

# STUDENT ELECTIONS

# MANIFESTO GUIDE!

*The*  
**UNION**

# 2026/27

# WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

This booklet contains all the information you need about this year's Student Elections.

## THIS YEAR, YOU WILL BE ELECTING FOUR OFFICER ROLES:

- ✘ Opportunities Officer
- ✘ Welfare Officer
- ✘ Education Officer
- ✘ Inclusion Officer

These Officers will lead The University of Portsmouth Students' Union for the 2026/27 Academic Year and will represent your interests at the highest levels of the University of Portsmouth.

Details about each role and the candidates running for each position are in the next few pages.

We will also explain how you can vote on the next page.

The voting platform can be found at:

**[UPSU.NET/VOTE](https://upsu.net/vote)**

The UPSU Elections Team

# HOW TO VOTE

Voting will open at 9am on Monday 16th March and will be open 24 hours a day.

Voting will close at 1pm on Thursday 19th March.

You can cast your vote at the following link:

**[UPSU.NET/VOTE](https://upsu.net/vote)**

Or scan the QR code:



---

## WHAT IS TRANSFERABLE VOTING?

For our Student Elections, we use something called Transferable Voting. It might sound complicated, but it really isn't!

You just need to rank the candidates in order of preference, with 1 being your top choice.

Make sure to rank all the candidates for each position.

It's a fairer way of choosing our Officers and means no student's vote goes to waste.

---

Results will be announced at  
**RESULTS NIGHT ON 19TH MARCH**

All students are welcome to come along.

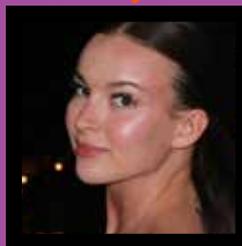
# WELFARE OFFICER

## CANDIDATES

This role leads student welfare and wellbeing at UoP and UPSU, focusing on mental health, belonging, and support. It works with the university, local organisations, and national bodies to improve wellbeing initiatives and access to support.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Advocate for student welfare, mental health, and belonging.
- Strengthen UoP's Wellbeing Strategy and services.
- Build partnerships with local councils, NHS, and charities.
- Address emerging student welfare issues.
- Support wellbeing initiatives for student groups and volunteers.
- Lead welfare-based societies and inclusion efforts.
- Drive awareness campaigns on mental health and wellbeing.



# MD TASNIMUL HASAN

- Active Approach: Continuous touch points & training of PATs, so no one feels like a “burden”.
- Active Wellbeing: Break cost barriers with “Free-to-Play” sports & waivers for “Active Minds”.
- Active Resilience: Transform the Pantry to a “Student-led Coop” & improve financial support.
- Active Housing Rights: End the “Housing Nightmare” by holding rogue landlords accountable.
- Active Integration: Multi-language mental & financial guidance/support for international students



<https://allmy.online/MdHasan>

My name is Md Tasnimul Hasan, and I am standing to be your Welfare Officer to deliver the Active Agenda you deserve. Student well-being is not a “rescue mission” only for when things go wrong; it is a proactive commitment to your physical, mental, and financial health. In early 2026, 88% of students reported persistent worry about money—the highest level in six years. It is time to move beyond passive signposting to an Active Approach.

1. Active Approach: The current “No Wrong Door” policy is a start, but many students still feel like a “burden” when seeking help, often waiting months for external support or being ignored by the first person they approach. I will initiate a proactive program to build continuous touchpoints for you. I will mandate Mental Health and suicide awareness training for Personal Academic Tutors (PATs), ASK and the Academic Advice Team—your primary contacts on campus. By integrating Res Life, Union, Clinic, academic team and the Chaplaincy, we will conduct systematic wellbeing check-ins in campus hubs and halls. We won’t wait for you to find us; we will bring a comfortable, approval-based support system to you.
2. Active Mind, Active Body: Physical activity is proven to boost memory, mood, and mental health, yet costs are a barrier—with social “Play memberships” reaching £70-£85 and gym fees rising. I will lobby for “Free-to-Play” social matches/tournaments in football, cricket, basketball and other sports to encourage communication and health without the “membership wall”. I will also partner with different stakeholders to offer Diverse workshops & activities, as well as gym/society membership waivers.
3. Active Resilience: Moving from Aid to Dignity, With 93% of us cutting back on spending and many skipping meals to save money, I will transform UPSU Pantry into a sustainable, student-led cooperative. By providing food and essentials at cost price along with new opportunities, we replace temporary fixes with long-term financial dignity. I will also audit “hidden” course costs—like specialist equipment and field trips—to ensure they are covered by university bursaries and improve financial support.
4. Active Housing Rights: Ending the Nightmare Poor housing and rogue landlords cause severe mental and physical strain. I will stand for students facing damp, mold, and irresponsible behavior. I will lobby the City Council for a mandatory licensing scheme for large-scale providers to guarantee that every room is fit for habitation and delivered on time.
5. Active International Integration: Nearly 23% of us are international students, yet many feel ignored while facing culture shock and isolation. I will launch multi-language mental and financial guidance to ensure support is never “lost in translation”. I will also establish a formal protocol to provide immediate academic mitigation and financial grants for students affected by international crises.

It is time for a Students’ Union that works proactively for you. Vote Md Tasnimul Hasan for an Active, Healthy Portsmouth.

# JULIE KAPUSTOVA

- Therapy Pets for All. I will introduce regular Therapy Pets Days around exams and deadlines.
- Sexual Harassment Prevention – Safe, Supported, Heard. I will work on strengthening consent education, promoting bystander training, and pushing for clearer, more visible reporting pathways.
- Balance, Not Burnout. I will organise practical, realistic time-management workshops and create planner templates.
- Welfare That Feels Approachable. I will create content guides on available support, host informal drop-in sessions, and work directly with societies to bring welfare conversations into student spaces.



[https://linktr.ee/juli\\_for\\_welfare](https://linktr.ee/juli_for_welfare)

Hi, I am Julie, an MSc Forensic Psychology student, and I am running to be your Student Welfare Officer. I have been at the University of Portsmouth since starting my undergraduate degree in 2022, so this university feels like home to me. Originally from the Czech Republic, moving abroad has given me first-hand experience of how important it is to feel supported, included and safe at university.

