

# RUN.

# VOTE CHANGE

THINKING OF STANDING?  
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO RUN IN LSE  
STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

 LSE  
STUDENTS'  
UNION

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OUR SOCIAL NETWORKS







## WELCOME TO ELECTIONS FROM YOUR GENERAL SECRETARY

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As a student at LSE, you're part of LSE Students' Union - a member-led charity which aims to change your life and university experience. We're proud to be independent of the School, proud that we have one of the most active students' unions in the country and we want to make sure you have a great time at LSE.

The Students' Union is run by a team of elected LSE students. They have responsibility for the strategic direction of LSESU and for making sure that the concerns of different groups of students are represented on campus and beyond. We want our students to feel empowered to bring about changes within the School and society as a whole. Our campaigns throughout the year have ranged from demanding newer and better facilities on campus to arguing against an increase in class sizes and lobbying the School to divest from fossil fuels. We want you to decide what LSESU campaigns for next.

This year, we're changing the way that decisions are made in your Students' Union by introducing a

Student Council. So, for the first time ever, you'll have the opportunity to run for election for Student Council and join the Executive and club and society leaders to debate and vote on policy.

The elections are your opportunity to have a say and get involved! They are your chance to undertake exciting challenges that enhance your academic year and make you stand out from the crowd. You'll discover lots of opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge required for future careers, as well as meet lots of interesting people who will help make your time at LSE thoroughly successful and fun.

So if you're looking to get the most out of your time at LSE, have your voice heard and make lots of friends in the process, the Students' Union elections are definitely for you.

**Nona Buckley-Irvine, General Secretary**



## ELECTIONS TIMELINE

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NOMINATIONS OPEN: 10AM, MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: 5PM, MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER

CANDIDATE BRIEFINGS: 6PM, MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER AND  
12 NOON, TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER

CAMPAIGNING OPENS: 2PM, THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER

VOTING OPENS: 10AM, WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

VOTING CLOSES: 7PM, THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER

RESULTS ANNOUNCED:

FROM 8PM, THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER

# POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS' OFFICER 2014 – 2015

PART-TIME, PAID POSITION

## AIM:

To represent postgraduate students at LSE

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### What you will do

- Represent postgraduate students at LSE
- Be an active member of the Student Executive Committee and Student Council
- Ensure student views are being heard and acted upon at all levels of LSE
- Work with the School on the issues that postgraduates at LSE care about
- Plan campaigns, events and projects for postgraduate students

### How you will do it

- Regularly communicate via online channels and face-to-face with Course Reps and other students
- Work closely with the Sabbatical Officers and other members of the Executive team
- Attend Student Executive Meetings and other relevant LSESU meetings
- Develop and sustain a good working relationship with School staff
- Attend relevant School meetings

## BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE and LSESU
- Improve support and advice for postgraduate students
- Develop your communication, organisation, event planning, teamwork and leadership skills
- Looks great on your CV
- Paid position, including paid holiday
- Meet other students
- Opportunity for additional training

## PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Salary: £26,500 pro rata
- Hours: approx 2 days per week
- You will be required to attend training
- Apart from various pre-arranged meetings it will be up to you to decide what needs to be done and when you will do it. The role is flexible to fit around your other commitments.

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Must be a postgraduate student
- Previous member of a committee, or involved with a club or society
- Passionate about making LSE better

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

**LSESU staff and Sabbatical Officers will support you in your role and you will also receive:**

- Welcome Booklet
- Introductory training
- 1:1s with the Engagement Coordinator to determine your priorities and training requirements
- Regular 1:1s, office space and support via email and phone
- Opportunity to attend further internal and external training

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open:  
10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close:  
5pm, Monday 20th October

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)



# POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS' OFFICER 2014 – 2015

## PART-TIME, PAID POSITION

### AIM:

To represent postgraduate research students

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### What you will do

- Represent research students at LSE
- Ensure research students' views are being heard and acted upon at all levels of LSE
- Work with the School on the issues that postgraduates at LSE care about
- Plan campaigns, events and projects for postgraduate students

