Hi, I'm Smridhi Bhakri (but most people know me as Ray). If you've attended university events, recently studied IT at Fed, or just followed Fed Uni's social media, chances are you've seen me around. Until recently, I hadn't realised just how visible I'd become-- something that only hit me last week when three different people approached me to say, "You're everywhere!". Friends keep tagging me in university posts, mutuals send screenshots from the university website, and I seem to pop up at almost every volunteer event.

At first, I was surprised. But then I realised: visibility matters. I used to think I was just "involved." Now I see that visibility can be a form of leadership, and I want to use that for something meaningful. It's what inspired me to apply for the roles of ***International Student Representative*** and ***Ballarat and Surrounds Area Representative.*** Representation begins with being seen, and I want to make sure every student feels visible, heard, and supported.

I care deeply about building an inclusive and welcoming community, and I try to actively contribute to that goal. Rise Crew volunteering? I'm there. Advocating for International students in the Student Inclusivity Network? Always! Providing student perspective for the IISS learning and teaching quality committee? Sign me up!

My goal is simple: to continue growing within this campus that has already given me so much, while giving back in ways that count. I hold the responsibility of being a student voice in very high regards and believe in the ripple effect small actions can have on lasting change. So really, thank you for considering me to represent your voice.

Warm regards,
Smridhi (Ray) Bhakri