MICHAELMAS 2023

LUCY CAVENDISH MCR COMMITTEE BY-ELECTIONS

MANIFESTOS BOOKLET
Welcome to the manifestos booklet for the Michaelmas Term 2023 Lucy Cavendish College MCR committee by-elections! The winners of these elections will be your representatives within the college as well as the wider university and run your MCR. Their manifestos are your way of deciding who you want speaking for you, so please do spend a little time reading through them and listening to what they have to say at hustings (if you can attend) before casting your vote.

Remember that, if you are not happy with any of the candidates, you may also vote to re-open nominations (“RON”).

Hustings will take place on Monday, 13th November 2023, from 7pm via Microsoft Teams; we will send out a link before the event.

Voting will be online via the Cambridge SU website. The ballot will open at 9am on Tuesday, 14th November 2023, and close at 12pm on Friday, 17th November 2023; the link to the voting portal will be distributed on Tuesday morning. Final results will be announced during the week beginning Monday, 20th November 2023; only the results officially announced by Lily and Lisa are valid.

Thank you for participating in this term’s by-elections!

Lily Lin (MCR President) & Lisa Bernhardt (Postgraduate Events Officer)
LIST OF CANDIDATES

Treasurer

Pritthijit Nath
Tim Somerset
Siddharth Yajaman

Mature Undergraduate Representative

Maisie Evans
Akpomena Otemro

Social Secretary

Timo Hromádka
Why Me?

I’m Pritthijit Nath, currently in my 1st year of PhD in the AI4ER CDT programme, and I’m here for the long run—4 years, to be exact. This isn't just a role for me, it's a commitment to our community's future. My academic focus on AI for Environmental Risks gives me a unique perspective on risk assessment and management skills that I’ll bring to the Treasurer's table to navigate our MCR's financial waters with precision and care.

I promise to speak the language of the people, not just the numbers. My aim is to establish a more inclusive process for financial decision-making, involving members' opinions on larger expenditures and investments, ensuring that our funds are used for the benefit of the entire MCR community.

Let's make smart, sustainable, and inclusive financial choices together.
Vote Tim for Treasurer

Who am I?
Course: Computational Biology
Previously studied: Maths
Hometown: Hong Kong
Hobbies: Climbing, cooking, listening to podcasts

Why am I running?
I want to support the smooth-running of our MCR by allocating fair and timely funding to Lucy clubs and societies, being a reliable and transparent point of contact between students and the finance office, and ensuring student-led initiatives are minimally obstructed by financing.

How am I qualified?
I'm proficient in excel, good with numbers, and am very organised. I'm confident I can manage MCR funds in a transparent and well-documented manner.

What I would like to focus on:
- Providing transparent and easy-to-understand financial reporting for the MCR and students at Lucy
- Seeking feedback from MCR and community members to ensure the budget reflects the needs and interests of the Lucy postgrad community
- Providing a clear and efficient channel of communication between the MCR and the college's financial office
Who am I?
I’m Siddharth (he/him)! I study the MPhil in Scientific Computing. Having lived in five cities across three countries (Singapore, India, and Hong Kong), I bring with me to Cambridge an understanding that communication and teamwork can transcend the boundaries of language and culture. It’s been a while since I’ve had the courage to apply for a post such as this, but I believe now is the time to get involved in the myriad of opportunities that a college such as Lucy Cavendish offers its students.

What do I bring to the table?
Since my time in high school, I have revelled in leadership roles. I was class prefect as well as part of my school’s council body. During my undergraduate studies in Hong Kong, I was an executive committee member for my hall’s “go-green” team and ensured that the various initiatives such as hall-wide composting ran smoothly. I was also my floor’s co-chairperson and served as a liaison between the residents of my floor and the hall tutors. If elected, I would bring a wealth of leadership and management experience to the MCR committee of Lucy Cavendish College.

