



**LEADERSHIP  
ELECTIONS**

# MEET THE CANDIDATES

[cambridgesu.co.uk/vote](http://cambridgesu.co.uk/vote)



# WELCOME

Welcome to the manifestos booklet for the 2025 Cambridge SU Leadership Elections. From July this year, the winners of these elections will be your representative for students. This year we will see a change to the Sabbatical Officer roles and will now be electing the following:

- President (UG)
- President (PG)
- Vice President (Education & Widening Participation)
- Vice President (Student Community & Societies)
- Vice President (Liberation & Welfare)

As well as the part-time voluntary position of University Councillor up for election which any student can run for and do alongside their studies.

Their manifestos are your way of deciding who you want speaking for you - so please do spend a little time reading through them, listening to what they have to say before casting your vote.

Remember that in every election, if you are not happy with any of the candidates, you may also vote to re-open nominations ("RON"). If RON wins an election, nominations for that position will be reopened and a by-election held in due course.

Voting is online via [www.cambridgesu.co.uk/vote](http://www.cambridgesu.co.uk/vote). The ballot will open at 9 am on Monday 24th February, and close at 5pm on Thursday, 27th February. Provisional Results will be announced from 7pm on Thursday, 27th February, with the Official Results being confirmed later.

We hope that these elections are enjoyable for you, and that you can engage with them as much as possible!

The Returning Officer for the Election will be **Jamie Burrell**

The Deputy Returning Officer for the Election will be **Demi Smith**



# SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTE

## WHAT ARE STV ELECTIONS

Under STV (Single Transferable Vote), voters rank candidates in order of preference by marking 1, 2, 3 and so on next to the names of candidates on a ballot. A voter can rank as many or as few candidates as they like or just vote for one candidate.

Each candidate needs a minimum number of votes to be elected. This number is calculated according to the number of positions and votes cast and is called a quota. The first preference votes for each candidate are added up and any candidate who has achieved this quota is elected.

If a candidate has more votes than are needed to fill the quota, that candidate's surplus votes are transferred to the remaining candidates. Votes that would have gone to the winner instead go to the second preference listed on those ballot papers.

If candidates do not meet the quota, the candidate with the fewest first preference votes is eliminated and the second preference votes are transferred to other candidates. These processes are repeated until all the seats are filled.

The winner is the candidate who reaches the 'quota' first.

The quota for each of these elections is 50%+1 of all the votes cast in that ballot.

## STAGES OF COUNTING

1. First preference votes counted
2. If no-one reaches the quota, last-place candidate is eliminated
3. The second preferences of voters who chose that candidate are redistributed among those remaining
4. This continues, if necessary repeating these steps, until someone reaches the quota



# CANDIDATES ARE LISTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER

## **President (PG)**

Ada Onuigbo-Nwadigo

Augustine Denis

Chloe Hawryluk

Jiang Zhang

Nowsha Fahra

## **President (UG)**

Matthew Copeman

Nesar Rafiq

## **Vice President (Education & Widening Participation)**

Jessica Asiedu-Kwatchey

## **Vice President (Liberation & Welfare)**

Amelia Dubin

Izzy Wyatt

Melanie Benedict

Oscar Griffin

## **Vice President (Student Community & Societies)**

Evan Scott

Grace Brookes

Kate Austin

Olivia Kelly

Olivia Ledger

Serika Siriwardhana

# CANDIDATES ARE LISTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER

## **University Councillor**

Chalo Waya

Chang Liu

Charles Chao Rong Phua

Damsith Wimalasena

Darragh O'Reilly

# ADA ONUIGBO-NWADIGO

## A VOICE FOR CHANGE, A VISION FOR PROGRESS

My name is Ada Onuigbo-Nwadigo, and I am running to be your Postgraduate President at the University of Cambridge Students' Union. As a postgraduate student in MSt Construction Engineering, I am deeply passionate about championing the needs and concerns of postgraduate students and ensuring that our voices are heard at the highest levels.

## WHY I AM RUNNING

The postgraduate experience is unique, often accompanied by challenges such as funding constraints, access to opportunities, and balancing academic pressures with personal responsibilities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I experienced first-hand how the disruption affected postgraduate students—be it through isolation, financial strain, or limited access to research facilities. These experiences have fueled my commitment to advocating for policies and initiatives that support postgraduate students in overcoming these barriers.

## MY EXPERIENCE & ADVOCACY

I am an active advocate in education, recently recognized as the ICE STEM Ambassador of the Year (Regional & National Winner) for my work in promoting STEM education to the next generation. Beyond academia, I am a civil engineer, innovator and Author, dedicated to bridging the gap between engineering and technology. I have co-founded Eng Trepneur, an innovation community that provides tools and resources to help innovators thrive in their respective fields. Through this platform, I have supported entrepreneurs, students, and professionals in bringing innovative ideas to life.

I am also highly active in online discussions on AI in the built environment, innovation, and inclusivity. As technology continues to transform the way we work and learn, I believe that postgraduate students must be equipped with the right tools, networks, and opportunities to succeed in an ever-changing landscape.

## MY VISION & COMMITMENTS

If elected as Postgraduate President, I will:

1. Advocate for Improved Funding & Support
  - Work with the University to expand scholarships and grants for postgraduate students.
  - Push for more financial aid and hardship funds to help students manage living and academic expenses.
2. Enhance Access to Opportunities
  - Advocate for greater research funding accessibility.
  - Partner with organizations to increase internships, fellowships, and networking opportunities for postgraduates.
3. Amplify Postgraduate Voices
  - Establish regular forums and town halls to gather student concerns and act upon them.

- Work closely with the University to improve postgraduate student welfare and academic experiences.
4. Improve Support for Students with Additional Responsibilities
    - Advocate for better support structures for students with caring responsibilities.
    - Ensure international students, mature students, and students from diverse backgrounds have tailored support.
  5. Advance Ethical & Environmental Initiatives
    - Support and lobby for sustainable campus policies.
    - Work with the University to promote ethical research and innovation.

## **WHY YOUR VOTE MATTERS**

As Postgraduate President, I will represent you not only within the University but also at local and national levels. I will push for systemic changes that improve postgraduate experiences, fight for our rights, and work collaboratively with the Student Union to make impactful decisions.

Beyond advocacy, this role requires strong leadership, governance, and strategic planning—all of which I have honed through my professional experience as a civil engineer, innovator, and STEM advocate.

A vote for me is a vote for a more inclusive, supportive, and opportunity-rich postgraduate experience at Cambridge.

Let's work together to amplify our voices and drive meaningful change.

Vote Ada Onuigbo-Nwadigo for Postgraduate President!



# MANIFESTO

I'm Augustin, a third year PhD student in Film Studies. As your PG President, I will work to ensure the wellbeing of students by building robust links between students and community groups working towards justice within and beyond the university.

## Experience

**Postgrad Rep, Justice 4 College**

**Supervisors:** As part of J4CS, I helped to win a historic pay rise for supervisors.

**Postgrad Rep, Cambridge UCU Executive Committee:**

Worked to bridge the gap between PGs as students and as workers, pushing the union to mobilise in support of student movements.

**Arms Divestment Working Group Member:**

Cambridge 4 Palestine: Delegated to represent the group in meetings with university officials.

## What are my aims?



**Rejuvenating Liberation Work in CSU:** Following the SU governance's decision to cut the BME, Women's and Disabled Students' Officer roles, we urgently need to develop new ways of connecting liberation campaigns with the resources of the SU. I will proactively work with other sabbatical officers and the wider student body to create a new model for empowering marginalised students.



**Fighting Casualisation:** Casualisation of Higher Education affects many postgraduate students twice: first as students, then as staff. This disproportionately impacts working class, international and otherwise marginalised students. I will build on links with UCU and J4CS to fight precarity and preserve our wellbeing both as students and as workers.



**Just Transition, Just Divestment:** I believe links with colonial and extractive industries like arms and fossil fuels are fundamentally opposed to the goals of an educational institution. As your postgraduate president, I will advocate for a divestment process which centres the most precarious. I will also work with STEM students to make sure they do not have to compromise their ethics to conduct their research.



