

President -1

Tom Christison (President)

Hi there, I'm **Tom**, and I am running to be your next **Student President**.

Having previously served on the Executive as **VPSA**, I know firsthand how vital our **societies, communities, and student voices** are to this University. I've been an **SRC member, society committee member, volunteer, ambassador**, and, of course, **a student**.

Over the past two years, we have faced **uncertainty, frustration, and instability**. The University's **financial crisis** has left us feeling **unheard and undervalued**, creating **anxiety among staff and students alike**. Students are also facing rising concerns about **discrimination on campus, academic misconduct allegations**, and **governance decisions** that fail to protect what makes our University such a **fantastic institution**.

The question is: **will we tolerate this?**

I will not.

As your President, I will:

- **Defend students** against disruption to their studies caused by the **financial crisis**.
- **Protect the quality of our student experience**, so you get the **most from your time in Dundee**.
- **Stand firmly against discrimination, unfair academic practices, and damaging cuts**.

Student societies will always be close to my heart, and I want to continue supporting our **incredible societies** that do so much for **student life in Dundee**. I will **champion student achievement** and ensure your **successes are recognised and celebrated**.

Leadership means action, accountability, and courage. I am ready to **stand up, speak out, advocate, and deliver results for students**.

This election is about **our future**. **Your voice matters**, and I will make sure **it is heard**.

Thank you.

Ramya Shiva (VPA)

Hi, I'm Ramya Shiva, currently serving as your Vice President Academia and a master's student in Business Analytics at the University of Dundee. I'm standing for re-election because there is more to achieve, and I cannot leave my work half done. Over the past year, you may have seen me running sessions to support students and addressing academic concerns. I have represented student interests, improved communication between students and staff, and worked to make academic support more accessible. Through feedback sessions and meetings with staff and student representatives, I ensured student voices were heard in key academic discussions.

Re-running gives me an advantage because I already understand this role. I know how the system works, who to contact, and how to move issues forward. My experience has helped me understand the main concerns students face, especially around academic support, policies, and adapting to UK academic expectations. I have also learned that real change takes time, planning, and consistent effort. Because of this, I want to focus on realistic, achievable improvements, building on the progress made during my first term rather than making promises that cannot be delivered.

If re-elected, I will focus on:

- **Enhancing Digital & Career Skills** – Organising workshops to build academic, digital, and career-ready skills.
- **Clear Academic Support & Policies** – Helping students understand their rights, responsibilities, and available support.
- **Support for International Students** – Offering guidance on UK academic expectations, assessments, and referencing standards.

Experience brings results. Vote to re-elect me for real, practical progress and quicker action.

Chethan Gollahalli (VPR)

My name is Chethan. I completed my undergraduate degree in England and arrived at Dundee in January 2026 for MSc in International Banking and Finance. In just two months, I've done something simple: I SHOWED UP. I've built genuine connections with students from all walks of life through volunteering and engaging with diverse communities across campus. And I've heard the same thing everywhere: "No one listens." I'm running for VP Representation to be the person who finally does.

Aims/objectives:

To transform representation from a title into a daily practice—by being visibly present, relentlessly accountable, and genuinely inclusive of every single student in the University of Dundee.

Policy Commitments

Drop-in Culture

- Weekly drop-ins in every faculty. I'll meet you where you already are.
- No appointment. No gatekeeping. Just honest conversation.
- Pop-up sessions at student hubs so representation is easy and visible.

Your Voice Tracked

- Every concern logged. Nothing disappears into silence.
- Update within three days. You'll know what's happening fast.
- Transparent tracker. See issues, actions, and outcomes in plain sight.

Representation for EVERY Student

- Work with cultural and international groups. Every society, every faith, every background.
- Proactive outreach to underrepresented students. I'll go to you, not wait for you to approach.
- No exceptions. No excuses. Inclusion is non-negotiable

Representation you can see, accountability you can trust. I'll turn "**no one listens**" into "**we were heard**". I'm ready to earn your voice. **Are you ready to be heard? Vote Chethan for VP Representation.**

Ruby Mugisha (VPSW)

My name is Ruby Kirabo Mugisha, and I am standing for re-elections as Vice President of Student Wellbeing because I believe leadership should be built on listening, action and accountability. Over the past year, I have worked closely with students to turn their feedback into real support, meaningful campaigns, and inclusive space. My campaign, You Said. I Did. Let's Do More., reflects my commitment to building on proven progress and continuing to deliver practical change that improves student wellbeing every day.

