



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE



Abdullah Jaafar

Research | PhD, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

I am a dedicated Doctor of Philosophy candidate at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, based at the Parkville campus. Alongside my academic pursuits, I bring extensive professional experience as a pharmacist, team leader in pharmacy, educator, and preceptor. These roles have equipped me with strong leadership, communication, and advocacy skills, which I aim to contribute to the MGA Executive Committee.

My research focuses on developing resilience curricula in pharmacy education, preparing future pharmacists to navigate academic and professional challenges. This has strengthened my understanding of student well-being and the importance of fostering supportive, inclusive, and engaging learning environments.

As a team leader and preceptor, I have mentored pharmacy students and interns, supported their professional development, and advocated for their learning needs. I have also supported the continuous professional development of my pharmacy team. These experiences have reinforced my commitment to creating spaces where students voices are heard, valued, and acted upon.

As a representative, I am dedicated to championing the interests of students. I will actively engage with the student community, listen to feedback, and collaborate with the MGA to develop initiatives that enhance student well-being, academic support, and social engagement.

I believe in fostering a sense of belonging and advocating for positive change. If elected, I will work with integrity and dedication to ensure students feel supported and empowered throughout their academic journey.

I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the MGA Executive Committee and advocate for the vibrant student community.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Akshita Sinha

Coursework / Master of Counselling

Hello, my name is Akshita. The best way to introduce myself is as a queer, desi, and empathy-driven woman who embodies the saying, "God gives their toughest mental health challenges to their strongest soldier." This is to say that I have spent much of my life searching for belonging and acceptance—and I have been fortunate to find both, within myself and among the wonderful people around me.

I am currently pursuing my Master's in Counselling at the Clayton campus, and it has been an exhilarating opportunity. I have worked in the field of psychology and met numerous people- be it as a club Vice President, an intern, a student or an assistant- and I recognise the effect of the systems this world is built on.

I truly understand what it means to challenge a system not built for us and to push for changes that foster not just survival, but living. This journey would have been significantly harder without the support of others. I am a product of kindness and compassion in the hardest of times, and because of that, I am committed to continuing this cycle of advocacy and support.

If given this opportunity, I will ensure that every concern gets a voice and every voice is heard. Our graduate programs encompass a diverse community, and while I recognize that I cannot fully understand every unique experience, I am committed to listening, learning, and working diligently to ensure that all graduate students feel seen, valued, and supported.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Anusha Shrivastava

Coursework / Master of International Development Practice

Dear Monash Graduates <3

Imagine this - open Snack Bar Saturdays, refreshing Cocktail Mixers for socialising, student-voted Movie Nights, assignment Pro-tips from Professors, a streamlined Internship/Volunteering Opportunity Network, an all-student Monash Community connecting us across campuses, and a quarterly MGA Gazette to get your research articles published.

This is how your life may be envisioned when you elect me - Anusha Shrivastava - as a member of the MGA Executive Committee. As an international student from India, I know how hard it can be to accommodate oneself to this new environment. This is exactly why I wish to provide a safe and interactive space for all international and national students to voice their concerns, however trivial they may be. My simple vision is to make student life at Monash easier amidst the stressed atmosphere filled with assignment deadlines and hunting for part-time jobs.

To know more about me and my work experience, connect with me on Instagram or LinkedIn. I will be happy to hear about your day :)

See you at the voting booth!

VOTE ANUSHA FOR MGA!!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Beauty Nalwendo

Coursework / Master of Public Policy

I am excited to nominate myself for a position on the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee, building on my current role as a General Representative for the 2024 Committee, I've had the privilege of working closely with passionate colleagues to bring our campus community together through a variety of engaging events.

Volunteering with the Monash Graduate Association (MGA) since February 2024 has given me the chance to support and create campus activities that truly resonate with our graduate community. I've seen firsthand how our collective efforts can spark new ideas and bring about positive change. Additionally, my time with St Kilda Moms in May 2024 where I helped sort donated clothes and essential items at the Clayton hub.

These experiences have not only enriched my skills in leadership and teamwork but have also deepened my commitment to ensuring every graduate feels heard, supported, and inspired. I believe that our strength lies in our shared journey and the genuine connections we build along the way. I am excited about the opportunity to further contribute to our community, bringing creativity, empathy, and a heartfelt drive to make a difference.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Hana Smajic

Coursework / Graduate Certificate of Business (Marketing)

Hi everyone! I would love to support you in your postgraduate studies. Whether it is organising socials and mindful activities, as a great way of managing the stress of assignments. Or directing you to the free mental health support Monash offers. I will be there to help with all things rent assistance, groceries, improving academic writing and integrity, or supporting our female and female identifying postgraduate community.