I believe university should be challenging in a way that helps you grow, not overwhelming or isolating. Welfare is not just about crisis support; it is about a culture where you feel balanced and heard every single day. If elected, these are my priorities:

## Therapy Pets for All

As someone who misses my dog back home, I know how comforting animals can be during stressful periods. I want to introduce regular Therapy Pets Days on campus, particularly around exams and deadlines. I will work to include alternative therapy animals to ensure more students feel comfortable and included. Small moments of calm can make a big difference, and wellbeing support should feel accessible to everyone.

## Sexual Harassment Prevention - Safe, Supported, Heard

As a Forensic Psychology student, I understand how crucial prevention, education, and accountability are regarding sexual harassment. Every student deserves to feel safe. I will work to strengthen consent education, promote bystander training, and push for clearer, more visible reporting pathways. I will also advocate for transparent communication about what happens after a report is made. Support must be survivor-centred, accessible, and clearly signposted.

## Balance, Not Burnout

I take planning and scheduling seriously, and I know how powerful effective time management can be. Many students feel like they are constantly behind, juggling coursework, societies, part-time jobs, and their personal lives. I want to challenge this culture of overwhelm. I will organise practical, realistic time-management workshops designed around real student schedules, alongside tailored planner templates. University should be a place where you can thrive, not just survive.

## Welfare That Feels Approachable

As a certified Mental Health First Aider and Residence Life Assistant of three years, I believe welfare should be more visible and feel more approachable. Support services can sometimes feel intimidating or confusing. I will create clear guides on available support, host informal drop-in sessions, and work directly with societies to bring welfare conversations into student spaces.

Most importantly, I will listen. Welfare is not one-size-fits-all. I will create regular opportunities for student feedback, so support truly reflects your needs.

If elected, I promise to be approachable, proactive, and committed to making the university feel more manageable and genuinely supportive.

Let's create a campus where wellbeing is not an afterthought - it is a priority.

# SRINI SATHISH KUMAR

- Stronger housing support with clearer guidance on tenancy rights and accommodation help.
- Clearer financial support with better access to hardship funds and cost-of-living help
- Free or low-cost breakfast mornings to support student wellbeing
- Free period products in key campus washrooms to support dignity and wellbeing.
- A safer campus – promote consent, bystander awareness, and stigma-free sexual health info.



<https://linktr.ee/SriniSathishKumar>

University life can be exciting, but it also comes with real pressures. I know that for many students, the biggest stresses are often the everyday things like housing, money, and simply feeling safe and supported on campus.

Student welfare is not only about responding when things go wrong. It is about making everyday university life easier, less stressful, and more supportive so students can focus on learning, growing, and enjoying their time at university.

Housing is one issue that deserves more attention. Finding somewhere affordable, understanding tenancy agreements, and dealing with deposits can be confusing and stressful, especially for students navigating the process for the first time. I want students to feel informed and supported when making housing decisions. As Welfare Officer, I will advocate for clearer guidance on tenancy rights and ensure that student housing concerns are consistently raised with the university and relevant partners.

Financial pressure is another challenge many students face, and it can have a real impact on wellbeing. When students are worried about money, it becomes harder to focus on studies and maintain balance in university life. Support should be simple and easy to access. I will advocate for clearer information about hardship funds and financial assistance so students know what support is available and how to access it. I also want to introduce regular free or low-cost breakfast mornings on campus, because sometimes small, practical support can make a meaningful difference to a student's day.

Access to essential hygiene products should never be a source of stress. Students often spend long hours on campus, particularly in study spaces such as the library, and basic necessities should be easily available. I will push for free period products in key campus washrooms to support dignity, accessibility, and equality for all students.

Students also deserve to feel safe and supported on campus. This includes clear reporting systems, visible support for survivors of harassment or assault, and better awareness of the services available. I will work to promote consent education, encourage bystander awareness, advocate for stigma-free sexual health information so students feel confident accessing the support they need. And ensure student safety concerns are consistently raised with university leadership.

Welfare means stability, dignity, and support. I am committed to being an approachable advocate who listens to students and works to ensure their concerns lead to meaningful action.

If you want a Welfare Officer who listens, advocates, and pushes for practical change, I would be honoured to have your vote.

# JAY SHARMA

- Mental Wellness - Help when you need it, and you are never alone in this journey
- Community And Belonging – Together we are stronger, because every student deserves to belong
- Staying Informed - Welfare that finds you, so you never have to search alone
- Everyday Wellbeing - With you every step of the way, through the good days and the hard ones
- Your Safety Matters – A campus where you always feel secure



<https://jayforwelfare.netlify.app/>

Hi everyone, I'm Jay, a MSc Data Analytics student here at Portsmouth running to be your Welfare Officer!

As an international student myself, I understand how it feels to navigate university life far from home, balance academic pressure and sometimes not even know where to turn for support, and that is exactly why I'm here, so here is my commitment to you:

## Mental Wellness and Support

As we all know Mental health is the #1 priority for students at Portsmouth, I will push for faster access to counselling services, introduce peer support networks where students can talk confidentially, and organise regular mental health workshops and awareness campaigns, so no student should struggle in silence. I will advocate for open door support, so help is always within reach with regular check-ins

## Community and Belonging

Too many students especially international, postgrad and mature students feel invisible and disconnected. I will make sure to create inclusive social events, establish a buddy and mentorship system, and provide clear guidance on joining clubs and societies. Because community is not just about fun, but it directly helps with motivation and mental wellbeing. No student should feel like an outsider at Portsmouth

## Staying Informed

If you do not know support exists, it may as well not exist. I will ensure every student receives regular wellbeing emails, knows exactly where to get mental health support, and never misses an event or resource. One clear welfare hub, better advertising, and direct communication so that welfare will come to you, not the other way around

