

**MEET THE**

**CANDIDATES**

[cambridgesu.co.uk/yourvoice/elections](https://cambridgesu.co.uk/yourvoice/elections)



# WELCOME!

Welcome to the manifestos booklet for the 2020 annual Cambridge SU elections. Next academic year, the winners of these elections will be your primary student representatives, and run your Students' Union. Their manifestos are your way of deciding who you want speaking for you - so please do spend a little time reading through them and 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 re-opened 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, 1st March, and close at 5pm on Thursday, 4th March. Provisional Results will be announced late-evening on Thursday, 4th March, with the Official Results being confirmed the morning of Friday, 5th March.

We hope that this year's elections are enjoyable for you, and that you can engage with them as much as possible!

## THE DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE

### DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE

Returning Officer: Torkel Loman

Chair of Exec: Ben Margolis

Student Council Chair: Charlie Innes

Democracy Committee Members: Richard Danylyuk  
Josh Jones

**EMAIL: [ELECTIONS@CAMBRIDGESU.CO.UK](mailto:ELECTIONS@CAMBRIDGESU.CO.UK)**



## RE-OPEN NOMINATIONS

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

### **Access, Education & Participation Officer (PG)**

Amelia Jabrey

### **Access, Education & Participation Officer (UG)**

Alex Roberts

Zaynab Ahmed

### **BME Officer**

Tara Choudhury

### **Disabled Students' Officer**

Anna Ward

Peter Jonathan Lucas

Robin Denham

### **President (PG)**

Anjum Nahar

Jenny Ward George

Liam Webb

### **President (UG)**

Allison O'Malley Graham

Amy Bottomley

Ciara Aberdeen

Zak Coleman

### **Welfare & Community Officer**

Ben Dalitz

Ewan Hawkins

### **Women's Officer**

Milo Eyre-Morgan

### **Double Time Officer (voluntary)**

Elliot Aitken

### **University Councillor (voluntary)**

Charli Hendy

Freddie Poser

Peter Jonathan Lucas



# AMELIA JABRY

## FOR PG ACCESS, EDUCATION, AND PARTICIPATION OFFICER

### Experience?

- **2020-21 Vice President - Lucy Cavendish SU.** Created a safe and accessible place within the college. Organised events, liaised with and managed a team of 24 officers.
- **2020-21 Postgraduate Access Group Cambridge.** Had regular consultations to uncover and mitigate barriers to access for all postgraduate students.
- **2020-21 Cambridge HSPS academic rep (PG).** Fought to improve student experience at Cambridge. Established clarity for exams and dissertations. Ran open assemblies to voice concerns.
- **2019-20 Resident Adviser University of London.** In charge of pastoral care. Had meetings with university staff to constantly improve student experience. MHFA trained.
- **2018-19 Outreach Officer LSE Women's Rugby.** Raised over £2000 for charity and ran campaigns. Worked to create inclusivity and participation for women in sport.
- **2017-18 JCR for University of London halls.**

### What will I do?

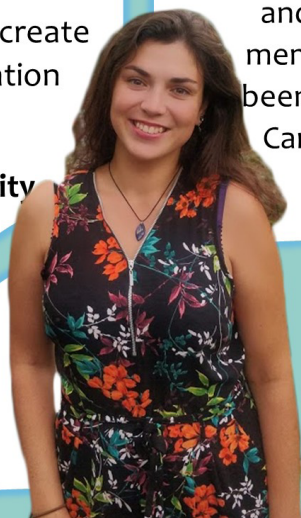
- **SCRAP APP FEES:** Remove the exorbitant application fees for masters and PhD students which is currently at £70. The app fee is a **huge barrier to access** and stops people applying. I have already been involved in **starting the campaign** to scrap the fees and will fight to remove them during my term.
- **MORE FUNDING:** Create **clearer signposting** toward PG funding. I will also push for **more means-tested funding** to be available. Access to funding severely limits the ability of postgraduates to start and continue their studies, particularly for master's and final year PhD students.
- **COMMUNICATION AND CLARITY:** Make departments publish clear exam requirements and clear scheduling for classes and presentations. This issue has affected many Masters students this year and **students pay a high price for not knowing the system.**
- **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:** Continue to push for the university to **cover the NHS/Visa fee for international students** and find signpost ways it can be reduced or covered by external sponsors. Upfront fees like this are a barrier to access as well as **unused in times of COVID-19** where the university has told international students not to return.
- **PG WELFARE:** Push for more emphasis on PG welfare, to **limit feelings of isolation** in an online environment which is a large barrier to **access and education.**

### Who am I and why am I running ?

I'm a MPhil Sociology student (she/her). I love sports, animals, and am always up for a chat or a walk! As a **PG academic rep**, member of the **PG access group** and **VP for my college**, I have been **committed** to improving the postgraduate experience in Cambridge and **fighting** on behalf of others for easier access to **education, clarity, and student welfare.**

Got Any Questions?

alj59@cam.ac.uk



**1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> March**  
**cambridgesu.co.uk/vote**

(UG)

VOTE ALEX FOR AEP

WHO AM I?



I'm Alex (he/him), I'm from North Wales and I'm a third-year NatSci at Magdalene (though I'm now studying double-time and have sort-of moved into Psychology in a move I lovingly refer to as 'degree parkour'). I really love photography, and have recently gotten into oil pastel art. I've been heavily involved in Access work as JCR Access Officer since I came to Cambridge, and I have a good mix of **on-the-ground** and **access policy** experience, as well as experience of **effective advocacy** to the colleges and university, and I really want to put that to use as **your next AEP (UG)**.

## MY EXPERIENCES

### Class Act Campaign Vice President

I have been working to establish the campaign as an **effective advocate** and a **welcoming, inclusive space**. I have worked on community building, establishing Class Act presence in colleges, individual advocacy, support, and campaigning for policies that mitigate disadvantage disproportionately felt by Class Act students.

