Amélia Tortell Milhano

Manifesto for international rep

Why do I want to be international rep?

Hiya, I'm Amélia, a first year Material Scientist here at Anne's and I'd like to be your international rep!

I'm half portuguese and half kiwi and currently live in Geneva (after 10 years of sporadically moving around Europe). Despite having moved country so much, I was still absolutely terrified of leaving my family and home 1000s of km behind to move to Oxford. However, St. Anne's gave me the best welcome I could ask for and, as cheesy as it sounds, is my home away from home!

I know how difficult it is to have to pack your life into a suitcase, lug it across the world to a country where they speak a different language, eat different foods and even laugh at different things! And so, I want to be able to provide the same welcome I got to incoming students next year, and continue to support those already settled.

Why me?

- I'm super organised and like getting involved in my community
- I'm friendly and approachable (I hope!!)
- I went to international schools and have lived in 'foreign' countries most my life so know what its like to be an 'international student'
- Having been a peer supporter at high school and as a current student ambassador, I have training on how to deal with sensitive/difficult issues.

Ideas!

- Work with welfare to address issues such as homesickness, culture shocks and loneliness.
- Helping freshers with setting up bank accounts (literally took me until end of feb to get one), getting uk sims (ditto), getting gowns and sub fusc, advice on transport into Oxford...
- Making sure students have access to international storage.
- Support for EU students in applying to the settlement scheme.
- Cultural exchange events: food, films, books, etc. from different countries.
- Lots of social events so international students can get to know each other both in college and at other colleges.
  - crew dates
  - film nights
  - picnics
  - + lots more!!