## Everyday Wellbeing

Wellbeing is not just for crisis moments. I will introduce pre-exam stress relief sessions, relaxation events and anonymous support channels for those who are not ready to speak up. I will run budgeting and financial wellbeing workshops because financial stress directly impacts mental health. During assessment periods, I will ensure physical and emotional support is always available, from healthy eating guidance and stress management

## Your Safety Matters

Every student deserves to feel safe on campus, I will advocate for clear and visible reporting routes for harassment and misconduct, promote safety awareness especially for international and vulnerable students, and ensure anonymous reporting channels are accessible to all, and I will also collaborate with local authorities to make sure improvements are made where they are needed most

“Welfare starts with community, Let's build one together where every student feels supported , included and heard”

# FADEKEMI OLASINMIBO OBASA

- Improve access to welfare support
- Strengthen student voice in welfare decisions
- Support mental health during high-pressure academic periods
- Build a stronger sense of belonging across campus
- Use data and student feedback to improve welfare services



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fadekemi-obasa-3b630896/>

At the University of Portsmouth, we are a vibrant community of over 30,000 students. Every student arrives here with ambition, yet many face challenges such as financial pressure, academic stress, loneliness, or uncertainty about where to find help. Welfare should never feel distant or complicated. It should be visible, accessible, and centred on students.

As Welfare Officer, my mission is clear: Turning Welfare Into Action. I will align student wellbeing with the University of Portsmouth 6Ps Education Strategy as follows: Prospect, Portfolio, Partnership, Place, Principles for Practice, and Pedagogy for Participation. This ensures welfare becomes a core part of the student experience, not an afterthought.

#### Prospect; Supporting Your Future

Your wellbeing should empower your future, not limit it. I will collaborate with careers and student support services to promote career wellbeing workshops that help students manage stress, build resilience, and prepare confidently for life after graduation. When students receive support early, they are more likely to succeed academically and professionally. Goal: Increase awareness of career-linked wellbeing support by 50% within one year.

#### Portfolio; Supporting You Through Your Course

Academic pressure is one of the biggest wellbeing challenges students face. I will work closely with course representatives and academic departments to ensure student concerns about workload, deadlines, and assessment pressure are heard and addressed. I will advocate for stronger welfare awareness during exams and dissertation periods, ensuring students know where to access support when it matters most. Goal: Introduce termly wellbeing feedback channels between students and faculties.

#### Partnership; Working Together for Better Support

Effective welfare requires collaboration. I will establish a Student Welfare Partnership Forum, bringing together student leaders, wellbeing services, and community organisations to address issues such as housing challenges, cost-of-living pressures, and access to local support. Goal: Deliver three partnership forums annually to strengthen support networks.

#### Place; Creating a Community of Belonging

University should be a place where every student feels they belong. I will expand inclusive wellbeing events for international, postgraduate, mature, and distance-learning students while promoting safe and welcoming wellbeing spaces across campus. Goal: Engage 15,000 students in wellbeing and belonging initiatives within one year.

#### Principles for Practice: Welfare Guided by Evidence

Good decisions require good data. I will introduce a Student Welfare Pulse Survey to identify student challenges and ensure services respond to real needs. Goal: Increase awareness of welfare services across the student body by 60%.

#### Pedagogy for Participation; Your Voice Matters

Students must shape the systems designed to support them. I will strengthen platforms for students to raise concerns, share solutions, and influence welfare policies that impact their university experience.

When students feel supported, they thrive.

Vote Fadekemi for Welfare Officer

Turning Welfare Into Action

Your Voice. Your Welfare. Your Future

# RHIANNA BROWN

- Better support for grievance within student groups
- Developing events for students to relieve academic pressures
- Advocating for neurodivergent students and supporting their growth within University
- Working with the community to make the streets of Portsmouth safe for students
- International students enrich our university community, I will work to ensure they feel supported



[https://www.instagram.com/oso.rhi\\_x](https://www.instagram.com/oso.rhi_x)

Student wellbeing should never be an afterthought. Every student deserves to feel supported, safe, and heard throughout their university experience. I am running for Welfare Officer because I care deeply about the wellbeing of our community and believe welfare support must be visible, accessible, and stigma-free. As the president of a society, I have seen first hand where improvements can be made to strengthen support systems and enhance the student experience. My goal is to work alongside students to build a university environment where everyone can thrive.

**Stronger Support for Grievances in Student Groups-** Students should feel confident speaking up when problems arise. I will work to improve awareness and understanding of grievance processes within societies and student groups. This includes promoting the reporting system more clearly, providing training and support for committee members, and ensuring issues are addressed quickly and fairly. By making the process clearer and easier to access, we can create communities where students feel safe raising concerns.

**Events that Help Students Manage Academic Pressure-** University can be demanding, and students need opportunities to step back, recharge, and connect with others. I want to develop and promote events that help students relieve academic stress while creating positive and inclusive experiences. By collaborating with societies and listening to student feedback, we can design activities that students genuinely want and that support mental wellbeing across campus.

**Advocacy and Support for Neurodivergent Students-** Neurodivergent students deserve an environment that understands and supports their needs. I will advocate for tailored events, clearer support structures, and community led initiatives that help neurodivergent students succeed. I also want to encourage greater awareness among staff and students, promoting better understanding and more inclusive engagement across the university.

**Safer Streets for Students in Portsmouth-** Student wellbeing extends beyond campus. I will work with local partners, student representatives, and security to promote safer streets around student areas in Portsmouth. This includes advocating for improved lighting, promoting safety awareness, exploring initiatives such as a Safe Walk scheme, and ensuring clear systems exist for reporting harassment or unsafe incidents. Every student deserves to feel safe in their community.

**Supporting and Integrating International Students-** International students enrich our university community, and they should feel truly included, not just welcomed. I want to strengthen support for international students academically, socially, and emotionally by promoting existing services, creating integration events, and ensuring students know where to find help if they are struggling. I will also advocate for clearer guidance around financial support and resources so no student feels lost or unsupported.