**Support for International Students:** As an international student, I am aware of the impact that global crises have had on friends and colleagues. The university must support those affected by war, occupation, fascism and other crises. I will work to ensure the university takes a stance against rising racist anti-immigrant policies through robust provision of financial and material support for its PG students, including a reevaluation of overseas tuition fees.



**Postgraduate Welfare:** Recent welfare reforms have placed pastoral responsibilities in the hands of colleges. As sabbatical officer, I will work to ensure that the university upholds its duty of care to those of us who aren't involved in the collegiate life.

## VOTE AUGUSTIN FOR POSTGRAD PRESIDENT

24TH - 27TH FEBRUARY





# VOTE CHLOE FOR PRESIDENT (PG)



Hi! I'm Chloe and I'm an MPhil Sociology student at St Edmund's College. I'm running to be your SU President (PG) as I believe in increasing the role of the SU in order to reduce college inequality.

As someone who completed their undergraduate study at another UK university, I have experienced first-hand the potential a SU can have in creating an incredible student experience. I want to recreate that here, so that the SU has more of an impact in student's lives, from welfare to social activities.

## If elected, just some of my pledges include:



**1. Create a Centralised PG Freshers Week** to complement college fresher events, working in collaboration with societies and former SU campaigns to create student communities from day 1 and ensure students aren't ripped off by external companies.

## 2. Increase Equal Opportunity for Low Income Postgraduate Students

by campaigning for access pricing for societies and ticketed events to accept proof of eligibility other than the Cambridge bursary which Postgraduate students aren't eligible for, despite their household income.



## 3. Ensure Both Myself and the SU are Held Accountable

by holding weekly surgeries and regular catch ups with college MCRs to raise issues that you want me to work on. I will be completely guided by student opinions, allowing your voices to be heard.



## 4. Improve the Admissions Process

by campaigning for deferred entry for Masters students, easier communication with the PAO, and use my experience as a graduate of the SHARE programme for underrepresented students to increase widening participation at postgraduate level.



## 5. Improve Access to Other Colleges

through campaigning for increased access to other colleges, organise formal swaps and bar nights available to all Postgraduate students regardless of college, so that everyone has the opportunity to access and experience everything at their own university.



## 6. Continue Previous Successful SU Campaigns and Initiatives

such as the SU-permarket and rent negotiation training, and ongoing campaigns for increased access to other colleges, deferred admissions for Masters students, and stopping fossil fuel funding.



## ABOUT ME:

- 3x Multi Award Winning Mental Health Activist
- Originally from Birmingham, UK
- BA Politics from University of Liverpool, MPhil Sociology from University of Cambridge
- Cambridge Trust Opportunity Scholarship Recipient
- First Generation, Working Class, State Educated, Disabled, and Queer

## EXPERIENCE:

- Vice President of the **Class Act Campaign** 24-25
- Graduate of the **SHARE Internship** for Underrepresented Students in Postgraduate Study at the University of Cambridge (2023)

## AT MY UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY:

- President of **Feminist Society**
- Co-President of **Help the Homeless Society**
- President and Founder of **93% Club Liverpool**
- **Student Ambassador** of Widening Participation for the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures

## CONTACT ME:

- ✉ [ch2027@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ch2027@cam.ac.uk)
- 🌐 <https://linktr.ee/voteforchloe>



# JING ZHANG

Jing Zhang for President (PG)

Empowering Voices, Enhancing Support, Strengthening Community

## WHO AM I?

I am Jing Zhang, a PhD student in Education at the University of Cambridge, focusing on class, mobility, and politics in the navigation of socioeconomically disadvantaged international students in Western graduate schools. My academic journey—from a small-town first-generation university student in China to studying at one of the world's most prestigious institutions—has given me a deep understanding of the challenges many postgraduate students face.

With experience in student advocacy, interdisciplinary research, and international collaboration, I am committed to ensuring that all postgraduates at Cambridge—regardless of background—receive the support, representation, and opportunities they deserve.

## WHY AM I RUNNING?

Postgraduate students at Cambridge contribute significantly to research, teaching, and the wider university community, yet we often face financial pressure, housing difficulties, well-being challenges, and a lack of tailored academic and career support. We need a stronger, more inclusive, and action-driven representation that truly understands and addresses these issues.

If elected, I will work to:

### Fight for Financial and Housing Support

- Advocate for increased postgraduate funding and hardship grants, especially for self-funded students.
- Push for greater rent transparency and affordability in college accommodations.
- Collaborate with external partners to expand scholarships, grants, and employment opportunities for postgraduates.

### Strengthen Academic and Career Development

- Improve access to research funding, conference support, and professional development programs.
- Advocate for better recognition of postgraduate teaching contributions, including fairer wages and working conditions.
- Establish stronger networks between postgraduates, alumni, and industry partners to enhance career pathways beyond academia.

### Enhance Well-being and Mental Health Support

- Expand mental health and pastoral support services tailored to postgraduate needs.
- Create peer mentoring and well-being networks to foster a sense of belonging and support.
- Improve work-life balance policies, including better support for international students, student parents, and those balancing research and employment.

### Promote a More Inclusive and Engaged Postgraduate Community

- Advocate for greater representation of international, minority, and underrepresented postgraduate voices.
- Organize networking, cultural, and professional events to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Build a stronger sense of community among postgraduates across colleges, faculties, and research centers.

### WHY VOTE FOR ME?

As someone who has navigated the challenges of postgraduate life—from self-funding struggles to international student adjustments—I am not just an advocate, but a lived experience representative. My background in education policy, social justice, and student leadership equips me with the skills to negotiate, advocate, and implement tangible changes for all postgraduates at Cambridge.

I will listen to your concerns, take action, and ensure that postgraduate students are not just heard but considered in university decision-making.

Vote for me - Let's build a stronger, fairer, and more supportive postgraduate community together

# VOTE NOWSHA FARHA #1 FOR CAMBRIDGE SU PRESIDENT

Current Position: Cambridge SU Sabbatical Officer (Women's Officer)

TOP PRESIDENT PRIORITIES FOR 2025-2026 **VOTE** RE-ELECT ME!!!

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER: YOU ARE SEEN, HEARD, VALUED

FOR AN **INCLUSIVE ACCESSIBLE SUSTAINABLE** UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

VOTE NOWSHA FARHA #1 FOR SU PRESIDENT



### Master's

- Dissertation/Tutorial Support
- Career/Academic Progression
- Postgraduate Representation
- Financial/Accommodation Support

### PhD

- Improve Funding/Stipend
- Better Working Condition
- Support With Supervision
- Accommodation Support



Education, Finance Career Progression Empowerment, Representation Collaboration, Community Sustainability, Welfare

