

La Trobe Student Association Inaugural Election 2021

Candidate statements and photographs in ballot paper order

These are the statements provided by candidates for the La Trobe Student Association (LTSA) Inaugural Elections 2021. During the nomination period, only the Bundoora and International Student Councils received more eligible candidates than positions, so the candidate statements are for those positions only.

Subsequently, nominations were re-opened for the positions that remained unfilled. Sufficient eligible nominations were received to require an election for the one remaining vacancy on the Bendigo Student Council.

The nominations are in the order they will appear on the ballot paper. This order was determined at random by the Returning Officer on Monday 29th March (first round) and Monday 5th April (second round); candidates were invited to send scrutineers.

Statements are printed exactly as they were received from candidates. No editing has been done. Words are the candidates' own, and neither the Returning Officer nor LTSA warrants the accuracy of any statement.

Bendigo Student Council (1 to elect)

Please note: As fewer than nine candidates nominated in the first round of nominations, all eligible candidates from that round have been provisionally elected. Details may be found in the "Provisional list of nominations received" dated 1st April 2021. The candidate statements below relate only to the candidates for the one remaining vacancy.

Jorjena Kasouha

(policy statement not provided)



Ashim Sapkota

Hey everyone, I want to be on the Bendigo student council for LTSA this year. I am currently in second year of bachelor of nursing here at our lovely Bendigo campus. If elected, I will strive to represent the best interest of students of Bendigo campus and make sure that union takes the regional campus into account in every decision making. In the past, I have been involved in peer mentoring, as a host and a member of student advisory group for LRHS. I will continue to be involved in development of student representation in the future as well. This is one of my attempt to do so. Thank you for your vote.

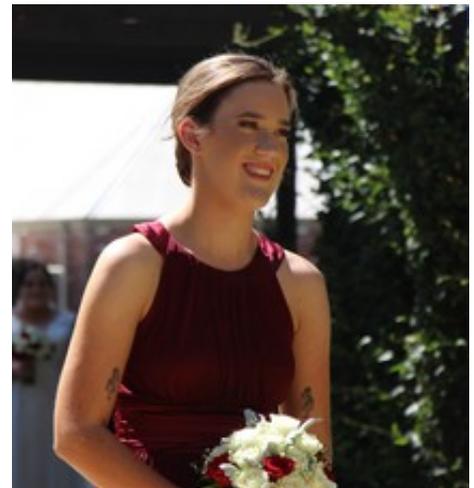


Calin Harvie

I promise to stand for student rights and to make students lives better

Remie McMaster

I am passionate about community and creating safe spaces at university- I would love to see the Bendigo campus continue with it's history of strong engagement and support. I would love to see the LTSA have a focus on environmental sustainability and education. Support for students is important to me, creating programs that benefit all students who require assistance should be a goal of LTSA. I will use my own experiences and draw on those of the larger student body to create a representative council that reflects the needs and wants of regional students, throughout the year. Covid-safe events that still allow for engagement need to be re-introduced and I believe we can do this successfully.



Jonas Sessions

Hi, my name is Jonas Sessions. I am a first year Information Technology student (studied first year Industrial Engineering). I would like to aim to create the most engaging student association for the students of Latrobe even if it is difficult to do so in the current situation. I will be always be open to feedback to help better improve the Student Association, after all, we are here to represent the students of Latrobe.



Zhi Wei Chew

I nominate myself as one of the students for LTSA Bendigo council, as I strive to attain social equality for those who are around me. Though we might not all be the same, we should all be treated with equal respect. I want to especially put this value and idea through if given the opportunity to be one of the LTSA council members. Also, our having the opportunity to study tertiary education is a privilege and I understand how much burden University can put financially and emotionally. This is why I want to represent in the Bendigo council and be able to help those who may be struggling to pull through.

Jack Smith

Uni is a fantastic place for people to grow, both socially, emotionally, and academically. Uni is the years we look back on fondly. This is the feeling I want every student to have when they look back on their years at uni. Now, the role of myself as a member of the student council is to make sure we give students the access to services they need to succeed. As a keen mental health advocate, we must make sure that students have the access to mental health services and other services that affect mental health, such as financial and housing security. As the youth Mayor of Bendigo, I also have a belief that we must work in collaboration with as many local organisations as we can. Uni is a place where students learn their future careers, but we must help students gain employment now. I believe we need to work collaboratively with other youth organisations to offer employment opportunities and micro certifications such as RSA's to students.



We have the genuine opportunity to improve the experiences of our fellow students and make university something they look back on with a smile. Let's go on that journey together!

Jonathan White

Hello, my name is Jonathan White, I am a first-year student at Latrobe University studying Oral Health. I would like to become a student representative of the student council. I wish to promote academic integrity and connectivity through a variety of clubs and activities, as I believe although the Uni is small, we can have a large voice in the community.

My journey into Oral Health has taught me that support from friends and family helps you get through tough times, and by not stepping out of my comfort zone I have had a lack of support from the friendship side. I hope no one has to experience going through Uni alone, so by promoting connectivity, we will introduce new friendships and new experience to those who at first are reluctant to try something new. The experience of being on the LTSA will also be a step out of my comfort zone, which I hope will lead as an example that new experiences can lead to great friendships. Thank you for considering me.

Bhavika Jindal

I want to ensure that at La Trobe, everyone has an enjoyable and productive experience and can feel part of a community. I want students to have access to resources and feel supported in various domains of their lives such as academic, social and emotional. I am a confident and approachable individual who loves interacting with others. My communication skills are well developed through my co-curricular involvement in high school such as sports and leadership roles. I am a good listener, empathetic and always conscious of the needs of those around me. I am willing to go out of my way to provide others with help and support. I am enthusiastic and outgoing and love to have some fun while also getting work done. As an LTSA student council member, I will ensure that the team is focused and driven towards achieving our goals and objectives while also having a good time. I will actively seek and take feedback to the council and ensure that we are continuously improving in the work that we do and meet student needs. My aim will be to help make student life better by organising support services and events that ultimately promote student wellbeing.



Bundoora Student Council (16 to elect)

Georgia Rea

As a first-year student and a first-year residential student, I feel as if I have fresh eyes, creating a new perspective on what can be improved and strive to create a better and safer community. La Trobe is an exceptional University that holds certain values and morals that reflect those of my own. I believe that my personal experiences and hardships would help me offer new ideas, above all I believe my most important role would be to listen to the Bundoora community with respect and try my hardest to create a safe space for all students no matter the differences. I would be honored to hold a place in the decision-making process, benefitting the student experience, facilities and provide my unconditional support for the student body.

