

**Slogan: VOTE SUMOULI BHATTACHARJEE for PRESIDENT(PG) Strong, inclusive community Climate action Mental and physical health**

Hi, I am Sumouli. I am a postgraduate student in Sustainability Leadership and I am standing in this SU election to become President (PG). I am passionate about climate action, mental health and total wellbeing, and building a stronger community of students at Cambridge with inclusivity and support at its core. I am also a sustainability practitioner.

Cambridge is a thriving and diverse community forming a microcosm of world population. Yet, there is isolation. Many students find Cambridge experience overwhelming, difficult to navigate, and way of life at the University daunting. While it is true for all levels, it is particularly stark with postgraduate studies. The ongoing cost of living crisis is further exacerbating this situation. All of this is resulting in a mental health epidemic which climate anxiety is also contributing to. We need to build a stronger community where no one feels isolated. I pledge to work towards building that strong, inclusive community for everyone regardless of their background and situation. We need to foster a community that can truly say to vulnerable among us, 'we got your back'.

I ask for your support to focus SU to be the catalyst for student wellbeing, the wellbeing as a whole - physical, mental, academic and emotional. If elected, I will focus SU to drive tangible and affirmative and targeted actions to address these challenges. Working with other colleagues, University Council, JCRs and MCRs, we will leave no stone unturned. This will involve:

- looking at bursaries to provide support
- exploring options to limit inflationary impact on student rents
- providing more counselling for students in need
- more free meals at the butteries, wherever possible
- greater visibility and participation of students in setting schedules within term calendar
- harnessing technology to build enhanced, high-quality learning resources
- further acceleration of cross college socials and targeted events to build stronger purpose of community

We are at the precipice of severe breakdown of our climate and natural world which will fundamentally change the way we live. We have to do everything we can to

reverse this. We have to do it for us, we have to do it for generational justice. Cambridge is one of the premier hubs of knowledge with unrivalled cross discipline thought capital. We have to take the initiative, practice what we preach, and take leadership in combatting climate change. This will require a fundamental shift in the way we live. We have to examine energy usage of our colleges and departments, the impact of food being served in our butteries, the travels we need to undertake, single-use plastics usage and many more. These are complex problems and will require University wide collaboration to find pragmatic and impactful solutions. But we can definitely solve this if we put our collective brain trust together. We can also equip our students to become leaders to go back to working environments and communities to make the changes we desperately need.