

Maastricht, 07.05.2025

Application for Universalis Chair of the Social Board

Dear Universalis Board Members,

I have always enjoyed organizing events, bringing people together, and creating experiences where everyone feels excited, included, and welcomed. That is precisely why I am applying to become your next Social Chair. I want to continue making student life at UCM vibrant, inclusive, and memorable.

Currently, I am in my first year at University College Maastricht, studying Social Sciences, particularly Business/Economics and Psychology. As Chair of the UCM Sports Committee, I have successfully organized social activities such as go-karting and paintball. I have worked closely with a team, delegating tasks effectively. Through this experience, I have not only strengthened my skills in planning and communication but also gained a clear understanding of how the committees within Universalis operate and collaborate. I consider this experience essential for stepping into a board role.

Through my role as chair of the Sports Committee and also in my life at UCM so far, I noticed quickly how inclusive and open-minded the other students at UCM are. This is something I value a lot. Friends and people close to me often describe me as a social and approachable person, someone who naturally encourages others to participate and feel included. I want to bring the same energy to my role on the Social Board, using it to represent and strengthen the welcoming spirit that makes UCM so special.

My previous role as Student Council President at my high school further prepared me for the Social Chair position. In that role, I represented students, organized large-scale events, and facilitated communication between students and teaching staff. Additionally, organizing and moderating an art exhibition provided me with valuable experience in event coordination, public speaking, and creativity - skills I will apply when planning events at UCM.

Given recent changes to Dutch university advertising regulations, strong and authentic social media communication has become more important than ever. Especially in reaching prospective international students. While I will not personally produce the video content, I plan to work closely with the new Marketing position, actively supporting and request engaging media that reflects the true spirit of UCM. With my background in acting and video production, I can contribute creative ideas and ensure we showcase what UCM is best at: being a socially inclusive and international academic community. I believe this is essential if we want to continue attracting an international student body at UCM.

As Social Chair, I aim to bring in new initiatives; one suggestion I have is a TED-style event titled "UCM Talks." Together with the Academic Board I want to create inspiring evenings where students share personal stories, unique experiences, or creative ideas, further enriching our social safe space at UCM. The talks are on individual topics with no limits set and people could practice their presentation and public-speaking skills, while others can learn from them. Topics could be "Travelling in Europe – cheap travel in the summer break" or "How to get an internship – my personal tips and tricks" or even more creative and fun.

I am also thinking about reforming the election of the Universalis-Positions, so more people are able to participate in the election, not only the ones attending the General Assembly.

I am very enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute my ideas and dedication to Universalis. Thank you very much for considering my application.

Kind regards,



Ida Gloede