### Slipstream Education Cambridge Campus Lead

With this role that I took over late last year, I run **recruitment** and **training** of 200+ volunteers, as well as management of the scheme as it is ongoing. This experience lends well to **oversight and management** of the shadowing scheme, and I can take what I have learnt from this and apply that to the scheme.

## MY PRIORITIES

### Accessible Access

One of the key things that I want to prioritise in this role is making access done by the SU, university, colleges and student societies **more accessible**. One of the ways I plan to do this by close **consultation** DSOs and other liberation officers to ensure that SU access is as exactly what it should be - **accessible**, both for prospective students and by student volunteers. I also plan to work with JCR and society Access Officers to ensure that they are **well equipped** and **supported** to and deliver accessible access and lobby their colleges to do this. I will lobby for reserved funding that is accessible by student groups so that **anyone can access money to run their own Widening Participation Projects**.

### Expanded Shadowing Scheme

I want to work towards an expansion of the shadowing scheme, both in terms of scope and length to include a long-term virtual component. **Longer-term access** events have the potential to be more impactful than one-off high-intensity events, especially for those that are affected by stigma, and especially those with disabilities.

### Post-admissions Access

I want to work extensively with, and support the **Class Act Campaign** in the lobby for Class Act Officers at college level, and work with the other liberation campaigns to ensure that equal access to entry for this university leads to **adequate support** for those from Widening Participation backgrounds.

# VOTE Zaynab Ahmed

FOR ACCESS  
EDUCATION AND  
PARTICIPATION



## About Me

Hi there! I'm **Zaynab** (she/her), a third year Classics student at Newnham, and I'd love to be your **Access, Education and Participation Officer!** I have a wide range of experience, as the **undergraduate academic rep** for the Classics Faculty and CU Bangla Society's **Access and Welfare Officer.**

The past year has been difficult for many of us, both personally and academically, and has highlighted many **pre-existing flaws in the university's current systems**; we must make the best of this challenging experience by applying what it has taught us to **improve student life.**

## My Ideas

### Access

- Reintroduce **Access Officer Forum** and invite society Access Officers to facilitate collaboration
- Break down data published by the university so that access and outreach work can be **tailored to relevant Widening Participation groups**
- Publicise **grants available at different colleges** and make this part of the **Alternative Prospectus**
- Collaborate with current **access schemes** such as ClickCambridge and implement useful follow-ons such as **personal statement and interview help**
- Simplify the process for student societies to **apply for access-related funding**
- Encourage colleges and the university to host **online access and outreach events** to ameliorate issues such as travel costs

### Education

- Once in-person teaching returns, establish **lecture recordings as standard** across all Faculties
- Ensure that libraries continue to **upload online resources**, and that the UL's 'Scan and Deliver' service continues
- Build on current SU work by exploring how to make **workloads less overwhelming** for students
- Work with the Disabled Students' Campaign to **make Faculty buildings and resources more accessible**
- **Streamline the exam mitigations process** and reduce the burden of evidence required
- Improve **flexibility of exams and assessments**, so that they fit students' needs
- Reform and standardise training for teaching staff, especially **anti-racism and implicit bias training**, to foster a safe and welcoming learning environment
- Reduce **collegiate disparity by equalising** academic provisions for each subject

**If you have any questions about my manifesto, feel free to get in touch via Facebook ([Zaynab Ahmed](#)) or email ([zba20@cam.ac.uk](mailto:zba20@cam.ac.uk))**



# TARA FOR BME OFFICER



TO BE HONEST I'VE NEVER REALLY SEEN MYSELF AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE STUDENT UNION, BUT WHEN THIS POSITION OPENED UP, I KNEW I HAD TO RUN FOR IT. MY **PASSION, EXPERIENCE AND COMMITMENT** WILL ENABLE ME TO USE THIS ROLE TO FIGHT FOR A VISION THAT SEES CAMBRIDGE COMING OUT OF THIS PANDEMIC A **HAPPIER, HEALTHIER AND SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE OF COLOUR TO THRIVE AND SUCCEED IN**. COMING HERE HAS BEEN A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE FOR ME, BUT I WANT TO LEAVE IT KNOWING THAT I'VE DONE EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO IMPLEMENT THE REFORMS NEEDED FOR THIS INSTITUTION TO LIVE UP TO THE COMMITMENTS IT HAS MADE TO ACTIVELY CONFRONT AND ELIMINATE EXISTING INEQUALITIES.

IN MY TIME HERE I'VE GAINED A REPUTATION FOR ASKING THE HARD QUESTIONS. THROUGH HOLDING THOSE IN CHARGE TO ACCOUNT, AND DOING MY BEST TO ENSURE I MYSELF HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTABLE IN THE ROLES I'VE TAKEN UP, I'VE DEDICATED MY TIME HERE TO ADVOCATING FOR **PROGRESS ON OUR TERMS**, NOT THE UNIVERSITY'S. AS MY COLLEGE'S BME OFFICER, I MADE IT MY PHILOSOPHY THAT ANY MEASURES I IMPLEMENTED WOULD OUTLIVE MY TENURE AND CONTRIBUTE TO LONG-TERM CHANGE WITHIN THE CULTURE AND PRACTICES HERE. **IT'S THIS ENERGY THAT I WILL BRING TO THE ROLE IF YOU ELECT ME AS BME OFFICER.**

## DEMOCRATISE

I WOULD BUILD ON THE WORK OF THE PREVIOUS BME OFFICER BY CONTINUING TO RUN REGULAR FORUMS WITH BME STUDENTS AND ENCOURAGE AN OPEN DIALOGUE THAT WOULD ENABLE ME TO REPRESENT AND COMMUNICATE THE DIVERSE VIEWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

