

ELECTIONS



#DSUELECTIONS21

CANDIDATE MANIFESTOS

**NUS
REPRESENTATIVES**

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REPRESENTATIVE
CANDIDATES



Amber Mitchell-Hanna

Hi there!

My name is Amber Mitchell-Hanna and I would love for you to elect me as NUS delegate so I can successfully represent and fight for the rights of DMU students.

I'm passionate about lifting student voices and during a time such as this pandemic, its imperative that the issues and concerns of students are not ignored and pushed aside.

Having been both an undergraduate and a postgraduate student at DMU, I understand clearly the difference in priorities students may have and the difference in issues that may be affecting students.

in addition to this i am hugely driven by need to ensure students of all backgrounds feel represented and celebrated on DMU campus. I feel it's extremely important to champion equality and diversity across campus and it's something that I can be counted on to promote and fight for without any doubt.

I hope you will consider me for the role of NUS Delegate!



Benjamin Smith

I'm Benjamin Smith, your current Welfare Executive at DSU and as well as standing for re-election as your Welfare Executive, I am running to be your NUS delegate.

As your Welfare Executive, I have been:

- *Representing you: making students the focus of all developments, ensuring your voice is heard.*
- *Listening to your worries and concerns and helping you resolve them, helping ensure that you aren't disadvantaged.*
- *Continuing to support you throughout the COVID-19 pandemic: stating your issues, needs and ensuring that the University acts for who matters - YOU.*
- *Addressing mental health: supporting your mental wellbeing and working to improve the services available.*
- *Promoting the Mandala Project to help eliminate sexual violence: enabling and empowering victims to access the support available to them.*
- *Launching my 'survival skills' campaign: helping students develop life skills, even more vital during this challenging time.*
- *Holding social and well-being events helping you maintain social contact during this difficult time.*

If you elect me to be your NUS delegate, I promise to:

1. *Listen to you and represent your views and opinions, helping ensure the NUS push the government for action on the issues that matter to you.*
2. *Make sure your views are represented at a national level.*
3. *Help ensure your welfare concerns, such as mental wellbeing and housing, are at the forefront of the student movement.*
4. *Help get motions passed that will support and improve your university experience as a student at DMU.*

I will continue to dedicate myself to supporting YOU, your welfare and student experience, as **#ItIsYouWhoMatters**



Ebitimi Imomotebegha

Hi!

I'm Ebitimi Imomotebegha and I am running for the position of NUS Representative.

A little bit about myself, I am Nigerian, I am currently in my second year studying Business Management and Economics, I am an omnivert and I am your current International student representative.

Throughout my time at De Montfort University, I have been involved in the student community and leadership at various levels, such as course Representative, Volunteering for the University and the Leicester community and more.

I've spent time as your part-time International Representative, where I have joined in on campaigns such as No Space For Hate, Say it Right, Why I Volunteer and more. In addition to other events I have hosted so far, I also launched a podcast called comrades in diaspora for international students which I co-host to discuss and share University experiences as a Student.

My main goal for this role is to increase student engagement and opportunities as well as provide and sustain their accessibility to these opportunities.

To achieve this, I plan to

- **Promoting Inclusivity by providing more and better interactive Opportunities. I aim to work with the liberation officers to host the various all-inclusive event and specific events that target each group .ie Events for LGBTQ+ International students.**
- **Provide better support to student groups by working closely with the rest of the SU, to maximise their activities, performance and experience. e.g monthly collaborative meeting with Group leaders.**
- **Improve Support for students. I believe it is important for students who don't engage with SU to be supported e.g. monthly 1-3 questions survey on their mood, academics, and feelings. Also, by creating more recognition award for already active students**
- **Amplify Students Opinions and Concerns**

It's YOUR voice, I want to make sure it's heard!

**NO
PHOTO
PROVIDED**

Mohammad Umar Farqleet Soomro

I am Umar and I would like to be your one of your next NUS Representatives. As a first-year international undergraduate student of computing, I have noticed and personally experienced that settling in as an international student is not always easy especially in this time of COVID-19. I believe a lot more can be done to improve the supports available for the students who live thousands of miles away from home. No one should feel isolated; just because you have not grown up here, it does not mean you do not belong.

I possess the required experience and knowledge to carry out this role, but I genuinely want to help students that are going through hard times. I am hopeful that my current experience has put me in a strong position to carry out this role.

During my time in this role, I have set out certain goals I wish to achieve, alongside continuing the amazing work started by those before me.

- **Mental Health**

We all know how mental health can affect our studies and life for all students on campus and sometimes our voices can be forgotten so one of our key focuses will be to be that voice for you!

- **Our Environment**

Climate change is on the uprise more than ever, and as students, we should be fighting to protect our planet, which is why we want to make sure that our national union of students is doing everything to prioritize sustainability and the environment!