Priorities	Goals
<b>Education_Finance_Career_Progression(EFCP)</b> Skills: PhD Researcher, current SU Sabbatical Officer, Member of the Board of Trustee, Executive Committee, Postgraduate Committee, Research Ethics, Academic Standards & Enhancement Comm Postgraduate Tutor's Comm working closely across Departments, Colleges	<b>Leading Through Kindness, Compassion, Empathy Support</b> Adopt inclusive, accessible, sustainable Teaching Methods, Policies ensuring Fair Conduct, Academic Integrity Financial Barrier: Lobby for more Funding, Scholarship, Stipend, Bursary, Hardship Fund: minimal bureaucracy • Address Living Costs: Campaign to cap Rent, University Rent Guarantor Scheme, Expand PG Housing PG Career Development: Professional Mentorship from Industry Expert/Alumni, Skills-Based Training workshop • Lobby for Higher Paid Research Assistants and Teaching Assistant Opportunities for the PG Students
<b>Empowerment_Representation(ER)</b> Skills: UCL Student-Led Project Ambassador, Global Citizenship Programme Ambassador, I am leading an Empowerment & Representation Series as a Sabbatical Officer; Elected Cambridge SU and UCL NUS Delegate	Cambridge Changemakers Campaign: Empower Students through PG-Led Projects, Partnerships, and Impact • Strengthen MCR/PG Academic Reps: Training Programs, Feedback Forums, Involvement in Decisions • Student Leadership Conference to bring together representatives from Colleges and Student Groups Facilitate Effective Communication between Student Rep, Colleges, Departments, University Leadership, NUS • Advocate for Student-Friendly Policies at the National Level: collaboration with other SU and the NUS
<b>Collaboration_Community(CC)</b> Skills: Director of Cambridge Development Initiative, Founder/President: Community Development Society, President: Community Service Club, Outreach Officer, Project Leader Amnesty International Outreach Project LSE Congress Methodology Delegate, College MCR VP, MCR College Family Scheme Lead (with 300 Members)	Connected learning: UG, PG, Cross-Departmental, Disabled, Part-time, Mature, Alumni outreach collaboration • Launch a Pilot Peer-Led Dialogic Knowledge-Exchange Ecosystem and Community-Building Network Lobby to Bridge Participation Gap between Home Students, EU, International Students; Gender Awarding Gap Cambridge Compositions: 67% UK Students, 11% EU Students and 22% International Students (Source: HESA) • Application Fee Waiver, Admission Guidance, Access Open Days (hybrid mode for Underrepresented) • SU Charity Shop for donating and exchanging items; Seek fund SU-permarket (Credit: UG AEP Officer)
<b>Sustainability_Welfare(SW)</b> IOM United Nations Climate Hackathon Winner, Data Analyst/Research Lead, Report Contributor, COP2028 Presentation Data Analysis, Former UCL Sustainability, Communications Engagement Ambassador, work closely with SU Advice, Welfare Team, Research: AI Ethics and Cyber Wellness	• Ethical and Environmental Sustainability: Campaign for the Green Innovation Fund to support PG-led Sustainability Initiatives, Research and Divestment with measurable targets toward carbon neutrality • Wider provision of Advice, Welfare, Mental Health and EC Support: Assessment Adjustments based on Mental Health, Review EC Procedure for PG: Greater Flexibility, Inclusionary and Faster Decisions Offer continuity to the amazing work of the current Team of Sabbatical Officers



### Why Vote For Me?

I am a Doctoral Researcher at the University of Cambridge Work with the Faculty of Education, FERSA, DEFI, CEDiR REAL Centre, Cambridge Centre for Teaching & Learning

**University College London (UCL)**  
**The LSE Department of Methodology**  
**(Won Departmental Excellence Award based on my Nomination)**  
**University of Cambridge**

IOM UN Hackathon Winner, Data Analyst/Research Lead, Contributor, COP 2028, Founder/President Community Development/Volunteering Society, College Family Scheme Lead (300 Members), University Challenge Series Team Organiser, Head Director: Cambridge Development Initiative (International Charity and NGO) (2023-2024), Health, Education Entrepreneurship, WaSH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene), UCL, Students' Union Officer, Head of Women's Network Open Portfolio Member (2nd highest voted candidate across all SU positions), Elected NUS Delegate for Cambridge SU and UCL SU UCL SU Sustainability, Communications, Engagement Ambassador, Student-Led Project Ambassador, Global Citizenship Programme Ambassador, Student Engagement Outreach Officer, Project Leader - Amnesty International Outreach Project, Member of Women's Network (Amnesty International), LSE Methodology Delegate - LSE Congress, Political Forum (HLPF) 2025, LSE Eden Centre for Education Enhancement as part of the LSE Student Futures/Educate for Global Impact Programmes, Students Union Panellist - Making Decisions and Voting on Policy Proposals, UCL and LSE Women's Fencing First and Second Teams (Winner of BUCS League and Cup), Senior Coordinator - MLIS Debate Club (National/International Champion), Elected Council Treasurer - International Tournament, President - MLIS Community Service Club, Teaching Assistant IGCSE and A Levels, Winner of 40 Awards including Daily Star Award, High Achiever's Award, Outstanding Academic Performance Award, Merit Scholarship, Scholarship for Higher Studies

### My Current Delegation/Committees/Steering Groups:

Cambridge SU Board of Trustee; SU Executive Committee; University Postgraduate Committee; Postgraduate Tutors' Committee; Postgraduate WP Strategy & Working Group; University Research Ethics Committee; Academic Standards and Enhancement Committee; SU Student Council; Gender Awarding Gap Committee; EDI Committee; Joint Wellbeing Committee; Athena SWAN SAT and Sub-groups: Inclusive Workplace, Student Experience, Attainment Gaps, Wellbeing, Workload; Annual Meeting for Directors of Teaching and Senior Tutors; Cambridge Centre for Teaching and Learning; Institute of Continuing Education; National University of Students' (NUS) Delegate for Cambridge SU, RepRise - Leading Reps Workshops



based on my Nomination)

University of Cambridge

IOM UN Hackathon Winner, Data Analyst/Research Lead, Contributor, COP 2028, Founder/President Community Development/Volunteering Society, College Family Scheme Lead (300 Members), University Challenge Series Team Organiser, Head Director: Cambridge Development Initiative (International Charity and NGO) (2023-2024), Health, Education Entrepreneurship, WaSH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene), UCL, Students' Union Officer, Head of Women's Network Open Portfolio Member (2nd highest voted candidate across all SU positions), Elected NUS Delegate for Cambridge SU and UCL SU UCL SU Sustainability, Communications, Engagement Ambassador, Student-Led Project Ambassador, Global Citizenship Programme Ambassador, Student Engagement Outreach Officer, Project Leader - Amnesty International Outreach Project, Member of Women's Network (Amnesty International), LSE Methodology Delegate - LSE Congress, Political Forum (HLPF) 2025, LSE Eden Centre for Education Enhancement as part of the LSE Student Futures/Educate for Global Impact Programmes, Students Union Panellist - Making Decisions and Voting on Policy Proposals, UCL and LSE Women's Fencing First and Second Teams (Winner of BUCS League and Cup), Senior Coordinator - MLIS Debate Club (National/International Champion), Elected Council Treasurer - International Tournament, President - MLIS Community Service Club, Teaching Assistant IGCSE and A Levels, Winner of 40 Awards including Daily Star Award, High Achiever's Award, Outstanding Academic Performance Award, Merit Scholarship, Scholarship for Higher Studies

# VOTE MATTHEW FOR SU PRESIDENT (UG)

Hi, I'm Matthew (he/him) and I'm a final year Bio NatSci at Fitz. Over the past three years, I've loved being part of societies in the science, theatre, sports and music scenes, holding leadership positions for several. I now sit on the SU's board of trustees and I've seen first-hand the problems that our Sabbs and SU face. Spending much of my time beyond the SU's formal structures has shown me how to re-engage with students. I'm not affiliated with any political society in Cambridge, and I have no hidden agenda - I'm here to represent you.



## BUILD A STRONG SU COMMUNITY

- Re-open the **SU bar**, with **student-friendly prices** and **live music** from across the university
- Host "student life" sessions, offering **essential advice** on everything from **mental health first aid** to **bike maintenance**



## ENSURE COLLEGE EQUALITY

- Demand **standardised bursary, sports** and **travel** funding - our choice of college shouldn't limit the opportunities available to us
- Launch an online platform detailing **environmental** and **financial disparities** to further empower **evidence-driven campaigns** by JCR reps

## FIX OUR WORKLOAD PROBLEM



- Introduce "buffer zones" (**days and half-days free from contact hours**) so everyone can engage with sports and societies, without the guilt
- Make **lecture recordings mandatory** across subjects, **prioritising student welfare** over rigid attendance



## DRIVE POSITIVE CHANGE BEYOND CAMBRIDGE

- Hold the university to its **net-zero commitments**, including **proper insulation** of all university-owned buildings
- Pressure the university and colleges to **rapidly divest** from companies funding **fossil fuels, arms** and **genocide** - especially in Palestine

**Real Change, Real Action - An SU for Everyone.**

# NESAR RAFIQ

## **Candidate for Cambridge SU Undergraduate President**

I am standing for election as Cambridge SU Undergraduate President to improve student engagement, advocate for mental health support, and empower students to engage with social responsibility.

