

President LUSA 2027 Blurb

My name is Darius J Harris, and I am running for Student President because I care about making our student life a little easier, fairer and a lot more affordable. Our time at Lincoln University should be one of the best times of our lives as we study amongst this beautiful Campus. But, for many of us, it continues to be overshadowed by money worries, rising rents, expensive grocery shopping that always increases. I want LUSA to be that student association that continues to advocate for us all.

Cost of Living Advocacy

No student should have to choose between paying the rent and eating. I want to make sure that LUSA has a friendly, yet strong and persistent voice within the University and the community, by pushing for limiting Rent increases, cheaper fares on Buses, more affordable meal options in the cafes and clear transparency on how our student fees can be further directed to minimise these costs.

Flat Hunting Support

Finding a safe, decent, and affordable flat shouldn't feel like a second job on top of your studying. I'd love to help set up a LUSA flat-hunting hub with trusted landlord listings, a flatmate-matching tool for students looking to share, and an easy-to-follow "know your rights" guide covering Tenancy Bonds etc and what to do if things go wrong. No one should get stuck in a bad Tenancy or lose your Bond just because you didn't know any better.

Food Giveaways

From working here on Campus, at times, good food can go to waste while students are skipping meals to save money, which doesn't sit right with me. I want to start a regular leftover food giveaway, by working with catering services and LUSA to redirect surplus food to students who need it. No waste, no shame, no questions asked. Food security and a hungry belly should never get in the way of our studies.

Budgeting Help

Managing money at university is a skill most of us are never actually taught. I want to bring in free, practical budgeting workshops and put together a student-friendly

budgeting toolkit to help make sense of rent, monthly bills, and everyday spending so those financial stresses take up less space in our heads. We are here to study, not to stress about cashflow!

International Student Support

Moving to a new country for university study is massive, and that shouldn't mean facing everything alone. International students deal with extra costs and extra hurdles, such as visa complexities, employment contracts, unfamiliar rental agreements. I want to advocate for clearer, more accessible visa and work-rights guidance and make sure international voices are genuinely heard and represented at every level of LUSA.

Why This Matters

I'm not about empty promises, and LUSA should continue to work hard for the students who need advocacy. The cost-of-living crisis affects us all in one way or another, and I truly believe LUSA can deliver more.

Thank you for reading and I would be grateful for your vote!