Aims/ Objectives

I want every student to feel heard, supported, safe and connected during their time at university. My focus is on making wellbeing support more visible, accessible and strengthening inclusive communities, and ensuring students from all backgrounds feel represented and empowered. If re-elected I will continue listening to your experiences and turning them into action that makes campus life healthier, safer and more supportive for everyone.

Policy Statements

- Deliver more themed wellbeing programs, including dedicated weeks focused on loneliness, international student support, and neurodiversity and study skills.
- Create a Student Survival Toolkit, a practical digital guide to help students navigate life, study, and support services in Scotland.
- Expand inclusive, low-pressure community events and wellbeing initiatives that strengthen belonging, connection, peer support and fun across campus.

Sean Kwok (VPC)

Most students didn't vote in DUSA's elections. You're reading this manifesto because you share my belief that **we can do better**.

We must be honest: students find ourselves **a little lost** in a cash-strapped university in an uncertain world. Anyone could promise more events, using resources we no longer have, while neglecting what we've got.

As a third-year student of Psychology and Politics, Class Rep, and contributor of *The Jute Journal*, I recognise that we're individuals with our own interests who nevertheless share a **desire to do well**. Sometimes, we just need a wee push.

I present specific plans, not vague promises. As VP Community, I will:

- **lead a digital clarity working group**. DUSA's website is littered with broken links and outdated content. Many students remain unaware of events, support services, and student representation. Beyond fixes, we'll curate guides for wellbeing, academic success, and volunteer/career opportunities by drawing on best practices from students and staff.
- **launch a Community Spotlight series**. It'll feature your views on what you value across Dundee to encourage living offline, prioritising a pride of place in the city's third spaces and history. This'll build upon the Study Spaces Spotlights by Ivy, the current VPC.
- **be a responsible representative and trustee**. Exec roles mostly involve meetings. Keeping student interests at heart doesn't mean merely sitting at meetings but speaking up, after listening to you.

Genuine democratic engagement starts here—consulting your views won't be enough; I'll ask for **your participation** too. Let's make uni fun again!

Rachel MacLean (VPF)

Hi! I'm Rachel, I'm a soon to be final year graphic design student and I'm running to be your next VP Fundraising!

I have experience with fundraising and organising events through UoD Sign Language society, where I worked with RAG to fundraise for last year's charity. I am also currently a charity trustee, where I have gained insight into how charities run, fundraise and organise events.

My goal to **increase visibility and engagement with RAG**, creating a space for Dundee Women's Aid to raise funds, build connections and get the most out of their time as the chosen charity. I want to do this by regularly campaigning, running events, collaborating with societies and creating a welcoming space for students to get involved and shape how RAG runs!

Another aim is to provide a space where any society that raises funds for charity has a support network and aid in fundraising efforts. I would do this by being available as a point of contact for any issues or queries, alongside fundraising workshops and sessions to help build on knowledge, community and additional support when needed.

During my time as VP of Fundraising, I would;

- Host a frequent variety of (fun!) events building **awareness and involvement** with RAG.
- Build an open and inclusive RAG committee to engage with students, collaborate with societies and clubs, and build **meaningful connections** with Dundee Women's Aid.
- Encourage a **network of support** to aid all charity driven societies and create opportunities to further their fundraising efforts.

Sam Murray (VPSA)

Hi! I'm Sam, a 3rd year English student and Senior Ambassador. I'm running to be your VPSA because my university experience has been shaped profoundly by student societies and DUSA projects which have provided events, spaces, and friendships I'd never have found otherwise. When engagement slips, students are denied a truly fulfilling university life; it's the people we meet, the niches we discover, and the creativity we unleash that define student life at its best. I've benefited enormously from activities shaped by others; now I want to improve others' experiences by contributing my energy and experience.

I'll continue the recent progress and continue to encourage student participation. I'll make societies more rewarding by listening to feedback; lower the barriers for those who've never joined a society before, and do my utmost to ensure anyone on the edge of creating or reinstating a society can do, and work to get leisure and creative activity valued alongside academia. I want *every* student to feel that getting involved is the norm: not just for the gregarious and outgoing.