### **Enhancing Engagement and Representation**

As a mature, part-time student, I know how difficult it is for those who don't fit the typical Cambridge image to engage in student life. The SU must do more to support mature, part-time, disabled, and marginalised students by addressing the issues they care about. Many are deeply concerned with housing, politics, and international affairs but lack a platform within the SU. I will work with UCU and local organisations to ensure all students feel represented.

### **Advocating for Mental Health Support**

The mental health crisis at Cambridge is systemic. It cannot be treated as an individual issue when racism, sexism, and institutional neglect persist. The SU must push for meaningful change, ensuring student wellbeing is a top priority across the University.

### **Encouraging Social Responsibility**

Students are increasingly aware of their societal role, from local activism to global issues. One of the most pressing concerns has been solidarity with Palestine, yet the SU has not done enough to support student campaigning. If elected, I will:

- Push the University to disclose and review financial ties with organisations complicit in human rights violations.
- Support student-led campaigns for divestment and reinvestment in Palestinian students, academics, and scholars.
- Ensure the University honours its commitments to Cambridge for Palestine, particularly in reviewing ties to arms manufacturers.
- Oppose punitive measures against students advocating for justice.
- Demand student representation in University decision-making on divestment and ethical policy.

### **A Stronger Student Voice**

Students deserve to be heard, and the SU should be a space for real representation. If elected, I will work with students and staff to promote transparency, justice, and meaningful action on key issues.

### **Personal Commitment**

Cambridge should be for the many, not just the privileged few. Education is a right, and factors such as wealth, class, and connections should not determine access to this institution or leadership roles. Growing up on a council estate, I struggled academically and had to fight to convince the admissions office to give me a chance at higher education.

Despite financial hardship and health challenges, I completed my degree and pursued my

dream of studying for the UK Bar, working two jobs to fund my education. I was ultimately called to the Bar by Gray's Inn. My lived experience gives me a deep understanding of financial and mental struggles.

If elected, I will fight for better funding, grants over loans, and a system that supports the most vulnerable. Your vote can help show that ordinary people can be elected and make real change. I will be your voice—loud, clear, and impossible to ignore.

# JESSICA ASIEDU-KWATCHEY

This is me!

Your next Education & Widening Participation Sabbatical Officer..?



## FOR EDUCATION AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION

### MY GOALS:

#### (1) TACKLING THE CULTURE OF OVERWORK & BARRIERS TO ACADEMIA

- Work with academic reps and tripos coordinators to create subject specific solutions to issues such as providing lecture recordings, the potential for exam resits and implementing alternative forms of assessment for mitigating circumstances
- Press the university to address and dedicate focus groups towards tackling the gender awarding gap, as well as the Black awarding gap

#### (2) ACCESS & OUTREACH PRIOR TO APPLICATION

- Revive and update the SU's alternative prospectus for students applying to the university and make it a centralised hub for authentic insights on colleges, subjects, societies and available outreach schemes
- Provide more SU support for societies of underrepresented groups in Cambridge to host and fund access events for prospective students from their demographic in order to continue demystifying the institution

#### (3) EQUAL STUDENT EXPERIENCES FOR ALL

- Lobby for all colleges to implement a standardised bridging week to give students the best start to university life
- Encourage all college admissions staff and porters to participate in unconscious bias training to reduce the number of students experiencing prejudiced treatment during their time at the university

#### (4) FINANCIAL INCLUSION AMID A COST OF LIVING CRISIS

- Make financial support more accessible by working with college tutors and JCRs/MCRs to produce comprehensive process guides and lists of all available forms of support
- Advocate for the university to increase the Cambridge bursary in line with inflation and reconsider the current household income eligibility threshold

### ABOUT ME!

My name is Jessica, I'm a final year Education undergraduate and I hope to get the privilege of being your Education & Widening Participation Sabbatical Officer! Over the course of my time at Cambridge, I have held various society committee positions and participated in a number of the university's outreach initiatives with my core goal always being to contribute to widening participation and ensure that students already here or with aspirations of coming here can access every opportunity that Cambridge has to offer...

I would love to continue this work more formally as part of the next Student Union team and get the opportunity to enact policy changes; implement new ideas to improve university life; represent the student body and campaign with all your best interests in mind and finally, set a precedent for how this institution can operate to lead to the best educational experiences for everyone :)

### EXPERIENCE I WOULD BRING TO THE ROLE:

-  Cambridge University Education Society  
Co-President 2024-2025 & Social Events Officer 2023-2024
- Cambridge University Black Girls' Space  
Events Officer 2023-2024
- Christ's College Representative  
Access & Outreach Volunteer 2023-Present
- University of Cambridge STEMSMART  
Mentor on the 2023-2024 & 2024-2025 Programmes
- Cambridge ACS Mentor  
Mentor on the 2023-2024 Scheme
- Project Access Mentor  
Current 2025 Mentor

“ I AIM TO BRING THE SU REAL CHANGE! ”



@jessica4cambridgesu on Instagram!



CRSID: ja778@cam.ac.uk





# AMELIA DUBIN (SHE/THEY)

YOU WILL NEVER BE A BOX-TICKING EXERCISE



## WHY AM I RUNNING FOR LIBERATION & WELFARE?

As a queer disabled student, I have too often seen representation and welfare become a box ticking exercise. I want to change that and put student voices front and centre in the SU. This role is about **YOU**. I want to **represent** your voices, **advocate** for your needs, and **fight** to make the university better for you. The University and SU need **accountability, transparency, and commitment to change** and that's what I will strive to bring.

## AM I QUALIFIED?

I was **Academic Rep for Politics (2023-24)**, **Trinity Hall JCR Disability Officer (2023-24)** and won **Academic Rep of the Year 2024** for student and disability advocacy. I am known for being **unafraid to speak out** - having faced systemic barriers in education, **I'm determined to challenge the system that holds students back.**

## MY PRIORITIES: LIBERATION

### SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE SPACES

- **Accessible prayer rooms** in university spaces
- **Anti-spiking** products for student bars
- **Accommodation for disabled students** prioritised
- Making university spaces **queer-friendly** with more **unisex bathrooms** and **trans-inclusionary policies**
- Support **Access-a-ball** scheme with ball accountability reviews
- Promote **Reclaim the Night**

### EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & ACCESS

- Introduce **'shorter term' SSDs** for things such as illness and bereavement
- Continue the fight for **lecture recordings for all** and in the meantime **hold departments to account** for consistent uploads for SSD students with captions and video
- Raise awareness for **double time** with transparent criteria

### DECOLONISATION

- **Decolonise the curriculum** with accountability reviews
- Support the **Cambridge Palestine Solidarity Campaign**
- Fight for **investment transparency** and **accountability**
- Push for **mandatory anti-racism training** and **reviews** for staff (including porters)

### DIALOGUE AND ADVOCACY

- **Work closely** and **collaboratively with communities** of students who experience oppression
- **Additional forums** with students facing discrimination I have not experienced, ensuring their voices are **platformed, amplified, and accurately represented**

## MY PRIORITIES: WELFARE

### SUPPORT

- Lobby for **bursary increases**
- Provide **advocates for students** in their meetings
- **BME** and **sexual violence** specific **counselling** services
- **Discrimination advocacy** workshops for students
- **Neurodivergency training** for student-facing roles
- Campaign for all **colleges** to have a **well-being team**

### EXAMS

- Fight for **resits**
- Review **essay-based marking inconsistencies** and push for **clearer assessment criteria** with the Education & Participation Officer
- Improve **accessibility** and **transparency** of **mitigating circumstances**

## GOT QUESTIONS?

ad2165@cam.ac.uk

SEND 'EM MY WAY

### WORKLOAD

- Demand the **reading week**
- **Intermission transparency** and support
- Address **pay** and **workload** issues for **PhD supervisors**
- Lobby for increased **disability workload flexibility**

### Mental Health Reform

- Extensive student consultation
- Accountability measures ensuring action
- Long term policies driven by student needs

VOTE AMELIA FOR A VP WHO WON'T PUT UP WITH BS



VOTING OPEN 9AM FEB 24 - 9AM FEB 27



# IZZY WYATT

Izzy Wyatt for VP - Liberation and Welfare

## My Experience

Co-President of Cambridge RAG (2024-2025)

President of Sidney FemSoc

Head of Welfare at the Cambridge Union

Sidney JCR Ents Officer

Senior Editor of the Cambridge Journal for Feminist Thought

## What I want to do!

### 1. REDUCE THE WORKLOAD

- Lobby the University for reading weeks. This is paramount in ensuring that students can protect their mental and physical health to get through a term of Cambridge.
- Make 24/7 libraries the standard across colleges. People have different waking hours and this should be honoured by their college libraries.
- Proper provisions for being ill mid-term. The common cold should not mean you are three essays behind! I would ensure that there are more blanket rules about asking for extensions and that this is properly honoured.
- Freshers should not be intimidated by their supervisors! In Freshers week I would help myth bust to ensure freshers are well-equipped to go into their first supervisions willing to ask questions and ask for extensions if they need.