Welfare is about building a culture where students look out for each other and know support is always available. I want every student to have a positive, meaningful, and empowering university experience, one where wellbeing is prioritised and everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

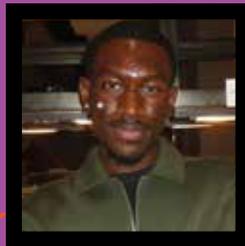
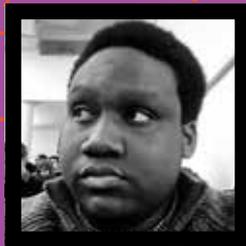
# INCLUSION OFFICER

## CANDIDATES

This role advocates for underrepresented students at UoP and UPSU, increasing engagement, removing barriers, and leading inclusion efforts. It involves research, campaigns, and collaboration with student officers and university committees to drive equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI).

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent and support underrepresented student groups.
- Research and engage diverse communities.
- Remove barriers to student involvement.
- Lead inclusion campaigns and policies.
- Work with university staff and officers on EDI.
- Act as a key contact for PGM Ambassadors and liberation societies.
- Influence university decisions on diversity.
- Support cultural awareness events.



# BENJAMIN VARGA

- Include and Involve: Broaden DEI events and advocate for all societies year-round.
- Market and Collab: Boost engagement through marketing, outreach, and continue Campus Chat growth.
- Student Council – Driven by Students: Empower student-led change with part-time officers and HYS.
- Bringing Back the Union Bar: Secure a bar and events space for students in new building plans.
- More Events: Host more fundraisers like a cultural food festival and/or a music festival.



[https://linktr.ee/vote\\_ben\\_no1\\_for\\_inclusion](https://linktr.ee/vote_ben_no1_for_inclusion)

Hello, my name is Benjamin Varga, and I am running to be your Inclusion Officer!

To me, inclusion is about community - a shared community of students with different backgrounds, viewpoints and individual people that all share a common theme: being an important part of this University.

As the present Democracy Assistant at the Students' Union, I have seen the progress the Union has made. Having had the role in a previous year, I think I have the experience to see where Student Voice needs improvement. I take pride in tripling the number of petitions that have come into the Union and assisting with productive council meetings and various campaigns. If elected, my main objective would be to act upon student matters and would work to have a team with tailored roles to give the best support where it's needed.

I would like to see more diversity and events with more participants therefore; I would push for a management with an open mind towards diversity to within what's on offer. Effective collaboration, marketing and accessible venues would be high on my priority when planning such events. I know how crucial events spaces are for student groups and societies, having had to negotiate many room bookings as the Events Secretary for the Music Society in 23/24.

I am keen to hear what ideas students have for the Union where you feel valued, heard, and represented. As an International Relations and Languages course rep at all three levels and as the 23/24 President of Politics society and currently the 25/26 Social Media Secretary of Politics Society, I try to be involved in improving student experiences and academia for all students.

If you vote for me, I promise a Students' Union that is: proactive, prominent and most of all inclusive.

# QUADRI ALESHE

- REACH the unengaged and recognize every culture.
- REINFORCE the impact of liberation groups and PGM Ambassadors.
- REACH the unengaged and recognize every culture
- REPRESENT underrepresented voices at the highest University levels.
- REFORM the student experience through evidence-based EDI work.



## The Inclusion Manifesto: A Union for Every Student

My mission is simple: to ensure the University of Portsmouth Students' Union (UPSU) has a positive impact on every student. As your Inclusion Officer, I will not just “hold a seat”—I will be the lead representative for underrepresented groups, developing targeted strategies to engage those who currently feel left out of the conversation.

My Three Core Pledges:

1. **Breaking Barriers:** I will actively lead on removing or minimising the barriers—whether financial, social, or physical—that prevent you from joining Sports, Societies, and Union representation.
2. **Radical Accountability:** I will be your voice at key University committees, using evidence-based research to influence EDI (Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion) work. I will hold the University to account, acting as a dedicated partner to the PGM Ambassadors and a lead officer for liberation societies.
3. **Strategic Impact:** As a Trustee, I will oversee the Union's £1.6m turnover to ensure our strategy focuses on your welfare and development. I will ensure the Union complies with relevant charity law while delivering high-impact events like Black History Month and LGBT+ History Month.

I am committed to listening and acting on the student voice throughout my year in office. Together, we can build a community where every culture is recognised and every student belongs.

# VICTOR OSHOMA AUDU

- You shouldn't have to explain yourself to feel supported.
- Your identity deserves respect — not a form, not a process.
- Someone who gets it, in every faculty. That's the promise.
- Your voice will be heard. I'll make sure of it.



<https://beacons.ai/victoraudu>

I know what it feels like to walk into a room and wonder if you truly belong there. I know what it means to navigate a system that wasn't designed with you in mind — where finding support depends on knowing who to ask, and not everyone does. That experience doesn't make me angry. It makes me determined. As your Inclusion Officer, I won't just talk about inclusion in meetings. I will build real structures that you can see and feel every single day at Portsmouth. Inclusion isn't a checkbox. It isn't a campaign week. It isn't a statement on a website. Inclusion is how safe you feel speaking in seminars. It's whether you can afford to join a society. It's whether your identity is respected without explanation. It's whether you — as an international student, a disabled student, a student of colour, an LGBTQ+ student, a carer, a student from a working-class background, a mature student, or a student of faith — feel like this university was built for you, too. I am running to make belonging the standard — not the exception.

## A Year Round Inclusion Calendar

My first commitment is a Year-Round Inclusion Calendar. Working with liberation groups, cultural societies, and faith communities, I will build a full calendar of events that runs throughout the entire academic year. More daytime events, accessible to all. Talks, panels, and presentations featuring world disruptors, pioneers, women in leadership, Black entrepreneurs, and trailblazers from all walks of life — educating the student body on global cultures and lived experiences. Not just awareness weeks.

## The Inclusion Ambassador Network

My second commitment is the Inclusion Ambassador Network. No student should feel lost just because they don't "speak the system." I will build a network of trained, paid student ambassadors drawn from diverse backgrounds — international students, disabled students, LGBTQ+ students, students of colour, and mature students — placed across every faculty. People who look like you have been where you are, and know how to navigate what you're going through. A one-stop peer support shop, because students' time and lived experience have real value.