If elected, I will:

Make societies accessible by pushing for more social events and DUSA oversight, so no society becomes a closed group. Every student should feel fully welcome.

Boost 'try it' culture by encouraging regular, low-pressure taster sessions where you don't need experience, just curiosity!

Deliver clearer, easier processes by making societies creation, staying affiliated, and organising events as straightforward as possible, as well as offering direct support ☺

Ivy Gerber (IMC)

I'm Ivy, a Politics student running to be your next Independent Member of Court (IMC).

As the current Vice President of Community, I have gained the right experience needed for this role. I currently sit on the DUSA Board of Trustees, the Governance Subcommittee, and the University Senate, which have given me direct insight into how organisations like our university operate. Experience in governance is crucial for this role, and I have developed the knowledge and understanding needed to represent students effectively.

My policies are:

Empowering Student Voice – It's essential that students are represented in university governance. The decisions made at Court directly affect our experience, and I will ensure that student voices remain central to those discussions. At the end of the day, the university exists for its students.

Increasing Awareness - If you asked most students what "Court" is, many wouldn't know. I want to change that. With the university still facing financial challenges the decisions Court makes have never been more important. I will raise awareness about university governance and help students understand the issues being discussed.

Accountability – I pledge to continue giving monthly IMC updates to the SRC and will also find new ways to update you through social media. My 'Spaces Spotlight' videos have received thousands of views, and I will develop other creative ways to update you online.

With strong experience and clear goals for the year ahead, I'm ready to represent students as the next IMC.

Vote Ivy for IMC!

SRC Chair

Amy Page

Hi, I'm Amy, a first-year Scots Law student, and I'm running for SRC Chair. Over the past year, I've worked with fellow students as a Law Representative, delivering meaningful improvements through consistent student feedback. I want to bring that same practical, student-focused approach to the SRC.

My priorities:

- 1. Strengthen student outreach through new “Your Voice” forums.** Many students don't know how to raise concerns or feel disconnected from decision-making. I will introduce monthly drop-ins in every School—informal, accessible sessions with School Presidents and class reps. These will give students a clear place to share issues, ask questions, and hear updates, ensuring concerns reach the right people quickly and building trust between students, DUSA, and the University.
- 2. Boost awareness of student rights and support services.** Students often aren't aware of existing support, from wellbeing services to academic appeals and hardship funds. I will lead a clear, campus-wide information campaign—short guides, quick-reference posts, and School-specific resources—so students know where to turn for help. Better awareness means less stress.
- 3. Secure more funding for student-led initiatives.** Many societies and student projects struggle with limited budgets. I will work with DUSA and local organisations to expand sponsorship opportunities, focusing on partnerships that directly benefit students through event funding, equipment, or discounted services.

I'm running because the SRC should be visible, accessible, and representative of every student. If you want an SRC that listens more, communicates better, and delivers real improvements, I'd be honoured to earn your vote.

Humanities

Iris Watson

I am Iris Watson, a third year Philosophy student. I am running for this role because I believe in the value of humanities subjects and the importance of student engagement and satisfaction, and to continue developing my own skills.

I experienced organizing events and collaborating with a team on the Philosophy Society Committee. I also currently participate in groups like Medieval Reenactment and the Nethergate Writers.

- I want to show how exploring humanities outside the classroom is as important as academic study, showing how broad interests can intersect. Every week, I plan to post content connecting the humanities with various topics, including highlighting exhibitions, societies, and events nearby

- I want to help organize events that support students' academic skills.

- I want to represent student by creating spaces for feedback, from surveys to informal discussion groups. This allows me to understand student interests and raise any concerns.

Health Sciences:

Andi Dunsmuir

Hi, my name is Andi and I'm a second year adult nursing student going into third year. I'm running for Health Sciences division President because I care about improving both the learning experience and the sense of community within our school.

I already have experience representing students as a Class Rep, Kirkcaldy Rep and Secretary of the Nursing Society, where I've worked to make sure voices are heard and acted on.

My main priorities are:

Clearer communication between students and lecturers, including a simple place to find important policies like sickness procedures and placement skills guidance. This could also be from communicating important announcements better to students and lectures.

Equal opportunities for all students, making sure support, resources and social opportunities are fair across every campus and speciality.

More chances to build skills and connections, such as extra practice opportunities and optional events to strengthen our professional network.

