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# EXECUTIVE OFFICER CANDIDATE MANIFESTOS

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**ACADEMIC**  
**CANDIDATES**



# DESTINY MAZ

## ACADEMIC

**I get to the point where I can, so elect me as your Academic Executive and I will first focus on:**

- Reviewing the timetabling issue so your time is better utilised. No more commuting for just a 1 hour session: you will finally be able to fit your studies around part-time work and other commitments.
- Helping you have better access to support while studying, making the most of the resources designed for your course (e.g software you can use on your personal computer FOR FREE & access to workshops and labs with later closing times).
- Improving the quality of services available through MyGateway, so you can more easily book support for things like mental health & financial advice etc.

**Who even am I to be aspiring to implement such changes?**

I am a 2nd year Interior Design student who has been advocating change in the teaching & learning experiences at DMU since I enrolled in 2020 and I am passionate about helping students get the most from their university experience.

**What relevant experience do I have?**

- In the first year of my studies, I was heavily involved in university-wide changes and decision-making through my role on the Student Action Committee.
- I am a course representative for the second year in a row, so I have experience liaising between students and the academic cohort to convey our thoughts, suggestions & issues.
- I was also a Student Engagement Leader last year where I actively contributed to discussions around changes that needed to be made within the ADH faculty.

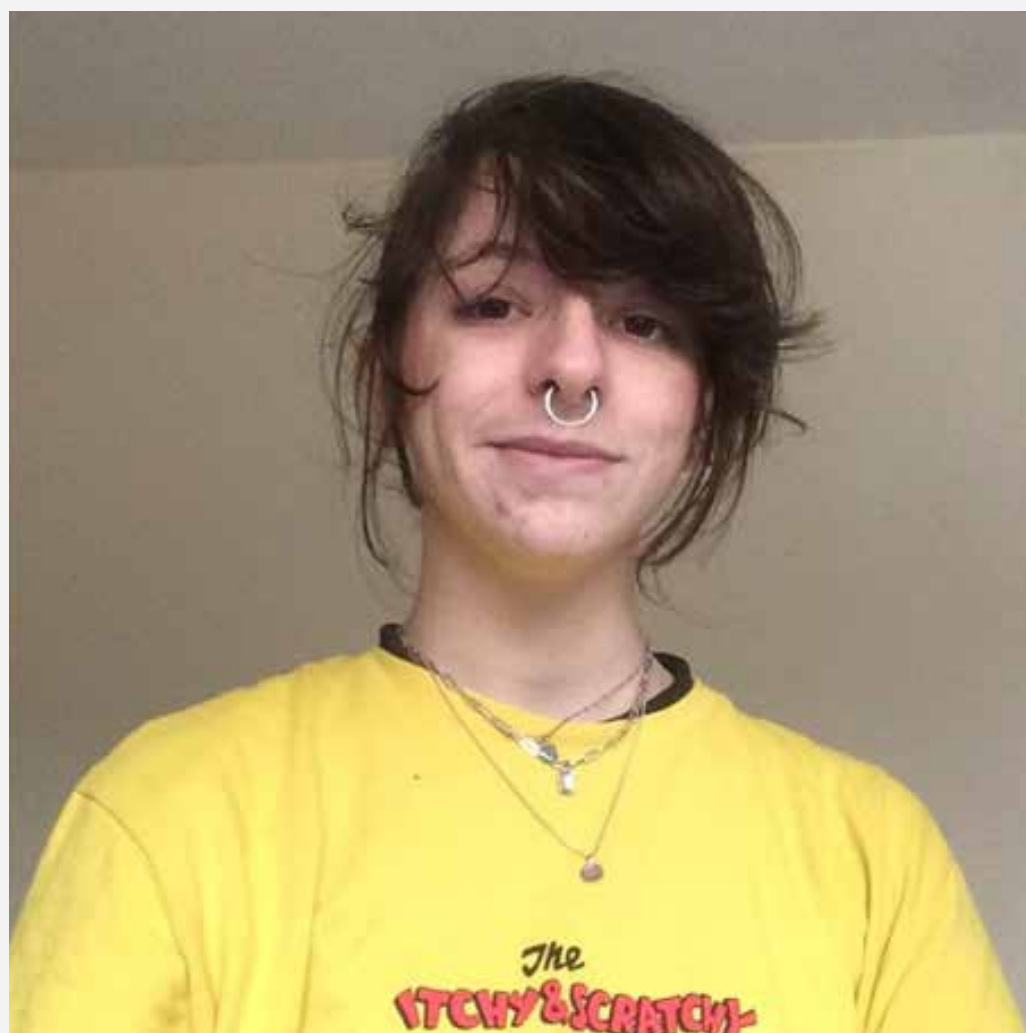
**Vote for me as your academic executive and I will do everything in my power to ensure that ALL your voices, opinions, feedback and ideas are not just heard- but actually acted upon.**



