

# COLLEGE ELECTIONS

2020 Handbook

# CSAC

Junior Common Room Committees (JCRCs) and College Student Association Committees (CSACs) are the representative student bodies for each College's student members.

The College Committee Elections are held every Autumn Term and determine the new JCRC and CSAC officers.



Committee members elected to office take up their positions in January of the following year and remain in position until December.

This handbook is designed to provide students with an overview of the election process, how they can nominate themselves and vote, and some guidance on producing effective manifestos and campaigns.

# JCRC

# JCRC/CSAC STRATEGIC AIMS

Represent, promote and defend the interests and wellbeing of all its student members

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Develop and promote the College's sense of community and unique identity

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Promote a culture of respect within the College, and towards the local community, and combat all forms of discrimination

Provide social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities, as well as forums for discussion and debate, for the personal development of its members

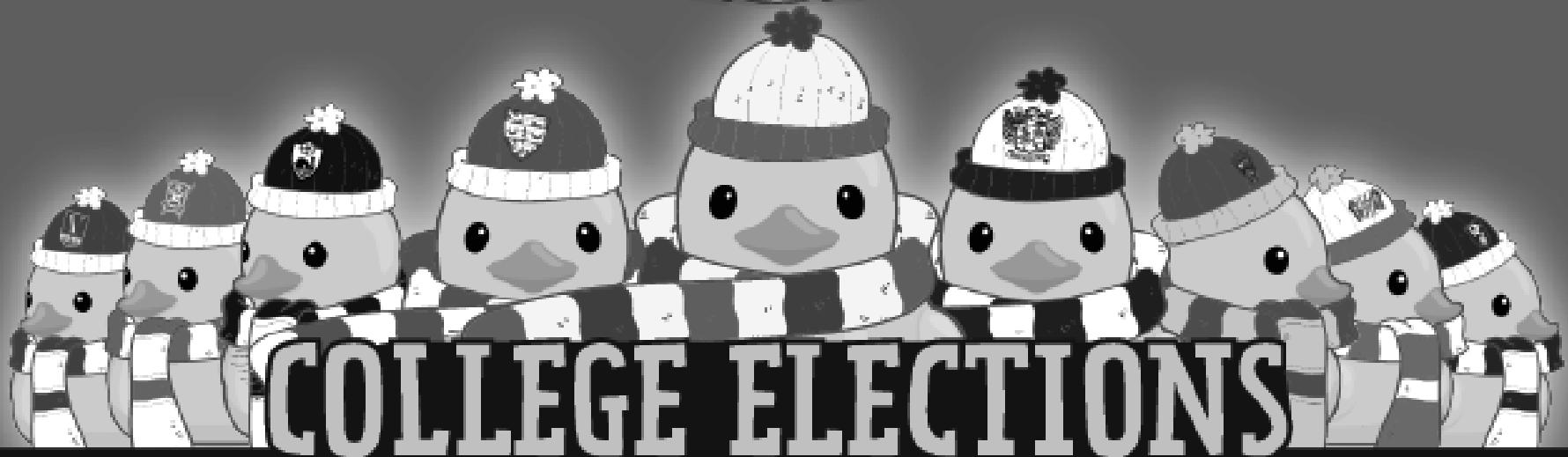
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Promote and support opportunities for student members to develop their skills and experiences through voluntary, charitable and enterprise activities

Represent their members at the College Council, the Students' Union, the University and any external bodies

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Work with the College Council to develop and implement the College strategy



# NOMINATIONS AND VOTING

## Nominations

Open at 12pm on Monday 19th October 2020 - Week 4  
Close at 12pm on Friday 30th October 2020 - Week 5

## Voting

Open at 12pm on Monday 2nd November 2020 - Week 6  
Close at 12pm on Friday 6th November 2020 - Week 6

**All nominations and votes can be made on the [YUSU website](https://yusu.org).**

### What Positions are Available?

Each College has a number of different roles available - the easiest way to find out what's on offer for you is to go to [yusu.org/elections](https://yusu.org/elections).

Every JCRC and CSAC have a Terms of Reference or Constitution which outlines how the committees are structured, governed, and run - including a list of positions and details about those roles.

You can access your Colleges Committee's Terms of Reference or Constitution through the Colleges page on the [YUSU website](https://yusu.org).



### Single Transferable Vote

The College Committee Elections uses Single Transferable Voting (STV). STV is a form of proportional representation, meaning that candidates aren't elected on a majority vote, but instead need to fulfil a quota of votes determined by the number of votes cast and the number of positions that need to be filled. When voting, you list your candidates in order of preference. Your vote can then be transferred between your first-choice and second-choice, and so on, if your preferred candidate will not be able to reach the required quota. This ensures that all votes count towards the overall outcome of the election.

# SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATION

Your nomination is how you let people know that you want to take on this role in your College. It sounds scary and complicated but all you need is a brief manifesto and a few minutes to fill in the [online form](#).

- Make your way to [yusu.org/elections](https://yusu.org/elections)
- Select the position you wish to nominate yourself for
- Add your manifesto - we recommend writing beforehand then pasting it in
- Upload a photo (optional) - this must be under 400x400 pixels, use this handy [Image Resizer](#) to help
- You'll receive an email to confirm your nomination!



All nominations and votes can be made on the [YUSU website](#).

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? - VOTING

Once nominations are over, voting begins in Week 6. Students now have the opportunity to choose who they believe will be best for the role!



- Make your way to [yusu.org/elections](https://yusu.org/elections)
- Take a look through the candidates and read their manifestos
- Place candidates in order of preference
- Who's RON? – Re-Open Nominations. If RON is elected, nominations and voting for that role will re-open at a later date
- Results announced by your College after voting closes

All nominations and votes can be made on the [YUSU website](https://yusu.org/elections).