I am always wanting to connect with another friendly face, so please reach out. I will ensure that I put forward your ideas at the Monash Graduate Association Committee meetings. I know Monash very well, as I have previously studied a Bachelor of Arts/Science, majoring in International Relations and Psychology. So please, no question is too small!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Hard Gorakhia

Coursework | Master of Business Management in Sustainable Enterprise

Hello fellow grads,

I am excited to nominate myself for a position on the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee (MGAEC). As a forward-thinking business strategist with a background in environmental engineering and sustainable business, I am passionate about creating impactful solutions through collaborative efforts.

Currently pursuing my Master's in Sustainable Business and Project Management at Monash University, I have a proven track record of leadership and community engagement. As an MGA Volunteer Leader and Monash Student Communities Advisor, I have gained a deep understanding of our student community's needs.

I am committed to advocating for initiatives that enhance the graduate student experience, such as increased stipends and improved campus facilities. I believe that serving on the MGAEC offers a unique opportunity to collaborate with like-minded individuals and contribute meaningfully to our community.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Himanshu Sridhar

Coursework / Master of Communications and Media Studies

Hello! I'm Himanshu Sridhar, 25, a Master of Media and Communication student at Caulfield, and a man who, like Chandler Bing with a poetic twist, uses humor as my secret weapon. While I'm a fan of food and new experiences, I'll spare you the culinary tales—for now.

So why should I be nominated for the Monash Graduate Association (MGA) Representative Committee? Well, I thrive when given the right push. I'm a go-getter, service-minded, and genuinely passionate about helping others through meaningful connections and problem-solving.

As a self-published poet with a book, *Musings of a Wallflower*, I know the importance of expressing oneself and creating space for others to do the same. Through my studies, I've honed my communication skills and developed a strong ability to understand and convey ideas effectively. I aim to bring these skills to the committee, ensuring that graduate students feel heard, represented, and supported.

I'm committed to advocating for the diverse needs of my peers—whether that's academic challenges, work-life balance, or navigating campus resources. My focus will be on building stronger connections, increasing opportunities for personal and professional growth, and fostering inclusivity across the graduate community.

In this role, I'll work to ensure the voices of all graduate students are heard and that we create an environment where every student feels supported. I'd love the opportunity to contribute to the MGA and make our collective experience at Monash even better.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Jingrong Wang

Coursework | Master of Teaching in Secondary Education

Dear Voter,

My name is Jingrong Wang, and I am an international student pursuing a Master's degree in Secondary Teaching.

I am running for a general student representative at the MGA Executive Committee because I believe there is significant room for improving the conditions for graduate students—both domestic and international—but especially for the international students who have just arrived in Australia and are currently adapting to a new environment with the inconvenience of language barriers and often financial stress.

If elected to the Committee, I will first advocate for more job-oriented activities and accessible career resources to make sure that postgraduate students at different year levels can all have a higher prospect of finding a fairly-paid job, or at least some work that could temporarily ease their financial stress.

Additionally, in light of the fact that postgraduate students usually have heightened academic pressures and face a higher risk of psychological issues, I will work hard to ensure the university allocates more resources for academic support and well-being services for the graduate students.

Last but not least, I will campaign for a clearer guideline to help students minimize the potential negative consequence, both academically and financially, of academic under-performance. Where needed, I will ensure that technical support for visa-related issues that affect international students would be handily provided.

Beyond these key concerns, I am committed to actively listening to the voices of my fellow graduate students and addressing their needs.

Sincerely,

Jingrong Wang



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Jonathan Paul

Coursework / Master of Social Work

As an international graduate student from the twin-island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I thought that moving to Australia would mean that I would struggle with finding community in a strange country with people who are so different from me. I'm happy to have been proven wrong.

My wonderful classmates also striving towards their MSW, my lecturers and tutors, facilities and administrative staff here have been so welcoming, and reinforced my belief that our similarities, regardless of background, nationality, gender and race, can outweigh our differences.

