

STUDENTS' UNION
ELECTIONS
2022

THIS BOOK IS FULL OF
ideas • manifestos • views • candidates

LEADERS

uea.su/elections



why?

The SU is a democratic organisation which changes every year. We are led by our members, who guide everything from our bars through to the elected representatives that sit on our Trustee Board (this being the panel that looks after the charity from a financial and legal perspective).

Among the candidates featured in this booklet are the students who will lead the SU next year both as full and part-time officers. In their roles they will help to determine what kind of events, campaigns, opportunities and initiatives will be available to you and your friends during your time at UEA.

The SU exists to make your student experience unforgettable by providing the space and opportunities for you to grow both individually and professionally in your time here – while having fun in the process! If you have an opinion on the SU or on your university experience so far, your vote is the best tool you have to take those views and actually get something done about it.

how?

Voting is simple and you can even do it from your phone!

Here at the SU we use a voting method called Single Transferable Voting. This means that when you vote in SU elections, you'll be asked to write a number beside each candidate, ranking them by order of preference with "1" being your first choice. You don't have to number all of the candidates, but doing so means that even if your first choice doesn't get elected, you'll still have had a say in the person who does. This system gives voters more choice and more decision-making power, prevents more votes from being 'wasted' and makes it easier to determine a winner.

re-open nominations

All elections have Re-Open Nominations listed as a candidate. If you don't like any of the candidates, you can select this option - or you can rank it behind choices you do like, creating a vote which essentially means 'I like Candidate A and Candidate B but would rather Re-Open Nominations than elect any of the other remaining candidates.' If enough people vote for Re-Open Nominations, then the entire process for that election starts again, and new candidates are able to nominate themselves to run for the position.

- 1 Candidate A
- 2 Candidate B
- Candidate C
- 3 Re-Open Nominations

self-definitions and voting

Voting for purple roles is only open to students who self-define into the appropriate categories, for example only LGBTQ+ students can vote for the LGBTQ+ officers. You can update your self-definitions at uea.su/profile.

**voting opens 10am Monday 21st Feb,
closes 10am Thursday 24th of Feb**

**vote at [uea.su/
elections](http://uea.su/elections).**

full-time officers

Activities and Opportunities

Sports. Societies. Opportunities.

Makes sure clubs and societies help students develop and feel happy and healthy.

Works with students to ensure that clubs and societies are what students want.

Ensures that University sports and co-curricular activities are well supported.

Campaigns and Democracy

Democracy. Campaigns. Action.

Campaigns on big issues that affect students.

Ensures that students make the big decisions within the SU.

Oversees the SU's commercial activity, such as the LCR.

Postgraduate Officer

Courses. Libraries. Learning.

Helps students run the University in partnership, shaping how it works.

Represents students to the University, ensuring their education meets their expectations.

Works with reps to give students a say in how their courses are run.

Stands up and speaks up for postgraduate students on behalf of their education.

Undergraduate Education

Courses. Libraries. Learning.

Helps students run the University in partnership, shaping how it works.

Represents students to the University, ensuring their education meets their expectations.

Works with reps to give students a say in how their courses are run.

Stands up and speaks up for undergraduate students on behalf of their education.

Welfare, Community & Diversity

Health. Support. Happiness.

Makes accommodation better so students enjoy living in Norwich.

Listens to students' concerns so that issues can be identified and resolved.

Campaigns on issues such as mental health and equality to help students build a happy, inclusive community.

part-time officers

Environment

Liaise with the University over internal environmental matters.

Provide a link between relevant societies and the Student Officer Committee. Improve awareness of environmental issues and be responsible for relevant campaigns. Work on improving internal facilities.

Ethical Issues

Liaise with the University over internal ethical matters.

Provide a link between relevant societies and the Student Officer Committee. Improve awareness of ethical issues and be responsible for relevant Campaigns. Work on maintaining and enhancing the ethical status of the SU and the University.

International (eu)

Represent the interests of international students and be their voice on the issues they face as international students at university. Engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for international students on the issues they face as international students at university. Liaise with the members of the relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups.

International (non-eu)

Represent the interests of international students and be their voice on the issues they face as international students at university. Engage with the university and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for international students on the issues they face as international students at university. Liaise with the members of the relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups.

LGBTQ+ (open place)

Represent the interests of LGBTQ+ students and be their voice on the issues they face as LGBTQ+ students at university. Engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for LGBTQ+ students on the issues they face as LGBTQ+ students at university. Liaise with the members of relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups.

Students with Disabilities Officer (open place)

Be one of three officers that represents the interests of students with disabilities and be their voice on the issues they face as students with disabilities at university; engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for students with disabilities on the issues they face as students with disabilities at university. Liaise with the members of the relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups; and be an observer to the NUS Disabled Students Conference.

Black Students' Officer

Represent the interests of black students and be their voice on the issues they face as black students at university, engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve, improvements for black students on the issues they face as black students at university; liaise with the members of relevant clubs, societies, or peer support groups; and be the Union's delegate to the NUS Black Students' Conference.

Non-Portfolio

Fullfil all the duties as outlined in their manifesto, subject to SU policy and the strategic plan. Not undertake any duty that infringes upon or overlaps with the job descriptions of other officers of the Student Officer Committee. Four positions available - two of which are reserved for women and non-binary students.

NUS Delegate

NUS Delegate represents uea(su) at a national level at the National Union of Students (NUS) Conferences.

Women's Officer

Represent the interests of women students and be their voice on the issues they face as women studying at university. Engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for women studying at university on the issues they face at university. Liaise with the members of the relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups.

People of Colour (open place)

Represent the interests of BAME students and be their voice on the issues they face as BAME students at university. Engage with the University and other relevant organisations to achieve improvements for BAME students at university on the issues they face at university. Liaise with the members of the relevant clubs, societies or peer support groups.



**JAN
17**

MON, 17 JAN
Nominations
open (at 10am).

THURS, 10 FEB
Nominations
close (at 10am).

**FEB
10**



STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS 2022



**FEB
21**

MON, 21 FEB
Voting opens
(at 10am).

THURS, 24 FEB
Voting closes
(at 10am).

**FEB
24**



**VOTE ONLINE
NOW!**

uea.su/elections

STUDENTS' UNION
ELECTIONS
2022



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OFFICERS

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remember to vote at uea.su/elections

Evie Drennan - Make your voice heard

Hello everyone! I'm Evie, a third year Education student and am putting myself forward to be your Activities and Opportunities Officer for 2022/23! I would love the chance to assist in the running of the SU and make your voices heard.

If I am elected by you lovely lot, here are some things I would like to start up within the SU:

- Celebrate the individuals at university that go above and beyond - have a monthly nomination service where you can put forward a friend, mentor, or teammate you think deserves recognition (a suitable prize can be found I'm sure). Let's continue to positively contribute to UEA and honour those who do better for it.
- Ensure the voices of all clubs are heard within the UEA Sport community, specifically those who don't compete in BUCS and with less members. These can be easily overlooked but still make up part of the 58 sports clubs UEA offers its students.
- Start up a regular drop-in session for society presidents to better support them throughout the year.
- Following in the footsteps of A-List and Damn Good, allow alumni and previous sports club members to attend future sports night's - especially for recent years as we've missed so many!
- Encourage the UEA community to support sports clubs' home matches and attend events held within the university. As someone who has played home games for UEA, the difference it makes to the players is huge (and watching live sport is fab). This can also be echoed with the variety of events such as those put on by the Music, Dance, and Drama societies.
- Reinstate the nap nook! If you haven't felt the need for a nap in the library then I envy you.
- Carry on the Derby Day win - make 2022/23 ANOTHER year Essex won't forget.
- Finally, #Bringbackpimpmybarrow.

So, why should you vote for me? Below are a few things I've done in the past year that I think help make me suitable for the role.

- This year I have been lucky enough to oversee the water polo club as president and have loved every second of it. After being first year rep and women's captain, I don't think I'm too shabby at listening or organising. Covid definitely hit us hard with a year and a half out the pool, but I'm glad to say we're now in a much better place!
- I drafted a message for the UEA sports presidents to send to all nightclubs in Norwich, calling them out on changes needed relating to the spiking increase last year. Ensuring students safety is something that shouldn't even have to be discussed.

