

DUSA Executive Manifesto 2026/27



**Dundee University
Students' Association** _____

Introduction



DUSA exists to represent, support and empower every student at the University of Dundee. Whether you need advice, opportunities, community, or someone to speak up on your behalf, we're here.

This manifesto sets out what your Executive team will focus on in 2026/27, built around three priorities:

- 1 Supporting your academic experience**
- 2 Building belonging and supporting your wellbeing**
- 3 Being open, honest and accessible**

Each section below explains why the priority matters and what we commit to doing. A separate Action Plan will set out the specific activities, timescales and measures behind each commitment, and we will report on progress against it during the year.



The year ahead

2026/27 will not be an ordinary year. The University is continuing to implement significant changes as it works through its financial recovery, and students will feel the effects in their teaching, support services and across campus. Our job is to make sure students are not an afterthought in those decisions: that changes affecting your course are communicated properly and in good time, that mitigations are in place where your learning is disrupted, and that student views are heard before decisions are made, rather than after. Where we need to challenge the University on your behalf, we will continue to do so.

There will be moments when we have to adapt quickly and work hard to make sure changes are communicated clearly. Throughout all of this, our priority remains the same: representing you, protecting your interests, and making sure students have a meaningful voice in what comes next.

1 Supporting your academic experience

Why this matters

From teaching and assessment to placements, timetabling and learning resources, students deserve a real voice in the decisions that shape their education. Academic feedback should visibly lead to change, and the Course Representatives and Division Presidents who carry that feedback should be properly equipped to do it.



What we will do

- **Strengthen academic representation** across the University, and give Course Representatives and Division Presidents the training, resources and support they need to be effective.
- **Work with representatives** to identify student concerns early and pursue them through the right channels.
- **Advocate for improvements** to teaching, assessment and the wider learning experience.
- **Press for students to be meaningfully involved** in decisions about their education - including in the design of academic policy, not only its delivery.
- **Improve how academic changes are communicated** to students, and make it clearer how student feedback has influenced decisions.
- **Celebrate student achievements** and the contributions students make across the University, the city and beyond.



2. Building, belonging, and supporting your wellbeing



Why this matters

University should be a place where everyone feels welcome, supported and able to take part. Loneliness, financial pressure, accessibility barriers and competing responsibilities all make it harder to get involved - and students based away from the main campus or studying at a distance can find it harder still.



What we will do



Support welcoming and inclusive communities that reflect and celebrate our diverse student body.



Promote opportunities to get involved in societies, sport, volunteering, workshops and career events, and work to remove the cost and access barriers that keep students out of them.



Improve awareness and use of wellbeing services and support, so students know what exists before they need it.



Improve inclusion for off-main-campus and distance learners.



Back initiatives that bring students together across different courses, campuses and backgrounds.



Work with student groups, volunteers and the University to strengthen the wider student experience.



3. Being open, honest, and accessible



Why this matters

You should know how decisions are made, where to go when something isn't right, and what happened to the feedback you gave. That means representatives who are visible and easy to contact, and a Students' Association that explains its own work plainly.



What we will do



Gather your feedback through a range of accessible forums and channels, in person and online.



Report back on the issues you raise and the progress being made on them, so you can see what your feedback changed.



Make student representatives easier to find, identify, and contact.



Create regular opportunities to meet your Executive and your representatives.



Signpost students clearly to the support, advice, and opportunities available to them.

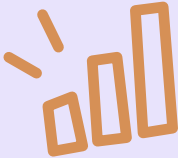


Be transparent about our decisions and our performance against this manifesto.



Who leads what



Priority	Executive lead(s)
 Academic experience	VP Academia; VP Representation
 Belonging and wellbeing	VP Student Wellbeing; VP Student Activities; VP Community
 Open, honest and accessible	President; VP Representation
 Cross-cutting: funding activities and student opportunities	VP Fundraising



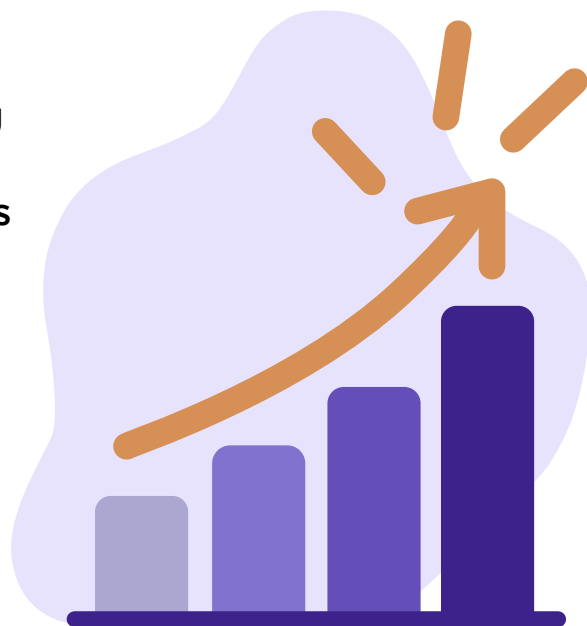
Every member of the Executive contributes across all three priorities; the leads above are the people to contact first.



Measuring our progress

This manifesto sets direction. The accompanying Action Plan sets out how we will get there and how progress will be measured, including targets for engagement with student democracy, participation in activities, awareness of support services, and student confidence in academic representation.

We will publish updates against the Action Plan during the year so you can judge our performance the yourself.



Conclusion

Our priority is you. We will keep you informed, seek out your feedback, and make sure there are meaningful opportunities to shape the decisions that affect you - working alongside student representatives, the University, and the wider Dundee community.

We're here to advocate for you, collaborate with you, and help shape a university you're proud to be part of.



DUSA Executive Committee 2026/27



President

Tom Christison



Vice President
of Academia

Ramya Shiva



Vice President
of Representation

Chethan Gollahalli



Vice President
of Student Wellbeing

Ruby Mugisha



Vice President
of Community

Sean Kwok



Vice President
of Fundraising

Rachel Robertson



Vice President
of Student Activities

Sam Murray

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