#### How you will do it

- Regularly communicate via online channels and face-to-face with research students
- Work closely with the Sabbatical Officers and other members of the Executive Team
- Attend relevant LSESU meetings
- Develop and sustain a good working relationship with School staff
- Attend relevant School meetings

## BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE and LSESU
- Improve support and advice for research students
- Develop your communication, organisation, event planning, teamwork and leadership skills
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students
- Access to additional training as requested
- Paid position, including paid holiday

## PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Salary: £26,500 pro rata
- Hours: approx 1 day per week
- You will be required to attend training
- Apart from various pre-arranged meetings it will be up to you to decide what needs to be done and when you will do it
- The role is flexible to fit around your other commitments

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Must be a postgraduate research student
- Previous member of a committee, or club or society
- Passionate about making LSE better

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

**LSESU staff and Sabbatical Officers will support you in your role and you will also receive:**

- Welcome Booklet
- Introductory training
- 1:1s with the Engagement Coordinator to determine your priorities and training requirements
- Regular 1:1s, office space and support via email and phone
- Opportunity to attend further internal and external training

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open: 10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 20th October
- Voting: between 10am, Wednesday 29th October and 7pm, Thursday 30th October

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

# BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC (BME) STUDENTS' OFFICER 2014 - 2015

## PART-TIME, VOLUNTARY ROLE

### AIM:

To represent members and to campaign on issues that relate to BME liberation

This is the first time that a BME Students' Officer will be elected to the Students' Union Executive. This new position has been introduced following a proposal from students last year. This proposal was voted in favour of in an all-student vote.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 1. To lead LSESU on delivering students' priorities related to BME issues

- Open up relevant dialogues and debates related to BME issues via events and other media
- Discuss ideas and run campaigns
- Organise and coordinate initiatives to create an environment that is inclusive and free from discrimination
- Challenge stereotypes and promote equality at LSE and other levels

#### 2. To be an active member of the Student Executive Committee

- Work closely with the Sabbatical Officers and other members of the Executive Team
- Hold a seat on the Student Council
- Review, challenge and execute LSESU policy
- Find out students' opinions on policy and feed back to the Executive Committee
- Attend Student Executive meetings and other relevant LSESU and LSE meetings

#### 3. To be accountable to your members

- Hold regular assemblies or student meetings to feed back actions to students
- Update students regularly via emails, blog posts and other methods
- Attend Student Executive meetings and other LSESU and LSE meetings



## BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE and LSESU
- Improve support and advice for BME students
- Develop your communication, organisation, event planning, teamwork and leadership skills
- Access to additional, tailored training sessions
- Gain experience working in the third sector
- Access to a huge amount of advice and support
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

**LSESU staff and Sabbatical Officers will support you in your role and you will also receive:**

- Welcome Booklet
- Introductory training
- 1:1s with the Engagement Coordinator to determine your priorities and training requirements
- Regular 1:1s and support via email and phone
- Additional tailored training sessions to develop your skills

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Enthusiasm about changing LSE for the better
- Knowledge of students and their needs (e.g. experience in societies)
- Communication skills
- Planning and organisational skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team

## REQUIREMENTS

**While it is up to the officer to shape the relevant remit, the following requirements are non-negotiable:**

- To set and carry out annual objectives
- To attend 1:1s with relevant LSESU staff once a month and remain in regular contact through email/phone between meetings
- To attend approximately six Executive meetings and five Student Council meetings, or send official apologies if this is not possible
- To communicate and collaborate with the Sabbatical Officers where necessary
- To communicate your work to students both in person and online
- To spend 3-5 hours per week in an Executive capacity (with some flexibility around academic commitments)

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open: 10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 20th October