Thanks so much for reading, if you want to know more about me or have any questions on what I stand for then please feel free to drop me a message:) Whatever you want, let's make it happen.

Keep your eyes peeled for some more fun-filled-manifesto-madness coming your way. Thanks again and stay safe!

Oliver Jones - Oliver for Opportunities!

Hi friends! I'm Oliver and I'd really like to be your activities and opportunities officer next year. Ever since I started uni I've been super involved in societies, becoming a president in my second year and holding various other committee positions during my three years here. I also work with Livewire, part of the media collective, who I would be responsible for. I genuinely believe that doing clubs and societies is the absolute best way to have an amazing uni experience and meet some fantastic friends, as well as hopefully gaining some skills to take into the working world when you're done here.

There's a whole bunch of things to do with activities at UEA that I want to improve on, but here are my main three priorities:

- Foster more collaboration between sports clubs and societies.
- Ensuring that funds are allocated in a fair way that considers the clubs and societies that are sometimes forgotten.
- Make known the employability options students have available to them and create new ones.

To expand slightly – sometimes I feel like societies and sports clubs are two completely separate areas, and to create some more opportunities for them to work together would help elevate all of them to be able to put on much more impressive events and create a more tight-knit community here. Whilst obviously they have different needs, fostering links between the two could make for some awesome content this year. Alongside this, a major complaint I run into a lot is that smaller societies and sports clubs that don't do traditional sport are sometimes forgotten when it comes to funding and other help from the SU, and I'd love to spend a year giving them a helping hand! Lastly, most students I know (including myself!) don't really make the best use of all the employability advice we have at UEA, and I want to help remind societies that the work they do, especially as committee members, is extremely valuable when securing that graduate job out of uni. It shows drive, experience, and to make sure you are exploiting that is key.

And that's just the start! I'd love to look through the committee training program and see if it can be streamlined at all, and possibly create some events and support for all committee members. So far here at UEA I've helped create my own alumni system for my society and worked with the SU as a part-time officer, and I hope to bring that experience and passion into this job, too. Having worked with the SU previously, I'm hoping to get straight down to business when I begin so that I can really make the most of my time here. I'm forever grateful that my society gave me friends and helped steer my carer direction, and I want to make sure that all students can have that sort of life-changing experience here.

Omar Murad

this candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

Tom Poole – Don't Be a Fool, Vote Poole

Vote for Tom Poole for Activity and Opportunities Officer.

In my 3 years at UEA, creating top memories as a member of both clubs and societies, I am now running to be your Activity and Opportunities Officer. In my time at UEA, I've held positions such as Vice President and President of Friends of Medicine Sans Frontiere, Gameday Manager of the UEA Pirates American football team and finally Colney Lane Sports Exec, representing and lobbying for all the sports clubs found down at the Colney fortress.

Under my post as your Activities and Opportunities Officer, I plan to make the following changes:

- Make information about the running of your clubs more accessible:

This would mean that students would have the means to understand where their money goes, removing the asymmetric nature of information between the student body and UEA+sport.

- Bring back live sports:

I've missed having live sports in the bar, haven't you? I would work with venues in order to work out a financially viable way to bring back live sports matches to the bar, through commercial deals with Sky Sports and BT sport. Whether its the football, rugby or the latest big boxing fight, we can return to enjoying a snakebite with sport.

- Put a greater spotlight on Societies:

Bringing your societies to the fore front of the SU through increased promotion through SU social media platforms, such as for events and fundraisers, allowing societies to flourish.

- Generate alternative methods of funding for student clubs and societies:

Just because there isn't enough money in the system, why should your clubs and societies suffer? I plan to create a new executive position that would work to promote your clubs and societies to businesses in order to gain sponsorships and brand deals, bringing in more income for your clubs and societies.

- Bring back large-scale events:

University wide inclusive events are often the highlight of people's university experience; therefore, I plan to bring back large-scale events through exploring external venues that allow for the health and safety clearance necessary in order for these to return.

- Strengthen the relationship between the commercial and charity side of the SU:

The SU is made up of two arms, the commercial side and the charity side. In order to run all the events that we students love, it is key that the commercial side is operating to the best of its ability. Therefore, I will run more themed nights in order to bring in more revenue for the SU. These include club and society events, in addition to events that bring attention to your talents.

Whether this is student gigs, open mic nights or bring Loft karaoke to blue bar, I will be putting the spotlight back on YOU!

Lucas Liorancas – Live, Laugh, Lucas!

Hello, my name is Lucas and I am a third-year Geography student. I have moved all around the university, working in areas from the shop, to being club president. UEA has been my home for nearly 3 years now and during this time I have supported change and action in both clubs and societies. I would love to be able to do this for you full-time.

LIVE LAUGH LUCAS

- Insta: [livelaugh.lucas](https://www.instagram.com/livelaugh.lucas)
- Email: su.livelaughlucus@gmail.com

What will I do for you?

Supporting Communities

- I will establish more regular meetings for society Presidents to create a supportive environment to share ideas
- I want to give back the power to sport committees to make decisions on behalf of their club.

Transparency

- Open communication from uea(su), UEA sport, and committees about how membership income is spent and where funding comes from.
- Create a structure for effectively dealing with behaviour that goes against the code of conduct.

Equal access to opportunities

- Clubs and societies should be accessible to everyone who wants to participate!
- Campaign for a society and sport hardship fund to support participation in activities for those who can't usually afford it
- Identify and advertise funding sources outside of the SU.
- Improve the website so events and activities are easier to find so you can get involved, and information is given in a more accessible format
- More inclusive and representative events. Removing strobe lights from the LCR and more!

Your SU, your way

- Listening to you, providing the nights out (and days out) you'd like to see
- Introduce an open door policy – I will always be available to talk to
- Create space for anonymous ideas and complaints. Regardless of whether you're comfortable speaking to the SU directly or not, your thoughts are valid.

Live, Laugh, Lucas.

Patrycja Poplawska - #POWER2YOU

Hi! I'm Patrycja. You may recognise me as your current Women's+ Officer, Societies Exec, committee member or any other position I currently hold... I guarantee that SU staff had a giggle when they saw my name on the ballot because they absolutely have not been able to get rid of me for the past two years.

Yet, here I am running to be your Campaigns & Democracy Officer, seeking to hand over **#power2you**. With me you will see...

Change

- I will work with the Officers in lobbying the university to adequately fund your experience as student and staff. Be it your education, safety on campus or the now University owned outlets, I want to ensure that your money is streamlined back into improving your experience, and that you know where your tuition fees are going.
- I will create an environment which welcomes student activism, by helping students create societies or grassroots movements on matters that are important to them.
- I will work with the Activities & Opportunities Officer to investigate why people don't join Clubs and Societies, how this varies between different demographics and how we can improve the relationship between societies and the SU.

Support

- I will invite an array of speakers and organisers to UEA to host workshops on how to kickstart your activism on current topics such as environmentalism, queer liberation or international affairs. Acorn, Not On My Campus UK, National Union of Students, Article 26 and so much more.
- I will create a Campaigns Directory on the website with frequently updates information on campaigns emerging on and off campus. This will take an intersectional approach, and students who want to take action on issues that are ongoing abroad will be encouraged and supported.
- I will support the new Part Time Officer team in achieving their manifesto aims and Student Trustees in getting as much as they can from their role. As someone who has been both - a PTO and a trustee - I know that these can be terrifying and confusing. Student representation is important in ensuring the Union is functional.

Accountability

- I will bring Officers out of the office and down to you, with regular Officer stalls and open meetings at which you can ask questions, suggest your ideas or just have a chat.
- I will provide you with the opportunity to hold the Vice-Chancellor, UEA+Sport and senior staff to account. You have the right to ask for answers, and I will ensure that they are given to you.
- Keeping you updated with post-Council 'Union Updates' which will be short and digestible videos that explain the motions put forward and what your Officers have been up to (so you don't have to look through pages of minutes!)

Since my first year, I have heard dozens of people express their distrust, disappointment and anger with the Union. **I want to change that and prove that we are not a 'big bad SU' by working with and empowering every single one of you.**

Serene Shibli

#Don'tBeMeanVoteForSerene!.. for Campaigns & Democracy Officer!