## DELIVER!

- **CREATING A CROSS-SUBJECT COMMITTEE OF BME STUDENTS THAT WORKS ALONGSIDE SUBJECT REPS TO IMPROVE DIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC REPRESENTATION. WE NEED INFRASTRUCTURE THAT CENTRES BME VOICES TO ENSURE 'DECOLONISING' IS NOT MERELY EMPLOYED AS A BUZZWORD BY FACULTIES**
- **IMPLEMENTING STANDARDISED, TRANSPARENT AND COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-RACIST TRAINING TO BE DELIVERED TO ALL STUDENT-FACING STAFF ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY**
- **I WILL CONTINUE THE CURRENT EFFORTS BEING MADE TO REFORM THE UNFIT-FOR-PURPOSE SYSTEM(S) IN PLACE FOR REPORTING RACIAL HARASSMENT**
- **TANGIBLE, MATERIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

## DEVELOP

I WANT TO DEVELOP A CULTURE AT CAMBRIDGE THAT NOT ONLY SUPPORTS BME STUDENTS, BUT CELEBRATES US AND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS

I WOULD WORK WITH AND SUPPORT THE MULTITUDE OF INSPIRING GRASSROOTS BPA/BLACK ACCESS INITIATIVES RUN BY STUDENTS HERE



# ANNA WARD FOR DISABLED STUDENTS' OFFICER

## WHO AM I?

I am a final year MML student at Emmanuel - I'm a Double Time student so I've had 6 years at Cambridge, during which time I've gained a lot of experience working in disability activist roles within the university and wider community, which I hope would make me a good candidate for the role.



## EXPERIENCE

- Double Time Officer for the past 2 years, supporting students with applications for Double Time study and representing disabled students at the SU Exec meetings and Council.
- Committee Member on the DSC for 3 years, running many events and socials.
- Emmanuel DSO 2018-19 where I successfully campaigned to get the first wheelchair accessible social space in college.
- Current WomCam Disability Officer.
- Created and launched the Access-a-ball scheme.
- Campaigned to get wheelchair access to Life/Vinyl.
- Volunteer with and Committee member of Sexpression Cambridge.
- Met with MMLL faculty librarians to discuss improving accessibility of library resources.

## EXAMS

- We need to overhaul the way we look at assessments, building on wider conversations currently happening at the university.
- I will gather together data from faculties and departments to see what works best in order to make concrete, evidence based recommendations for diversifying assessment for all students beyond the 3 hour exam model.
- In the meantime, I will campaign to make sure disabled students can retain the options made available during the pandemic, such as take home exams available as an Alternative Mode of Assessment (AMA) .

## DRC

- The DRC needs increased funding and structural change, not just a sticking plaster over the problem.
- Minimise the work they have to do via:
  - Overseeing the automation of the SSD system.
  - Pushing for minimal medical evidence required for SSDs, and exam adjustments and AMAs.
  - No requirement to provide evidence every year for chronic conditions.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

- Continuing to ask people to consider "Does it count?" and raise awareness of what does count as a disability.
- Encourage more people to participate in the DSC.
- Linking up with local groups (e.g. DPAC) and staff groups to build community solidarity.

## ACCESS IN CAMBRIDGE

### Access to Education

- Keeping the new pandemic related access measures, such as virtual supervision, recorded lectures etc.
- Push to improve access to online teaching and learning, making sure captions/transcripts are widely available, no software proctoring etc.
- Make sure faculties implement the measures recommended in the Content Notes research project.

### Access-a-ball Scheme

- The launch of this scheme has been hindered this year due to Covid; as the creator of the scheme I am best placed to ensure its successful launch next year I will encourage and facilitate as many May Balls/June Events as possible to sign up to make their events more accessible.

### College Accountability

- Make sure colleges continue to sign up to AccessAble.
- Link up with student groups working on accommodation.

# PETER

## JONATHAN LUCAS

No student left behind - a voice for all disabled students.

I am a part time mature student studying for a Certificate in History with the Institute of Continuing Education. I am a perennial student and hold a degree in law, a master's degree in law and corporate governance, a postgraduate diploma in psychology and an open BSc. I enjoy learning new things and discovering new areas of interest.

I also have Asperger's Syndrome and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. The past year during the pandemic has been very challenging for my mental health, as I think it has for many people. My brother is severely autistic and has experienced acute anxiety in the past year. The needs of people with mental health problems is often overlooked because we face problems that are not obvious. My insight into mental health and social and communicative conditions including autistic spectrum disorders will be invaluable in the role of disabled student's officer. In addition, in my previous work assisting people with benefits appeals, I have a wide knowledge of a range of disabilities, physical and mental.

I also have significant experience of the workings of elected bodies, having served as a town councillor for nine years and as an NHS Foundation Trust Governor for five years.

As your Disabled Student's Officer, I will be a committed voice for you and I will make sure that no disabled student is left behind or disadvantaged by their condition.



# VOTE ROBIN

for Disabled Students Officer



Accessibility should be a priority,  
not an afterthought!

Our needs should be considered from the start, not bolted-on to current outdated ways of working, and COVID has made this clearer than ever.

## My goals for the role:

- Campaign for increased funding and staff for the Disability Resource Centre, and push the University to complete the transition to online SSDs
- Ensure lecture recordings, flexible exams, online socials and other positive changes are maintained in the future
- Increase the provision of accessible formats and access statements by J/MCRs, colleges and faculties, and pressure any colleges who do not join the AccessAble scheme to gather and provide comparable info
- Lobby for an urgent University plan to meet the needs of current and future students whose courses have been taught mostly or entirely during COVID
- Improve awareness about under-used and under-promoted support options, especially for mental health, medical funding, and invisible disabilities

## Some of my experience:

- Previously Corpus JCR DSO and LGBT+ Officer, and currently Secretary — so I've got plenty of experience helping students with personal concerns, improving physical and administrative accessibility within College before and during COVID, and working together with other officers for positive change
- Student-Staff Liaison for MMLL German — I'm used to collecting detailed feedback and lobbying for teaching & assessment improvements
- Personal experience of both having a disability before Cambridge and getting a diagnosis during my time here, as well as the reality that students are often not the only disabled person in their family