Medicine:

Qais Rashid

Hello, I'm Qais, a third-year medical student who will be undertaking a BMSc in 2026-27, and I'm running for DUSA School of Medicine President. I am committed to championing student feedback and pioneering improvements in education and student experience in collaboration with staff.

If elected, my three priorities will be:

1. Empowering student-led initiatives to support and uplift one another, particularly in response to challenges such as medical school budget cuts.
2. Strengthening communication between students and faculty, ensuring feedback is heard and acted upon to improve learning outcomes.
3. Fostering a supportive, inclusive environment where all students can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Together, I aim to ensure every student's voice is represented, and that Dundee Medical School continues to provide an outstanding, empowering experience for all. Ensuring *your* medical school experience is led by *you*.

Dentistry

Sandie Rennison

I'm Sandie, and after two years of being class rep, I'm running to be president of the Dentistry Division 2026/27.

- **Communication** - during this time of change, I will focus on clear communication with students. I want everyone to stay informed with how the faculty structure impacts them, and how they can best access resources they require.
- **Academic Strength** – an introduction of study groups, where students share advice e.g. how to manage their first appointments. My hope is that by helping with 'other' concerns, students can focus more on academic challenges and patient care.
- **Student Voice** – it is vital to the dental school that students are heard. I would send an anonymous form once a semester, so every student can raise their concerns, allowing for more holistic feedback.

This is what I can bring to this role, and I hope I can count on your vote. Thank you.

Psychology:

Nadiia Pulkas

Hi!

My name is Nadiia, and I am a third-year psychology student running for President because I believe our student community deserves stronger communication, better career preparation, and more opportunities to apply theory to real-life situations.

If elected, I will focus on three key priorities:

1. Psychology Division Newsletter – I will introduce a regular newsletter to keep students informed about opportunities, research updates, events, and important announcements, helping build a more connected community.
2. Promoting Internships and Practical Experiences – I will work to increase access to internships and hands-on opportunities that help students gain real-world experience and improve employability.
3. Simulation Games for Applied Learning – I will advocate for simulation-based learning activities that allow students to apply psychological theories in engaging and practical ways.

My goal is to build a more informed, career-ready, and engaged psychology student community.

Life Sciences:

Hamish Paton

Hello, I'm Hamish a soon to be 4th Year Microbiology Student and would fit the role Life Science Division President perfectly.

I am an approachable, kind and hard-working individual who strives to do what's best for others. I have gained experience within undergraduate committee holding module rep roles and currently holding the VP for Digital Enhancement and Promotions position. This has given me a great understanding of school structure, the people within it and how the school runs.

My three key aims for the next year would be:

- Ensure a smooth transition into a new university structure without impacting the student experience
- Expand science communication initiatives that have ran for the past year, bringing students closer the research community and provide opportunities for collaboration
- Continue to represent the students at the highest level possible, directly delivering feedback from students to staff

Science:

Annabelle Cochrane

Hi everyone! I'm Annabelle, a second year mathematics student, and I'm running for School President.

I'm passionate about strengthening how we connect as a school. I want to build a supportive community within Science and Engineering, where students feel confident reaching out to their representatives and build strong relationships with faculty to help everyone get the most from their university experience.

As current Maths Society President, I have led a team to organise events that bring students together across year groups. I organise regular meetings, delegate responsibilities, and ensure clear communication within my team.

If elected, I will focus on three priorities: improving communication, increasing meaningful opportunities, and strengthening our community. I am committed to ensuring every student feels heard, supported, and confident to do well.

Business:

Annie Traill

I want every student to be marked fairly. This is personal to me. I've heard from fellow students — and experienced it myself — that marking can feel inconsistent and sometimes unfair. That's not good enough. I will push for clearer, standardised marking rubrics across lecturers so that your grade reflects the quality of your work, not who happens to mark it. Every student deserves that baseline of fairness and transparency.

I also want you to always know where to turn. I've been in the position of wanting to raise a concern about a lecturer's behaviour and not knowing who to speak to. It's isolating, and it shouldn't happen. I will work to create a clear, accessible complaints process and ensure staff are held accountable when professional boundaries are not respected.

Finally, I want to keep the momentum going by continuing the great work James, our previous president.

ART AND DESIGN

Holly Shaw

My name is Holly Shaw and I'm a second year textiles student. I am nominating myself for Art and design President.