That's what I hope to continue to champion alongside the MGA; creating more opportunities for community with our graduate students, and also helping to steer that power that we have when we gather in community towards giving back and paying forward to others. Specifically, getting involved in the MGA's advocacy, volunteering and economic uplifting work are my main goals.

I've honestly never been too big a fan of student-run committees since bureaucracy and the idea of student governments makes me nauseous, but the MGA's community building and advocacy work seems to be the real deal, and where there's real work to be done, I think we should all pitch in. I'd appreciate your vote to help me be a larger part of this work going forward.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Junyu Tao

Research | PhD, Music Education

Pursuing a PhD in Music Education has given me a deep appreciation for the diverse challenges and aspirations of graduate students. As a musician and educator, I understand the importance of fostering an inclusive and dynamic student community.

I am committed to advocating for better academic support, mental health services, and networking opportunities for all graduates at Monash. If elected, I will work to amplify student concerns, strengthen peer connections, and contribute to initiatives that enhance the graduate experience.

Together, we can create a more vibrant and supportive university environment.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Kalani Imalka Perera

Research | PhD, Monash Sustainable Development Institute

Hello, my name is Kalani Imalka Perera, and I am a PhD scholar at the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, hailing from Sri Lanka. My passion for improving student life and contributing to the postgraduate community motivates me to run for a position on the Monash Graduate Association (MGA) Executive Committee. I believe in being a voice for the unheard and giving back to the community that has supported me.

If elected, my goal is to focus on the mental wellbeing of graduate students and provide support for those facing challenges. I aim to be a strong advocate for international graduate students, ensuring their voices are heard and addressing issues related to representation and support systems. I am also passionate about women's empowerment and would work towards strengthening support structures for women within the postgraduate community at Monash.

Believing and aligning with the words of David Orr, "The planet does not need more successful people. But it does desperately need more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of every kind. It needs people who live well in their places. It needs people of moral courage willing to join the fight to make the world habitable and humane", I want to commit myself to creating a supportive and inclusive environment where students can thrive and grow.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve this vibrant community, and I humbly ask for your support in this election. Thank you for considering my candidacy.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Karan Raman

Coursework | Master of Data Science

As a Master of Data Science student at Clayton, I'm excited to nominate myself for the role of General Representative on the MGA Executive Committee (MGAEC) for 2025. Over the past months as a General Representative of MGAEC, I've been actively involved in initiatives that aim to enrich the postgraduate student experience. I had the honour of being a panellist at the Monash Postgraduate Orientation, where I shared insights on navigating academic life, accessing support services like counselling and scholarships and using generative AI responsibly.

I also coordinated and volunteered at community events like the MGA weekly badminton sessions, MGA Village during o-week, helping to foster connection and well-being. My involvement in the HDR subcommittee has been especially meaningful, where I contributed to discussions on improving stipend conditions for HDR students—a vital issue impacting many across our campuses. I've also raised cohort-specific concerns, such as the need for better resources in student-led initiatives and am working toward improving MGA outreach and engagement through platforms like LinkedIn.

If elected, I will continue advocating for a supportive, inclusive and vibrant postgraduate environment—where every student feels heard, valued and empowered.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Madhav Ritesh Parikh

Coursework | Master of Banking and Finance

Greetings Everyone! An inquisitive learner, an obsessed athlete and most importantly, an international student rediscovering life, I am Madhav Parikh from Mumbai, India ,who is pursuing his Master of Banking and Finance. Although, having been a Computer Science Engineer in India, I was always charmed by the idea of experimenting with thoughts to repurpose my work in the most unconventional manner.

This inherent drive led me to build technology based initiatives for research and development with universities in countries like Finland, the UK and the Philippines, to become one of the brand ambassador's for VMware, India and eventually led me to win multiple high level competitions, including the Economic Times Campus Star, which declared me as one of the brightest engineering candidates out of 52000+ students. These diverse range of experiences expanded my horizon of thought and transformed me into a person who would seek more practical outcomes from my work leading me to my intuitive transition to finance.