### 2. ADDRESS THE FIRST GAP

- Fix the gender gap in achieving firsts. Rethink the assessment process if it is that white, middle class men that are more likely to achieve a first at Cambridge
- Standardise college support for healthcare diagnoses. It's unjust that being at a rich college gives you a higher access to diagnosis. Reintroduce the Cranes Fund for autism and ADHD diagnoses.
- Lobby the university for proper resit provisions, across degrees.

### 3. LIVING IN COLLEGE

- Train JCRs to best be able to deal with their college on issues of the condition of rooms. Your college is your home and it should feel as such.
- Everyone should have access to proper kitchen facilities - put electric hobs in gyms. Students have different dietary needs and should have the agency to cook for themselves.

### 4. ENSURE SAFE NIGHTS OUT

- Make plodges of different colleges safe spaces for vulnerable students in the night time. In the city centre you are never that far away from a college plodge - this should be reason to feel safe.
- Ensure JCRs have a constant supply of anti-spiking covers.
- Lobby for bag + body checks at the clubs. This would help reduce spiking and would help more people feel safe when trying to have fun.

### 5. THE WIDER WORLD

- Reintegrate charity with the SU. I would create another society grant specifically for Cambridge charities to ensure they can continue to operate with the full

support of the SU behind them.

- Pressure the university to reinvest ethically and greenly. Students cannot feel supported by the University if their money is going to causes they disagree with.
- Work with Cambridge City Council and the colleges to make Cambridge greener. Colleges have access to lots of green space and I would campaign for some to be rewilded.

Vote IZZY WYATT for VP Liberation and Welfare for a fairer Cambridge!

# MELANIE FOR LIBERATION AND WELFARE

## Care for you, Care for others

Heya! I'm Melanie (They/She). I'm reading a Human, Social and Political Science Undergrad at Magdalene and I'm in my final year.

### Why vote for me?

Embodying intersectional politics has been important to finding community and representing different causes in my own life. As an independent student, who started university at 20, from a working-class background, I have experienced the good and bad of the Cambridge system and have as a result always aspired to share what I know with others that have had similar experiences.



## Welfare

### University Support

- **Review** the universities current **Harassment and Sexual Violence Procedures**, with students that have navigated them.
- **Review** the efficacy of the **University Counselling Service** through **student focus groups** and provide recommendations to ensure a better standard of care, despite the oversubscription of services.

### Community Welfare

- Keep running events like the **SU food Bank Collection**, and add **more community events** like **clothing swaps** and drives.
- **Collaborate** with already **existing societies**, providing them with the resources they need, as opposed to running conflicting events.
- Create a **guide** signposting all **support services in Cambridge** and how to navigate them.

## Liberation

### Embody Intersectionality

- **Redistribute resources** and **support societies** that focus on **inequality alleviation**.
- Meet with and support the newly separated **campaigns** helping them remain **autonomous and representative** of students.
- Review the **efficacy** of roles like the **Racial and Religious Discrimination Adviser** and how to **extend and embed** roles like this permanently into Student Support.

### Support Communities that Support Us

- Extend the **reach and engagement** that Cambridge currently has with **organisations within the city**.
- Run various **training and support sessions** with people from the local community to help student learn how to organise **mutual aid** and take part in **activism safely and effectively**.

## Experience

**Welfare Officer for the Women's Campaign (2023):** Yoga and Meditation, Stewarding Reclaim the Night, Banner Painting for Marches

**President of Magdalene JCR (2024):** Extensive experience within the collegiate system

**Pink Week College Rep:** Effectively raising money on issue based causes

**Welfare Experience within ADC Theatre:** Providing care on an individual and group basis for various shows including BME specific shows

**Volunteer at Cambridge Community Kitchen:** Working alongside community members and for community members

**Social Justice Officer of St David's College (2020):** Running Information Sessions on voting and working with candidates to engage with the student electorate in Wales

# VOTE O.M.G!

Questions? Email me at  
[omg27@cam.ac.uk](mailto:omg27@cam.ac.uk),  
I'm always up for a chat!

I'm Oscar (he/him), and I'm running for Vice President (Liberation and Welfare).

During my time at Cambridge I have been very involved in the university community, on my college JCR, May Ball committee, CamQueerHistory, and student theatre. As my college's LGBT+ Officer, I organized a range of events from a Trans Day of Remembrance installation in the chapel to a college amateur drag show. Alongside serious campaigns, it's essential students get to let off steam and have fun ("keep fighting, keep dancing"). I know how important it is to work with both staff and students to improve welfare, and pressure university institutions to implement positive change. I have been involved in political activism since school, when I organized local climate strikes and founded my school's LGBT+ action group Digon, which advised the Welsh government on new education policy. Now, I want to put what I've learned to work in leading the political direction of the SU

## 1. Looking for ... sexual health support

- Given the high demand for online postal kits, and the location of the Lime Tree Clinic posing difficulties for some students, I will host STI drop-in sessions in the SU to encourage widespread testing.
- I will work with college health teams and JCR/MCRs to establish an Opt-In self reporting system to flag outbreaks in the student community.

## 2. Smile!

- I will continue the campaign to establish a fund for student dental care

I will be in close contact with JCRs and MCRs to inform my work at the college level, and stay accessible and contactable through feedback forms and social media bulletin summaries.

## 3. Gays just wanna have fun

- I will establish a fund for queer community events, giving a boost to Cambridge nightlife and the queer social scene.

## 4. Education that works for everyone

- I will push to have universal lecture recordings across all departments, available to all students.
- I will push for the implementation of the APP PAR recommendations to close awarding gaps.

## 5. Support for care-experienced and estranged students

- I will run social events during vacations, and link up existing college-based schemes.
- I will establish an online community group for care-experienced and estranged students, similar to those previously established by the SU for students with disabilities.

Additionally, I will engage with and support existing campaigns in Cambridge, such as JACS, Cambridge for Palestine, Cambridge Zero, and Demilitarise Cambridge. I am invested in building an equitable and socially responsible university that is responsive to the values of the student community.

Vote for  
Oscar  
Griffin!



Vote (for Oscar!) 24th-27th February  
<https://www.cambridgesu.co.uk/elections/>



---

STUDENT COMMUNITY AND SOCIETIES  
SABBATICAL OFFICER

EVAN SCOTT

(THEY/THEM)



Having a **vibrant student experience** is essential to enjoying your time at Cambridge and growing into the person you will be afterwards. However, the wealth of opportunities at Cambridge is not currently available to all students. As **Student Community and Societies officer** my goal would be to ensure all students have access to a balanced and successful life beyond their studies. Fostering good communication between faculties, societies, and colleges is one way to achieve this. I further promise to **improve the quality of minoritised experience** within these communities through direct action, encouraging societies to prioritise student welfare utilising open forums and student feedback.

I am aware of the issues students may have with accessing pastoral care at Cambridge and hope to remove barriers to this essential support, through **building community care**. This would involve clearer advertising of the support available and smoother access to what students need. The current system of varying support at different levels of the university does not best suit students' needs and can be improved with student feedback and the SU's communication with university bodies. I want to reduce the stigma around getting help, ensure students are listened to when seeking it, and overall **improve the quality and consistency of support at all levels**.