Hi! I'm a 3rd year Politics student, [She/They], and I'm running to be your next Campaigns&Democracy Officer. I've been involved in SU democracy for three years, consistently campaigning for advancements of students' interests.

Experience:

While at UEA I have held many elected positions relating to SU democracy/governance

- Democratic Procedures Committee Chair: Focused on upholding democratic policy.
- Union-Council Deputy-Chair: Co-running our primary democratic forum, Union-Council.
- Student Officer Trustee: Overseeing Union management.
- Democracy Review Working Group member: enacting the Democracy Review recommendations.

As your next C&D Officer I would enact changes improving SU transparency and accountability, building on my current work and experience, ensuring student voices are heard throughout your organisation!

As POC Student Officer, (2020-2022) I've worked on:

- Vice-Chancellor's Anti-Racism Taskforce.
- History/PPL Schools' Decolonising working groups.
- Reasonable adjustments working group: advocating academic protections for students with disabilities.
- UEA Decolonise campaign lead.

Gaining Real-life experience protesting and lobbying; making me best placed to represent your needs in the SU and with the University.

As a member of UEA's community, I've taken on roles in societies such as:

- History and Palestinian Society President.
- Latin Dance (Salsa) and Politics Society Treasurer.
- Union-Rep for numerous societies over the last three years.

In these positions I have worked in teams, managed projects and am used to listening and prioritising the needs of society members, skills needed in your next C&D Officer.

Goals & Aims:

Democracy Review: Student voices need to be heard. The Democracy Review aimed at ensuring the SU is accessible and able to support all students is long overdue for completion!

Accountability & Communication: SU communication on what the organisation is doing must improve!

- Bring back regular, accessible, Officer updates, including, publicising Officer Union-Council updates, because you should know what is happening in your SU!

Mental Health: I believe the University must acknowledge the long-term implications of COVID as a cultural trauma, and work preemptively to support students and student mental health.

Renting: Rent is increasing; safe, student homes and non-exploitative renting practises are vital. I would work with:

- Local renting charities to improve student renter's rights nationally.
- Student advice services, advocating for more advice and support, especially what to do if things go wrong. **(Continued.)**

(Continued.)

Never-Okay: The concerning increase in incidents in the LCR are never okay! To start I would:

- raise awareness by Incentivising and making more widely accessible consent training for students.
- Work with local bus, taxi companies, and clubs to ensure a safe night out across Norwich.

Decolonise: Continuing the work towards Anti-Racism and making sure PoC student voices are heard, I would:

- Support and expand the BAME Ambassador Scheme.
- Reaching out to STEM, ensuring ongoing student decolonial movements are supported, alongside those in Hum.

Environment/Sustainability: To really impact UEA's Carbon Foot-print I would:

- Continue lobbying for a better University Ethical Investment Policy and bring back the SU Ethical Spending Policy, making sure your tuition-fees are spent on a better future.

Lastly, this is your Student Union; I pledge to support your campaigns, making sure student voices are heard, and needs are met!

...Also! Bring back Pimp-my-Barrow!

Chaitali Mandal - Helping you make your ideas happen!

I am Chaitali Mandal, international student ambassador - India. You might have already interacted with me previously as I stood by you during pre-sessional mixers and in class. As an international PG student myself, I understand the intimidating challenges with regards to finding accommodation and travel options, understanding course modules and even communicating with advisors or fellow students.

I wish to improve your socials with tailor-made events ranging from career networks to national and cultural events;

Facilitate more interaction with advisors to help understand your scope of study or coursework and lobby for a better feedback scheme on the scope of improvement or in situations where you feel that you have been awarded unjustified low grades;

Emphasize on better coursework reviews to prevent learning from becoming daunting ;

Lobby for small rewards to help you achieve your big picture!

Having worked with brands such as Tinder and Viral fission as a student ambassador gives me an edge to understand your needs better even if you are an introvert or hesitant. I am sure to be able to provide you with a safe space for your views and offer you unbiased solutions and answers to queries that I did not receive.

In your one year at the UEA, I want to help you make the most of it in every way possible and will be happy to take up your suggestions all year round to fit in every scope of improvement be it to enhance your learning experience or socials.

Elise Page – Vote Elise for Accessibility, Liberation, Decolonisation

Hi! I'm Elise, pronouns they/them, and I'm running to be YOUR Postgraduate officer.

I'm a 24-year-old PhD candidate in American Studies, and an associate tutor in the Institute of Interdisciplinary Humanities. I've been at UEA since 2018, and have family connections to UEA; **I'm committed to this place.**

I'm disabled, queer, and Jewish; this means I have an insider view on issues of ability, sexuality and gender, and religion, but I also understand my limitations and privilege. **I am committed to promoting a compassionate, fair, and liberatory culture on campus; fighting climate change; and decolonising the university.** Our diversity is our strength, and true participation for all is the key to success.

I have volunteered for committee positions consistently throughout my university experience – I can't seem to stay away from student democracy.

During my undergraduate degree at Oxford, I was on the **founding committee of Class Act, a campaign supporting students from working class, low income, first generation, and state comprehensive school backgrounds**, as well as care leavers and estranged students.

I care about peoples' material conditions and how it affects their university experience.

Everyone has their own unique situations and can use help sometimes, and this is something I'm going to carry forward into this role if I'm elected.

I've also been involved in political actions both at UEA and elsewhere. At undergrad, I supported a Bangladeshi Muslim friend in his pro-human rights campaigns and I seconded a motion in support of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. I am also a pro-Palestine activist.

I'm the **invisible disabilities officer for UEA Labour**, a role I take pride in as a neurodivergent person with several mental health and neurological conditions.

My proudest project at UEA has been my involvement with **Decolonise UEA and the UEA Divestment Coalition**. Both have involved **building connections, facilitating space for oppressed people in the university, and taking part in protest campaigns.**

Pledges

- **Safeguard postgraduate and mature student spaces on campus.** This includes social spaces such as the bar, and working spaces like offices – while also finding space for commuters and a nap nook/quiet room.
- **Accessible and well-publicised financial guidance.** Students should know all about what the university can offer but also offering advice on non-university forms of assistance. End the stigma, make it more visible, make it easier to apply.
- **Support for the University and Colleges Union.** Many of us are University staff, and we're all affected by working conditions. I will work with PGRs, PGTs, and the UG officer to find how we can all stand together and make things as positive and co-ordinated as they can be. Together we are powerful.
- **Decolonise, decarbonise, and divest.** I will work to decolonise our university and make our financial investments more ethical.

I would be honoured if you'd vote for me, so that I can fight for you and all the things you need to **achieve your full potential, both academically and personally.**

Jewel Ike-Obioha - Giving you a voice

My name is Jewel Ike-Obioha. I am a PGT student in the school of Philosophy, Politics, Language and Communications (PPL). I am vying for the position of PG Education Officer because I am passionate about being a voice for the PG students. Most people from far and wide come to the University of East Anglia for the culture and to gain the schooling experience. The PG students deserve the opportunity to be heard and create meaningful experiences while in school. I believe that I am capable of being that voice.

For the past couple of months, I have observed and also been an active part of the PG Assembly and Committee serving as the Chairperson. During these times, I have come to the realisation that some students don't understand how they can be a part of the culture and benefit from the SU body as a whole. I believe that with the help of the students and the union, we can bridge the gap that exist between the PG community and other aspects of the school's culture and history thereby getting more PG students engaged and active on and off campus. With the little working knowledge I have gained (and will hopefully build on in the coming months,) in coordinating PG related issues, I believe that this platform will best position me to continually be of greater help to the PG community. Also, I believe that standing for this position will make me a leading example to female students of colour nudging them that they too can achieve their goals whilst still in school if they can only put their mind and effort to it.

With the help of the PG Committee and Assembly, I will ensure that the funds allocated to the community are used judiciously for the benefit of it's members. I will also work with the communications team to further highlight and spotlight individuals and groups within the community that are doing notable work.

My people-person personality makes me a great candidate for this role. A vote for me is a vote for your inclusion and visibility. Thank you.

Haashim Mohammad

Hi Everyone, My name is Haashim Mohammad and I am running for the SU Elections this year for the role of Postgraduate Officer. I am half French-half Mauritian studying a master degree in Business Analytics and Management. UEA is like my 2nd home, having been here for 4 years, I know what the pros and cons of UEA are and this is why I am applying for this role as I have a vision for the PG community, and I really want to help my PG friends.