Kunal Yadav

Hi I'm Kunal Yadav studying Bachelor of Business Analytics and I'm in my 2nd year (fourth semester). I have not been an active part with the group change but have volunteered for various occasions and I would like to change that by becoming a more active part and taking on more challenges and helping more and more fellow mates. I as a student in my first year of education did not experience much support so I would love to work on making the help easy to access and try to help out as much as possible and also listen to their personal needs and maybe work on providing some kind of service of that as well.

Georgina Beatty

My name is Georgie, I am an Arts student at La Trobe and I am running to be a part of the LTSA because I believe in student representation.

You might have seen me as a pretty active voice within the LTSU, I would love to continue to push for progress in the LTSA.

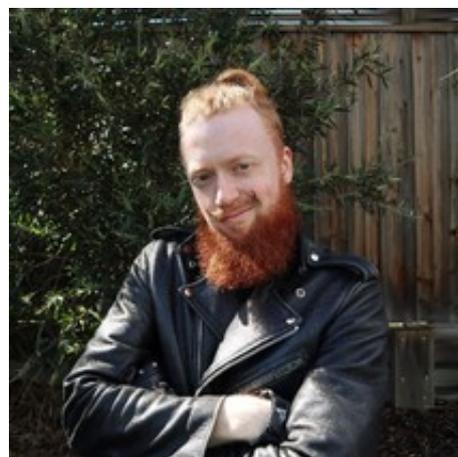
In my time at La Trobe I have been a part of Change and the La Trobe: Stand up for Students campaign who have fought over the last couple of months for student demands such as WAM changes, reduced fees and no staff cuts. I've been heavily active within the university going to all council meetings. I've also been in communication with MP's on behalf of students and engaged with the National Union of Students.

Last year I was a NUS delegate with Change because in this environment of COVID recovery and constant University attacks by the government- it has never been more important to have big representation. The NUS is the peak representative body for students and as a delegate I was proud to represent La Trobe at a national level.



Lewis McNiff

Ensuring students have a voice at university is imperative, now more than ever. With the transition back to face-to-face learning, the primary focus of all involved is the wellbeing of the students, all students. Last year's changes to student representation have been met with very mixed reactions. The dynamic of the university's political landscape has had a polarising effect, leaving some students angry over changes, while others feel lost and without support. I'm running for student council because I believe in representation for students.

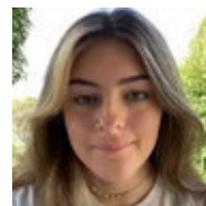


My platform is one with students first and foremost in mind: Removing hurdle assessments, rejuvenating the Eagle Bar, more live music on campus and more support for social clubs. As we continue to open up safely we need to ensure students have the resources they need to support themselves emotionally and mentally, as well as academically.

Students need to know that those representing them not only have their best interest at heart during this difficult time, but also won't let themselves be bogged down in mud slinging. And that's exactly what I aim to overcome. I'm running for people, not politics.

Nadine Medina

Hey La Trobe! first year Bachelor of Arts Student here! My names Nadine and I am running with CHANGE for a spot on the student council! Although I am a university rookie, with passion and enthusiasm I am eager to work alongside other keen students to enact change, support student rights and uphold the values of the La Trobe community. I am an approachable, open-minded student with an interest in politics and advocacy for all. I am passionate about representation and I believe that activism allows leeway for obstacles to be overcome and opportunities to arise. A student council platform would enable me to vocalize and represent individuals in our community, as I genuinely believe unity trumps division. Having a voice is important to me not just as a woman, a student, and a worker but as a member of our community. This position would allow me to develop and understand other perspectives.



Kethya Hirushi Wickramanayake

I am Kethya Wickramanayake third year Bachelor of Health Sciences student at La Trobe University.

I stand before you today as a candidate for international student council. In this position, I assure you I will work hard on your behalf, listen to your ideas and do everything in my power the University best than it can be.

I stand before you today not only as a candidate, but also as your friend. And like a good friend I will be honest with you about the challenges. I will do my best to communicate with you and keep you informed.

As you can see, the future depends on the ability to work together. Cooperation and teamwork will get us far. If you elect me to the international student council I vow to lead with openness and honesty.

Thank you so much for your value time.

David Cannavo

Hey all, my name is David I am studying a Graduate Certificate in International Development at La Trobe University. The job of an effective student body is to ensure effective representation and to have fellow students fighting for us. I will deliver a strong student voice that will provide the very best outcomes for students!



Ridhi Kapoor

I'm Ridhi Kapoor, an International Student from India and the winner of La Trobe's V.C. Scholarship. I am running to be your Student Council General Secretary. I have mentored various responsibilities during my high school and have learnt to handle the pressure of deadlines well and establishing myself as a reliable link between teachers and peers; and thus gaining their trust and respect. I have sharp work ethics and the ability to withstand stress. I love the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and to socialize. I aim to uphold the vision of our La Trobe's Student Council and will do my best to make a student life better in all aspects. Any candidate can make promises; but I will follow through. I encourage you to vote for the most passionate, dedicated, proactive and approachable candidate, and the one who is ready to become your voice, VOTE Ridhi Kapoor to see the change.



Leah Holden

I'm Leah, and I'm running for LTSA Student Council with CHANGE. This year, as one of the elected Chief Editors of Rabelais in the LTSU, I have gained experience in representing and platforming student voices and interests. I'd like to bring that experience and passion to the LTSA if elected because strong student representation and activism is vital to a thriving student community.

Irene Babbini

I aim to attend every and all meetings as I am super reliable, as well as super enthusiastic and friendly!!

Skye Griffiths

Hey La Trobe, my name is Skye and I want to be your student representative! I am a second year Law/PPE student who is excited to be able to make a difference. That's why I, and a group of fantastic other candidates, are running with 'Change'. I care strongly about actually taking action to make students' lives better – not just mere platitudes. Your university experience is the most important issue to me. This means proper support through a well-funded and accessible counselling department. A club program that supports a diversity of clubs to suit a variety of interests. A program that assists clubs to run events and build their membership base.