## Your Voice Into Visible Action

My third commitment is turning your voice into visible action. I will run regular Student Voice Forums for underrepresented groups — including liberation groups, neurodiverse students, care leavers, and commuter students — with fully anonymous options. I will introduce a simplified, stigma-free anonymous tool to report microaggressions, accessibility barriers, and discrimination. Everything I hear goes into University committees and EDI work. And I will publish "You Said / We Did" updates after every forum — transparent, honest, and specific — so you always know what has changed and where we are still pushing.

This university belongs to every student who walks through its doors — Black, Brown, and White students; disabled students; LGBTQ+ students; international students; students of faith; working-class students; mature students; carers. You deserve to feel at home here. You deserve to be seen, heard, and supported. Vote Victor Audu — because inclusion isn't a checkbox. It's a commitment.

# MD FAZLULLAH CHOWDHURY

- Improve accessibility across campus and SU events
- Strengthen support for underrepresented student groups
- Zero tolerance for discrimination and harassment
- Create safe spaces and regular student listening forums
- Promote inclusive policies in all SU activities



Inclusion is not just a value – it is a responsibility. As your Inclusion Officer, I will work to ensure that every student at the University of Portsmouth feels seen, heard, respected, and empowered.

Our university is diverse in culture, race, gender identity, sexuality, religion, disability status, socioeconomic background, and lived experience. This diversity is our strength. However, inclusion requires more than representation; it requires action, accountability, and continuous improvement.

If elected, I will focus on creating safe spaces where students from underrepresented and marginalised communities feel genuinely supported. I will actively collaborate with student networks, societies, liberation groups, and university departments to address barriers that prevent full participation in academic and social life.

I am committed to promoting equality of opportunity, improving accessibility across campus, and amplifying student voices in decision-making spaces. I will advocate for stronger anti-discrimination measures, culturally aware wellbeing support, and practical initiatives that reduce financial and structural inequalities.

Inclusion should be embedded in everything the Students' Union does — from events and campaigns to policy and representation. I will push for inclusive event planning, accessible communication, and meaningful consultation with students whose voices are too often overlooked.

Most importantly, I will listen. I will create open channels for feedback, host listening sessions, and ensure transparency in my work. Inclusion is not about speaking for students; it is about working with students.

Together, we can build a Students' Union where everyone belongs — not in theory, but in practice.

# OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER

## CANDIDATES

This role champions student opportunities at UoP and UPSU, overseeing employability, student groups, sports, and personal development. It ensures students have access to meaningful extracurricular experiences, skill development, and career opportunities while fostering engagement in student-led activities.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Advocate for employability and personal development.
- Support student groups, sports clubs, and academic societies.
- Lead on student fundraising, volunteering, and events.
- Strengthen the Sports Partnership with UoP.
- Support representation and engagement in student activities.
- Collaborate on training, wellbeing, and development campaigns.



# ARCHANA BADINENI

- JOB FAIRS, CV clinics & hands-on employability workshops for every student.
- Open Library, Eldon, Park, King Henry, Portland & Richmond extended hours, every day.
- Simpler funding, real visibility & dedicated support for SOCIETIES.
- Flexible, wellbeing-first opportunities! built around your actual life.



<https://linktr.ee/archana.badineni>

Hey everyone! I'm running for Opportunities Officer to make this place work for You All.

I'm Archana, an MA Interior Architecture & Design student, Student Ambassador, and Hindu Society committee member and a member of Architecture Society. I've walked through this university as a student, a committee member, and an Ambassador, working hand in hand with staff. That journey has given me a clear picture of what this university does well and where it can do even better for Us.

As your Opportunities Officer, here is what I will do -

1. Employability Support That Reaches Every Student.

Regular on-campus job fairs - bringing real employers directly to you every semester. Hands-on CV clinics, cover letter workshops, and portfolio sessions for creative students.

Targeted support for International Students navigating the UK job market for the first time.

2. More Buildings. More Hours. No More Hunting for a Desk.

Push to open Park, King Henry, Portland & Richmond with extended hours across the full week. Quiet zones for focused study and collaborative spaces for group work are available every day. Proper venues for society meetings so committees don't have to wait for a room each time.

3. Societies That Are Supported!! Not Just Tolerated.

Simplify the funding process; no more applications that drag on for weeks. Proper promotion for every society, not just what they can manage on their own social media. A dedicated support contact for all committees, regardless of size or how new they are.

4. A Gym You Can Actually Use. A Life You Can Actually Balance.

Extend Ravelin opening hours and introduce optional time-slot booking, gym on your schedule. Flexible UPSU opportunities designed around part-time work, heavy workloads, and real life. Working with the Welfare Officer to ensure every student is genuinely supported.

What makes me different from other candidates?

I bring postgraduate study, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE, and a year of working inside this university as an Ambassador and Hindu Society Committee member. I haven't just witnessed the gaps! I've lived them.

I know who to speak to, how decisions get made, and how to turn a manifesto into something students actually feel. I will amplify STUDENT VOICE where it matters most.

For Best Opportunities! Vote Archana Badineni.

For every student, at every stage!

# AMNA HABIB

- Equal access to jobs, internships, and placements
- Weekly updates on opportunities and events
- Strong employer and industry connections
- Extra support for international and new students
- Practical workshops to build skills and confidence



As an international student, I understand first-hand how overwhelming it can feel to build a future in a completely new country. When you first arrive, everything is unfamiliar, the education system, the job market, the expectations, and even where to begin looking for support. While we are often given general advice like how to write a CV or update LinkedIn, we are rarely given real, practical guidance on how to actually secure opportunities. After that, many students are left to figure everything out alone.

Finding internships, part-time jobs, placements, or roles related to our field becomes a stressful and confusing process. Many of us spend hours searching online without knowing which opportunities are genuine or suitable. At the same time, we are balancing lectures, assignments, exams, and the personal challenges of adapting to a new environment. This pressure can make students feel lost, demotivated, and disconnected from their career goals.