**Vote Robin for DSO on 1-4 March!**

More info at <https://linktr.ee/robin4dso>



# Anjum Nahar for Postgraduate President



I have **four years of campaigning experience** with various student groups and organisations. Previously, I have worked on divestment campaigns and on opposing hostile environment policies within the city of Bristol (where I completed my undergraduate degree). I currently co-chair the SU's Ethical Affairs committee which campaigns on social and environmental issues within the University. **As Postgraduate President of the SU, I will consolidate the work of the previous officer team, fight for an ethical University and welcome more students to participate in SU matters.**

## Finances and Fair Wages

- Work to **abolish the postgraduate application fee** and charges for students living out of college
- Support final year PhD students with obtaining **funding extensions**
- Continue the work of current SU officers in lobbying for **visa fees and NHS surcharges to be covered by existing sources of funding**
- Campaign for **fair rent** for both postgraduate students living within colleges and for students renting within the private sector
- Work with the UCU to **oppose the casualisation of postgraduate workers** within the University
- Support college living wage campaigns and work to **protect the jobs of non-academic staff** post-pandemic

## Student Life and Wellbeing

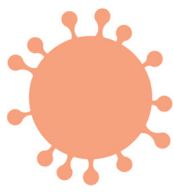
- Ensure postgraduate students are satisfied with **academic mitigations** post-pandemic
- Reform college **pastoral support** for postgraduate students so that they receive proper mental health support
- Continue the work of current SU officers in assessing postgraduate **student-supervisor relationships**
- Work with the BME officer to secure **prayer spaces** for students of faith
- **Communicate the work of the SU** to a wider audience, ensuring that all Cambridge students feel that the SU works for them

## Social and Environmental Justice

- Lobby the university to **cut its extensive links with both fossil fuel and extractive mining industries**
- Support the work of campaign groups working to **end the hostile environment on campus** and to **demilitarise the university**
- Collaborate with and **champion the work of the liberation campaigns**, especially regarding their efforts to build an anti-racist university, decolonise curriculums and implement reliable and accessible welfare systems for dealing with harassment and abuse cases
- Bring this work to MCRs in order to **increase postgraduate participation in SU affairs** and also ensure that Master's students who are at the University for very short periods of time also have the opportunity to participate



01



## Covid-19

- Adequate **provisions in the wake of Covid-19**, including:
  - **Mental health** services
  - **Academic adjustments** and extensions
  - Access to **hardship funds**
  - Access to **educational and technical resources**
  - Improved **outdoor spaces**
  - A Covid-19 **safe events guide**
  - Improved **virtual events** if another lockdown
  - Additional **alumni outreach**
  - Additional **careers advice**

02



## Housing Provision & Financial Support

- **Improved access to affordable housing** for postgraduate students across all colleges.
- **Limiting rent increases** for graduates in line with the inflationary increases (or lack thereof) in funding grants.
- **Greater financial support** for PhD students in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Improved **access to student jobs**, including a centralised platform to advertise supervisor positions.

03



## Student Welfare

- New university **resources** for students who have been **victims of domestic abuse**.
- Continuing to develop **minimum standards of care** in supervisor - student relationships.
- Stronger relationships between MCRs and the Cambridge SU to help **understand and lobby for all students' needs**.

**Jenny Ward George**

for Postgraduate President of the Cambridge SU



## Background

I am a final year PhD student in Engineering, with a **background in Project Management**. My research specialises in shelter for humanitarian aid, looking specifically at the **strategic decisions made by stakeholders in crisis response**. I have **undertaken two graduate degrees at Cambridge**, joining Peterhouse in 2017.

## Cambridge Committee Experience

I am currently **Peterhouse MCR President**. In this role, I have **successfully lobbied the college on Covid-19 policies**, and consequently, I am a **member of the Peterhouse Covid-19 Recovery Group**. Recently, I also proposed a **successful motion to Student Council** to support PhD funding extensions in the wake of Covid-19. I have undertaken five other committee and student representative roles throughout my time at university.

## Professional Experience

In addition to committee roles, I am also **Co-Chair of the Sustainable Shelter Group** at the Centre for the Study of Global Human Movement. From 2018-2020, I was appointed as **Design Fellow for the Royal Commission of the Exhibition of 1851**, where I successfully managed a £100,000 grant to develop software for the Shelter and Settlements sector. As a result of these roles, I am experienced in financial management, building relationships with internal and external organisations, and overseeing large projects.

# LIAM

# WEBB

I am acutely aware that the pandemic not only heightens existing worries and worsens ongoing problems for many, but also introduces new, unexpected difficulties to members of our community. It is easy for PG students to be overlooked during normal times, let alone during a pandemic.

I am the current PG President of the CU SU LGBT+ campaign, and have previously served as a Welfare Officer in various years during my undergraduate studies. These previous experiences will enable me to thoroughly scrutinise the Union's strategy, ensuring it fits the unique needs of PG students. I would advocate that the Union implements policies that are compassionate to the requirements of PG members of our community, which I would accurately collate, consider and represent by being an open point of contact for all PG students at any time throughout what will undoubtedly be an unprecedented and testing year.

I will make certain that PG perspectives are centred by the SU Officers - the challenges they face may be different to those of UG students, but are equally important. This is especially pertinent as many PG students aren't located in Cambridge.

Pastoral care is of paramount importance at this time; as PG President I will work with the Welfare Officers to side with any individual who faces discrimination, either in their college, at Cambridge, or elsewhere. It is vital that the wider challenges faced by PG individuals must not take a backseat despite the many current distractions.

I would strive to ensure that the conditions under which other members of the Campaign's committee can fulfil their roles to the fullest extent are maintained. I would personally be very keen to work with relevant committee members to promote a sense of sociability and unity amongst PG students. Many PG students who are new to Cambridge this academic year may feel a certain sense of exclusion as a result of restrictions, which must be amended.

As PG President I would strive to secure changes to the university experience based on ongoing feedback throughout the year from my constituents, who would be welcome to shape my remit as they see fit, and as their changing needs demand. In addition to these, some more specific matters that would feature on my agenda are: increased access to an improved range of mental health provisions for students, ensuring an equality of living costs between UG and PG in college-owned accommodation, more tailored welfare and academic support, extra resources on the transition from UG to PG and specific PG slots for student services/employability teams.