This defines the core of my belief as well, where I intend to understand perspectives in life, not only for my betterment, but also for the people around me. My fundamentals of "Assimilate, Repurpose and Redistribute" have been the key inspiration for my personal and social life to achieve greater goals. And even as I stepped into Monash, I am here, honing myself with extensive pursuits of learning, while establishing meaningful relationships with friends and formals around me, to create an environment of mutual progress and trust on the move.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Mohammed Zeehan Saleheen

Research | PhD, Information Technology

I am excited to nominate myself for the position of General Representative at the Monash Graduate Association (MGA). Having previously served as a General Representative during the 2024–2025 term, I have gained valuable insights into the operations of MGA and developed a strong understanding of how to effectively implement initiatives that benefit graduate students.

My passion for student advocacy drives my commitment to enhancing the graduate student experience. I am particularly focused on addressing mental health challenges faced by graduate students by introducing more wellness programs and support networks. I also envision making student life more joyful and engaging by organizing social and cultural events that foster a sense of belonging and community.

Additionally, I am committed to advocating for a stipend increment for PhD students, ensuring that their financial needs are addressed in recognition of their contributions to the academic community. I also plan to focus on professional development by exploring partnerships for internships and industry collaborations that prepare graduate students for success beyond academia.

My prior experience at MGA has equipped me with the skills to effectively communicate student concerns, collaborate with diverse stakeholders, and implement impactful initiatives. I am confident that my knowledge of how this body functions will allow me to seamlessly contribute and make a meaningful difference for all graduate students.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving the Monash graduate community and ensuring their academic, professional, and personal needs are met.

Thank you for your consideration.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Mugdha Samanta

Coursework | Master of International Development Practice

As a passionate advocate for equity, mental health, and climate justice, I believe that student representation must be both compassionate and courageous. I bring with me lived experiences of navigating mental health challenges, international student transitions, and academic pressure—realities many of us silently share. If elected, I hope to push for meaningful wellbeing policies, safer campus spaces, and accessible academic support—especially for those from marginalised backgrounds.

I value collaboration, creative problem-solving, and honest conversations, and I will strive to be a bridge between students and policy-making spaces. I'm particularly interested in strengthening support for HDR students and advocating for more transparent, student-informed decisions on housing, funding, and mental health services. "Leadership is not about being in charge. It's about taking care of those in your charge" – Simon Sinek. Let's build a culture where all voices matter—especially those often unheard. I'm here to listen, reflect, and act.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Natasya Jestine Wiraatmaja

Coursework | Master of Business Information Systems

Hello everyone, I am Natasya Jestine Wiraatmaja, a first-year postgraduate student in Business Information Systems (Faculty of Information Technology) at Monash University. I am excited to run for the position of Clayton Campus Representative on the MGA Monash Executive. Before coming to Monash, I served as an Education Officer office bearer at the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) International during the 2022/2023 committee during my undergraduate studies.

In this role, I was committed to advocating for students' rights, tackling academic issues, and creating spaces where everyone felt heard and supported. I've worked closely with students, staff, and other union members to address concerns and implement solutions, and I'm ready to bring that same energy and dedication to Monash. If elected, my focus will be on building a stronger, more inclusive community for postgraduate students at Clayton.

I will work to amplify our voices, improve access to resources, and organize events that cater to both your academic and social needs. I am committed to fostering an environment where every postgraduate student feels empowered, supported, and connected while balancing study and having social life. I hope to contribute to the continued success of Monash University by ensuring that postgraduate students at Clayton are well-supported and heard.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Nick Hetrelezis

Coursework / Master of Pharmaceutical Science

I am a detail-oriented and passionate individual who is eager to demonstrate my capabilities within the Monash Graduate Association. My background is in education, formulation development and oncology production, with strong rehearsal in voluntary efforts across a diverse range of organisations.

Beyond science, I actively contribute to community initiatives at my local tennis club, from organising grants and sponsorships for local sports clubs to excelling in endurance and team-based competitions. My experience with the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences has also fundamentally developed my appreciation for the efforts required to organise student-led events.

I am looking forward to addressing and assisting in any challenges across Monash through the executive committee and would endeavour to put my best efforts in advocating for our graduate cohort.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Noopur Modi

Coursework / Master of Business

Hello, I am Noopur Modi. I have done Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engineering. I graduated from National Institute of Technology, Surat. I have worked with Suzlon Group, an renewable energy company, as BI Analyst for about 7 months, where I created and developed Power Bi reports. Also, I have done my industrial internship at Linde Engineering under instrumentations department.