My aims as PG Officer:

1. Improving the university transition for international PG students.

My first aim as a PG Officer will be to work on helping international PG students with the transition between their home country and the UK through buddy scheme alongside Buddy SU or through English support classes to help them adapt to the academic writing style in the UK through student support service facilities. I also want to work with the different accommodation services on campus to help international students with their accommodations prior to their arrival as I had many of my PG colleagues who struggled with housing when they came to do their postgraduate course.

2. Work on increasing the work opportunities offered to the PHD students (4th year specifically) and their funding.

Many of my PG colleagues have raised the topic of 4th year PHD funding issues with me over the years, explaining why I'd be making it a must for me to fight on increasing the number of seminars and workshop opportunities offered to them. This is because many of them rely heavily on those opportunities for their living cost. I'll also communicate with the university to improve PHD's funding in their 4th year.

3. Maintaining PG weekly sports socials and increase the number of PG Socials.

As your PG officer I'll make sure to keep organizing the weekly sports social which has been organized by the previous PG officers over the years, and I'm also going to work on increasing the number of socials for PG students (e.g. trips during holidays) as I believe that it is a great way to deal with university pressure and provide a sense of escapism.

#Vote Haashim for PG Officer

Katerina Shaw - #KatsGotYourBack

Hi everyone! I'm Katerina, a postgraduate Environmental Sciences student and former undergraduate Ecology student.

The postgraduate experience is undoubtedly unique. Whilst we all deal with issues ranging from educational to financial, psychological and social, postgraduate students deal with distinct difficulties that further complicate these.

Education is especially important to postgraduate students and must always be delivered to the highest standard. Whether in postgraduate research labs or MSc lectures, I want to know where there are shortcomings and focus action on these areas. This would be done through surveys and direct communication with students.

Socialising is also just as important to PG students as their UG counterparts, yet I know it can be harder for postgraduate research students to feel fully integrated into life at UEA. I will therefore make a concerted effort to create opportunities for PGR students to meet each other, while also encouraging you to join clubs and societies that interest you, as all are welcome.

I'm aware that mature students and commuting students often face scheduling issues, as there are other factors in your life affecting whether or not you can attend events on campus. I'd take it upon myself to resolve problems with academic timetables as far as possible, and PG social events will be organised around when most postgraduate students are already on campus, minimising the number of you that would be unable to come due to travelling or other commitments.

If elected, I'll help maintain the strong postgraduate community cultivated by Ayane over the past two years, including: trips to the city and surrounding area; coffee and cake events; pizza parties; and evening socials for those of you wanting to take part in the Norwich nightlife. There'll be something for everyone!

Something I feel very strongly about is inclusion, and I want people from all ethnicities, cultures, sexualities and genders to feel welcomed into our community. I'd therefore want to hear from you regarding other PG events you'd like me to start, or if you felt that something was preventing you from feeling included.

Speaking of inclusion, when coming to UEA, international postgraduate students experience a new city, country, language and culture – potentially for the first time – with language being a key way in which people feel a sense of belonging. With this in mind, I'd start PG Chat to Me sessions – inspired by INTO's Conversation Club – to help you improve your English through meeting native speakers and other international students alike.

Crucially, I'm not an international student myself, therefore I wouldn't make decisions alone, then enforce them. Rather, I'd want to hear from individuals from a range of backgrounds to gain knowledge on different experiences. This would inform decisions around which interventions would be most useful, allowing me to act as a channel between the SU and you.

Ultimately, not only will I be someone willing to challenge fundamental issues at UEA, but I'll be someone you can chat to on a personal level. Let's grab a coffee!

Kevin Hyde - Let's bring belonging for all

Who am I?

I'm Kevin and currently a full time masters student studying Landscape History, having graduated my BA in Literature and History from UEA in 2021.

I was the PTO physical disabilities officer 2020/21 and this year am a member of the PG committee. I'm also an active member of the mature student's community.

What do I want to do?

First and foremost, I want to make sure that postgrads can feel part of the UEA community.

No matter whether you are PHD, PGR, PGT or PGCE you deserve to have a voice that's prepared to fight for your rights on campus and in your studies and research.

I plan to continue to push to keep fees for PG students at a sustainable level and be an advocate for those students who teach to be better protected and supported.

There is a need for the protected postgraduate spaces to be retained on campus, for them NOT to be absorbed into or opened up as part of the general student spaces.

I would also push for more inclusivity for postgraduates to be able to take part in sports and societies, as well as pushing for a greater variety of postgraduate specific social or sports activities to be available.

Other stuff...

Having been at UEA prior to Covid I have seen how the "community" aspect of campus has suffered, so would want to work to try to bring that sense of community and interaction back, specifically within the postgraduate students. This can be particularly needed for those who may have additional caring responsibilities at home or international students living in an unfamiliar country.

Postgraduates used to have PG Gardeners, with an allotment type space near Earlham Hall. It is things like this that I will be keen to bring back, if wanted, so PG's have free or lost cost activities they can take part in.

Md Rahman – Vote MD, Vote to your future

Who am I?

I am Md Mahbubur Rahman, an MSc student, running the election for the position of POSTGRADUATE OFFICER.

What do I do?

Course Rep: PGT Accounting and Finance.

Sports Activator: NBS

Volunteer: Carers Matter Norfolk.

Accommodation Rep.

UEA Clubs: Cricket, Dance, Swimming.

UEA Societies: Finance and Investment, Oxfam, Quiz, Bangladeshi, Korean.

What will I do?

- Secure positive changes for PG students in their overall experiences.
- Be the voice of UEA students.
- Be accountable for supporting Graduate Students Association.
- Work with members of UEA staff to improve PG education and research opportunities.
- Coordinate the students' opinions on their university life.
- Aware and persuade students about all the facilities from University.
- Coordinate with Career Central to reach all the students about recent job opportunities.
- Work with the university to create more scholarship opportunities for PG students.

Vote MD -----Vote to Your Future

Olivia Mukiibi - VoteLivForPGE

Hey people, I'm Olivia Mukiibi (also referred to as Liv). And I'm running to be your Postgraduate Education Officer!

Facts About Me: I'm studying MSc Digital Business and Management, and this is my fifth year at UEA (hopefully not my final year). I am a team leader at Unio Coffee shop and have been working there for the last four years. Working there didn't only teach me about customer service or making delicious coffee but it taught me about catering to people's needs. E.g., printing sheets on blue paper for people with learning difficulties. I'm also a co-leader of the Big Sister, Little Sister CMP- a safe space for women in computing to support each other and feel welcomed to the school; I carried on this role as alumni as I enjoy supporting students. And I would love to continue this opportunity to support students alongside their studies.

My previous experience

- Student Staff Liaison Committee representing Year 3 Business Information Systems students
- Student-Staff Forum Representative
- Social Secretary/Publicity Officer for Disney Society
- President/Equality and Diversity Officer Darts Society

Extras: I am a Brand Ambassador for Wisser Academy and representing UEA. I have been working as an employer for big brand companies such as L'Oréal, Evercore, Frasers Group, etc; referring students to these job opportunities and assisting them on their application process. I enjoy this job very much as it requires me to support students on their opportunities in the life of work. I would like to continue this experience and support Postgraduates with both their education and prospects.

Why does Liv deserve your vote?

Postgraduate education is good, however, there is some room for improvement. Here are some suggestions:

- Part-time study for all courses where possible- PG is a big jump from UG so some students may benefit with a slower pace whilst studying.
- Library- all compulsory reading materials in eBooks; water fountains on every floor of the library.
- Equipment- being able to have more efficient access to specific equipment available to students that are relevant to learning.
- Software- available for students to access on both public and private computers especially for those studying from home.
- Learning support- some sort of learning support accessible to ALL students and not only for students identified with disabilities.
- Additional funding- post-grad students have it difficult in terms of funding especially because the PG loan isn't high enough.
- Workshops/drop-ins available for future aspirations e.g., CV checks, job applications, etc with support from career services.
- In-person/online postgraduate socials- some people struggle to meet other postgraduates outside of their course (especially because some had come from outside UEA) which could cause potential barriers. These events could encourage them to mix and welcome them to UEA. Something different each month.