# VOTE ALLISON FOR UNDERGRAD PRESIDENT

## ABOUT ME

I'm a third year HSPS student at Murray Edwards, where as JCR President I pushed for an increase in bursaries, better engagement with LGBT+ and BME students, and fairer rent. As Chair of the Women's Campaign, I've worked on campaigns focusing on period poverty, disciplinary procedure reform, and care-based approaches to students in the pandemic.

## MY APPROACH

I'll fight for a university where welfare and education aren't put in opposition. The pandemic highlighted inequality in Cambridge, and left marginalized students more vulnerable, while the collegiate University pushed discipline at the expense of wellbeing. Existing safeguarding and student support were *never* enough.



**We can't just return to the status quo: we need to fix it.**

## STUDENT SUPPORT

**We need sustainable workloads, greater pastoral support, and more robust mental health support.**

**I'll push for:**

- Better mental health provision within colleges, including counsellors in all colleges
- A fully funded and supported UCS
- More funding to the DRC, lower wait times, and broader awareness of how to access help
- Required pastoral training for all relevant college and university staff
- Continuing the current SU's work on restructuring term and workloads
- BAME-specific welfare support, including BAME councillors

## STUDENT COMMUNITY

**The SU must give students a reason to engage with it, and needs to work alongside existing student societies to foster community and address issues affecting students. I'll push for:**

- Regular meetings and broader consultation with student societies and sports teams
- Better communication with students on issues that matter to them, beyond weekly e-mails
- Broader collaboration between J/MCRs bringing undergraduate and graduate communities together
- Clearer, step-by-step guides to raising concerns with the SU before they reach crisis

## A CAMBRIDGE FOR ALL

**Our university doesn't work for everyone, and that hurts all of us. I'll push for:**

- A centralised disciplinary procedure & improved procedures in colleges, coupling more effective procedures with broader welfare systems for those facing harassment and abuse
- Better University engagement with international students, particularly with regards to housing and post-Brexit concerns
- Continuing to resist PREVENT and addressing ongoing racism and islamophobia
- Fairer rent and established mechanisms for student consultation on rent and kitchen charges

## AN ETHICAL UNIVERSITY

**This University needs to take its role in perpetuating inequality both in Cambridge and on a national and international scale more seriously. I'll push for:**

- Collaboration with ARU on local Cambridge issues such as housing and homelessness
- A living wage and secure working contracts for all college and University staff
- College divestment from fossil fuels and extractive mining, and for the University to bring forward its 2030 divestment and cut further ties to the fossil fuel industry

**make sure to vote at: [cambridge.su.uk/vote](https://cambridge.su.uk/vote)**



# Bottomley *for* UG PRESIDENT

## Who am I?

- I'm Amy, a 4th year English student from the bit of the North that can't decide if it identifies as Welsh or from the Midlands.
- If my ADHD doesn't have me procrastinating an essay with campaigning, chances are I'm either trying out a new craft (lockdown crochet anyone?) or pestering people for pictures of their pets.
- The subject of your next queerbridge?

## My Experience:

- Class Act Campaign President and Chair
- Former Class Act LGBT+ Officer, and Marginalised Genders Officer
- UN Millennium Fellowship Campus Director
- Co-founder of Cambridge Access Movement
- Founding undergraduate representative at College Committees
- I debated plugging my LinkedIn, but will resist.

## Liberated Community:

- All Liberation Officers and SU Campaigns should be fully supported, with dedicated support for the campaigns without a full-time Sabbatical Officer (LGBT+, Class Act, International Students')
- The burden of self-advocating and peer support weighs heavily on students. I'm committed to working with the DSO and DSC to continue fighting for vital funding for the Disability Resource Centre and University Counselling Service.
- There also must be adequate support and training structures in place for any J/MCR or SU Campaign Officer who is in a position to support other students.

## Representative Community:

- Encourage an open dialogue with J/MCRs, utilising existing channels and proactively improving the relationships between unions. The SU is a union for students and we should be a united community rather than a divided body.
- Decisions taken by the SU should be made following adequate consultation of the groups affected by the decisions. Transparency and open communication is key.
- The SU needs to be fully accountable to its members and all students should feel as though they have opportunity to be heard. It's important to have and promote multiple means of engaging with SU work, from SU Council and weekly updates to feedback forms and social media dialogue

## Open Community:

- Ensure that the SU is accessible to all by ensuring that all SU spaces (physical and virtual) are accessible and welcoming to everyone.
- Encourage all J/MCRs to share best practices:
  - Accessibility: live minuting, Google Meet/Teams instead of Zoom, signing the DSC Accessibility Pledge
  - Liberation: all JCRs should have a Liberation Officer for each of the Liberation Campaigns and every MCR should have, at least, an Equal Opportunities Officer, or equivalent.
- Work with Welfare and Communities, as well as Ethical Affairs, to scrutinise the University's links to systems of oppression, including but not limited to links to slavery, racism and unethical financial sources.
- Push for transparency and standardisation of University procedures, including reporting procedures and EAMC procedures, such as the intermission process. Work with the relevant Sabbatical Officers and Campaigns on these issues and ensure open communication with all students to reduce individual pressures of self-advocacy in an already isolating experience.

# CIARA

## ABERDEEN

Cambridge SU has failed its students this year.

During October, Cambridge SU began to campaign for all non-essential in-person teaching to be moved online, despite the fact many students did in fact want in-person teaching. A proposal was brought to the Student Council on 26th October addressing these concerns, and Cambridge SU therefore decided to change its mind and instead campaign for non-essential in-person teaching to be made optional. However, the proposal was only passed after Ben Margolis submitted an amendment to remove statistics showing the original Cambridge SU campaign was unpopular. Is it so hard to admit that the SU made a mistake?