Apart from this I love swimming and dancing. I am also a graphic designer and a video editor, and software's like adobe premiere pro, after effects, and illustrator are known to me. I have done 250 hours of community work in National Service Scheme, an organization in India. I was joint secretary and treasurer of Centre for Human Resource Development, the largest club in my undergraduate college, and have worked with permissions, budgeting, event handling, social media managing and sponsorships. It would be my pleasure to work with MGA so as to come out as a strong personality and also bring experience to the table.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Prabhnoor Kaur

Coursework / Master of International Development Practice

As an advocate for student welfare, equity, and empowerment, I am eager to contribute to the Monash Graduate Association in a leadership capacity. With a background in social work, international development, and community engagement, I understand the importance of student advocacy, inclusivity, and access to essential resources.

My key priorities include:

- Strengthening student support services, including mental health resources, academic mentorship, and career guidance.
- Promoting inclusivity and diversity, ensuring that all voices—especially those of international students—are heard and represented.
- Enhancing student engagement by fostering collaborative initiatives and professional development opportunities.

Through my experience in CSR, fieldwork, and grassroots activism, I have learned that strong leadership and proactive representation can drive meaningful change. I am committed to ensuring that every graduate student at Monash feels supported and empowered. I would be honored to serve as your representative.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Rajdeep Singh Jammu

Coursework / Master of Cyber Security

Graduate students deserve leaders who bring real solutions instead of recycled promises. I am committed to tackling the issues that matter most to our community with a clear, results-driven plan.

Last semester, during finals, I hit a breaking point. At 2 AM, drowning in deadlines, I called Monash counselling, only to hear a voicemail. I was left to deal with my emotions and exhaustion all alone. You can imagine how this sacrificed my sleep and clarity. Imagine if I'd had immediate support: a text line, a crisis counsellor, or after-hours workshops to recalibrate. And I know I am not alone. My work suffered, but it doesn't have to be this way. I'll fight for 24/7 mental health services that provide real-time counselling, crisis teams, and wellness hubs so no student faces darkness alone.

Financial strain amplifies these struggles. Stipends haven't kept pace with inflation, forcing students to choose between groceries and lab supplies. So, I will push for a comprehensive review and increase of stipend allowances, coupled with dedicated research funding that meets today's living and academic costs.

Finally, I will establish an Integrated Graduate Success Network. This comprehensive support platform offers a rapid response to immediate issues like supervision conflicts and technical setbacks and provides long-term professional development through peer mentorship, networking events, and career workshops.

This plan is about change that supports every graduate student, ensuring that our community is stronger and better prepared for the future. Vote for a leader who transforms challenges into achievements.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Riya Jacob

Coursework | Master of Communications and Media Studies

Hello! I'm Riya Jacob, a Master of Communications and Media Studies student at Monash Caulfield, and I'm running for the position of General Representative. As someone who values building connections and creating inclusive spaces, I want to ensure that every local and international student feels a sense of comfort and knows that the university has their back through any challenges they may face.

I'm a new student at Monash myself and I understand what it's like to navigate a new environment, meet new people, and find your place. My background in communications and public relations has strengthened my ability to connect with people and advocate for their needs. I've also been lucky to have taken on leadership roles in school, which gave me firsthand experience in representing student voices.

If elected, I would love to focus on more interaction between international and local students by creating opportunities for engagement and cultural exchange. It is easy to stay in our comfort zones and find a sense of belonging within our own communities but I believe there's a lot of value in stepping out of our bubbles and interacting with as many cultures as possible, especially with students from Australia. University is much more than academics and I want to ensure all students have access to the networks, resources, and community support they need to make the most of their time at Monash.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Ruyu Zheng

Coursework | Master of Food Science and Agribusiness

As a non-native English speaker, I faced many challenges when I first arrived in Australia—especially with language barriers and adapting to a new environment. However, instead of feeling overwhelmed, I actively participated in volunteer programs, including leading city tours for new and exchange students. I saw this not only as a way to help others but also as an opportunity to push myself to adapt and grow. Within just two weeks, I quickly adjusted to the local rhythm and lifestyle. This experience reinforced my ability to adapt to new environments, recognize my weaknesses, and make swift improvements.

I believe this adaptability and self-improvement mindset will be valuable in the MGA Executive Committee. If elected, I will apply this proactive approach to enhance student engagement, improve support services, and ensure MGA continues evolving to meet student needs. Just as I have helped myself and others navigate challenges, I am committed to helping all graduate students feel supported and empowered at Monash.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Saher Omar Siddiqui

Coursework / Master of Communications and Media Studies

I am excited to submit my nomination for the position of General Representative, driven by a strong passion for student advocacy and community building. I believe that every student deserves to have their voice heard and their concerns addressed, and I am committed to ensuring that our student body is represented with transparency, integrity, and dedication.

