

Useful Information About The Students' Association For Your Written Statement

What is a written statement?

- A student manifesto is a short statement prepared by a candidate for a student leadership election. It explains who they are, why they are standing for election, and the key ideas, priorities, or changes they would like to bring if elected
- Students and researchers usually make their decision on who to vote for based on their manifesto
- You must have a manifesto to be a candidate in the election

A written statement is not:

- A CV
- A cover letter
- A step-by-step plan of what you'll do in your year as an Students' Association Representative
- Keep it short and easily digestible where possible

For your campaign, you MUST submit a written statement (and candidate photo)!

In previous years, positions in Elections have been highly contested, with as many as 10 candidates applying for 1 position – so having a written statement (manifesto) which clearly states:

- Why you want to apply
- What your manifesto aims are
- Why you believe you are the best candidate for the role
- Your manifesto will really help students decide whether they should vote for you.
- Students have also previously fed back that they prefer to vote for candidates who have submitted a written statement and a photo

Also, there'll be lots of students that you won't talk to during your campaign, but they may see your written statement and photo when they go to the Student's Association website to vote – and they will be able to see why they should vote for you.

Where do I start?

When thinking about applying for a position in an election, and planning for your campaign and written statement, you should ideally think about:

What are you interested in/what matters to you/what motivates you?

Why do you care about these things?

Is there a role in the election that matches your interests?

Why does this role matter to you?

Do you want to make a change, and if yes, why?

What has the SA already done about the things that I'm interested in?

What do UoBD students think about these things?

How can I contribute to this change and work?

Have I got any prior experience that can help?

If I don't have any prior experience, how will my fresh perspective be helpful?

What networks do I need to reach out to support my campaign?

Thinking about these questions will help you to plan your campaign and written statement, and it will be easier to plan, network and talk to UoBD students for several reasons:

There will ideally be a genuine underlying reason for why you want to apply for a role, which may be related to personal reasons or professional reasons, or both

If you are applying for a role because it's something that you are genuinely interested in, and you express this in your written statement and campaign, your written statement and campaign will be seen as more genuine, honest and trustworthy (note – you don't have to include any personal/sensitive information in your statement!)



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If you have any questions related to your nomination/elections, please email

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