# MATURE AND PART-TIME STUDENTS' OFFICER 2014-2015

## PART-TIME, VOLUNTARY ROLE

### AIM:

To represent mature and part-time students at LSE

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### What you will be doing

- Represent mature and part-time students at LSE
- Be an active member of the Student Executive Committee
- Ensure student views are being heard and acted upon at all levels of LSE
- Direct the creative and strategic direction of LSESU activity
- Work with the School for change on issues that LSE students care about

#### How you will do it

- Regularly communicate via online channels and face-to-face with all students
- Work closely with the Sabbatical Officers and other members of the Executive Team
- Develop and sustain a good working relationship with School staff
- Attend Student Executive meetings and other LSESU and LSE meetings

## BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE and LSESU
- Improve support and advice for students
- Develop your communication, organisation, event planning, teamwork and leadership skills
- Access to additional, tailored training sessions
- Gain experience working in the third sector
- Access to a huge amount of advice and support
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

**LSESU staff and Sabbatical Officers will support you in your role and you will also receive:**

- Welcome Booklet
- Introductory training
- 1:1s with Engagement Coordinator to determine your priorities and training requirements
- Regular 1:1s, office space and support via email and phone
- Opportunity to attend further internal and external training

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Be a mature and/or part-time student
- Previous member of a committee or involved with a club or society
- Passionate about making LSE better

## PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Voluntary role, reasonable expenses will be paid
- You will be required to attend training
- Apart from various pre-arranged meetings it will be up to you to decide what needs to be done and when you will do it
- The role is flexible to fit around your other commitments

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
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- Voting: between 10am, Wednesday 29th October and 7pm, Thursday 30th October

# GENERAL COURSE PRESIDENT 2014 - 2015

## PART-TIME, VOLUNTARY ROLE

### AIM:

To represent General Course students

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Represent General Course students
- Ensure student views are being heard and acted upon at all levels of LSE
- Work with the School for change on issues that students at LSE care about
- Organise social events for General Course students
- Regularly communicate via online channels and face-to-face with all students

### BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE and LSESU
- Improve support and advice for General Course students
- Develop your communication, organisation, event planning, teamwork and leadership skills
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students
- Access to additional training as requested



## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

**LSESU staff and Sabbatical Officers will support you in your role and you will also receive:**

- Welcome Booklet
- Introductory training
- 1:1s with the Engagement Coordinator to determine your priorities and training requirements
- Regular 1:1s, office space and support via email and phone
- Opportunity to attend further internal and external training

## PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Voluntary role, reasonable expenses will be paid
- You will be required to attend training
- Apart from various pre-arranged meetings it will be up to you to decide what needs to be done and when you will do it
- The role is flexible to fit around your other commitments

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session, or candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Enthusiasm about changing LSE for the better
- Knowledge of students and their needs (e.g. experience in societies)
- Communication skills
- Planning and organisational skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open: 10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 20th October
- Voting: between 10am, Wednesday 29th October - 7pm, Thursday 30th October

# NUS DELEGATE 2014 - 2015

## VOLUNTARY POSITION X 3 (MINIMUM OF ONE WOMEN WILL BE ELECTED)

### AIM:

To represent the views of all LSE students at the NUS National Conference

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### What you will be doing

- Represent the views of all LSE students at the NUS National Conference
- Put together a package of issues and motions to raise at the conference
- Read motion documents prior to the conference
- Feed back to students what happened at the conference

### USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Former or current Course Rep, or active in a club or society
- Passionate about making LSE better

### PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Voluntary role, reasonable expenses will be covered
- You will be required to attend training

### BENEFITS

- Help shape the future for students at LSE and across the country
- Develop your communication, organisation and teamwork skills
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students, both at LSE and elsewhere
- Access to additional training as requested
- If you're thinking of running for a Part-time, or Sabbatical Officer position in the future, this is a great way to try out campaigning and to convince students you can represent their views

### HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open: 10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 20th October
- Voting: between 10am, Wednesday 29th October and 7pm, Thursday 30th October

### ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

# STUDENT COUNCIL 2014-2015

## VOLUNTARY POSITION

### AIM:

To represent the views of all students at the Student Council

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### What you will do

- Represent the views of all students at the Student Council
- Support students to submit policy motions
- Attend Student Council meetings approximately 6 times per year
- Listen to students present and debate motions at the Student Council
- Vote on policies at the Student Council

### USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- Former or current Course Rep
- Passionate about making LSE better
- Involved with a club or society

### PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Voluntary role, reasonable expenses will be covered
- You will be required to attend training

### BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE
- Develop your communication, organisation and teamwork skills
- Access to additional training as requested
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students
- If you're thinking of running for a Part-time or Sabbatical Officer position in the future, this is a great way to try out campaigning and to convince students you can represent their views

### HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open:  
10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close:  
5pm, Monday 20th October

### ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

\*The introduction of the Student Council is subject to students voting in favour of this change. A Union General Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th October from 1-2pm in the LSESU Venue, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, so that students can debate this change. Voting on this proposal will take place online from 2pm on Thursday until 5pm on Friday 10th October.

# POSTGRADUATE STUDENT MEMBER OF THE TRUSTEE BOARD 2014 – 2015

## VOLUNTARY POSITION

### AIM:

To represent the views of all students at the Trustee Board

The Trustee Board assumes ultimate legal and financial responsibility for LSESU. It comprises elected students and five Sabbatical Officers, as well as external members with relevant expertise.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure that everything LSESU does benefits students
- Ensure that LSESU remains in good financial shape, including approving the annual budget
- Ensure that LSESU does not break any laws or regulations
- Interpret the Constitution, Articles and By-Laws
- Attend all Trustee Board meetings
- Read relevant reports and papers prior to the meetings



## BENEFITS

- Help shape the future of LSE
- Develop your communication, organisation and teamwork skills
- Access to additional tailored training sessions
- A great title on your CV
- Opportunities to meet other students
- If you're thinking of running for a Part-time or Sabbatical Officer position in the future, this is a great way to try out campaigning and convince students you can represent their views

## ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Please email Laura Burley on [L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)
- Drop into the Activities Resource Centre in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session or a candidate information session (visit [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more details)

## USEFUL CHARACTERISTICS

- It is essential that you are a postgraduate student
- Knowledge of the School and LSESU, for example gained through being a Course Rep or being on the committee of a society
- Passionate about making LSE better
- You cannot have been convicted of an offence involving deception or dishonesty (unless the conviction is spent)
- You cannot have a history of bankruptcy

## PAY AND CONDITIONS

- Voluntary role, reasonable expenses will be covered
- You will be required to attend training

## HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

- Online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)
- Nominations open:  
10am, Monday 13th October
- Nominations close:  
5pm, Monday 20th October
- Voting: between 10am Wednesday 29th October and 7pm, Thursday 30th October

# WHY STAND?

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## **1. TAKE ACTION ON THE THINGS THAT YOU CARE ABOUT**

From School-specific campaigns such as improving essay feedback or lobbying for better sports facilities, to issues beyond the campus such as visa restrictions for international students, you can make the School and LSESU better and improve life for students across the country. Elected officers influence School, NUS and national policy every day.

## **2. REPRESENT STUDENTS LIKE YOU**

Having a diverse range of officers is really important as it keeps LSESU democratic and ensures that we are relevant to all students. So if, for example, you're a part-time student and think that the views of part-time students are not represented adequately, this is your chance to change that.

## **3. RUN A DYNAMIC ORGANISATION**

Start your career at the top. You'll be sitting at the helm of an organisation with a £3 million turnover, a staff team of more than 50 people and hundreds of volunteers. To say this stands out to future employers is an understatement.

## **4. DEVELOP YOUR CV**

Get personal and professional skills that will help you for the rest of your life. Employers are always looking for more than a degree. The skills you will develop and the professional contacts you will make during your year as an officer will put you a step ahead.