# WHAT MAKES A GOOD MANIFESTO?

Manifestos are a brief statement about why you are the best person for the role! They are a key part of your nomination, particularly for the more popular roles – students pay a lot of attention to them when choosing who to vote.

You have up to 500 words – whilst you might not need them all, be sure to make them count! Here are some tips...

Have a punchy, interesting opening sentence. Voters will be reading through a lot of manifestos, and you need to ensure your pitch stands out from the very beginning.

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Make clear throughout the manifesto why you want the position; your passion for what you are standing for needs to ring through.

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Set out what you want to achieve while you are in office, but be realistic with what you can deliver. The post is for a year and you will be held accountable to your student body, so make sure you take into account the length of time you are in office when setting your objectives.

Stay on topic.

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Don't use the manifesto to criticise other candidates you may be aware are running. The manifesto should be an opportunity for you to sell your ideas, not discredit others'.

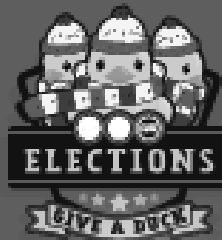
Make sure you evidence any experience you've had that demonstrates why you are the best for the role. This is especially important if running for a position which requires a particular skills set.

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Be yourself. If you want to use humour in your manifesto, do so (as long as it's appropriate). The character of a candidate should shine through in your manifesto.

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Be clear and to the point. Voters don't want to be scrolling through reams of text that is fleshed out with overly fancy language for the sake of it. State what you want to achieve, why you want to do so, and what the impact will be.



# WHAT MAKES A GOOD CAMPAIGN?

Once the voting period opens (Monday Week 6), candidates have a week to campaign for election. During this week, you need to make sure that you continually promote your manifesto, engage with the student body who are voting, and ensure that you demonstrate why you are the best person for the role!

Keep on message. Don't deviate massively from your core messages when engaging with voters; it is important that you promote yourself as focused and clear about what you want to achieve.

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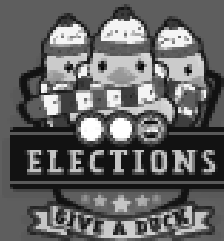
Have an online presence. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and other social media outlets are the perfect way to increase your reach when campaigning. They are also great routes to engage with voters directly; if someone asks you a question on a Facebook post, responding to it directly could be the difference between a vote or not.

Be cordial. Healthy debate is positive and can lead to very interesting discussions, but don't undermine other candidates in an effort to win.

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Be creative. Most of your campaigning will be digital. How can you take full advantage of this to stand out from the rest? Instead of a cheesy slogan, is there something different you could bring to the table to make people pay attention? Is your advertising colourful and eye-catching? Consider making use of free design software such as Canva to boost the impact of any social media graphics.

Some Colleges hold hustings during the election period. If your College does, you should definitely attend. It is a great opportunity to promote your manifesto points, respond to voter questions, and really emphasise why you should be elected. The incumbent JCRC/CSAC will organise the hustings for each College that hosts them.





# CAMPAIGN RULES

Elections rules can be found at [yusu.org/elections](https://yusu.org/elections)

## Advertising with Physical Materials - Posters, Leaflets, etc.

You are allowed to use posters or campaign props in public areas, but you must be respectful of the space, ask permission where necessary, and abide any current government and university coronavirus guidelines.

You must not use any materials that are offensive or will be difficult to remove.

You must not attach any materials to areas that are difficult to access or will cause damage when removed (blu-tack on painted walls)

Your materials must not obscure any signs or promotional material

Your materials cannot present a risk to the health and safety of university, staff, members, and visitors

You should conduct your campaign in such a way that it would not contribute to undue littering

You are responsible for taking down your promotional material at the end of the election period

If in doubt - ask the porters or your College Team.



# RETURNING OFFICERS

## **Alcuin**

Olivia Furness and Claudia Clark

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## **Constantine**

George McCormick

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## **Derwent**

Hamish Lee, Robin Kear, and Dylan Wallis

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## **Goodricke**

Stephen Stanley

Returning Officers are currently elected JCRC/CSAC committee members who are responsible for making sure that the elections, including nominations, campaigning and voting, are run fairly and in accordance with the rules.

If you have any concerns about the elections, from improper nominations and voting to unauthorised campaign strategies, please speak to the Returning Officer for your College.

YUSU's Community Coordinator also acts as an External Returning Officer for College Elections - you can also raise any complaints or concerns to [engagement@yusu.org](mailto:engagement@yusu.org)

## **Halifax**

Chloé Young and Rosa McDowell

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## **James**

Hannah Clark

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## **Langwith**

Kathryn Sharpe and James Cook

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## **Vanbrugh**

Vera Ivanova



## CHAIRS AND PRESIDENTS

Alcuin  
Olivia Furness

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Constantine  
George McCormick

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Derwent  
Dylan Wallis

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Goodricke  
Stephen Stanley

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Halifax  
Chloé Young

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James  
Sophie Schulze

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Langwith  
James Harrison

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Vanbrugh  
Vera Ivanova

# KEY



# CONTACTS

College contact details can be found [here](#).  
For any election related queries, email [engagement@yusu.org](mailto:engagement@yusu.org)

## COLLEGE MANAGERS

Alcuin  
Jenny Underhill

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Constantine  
Jonny Lovell

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Derwent  
Andrew Kerrigan

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Goodricke  
Sarah Hay

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Halifax  
Cath Dickinson and Auriel Hamilton

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James  
Mike Britland

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Langwith  
Jonny Exon

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Vanbrugh  
Georgina Heath