If elected, I will focus on strengthening student engagement, advocating for policies that enhance academic experiences, and promoting initiatives that address key student needs, including mental health support, equity, and access to essential resources. My goal is to bridge the gap between students and university leadership, ensuring that all concerns are met with practical solutions and meaningful action.

Beyond advocacy, I want to create opportunities for student networking, skill-building, and leadership development. I will work to improve student support services, foster a sense of belonging, and create spaces for open dialogue. I believe in the power of collective action and will strive to ensure that students from all backgrounds feel valued, supported, and empowered. With my strong communication skills and proactive approach, I am ready to represent you and work towards making student life better. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and contribute to positive change within our university community. Let's make this one happen!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Sakshi Petkar

Coursework / Master of Environment and Sustainability

As a civil engineer with a strong background in leadership and event management, I am excited to apply for the General Representative position. Throughout my academic and professional journey, I have developed excellent communication, problem-solving, and teamwork skills.

My experience in organizing various programs and events in college and corporate life has taught me the importance of active listening, empathy, and effective representation. I am confident that my skills and passion for leadership will enable me to represent the diverse interests of our student community.

As a General Representative, I aim to foster a culture of inclusivity, transparency, and open communication. I will work tirelessly to address student concerns, provide support, and promote initiatives that enhance our overall academic experience.

I am eager to bring my skills and experience to this role and contribute to the growth and development of our student community.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Samarth Patel

Coursework | Master of of Cyber Security

Alright, let's talk about Monash University—the place where you walk in with a dream, and a few years later, you leave with a degree and a serious caffeine addiction. You come in thinking you'll change the world, and leave wondering how to survive a 9 AM lecture after staying up all night trying to finish that one assignment you forgot about.

But hey, at least you get a fancy degree that makes you an expert at Googling things like “how to write an essay at 3 AM” and “how to make instant noodles without a microwave.” And let's not forget the survival skills: figuring out how to pretend you're paying attention in a lecture when you're really just wondering how the person next to you manages to eat chips so quietly.

Now, it's MGA election season, the time when we choose who gets to sit through countless meetings about vital issues, like whether the café should add more vegan options or whether there should be an extra power socket in the library. But let's be real, we're all just hoping for a campus map that actually shows where your next class is.

So, take a minute, skim through the candidate list (hint: look for my name), and vote. Because if we don't, we can't complain when the campus café runs out of coffee. And let's be real, that's a crisis none of us are ready for.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

San Nhi Chung

Coursework | Master of Teaching in Early Childhood and Primary Education

I am excited to run for the roles of General Representative and Clayton Campus Representative on the 2025/26 MGA Executive Committee. As a dedicated student leader and an advocate for postgraduate voices, I believe my experience, passion, and commitment to student well-being make me a strong candidate for these positions.

Throughout my time at Monash, I have actively engaged in leadership roles, including serving as an Access Monash Leader and being involved with MONSU. These experiences have allowed me to develop strong communication, event planning, and advocacy skills while connecting with diverse student communities. Having recently commenced my Master of Teaching in Early Childhood and Primary Education, I understand the importance of fostering a supportive and inclusive campus environment where students feel valued and heard.

As General Representative, I will work to ensure that all postgraduate students have opportunities to engage in academic, social, and professional development activities. I will advocate for policies that enhance student experience and well-being. As Clayton Campus Representative, I aim to strengthen the campus community by addressing student concerns, improving access to services, and creating more networking opportunities.

I am committed to being an approachable and proactive representative, ensuring that student voices drive meaningful change. I look forward to contributing to the MGA Executive Committee and making a positive impact on the postgraduate experience at Monash.

Thank you for your consideration.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Sathwikaw Manikandan

Coursework | Master of Public Health

Having served as a Minister in the International Student Union and being the voice of fellow students during my undergraduate studies, I have developed a strong background in leadership and student advocacy. Representing the student body was both an honor and an incredibly empowering experience, and I would love nothing more than to have the opportunity to be a catalyst for change once again.