- **Rent Strike**

Rent can sometimes drag us into overdrafts or even have us living off pot noodles because of how expensive it can get, which is why we will stand with Rent Strike to voice affordable rent for students!



Murraisha Burgess

I am a second year Law student. I am currently 25, I am originally from Bermuda and moved to England to pursue my dream of studying law. I Graduated High School in 2013 but had to work to save money to move to England to pursue my dreams. As I made the move alone, I know how hard it can be to adjust to the next chapter on your own. However, While on this journey I have faced many obstacles from family, financial, and mental & emotional.

I believe I would be a great fit for this role because I know no one person has the same story and I strongly believe I can help others and create new opportunities from my own experiences. I am a very hard-working individual who likes to explore every option & outcome before making a decision.

If I am successful in this role, I will engage with you and listen to your concerns to assure the opportunities and university life is accommodates all diversity and everyone has equal opportunities to succeed . Additionally i am currently envolved with the curriculum development where i am working along side lecturers to provide a better learning community. within this project we are looking to make dmu learning experience diverse by looking at concerns of language that some may find offesive in lectures for example, as well as other issues .

I will be more than happy to share my story and listen to yours.

Sincerely,
Murraisha Burgess



Puja Subramanian

Hi there!! I am Puja, studying BA International Business at DMU! I have been studying at DMU for the past FOUR years and successfully completed a placement year after my second year of studies. I have been elected as the Course Rep during the 2nd & 3rd year of studies and elected as 'Zone Representative 2021' at DSU.

I strongly believe that Equality is important at DMU to exchange ideas, ensure fairness in encouraging all talents, creativity to avoid discrimination or prejudices of any sort. I will pay equal attention to all themes such as Gender, Age, Sexual-orientation, religion, race, marital status,

If elected, I will

TAKE ACTION

- **On the Attainment gap amongst various ethnic diverse students at DMU struggling both inside and outside of the academics.**
- **Against excessive and unfair tuition fees obtained from students who were forced to study online this year. I will work with other full-time officers at DSU to create a campaign that will give necessary refunds to ALL the students of DMU. I will ensure equality on refunds on fees to international students who normally pay extra than the local students.**

CREATE

- **Campus and faculty-based jobs for local and international students**
- **EQUAL allowances of funds for all the disabled students irrespective of their nationalities, ethnic backgrounds,**
- **Dedicated free legal advice center for those facing difficulties in seeking appropriate free legal advice on any field of concern**
- **Extra bursaries for DMU global trips (post-covid) so that many students can participate**

ORGANISE

- **Events on Culturally specific festivals on campus to highlight the diversity at DMU**
- **Insightful events on campus by inviting industry-leading guest speakers to spread awareness on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion.**
- **Insight day-trips to organizations that indulge in Equality and Diversity at Workplace so that students can learn the significance of the same.**



Sacha Christopher

Hey you, I'm Sacha!

With YOUR vote for ME as DMU's NUS Representative, I aim to improve engagement with universities from all over the country and to learn from them to improve the way we do things at DMU. I pledge to always represent DMU in the best light, and ensure our voice is heard!

I'm a good listener, an easy-going person, and like meeting new people.

I'm a postgraduate Project Management student interested in music, all things space, and am an avid Potterhead. I worked 3 years as a coordinator and am able to work fluidly in teams and of course, individually. I've also been the vice-president of a campus magazine at a previous university where I studied broadcasting & journalism. I became passionate about engaging with people there. My student life has been interesting and I have always wanted to try out new things!

So your VOTE FOR ME is the right choice for you and for DMU!

Drop me a line anytime if you'd like to get to know me better, I'm always open to making new friends!

Sacha
p2543394@my365.dmu.ac.uk



Wiktoría Pulka

Hello! My name is Wiktoría. I am currently a third year law student, and I will go on to do my LPC at DMU next year. Although times are uncertain and scary at the moment, I firmly believe that we can still make some important changes and impacts as students. After all, we are the future.

We all need to be treated fairly and equally, and our different experiences need to be recognised, especially during a global pandemic that is affecting everything in our lives. I believe I am a good candidate to effectively listen, collate, and communicate your views to bring about positive changes. I want to hear everything – no presumptions or guesses will be made about what you need.

I have been a Student Representative in my second year of university, so I am familiar with the process of getting your views across to university, and giving you the feedback. Also, I am a volunteer advice worker at Citizen's Advice Bureau, so I meet many different people with different backgrounds and experiences, and together we work through the problem and come to a solution – I aim to use this knowledge and skill to better tailor solutions and advice to each student so that all voices are heard, regardless of who you are. I would like to bring more topics into discussion and hear what you want introduced or improved at university, such as counselling services, self-defence courses, seminars of specific issues, and many more. I am under the belief that not a single person should feel disadvantaged, especially not at university where we are just starting out at university and we aim to make our impact. I hope together we can come out of our comfort zones and speak up!