I believe it shouldn't be this way. Opportunities should not be hidden or difficult to access. Every student, regardless of their background or experience, deserves clear guidance, equal access, and the right support to grow professionally and personally. No one should miss out simply because they didn't know where to look or who to ask.

This is why I want to become your Opportunities Officer.

My aim is to make opportunities visible, accessible, and achievable for everyone. I will ensure that students receive regular updates about internships, placements, volunteering roles, workshops, and networking events through clear and organised communication. I want to work closely with employers, university departments, and student societies to bring more career fairs, guest speakers, and skill-building sessions directly onto campus.

I am particularly passionate about supporting international and first-year students, who often feel the most uncertain. Having experienced these challenges myself, I want to create a system where students feel guided rather than alone. Whether it is helping someone find their first job, preparing them for interviews, or connecting them with the right people, I want to provide practical support that makes a real difference.

My leadership style is approachable, organised, and action-focused. I am someone who listens carefully, understands problems, and works consistently to find solutions. I don't believe in empty promises. I believe in results that students can actually see and benefit from.

Together, we can create a community where opportunities are shared openly, support is always available, and every student feels confident about their future. If elected as your Opportunities Officer, I will work hard to open doors, reduce stress, and help you move one step closer to your goals.

# FIDELIA ULREEN FIDEL- TURAY

- Introducing development schemes to support the strengthening of students' skills, experiences & professional readiness.
- Increasing awareness and access to support services, so student know exactly who to go to for help.
- Empowering students to take on the challenge to design, organise, plan and execute projects, events, fund-raisers, exhibits etc.
- Creating inclusive safe spaces where hard conversations are made easy through safeguarding, compassion & open mindedness.



<https://linktr.ee/fideliaturay>

My experience as a student has shown me how different life could be if I said “yes” more often. “Yes”, to being on the student council, to applying for that intern/mentorship, to joining a sport club or society – to being on the committee, to having the hard conversations; to challenging myself.

Opportunities exist to support students with the resources to grow beyond academic reach, providing spaces where students feel empowered to either commit to their passions or to self-discovery. Experience is an irreplaceable teacher, stepping outside of your comfort zone to try new things gives you the chance to test your limits, learn transferable skills, grow your network and to practice resilience.

UPSU exists to turn an “I can’t.” into “I can’t, yet.” because all you need is the resources, the room and the guidance to try something new and to see that you can.

“Most people live in a restricted circle of their full potential.” ~ William James, pioneer of psychology.

My campaign is founded on a mission to make it easier for students to bridge the gap between what they are capable of doing and what they end up accomplishing, both in their time at university and after that; you already pay for the resources, I want you to know how to access them.

**DEVELOPMENT & CAREER SUPPORT:** Unlocking doors to support the strengthening of students' skills, experiences & professional readiness.

Diversify how career/skill building events, workshops & programmes are implemented & promoted to ensure information reaches students directly.

Advocate for accredited development schemes which compliment/substitute a placement year or traditional work experience.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Many students are unaware of the services available for support. My goal is to increase awareness and access to these services, so students know exactly who to go to for help.

Multiply the SU's efforts at direct outreach to the student body through visibility and engagement on campus/online promoting a presence & purpose.

Introducing support services ambassadors so that students learn about accessing university resources through first hand encounters

Incorporate programs which allow students access to university & UPSU resources at lower or no cost – society/sport trials, workshop room access etc.

**EMPOWERMENT:** Empowering students to take on the challenge to design, organise, plan and execute projects, events, fund-raisers, exhibits etc.

Encourage students to organise & deliver student-led activities supported & funded through UPSU project initiatives. Strengthen connections between ICP, distance, mature & under-represented students and the Student Union through collaborative enrichments.

**COMMUNITY & WELFARE:** Creating inclusive safe spaces where hard conversations are made easy through safeguarding, compassion & open mindedness.

The Buddy Bubble – a designated social space where students are empowered to go up to one another and initiate conversations without a fear of rejection.

The Conversation Pit – a weekly discussion event championed by open dialogue and safeguarding. Discussion topics are proposed, voted on and rooted in sharing knowledge and experiences within a student space.

# DHWANI MITTAL

- Learn with Startups, Not Just Textbooks
- Real Hiring, Real Connections
- Stronger Job Opportunities for International Students
- Real-World Skill Training on Campus
- Complete Support for Your Career Journey



## 1. Learn with Startups, Not Just Textbooks

I will work with the University to build strong collaborations with startups and growing businesses, giving students the opportunity to work on live projects during their studies. This will allow students to gain hands-on experience, build portfolio-worthy work, and develop the confidence required in today's competitive job market.

- Work on real industry projects
- Build portfolio-ready experience
- Gain the skills employers look for

## 2. Real Hiring, Real Connections

I will push for more on-campus employer engagement, including offline recruitment events, placement drives, and talent showcases. These opportunities will allow employers to interact directly with students and evaluate their creativity, communication, and potential, rather than relying only on automated systems

- Offline placement drives
- Talent showcases and skill competitions
- Face-to-face networking with employers

## 3. Stronger Job Opportunities for International Students

Many international students face additional challenges when seeking employment, particularly due to visa requirements and limited employer awareness. I will work to encourage the University to connect with visa-aware employers and organizations that sponsor international talent.

## 4. Real-World Skill Training on Campus

I will advocate for experience-focused training programs on campus, including industry-led workshops, skill boot camps, and project-based training designed with employers. These programs will ensure that students graduate not only with knowledge, but also with practical skills that are directly relevant to real careers.

## 5. Complete Support for Your Career Journey

I will work with the University to strengthen end-to-end career support for students. This means helping students identify their career goals, understand the skills required for their chosen fields, gain the right project and internship experiences, and receive guidance throughout the entire application and interview process.