University is more than just coming to classes and leaving, it needs encourage you to explore! So please, help me make that a reality and support myself and all other 'Change' candidates. If you ever have any questions want to chat, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Hamish Grundy

I'm currently studying a Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and I'm running for a position because I believe that a representative body for students should always be trying to find new ways and new issues that people are really interested in. These issues should be addressed promptly but also that the students who have these issues should be and I promise will be assured that action is taken. I'm advocating to extend benefits for the damage COVID-19 has caused. I'm advocating for greater and more comprehensive on-campus services. I'm advocating for you and me to have better conditions.

Alexandra Wildes

I am an on-campus resident of the university's Bundoora campus who is passionate about creating an equitable community in society. As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I believe it is important to educate and advise the public on the issues affecting gender non-conforming and non heteronormative peoples. I strive to present a welcoming and accepting philosophy in my everyday life, though I actively oppose any intolerant and/or prejudiced views held by my fellow members of society. If I am elected as a student council member, I will advocate for greater fairness and integrity in any and all aspects of university rights, such as gender equality, accessibility, and sustainability.

Jedd Dryden

As a club President and on-campus accommodation resident, I would love the opportunity to represent clubs and students on the Bundoora LTSA Council. Throughout 2020 I experienced the firsthand struggle of keeping a club afloat when things get problematic, getting the voices of clubs heard can sometimes be difficult but I aim to make it easier by bringing questions and issues faced by clubs to the attention of the council. On-campus accommodation students were also left in a sticky situation last year with COVID causing many inconveniences, and as an on-res student myself I've found it difficult to know where to go or who to talk to about the concerns I've had. Being elected would allow me to take the issues of on-res students straight to council and give us a voice that can be heard. I myself moved to on-res accommodation to pursue a career in Computer Science and Commerce; originally coming from a small country town called Chiltern, I understand the pressure that students are under to meet deadlines, work and rent while living at La Trobe. If given the opportunity, I hope I can make things a little easier.

Sayuri Leahy

My voice will be social justice and human rights-based, fighting against social injustice, acknowledging the need for social change in order to achieve equality and inclusivity. These values stem from and complement my current social work studies, my extensive experience of working within this profession as well as lived experience of disadvantage. My aim is to advocate for and to improve student wellbeing, by identifying and addressing the barriers and external systemic issues that impact on positive student experience, wellbeing, inclusiveness, and development. I will not only work at the individual student level, but go further and work at the community, organisation, and societal levels as well as reflecting on my own personal level ensuring that I am working ethically and in line with my values. My work will involve collaboration in decision making processes, focusing on empowerment, ensuring that every voice is important, unique and must be heard. I will continue to challenge any potential oppressive, discriminatory, or disempowering practices, aiming to work to expand choice for all students, especially those from disadvantaged or marginalised backgrounds.



The student council must involve someone that will work holistically and critically, non-judgemental, avoids dichotomous thinking and is not afraid to question norms.

Jiahui ZHENG

My name is Zheng Jiahui. I come from China. I major in International of Business and I am a Bundoora student , I will finish my study next year I was president of the music club at my university. When I was at Latrobe College, I often helped students answer questions and teachers to maintain class order. I also assisted the school to shoot a promotional video about enrollment.

I very much hope to successful campaign LTSA position, if I am elected, I will avoid arrogance, steadfast seek benefits for the students, the students is of my business, I will the LTSA into a big family, let all people are harmonious development, in their own part of a university career. I will make use of my own advantages, give play to my strengths, and make up for my shortcomings through learning, and ask others modestly to achieve success

In my heart, LTSA is the place I have always been longing for, and I am proud to be in LTSA

Sarah Howlett

I am currently a student leader on Glenn college, so not only do the university policies impact my study life, it also impacts my life at home. I aim to create a more inclusive and empowering environment for all students and residents on campus, and to he the community thrive. I care deeply about social and climate justice, and these values reflect clearly through my work.

Rachael Mifsud

Hi there! My name is Rachael, I am 20 years old and I currently am in my final year of a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in History/Latin American studies. I am also a staff member of La Trobe University and have studied/worked within the university for the last few years.

I am friendly, approachable and passionate about our university, and would be most thrilled to represent and voice the wishes/concerns of students to ensure that an appropriate platform is given to each and every individual.

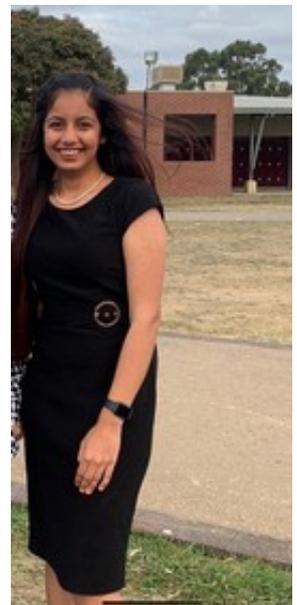
I have always felt strongly towards the uplifting atmosphere here at La Trobe, and believe that we truly have a unique community within our university. A community which we must continue to preserve to ensure that the best student experience is maintained as well as protecting the ultimate goal: for every student to be allowed with the opportunity to flourish as an individual. This includes the furthering of existing services and resources made available to students - in addition to considering and adapting where necessary to meet any developing demands made where appropriate.

~ Ask not what your university can do for you, ask what you can do for your university.



Divpreet Kaur

Hi, My name is divpreet, just turned 18 years couple of months ago. I enjoy helping people as much as I can. I'm first year student. Studying bachelor of International Relations. I was school captain for straight 2 years in year 9 and 10. Also I was part of the student representative council in year 11-12. By being part of the council I would listen to student ideas regarding what new things they want to have in the campus or any changes they want and try my best to work on them.



Mengyuan HOU

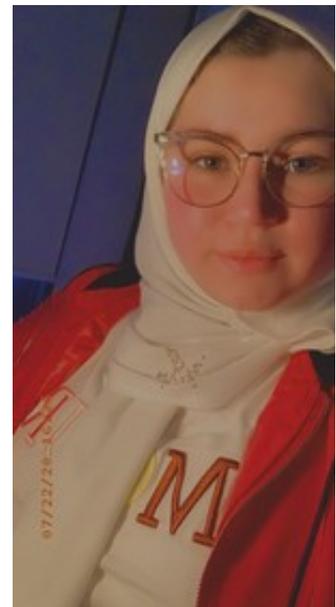
My name is Mengyuan hou, from China. Now I am a currently international student studied in Bundoora campus. This is my first year and first semester of Master of Finance Analysis(investment). I will graduate end of next year.