What can I do for you?
If I am elected Treasurer of the MCR, in addition to the regular duties, I propose the following initiatives. Lucy Cavendish has a great sustainability program on its own. However, what it does lack is real wet waste segregation. Composting is extremely beneficial for the environment, and I will aim to initiate an optional, college-wide composting program. Mental health is another thing that means a lot to me. Students are under a lot of stress due to a plethora of factors. I will organise fun activities such as trivia nights and kindness campaigns.
VOTE MAISIE FOR MATURE UNDERGRAD REP <3

Who am I?
- Foundation Year student (in my second year as I intermitted yay)
- Kind and approachable character
- Passionate about systemic change and creative solutions to complex problems
- Not afraid to challenge the college in order to advocate for students needs
- I love nature and reading and swimming <3

Why do I want the role:
- As a mature undergrad I understand the specific challenges and benefits of studying at a later age (I am 24)
- I care deeply about education and think it takes courage to leave a career to go to university at a later age, and therefore mature undergrads should be celebrated
- Being a mature student can be isolating and it shouldn’t be!!

My Experience:
- Member of Lucy Loves the Arts society
- Charity trustee where I have a legal requirement to attend one meeting a month advocating for the best interests of the vulnerable young people we support
- 2 years of experience prior to university working in system improvements at a young person’s homeless charity advocating for young people’s interests in meetings with senior management

Things I would do:
- Increase integration of mature students into the college community
- Ask college to be more transparent about housing options over the summer months for mature undergrads who can’t go home over summer
- Request that mature undergrads be given the option to live with postgrads if they wish to cohabite with people of their own age
- Make mature students aware of events at mature colleges for the opportunity to network with other mature students
- Be a consistent presence on the MCR to advocate for the specific needs of Mature undergrads
- Be a familiar face that any mature undergrad (or anyone) can approach with any concerns, and do my best to advise and help
I’m Akpomena (she/her). I’m an HSPS finalist studying Sociology at Lucy. I’m running for UG rep as I’m passionate and hope to make a lasting impact. I’m keen to be more involved this year and rightfully take up space.

I learned I had ADHD whilst studying here and returned last year after a break. I want to champion and collaborate on projects related to our well-being. I will listen, voice our concerns, and call for accountability.

**Support**
Improve access to mental health services.
Increase awareness of Nightline.

**Inclusivity**
Advocate for an anti-racist university by promoting the work of anti-racist projects and amplifying necessary literature.
Support BME, LGBTQ+ and faith students.

**Engagement**
Host social events so that we can build community.
Promote more integration into college life for mature UG students.

Experience:
Access Officer - Lucy SU
College rep – CAMWIB
Communications Chair – ASCU
Hi once again, I’m Timo.

I’ve decided to run in the by-elections as social secretary so that I can fully devote my time to building the social scene at Lucy. There are 640 postgraduates, yet we don’t even have a bar nor do people even know where the MCR room is. I’m not here for a long time (9 months), but I am here for a good time. All of us postgraduates are yearning for a scene at Lucy...let’s make this year be the revival of Lucy.

**Experience**

- Undergraduate Student Representative for the Computer Science Department
- Undergraduate Student-Staff Liaison Committee Member for Department
- President and Founder of King’s College London Calisthenics Society
- Student Council President (High School)
- Humanitarian Club Member (Bratislava, Slovakia)
- Charity Volunteer (Charity Begins at Home - London, UK)
- 3rd place at QERGS!! Yeah Lucy!

**Goals**

**MCR space and MCR bar**
- There are 640 of us, but we don’t have a bar. We desperately need a space where people can hang out, socialize, attend events, meet new people, or chill after a formal. It’s time to revive the Nautilus.
- Reviving the MCR bar will include getting new furniture, new lighting, new wall decorations, a new sound system and making the MCR space welcoming, fun, and retro.

**More MCR events**
- I will bring quiz nights, board game nights, themed parties, and music gigs to Lucy. We’re all dying for MCR social events, let’s get them started.

**Student DJ Parties**
- I propose we introduce monthly student-DJ sets: cozy, fun, and exciting. Nothing but good vibes, good music, and good people at the observatory.

**More Societies**
- Given the large number of new postgraduates, we should introduce more societies. I aim to bring like-minded students’ passions together, and help Lucy give birth to new societies and groups.

**Communication with Other Colleges**
- Lucy currently is never invited to other colleges, nor invites other colleges to us. It’s time to bring Lucy up to standard of other Cambridge colleges, and increase inter-college communication so that Lucy students can get the full Cambridge experience.

**Pool Table**
- A staple part of any MCR bar. I will ensure Lucy gets one.