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**EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**  
**CANDIDATES**



**SION  
POPE**

**EQUALITY &  
DIVERSITY**

Over the past two years, I have been Chair of the LGBTQ+ Society. In the role, I have worked to make the LGBTQ+ Society more inclusive for our religious members. I have also worked with the University to get Kosher food on campus, and with the Student Union to be more inclusive of Jewish students. Furthermore, I have communicated with striking lecturers to help my fellow students understand the strikes, and advise them on what they can do. I have also reported, and resolved hate incidences, helped students with problematic lecturers and students, and tackled accessibility issues in the University. With this experience, I believe that I am well suited for this role, and to represent you. I have a familiarity with the ways the University and Student Union handle complaints, plan events, and work with students and student groups. I am passionate about making your student life the easiest and most inclusive experience possible. In this coming academic year, I will work to make the academic side of De Montfort more disability and mental health friendly by having easier access to differals and considerations during marking, as well as considerations when it comes to attendance. I plan to have the Student Union observe more religious holidays, have a more inclusive enviroment for mature/ off-campus students, and create a on-campus safe-space where education, training and observation of cultural and religous events can happen.





**SHOAIB  
SYED**

**EQUALITY &  
DIVERSITY**

Hi

I'm Syed Shoaib, P2778458, standing for the position of equality and diversity executive.

Here is my manifesto,

1. Weekly meet ups and parties to support cultures from different parts of the world
2. Students will have different societies with their own heads, so that it will be easy to hear everyone's problems.
3. Everyone will be given equal opportunities to involve in activities and support gender equality
4. Monthly free food camps with dishes from different countries promoting diversity in DMU.
5. Monthly cultural days where people can come in their ethnic wear to social gatherings.
6. DMU have been a vast cultured student run society and will remain so.



## MEERA DASANI

### EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

My name is Meera Dasani your current Equality and Diversity Officer elected in 2022. These nine months have been busy and exciting as I have represented and still representing different history months within the University and student body. In addition, I participated in panels to ensure students feel part of the university and to improve the representation of students.

But there's a long journey ahead. My forthcoming ambitions aim to redefine the student experience.

I would continue to work on my aims:

Providing students with the tools they need to maximize the possibilities offered by the institution. Student life outside of going out should be promoted to students who are not part of society. My intention is to encourage students to participate in all the institution offers, from volunteering to workshops to field trips. Increasing pupils' awareness of environmental issues. My goal is to ensure that all workshops and events are open to all students.

As a student, I believe you go through a very crucial yet stressful phase during your time at university. It is for this reason that I want the Student Unions to be able to provide advice and assistance to students. It would be my pleasure to be the one they can turn to.

All students should have a positive university experience.

To raise awareness of and celebrate the many communities at DMU, create projects that encourage co-creation and collaboration across society.

Make sure that every student is given the attention he or she deserves, regardless of their attributes.

Students might find it most challenging to speak about their experiences dealing with discrimination because of their gender. I would be pleased to provide a 24/7 hotline service so they can get assistance.





# KOMAL SHAHZADI

## EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Hi there,

I hope you are well. My name is Komal Shahzadi, a final year student studying Information and Communication Technology. I want to be your next Equality and diversity executive officer for 2023/2024.

Want to know more about me? Here you go.

1. Currently serving as Enactus DMUs president.
2. Currently doing an internship with De Montfort University as a content developer in the Disability team.
3. A student leader for the university's peer assistant lead programme.
4. Formerly assisted in human resources at the Enactus DMU.

I would like to work with students to increase their involvement in DSU events so they can cope with the pressure of their academic obligations.

I aim to provide them with a setting that feels like home.

I'll collaborate with other executives to set up some activities for students in the SU that will encourage them to learn more about other cultures.

If students use it to its full potential, DMU has a lot to offer them. I would like to ensure that students are aware of all the opportunities the university has to offer. Societies are the best way for students to gain experience and have fun. I want to cooperate with societies to encourage students to join societies.