When I was a university student in China, I participated in the school organization (Youth Volunteers' Federation) and served as a department leader to assist the school to complete various volunteer activities. Besides, I also participated in the international swimming championships as a volunteer. Fortunately, when I just came to Australia and entered the school for the first time, I happened to meet the recruitment of the school club and joined the volleyball club. And took part in the activity for three months. Unfortunately, with the global outbreak of COVID-19, the club's activities have been put on hold.

I hope I can win the election. I have the necessary knowledge and abilities for the position. I have a good ability to organize and coordinate, many times the opportunity to organize students, enhance the ability to unite students, and people unite together.

Zara Al-Rubaye

I am Zara, 21 years old an Iraqi girl who has arrived in Australia in 2018, I did my foundation study at Adelaide university last year then I transferred to Latrobe university to do the bachelor of biomedicine.



Sa Isa Pendragon

My name is Isa Pendragon and I am running as a candidate for LTSA Council to Change your LTSA. I believe that any student association should be operated by, and for, students and take an active role in holding the university to account. As a former student at the University of Melbourne, I was active in student unionism and have seen first-hand the impact that effective student activism can have on university policies.

During the difficulties of 2020, I saw the student union fight for fair and equitable adjustments and proper assistance for students. On LTSA Council, I would fight to bring the legacy of staunch student representation I have seen and participated in in other student associations to the LTSA.

I believe the LTSA should play a stronger role in supporting and advocating for those who were worst-affected by COVID-19, especially international students. I also believe that the LTSA must provide greater support for the Clubs and Societies, which form the bedrock of student life on-campus.

Together, let's put proper student representation into the LTSA by voting to Change Your LTSA and elect Joel Blanch for President of the Bundoora Council.

Samantha McInnes

As an on campus residential student, I understand the struggles of moving kilometres away from one's hometown for studies.

I have a special interest in representing student accommodation, and consequently those who are from regional Australia and have made the difficult move away from loved ones.

Further assistance could be provided to residential students, particularly in their first year, aiding in their settlement at the University's colleges. This could be in the form of more active counselling and support services, groups and activities that bring first year students in particular together. Moreover, more accessible designated quiet study spaces that are exclusive to on campus students.

An area I wish to address is the difficulty many residential students face, whereby the balance between on campus living and study becomes unmanageable. A support group comprised of not only qualified counsellors, however other, trustworthy, long time students residing on campus would be beneficial in attacking this issue.

As a first year student myself, I am freshly aware of the fear, uncertainty and struggles of this massive step, preceding the beginning of a new chapter of one's life.

Ishita Ishita

(policy statement not provided)

Lewis Kimpton Drake

I am excited to represent students on campus. Students deserve a voice!

Tejus Menon

G'day everyone! I am Tejus (Tej) a second year Bachelor of Podiatry (Honours) student. I am running for a student council position in LTSA. Though it has been a more than a year since COVID affected our studies, I have seen very minimal support from the uni to us students and this is due to the lack of strong student leadership. I believe I can step up to the position and work alongside staff and LTSU to provide the best university experience every one of us deserve. Whilst my time at Latrobe has been short, I have held key leadership roles within the Podiatry course and student advisory committee and outside uni I am a youth council



member at my local shire. I believe these positions and various others during my schooling have given me skills to work with various stakeholders to achieve a favourable outcome. My plans for this year will be to increase student engagement on campus, increase funding for clubs as well as improve economic support for students who are struggling the most. I am also hoping to develop a platform where the LTSA can hear OUR PROBLEMS and work towards finding a solution we are happy with.

Joel Blanch

Hi, my name is Joel I am a 3rd year Law/Arts student who is incredibly passionate about representing students. I am running with 'Change', because I truly believe that there are so many things that do need to change at this university in order to make a difference in students' lives. We need a student body that is willing to fight for students and stand up to the university against any attacks. The only way to make that possible is by electing passionate and proactive students, such as myself and other 'Change' candidates. Part of my role will be to fight to ensure that the association is accountable and truly representative of student needs. I am excited to build an atmosphere at the university that is social and supports an active and organised clubs' program, with clubs that have proper support to build a foundation of active students that organise regular and refreshing events on campus. I will also fight to prevent any courses or classes being cut and actively campaign for the quality of teaching to be held to the highest standard. If you ever want something changed, tell me, because I will always fight for students.



Perna Chopra

As a Bundoora Student Council representative, I will ensure that I cater to students in their best interest. By finding advantageous opportunities for students and associations I will strive to produce profitable results. With a history of volunteer work and taking initiative to extend myself to help others, I would regard myself as an ideal candidate as that would highlight my people-orientated qualities and my empathetic nature towards them. By which I would be able to continuously provide my service to others. Considering my position with a view of a servant leader, I would make certain that my assistance reaches the maximum amount of people and allows their voices to be heard.



Marya Dawoud

If I am selected to be an LTSA member, then I will ensure that the voices of my peers are heard. I will make sure that every single person who has a concern in regards to their studies at La Trobe,

big or small, can be made to feel like they are important and that they are heard. I will especially ensure that the voices of minorities such as women, indigenous people, LGBTQ+ and those from religious institutions will be heard and that any concern they have, will be sought to have a solution. I will do this by ensuring the safety of women and anyone else who feels vulnerable with the proposal of introducing more lights and cameras along with our Bundoora campus, having an anonymous helpline which can be called to when a woman feels unsafe whilst on campus and in which help such as security or the police in some cases can be called. This helpline may also be an amazing resource in which women and others can talk to a trusted person without feeling shamed. It is also proposed that regular forums and polls take place in which ask people if they feel safe at LTU.

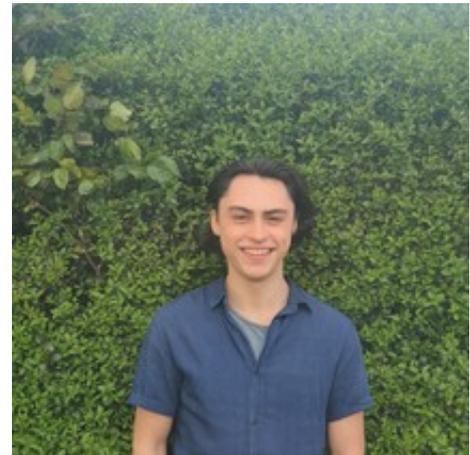
Lani Dumas

Hi my name is Lani Dumas, I study International Relations and am excited to be a candidate with CHANGE

I'm in the LTSU as a general member and have learned a lot about how to affect real change within our university.

I personally think the LTSA should be made up of real students who are connected and understand what is important to our university experience, which is listening to the voice of our fellow students

Im excited to run with CHANGE, a group of people I know will always continue to act within the best interest of students.