Ben Margolis has also been working since he became President on a suggestion to improve student workloads - this is the recent proposal which essentially consists of a reading week and a shift to Monday to Friday weeks, with explicit weekends. When Ben presented his work to the Student Council on 1st February, his reasoning for the weekends was to avoid students working on weekends entirely by moving deadlines to within the week. It was then brought up by multiple Council members that this would negatively affect many students by effectively "concentrating" their work into a shorter time frame - this is a clear issue for students without open-ended work, and thus applies to most undergraduate science students, or half of the people Ben represents. He didn't understand the problem, indicating that he spent 7 months on an idea which negatively affects half of his constituents, and didn't even know there was an issue.

Regularly, Cambridge SU elections have an extremely low turnout - no one can claim to have a mandate to represent students when they were elected by only 20% of those students, as the current Executive were. Some of the Academic Representative positions are even lower - in two elections, only a single vote was cast, and there were 20 elections with under 10 votes cast, in Michaelmas 2020 alone. To me, the fact that Cambridge SU inspires such disinterest is unbelievable.

And then there's the open letters. Every single one appears to be written deliberately to antagonise the University, with ridiculous demands that have no hope of actually being met. This actively impedes the work of those JCRs and MCRs who choose to work with their Colleges to improve student life, instead of against them. Further, the SU often cites open letters as a success in themselves: the success of the SU should be measured by what change they actually cause, not by how many students sign their letter.

It is my personal belief that the work done by the UG President could have been completed by any random Cambridge student with an open letter template.

I therefore propose myself for the role; while I am a random Cambridge student, I do not have an open letter template. I also talk to students sometimes, and am capable of accepting that people disagree with me.





## CENTRING THE ISSUES STUDENTS CARE MOST ABOUT BY:

- Working to reduce student workload by **delivering a week 5 reading week by Michaelmas 2022**.
- Campaigning for **at least one dedicated counsellor for all Colleges**, as well as **increased funding for the University Counselling Service and the Disability Resource Centre**.
- Ensuring the SU always accurately represents students by committing to **no major SU decisions without meaningful student consultation** via **regular surveys, open meetings and forums** in addition to fortnightly CSU council with JCRs and MCRs, and using these to determine SU priorities.

## PUSHING FOR AN EQUAL EXPERIENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS BY:

- **Establishing an SU Fair Rent Campaign** to campaign for Colleges with excessive rents to commit to significant reductions.
- Addressing disparities in Colleges' financial hardship and bursary provision, as well as delays in payment.
- Going beyond the state/private divide to **improve access to Cambridge for students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds** through **financial support for student-led access work** and **expanding the new foundation year to all subjects and Colleges**.

## BOLD CLIMATE ACTION

I'll work to make Cambridge a sustainability pioneer by **establishing an SU Climate Action Campaign**, working in partnership with SU Ethical Affairs to push for:

- All Colleges to commit to **full divestment from the fossil fuel industry**.
- A target of reaching **net zero emissions by 2030** across the collegiate university.
- Cutting research and sponsorship ties to ecologically destructive industries.
- College divestment from banks which fund new fossil fuel extraction projects.

## ROOTING OUT DISCRIMINATION AND UNFAIRNESS BY:

- **Pursuing an actively anti-racist University** by pushing for **mandatory implicit bias and anti-racism training** for all university staff and **standardised complaints procedures** across Colleges, as well as establishing **Decolonising Working Parties** in every department and **Legacies of Slavery Working Groups** in all Colleges.
- **Supporting trans and non binary students** by establishing an **SU Gender Expression Fund** and pushing to expand gender neutral language and facilities across the University.
- **Supporting staff** by campaigning for the University to formally recognise Cambridge UCU and advocating strongly for **secure contracts** and **Living Wage accreditation** across the University and Colleges.

## ABOUT ME

I'm a third year HSPS student at Jesus College. I've really enjoyed getting involved with student campaigns as the **Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer** on our students union and as the **undergraduate representative on College Council**, as well working on the **SU Ethical Affairs Committee**, supporting **Cambridge Zero Carbon** and **co-founding the Jesus Climate Justice Campaign**. I've loved studying at Cambridge, but have also been frustrated by parts of the student experience which could work so much better for everyone, and would love to carry on advocating for a more welfare-oriented, fair and equal Cambridge on the SU.





# VOTE BEN

## for Welfare & Community

CN: mentions of grief, COVID-19, sexual assault & harrasment, hostile environment, Prevent, homelessness, period poverty.

### SUPPORT

**Tackle student loneliness:** Regular SU welfare drop-ins; work to create a more connected postgraduate community.

**Tackle excessive workloads** and support plans to introduce a reading week.

**Grief and COVID-19:** Set up an SU project to understand the impacts of grief in the wake of COVID-19 on the student body and strengthen support for grieving students.

**Counselling provision:** Increase funding and staffing to reduce UCS waiting times; competent and well-funded specialist services; and reduce barriers to access by promoting the BME Counsellor scheme.

**Increase funding and staffing for the DRC** and promote the Cranes fund for specialist therapy/healthcare.

**Support for survivors of sexual violence:** Add services like those provided by the SAHA on a college level, and mandatory training on sexual harassment for all porters, pastoral and academic staff.

**Material support for student parents and caregivers** through targeted funding, improved childcare facilities and flexibility in student workloads.

### RIGHTS

**Housing as a right** that must be guaranteed to all students. Support the demands of **student rent campaigns** and improve **support for private renters**. Fight for access to out-of-term accommodation recognising the specific needs of international students, estranged students, and those on intermission.

**Anti-racism:** Support anti-racism initiatives including the End Everyday Racism Project and ensure their action points are taken up by the collegiate university. Compulsory anti-racism training for porters and all pastoral and academic staff. Work with the Decolonisation Network for institutional decolonisation that extends beyond the curriculum.

**Workers' rights:** Support UCU's campaigns for recognition and anti-casualisation, and lobby for fair pay for all academic and non-academic staff.

**Resist on-campus surveillance** including remote proctoring, Prevent duty and hostile environment monitoring.

### JUSTICE

**Homeless Solidarity:** Work with the Women and Homelessness Action Group, CHOP, Jimmy's and Wintercomfort to address homelessness in Cambridge.