## **5. EXPERIENCE THE MOST FUN AND CHALLENGING YEAR OF YOUR LIFE**

From organising events to running campaigns on campus and making decisions in Executive meetings; every day is different, each challenge unique.

## **6. EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF CAMPAIGNING**

Every candidate who has ever taken part in elections has enjoyed the campaign process - regardless of whether or not they were successful. Getting a campaign team together, writing your manifesto, chatting to your fellow students and taking part in Candidates' Question Time is all part of the experience.

# BECOMING A CANDIDATE - THE TECHNICAL STUFF

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## 1. HOW DO I NOMINATE MYSELF?

Fill in a nomination form online at [www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections). Nominations must be received by 5pm on Monday 20th October.

## 2. WHAT'S THE EXECUTIVE?

The Executive is a team of five Sabbatical Officers (including the Postgraduate Students' Officer) and ten Part-time Officers, such as the Women's Officer and the LGBT Students' Officer, who represent specific student groups. They are responsible for the day-to-day running and strategic direction of LSESU and for making sure the concerns of specific groups of students are represented on campus. The other members of the Executive Team are elected in Lent Term.

## 3. CAN I RUN FOR MORE THAN ONE POSITION?

Yes, but you can only be elected to one Executive position (this includes Sabbatical positions, Part-Time positions, Student Council members and members of the Democracy Committee). If you're elected for more than one position, you'll have to decide what position you want to take up. Each post requires different skills and has different responsibilities, so it's best to think about what you really want to do and what you're best suited for. Running for more than one position is challenging and may give the impression that you aren't very concerned about either role. It is possible to be elected to both a part-time Executive position and to the Trustee Board, but students are advised that performing these two part-time roles simultaneously would impose extreme demands on their time. You can run for and be elected as an NUS Delegate, even if you hold another position.

## 4. I'M AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT - CAN I STAND?

Yes. Working as an officer is considered an extension to your course under visa compliance requirements.

## 5. HOW LONG WOULD I BE ELECTED FOR?

- The Postgraduate Students' Officer and Postgraduate Research Students' Officer are elected for the academic year. You may continue working during the summer break.
- Part-time Officers and members of the Student Council are elected for the academic year.
- The postgraduate student member of the Trustee Board can hold the role for two years - but if you're just here for

one academic year, that's fine, you can still stand.

- You can stand in the same role for a maximum of two terms in total, and then for a different role for a maximum of two terms following that, and so on.

## 6. ARE THE ROLES PAID?

- The Postgraduate Students' Officer is paid £26,500 pro rata, which comes to approximately £10,600.
- The Postgraduate Research Students' Officer is paid £26,500 pro rata, which comes to approximately £5,300.
- General Course President, BME Students' Officer, Mature and Part-time Students' Officer, NUS Conference Delegates and Student Council members are all voluntary roles. Expenses for travel to training and conferences are reimbursed.

## 7. HOW MANY HOURS A WEEK WOULD I WORK?

- The Postgraduate Students' Officer works approximately two days per week.
- The Postgraduate Research Officer works approximately one day per week.
- Part-time Officers choose how many hours per week they work; apart from some pre-arranged meetings and training (around six hours per term), you can be flexible.
- The Student Council meets approximately six times in the Michaelmas and Lent Terms.

## 8. I'VE NEVER TAKEN PART IN A CAMPAIGN BEFORE. IS THIS FOR ME?

Definitely! Being an officer and taking part in a campaign are really rewarding experiences and help you develop skills from teamwork to public speaking. Having a diverse range of candidates is really important, as it keeps LSESU democratic and ensures that we are relevant to all students. Don't worry if you haven't got that much previous experience - the staff team at LSESU is on hand to offer training and support.

## 9. BUT WHAT IF I DON'T WIN... WON'T IT BE A WASTE OF TIME?

Definitely not! Campaigning will develop your organisational, teamwork, event-planning, design and public speaking skills - all of which will be essential for future jobs. You'll also get to have a lot of fun, meet lots of new people and experience a different side to university life. You'll also be ready to take part again in Lent Term elections should you wish to.

