were escalated appropriately and ensured change. Being President of the Nursing and Midwifery Association allowed me to focus on student welfare. Creating activities and a stronger community in the faculty provided a safe space for students to discuss concerns. Advocating for the student voice is important to me and I would love to be able to do this on a larger scale.  Whilst travelling abroad may be currently unavailable, I would like to see more opportunities for students to gain international perspective into midwifery practice. With electives cancelled, I am grateful to have gone on a Norwegian Study Trip last year. I am also one of the students involved in the TOTEMM Project for intercultural mobility. I would endeavour to use the experience gained in the latter to feed into this role should I be successful.  Another opportunity I took advantage of, was being involved in an additional research project. Now a twice-published author, networking when presenting at conferences was a great experience. Promoting undergraduate involvement in research is another aspect I would encourage.  Finally, I am committed to prioritising student’s welfare to improve their midwifery training experience. As student midwives, we are part of an emotional and life-changing family experience, but it is also important we look after ourselves and have safety nets in place for support. Self-care is crucial to prevent burnout and becoming overwhelmed. Personally, I enjoy archery, reading and listening to music in my downtime. Especially in the current situation, this couldn’t be more important. I would be looking to ensure we develop of clear pathway for students to utilise when they are struggling and want to seek help, alongside activities to get involved in for promoting welfare. I would also like to collect and track difficulties or issues that arise, to allow for escalation on a national level when patterns form.  I think it’s important to collaborate and promote shared learning across all student midwives. I feel I am a compassionate, friendly and approachable individual ideally suited for this role, which would allow me to support midwifery students going forward. |
| **500 words total (No more than 500 words)** |