As your Postgraduate Education Officer, I will make sure postgraduates have a very comfortable learning environment and enjoy their remaining years at UEA. Please vote for me if you would like to see a change in the Postgraduate World.

#VoteLivForPGE #LivLafLuv

remember to vote at uea.su/elections

Chisom Ibebunjoh

this candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

postgraduate officer

remember to vote at uea.su/elections

Taylor Sounes – The FEARLESS advocate for YOU!

Manifesto (Taylor's Version)

the fearless advocate for you!

Hi! My name's Taylor and I'm running to be the next Undergraduate Education Officer at UEA. I'm a third-year Politics and Economics student, have been a course rep every year and this year I've been ECO School Convenor. I will be a fearless advocate for you on whatever is important to YOU. The SU officers work for YOU and so our priorities should be what yours are. With me as your officer, they will be.

Here's what I want to do for you:

1. Lobby the university to reinvest resources back into the hub so EVERYONE is better supported

The university has cut resources in the hub and been unclear on the role the Student Information Zone plays. This has meant delays with getting extenuating circumstances, module changes and of course timetables. This puts unnecessary stress on all of us and it must be better. I want to work with the university to improve this VITAL system that we all rely on.

2. Change university-wide group work policies to make sure your final degree is based on YOUR work, not others by introducing a module weighting cap

I know all too well that group work can be incredibly stressful and while it's an important part, module grades shouldn't be solely based on group work. I'll work to introduce a cap on the weighting that group work can have within modules – something we've already done in ECO.

3. Work to ensure the University and Schools are clear on what blended learning means to everyone and then listen to and adopt YOUR feedback

Blended learning is here to stay so we need to make sure it's working in our best interests. As your officer, I'll work with the university to make sure module structures are communicated BEFORE the choice is made so you know whether you're signing up for online or in-person lectures. I'll also improve our Course Reps and Convenors systems to make YOUR VOICES heard, not just mine.

4. Continue to improve accessibility for trans and all LGBT+ students

As a trans person, I know just how important the visibility of correct pronouns is. More can be done on this, including pronoun visibility on live lectures in Blackboard, as well as encouraging everyone to have pronouns on their email signatures to destigmatize those for whom it is so important. I will work on all of these things and more if elected as your officer

5. Transparency starts with the SU and your officers so we need to start setting the example

Officers and our SU do some great work but a lot of the time, it's not clear to students what this work is. As your officer, I will be open and honest about all the work I am doing for you and ensure that the wider SU is doing the same.

Vote Taylor for Undergrad! She's the one for you!

Ivo Garnham – we all vote for Ivo!

Hello there!

My name is Ivo Garnham and I'm running to be re-elected as your Undergraduate Education Officer! I started this role last summer and would love to continue fighting for improvements to education at UEA for a second year. Coming back to campus has been a challenge for us all, but I have seized every opportunity and established relationships with all the key university figures, meaning I'm in a better position than anyone to bring about the changes we need and deserve.

My policies:

- **Effective blended learning:**

Since UEA moved to "Blended Learning" – moving some taught content online – I've been pushing for as much in-person teaching as possible. I'm proud to say this has been a success, with almost 80% of teaching last semester taking place on campus. However, this was not consistent across all courses. I want to monitor how teaching is delivered in each school and for the university to commit to making that 80% a standard across all courses. I also want to continue ensuring lectures are recorded so you always have access to the content you're paying for.

- **Welfare plans:**

I will campaign for all schools to have full plans on how they intend to support their students. This includes things such as the sensitive content warnings I helped to implement and how students who have to self-isolate or miss classes for other reasons will be supported. This is particularly important for students with placements, such as on Medicine and Health Science courses and apprenticeships.

- **More accessible reasonable adjustments:**

This year I was part of a review of the current reasonable adjustments offered to students with disabilities or learning difficulties. The next step to take is to make it easier for students to understand what these adjustments are, whether they are eligible for them, and how to apply.

- **Review of assessments**

Last semester I successfully made sure that all possible assessments were open-book and online to ensure they were as inclusive as possible. Next year, I will conduct a full review of assessment types, including what best judges students' knowledge, what is most accessible to students, and what is most useful for future employment. Yes – this will include tearing the very concept of group projects to absolute shreds.

On top of all that, I promise to continue to fight for the things you care about. I will always be approachable, friendly, and will take your concerns seriously. I've made a promising start campaigning on behalf of students this year, from the timetabling review, to getting UEA to commit to reviewing the extenuating circumstances process, to ensuring that a wellbeing quiet space is created. I have always and will always ensure that everybody's voice is heard and that everybody is treated fairly. It has been the pleasure of a lifetime to serve you this year; I hope you'll allow me to continue with the essential work I so genuinely and completely love doing.

Amy Nwobi -Your Voice, Your Right

Hi, my name is Amy Nwobi. I am an International Development postgraduate student from Nigeria. I am currently one of the course representatives for my school. I come from a country that is part of the BAME group and oftentimes, it is difficult for people like me to be accepted and feel comfortable in a new environment. This is the reason I am interested in the student experience (both academically and socially) and the culture of diversity within the school.

How can the school be more accommodating and understanding of the needs of students from various backgrounds? Is there a sense of belonging for the students, especially those from minority groups? How can the school create a safer and more comfortable environment for both the academic and social life of every student, irrespective of their background?

To help students have answers to these questions, I am vying for the position of Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer where equality, diversity and inclusion is the goal. If elected, I will:

- Be the voice of the voiceless to the school concerning issues regarding academic and social life. As a course representative, I will continue to relate with the students and school and ensure that the SU is quick to act upon issues regarding our student life.
- Ensure that there are training to educate students on the value of diversity within the school by doing away with discriminatory labels, accepting each other's backgrounds and learning to live in a diverse society.
- Push for more diversity and involvement of students in school societies and clubs (both as student and committee members) by providing more public awareness and opportunities to students to participate.
- Work with the LTS to ensure that the school curriculum and staff are more diverse and that the academic needs of the students are being met (more diverse lecturers in the departments and better learning methods for students).
- Work with the school to ensure that the health science students and those off-campus are not forgotten. Activities should be created to involve them and ensure that their opinions are being heard and dealt with.
- Push for support groups (both mental, social and academic) to help students cope with university life, especially those far away from their home countries.

Thank you for taking the time out to read my manifesto. Vote Amy for Welfare! #yourvoiceyourright

Astrid Hanna - Astrid, for welfare that's not UEAful

I'm Astrid and I'm a second year economics student. During my time at UEA I've thought a lot about what I would change to enhance student wellbeing. If elected, I would love to collaborate with all of you to address areas where you think the SU can improve. My ultimate goal is to better the student experience at UEA and ensure that everyone feels safe and welcome. In order to achieve this, I will specifically focus on:

Improving the counselling services on campus

It can be difficult to access mental health support on campus. Sometimes, even if you know where to go, it can be an emotionally draining process regardless. The single session counselling currently provided by UEA is not enough for everyone. I want to support students by offering more individualised mental health support rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

I will improve mental health services on campus by:

- Lobbying for different types of counselling as opposed to exclusively offering single sessions
- implementing follow up appointments for UEA's single session counselling
- signposting where to access help (on campus and with the Norfolk Wellbeing service)
- improving the UEA wellbeing app and wellbeing related social media content.

Adjusting how students are granted exam extensions

Students have struggled to access exam extensions and extenuating circumstances due to lack of specified proof. Through these difficult times, I think it is important for students to feel especially supported by the university.

I will achieve this by:

- finding ways of reimplementing the 10 day extension.
- making extenuating circumstances easier to access, especially for students going through health issues and bereavements.

Increasing student safety when travelling to and from UEA

With Bowthorpe being a prominent affordable student area in Norwich, the lack of bus services between there and campus is unacceptable. Currently there are no other options past 8pm other than walking in dark and secluded areas to get home. This is inaccessible and unfair, especially for disabled students as well as those who need to access university resources.

I will bring this issue forward by lobbying for buses to/from Bowthorpe so that all students have easy access to campus.

Skills that make me well suited for Wellbeing and Diversity officer:

I have experience advocating for young people working with the Young Carers charity and Allsorts LGBT charity who both help young people access counselling and other wellbeing resources in a safe community.