Having been involved with **rowing, my college's JCR, Newnham Queer Archives, and the university ballet club** during my time at Cambridge, I am well-versed in the way university societies function and communicate. Furthermore, as a welfare officer for **Newnham Butch Soc**, I believe I am well suited to delivering on my promises of improving student wellbeing. I am familiar with the discrepancy in funding available to smaller, college-based societies and aim to level the playing field, ensuring no one is barred from starting a society and pursuing their passions. This would involve communicating directly with colleges, the central university, and alumni to channel funds where they are most needed, ultimately making sources of funding more transparent for students.

Finally, I am dedicated to listening to student feedback regarding any toxicity or inaccessibility when it comes to sports and societies. **Tradition should not be an excuse** for cultures that alienate or behaviour that damages anyone and as your officer I would aim to make extracurriculars a safe and welcoming space for all. For example, I would introduce trans and non-binary groups for activities where these students may not feel initially comfortable, such as dance classes or gym sessions. It's also important to me, being from a state school, that everyone has access to new sports and experiences—such as rowing—that they may not have done before. I want to break down access barriers and ensure that your life outside of studying is **rich and enjoyable**.

---

# Grace for VP



## COLLEGE SPORTS:

SIDNEY MIXED NETBALL CAPTAIN (2023-2024)  
SIDNEY LADIES NETBALL (2022-PRESENT)

## COLLEGE SOCIETIES:

SPEAKERS OFFICER FOR CHORLEY GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY (2023-2024)  
JCR ENTS OFFICER (2023-2024)  
JCR ENVIRONMENT OFFICER (2024-2025)  
FEMSOC MEMBER (2022-PRESENT)  
OWEN POLITICS SOCIETY (2024-PRESENT)

## UNIVERSITY SPORTS:

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RUGBY (2023-2025)

## UNIVERSITY SOCIETIES:

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY (2023-PRESENT)  
CAMBRIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SUB-COMMITTEE (2025-PRESENT)  
CAMEATS ZERO STUDENT ENGAGEMENT GROUP (2025-PRESENT)

## 1 Improving Accessibility & Awareness



- IMPROVE THE USABILITY AND PUBLICITY OF THE CENTRALIZED HUB ON THE UNIVERSITY WEBSITE WHERE STUDENTS CAN EASILY FIND INFORMATION ON ALL SPORTS AND SOCIETIES AVAILABLE TO THEM IN THE COMING WEEK.
- BRING BACK UNIVERSITY-WIDE EVENTS—STUDENT UNIONS HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN PLACES WHERE STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY GATHER FOR EVENTS AND CONCERTS. I WANT TO REVIVE THIS.
- ENCOURAGE EVERY SPORT AND SOCIETY TO HAVE A 'GIVE IT A GO' OFFICER, ENSURING EVERYONE FEELS WELCOME TO TRY NEW ACTIVITIES.
- EXPAND THE REFRESHERS FAIR'S PUBLICITY AND REACH, PROVIDING ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO JOIN SOCIETIES AFTER THE START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR.
- ENSURE THERE ARE EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES DURING THE HOLIDAYS FOR MASTER'S STUDENTS, INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, AND ANYONE WHO STAYS IN CAMBRIDGE.

## 2. Better Support for Sports

- ADDRESS FUNDING GAPS BETWEEN COLLEGES BY SUPPORTING ATHLETES WITH PAYING SUBS WHERE FINANCIAL BARRIERS PREVENT PARTICIPATION.
- BUILDING ON THE SU'S SOCIETY GRANTS, PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE TEAMS WITH LEAGUE FEES AND CUPPERS COSTS, ENSURING TEAMS AREN'T BURDENED WITH OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES.
- CONTINUE PUSHING FOR MANDATORY LECTURE RECORDINGS, SO STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITY SPORTS CAN ACCESS MATERIALS WHEN MATCHES CLASH WITH LECTURES.
- ENSURE SPORTS TEAMS PROVIDE EQUAL TREATMENT FOR MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS, HOLDING THEM ACCOUNTABLE IN PROMOTING FAIRNESS IN FUNDING AND OPPORTUNITIES.
- ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT IN COLLEGE SPORTS FACILITIES, MANY OF WHICH ARE UNDERFUNDED AND IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE. WELL-MAINTAINED FACILITIES BENEFIT NOT JUST COMPETITIVE TEAMS BUT ALSO CASUAL PLAYERS AND STUDENTS LOOKING TO STAY ACTIVE



## 3. Better Support for Societies



- SKILL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES - PROVIDE TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS FOR SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON EVENT PLANNING, SPONSORSHIP, MARKETING, AND LEADERSHIP.
- INTER-SOCIETY AND INTER-COLLEGE COLLABORATION - ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SOCIETIES (E.G., JOINT EVENTS BETWEEN ACADEMIC, CULTURAL, AND ARTS SOCIETIES) TO BUILD A MORE CONNECTED STUDENT COMMUNITY. THIS COULD BE VIA NETWORKING EVENTS FOR SOCIETY PRESIDENTS.
- VENUE ACCESSIBILITY - PUSH FOR MORE AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE SPACES FOR SOCIETIES TO MEET AND HOST EVENTS, INCLUDING BETTER ACCESS TO COLLEGE ROOMS.

## 4. Sustainability & Community Engagement

- STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL CLIMATE GROUPS, GIVING STUDENTS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.
- DEVELOP A HANDBOOK FOR SUSTAINABLE SPORTS AND SOCIETIES, PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT E.G. KIT AND EQUIPMENT REUSE SCHEMES, TRANSPORT SHARING ETC.



I BELIEVE CAMBRIDGE'S STUDENT COMMUNITY SHOULD BE INCLUSIVE, WELL-FUNDED, AND FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES. I WANT TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR STUDENTS TO GET INVOLVED IN SPORTS AND SOCIETIES, ENSURING THEY ARE ACCESSIBLE, SUSTAINABLE, AND PROPERLY SUPPORTED.

**VOTE FOR ME, AND I'LL WORK TO MAKE THAT A REALITY!**

# VOTE KATE

## FOR COMMUNITY AND SOCIETIES

I'm Kate (she/her), a final year English student at Fitz. Societies have been just as, if not more, important to my time at Cambridge as my degree and I believe our university should reflect that. My experience comes from CUADC committee, being President of Fitz Theatre, Secretary and Publicist for Fitz Music, and being actively involved in the theatre scene.

### Free spaces

- Faculty common rooms: create spaces that are free to use, but not libraries, with a kettle, microwave and seating, and help you avoid spending money on lunch
- Advocate for societies to be able to book rooms in any college for free, and compile an online list of useful spaces to book
- Continue to push for access to all colleges for all students

### Help societies succeed

- Grants: better publicity for SU funding your society could receive
- Standardise and make fair college funding for equipment and travel for society activities
- Publicise your society through society of the week spotlights on instagram

### Work life balance

- Advocate for classes falling within working hours to allow you to make it to your extra curricular activities (e.g. sports practice or choir)
- Continue to push for no teaching on Wednesday afternoons to match other unis for sports matches
- Push for a culture where your DoS and tutor support your extra curricular activities

### Beyond the Cambridge bubble

- Prioritise climate action to get the university to net zero and disinvestment from fossil fuels
- Support societies working outside of term time e.g. pre season training, Fringe

**Cambridge beyond the curriculum**





# OLIVIA KELLY

Hi! I'm Olivia Kelly and I'm running for the VP of Student Societies in the Student Union.

Throughout my three years here at Cambridge, I've been keenly involved with societies across the board. From serving as Disabilities Officer and Co-Chair in the Cambridge University Labour Club to co-founding the Metal and Punk Society, I have firsthand experience of both leading and launching these organisations. I know the challenges societies face—whether it's securing funding, navigating bureaucracy, or staying connected with the SU.

Societies are the heartbeat of student life at Cambridge, shaping friendships, experiences, and opportunities. Yet, navigating the Student Union's support system can often feel like an uphill struggle.

In particular, clarity over functions of the SU must be achieved. Founding a society is difficult; and for those who want to establish spaces to share their interests and causes, it can be quite a challenge.

I pledge to provide online materials guiding individuals in the process of writing constitutions and setting up their committees, as well as running elections and contacting the SU.