# GETTING TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR YOUR CAMPAIGN

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## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Interested in running for election but want to find out more? Come along to a 'Thinking Of Standing?' session in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre. The most up-to-date information about session dates and times can be found on the LSESU What's On page at [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson).

Information sessions for self-defining women and BME students who are interested in running for any position will also be held. Dates and times TBC – check out [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson).

Already made your mind up to run for election but want to get some of the key info on what's happening when? Come along to a Candidate Information Session. The most up-to-date information for this is also available on the LSESU What's On page at [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson).

LSESU also runs sessions where you can get advice on writing your manifesto, as well as Candidate Briefing and Campaign Training Sessions after nominations close. Check out the LSESU What's On page for dates and times for these. When you've submitted a nomination you'll also receive a list of key dates and times.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. WHAT'S A MANIFESTO AND HOW DO I WRITE ONE?

A manifesto is a set of policies that you will implement if elected. When writing your manifesto, it's good to talk to your coursemates, housemates and friends about how they've found their School and LSESU experience and what they think could be improved. Find out what the current officers are doing and talk about what you'd do differently, or what you would continue with next year. The same issues come up each year, so don't just talk about problems: offer new and creative solutions.

But be realistic - know what is achievable in a year and don't promise anything that is legally or financially impossible. For example, promising each student a bursary of £500 or unlimited free drinks in the Three Tuns might get you lots of support, but you're very unlikely to be able to deliver! It's good to have between two and four priorities and a further three or four smaller issues that you'd address.

### THERE IS A LIMIT OF 200 WORDS PER MANIFESTO AND SIX WORDS PER SLOGAN.

We suggest you write your manifesto using our manifesto template. It will be published online when nominations open online and it will be sent to you via email when you have submitted a nomination. The template makes it easier for students to understand your key points and to compare different candidates' manifestos, so that students are more likely to vote based on your policies.

Check out our blog for manifestos from previous winning candidates.

Your manifesto can be submitted either with your nomination form or separately. All manifestos must be submitted before the start of the campaigning period (by Wednesday 22nd October) at the latest. They will then be published online.



## 2. WHAT ARE ENDORSEMENTS?

An endorsement is a stamp of support from a club or society for a candidate. Some candidates actively seek endorsements, considering it essential to electoral success. However, society and club members do not necessarily vote for a candidate because their group has endorsed them - so your time may be better spent talking to people, rather than relying on societies to do the work for you!

## 4. WHERE CAN I GET SOME SUPPORT?

Taking part in an election campaign will be fun, but also hard work for both you and your team. So don't forget that LSESU staff are here to help you - Laura Burley, Engagement Coordinator, is here specifically to run elections and make sure all candidates are getting the most from the experience.

## SOME TIPS FOR WRITING A WINNING MANIFESTO:

### MAKE A LIST OR A MIND-MAP

Start by making a list or mind-map of the reasons you want to run in the elections and the types of changes you might make if you got elected. You can then use this as the basis for your manifesto.

### IF YOU WANT TO BE AMBITIOUS...

If you've got ambitious plans, have a chat with LSESU staff or officers about them. They will be able to help you find ways to achieve the things you want to do.

### ADD A BIT OF YOUR PERSONALITY

Adding a bit of your own personality is good: it will make your manifesto appear unique and will give students some idea of what you stand for.

### BE SPECIFIC

Try to be clear and specific - people like to know exactly what you want to do.

### DON'T MAKE PROMISES YOU CAN'T DELIVER

Students will see through this!

## 3. WHAT ARE HUSTINGS?

Hustings are a chance for students to meet candidates and ask them questions. LSESU will be hosting hustings on Thursday 23rd October, along with other opportunities for voters and candidates to get together (dates TBC - keep an eye on [www.lsesu.com/whatson](http://www.lsesu.com/whatson) for more info).