I want to hear what you would change about UEA. Connect with me on:

Facebook: Astrid Hanna

Instagram: astrid.ueawelfare

Aaron Campbell - The Job's Not Finished Yet #StayWithDoubleA

Hey everyone my name is Aaron Campbell and for the past 7 months or so I have had the honor and privilege of serving as your Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer, I hope that in my relatively short time in office that I have been able to impact your experience at university in a positive way. But in the words of the late great Kobe Bryant "jobs not finished" and so I have decided to re-run for a second term in hopes that I will be able to continue to fully serve the student community. If re-elected I plan to:

- Continue to provide a wide range of events (business brunches, safe spaces, mental health discussions etc.) and nights out (Rep your Flag, Spectrum etc.) for a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds.
- Ensure that students are fully supported as we see an increase in the cost of living by increasing accessibility to hardship funds and lobbying the university and council to keep the cost of essential products down.
- Continue work on areas of accessibility and safety on campus including more lighting on campus, making the events on campus (including nights out) more accessible, continuing to support student groups experiencing hate crimes and discrimination and ensuring the safety of students on nights out on campus and in the city.
- Continue to listen to your wants and need and support you all whenever, wherever and however I can as well as continue to work with the SU Advice team, Student Services and the University to improve access and offer new kinds of support for students in areas such as finance, wellbeing, discrimination, mental health, physical health and more.
- Continue to diversify training opportunities for students and student groups ensuring that you all can provide a wide range of events and support to your fellow students..
- Continue to be an outspoken champion for diversity and equality on campus and in Norwich, challenging both the SU and university to ensure that they are speaking up for and protecting underrepresented and marginalized groups.
- Continuing to ensure that SU puts policies and practices in place to ensure that SU can be truly representative of all students.

During my relatively brief time in office I am so proud of what we all have achieved together: from lobbying the government not to lower the student loan repayment threshold, getting the Vice Chancellor to agree to sign the pledge to end the use of NDA's in cases of sexual harassment, introducing anti-spiking devices and other safety features to all of our nights out as well as so much more, together we have been able to impact the university for the better and I truly believe that if I were blessed with another year in office that we could do so much more!

I humbly ask that this election season you #StayWithDoubleA and vote Aaron Campbell for Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer.

Blessings,

Double A

Elle Cook – Vote Elle for Welfare!

Vote Elle for Welfare!

My name is Elle (she/her), a third-year Psychology student. I am standing for Welfare, Community and Diversity officer. You may recognise me as one of the Advice(su) community support assistants, where I have been involved in lots of initiatives supporting UEA student life.

If elected my action plan is:

Student wellbeing

Problem: As of 2021, the university employs 45 people to provide support for students' mental health wellbeing. For a population of around 17,161 students, this is simply not enough!

Solution: The university should reevaluate the funding for mental health and counselling as this will support student life and will have a direct impact on students physical and mental wellbeing as well as academic achievement. Introducing termly mental health weeks focussing on self-care

Problem: Students feel unsafe on campus. Between 2016–2020, 113 transphobic hate crimes were reported in Norfolk.

Solution: I would like to work alongside Norwich clubs and charities to ensure that all students feel safe on nights out. One way to do this would be to have the return of 'Reclaim the Night' a campaign for better and safer streets and to raise awareness of sexual harassment. The university should also be open about reporting spiking and other incidents that occur during club nights. Continue the work of the current Welfare officer in representing and supporting the LGBTQ community and being an ally against racism.

A place for everyone

Problem: There are issues relating to inclusivity and accessibility at our university.

Solution: Students should not be excluded from opportunities and should feel part of a community. Introducing strobe-free nights making the LCR more autism and epilepsy friendly.

Problem: Over 30% of student bodies commute to campus, of which most feel there is no space for them to relax.

Solution: Providing a designated lounge for student commuters. A social space to meet others in a similar situation, a place to have lunch, do work, and fill the gap between lectures. UEA should acknowledge students that commute and improve the parking assignment system.

A university that is ours:

Our university is proud to have such a diverse community of students. However, this is not reflected in the university environment. Students should be able to see their artwork around campus, have the chance to perform their music and have access to food that represents the diversity them.

Why vote for me?

I have dedicated a substantial amount of my own time researching students' issues with the university, I would like to bring these issues to light. While the current Welfare officer has achieved a lot, there is still lots to be done and this is only a brief overview of what I would like to change. Everyone should enjoy their time at university and see it as the best years of their lives. As Welfare officer, I would put every effort towards making this true for everyone. Thank you for reading my manifesto and please get in contact with me to ask any questions you may have.

PTO'S

***PART-TIME
OFFICERS***

uea.su/elections

Liz Bigalke

Effective communication starts with Listening

Who I am

Hi, my name is Liz Bigalke, and I am running for the position of the part-time EU officer at the Student Union.

I'm a first year EU-student, studying molecular biology and genetics.

Where I am from

I grew up in Hamburg, Germany but started my first of three years at boarding school in 2018. Since then, I have been around international and UK students and know what it's like to be away from home for the first time. During my time at boarding school, I learned how important communication is and that it can be difficult to do so in a new environment. In these situations, it was always helpful to have someone around that knows what it feels like and can help and support you, which is why I am here.

What my aims are

Part of my role as the EU officer is to support all EU students as much as I can. Whether this is helping with the transition to university in a different country and a new environment or supporting EU students communicate with the uni and the SU.

I also know that having a safe community can help too, which is why I am planning on organizing international events such as 'Go Global' to bring the international community including EU students together and showing all UK students how amazing it is to be part of the international community.

Miriam Hussein #RevoteHomeByMiriam

Hi! My name is Miriam, and I am your current, and hope to continue to be next year's, international students (non-EU) officer. I am an international student and understand what it means to look for HOME in a place you moved to. If you are willing to support an experienced candidate with various skills that is keen to continue providing an environment that's full of your HOME's sense of COMFORTABILITY, RECOGNITION, and UNITY, then you need to **#RevoteHomeByMiriam!**

Three things I'll continue to assure international students in UEA HOME:

BEING COMFORTABLE: I won't only continue providing you with anonymous feedback forms to voice any matter challenging your comfortability and act upon them, but also re-activate International Students Assembly. You will get the chance to attend a meeting with other UEA international students to voice your concerns!

BEING RECOGNIZED: I'll continue to assure the SU recognizes you in their decisions and plans. Approaching me won't be challenging and portraying your views will continue to be my mission. To recognize international students' cultures, interests, and presence, I'll be promoting more international events that highlight cultural celebrations and host regular international students meet ups.

BEING UNITED: As I continue to work on the Unite UEA program that aims to unite students regularly through activities and tasks, I aim to continue providing a sense of belonging and unity next year. I'll work on increasing engagement opportunities and supporting cultural societies in hosting events that promote a sense of unity and belonging.

Keep an eye on @miriam_hussein_ueasu

Divya Agirishetty - Great Learnings in a Great Place

Hello International Students,

I am Divya Agirishetty, a MSc. Cyber Security student, peer assisted-learning leader. As a course representative, I have received feedback that many students feel difficulty connecting with students from other cultures.

1. I think it would be great to have a programme for our spare time as well. I will launch a *buddy-up programme* for extracurricular activities as travelling together and visiting exhibitions, Learn a Language.
2. I will regularly hold *cultural exchange fairs with international food, music and film* with national communities. This will be accessible to everyone. We can communicate with peers from diverse backgrounds and help you find more friends interested in your culture.
3. There is little advice regarding UK life concerning housing contract, medical systems(NHS) and so on. I will work with the *International Office* to facilitate international student specialised *drop-in sessions*.
4. Many international students whose first language is not English struggle with language in university life. I will work with the *English Language Centre* to provide a group setting study with peers.
5. To broaden international perspectives, we need more *tutors from different backgrounds*, and I will lobby this to the university. This will help students understand their interests when they make decisions about learning and teaching.

I am a girl stepping out of the country independently for the first time to find my self in a new place and for me and I believe for most of you, a lot of life is going to happen during the course of our education here. My intention is to make a *Great life with Great learnings here*.

Mia Ta - UEA is for everyone

Being an international student isn't easy. And I fully understand that. Coming from the other half of the world, I know what language barrier is, what cultural difference is, what homesickness is and sometimes

I know there are also some of you reading my manifesto also having these problems with studying abroad.