Additionally, more emphasis should be put on the SU liaising with student societies. I pledge to involve committee heads more in the Union's functions with 1on1 sessions and regular town halls.

The Start Up Grant is at the core of new societies, and as VP I would pledge not only to raise the grant to £250, but also provide advice on effective spending.

In all, my ethos towards this position is that societies provide perhaps the most important part of the Cambridge experience for many of us, and to play a key role in their livelihoods is a great honour.

I hope my experience and ambitions can convince you that I am best suited for this job. Thank you and kind regards,  
Olivia Kelly

# OLIVIA LEDGER

## VP STUDENT COMMUNITY AND SOCIETIES



As **president** of the Board Gaming Society and **Steering Group member** for Cambridge Student Community Action - as well as a **dedicated volunteer** with vulnerable young people and **avid student activist** - I will work to **strengthen** our community and help societies **flourish**. Aside from **continuing SU initiatives** helping the student community through the **cost of living crisis** and lobbying the university for **fair rent**, here are my promises to you:

**Strengthening Societies,  
Caring for Community**



### ROOM BOOKINGS AND VACATION STORAGE SPACE

We have an abundance of rooms - finding one shouldn't be so difficult!

- **Facilitating & expanding** the room booking process with colleges/ departments.
- Liaising to sort much needed **storage spaces** for **societies** over the vacations.



### SUPPORTING STUDENTS AWAY FROM CAMBRIDGE

Every student deserves to feel **integrated** and **cared for**, whether here or not.

- Online **social** events for students intermitting or on academic periods abroad.
- Online **wellbeing** sessions to check in and provide reassurance and advice.



### WORK EXTENSIONS FOR SPORTS AND MUSIC

The Uni benefits from Sports and Music, and it needs to **support** the students too.

- Acknowledging the **time consumed** by performances and competitions.
- **Work extensions** for students at times of increased commitments.



### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SU

The best way to ensure the SU represents students' interests is by working together!

- Termly **meetings** with society **presidents** and **student activist groups**.
- Greater publicity for **grants** and further **funding opportunities**.



### WORKING WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY

There is so much incredible work happening, and we're stronger together!

- Forums for **volunteering** and **activism groups** to **present** and **collaborate**.
- Creating and expanding projects with **local schools** and **homeless communities**.



### FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION

Working towards a safe and inclusive community for all.

- **Focused meetings** and **SU forums** for communities facing discrimination.
- Working with **Access Officers** for societies' **financial** and **physical accessibility**.

# SERIKA SIRIWARDHANA

## **Serika for VP Student Community & Societies!**

### **Why me ?**

Current President and former Treasurer of student political and debating society (the Cambridge Majlis)

College reps coordinator (CUHRLS - Human Rights Law Society)

Worked for the Student Services Centre (so have insight into some of the University's operations)

10+ years of campaigning and representation experience

General busybody

### **My Commitments:**

#### **1. Society Support & Development**

- Improve on the brilliant work done with the SU Society Grants by making the process more accessible and transparent
- Create a comprehensive digital toolkit for society committees, including templates, guides, and best practices
- Work with colleges, departments, and other university spaces to create a central, accessible, and streamlined room booking system
- Provide professional development workshops for society leaders in areas like financial management, event planning, and inclusive leadership

#### **2. Enhanced Inter-Society Collaboration**

- Launch a termly Societies Forum for cross-society networking and collaboration
- Create an online platform for societies to share resources, coordinate events, and avoid scheduling conflicts
- Regular spaces for collaborative creativity in partnership with music and arts societies - eg: craft workshops, clothes swaps, mending workshops
- Renting/borrowing schemes for sports equipment

#### **3. Technology & Communication**

- Create a mobile-friendly society discovery platform
- Implement a central calendar system for better event coordination
- Develop a society newsletter highlighting achievements and opportunities
- Create a quiz in collaboration with students and societies to match students to societies based on their interests
- Virtual fresher's fair

#### **4. Accessibility, Inclusivity, and Wellbeing**

- Work with colleges to ensure society events are accessible to students across all Cambridge sites
- Help connect societies representing underrepresented or marginalised groups connect to internal and external grants and funding
- Develop guidelines and training for making society events more inclusive and accessible
- Establish regular feedback mechanisms to understand and address barriers to participation

#### **Why Vote for Me?**

I am running to be your next Vice President of Student Community & Societies because I believe in the transformative power of student engagement and the vital role societies play in making Cambridge a place where every student can find their community and thrive. Societies are more than just extracurricular activities - they're the heart of student life at Cambridge. With your support, I will work tirelessly to :

Strengthen the foundation of our society system  
Create more opportunities for collaboration and growth  
Ensure every student can find their place in our community  
Make society leadership more accessible and sustainable  
Build bridges between different student groups and interests

**Vote Serika for VP Student Community & Societies!**

# CHALO WAYA

## For a Global Cambridge

Running to be University Councillor begs the question: what can one possibly bring to the table and make an institution such as Cambridge better?

Cambridge is a globally-consequential institution with centuries of sustained relevance. The world has looked to Cambridge to make sense of itself for nearly a millennium. Cambridge is a source and repository of the stories the world tells itself. Cambridge leads the world.

Cambridge is one of the best-run institutions of any kind anywhere. So how, then, can anyone hope to make any kind of difference to the world's finest?

I would like to think that any voice that is permitted to be heard in the ancient courts of this institution can make a difference to its continuing journey through the ages. I would like to think that a voice whose provenance is as marginal and unlikely as mine could provide an especially useful counterpoint to more mainstream perspectives, which predominate in the higher rungs of the University's governance structures.

I am an English and French-speaking Canadian born and raised in multilingual Kenya. I am the son of schoolteachers born and raised in colonial Kenya. When I was growing up, Cambridge was a distant, distant dream at best. And now I am here. I am a multilocal citizen of a globalising world, and Cambridge is one of my adoptive homes.

When I first came to Cambridge back in 2017, all I wanted to do was get a worldclass education. I had no interest in student government. I was able-bodied. I returned as a disabled student in 2023 and discovered an interest in the governance of the University. I have since served as Postgraduate Academic Representative for the School of Arts and Humanities. I am the current Disabled Students' Officer at Cambridge SU. In a bid to revive post-COVID the student societies that previously gave structure to my support system, I am serving as President of the Cambridge Canadian Club and the Cambridge East African Society, respectively.

I have gained two years of experience serving on the Council of the School of Arts and Humanities and the University's Joint Wellbeing Committee; Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee; Research Ethics Committee; and Library Syndicate Committee, among others.

I am imbricated (somewhat) by choice and intersectionally-positioned less so. I have lived and worked in all five inhabited continents. That bestows certain dimensions of perspective. Having experienced Cambridge as an abled-bodied younger student and now as a disabled older student, I have gained a greater appreciation of the chasm in experience that being part of an underrepresented group can create. I have experienced Cambridge in ways that provide perspectives that I believe would be very useful to the University's supreme governing organ.

Cambridge is at once an English and a global institution. Its innermost courts shall echo with the most English and un-English of voices. The strong shall carry the weak. I propose to offer some intersectional diversity to the disaggregated polyharmonies of our governance structures and help further pluralise their sensibilities.



# CHANG LIU

## For University Councillor

Get in touch:  chang\_liu\_e  cl861@cam.ac.uk

Hi, I'm Chang Liu, a **fifth-year medical student** at **John's!** I'm running to be your University Councillor to fight for your interests. I have experience in serving my community to successfully campaign for the needs of students. I've campaigned for **better street lights** across the city, better student storage provision across colleges, and produced a guide on **LGBT+ inclusive** places of worship. I have held to account those in positions of power within the city council, the faculty, and the Student Union to make sure they always serve your interests. I want to use the role of University Councillor to advocate for the **interests of all students**, ensuring **concrete action** is being taken on all your priorities.

### A Fairer Cambridge

- I will fight to **reduce inequality** between colleges in education and in financial support available.
- I will campaign on **easier** and **timely** access to reasonable adjustments and mitigations for students.