University life is not easy for students because it's a life changing stage for all students. I want to make sure they are having the best experience during their study period.

If you have any questions about anything please feel free to email me!

Email: P2546670@my365.dmu.ac.uk

**"We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."**



**CHIPPY  
SUNDARAN  
PILLAI**

**EQUALITY &  
DIVERSITY**

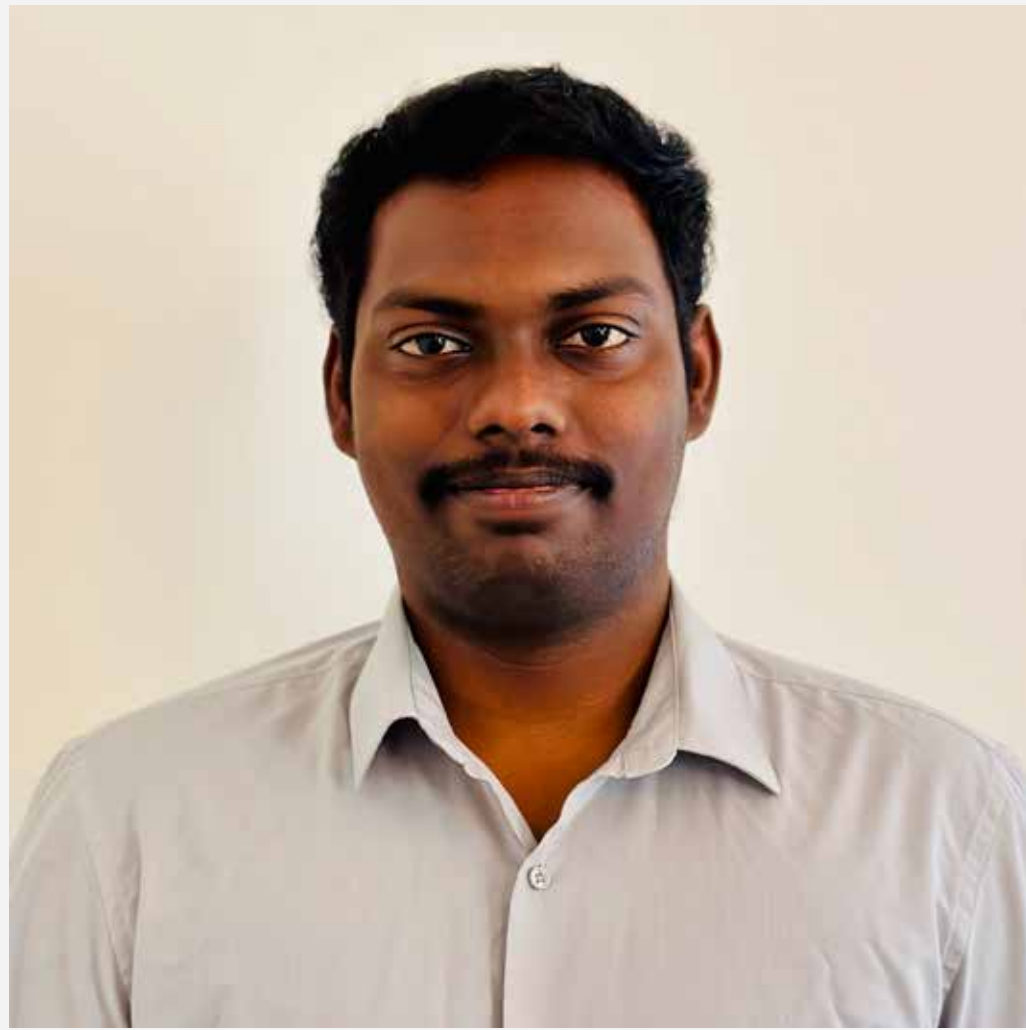
Hi, I'm Chippy Sundaran Pillai, and I'm standing as Equality And Diversity Full-Time Executive. If elected, I would aim to organize and direct various student-participation activities and events every week. I developed the following abilities while serving as a course rep and as the postgraduate student representative for 2022–2023 on the Learning and Teaching Committee: communication, leadership, organization, problem-solving, and teamwork. These, in my opinion, make me a strong contender. Thank you for reading my manifesto. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.



