



VISION STATEMENT

Candidate's Name	Miruna-Ioana Petrescu
Candidate Team Name	
<p>I am running for the role of Wellbeing Officer with deep respect for the work done so far and with genuine concern for the real interests of students at Manchester Metropolitan University. I strongly believe in the Student Union's vision, to support every student in achieving personal success, and I intend to actively contribute to building a university environment where wellbeing is not a theoretical concept, but a reality experienced by every student every day.</p> <p>For me, wellbeing is the foundation of a fulfilling university experience, because without real support, access to the right services, and a strong sense of community, students cannot achieve personal success. Wellbeing is linked to how we build relevant experiences, how we promote student voice, and how we work collectively for real and lasting impact for all. This vision comes not only from my studies in Business Psychology, but also from my own experience as a student who went through the process of adaptation, uncertainty, and searching for a place in the university community.</p> <p>An extremely important moment for my wellbeing was discovering the Salsa and Bachata Society. I arrived there at a time when I needed connection, people, a safe space where I could breathe and feel accepted. Dancing and the community around it helped me boost my morale, build genuine friendships, regain my confidence, and feel, for the first time at Manchester Met, that I truly belonged to a community. This experience showed me how powerful the impact of a student society can be on wellbeing and motivated me to get actively involved and later take on the role of president.</p> <p>In this position, I contributed to the development of the society by organising inclusive events, maintaining a safe environment where students feel accepted regardless of their experience or background, and I saw how the community grew not only in numbers but also in terms of trust, connection, and belonging. I worked with different people, listened to their stories, and learned how much it matters to be seen and supported. This experience shaped me deeply and made me understand that a good leader is, above all, someone who knows what it's like to be on the other side.</p> <p>I know what it's like to be a student who needs help. I've been there. At the same time, through constant discussions, I realised how diverse the challenges faced by my friends, classmates and other students are: academic stress, loneliness, anxiety, financial pressure, cultural adaptation, or lack of clear information about available support, realities that can be addressed through dialogues, an active community, and collective action. That's exactly why I want to be the bridge between students and the Union, to facilitate real dialogue and ensure that their needs are heard and at the heart of decisions.</p> <p>As a Wellbeing Officer, I intend to make wellbeing a visible priority by organising monthly workshops dedicated to mental health and work-life balance, creating a guide to resources</p>	

accessible to students (psychological counseling, academic support, opportunities for involvement), and constantly promoting them through the Union's channels. I will support initiatives that strengthen the community, from informal meetings and support groups to themed events that encourage connections between students. I want to develop clear mechanisms through which students can report the difficulties they encounter and receive proper support, and through regular consultations and collaboration with representatives of various student groups, I will promote an inclusive environment in which every student feels listened to, represented, and valued.

Regarding student voices, I propose to develop and structure active online communities (dedicated groups on platforms used by student and thematic forums), where opinions, suggestions, and difficulties can be expressed openly. I will initiate monthly consultations and periodic surveys to collect relevant feedback, and the conclusions will be centralised and presented transparently to the faculty management. I also want to create online 'Ask Me Anything' sessions with representatives of the administration and the Union to facilitate direct dialogue.

My academic background helps me approach these goals in a responsible and results-oriented way, but my motivation comes from the heart and a sincere desire to make a real difference. I believe in the real impact of our actions, and I am convinced that no one knows students better than themselves.

In conclusion, I am running for the Wellbeing Officer role because I care. Because I have experienced needing support and have seen what a difference a well-built community can make. Because I want every student at Manchester Met to have the chance to feel connected, supported, and prepared not only for their career but also for life. Wellbeing is not a privilege, it is every student's right, it is the foundation of a fulfilling university experience, and I want to actively contribute to protecting and promoting it.