Therefore, I want to stand in the election and spread this positivity. I want to make sure everyone can have wonderful time at UEA as much as I do. And this should start with a person who is good at listening

I have been a course rep, a president of a cultural society (the beloved Vietnamese society to be exact). I believe I can understand the problems I have stated not only from my perspectives but also from other international students'. Each person has a different feeling on it, and each person wants a different approach. I also know that homesickness is not the only problem, I know, being a student is stressful and being an international student can be worse. But maybe, it might be not that bad if we add a little bit of positivity, which I have plenty.

As a person with good communication and organisation skills, together with friendliness and enthusiasm, I believe I can make it to be a responsible and engaging International Officer (Non-EU) in which case I can listen to your voice, represent your voice and make UEA be the home of wonderful as it should always be.

Piper Hebditch

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

Sophie Ciurlik Rittenbaum -

Banking on a sustainable future

Why do I want to be environment officer?

I am campaigning to get UEA to cut ties with Barclays, Europe's number one financier of the fossil fuel industry.

While we have seen major campaign victories, namely the divestment of the endowment fund with Barclays and the removal of the Barclays branch from campus, UEA still uses Barclays for day-to-day banking and invites Barclays to CareerCentral events.

I am committed to overseeing divestment from Barclays, instead of spreading myself too thin over multiple issues.

If I succeed with the Divest Barclays campaign, there are many other issues I would turn my focus to, like getting other extractive companies out of our careers events and securing more funding for the biodiversity department.

What environmental advocacy experience do I have?

I am currently the union council representative and treasurer for Sustainability Society, in which role I helped run the COP26 festival. Last academic year, I served as a non-portfolio officer and sponsored the Divest Barclays motion as well as the Sustainable Travel Policy motion. In addition, I sat on the university's environmental systems management implementation teams, where I fought for a more ambitious sustainable food policy. In summer 2020, I joined Fossil Free Pride to push pride festivals in the UK to cut ties with the fossil fuel industry and the banks that fund it. I have been an active member of Extinction Rebellion UEA since arriving at UEA in autumn 2019, and we successfully pushed the Barclays branch off campus.

Jamie Bryson

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

Brandon Thomas

For your Voice, Vote for Brandon

Who am I?

Hi, I'm Brandon, my pronouns are He/They and I am a second-year law student.

I am currently the UEA Pride society secretary and have been involved in numerous LGBTQ+ events around the university.

What do I want to do?

My main goals which I would like to achieve in this role is to create more open events for people in the LGBTQ+ community, including some safe space gym events for people who may not feel comfortable in the gym or swimming pool in public settings. As well as creating more gender-neutral toilets in the University so that students do not have to travel to the SU building to use gender neutral bathrooms. As well as this creates a system to reduce misgendering happen inside the University Courses itself. Overall, I would like to make the SU and the university a safe space for all the community.

Why should you vote for me?

I believe I am a good candidate for you as an officer as I am organised, passionate and ready to serve you for this role. Being the secretary of pride has really involved me inside the LGBTQ+ community here at UEA and has allowed me to develop a big network of connections to help me make sure everyone is heard. I have a strong drive to make sure that your voice is heard, and your ideas are considered.

Please check out my Campaign Socials

@B4LGBTQ -Insta, Facebook and Twitter

#ForYourVoiceVoteforBrandon

Ayane Hida

Hi I'm Ayane - current PG education officer at UEA SU.

After I get elected as an NUS elgate, I will bring PG voice to the NUS conference.

There are a few PG representatives across the country, therefore, it is very important for PG to have a voice at national level.

I will also reach out to PGTs and PGRs to gather all the voice they would like me to bring to NUS.

Ayane for PG NUS delegate!

Deena Mathai

Hi, I am Deena. An international student. I was born and brought up in Dubai and did my undergrad in India. As an international student, it is often hard to be open about any issues we face and mostly retract back to our shells. Having familiar people around can do both good and bad. The aim is for everyone to feel at home in the university, best preparing them for the world out there. Being in the UK is an achievement alone, the most we should and can do is make it worth it. I would be honored to be a voice and conduit for any student on campuses everywhere who needs help and support when needed.

As an NUS delegate, I hope to learn as much as I can teach when needed. Being a rep of UEA will be a greater honor.

Ivo Garnham

Hello there!

My name is Ivo Garnham and I'm running to be one of your NUS Delegates. The main purpose of this role is to represent UEA students at the annual NUS conference. Having served as the Undergraduate Education Officer at our Students' Union this year, I believe I'm the perfect candidate for the job. Within my UEA role, I have fought for and won many improvements to both students' education and experience at university. These victories include lectures being recorded, exams being online and open-book, and the review of the new timetabling system.

If I am elected as an NUS Delegate, I will ensure that UEA students' voices are heard at a national level and will vote at conference in the interests of making the National Union of Students both a successful and sustainable organisation.

I vote, you vote, we all vote for Ivo!

Jamie Bryson

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

Md Rahman

Who am I?

I am Md Mahbubur Rahman, an MSc student, running the election for the position of NUS DELEGATE.

What do I do?

- **Course Rep:** PGT Accounting and Finance.
- **Sports Activator:** NBS
- **Volunteer:** Carers Matter Norfolk.
- **Accommodation Rep.**

- **UEA Clubs:** Cricket, Dance, Swimming.
- **UEA Societies:** Finance and Investment, Oxfam, Quiz, Bangladeshi, Korean.

What will I do?

- Represent UEA (SU) at a national level at the National Union of Students (NUS) Conference
- Participate in NUS to vote issues related to education to make them NUS policy.
- Vote and participate in the NUS election to choose leaders.
- Participate in NUS conference and be part of electing reports..

Vote MD -----Vote to Your Future

Nathan Wyatt

Hey! My names Nathan and I'm running to be an NUS delegate. I'm originally from Cambridgeshire and I have always been involved in community projects and local events. I want to use my experience as an advocate for my town to make UEA a better place to work, live and study at.

Fight Fee Increases and review Student Finances England

The cost of living is going through the roof. I'll fight to make sure that students don't have to pay more than their fair share.

Accommodation Prices

I want to see a freeze put in place on accommodation costs on campus. **Why should we be forced to pay so much for so little?**

Mental Health Support

The wait times for help at UEA are too long. I'll fight for a bigger mental health budget to bring down wait times and help UEA students.

Decarbonise UEA

Protecting our environment is as important to me as it is to you. **I'll make sure the University and SU are ethical and aren't supporting polluters.**

I support the Divestment Coalition and its call for an ethical investment policy.

Support for strike action

I helped to promote the 2020 rent strike that got UEA students an £800 rebate on our rent.

As a trade unionist, I wholeheartedly support the forthcoming strike action and the national student walkout on the 2nd of March.

Please email me for more info – ujb20tku@uea.ac.uk

Olivia Mukiibi

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto

Patrycja Poplawska

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto

Ameer Al-Magidi

As a British-Iraqi who grew up in the middle east and has studied in the UK, I believe that I can represent UEA's students of colour as your next People of Colour Officer. I want to be a voice for this movement, giving people a safe space and platform to discuss the issues they face. We need to amplify the voices of traditionally marginalized students and have our needs met. I believe that providing an open space to discuss certain issues will help to create a more comfortable atmosphere and university experience, allowing us to achieve more and create positive social action at UEA.

My Experience:

- I was one of the founders of the Arab Society, and I am still a member of the committee.
- I have also been involved with Charity Week, which is held every year by the Islamic society at UEA, (fun fact, we raised £12,628.07 in 2019)
- In May 2021, I was able to organise an event at the square for students to stand in solidarity with Palestine. I worked in collaboration with multiple societies at UEA and the security team to run the event.

My Pledges:

- Promote a safe space where people can contact me with any issue concerning racism or racial prejudice.
- Work closely with UEA's ethnic societies in order to create an environment that is accessible and inviting for people of colour.
- Improving awareness of existing mechanisms for PoC to report hate crimes or discrimination they face within the university.

Chris Kershaw **#NoPortfolioNoProblem**

Howdy! My name is Chris [He/Him], I'm a 3rd year PhD candidate in American Studies. I'm running to be one of your Part-Time Non-Portfolio Officers next year at your Student Union.