As a representative of the MGA, I believe I can be an attentive listener, fully understanding the concerns and needs of the student body, while also being a proactive team member who works toward turning valuable suggestions into actionable outcomes. My goal as a member of the MGA would be to create a space where every student feels supported and empowered to make a meaningful impact. I envision myself fostering an environment of collaboration and innovation where we unite across disciplines to tackle various challenges and build a community where every student has access to the resources, opportunities, and support they need to thrive, both during their studies and beyond graduation. My attempts would not just be for the benefit of current students but also to ensure that future graduate students at Monash start their university journey in a space of safety, support, and inclusivity – just as I did.

I see this role as an exciting challenge, one I am eager to embrace, and I hope to be given the opportunity to bring my vision to life.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Shreeja Swamy

Coursework | Master of Business

Hello, I am Shreeja Swamy from India. I have done my Bachelors in Business Administration with an honours in Marketing from SK Somaiya in Mumbai. I am currently enrolled at Monash for a Masters in Business specialising in Marketing. I have worked as a Marketing Executive in a Creative Agency and have some internship experiences in various roles of marketing.

I have done community work with Rotary club. I have leadership experience from when I was Co-VP of Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship club at College. All of my such experiences have helped me gain valuable skills of being a team player, compassion, leadership, communication, marketing, problem-solving, creative thinking, event planning, and much more. I am good with handling social media, campaign planning, event organising and other managerial roles and I have prior experience in the same. I would be delighted to be a part of the MGA team and take this amazing initiative further on a bigger scale.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Simran Udeshi

Coursework | Master of Business

I'm Simran Udeshi, a true global citizen of this world. I was born in India- studying in multiple schools as we moved around, raised in Singapore, completed my undergraduate degree across Singapore, France and USA and now pursuing Master of Business at Monash. My international background has helped me become adaptable and enabled me to develop multicultural perspectives and appreciate cultural nuances well. Thus, I am able to easily adjust to situations which require appreciation of diverse environments, beliefs and behaviours and collaborate well together with team members.

I am also ambitious and conscientious. I enjoy taking the lead on projects and like to think of myself as not just an individual contributor but also a strong team player. During my undergraduate degree, I served as the treasurer of the Merch Club, the Vice-President of Marketing at the Entrepreneurship Club and the Vice-President of Communication at the Fashion Club. I have volunteered at a preschool for children with hearing impairments and a mental health institute for the aged in Singapore.

With my diverse experiences in leadership, teamwork, and community service, I believe I would be a great fit for the Monash Graduate Association (MGA). Having worked in multicultural environments and volunteered with people from different walks of life, I am adept at understanding diverse needs and fostering inclusive spaces. My strong people skills, combined with my drive to create meaningful impact, make me eager to contribute to MGA's mission of representing and empowering graduate students at Monash.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Suveer Dhawan

Coursework / Master of Data Science

As an international student, I understand the challenges of navigating university life in a new country. Originally from India, I spent four years at NYU Abu Dhabi, studying abroad in New York and Florence, before working in Dubai at AlphaSights and earning a UAE Golden Visa. Now, as a Master of Data Science student at Monash, I want to use my experience to support and represent our diverse graduate community.

Graduate students come here to advance their careers, but the fast-paced nature of a two-year program means we must act quickly. Internship applications open within our first week, and we have just one key internship period—the summer after first year—making it crucial to stay ahead. If elected, I will work to enhance career support by partnering with Monash Career Connect to provide resume workshops, real-time internship updates, and greater access to part-time job opportunities.

Beyond career success, I believe in building stronger connections. I will push for more networking events with alumni and industry leaders and a dedicated MGA mentorship program to complement existing resources. Additionally, I will advocate for international student forums and panels, creating a platform to share experiences, seek guidance, and ensure our voices are heard.

I've successfully navigated this journey before, and now, I want to help you do the same. Vote for me, and let's make our time at Monash a launching pad for success.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Troy Lau

Research | PhD, Translational Medicine

My experience in student leadership includes serving as the MGA Parkville Campus Representative and Social Events Officer and MGA Rep for the Parkville Postgraduates Association. These roles gave me a deep understanding of the MGA's processes and a strong connection to the postgraduate community. Though my term ended when I completed my Masters, I am now reapplying for a General Representative role as I begin my PhD.