If I were to succeed, I would aim to make DJCAD more celebratory of students work and try to give students a larger involvement in leadership.

I would want to create a committee format for DJCAD, using representatives from each subject.

I would aim to have an active social media account shining light on students work, creative opportunity's in: Dundee, surrounding areas and in DJCAD. I would also want to give more visibility to DJCAD society's and events.

I would also try to make general foundation more inclusive and approachable: as in meeting older students earlier on, increased examples of what is expected in regards of quality of work and also allowing for more mingling opportunities earlier on in the year.

ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING

Rachael Livingstone

I am running for Division President of Architecture and Urban Planning to strengthen our community, amplify student voices and ensure our school works *with* us, not around us.

When delays to staff contracts disrupted teaching, I worked to bridge the communication gap between students and staff, helping restore dialogue and support during a challenging period. This experience reinforced the importance of clear advocacy and proactive engagement with the university.

As President, I will prioritise consistent communication and transparent decision-making processes. I will ensure students are informed, supported and represented before issues escalate. I am currently Vice President of Students at RIBA and will ensure there will be a more direct channel for students seeking opportunities and support beyond the University.

Architecture and Urban Planning require collaboration, foresight and accountability. I will bring these same principles in working to strengthen our academic community and create a stable, supportive environment for all students.

LAW:

Ephraim Huzey

Hi, I'm Ephraim 1st year English Law (Graduate Accelerated Program) and I'm running for Law Division President to improve our student experience.

My goal is simple: make support easier to access, provide more immediate feedback and ensure your voice is heard where it truly matters.

I'll introduce a peer tutoring system that complements our existing support. This will give law students easier access to help from peers who've excelled, including assistance with legal writing. Additionally, I'll create a real-time anonymous feedback system so you can raise issues as they arise rather than waiting until the end of the semester.

I'm also committed to strengthening student representation. This means ensuring students from all year groups are directly heard by staff and decision-makers, so your concerns lead to tangible action.

BETTER SUPPORT, STRONGER VOICE.

POSTGRADUATE (SRC)

Liam Brown

I have been a Postgraduate Student here at the University of Dundee for 3 out of the last 4 years, and am currently serving the Business discipline as a student representative while I am in the second year of my PhD. Based on this experience that I hold, I am running for the position of Postgraduate Representative on the SRC on three pillars for my campaign:

Blurring the lines between Disciplines: I want to foster interdisciplinary lines when it comes to collaboration on papers during students' postgraduate degrees that go beyond their own discipline

More Internal Events: More events run, both professional and social, specifically tailored for postgraduate students at different levels of study and disciplines

Amplify Postgrad Voices in DUSA and University discussions: I am well-versed in representing the student voice, so I would make sure to represent everyone in our Postgrad communities in institution-wide discussions

Careers and Employability (SRC)

Ibukunoluwa Akiode

Hello, I'm Ibukunoluwa Akiode, and I am running for the Careers and Employability Representative role.

A lot of students feel lost when it comes to **finding opportunities, building experience, and preparing for life after university**. I understand this because I am going through it myself.

I am running to make career support **clearer and easier to access**.

If elected, I will focus on three key areas:

- **Making opportunities easier to find** so students do not miss out.
- **Providing practical support** through workshops on CVs, applications, and interviews that actually help.
- **Creating real connections** between students, alumni, and employers in a way that feels accessible.

I will also **listen to student feedback** and work with DUSA and the Careers Service.

I am **proactive, involved, and committed** to helping students build their future.

Thank you for reading, and I hope I can count on your support.

Ibukunoluwa Akiode

International student rep (SRC)

Meshach Michael Innocent

I, Innocent Meshach Michael, am running for International Student Representative to ensure every international student feels heard, supported, and included in university life.

As an international student, I know the challenges we face adjusting to a new academic system, adapting to a different culture, and navigating finances, accommodation, and career uncertainty. These are real experiences that deserve stronger representation and practical solutions.

If elected, I will be a strong, active voice for international students. I will push for clearer communication with the university, better academic guidance, improved wellbeing support and more opportunities tailored to our needs. I am committed to building a connected community through inclusive events and networking opportunities, ensuring no student feels alone.

I will also promote awareness of internships, part-time roles, and career support services.

I am approachable, proactive, dedicated to serve. Vote for me, and together we will build a more inclusive and supportive student experience.