Shakiba Momeni

To Whom It May Concern: I am Shakiba Momeni and I am studying a Bachelors of Biomedicine. I would very much like to be a member of the Student Council. One of my best personal attributes is working as a part of a team and being sociable around others while engaging in conversations. I have previous experience working in leadership roles such as 2020 School Captain, Current CHE1CHF student representative at Latrobe and working as the crew trainer at my part-time jobs. Being a part of the student would be an honour, and I would dedicate my time to it as much as possible. If Elected, I will attend all required meetings and contribute to the group as frequently as possible. I'm more than open to public speaking and being a voice for the students, staff and community of Latrobe. I enjoy being involved in University activities, going to open days, or attending any other events that are required. I am committed to staying back if needed and am very passionate about being a part of the council. I have seen the student councils' involvement at Latrobe and respect their values, being a member would be an outstanding experience.

Aidan Judd

Hi, I'm Aidan Judd, a honours student studying politics. It's now widely understood that the global recession and the closure of borders has hit Australian universities hard. With university

finances under strain, it is important that vital support services for students are preserved, and that the faculty are supported in providing a quality education for all students.

If elected, I will focus my efforts in the following areas:

-I will advocate for the preservation of assistance for disadvantaged students to get assistance from university support services.

-I will advocate for the faculty/student ratio to be unchanged and for classes to only be online if it is strictly required

-I will seek to make university decisions that affect the student body more transparent, with more clarity as to large spending decisions and degree changes.

-I will propose a simplification of La Trobe's many websites and online services, making it more user-friendly and efficient.

- I will support La Trobe university in maintaining a student environment in which people of all cultures, ethnicities, religions, genders, sexualities, and ideologies can feel safe and supported, without threat of intimidation or violence.

Thanks for reading!

Alicia Griffiths

The LTSA receives 90% of the Student Services and Amenities Fee that all students pay on campus, which means it should represent student rights and fight for our interests. Unfortunately, the LTSA does the exact opposite of this: it's a body that was established by the Vice Chancellor to extend university influence on student affairs. Last year our Vice Chancellor ushered in huge attacks on our degrees and courses, it's why we currently pay astronomical fees for poorer quality degrees. I'm running in this election to hold the LSTA to account and fight against cuts to courses at La Trobe, as well as fight for student funding to be used for progressive campaigns like supporting LGBT+ rights, kicking Rio Tinto off campus, fighting sexism and racism, and organising protests for climate action.



Sumaya Ahmed

I'm running as candidate for the Student Campus Council because I want to give a voice to those that are unheard of. I want to provide grounds for all individuals. I want to create a safe space for students to feel as though they are being heard. To bring more chances for the students and to thrive on. To work as a collective and do better Latrobe student lifestyles. As a youth member I have faced similar experiences and was provided with support. I want to be that support for ALL. I was born and raised in Australia though I identify myself as a person of colour. I have had my fair share of trials and tribulations and I strongly believe that I am right for this position! I will put in more than efforts. I would endeavour to improve the pre-covid and post-covid gap. I am in my second year in my Bachelors degree. I believe to be a mature-student that thrives on the fast paced changing development. Thank you for taking the time to read my policy statement.



Stay safe!

Toby Hansen

Hey my name is Toby Hansen, and I am currently studying a Bachelor of International Relations. I am really interested and eager to represent fellow first year students and commit myself to values and ideas that the students I am representing hold and wish to have put forward. I look forward to the chance to represent my fellow peers with the LTSA and have a fresh new voice within the University's ranks.

Madhukar Uppala

I will do my best for university.

Jake McGuinness

Students deserve a voice at our university, we deserve a real say in how decisions are made, we deserve representatives that truly stand up for us and demand a seat at the table. Because if you don't have a seat at the table, you're probably on the menu.

As LTSU President and the head of the CHANGE ticket, I have consistently fought for these values. Given the chance, I would support Joel Blanch for LTSA President, because I know he will continue the fight.



Students need the LTSA to become an organisation that actually represents them, run by students, for students. Whilst the rules have banned CHANGE running as a team, isolating

students as individuals, a number of CHANGE candidates are running because we believe in genuine student representation.

In the wake of the pandemic, we need investment in student-led clubs, we need an active student voice fighting against further staff and course cuts, we need Student Money (SSAF funding) to be spent on issues that actually help students.

If elected, I will fight for these causes...and I will vote for Joel Blanch for President because I know he will make the La Trobe STUDENT Association more than just words.

Nahui Jimenez Ludekens

I'm an activist on campus and I'm running in the LTSA elections because any association that claims to represent students should fight for students. The LTSA receives 90% of our SSAF funds, money that should be used to run social justice campaigns against sexism and for Indigenous rights, LGBT+ rights, and environmental action. Currently the LTSA acts as an extension of the Vice Chancellor and the university administration - the same people who allow climate criminals like Rio Tinto to have research centers at La Trobe and have spent 2020 sacking staff and cutting subjects. I will fight against the LTSA being another tool to attack students. Last year I established La Trobe Students Against Cuts alongside other activists on campus. I believe mass student action is the most important power we have to hold the LTSA to account and will use my position to build the fight back against attacks on our education.



Abdul Mateen Mohammed

I feel proud as student to participate in any events and elections from Latrobe. I have capabilities to work with teams and individually. I am very supportive and positive attitude person especially to students lagging behind. Currently, I am serving as Peer mentor for new Engineering students and secretary for IEEE and student committee.



Olivia Hargraves

My name is Olivia and I study a bachelor of marketing which I have started this year and expect to finish in 3 years time. Although I am a fresh student, straight out of high school, I long for the chance to be apart of this council and create not only amazing things in the future of the university and meet new people, but I long to further enhance my leadership skills and develop new various skills.

I am a very organised person and I strive to be efficient and on time always to every event or meeting or class I attend in my daily life. I also obtain strong communicational skills, as well as a kind and loving heart and a care for others around me. I believe these are some skills that I can bring to the association.

If I get the opportunity to be apart of the Student Association, I will promise to be an active member who is reliable, kind, organised and will strive to promote positivity and create change and organise fun events and charities that will benefit the university.

Haosheng Ye

My name is Haosheng Ye, currently studying in Bundoora Campus. I am in my third year of study, enrolling in Bachelor of Commerce (major in Accounting).

