

# Mgr. VĚRA KOUKALOVÁ

4 - 7 November 2024 | ELECTIONS FOR  
ACADEMIC SENATE OF FHS

Dearest students,

I am [Věrka Koukalová](#) and I would like to represent you in the AS FHS UK. For that I need your votes and you need to know why you should give them to me. Let's do it:



I have studied at several faculties of Charles University (FF, FSV, FHS), but I consider FHS as my real Alma Mater. It has always been close to me because of its modern way of teaching, its emphasis on contemporary topics and the involvement of the student community. I am currently studying for my **Ph.D. in Semiotics and Philosophy of Language** at FHS, focusing on narratology. Starting in the Winter 2024 semester, I am teaching Transmedia Narratology as well.

At FHS I lead the **PhD club** (that welcomes international students as well) and I participated in the 30th anniversary celebration as a **moderator of the Alumni debate**. I won't just run away from the Senate – I will be studying at FHS for at least 2 more years and, if I am lucky, I will stay at the faculty permanently.

**In the PhD club I see the problems that foreign language students face at our faculty and I see it as one of my duties as a senator to make sure that foreign students do not feel excluded and do not have to overcome language barriers, etc.**



For me, FHS is not just a faculty where I could get my diploma and a chance to get my PhD, but above all a **community of diverse people with a huge potential and a desire to change the world**. Students leave FHS where they are needed most – in science, in nonprofits, in social services, and in other areas where they are changing our society for the better.

My path to FHS was not a straightforward one; I only started my Master's degree in Semiotics with two young children after almost 10 years of building a career. In my work outside of academia, I've long been involved in building communities and brands, and I've helped build these at several universities, including UK. At Charles University, for example, I ran a **support group for student parents**, helping dozens of parents not to give up on their studies and get much-needed support. During my studies, I received support from my department, but I lacked the **faculty-wide support**.



Time has moved on and as a PhD student I perceive the lack of facilities from a different angle. Doctoral work is a lonely business, so I started the **FHS Ph. Club**, which has already held its first meeting on Ph.D. internships and Erasmus. And because one of my main positive attributes is **building community and helping others grow**, I created a space where you can listen to talks that relate to your studies, meet other Ph.D. students, or find a partner or partner to do research with.

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**So don't forget: from 4 to 7 November 2024 you can vote for your student representatives to the Academic Senate of FHS UK [electronically](#).**



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