Get in touch on:

**L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk**

**020 7107 6703**

**Saw Swee Hock Student Centre between 10am and 6pm, Monday to Friday.**

Other members of the staff team, including Engagement Manager,

**Claudia Coussins**

**(C.Coussins@lse.ac.uk)**

### LESS IS MORE

Remember sometimes less is more - you might want to limit yourself to a few headline points. (Remember, there is a limit of 200 words per manifesto and six words per slogan.)

### MAKE YOUR NAME STAND OUT

Put your name in big letters and make sure that it's the same name you put on your nomination form. There's nothing worse than voters being confused when they vote.

### SPEAK TO YOUR FRIENDS

Test your ideas out on a couple of good friends: they should be able to tell you whether you have a vote-winner or not.

### USE A THEME OR GIMMICK

If you're planning a theme or gimmick for your campaign, use it on your manifesto too. Catchy slogans can be a vote-winner.

# CAMPAIGN HINTS AND TIPS

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## DO

- Write your manifesto, learn it, be able to talk about it and stick with it
- Talk to people – in Houghton Street, in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, outside the LSE Library, at hustings, or maybe do lecture shout-outs with permission
- Have a catchy slogan
- Seek club and society endorsements - but remember they're not the most important thing
- Get a good team together
- Take regular breaks - campaigning until 10pm on Houghton Street is not necessarily effective!

## DON'T

- Break the rules!
- Rely solely on posters and social media to get your message out
- Start to campaign before the official start of campaigning on Thursday 23rd October
- Neglect your degree - standing as a candidate is unlikely to count as extenuating circumstances

## THE SEVEN RULES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

1. Stick to your message
2. Use photos, graphics and links to articles, not just text
3. Check your spelling and grammar
4. Don't spam people - a few short, catchy messages each day works better than overloading them! Would it be better to talk to someone rather than tweet?
5. Be careful who you trust with your account details - would a friend post something detrimental to your campaign as a 'joke'?
6. Don't swear or use offensive or threatening language, even if it's meant as a joke
7. KISS - Keep It Simple Stupid!

# THE ELECTIONS PROCESS

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## 1. WHEN DO NOMINATIONS OPEN/CLOSE?

Submit your nomination online at

**[www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)**

Nominations open: 10am, Monday 13th October

Nominations close: 5pm, Monday 20th October

## 2. WHEN DOES VOTING START/FINISH?

Voting opens: 10am, Wednesday 29th October

Voting closes: 7pm, Thursday 30th October

Results announced: From 8pm, Thursday 30th October  
in the LSESU Venue

## 3. HOW CAN I VOTE?

Online at **[www.lsesu.com/elections](http://www.lsesu.com/elections)** (log in with your School username and password).

## 4. WHAT TYPE OF VOTING METHOD IS USED?

We use the Single Transferable Vote method. You can number candidates in order of preference, or just place a '1' by the candidate you want - you don't have to indicate

other preferences. If no candidate scores a decisive victory with first preferences, the losing candidate is eliminated and their votes distributed according to second preferences. This process is repeated until a candidate has a decisive majority.

These voting systems mean that it is in candidates' interests to campaign broadly and to try to get a message across to voters even if the candidate believes that specific voters are committed to another candidate as a first preference. Elections at LSE are seldom decided in the first round of voting.

## 5. WHO IS RON?

RON stands for Re-Open Nominations. If you don't think that any of the candidates are suitable then you can choose this option.

## 6. WHEN WILL I FIND OUT THE RESULTS?

The results will be announced in the LSESU Venue in the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre from 8pm on Thursday 30th October. This will be broadcast on PuLSE Radio and also published in the Beaver. The results will be sent out via email and social media too.



## ANY QUESTIONS? GET IN TOUCH!

Contact Laura Burley,  
LSESU Engagement Coordinator:  
[L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk)  
020 7107 6703

Or pop into the Activities Resource Centre  
in the Students' Union, Saw Swee Hock  
Student Centre, between 10am and 6pm,  
Monday to Friday.

**RUN. VOTE. CHANGE.**