### A Greener Cambridge

- I will continue to support **divestment** from fossil fuel industries.
- I will work with college JCRs and MCRs to share **good sustainability** and **recycling initiatives**, spreading best practices.

### A More Caring Cambridge

- I will campaign to ensure the university and colleges provide **sufficient accessible housing** stock for students who need it.
- I will ensure the university invests more in their student mental health and wellbeing services, **reducing unacceptable backlogs** and waiting times for vulnerable students.

### Collaborative Working on Campaigning

- I will listen to and support student-led campaigns at the highest level of university governance, ensuring student campaigns and perspectives are **heard** at every University Council.

## My Experience

- Chair, Cambridge SU Student Council 2024-25
- President, Cambridge SU Class Act Campaign 2022-23
- Treasurer, St John's SBR (MCR) 2024-25
- President, Rainbow Ball 2022

*A fairer future. a stronger Cambridge*  
*Vote Chang Liu for University Councillor*

1

# CHARLES CHAO RONG PHUA

## MANIFESTO FOR DR CHARLES CHAO RONG PHUA

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/charles-chao-rong-phua/>

A professional strategist of 24 years with PhD in Public Policy and degrees in international relations, education, accounting, systems thinking, digital leadership, sustainable development, corporate governance, enterprise risk management, ESG and law amongst others, I run my own strategy consulting practice and am amongst global 100 professor-author grade management consultant CMC-Academic Fellow selected by International Council of Management Consulting Institute (comprising 68,000 consultants). I have a keen interest in smart and green issues at national and corporate levels.

I have served in Boards since 2014, accorded Senior Accredited Director by Singapore Institute of Directors and certified International Board Director by INSEAD. Past boards are mostly audit/finance/risk committees. My past charity Board experiences included: Scouts National Council (Singapore), School Advisory Committee (Singapore) and Open University Association (UK). I have contributed to youth/student scene in my earlier days: Commonwealth Youth Forum, University of London Union Council/Senate student member and Singapore's version of Duke of Edinburgh Award. I believe in citizen participation in policymaking and ran the inaugural nonprofit (2014-2016) and later government versions (2019-2020) of national youth incubator involving 4,000 youths in Singapore. I currently serve on nonprofit boards at Association of Commonwealth Universities Higher Education Taskforce Workgroup on Employability, Entrepreneurship and Skills (UK), stars for C-1 suite leaders (Swiss), Institute of Certified Management Accountants (Australia). I also serve in four corporate boards covering electronics, healthcare, tech and supply chain sectors.

I am a member of Institute of Directors/equivalent in US, UK, Ireland, Gulf GCC, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Australia and Singapore. As a Board corporate governance professional, I enjoy serving organisations to apply my strategy-innovation-entrepreneurship skills to impact. I hope to serve Cambridge students as University Councillor by listening deeply, strategizing win-win for students and offer insights to maximise our interests at University Council proceedings. I hope to maximise interests for both on campus and distance learning students. Online engagements for public participation in policymaking is vital and I seek to support that PROCESS as an internationally certified facilitator (including virtual). My policy and strategic acumen will allow me to support OUR interests in University Council meeting. My accounting, law and risk management board experiences will allow me to discharge my Council duties competently.



## Damsith for University Councillor

I am running for Cambridge University Councillor to advocate for the interests and wellbeing of all students. My manifesto includes 3 main policies:



### Policy 1 : Increasing Budgets for Societies at the SU Level

I will aim to increase the 'SU Society Grant'. Having been elected to multiple societies in Cambridge, such as being the Vice President of Cambridge University Entrepreneurs, I know firsthand the impact of budgetary constraints which a society faces, as such I will advocate to increase the SU Society Grant.

### Policy 2 : Increased JCR and MCR representation at a university wide level

If elected, I will create a mechanism to get every college JCR/MCR involved at the university wide level. This would involve increased JCR/MCR and Cambridge SU meetings, along with advocating for each college to have a liaison officer to increase communication between the SU and colleges.

### Policy 3 : Making the SU more transparent and welcoming

If elected, I will aim to increase the transparency of the SU and the decisions which the SU makes. Additionally, I will try to make the University Centre, where the SU is located, into a more social and lively space, by hosting weekly events such as quiz nights. This would be done in order to bridge the so-called transparency gap between the SU and wider student body.

**Why me:** I have been elected to multiple society committees in Cambridge and have served in my college JCR, during each one of these roles, I have tried my very best to represent the interests of the Cambridge student body and this is something I will aim to bring to the role of University Councillor. **If you have any clarifications/ questions regarding my policies feel free to reach out : [dnw25@cam.ac.uk](mailto:dnw25@cam.ac.uk)**

# DEMAND DARRAGH!


Nominated by Hader Aziz for  
University Councillor

- Built a pro-peace campus in Trinity College Dublin, as Chair of the Trinity Dublin Renters' Union.
- Co-Chair Labour Club (Lent 2022)
- Course Rep; MPhil Economic History



*Darragh*

**01** CAMCARD  
ACCESS TO ALL  
COLLEGES!  
Including through Kings.



**02** MEANS TEST  
RENTS  
Students not cash cows.  
Full tenants rights.  
Fairness for new colleges.



**03** DOUBLE THE  
FREQUENCY OF  
THE U-BUS  
Girton & Homerton  
students deserve equality.



**04** FIGHT FOR  
PEACE & JUSTICE  
Hold the university  
accountable & fight for  
JUSTICE in Gaza and  
Ukraine.



**05** FIGHT NIMBYS,  
BUILD STUDENT  
ACCOM.  
Lucy Cav & other colleges  
need more homes.



**06** SPORTS EQUITY  
FUND  
Costly membership should  
be subsidised based on  
income.



# RE-OPEN NOMINATIONS

If you are not happy with any of the current candidates standing for election, you can vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON). RON appears on the ballot and votes for RON are counted in the same way as those for candidates. If RON is declared the winner after all votes have been counted, the election will be held again. The original candidates are allowed to run again in the new ballot, but it gives the opportunity for new candidates to run.

If nominations are re-opened for one of the sabbatical positions, or a University Council position, then a new cross-campus election for those positions will be held in Easter Term.

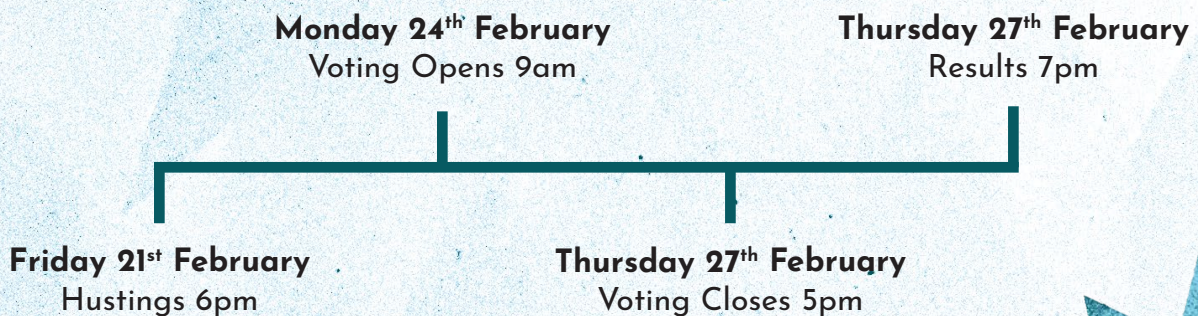
## WHY VOTE RON?

Voters may choose to vote RON for one of the following reasons:

- They do not think any of the available candidates should be elected.
- They would rather have more choice and be able to select from a greater number of candidates (not a guaranteed outcome).
- They have already ranked some candidates, but feel that none of the remaining candidates should be elected.

You do not need to vote for RON in an election, so if you think all of the candidates are better than no candidate, don't put a number next to RON on your ballot!

## TIMELINE



Make your voice heard by voting for  
your next Sabbatical Officers and  
University Councillor.

Your vote shapes the future of  
student life - don't miss out!

[cambridgesu.co.uk/vote](https://cambridgesu.co.uk/vote)

Voting opens Monday 24th February 9am

Voting closes Thursday 27th February 5pm