# CHARDAY STONE

- More Student Job Opportunities - Utilising existing University facilities and holding an Inclusive Careers Fair!
- Better Support for Clubs and Societies - Creating more collaboration opportunities and helping society-led events!
- More Accessible Funding - Revamping Grant Criteria to become clearer and easier for you to access, when you need it
- Ravelin for Everyone - Allowing more students to take part and continuing to make it more accessible
- Affordable Food on Campus - Set STUDENT prices at UoP Cafes, ensuring quick, tasty, nutritional food on the go



<https://linktr.ee/votecharday>

Hi everyone, I'm Charday, your current Opportunities Officer for 2025/26, and I'm running to be your Opportunities Officer again for 2026/27!

I've already achieved a lot this year, including completing my Manifesto Point for Free First Aid Courses, providing extra support to International Students with their Careers Concerns, and promoting our Careers and Employability Services available to students! Alongside organising LGBT+ History Month resources and our Crafts event, and working on the successful Black History Month Event, Pride and Power. My time in this role has been good, but there's still lots I want to do. As well as completing this year's Manifesto Points, I also have some fresh ideas to improve YOUR student experience:

## More Student Job Opportunities

Why make part-time job hunting difficult? By opening more student roles in University-owned facilities such as the Library, Cafes, Ravelin Sports Centre and more. Students can work flexible hours, allowing them to focus on their studies AND earn money. I will also work with the Careers and Employability Service to host our first Inclusive Careers Fair; this will feature employers from a range of backgrounds, specifically looking to employ Neurodiverse, LGBT+, PGM, and people from other protected characteristics.

## Better Support for Clubs and Societies

More collaboration opportunities and ultra-clear guides on the process of running events for Societies from the beginning. Integrating Team UoP and UPSU calendars, to ensure students have the biggest impact on Charities and key awareness weeks. As well as providing support to Society-led events to ensure they have everything they need to succeed! Creating transferable skills to put on your CV and boost employability.

## More Accessible Funding

Revamping the Grant Criteria to ensure rules are consistent between grants, as well as making it clearer and easier for students to access. This consistency will enable good practices and stop students from struggling to access it when they need it. Through these changes, more students will benefit from the grants and can access more opportunities.

## Ravelin for Everyone

Continue working with Sport and Recreation and lobbying with the University to ensure Ravelin Sports Centre is accessible for everyone. Focusing on how to make it more inclusive and where opportunities lie to give students more freedom with their exercise, whether it be through specialised hours, making amendments during religious/cultural events, or finding additional space for students to utilise.

## Affordable Food on Campus

Everyone deserves access to good food. With the stress of assessments and deadlines, students should be able to grab something to eat without incurring high financial costs. Therefore, I will work with UoP Cafes to offer student-priced to-go options and bundles, allowing you to eat well whilst on Campus. I will also work on improving the variety of food, so there is always something to suit everyone's needs/dietary requirements.

I've learnt the ropes of how the University and Union work, and now I'm ready to put this knowledge to even better use to provide the best opportunities for all students!

# NANA ADJEI

- Promote societies year-round with trailers, social media features, and marketing support
- Increase funding and awareness of the Society Development Grant
- Run more Union-society collaborative events to expand society reach
- Create more academic, networking, and sponsorship opportunities for societies.
- Introduce Society Awards with multiple categories, not just one winner



Hi, I'm Nana.

I'm running because I care deeply about student life at the University of Portsmouth, especially societies, and I don't think the Students' Union always gets it right. That's exactly why I chose to work within it. I wanted to understand how decisions are made so I could challenge what isn't working and help push for change that genuinely benefits students.

I'm strongly society-focused, which is what led me to take on the role of Student Groups Administrator. Working directly with societies and sports clubs has shown me how vital they are to student life, but also how often they're held back by poor communication, lack of visibility, or not knowing what support is available. Societies create community, friendships, and belonging, and I want to see them better promoted, better funded, and more recognised for the work they do. That includes stronger marketing support for societies, clearer access to development funding, and more opportunities for societies to collaborate directly with the Union.

I'm also passionate about employability and skills development, shaped by my experience as a Student Leaders Development Assistant and Student Voice Assistant. In these roles, I worked closely with students to turn feedback into action and saw first-hand how disconnected employability opportunities can feel from students' interests and society involvement. I want to help bridge that gap by encouraging more academic, networking, and sponsorship opportunities that are linked to what societies already do well.

I didn't get involved because I think everything works perfectly. I got involved because I believe it can work better. My goal is to make societies stronger, opportunities clearer, and the student experience more worthwhile, inclusive, and rewarding for everyone.

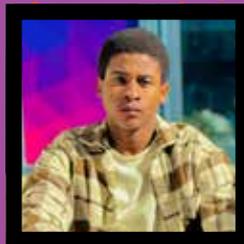
# EDUCATION OFFICER

## CANDIDATES

This role ensures strong academic representation at UoP and UPSU, improving the student learning experience through feedback, course reps, and university partnerships.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent students in academic matters at UoP and beyond.
- Lead the Course Rep scheme, training, and engagement.
- Oversee student feedback tools (e.g., StART, NSS) to drive improvements.
- Support Faculty Reps and UPSU's Advice Service.
- Strengthen student representation in university committees.
- Lead academic campaigns and co-creation initiatives.
- Collaborate on inclusion efforts to enhance diverse student engagement.



# JACK HAYES

- Focus on course rep system structure and use, push for greater accountability from Heads of School.
- Better support for learners with neurodiverse conditions.
- Make curriculum more accessible, also classroom environment to encourage students' liberation.
- Improve the experience of being a student, feeling happy and proud to study at Portsmouth.
- Working closely with staff and students, in collaboration to make you feel like you belong.



[https://linktr.ee/Jack\\_for\\_Education](https://linktr.ee/Jack_for_Education)

My aim as Education Officer is to work with the union, staff and students to streamline and strengthen the course representative system, and to allow both students and course reps for their feedback to be better heard and represented. In partnership with Student Services and the Welfare Officer, I will advocate for students who are struggling with their learning, helping them to better engage with their studies. I am particularly committed to improving support for neurodivergent and disabled students, drawing on my own lived experience in both classroom and accessibility settings to push for more inclusive and understanding practices in learning.

