

# Jeffrey Rubel

## FOR GU FACULTY LIAISON OFFICER

The power of the GU and Cambridge comes from the force of the collective. The University is run by many different systems—colleges, departments, etc.—but bringing these groups together can further a greater good.

That's why I'm running for Faculty Liaison Officer. I am excited to work closely with faculties across the University to address the issues on their mind and use their close ties to professors and students to further University-wide initiatives and create a stronger graduate community. In this role, I will seek to:

- Bring together faculty reps to identify common issues and develop shared solutions
- Create open dialogue across departments
- Further the mission of the Graduate Union through cooperation with departments

Beyond specific causes and issues that arise through conversations with faculty representatives, the causes I will personally champion include:

- Building opportunities for collaborative governance between students and faculty
- Furthering interdepartmental and interdisciplinary cooperation, including developing events to promote collaboration across disciplines
- Creating open channels of communication for students to voice comments or feedback about their academic experience (both anonymously and through forums)

To this role, I'd bring extensive management and higher education governance experience. The skills I can bring to this role include:

- Experience leading campus-wide committees
- Experience launching campus-wide campaigns/initiatives
- Understanding of how Universities function and how to make change on a campus
- Running projects for educational institutions
- A passion for higher education

As an undergraduate at Williams College (USA), I served as the student chair on the college's leading academic policy committee, a group of students and faculty overseeing the curriculum for 2,000 undergraduates. I worked closely with professors and students from across the institution to introduce new curricular initiatives (e.g., a pass-fail option), launch academic pilot programs (e.g., writing seminars), and manage all the College's course offerings. I often met with the faculty and student governing bodies to gather input and share program updates. Through this committee, I promoted cooperation and conversation amongst diverse stakeholders.

As an undergraduate, I also launched independent initiatives to drive change at my College. I created an academic engagement program that used hashtags, funny posters, and email campaigns to change student behavior (it was called "Your 32" for the 32 course credits required for graduation). The experience of launching this program, without administrative support, taught me how to create independent, meaningful change on a campus. Additionally, I have developed and led many academic programs. I've worked with local high schools to create science immersion days, and I've developed and taught a high school environmental science coach. Further, I'm coming to Cambridge after two years in management consulting, where I led a case team of seven consultants working for a tech literacy non-profit. I look forward to bringing my skills and experience to my work as Faculty Liaison Officer. I am excited to work with Faculty Reps to find common ground and further collective interest—all to make Cambridge a better place for graduate students.