I was a member of Student Representative Council in La Trobe College Australia, providing feedbacks and suggestions to the staffs, and a volunteer in Orientation Week. I used to be the treasurer of PlanetUni (a club in La Trobe) last year, handling financial transaction and sorting out budgets. In this year, I have participated in host program on campus, helping new students to enrol and assist them to get to know the facilities on campus. I also participated in multiple volunteer programs, on-campus or off-campus.



If I got accepted as a representative of LTSA Bundoora Campus, I would like to pursuit for more facilities and events for Bundoora students. For students living in student accommodations, I would push for a better living environment, and a reduced increase for accommodation fee. I will listen to the voice from different individuals in Bundoora Campus, always seeks a better solution for them.

Sandesh Pantha

I am Sandesh Pantha, a Ph.D. student at the School of Nursing and Midwifery. I was born and grown up in Nepal. I am a student representative for the School of Nursing and Midwifery and also a student ambassador for Study Melbourne. Being a student ambassador, I have developed skills in leadership and professional development. As we start a new life as University students, we go through many roller coasters in life. We pass through different stages of hardship to learn new avenues of life. In the post-COVID-19 era, we need to move forward supporting each other. One of my agendas for this position would be to advocate promoting the sexual and reproductive health of the students. Many international students lack knowledge and awareness of reproductive health. As a student representative, I will liaison with the University to promote the health well-being of the students. Let us join our hands together for making our student life colorful and memorable.

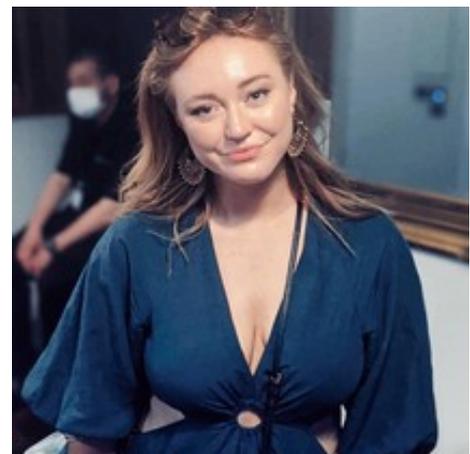


Bhavyaa Sharma

Hi guys, my name is Bhavyaa, and I'm from India. I am an international student who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in commerce with a specialisation in accounting and financial management. Since I am an extrovert, I enjoy engaging with people and participating in a variety of events, which leads me to believe that I have relevant experience to support myself as a Bundoora Representative and International Student Council Representative. Being a part of the Latrobe Indian Students Club, Bollywood Club, and International Students Association as a volunteer has given me the opportunity to explore the areas that need to be addressed, students' voices being heard, acknowledging people's problems, and leading the way to insure that we continue to provide students with a safe haven where they can find solutions and help them build a better future. If given this opportunity, I will stand firm in my convictions and perform my duties to the best of my ability.

Stephanie Briese

Since 2019, the La Trobe University Student Union (LTSU) has allowed me to give students a voice at La Trobe as an LTSU volunteer and LTSU representative. As the LTSU Education Officer and LTSU Vice-President, I have had the privilege through the LTSU of speaking with hundreds of students and hearing what tangible action they need from the LTSU and me as an LTSU representative. Through the LTSU, I have ran a number of LTSU-backed initiatives, including an LTSU WAM campaign in 2020, an LTSU campaign to extend library hours post-COVID, an LTSU online learning experience report, LTSU



x NUS (National Union of Students) campaigns, and many more LTSU campaigns. Furthermore, my time at the LTSU has allowed me to connect with many past and present LTSU Clubs & Societies and have meaningful conversations about what students need to improve both their educational AND social experiences at La Trobe. My time at the mighty LTSU has given me many skills which would be applicable to the LTSA, and I am excited to be running as a candidate with CHANGE.

Dilipkumar Lallubhai Sutariya

(policy statement not provided)

International Student Council (9 to elect)

Dougbou Firmin TADE

I would like to be part of the international students council for the following :

- Work for the well-being of international students, and the students of La Trobe University as the whole,
- Participate in the building, the caring and the growing of a resilient students community, that allows everyone to experience a sense of friendship,
- Contribute to enhancing participation, inclusion, social and cross cultural connexion within the campuses



Ansh Verma

Hey La Trobe,

I'm Ansh, a Bachelor of Business (Economics) student. I'm running with Change for a spot on the International Student Council. I'm from India and I've been a representative of the International Student Community at La Trobe with my involvement in various Clubs & Societies over the course of my study.

I'm the 2021 President of International Students Association and a member of the Activities Committee of La Trobe Student Union.

I'm the President & Founder of Economics Student Society of Australia (La Trobe University). I've been the Director of Events for Business & Commerce Students Association in 2020 & the Director of Administration in 2021.



International Students like myself are an important part of the La Trobe Community. Being on the International Student Council will give me a platform to talk about the issues faced by International Students & how we can assist our students at La Trobe.

I'm running on the Change ticket as I believe that me and my running mates can make a positive impact on student life of International Students.

Xiaolin Wu

1. My name is Xiaolin Wu. I am an international student and studying in Bundoora campus.

2. I am currently studying Master of TESOL. This is the last year of my study.

3. I was a Volunteer Association officer in university in China. I was mainly responsible for planning, promoting and implementing volunteer activities. During the working period, I participated in the pre-coordination of the activity "Going to the Countryside" including assisting in attracting sponsors and planning both online and offline promotion. More recently, I was be a student assistant in La Trobe College, assisting teachers in arranging class and helping other students with study problems. What's more, I participated in the Host Program at La Trobe University, working as a volunteer, answering questions of new students and helping them adapt to campus life.



4. I sincerely hope I could successfully run for the student council this time. If I succeed in the election, I would like to organize various activities to help students better adapt to university life and seek more benefits for students.

Amruta Shashank Anarthe

Hello! My name is Dr Amruta Anarthe and I am currently studying for Master of Public Health. I am running for a position in the City Student Council. I want to play an active role in the ongoing improvement of our university and it's many facets. I want to work on expanding the opportunities for students and improving the quality of our facilities. I am an enthusiastic individual and I will always strive to find a solution to the issue. My experience of being a part of the Student Council in my Graduation school will certainly come to help. I am passionate and motivated and will appreciate any opportunity to work with other like-minded people. I feel I have a sense of social justice that I would harness to create or advance strategies that assists all members of the student community. I believe in being diligent and exploring my own creative potential as well as that of others. I feel I am approachable, patient and an effective communicator. Most importantly I genuinely respect our University and its Mantra.