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# UNION DEVELOPMENT CANDIDATES



**PADMANABHAN  
SITHAMPONDI  
KAMARAJ**

**UNION  
DEVELOPMENT**

Hi All,

I am Padmanabhan doing my Master's in Aeronautical Engineering, I have nominated for the Post of 'Union Development Full Time Executive' with all your support. The DSU is providing wide range of support to the students in DMU, But the use of the resouces are very limited or not fully used. I will be the bridge between us (Students) and the University. To mutually achive our goals together. I will be readily available for you at teams, telephone and in person in hard times.

My nomination for this election to bring out the better use of University for the students and to ensure ready availability of services without any delay. I will ensure the right represntation for each DMU student for their growth.

Will work on creating part time work space for the students within the campus by displaying the vacancies.

Will work on the teams for inclusion of students regardless.

As a team, we work together for the development, representation and readily available services.

Vote for Us to grow ourselves as better citizens,

Vote for Us for best services on time from DSU

"Win - Win" For student and University.

Have a great future folks!

Regards,

Paddy





# AMIR IQBAL

## UNION DEVELOPMENT

Hi... (Again)

My name is Amir Iqbal, and I would like to continue to be your Union Development Executive!

Just a little bit about myself.

I have been at DMU since 2018 and did my degree in Accounting and Finance. During my time at DMU I have been:

- Course Rep for Accounting and Finance
- A Committee member for various societies which include Demon Media, Nintendo Society and Pool and Snooker
- A Student Council Member
- A Student and Brand Ambassador for DMU

This year has been our first full year back on campus, but I understand that lots more needs to be done.

Therefore, if you Re-elect me as your Union Development officer, I will aim to:

- Work to improve the Housing Advice that we provide within the Student Union
- Improve the social spaces we have within the SU and across campus!
- Reform our Zone Structure so that we don't limit our student voice with DSU.
- Continue our work to mitigate the Cost-of-Living Crisis on students including extending Free Breakfast into the summer period and next year!
- Continue to improve the way DSU communicates with students
- Continue work on our sustainability projects within the Student Union and the University

And so much more!

By being in this role over the past few months, there are many student issues that are raised that I can't do alone!

Your vote allows me to continue tackling these issues!

Your vote strengthens our student voice!

Your vote means a better student experience for YOU!

Vote Amir Iqbal for Union Development Executive

Instagram: Amir4DSU

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**OPPORTUNITIES &  
ENGAGEMENT  
CANDIDATES**





## **WAQAR ARIF**

### **OPPORTUNITIES & ENGAGEMENT**

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for trusting me and voting for me in the 2023 DSU Election. I am Waqar Arif, currently studying MA international Film Production. Your trust has given me the opportunity to contribute to problem solving for all of you and make a lot of suggestions which are now implemented across the University.

As your representative on the union of the university. I would aim to ensure that: 1. Anyone can make their voice heard and express their opinion on the running of the University, regardless of faculty, year or any other factor 2. The student body (you!) are kept informed of the decisions made by the Union 3. Decisions made by the Union are to the benefit of all Students In order to deliver upon these aims I will use my Skills and hard work as your representative and a member of the student union. As well as this I will endeavour to give you opportunities to inform me of what I can do to improve your experience – because you know best what you want to change. I would be honoured to represent you during the coming year and to be given the opportunity to make a positive impact on your university experience.

I would really thank full you if you chose me for your voices and I will explore many opportunities for all of you in future. I really want to see you on 13th of march to 20th of March on election days. sss



**STEPHANIE  
GLAZEBROOK**

**OPPORTUNITIES  
& ENGAGEMENT**

**Stephanie Glazebrook**

You might have seen me around campus working at the Union, as course rep, on the student council, or within a society. I'd love to be able to continue working for YOU in this role, to make sure you get the most out of university! Choosing DMU is a big investment in your future, and it's worth getting involved in everything you can, whether that's DMUSport, a society, a volunteering opportunity, or just enjoying some freebies so that you can graduate knowing that you've put the most into your university experience, and knowing we've given you the best we can.

If you vote for me, I promise to make sure you have an AMAZING student experience with a students' union that's on your side and help you to enjoy your student life outside of your studies. This will include careers, sports, societies, DMUGlobal, and so much more- this is definitely a year you won't want to miss!

I pledge to listen to what you want and deliver:

- Events that work for social justice!
- Opportunities that make a real difference to your student life!
- Groups that celebrate and encourage the diversity of our students!





# HARROUN MADOUNI

## OPPORTUNITIES & ENGAGEMENT

Hi, I'm Harroun!

