

Rosie Fean

(She/Her)

What's your role?

Head of Digital Engagement and Change

When did you join the university?

March 2013

What's a fun fact about you?

I started a chant at V97. My pal forgot her teabags and the rest of us didn't drink tea so we spent the first evening shouting "does anybody have any tea?" by our tent. By the Sunday it was being chanted by the crowd!

If you could have dinner with three LGBTQ+ icons, who would they be any why?

Freddie Mercury. I'm a huge Queen fan and would love to hear his stories.

Alan Turing. I'd get to meet the father of modern computing and he could learn how far LGBTQ+ rights have moved on since his lifetime.

Lynks. I love Lynks' lyrics and can't wait for their new album. I would love to learn more about them, and I imagine the conversation between my 3 dinner party companions would be very interesting.

What's your favourite thing about being LGBTQ+?

Being queer has so easily become another part of who I am. So my favourite thing is that I now recognise and celebrate all aspects of me.

What's your coming out story?

I'm not sure I have one! If dating comes up in conversation then I may mention whoever I'm dating at the time, their gender isn't important to me or to my family and friends. What matters is our connection and how we feel about each other.

Why is being out at work important to you?



Bringing your whole self to work is really important. I am out at work for myself and for others who feel less comfortable or fear they won't be accepted if they bring their whole selves into our workplace.

What would you say to staff who may be facing difficulties because of being LGBTQ+ or having difficulties "coming out" at work?

Find your people. There are so many people in the university who will support you and raise you up. You might find them in your team, or in the LGBTQ+ Staff Community, or in other groups and networks. When I've been through hard times I have always been amazed at the kindness I've been shown by colleagues.

What would you like to see other colleagues doing to help make the university a better place to be LGBTQ+?

I think it's important that we all educate ourselves about experiences that different people have, rather than expecting marginalised groups to educate us. So come along to events, read books or listen to podcasts about different groups and find out how you can support your LGBTQ+ colleagues.