Arya Rohan KALE

I will follow with all policies which complies LTSA constitution , i will be honoured to represent international students being a member of international council and i will serve for best interest of the organisation



Greeson Green

I'm Greeson Green, currently pursuing my Masters in International Business. I have been active in all the LTSU event for the past one year. I have done volunteering and participated in LTSU event activities. My nationality is Indian and in my under graduation I have been a student leader (2018-2019) in department of Bachelor of Civil engineering in RMK Engineering College which is affiliated to Anna university, Chennai, India. I am looking forward to be the part of International student representative council of La Trobe university and I will give my best potential.

Wesley Samuel Yang

La Trobe University has had a tough year and so has it's students, particularly International Students. But, all hope is not lost. Together we can get through this and I want to leading the charge for the University and its student body. As an International student myself, I understand the difficulties that the International Student body faces and having graduated with a VCE Certificate, I understand the Australian culture and its students too. Together, this University can be so much more. As a renowned character once said, "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light".

Hemanth Venkata Naga Sai YERRAMILLI

No use of Alcohol or drugs during any events, no harassment or bullying of the peer students, anti ragging, equal opportunity for every student, health and safety of every student is important, acceptable usage of technology to everyone in the campus, handling every students problem, last but not least disciplinary conduct of everyone will be maintained.



Priyanshu Tomar

Hi everyone. I am Priyanshu, 3rd-year undergraduate International student studying a Computer science degree at La Trobe University.

Since my first semester, I was involved with various clubs, including the Indian Student's Club. In my second year, I founded Bollywood Club - La Trobe University and led several events and programs through the club. While being part of clubs, I volunteered for the International Student's Association and Student Theatre and Film part of LTSU. I volunteered for several programs run by the university, including International and LTU Hosts programs.



Last year LTU announced cuts in several departments and subjects, which resulted in cutting down the Hindi Language course from LTU. To save this program, I worked with the Hindi language academic staff and students on campus and started "Save Hindi Language At La Trobe University" campaign and succeeded in continuing the Hindi program in LTU.

Being an international student myself, I am aware of all the issues International students face with their academic, work and personal lives. If elected for the LTSA International student council, I promise to work with International students to know their problems and be a solid voice for International students at LTU through LTSA.

Muhamamd Bilal Bashir

Hello! My name is Muhammad Bilal Bashir and I am running for the position of International Student Council. It will surely be an honor to represent the fellow international students and work for their rights. Due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, it is highly unprecedented and challenging time for everyone, but International students are worst effected. I would endeavor to improve the on campus and virtual life of international students in all possible ways. There are enormous difficulties in online learning and I will raise your voice until you all are heard equally and get what you want regarding the difficulties you are facing in online learning environment. I believe in unity and equal opportunities for international students and giving everyone a fair go, regardless of gender, nationality, religion or belief. I am passionate about improving and expanding the facilities offered to international students. I want international students to have say in key decision making areas. If elected, I would make it my goal to get more students involved in what is going on, in our



University. I would appreciate your vote for me so that I can serve you no matter how challenging the circumstances are. Thank you !

Shiyu Li

1.Start with your introduction

I'm Shiyu Li, and an international student

2.Give some details about yourself like which course which year are you in !

My major is a Bachelor of Business, this is my last year.

3.Add your previous experience with student representation and current Enggagment with student representation if any with clubs and societies and any form of student representation

First, when I was studying in a Chinese university, I used to participate in the school's art department. During this term, the Art Committee and the Student Union organized school sports competitions, school art performances and other large-scale campus activities. My job is event planning. During my studies at Latrobe University, I maintained long-term communication with RSA. And at the beginning of the semester, I worked as a volunteer at Latrobe university and helped new students register.



4.conclude with your veiw for the upcoming benefits you want to do for the students with your Role

In order to better realize the purpose of serving the students of the Student Union, if I can successfully campaign, I will work to strengthen the communication with the students and help the students to communicate with the school more conveniently.

Mayankraj Saxena

Hi ,

I am Mayank Raj Saxena, pursuing my 2nd year of Masters in Data Science (Bundoora Campus)

I'm currently elected as an Activities Officer for LTSU 2021 and previously i was a Volunteers Coordinator for Bollywood Club in 2020 and alongside that i have actively been Volunteering for various clubs like LISC,MASO..etc

The reason i want to be a part of the International council is that i think it would be a great opportunity for me to be in a position where i will be able to hear students issues and help them out in a way that makes their time at the Uni better.

and my previous experience in student representation and organizing will help me out to understand the work asked to be done by my seniors and get it done efficiently.

If given this opportunity i would make sure that i keep motivating everyone in my surrounding to do their best and being a tiny bit of a Team where i will be able to learn things and upskill my knowledge.

Towsif Ahmed Mahim

Hi everyone,

I am Towsif and I'm running for a spot at the LTSA 2021 International Student Council Elections. I have been involved with student representation since 2019 and attended numerous social, cultural and activist events both in the university. I'm very passionate about student advocacy and activism. The mental wellbeing of both international and local students is my first priority. If I get the opportunity by getting elected as a student council I'll work on so that the voices of students are heard and addressed in an efficient and appropriate way. I will work on utilizing the Fund that we are allocated efficiently. With over 2 years of experience as club executive and union positions as a result I believe that I am a good fit for the position and hope that I'll bring good to the table and clear all the misconceptions the general students have regarding LTSA.



Ridhi Kapoor

I'm Ridhi Kapoor, an International Student from India and the winner of La Trobe's V.C. Scholarship. I am running to be your International Student Council's Vice President. I have mentored various responsibilities during my high school and have learnt to handle the pressure of deadlines well and establishing myself as a reliable link between teachers and peers; and thus gaining their trust and respect. I have sharp work ethics and the ability to withstand stress. I love the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and to socialize. I aim to uphold the vision of our La Trobe's Student Council and will do my best to make a student life better in all aspects. Any candidate can make promises; but I will follow through. I encourage you to vote for the most passionate, dedicated, proactive and approachable candidate, and the one who is ready to become your voice, VOTE Ridhi Kapoor to see the change.



Yu XIE

My name is Xie Yu, I am current third year information technology international student. I have learned Information System, Programing (Java, python), Basic Web Development (css, html, js), Network engineering, Cyber Security during my studies.

I am currently studying the major of the third year and some optional courses of the second year. In high school, I served as a representative of the school sports meeting and served as my high school grade 12 (one of the fourth) house leader. I have attended the host program and helped many of international students with Relevant matters for freshmen. In addition, I have maintained good relationships with different clubs and societies.