Here's a few things about me:

- Born in Leicester and am a **commuter student**
- **Postgraduate** student in Forensic Accounting
- Current Chairman of DMU Futsal and captain of the Men's 1st Team
- Been involved in university wide events including Welcome Week activities, International Welcome Week, DMU Pride and DMUsport's Varsity and BUCS events.

I have a **mission** to give all DMU student the opportunity to find their people, purpose and passion that shapes their university experience.

### If elected I would aim to:

#### **Develop/maintain effective working relationships with DSU, DMUsport & committee members**

- Demand more efficient processes e.g. referee payments
- Demand faster response times from the Opportunities Team and DMUsport
- Create a Chairperson's Network, where all members feel supported in and outside of their role

#### **Provide suitable facilities for all student groups**

- Prioritise DSU-affiliated societies over external bookings
- Provide students with safe and accessible spaces for activities

#### **Encourage collaborative events between student groups**

- Provide religious, cultural and international societies with opportunity to be involved in sport
- Proactively engage unengaged groups
- Encourage performance groups to engage in wider DMU events

#### **Advocate the Give it a Go programme**

- Provide students with greater opportunities to meet new people and diversify the current offer of the programme

#### **Increase funding opportunities for student groups**

- Support student groups to find beneficial sponsorships and maintain good working relationships with stakeholders that reflect group values
- Explore external funding opportunities available to students groups

### Why people should vote for me:

1. I've been at **DMU for 4 years** and know my way round!
2. I understand the importance of student groups and the **impact** they have on **university experience**.
3. I'm passionate about creating a **positive and welcoming environment** for all, promoting **inclusivity** and **celebrating the diverse student population**



## GURUPRIYA KARASALA

### OPPORTUNITIES & ENGAGEMENT

This is gurupriya karasala standing up for the role students engagement and Oppurtunities executive officer.

About myself I am an enthusiastic and happy individual person, who's willing to get all the students be benefitted with the best Oppurtunities and platform we're they can be exposed globally.

Major possible chance to take up this role is to fulfill the problem faced by the many students here at DMU,for an example at the welcoming week , we saw many students facing problems with or facing hard time with jobs and cost of living and accomodation.

I wish all these kept in mind and whoever is going for the role should concentrate on theses things majorly.

Major goal is to look for providing possible solutions to students , atleast by next election students shouldn't face the problems with jobs and accomodation.

1. To engage students of all categories (bachelors, masters, post graduate, and phd's) at a platform to exchange info and better communication
2. Developing better platform for all degrees of students to fulfil all the ways they can explore
3. Conducting workshops to bring students of same courses together
4. Developing the availability of accommodation and access to international students and conducting events to engage them.
5. conducting paid exhibits or interlinking different branch students to bring exposure and and raise money with in the uni.
6. Encouraging diversity of people to come together through events and social life at union
7. Indulging more effort to increase the availability of materials and necessary equipment and softwares to required courses and their more convenient spaces (class rooms, seminar halls)

This is my view of taking things to get it done and which helps students to understand and get good Oppurtunities.

Thank you





**CHIDERA  
JACQUELINE**

**OPPORTUNITIES  
& ENGAGEMENT**

If elected as Engagements and Opportunities officer, I will:

Tackle the issue of increasing annual school fees for international student.

Do my utmost best to help some of the students integrate with the local community by making DMU home for them.

Raise awareness and enabling students participation in activities and societies.

Help out with opportunities for students

Increase the visibility of help for students by increasing number of resident assistants and proportional representation of students (home, EU, and international) in hall flats.

- Make advice more visible in terms of housing for students (home and international students) and continue to act as guarantors for international students with no local guarantors.

Work with other officers to ensure that the DMU' Student Union is a comprehensive and capable body to advance agendas.

I am a person who will always pay attention and ensure that every voice is recognised, acknowledged, and supported.

I want you to always feel heard.



**ANGEL DARA  
GARVEY-  
HENDRICKSON**

**OPPORTUNITIES  
& ENGAGEMENT**

I would like to stand for Student Opportunities and Engagement Executive. I may only be a first year student who is still finding her way but i am here to make a change to make every student studying here feel loved safe and supported. I want to show my support by giving students the best optunties at dmu through volunteering societies and DMUsports. My worth ethic is strong. I am dedicated and passionate. Hopefully that will reflect if i was to get this position. Activities are the heart of Dmu, the centre of student life. That is something i hope will last forever. My responsibility is to make sure that everyone gets the full programme of sports and societies. This will be done through promotion on social media on the dmu website and through events in the academic year. I hope that you could support me in this manifestation. Thank you!