**Fight Period Poverty** both in the university and wider community.

**Cambridge and COVID-19:** Keep all COVID-19 health technologies developed in Cambridge affordable and accessible globally.

**Climate Justice:** Campaign for the collegiate University to cut all ties with the fossil fuel industry and meaningful carbon reduction targets across all university institutions.

**Divest and Disarm:** Pressure Cambridge to cut all ties with the arms trade, border and carceral industries and all destructive and polluting industries.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

**Welfare is liberation work:** Work with the SU liberation campaigns, Ethical Affairs and other student, staff and community groups ensure liberation is centred.

**Listen to student voices:** Host a termly Welfare Forum open to all undergraduate and postgraduate students to raise welfare issues and get involved in campaigning.

**College-centred campaigning:** Keep in close contact with JCR & MCR Welfare Officers to support them on the work they want to do and to inform the work of the SU.





# VOTE EWAN (he/him)

## welfare and community

COVID-19 has exposed the inequalities and weaknesses in welfare provision, but also shown the power of community and collective action. I will fight for students' welfare and rights, support community campaigns and demand free education for all.

### WELLBEING, WELFARE & RIGHTS

In order to improve wellbeing for students of all backgrounds we need to address embedded structural issues. I will:

#### LEARNING & WORKLOADS:

Reduce student workloads by: extending freshers week, introducing a reading week, and promoting alternative learning methods.

#### MENTAL HEALTH & DISABILITIES:

Increase accessibility and the grossly underfunded support available through Colleges, the Disability Resource Centre, and University Counselling Service.

#### ANTI-RACISM:

Promote the work of anti-racist projects, such as the Decolonisation Network, Preventing Prevent and End Everyday Racism by working with the BME Officer.

#### LIBERATION:

Support and collaborate with liberation campaigns to improve the lives of women and LGBTQ+ students on issues such as disciplinary procedures, period poverty, and CARE+.

### ABOUT ME

I was brought up by my mum who works as a school nurse and went to my local state school in Chesterfield. At University, I've helped organise climate justice campaigns, student solidarity efforts during the strikes, and the King's Bunker nights. I'm in my third year studying Sociology and spend my spare time at the moment watching Liverpool FC lose.

### FREE & LIBERATED UNIVERSITY

#### POSTGRADUATE RIGHTS:

Lobby for the abolition of the postgraduate application fee, charges for students living out, and the residency requirement whilst supporting the UCU anti-casualisation campaign.

#### FOSSIL FREE & DEMILITARISATION:

Support campaigns to end all ties with the fossil fuel and arms industries.

#### UNIONS & WORKING CONDITIONS:

Collaborate with staff unions to combat marketisation, improve working conditions and win union recognition.

### JUSTICE & THE COMMUNITY

#### THE LOCAL COMMUNITY:

Combat the 'town-gown' divide by: opening up the SU and Colleges as community spaces whilst pushing for action on the University's role in causing inequality in the city.

#### RENT AND HOUSING JUSTICE:

Campaign for affordable rent and housing justice by supporting: Rent Strike Cambridge, ACORN, and homelessness charities.

#### DEMOCRATISE THE UNIVERSITY:

Back efforts to increase student and staff representation in democratic structures within the SU and across the University.



# MILO (THEY/HE) FOR WOMEN'S OFFICER



## MY EXPERIENCE

- Newnham JCR LGBT+ Officer (2019-20)**: established the college's Gender Expression Fund to support trans and non-binary students
- Trans and NB Rep on SU LGBT+ Campaign (2020-21)**: co-wrote the Trans Inclusion Guide & provided online community spaces during the pandemic for those who needed it
- Newnham FemSoc Campaigns Officer (2020-21)**: started a Gender Reading group and worked on internal campaigns

I am committed to making **material improvements for all women and non-binary students**, and have the campaigning experience to do so.

## AUTONOMY

- Ensure that the University and colleges respect students' boundaries by **lobbying to remove academic sanctions for housing-based issues**, and **oppose policies that increase surveillance of the student body**
- Campaign for **relaxing of residency requirements**, more flexibility to leave during term time, particularly to **support student carers**. Further lobby for institutional recognition of how responsibilities of care disproportionately fall to marginalised people
- Continue the campaign's work to end period poverty in the University and push for all colleges and university buildings to provide **free sanitary products in all bathrooms**

## WORK

- Oppose casualisation of postgraduate employment**, and ensure that postgrad workers are respected in their workplace, through **work with UCU**, and and greater campaign involvement in issues affecting postgrads e.g. **support for student families**
- Push the University to recognise that there are student sex workers.** Continue creating a campaign that is sex worker inclusive by e.g. **signposting to SWARM and SCOT-PEP in all consent workshops**, making sure students can safely access pastoral support, and creating an anti-SWERF guide

## INTERSECTIONALITY

- Keep the Women's Campaign **accessible, anti-racist, and trans and sex worker inclusive.** More frequent collaboration with other SU campaigns and FLY
- Lobby the uni to run paid, compulsory anti-racism and diversity training outside of full term**, so staff have no excuse not to attend.
- More transparency around data sharing and greater student control over personal information**- e.g. allow students to change their own name in Outlook, CamSIS etc.

## SAFETY

- Widen the scope of consent conversations by **providing support for refresher consent workshops in Lent Term.**
- Work with other campaigns, especially Class Act and the ISC to **create guidance for college reps** on advocating for marginalised students experiencing housing insecurity. As the pandemic continues, it is key that the **SU helps fight for student housing security.**

# ELLIOT AITKEN

Hi I'm Elliot (he/him), I'm a third year English student at Murray Edwards College and I'm running for Double Time Officer. I have ADHD & recently went through the process of applying for double time to extend my final year into two years. I want to continue the work of previous officers and help anyone who thinks this option might help their Cambridge experience.