My Experience:

I've had a varied life before returning to university: working, traveling, and having a great time while I did it! One thing that has stayed constant, however, has been my drive to work for the community around me and make things better for us all.

Since coming to UEA for my Masters degree (five years ago!), I've thrown myself into numerous works and projects to make UEA an institution we can all be proud of! Here are some of the things I have been involved in:

- Vice Chancellors anti-racism task force.
- President of DecoloniseUEA.
- Vice-President of Labour Soc.
- PGR HUM Decant Rep.
- PGR GSSF Rep.
- PGR PAL Mentor.

My Pledges:

Decolonise – Maybe, old white men don't know everything?

Take your democratic mandate and continue to push decolonial efforts across all faculties at the university.

Divest – Ethical banking and investment policy, now!

Whether it be impending ecological collapse or state sanctioned occupation and oppression, UEA students should not be made complicit through improper use and handling of their tuition.

Defend Post-Grads and up-lift Undergrads – I'm big, scary, and will fight for you!

I've worked hard to make PGR's feel valued and Undergrads have a sense of belonging at UEA. Whether elected or not, this isn't going to change any time soon.

Nathan Wyatt **Let's Make UEA Better**

Hey! My names Nathan and I'm running to be a non-portfolio officer. I'm originally from Cambridgeshire and I have always been involved in community projects and local events. I want to use my experience as an advocate for my town to make UEA a better place to work, live and study at.

Warm Rooms on Campus

Energy price hike – students are going to be pushed into fuel poverty.

Student homes are poorly insulated, poorly heated, damp and mouldy.

Offering spaces on campus that are heated well we can ensure that students have a safe warm space to be, even if your homes aren't.

Timetable Transparency

Evision to Timetabler change last term caused havoc for students and staff alike

I will fight for an easier system to get timetable issues resolved.

Decarbonise UEA

Protecting our environment is as important to me as it is to you. I'll make sure the University and SU are ethical and aren't supporting polluters.

I support the Divestment Coalition and its call for an ethical investment policy.

Support for strike action

I helped to promote the 2020 rent strike that got UEA students an £800 rebate on our rent.

As a trade unionist, I wholeheartedly support the forthcoming strike action and the national student walkout on the 2nd of March.

COVID support

I want to ensure that UEA students are getting access to support during self-isolation.

Help for those suffering with long-COVID symptoms.

Please email me for more info – ujb20tku@uea.ac.uk

Mitchel Olusola-Ojo

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

Black students officer

Georgia Hubbard

There's more than meets the eye.

Hi, I'm Georgia, a second-year history student living with an invisible disability.

I'm campaigning for change to raise awareness of hidden disabilities. Through increased education and understanding I hope to bring a voice to students living with disabilities that are so often left forgotten or unacknowledged.

As of December 2021, 22% of people in the UK were recorded as living with a disability. Of those, 70% are estimated to be hidden. Despite this, awareness of invisible disabilities remains inadequate. To change this:

- I will push the university towards ensuring fundamental understanding of all types of disabilities is intertwined with its core values.
- I will campaign for greater training and guidance on the types, impacts and effects of living with invisible disabilities to be provided by UEA, filling the ever-present gap.
- I will endeavour for compassion to replace resentment and for adaptations to replace barriers, levelling the social and academic playing field of university.

As someone who has battled the challenges of an invisible disability inside and outside of the university environment, I hope to use my experiences of the failures and misconceptions within society to strive for change. Although our challenges cannot be seen, their lack of visibility doesn't make them any easier to navigate. Invisible disabilities are no less deserving of consideration and understanding simply because they are not immediately identifiable upon first appearance. I see you - and will work so that others do too.

It's time to realise - there's more than meets the eye.

Holly Jackson

Making student life accessible for everyone.

Hello! I am an English Literature student and the Gaming Editor for Concrete.

My aim is to help other students access support and services, as well as overcome any hurdles that may be impacting their university experience. I would really like to encourage further education and awareness of hidden disabilities, which I am very passionate about, as no one should have to suffer in silence. It is important that staff and students are aware of the difficulties those with hidden disabilities face, so that everyone has access to the same opportunities. I am strongly in support of the creation of a safe space for those who struggle with disabilities and need somewhere to unwind and recharge throughout their day, as this would be very beneficial to those who need it.

It can also be very hard to figure out how to access certain services, and seeking a diagnosis is often a very difficult and stressful process which is something I would like to improve by creating a safe space/ community for people to discuss their feelings with others, so that no one has to go through this alone. I would also love to hold more accessible socials and events so that people can meet others they relate with and make new friends.

As someone who struggles with a hidden disability, I know how difficult and daunting it can be navigating student life whilst also dealing with a hidden disability, and I am committed to making sure everyone knows how to reach out when they need help.

Bea Montgomery-Christy - Make the union accessible to all.

As a disabled person, with multiple different disabilities, the promotion of an accessible campus for all students is at the heart of what I want to achieve as disabled students officer. I believe that accessibility should be at the core of what the the student union provide to is student

As accessibility officer to the drama and musical theatre society and equality and diversity officer of UEA kayak club, I have promoted the needs of disabled members and worked with committee members to support making both societies as accessible as possible. There are current limitations on how committees can support disabled students, this is due to the lack of funding given by the SU. I hope to increase Grant money available to clubs and societies who want to with disabled student offices to increase diversity in their club or society.

I also want to increase education around disability, at all levels of the SU and make sure that the rights of disabled students are given the same amount of priority as other minority groups in the SU. Having better training around disability for all club and society members will help facilitate this.

More that anything else I just want to show that disabled students are important and are of Great benefit to the University and the SU, but their skills can only truly be seen once accessibility and diversity are at the heart of the SU.

PS I am dyslexic so points for any spelling mistake!

Holly Summers - Roll With Holl for Disabilities Officer.

Hi! My name is Holly Summers, and I am running for the position of Students with Disabilities Officer (part-time). I'm a first-year Education student with a physical disability and I use a wheelchair. I'd be honoured to be elected and, during my term in office my goal is to meet with as many people involved with the SU as possible including; students, staff and event organisers who feel talking to a disabled student would help them to develop and reach goals of accessibility and inclusion. Understanding and managing access needs shouldn't feel impossible! Using my previous experiences in student-based school leadership roles, I hope to support the SU and show how we can make small changes that create big differences. My aims in the role are to;

Increase accessibility awareness

Helping students feel confident on campus and when attending events through the use of clear, concise documents laying out accessibility features of campus locations. Access looks different for everyone so developing a simple and organised structure to ask these questions and recording the answers aids in the provision of a more accessible experience for disabled students.

Better accessibility communication

Make the inclusion of accessibility/ accommodation information **compulsory** when running an event being advertised on the SU website.

For example; an accessibility information document in the event description, or contacting businesses off-campus.

Improve atmosphere around disabled students

Communicate with events, sports teams, clubs and societies about how to approach successful conversations about disability, **making disabled students feel WANTED, not just welcome.**

Alice Goldsney

Relentlessly Supportive of Women+

Hi, I'm Alice!

In this role I am enthusiastic to further understand the progress and changes that the UEA women+ community want to see. I hope to be an approachable advocate for those who feel their voice is not being sufficiently heard throughout the university, finding effective and sustainable ways to implement change.

If elected I will seek to:

- Work with non-binary people, who identify with any aspects of femininity, to understand the nuanced challenges faced by the entire womens+ community here at UEA, and how I can be the best representative for all of us.
- Expand and support the work of Bloody Good Period.
- Organise sexual health and period education for women+ in an open and discussive matter for those who feel they need it.
- Support women's clubs and societies development and opportunities.
- **CREATING SAFE SPACES:**
- on nights out by cooperating with Girls Night Society I hope to organise a space within the LCR where women+ can go if they feel unsafe and anxious,
- I will ask LCR staff to incorporate the 'Ask for Angela' campaign,
- ensuring all women+ are aware of, and have access to, mental health helplines.
- Finally, I believe an important aspect of university life is to feel a part of the community. I want to offer regular womens+ coffee mornings and evening socials. I hope that this will offer an environment in which women+ can make connections, seek advice and feel safe, valued and heard.

Hope to see you all soon!

Lina Elkadi

This candidate has not submitted a manifesto.

STUDENTS' UNION
ELECTIONS
2022



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NOW!**

uea.su/elections