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**WELFARE**  
**CANDIDATES**



# THOMAS ALEXANDER NORRIS

## WELFARE

Hello, my name is Thomas Norris, I am a third-year drama student with Autism, and I am a proud member of the LGBTQ Plus community, I want to be your next welfare executive officer.

What I plan to do:

- I will work with students across the board to seek the best ways to help students' mental health while creating a mental health support network for students who struggle with mental health.
- I will lobby to create cheaper food options or free meals for students from low-income backgrounds.
- I will make sure that no one is without friends, and I will do this by creating friends for life mentor program which will help students.

I think these aims will have a massive and positive impact on all students because I believe change is important, and when good change happens to the masses, it creates a positive impact.

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age".

Why should you vote for me, I am currently the disability liberation officer for the DSU, and I have just won a social mobility award, I have also been a student rep for drama during my first and second years and I was a member of youth Parliament in 2017, which has enhanced my confidence and communication skills, my peoples' skills.

All these experiences have shown I can represent people from different backgrounds and create new ideas, I have also brought communities together throughout many events in my experience.

Thank you for reading my manifesto and vote for me for a Better Tomorrow.



# MEMUNAH FALOLA

## WELFARE

### **Advanced Biomedical Science M.Sc.**

Student welfare, which involves but not limited to safeguarding the rights and privileges of students, is an integral part of our academic journey. As a mother, caring for others has always been close to my heart hence putting myself foremost to this role.

As a student, I personally dealt with a number of hurdles from extenuating circumstances to limited resources. I was fortunate to have exceptional advice and guidance, however, I know this is not the case for everyone. As a course representative, I have seen firsthand the devastating effects of 'lack of support' on students. I have a burden to tackle these issues hindering students from achieving their aspirations.

### **MY GOALS**

- Having an ear that listens attentively whilst working closely with students, staff, university community, partners and Alumni in a bid to provide solutions and promote sound opportunities.
- Fostering a very proactive union.
- Creative leadership approach along with a resilient work ethic and positive mental attitude.
- Safeguarding the rights and privileges of the student community regardless of differences.
- Due to the rising cost of living, I hope to furnish students with helpful information concerning housing and coping techniques by teaming with partners that offer support and relief.
- Ensuring the University introduces measures to assist students in the midst of economic downtime e.g. supermarket vouchers and lots more.

Being a course rep, I already know what it takes and have knowledge of obstacles pervading students and how to tackle them. Also, I have made a number of contacts and allies throughout the university and its environs and have a good understanding of the existing structures. I want to be remembered as a student leader who pursued the needs of the students and accomplished great things.

Thank you.





# MAIMANA MIRGANI

## WELFARE

Hiya everyone!

My name is Maimana Mirgani and I am a post-grad Architecture student. As a welfare officer, my heart goes out to all students who may be struggling with academic, social, or emotional challenges. No student should ever have to go through these struggles alone. As a fourth-year university student, I understand that the pressure of university can make you feel like you're lost sometimes or drowning in work, but you are most definitely not alone!

I am guided by the principles of **compassion, accessibility, proactivity, empathy, collaboration, and innovation.**

As a welfare officer I would like to:

- Push for students to have access to the facilities they need to complete their work wherever possible and more time to complete their work where access to facilities is not possible.
- Have access to resources for students such as activities, journaling and online programs that are designed to help students feel supported, whilst creating an action plan on how they can achieve the best outcome on their course.
- Push for students to have all the equipment and gear so that you can thrive in your studies no matter your background or circumstance

I am an empathetic listener and advocate for all students. Whether you need help finding counselling services or just making some new friends. Together, we can create a campus community that is compassionate, supportive, and empowering!

If you have any questions for me or just want to get to know me better, feel free to drop me and email on [P2722575@my365.dmu.ac.uk](mailto:P2722575@my365.dmu.ac.uk)



**ALIYA  
AMIN KHAN**

**WELFARE**

I am standing again to be your Welfare Executive, as I have a strong belief in promoting Equity, inclusivity and prioritising welfare within our Union.

If re-elected I will plan on working on the following areas:

- Carry on ensuring cost of living is a priority
- Carry on having animal therapy at DSU
- Ensure your voices are heard
- Well-being events
- Disabled cards information in all toilets
- Ensure students can access diverse events
- BSL training
- Destigmatise BAME Mental health
- Celebrate well-being awareness days

But most importantly be there to support you and make sure your voices are heard, while you're at university.