# CHINONSO ONWURAH

- Strengthening and consolidating the condensed timetable so it genuinely works for students.
- Strengthening policies around flexible assessment deadlines and extensions.
- Supporting the inclusion of students' voice and considerations in the new Connected Curriculum.
- Ensuring more university support for student societies and representation.
- Expand awareness and support accessibility for PGM students in relation to the award gap.



Chinonso Onwurah Manifesto for Education Officer.

My vision as Education Officer is simple: an academic experience that is fair, flexible, and genuinely shaped by students. Every student at the University of Portsmouth deserves an environment where their academic needs are understood, their voices matter, and their success is supported at every stage. I am committed to delivering meaningful change across teaching, assessment, representation, and student life.

A key priority for me is strengthening policies around flexible assessment DEADLINES and EXTENTIONS. Many students fall into grey areas that do not neatly fit the current extenuating circumstances framework, leaving them without the academic support they genuinely need. As the University moves towards the new CONNECTED CURRICULUM, I will work to ensure student voice is embedded throughout t design, review, and implementation.

I am committed to refining the CONDENSED TIMETABLE, so it truly works for students. I will push for timetables that support compressed study days, reduce unnecessary gaps, and better accommodate students commuting, balancing work or caring responsibilities rather than scattering hours and days across the week. I will also work to ensure student SOCIETIES have a formal role in university decision-making, strengthening representation and giving student communities a real voice.

Finally, I will continue my work on narrowing the award gap for PGM students. As the pioneer PGM Rep for OSP, I have seen the barriers these students face. I will work with faculties to expand AWARENESS and ACCESS to tailored academic support and reporting mechanisms. As Education Officer, I will champion accessibility, support and fairness.

# RAIYAN RAHMAN

- Academic Help Desk at library - ECs, referencing, AI? Get real-time help at the Library!
- Flexible Timetables - Block or spread-out classes - you choose what fits your life.
- Peer Study Network - Weekly peer sessions at the union. Learn from students who've done it before.
- Weekly Drop-In Hours: Guaranteed weekly time with lecturers, no guesswork or long email chains.
- Don't know where to go? Share academic issues fast at UPSU. We follow up for you. You see action.



[linktr.ee/raiyauop](https://linktr.ee/raiyauop)

Vote Raiyan. Vote MEGA. Make Education Great Always!

Ever felt lost with your exams or assignments? Remember the panic you feel before a submission when you're stuck with something and have no answer or direction? You should not feel that way.

Hi, I'm Raiyan. I'm running because education should not make you feel like that, it should feel great, always. And I'm running so that education feels fun, easy, and great, always. MEGA — Make Education Great Always!

I've spent over five years teaching computer science and a lifetime being a very serious student (yes, proudly academic, I'll accept "nerd" as a compliment). I believe that gives me perspective from both sides of the desk: what it feels like to need support, and what it takes to provide it.

Alongside my studies, over the last year at Portsmouth, I've worked across the university in five different roles: ResLife Assistant. IT Help Advisor. University Ambassador. Student Quality Rep. International Ambassador. But these were not just titles, they were front-row seats to the issues we, as students, face every day!

Through these roles, I've listened to students at 9 am lectures and 9 pm crises. I've seen where systems work and where they don't. I've supported students navigating tech issues, academic concerns, accommodation challenges, and representation gaps.

That experience matters. Not because it looks good on paper, but because it's given me so much insight.

I'm running because students already have the ideas. I've heard them - in halls, in the library, in meetings, at the IT desk on late nights before assignment submissions, and in passing conversations after class. Ideas about fairer feedback, equity, clearer communication, better support, and a stronger academic voice.

The question isn't whether change is possible.  
It's whether we organise and deliver it.

Support shouldn't feel confusing.  
Access shouldn't feel unequal.  
Success shouldn't feel accidental.

As your Education Officer, I'll focus on making academic life at UoP more transparent, more responsive, and more student-led, so every student feels heard, included, and set up to thrive.

So, let's make it happen. Together, let's Make Education Feel Great Always! MEGA!

# FLAVIAN SIMON

- To create an International Students Support Fund
- Cheaper Food on Campus
- Free University Certifications for Extensions and EC Claims
- Mental Health Support for Sports and Activity Groups
- Cheaper and Fairer Housing



Hi, I'm Flavian, an international student studying computer science and a proud go-getter. When I see a challenge, I face it head-on. Now, I'm ready to take that same drive to make our campus fairer and cheaper for all!

When elected as your education officer, I will work to remove the financial and well-being barriers that stop students from achieving their best.

These are my top 5 priorities:

1. To create an International Students Support Fund: a fund that provides short-term financial support during emergencies such as visa delays, sudden costs, or housing deposits, alongside clearer guidance on rights and academic support.
2. Cheaper Food on Campus: Campaigning for affordable, nutritious options including £3 meal deals, subsidised hot food, free hot drinks and free food pantry items.
3. Free University Certifications for Extensions and EC Claims: To enable students to access extensions and flexibility without paying for GP notes or extra evidence when they are unwell or struggling.
4. Mental Health Support for Sports and Activity Groups: delivering well-being sessions for sports groups so members can be supported confidently.
5. Cheaper and Fairer Housing: Pushing for rent transparency and limits on mid-tenancy rent hikes, solving guarantor issues and working with the council and providers to protect students from unfair contracts.

Vote Flavian for Education Officer.

Vote for Change! Vote for Fairness!

Remember, Flav is here for you!

#VoteforFlav #FlavforaFairerandCheaperCampus #StudentWellbeing

#FlavIsHere4U

**VOTE NOW!**



Voting will open at 9am on Monday 16th March  
and will be open 24 hours a day.

Voting will close a 1pm on Thursday 19th March.

You can cast your vote at the following link:

**[UPSU.NET/VOTE](https://upsu.net/vote)**



*The*  
**UNION**  
*Summer Ball*  
12 JUNE 7PM-12AM  
PORTSMOUTH GUILDHALL  
**MASQUERADE**

SCAN TO  
SECURE  
YOUR  
TICKETS!

