



VISION STATEMENT

Candidate's Name	Samuel Bosworth
Candidate Team Name	
<p>I am standing for the Education Officer role because education should actively support students in thriving. My values are rooted in fairness, clarity, inclusion and collective progress. All students, regardless of their race, ability, hometown, or financial situation, should have their needs and views at the centre of all decision-making.</p> <p>I take responsibility seriously. I show up, I care about the quality of my work, and I believe students deserve an education system that reflects the same level of commitment expected of them. Through conversations across the university, a clear pattern has emerged. Students are motivated and capable, but often feel confused, unsupported, or unheard in their academic experience. This is not a student's failure but the institute's, requiring collective action to address.</p> <p>Education is more than just lectures and grades; it is a bridge to our future lives. Students should understand expectations from the beginning, feel supported throughout and access help before issues escalate. Most crucial is that students leave Manchester Metropolitan University feeling confident in their skills and able to transition seamlessly into employment or further study.</p> <p>A common concern raised by students is how collaborative projects are handled, particularly in creative courses, but there are still overlaps. Specifically, the CoLabs module. Collaboration should help students develop teamwork, communication, and professional industry standard skills. Despite good intentions, many students, for at least the past 4 years, have experienced being placed in groups where contributions are unequal, accountability is unclear, and expectations are unknown. I personally experienced being left to complete work intended for the whole group while others went radio silent. When collaboration is poorly organised and expectations are unclear, it creates stress and unfair pressure rather than meaningful learning.</p> <p>I will tackle these issues with a student-led, solutions-focused approach. My goal is for CoLabs to work as intended: clear expectations from the outset, transparent assessment, and strong staff support when issues surface. By working with students, the union, and the university, I will champion fair and clear approaches to group work so students produce portfolio-worthy work and develop essential skills without undue stress.</p> <p>Clarity around academic expectations is another key priority that students raise. Students feel uncertain about what is required to succeed in their modules due to vague briefs, inconsistent marking criteria or limited feedback. This needs to change; students may feel discouraged and struggle to adapt, especially first year students who do not yet understand academic conventions and expectations. This is not about lowering the standard but rather about fairness for all students. Once they know what is clearly expected of them, they will be better equipped to reach their goals and exceed their academic expectations.</p>	



Personal tutoring is another area where students' experiences vary immensely. Students need to access meaningful one to one support from tutors who understand their course, discipline, industry, and potential future pathways. Being assigned a personal tutor without relevant subject knowledge can leave students feeling unsupported or unsure where to go for support. Personal tutoring should be a space for academic and professional development, not just a formality that the university presents to tick a box. I will work to ensure that this support is consistent for all students, that relevant staff are assigned to students in the same fields of work, and that this support system enhances a student's experience rather than just a gimmick. I was a film student, and I was assigned a personal tutor with a fantastic background in animation but no experience in my field. Look what that did for me... I'm applying to be an education officer and not a famous director.

Inclusion is another core value of mine, and the Union's commitment to representing every student. Students come to MMU from a wide range of financial, cultural and personal backgrounds. Educational institutions must reflect this diversity; without the students, what is the university? I have spoken to students who feel disadvantaged because they must balance work alongside study, lack access to specialist resources, or feel excluded from informal support networks. A student's personal background should not determine their quality of education. Inclusive teaching, course expectations, assessment practices and kit availability are essential to ensuring equal opportunity for all.

At the core of my vision is amplifying the student voice. Too often, concerns go unheard, leading to frustration and disengagement. As Education Officer, I will make sure every student's voice is heard, represented, and acted on by connecting students, reps, the Union, and the university for visible results.

My vision reflects both the Union's values and students' expectations of the university. Students should be confident that the union is a student-led voice that works alongside the university while also holding it accountable by listening carefully to students and utilising their personal experiences to drive real change. I will ensure that the Union continues to represent its members effectively and inclusively.

This is the foundation of my campaign. I am standing because there is a need for change, supporting students by giving them the education they deserve. A fair, transparent, inclusive and genuinely supportive education. Together, we can bring about real change and build an education experience at MMU that is deserved, where everyone feels represented, valued, and able to reach their highest potential.

Thank you for your time.