## Experience:

Murray Edwards JCR Transgender & Non-Binary Officer (Current)

Murray Edwards JCR LGBT+ Officer (2019-20)

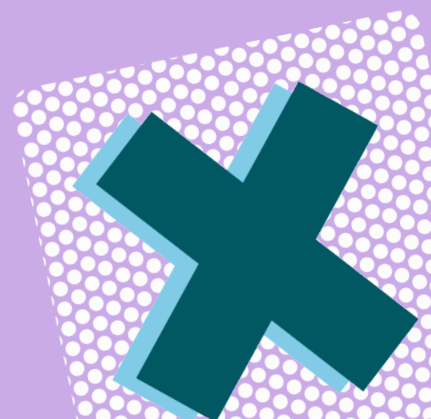
- In these roles I've been able to make major change for my communities I've stood up for, introducing measures such as the Gender Expression Fund & raising awareness of trans identities in college.

Pembroke Players Artistic Director (2020-21)

- I've been pushing for more accessible theatre in giving guidance of contextual content warnings, promoting use of captions and more info on how we can support disabled audiences.

## Policies:

- Continue previous work in campaigning for removal of discrepancies between different students' experience of Double Time
- Continue promoting & recommending when appropriate the Double Time Guide as an option for those who this might benefit
- Giving advice and information to students considering Double Time so potential students can make an informed decision on if this will be suitable for them
- Petition the University to stop withholding grades from Double Time students until the end of their final academic year
- Continue to host socials for Double Time students
- Petition to speed up & simplify the application process





## My priorities:

- Supporting the current SU President's proposal for a new term structure
- Meaningful action on welfare and workload
- Bringing decolonisation initiatives to University level
- Supporting the campaign for increased DRC funding

# VOTE CHARLI HENDY FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCILLOR

## Relevant Experience:

- I've been a student representative for Archaeology since matriculating in 2017
- I currently sit on my department's Joint Consultative Committee, Teaching Committee, and Departmental Committee
- After the drama of moving everything online last year, I persuaded my department to create a student seat on their dramatically named Online Teaching Taskforce
- In the last few months I've written and signed open letters, hosted open meetings for students, and arranged additional meetings with Archaeology's examiners to discuss and improve exam arrangements and mitigations with some success
- This year I'm also the SU's elected representative to my subject's Faculty Board

## Why me?

- I'm an experienced student rep, so I'm used to bureaucracy and navigating obscure agendas
- I'm a vocal advocate for student interests in my department, and have done my best to guide discussion toward efficient, practical solutions rather than endless conversation
- I'm outspoken and direct with no reservations about speaking my mind, and I'm passionate about making Cambridge a better place for students

I do my best to be approachable- contact me at [ch787@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ch787@cam.ac.uk) with questions or suggestions!

**Vote 9am 1<sup>st</sup> March-  
5pm 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Re-elect

# Freddie Poser

*For University Councillor*



University Councillor is a role that benefits from experience. I want to put the knowledge I've gained over the past year to use, delivering even more effective scrutiny of university leadership – for all students.

## Continue to fight for students

University Council is all about **holding university leadership to account** for the decisions they take that affect us all. I have been proud to speak up for students on a wide range of issues, from exams to safeguarding, and I'm keen to keep working with the SU team to make sure Toope and Virgo really listen to our concerns.

## Ensure a *fair* response to COVID-19

One of my key priorities this year has been speaking up for students on COVID issues – from exams and no-detriment to return to residence and college disparities. If re-elected, I will continue to **fight to make sure every student's voice is heard.**

## Ensure divestment is fully implemented

When the university committed to divestment, I promised to be the first to speak up if they ever tried to row back on their pledge. **I will be an unwavering voice,** pushing Cambridge to do more to fight climate change in any way it can.

## Further improve transparency

I have regularly engaged with student press, including appearing on Varsity's podcast. If re-elected I will ramp up my efforts to keep students informed about what council does through the student press. Alongside this manifesto I have published a report about what action council has taken since my election.

## Why am I standing again?

It has been an immense privilege to serve as a University Councillor over the past year, to have had the opportunity to push for policies that really benefit students, and to see the university leadership commit to substantive change like divestment. Experience is key to being a good Councillor: it took me a few meetings to get up to speed and I'm still learning. With your vote, I believe I can use my experience to be an even more effective voice for you in the coming year.

# PETER

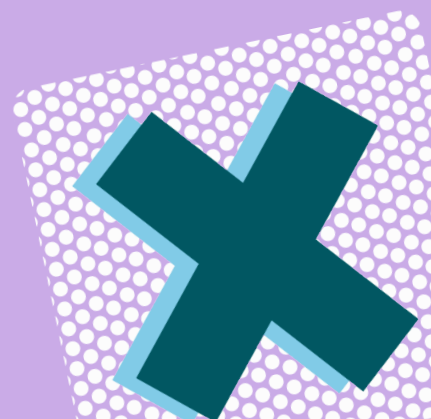
## JONATHAN LUCAS

A Voice for You on the University Council.

I am a part time mature student studying for a Certificate in History with the Institute of Continuing Education. I am a perennial student and hold a degree in law, a master's degree in law and corporate governance, a postgraduate diploma in psychology and an open BSc. I enjoy learning new things and discovering new areas of interest. I also have significant experience of the workings of deliberative bodies, having served as a town councillor for nine years and as an NHS Foundation Trust Governor for five years.

The past year has been very challenging for everyone and students have got a poor deal. The past year during the pandemic has been very challenging for my mental health, as I think it has for many people. Mental health problems is often overlooked because they represent a problem that is not obvious. It is time for this increasing issue to be recognised and it is time for all the problems we are facing as a student community to come to the fore and be taken into account.

As your representative on the university council, I will be your voice and I will fight for your interests!





## 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

**FRI, 26 FEBRUARY**

hustings  
(at 5.30pm)

**THU, 4 MARCH**

voting closes  
(at 5pm)

**MON, 1 MARCH**

voting opens  
(at 9am)

**THU, 4 MARCH**

results announcement  
(at 7pm)



# VOTE

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

Voting opens at 9 am on Monday, 1st March  
and closes at 5 pm on Thursday, 4th March.