I very much hope for a successful election. I hope that I can use the position I campaign to provide international students with more information, choices, and sports items. Provide a convenient information platform for newly enrolled students and current students, so that any inquiries can be answered conveniently and adequately. Provide more information consultation on activities that students are interested in.

Kethya Hirushi Wickramanayake

I am Kethya Wickramanayake third year Bachelor of Health Sciences student at La Trobe University.

I stand before you today as a candidate for international student council. In this position, I assure you I will work hard on your behalf, listen to your ideas and do everything in my power the University best than it can be.

I stand before you today not only as a candidate, but also as your friend. And like a good friend I will be honest with you about the challenges. I will do my best to communicate with you and keep you informed.

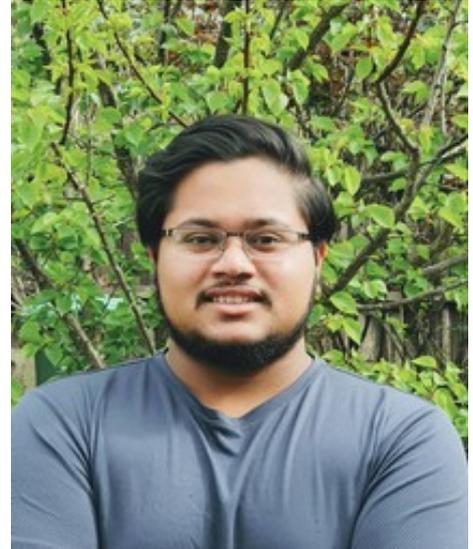
As you can see, the future depends on the ability to work together. Cooperation and teamwork will get us far. If you elect me to the international student council I vow to lead with openness and honesty.

Thank you so much for your value time.

Ahsanul Karim Fayaz

Hello Everyone

My name is Fayaz and I'm running for a spot at the LTSA 2021 International Student Council Elections on the CHANGE team. I've been involved with student representation since 2018 and since then have organized and attended numerous social, cultural and activist events both in and out of the university. I'm passionate about student advocacy and activism. The mental wellbeing of both international and domestic students is my priority. If given the opportunity and being elected as a student council I'll make sure that the voices of students are heard and addressed in an appropriate and efficient manner. I'll make sure of proper utilization of the SSAF fund and I'll be running for CHANGE. With over 3 years of experience as club executive and union positions I think I'm a good fit for the position and hope that I'll bring positivity to the table and clear all the misconceptions the general students have regarding LTSA.



Abdullah Abdulaziz M Babusail

(policy statement not provided)



Juliana Sze Yun DING

My name is Juliana and I am a second year dental student studying at La Trobe University, Bendigo campus. I was born and raised in Canada, and have lived for four years in the UK where I completed a BSc. Living and studying as an international in Australia has definitely brought insight to what makes an international student feel at home.

As someone who knows what it's like to live as a foreign student in a country unfamiliar to me, I can relate to all international students out there. Being away from family, the university and its services become vital to the enjoyment of our time living abroad. My experiences in the UK and now my second year in Australia, has guided me in knowing how the university can best accommodate and provide services to meet our specific and unique needs.

I hope to not only share my ideas, but more importantly listen to what all international students have to say. I will do my very best to be the voice for all of you. I believe by doing this, we can create a university campus that continues to be inclusive and supportive to all students.



Ashim Sapkota

Hi Everyone, I would like to be in the international students council. With your support, I might be able to be in it. Why do I want to be in it? Well, so that we as international students can have our voices heard etc etc and other generic promises which are forgotten and ignored after the election. Vote me because I will be there and will listen to concern of international students which I know very well. Crushing fess, being away from our parents and countries and dim prospects of Australian job. I will make sure if there is anything that a union can do to make life even a bit easier, I will pressure the union to do it. I have worked as a student host, peer mentor and also been in the student advisory group for Latrobe Rural Health school. In all of these position, I have thought about best way to help students and have been mentor to some international students as well. I assure you that I will be doing my job with utmost honesty and with care for fellow international students at my heart. Please vote for me already. Thank you.

Bhavyaa Sharma

Hi guys, my name is Bhavyaa, and I'm from India. I am an international student from India who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in commerce with a specialisation in accounting and financial management. Since I am an extrovert, I enjoy engaging with people and participating in a variety of events, which leads me to believe that I have relevant experience to support myself as a Bundoora Representative and International Student Council Representative. Being a part of the Latrobe Indian Students Club, Bollywood Club, and International Students Association as a volunteer has given me the opportunity to explore the areas that need to be addressed,

students' voices being heard, acknowledging people's problems, and leading the way to insure that we continue to provide students with a safe haven where they can find solutions and help them build a better future. If given this opportunity, I will stand firm in my convictions and perform my duties to the best of my ability.

Taksh Veer Singh Nanda

Hey LTU students, this is Taksh Nanda, a 2nd year Commerce/ Accounting international student who is passionate about international student representation on campus.

I believe that there is a real need to make a difference in the lives of foreign students especially after the events of the pandemic. And that is why I am running with 'Change'. We need a student body that is ready and willing to fight for the international students and stands up to the university to show them that they cannot just simply treat us as their cash cows.



'Change' candidates such as myself, are passionate and proactive students that will make sure that the LTSA is held accountable and works towards the welfare of the international students. I'm excited to help build an environment at the university that is more inclusive of international students and also supports an active cultural club's program.

Reach out to me or any of the 'Change' candidates if you ever want something changed.

Areesha Nazeer

(policy statement not provided)

Hassan Murtaza

I will provide the healthy environment to the international students. I will try to give my best to welcome all students.



Qiuyu Zheng

Regarding the policy statement,

1. I am Iris (Qiuyu Zheng), an International master student who is currently studying at La Trobe University Bundoora Campus.

2. I am studying in Master of Business Information Management and Systems, and this is my last year. And I love La Trobe Uni very much, so I am planning to continue to study at La Trobe after finishing my master's degree.

3. I was the president of the Student Union during my high school and the university in China, so I know how to work in one team and coordinate with participates. Moreover, I was the general member in ISA and held multiple attractive activities online and on campus, such as Multi-Cultural Festival, House Olympics and so on.

4. Finally, I hope I can be successfully nominated in this election, I can organize and carry out colorful activities under the guidance of our University, so that let international students to regard Melbourne, Australia as a warm home.