During my time in student leadership, I worked to strengthen the postgraduate community by organising events, advocating for student needs and improving engagement across faculties. My commitment to student representation was recognised with the 2024 Student Ambassador of the Year award. I aim to continue making an impact by ensuring your voices are heard and your concerns addressed.

Now based at the Alfred Centre, one of Monash's satellite campuses, I have firsthand experience with the challenges faced by students in underrepresented locations. Expanding MGA's engagement in these campuses was a key initiative last year and I want to drive that effort from within.

If elected, I will advocate for stronger postgraduate support, including academic and mental health resources. I will organise events to encourage networking and social engagement. Most importantly, I will strengthen communication between students and the MGA to ensure your concerns are prioritised.

I am committed to making your time at Monash more enriching and supportive. Your vote will help me continue this work.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Tuhar Yeasmin

Coursework | Master of Public Health

Hi everyone! I'm excited to put myself forward as a candidate for the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee (MGAEC). Since starting my Master of Public Health at Monash, I've thrown myself into university life and actively engaged with the graduate community. I'm passionate about student advocacy, leadership, and making sure that the resources we contribute to as graduate students are used to benefit us.

Throughout my time here, I've made it a point to connect with my peers, get involved in MGA events, and take on leadership roles. Through these experiences, I've gained a solid understanding of the challenges we all face and the things that could make our graduate experience even better. I'm committed to making sure our voices are heard, and our needs are met — especially when it comes to making the most of our student funds.

I bring strong communication skills, a collaborative mindset, and a genuine desire to work for the benefit of all graduate students. The MGA has done a great job creating an inclusive and supportive environment for us, and I want to help strengthen that. I'm eager to learn from experienced committee members and contribute fresh ideas that can make a real impact on our academic success, well-being, and sense of community.

I'm excited about the chance to represent you all and make sure our collective resources are used in ways that truly benefit us. Let's make this year great together!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Vedika Shivhare

Coursework / Master of Information Technology

Vote for a representative who listens and delivers!

I, Vedika Shivhare, a Master of Information Technology student, am eager to represent my campus as a part of the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee (MGAEC). Having taken on various leadership and volunteering roles in the past, I am passionate about working towards practical solutions that improve student life.

A major concern on our campus is the surging parking charges, which affect daily commuters. Additionally, the high membership fees for clubs and societies, especially sports clubs, limit student participation. If elected, I will advocate for fairer pricing, increased student discounts, and better funding to ensure that all students can actively engage in campus life.

I believe in fostering an inclusive, supportive, and vibrant campus experience. With your support, I will work towards making real, impactful changes that benefit everyone.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Vidhi Agarwal

Coursework / Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The Monash Graduate Association has made incredible strides in advocating for graduate students, from pushing for increased HDR stipends to securing better financial support for those in need. As an international student who has studied in both the UK and Australia, I am passionate about contributing to these efforts and ensuring all students feel heard and supported.

If elected, I will:

- Continue lobbying for better financial support, including increased stipends and welfare grants for struggling students.
- Advocate for fairer academic policies, ensuring students have access to transparent feedback, flexible deadlines, and adequate supervisor support.
- Push for expanded career development resources, including mentorship programs and networking opportunities with industry professionals.
- Work to strengthen international student representation, ensuring our voices are prioritized in MGA's advocacy.

With my leadership experience as Vice-President and Treasurer of the Neuroscience Society at King's College London, I have the skills, passion, and drive to make a meaningful impact. Let's work together to create a more supportive, fair, and connected graduate community at Monash!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Yidi Luan

Coursework / Master of Advanced Finance and Global Business

Hello everyone, I'm Yidi Luan, a master's student in Advanced Finance and Global Business. I'm excited to run for the position of General Representative in the 2025/26 MGA Executive Committee.

My experience as the Women's Officer has been an incredibly rewarding experience. It has shown me firsthand how impactful it is to advocate for postgraduate students and address their concerns. More importantly, I've truly enjoyed engaging with my peers and making a difference in our community.

That's why I am eager to continue my journey as a General Representative. My goal is to strengthen the connection between students and MGA by creating more accessible communication channels, ensuring that every student can receive timely support and services. I will work to make sure student voices are heard, their concerns are addressed, and their university experience is enriched.

I believe that through our collective efforts, we can build a stronger, more supportive postgraduate community. I would be honored to have your support. Thank you!



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Yiwen Yuan

Research | PhD, Education

I am Yiwen Yuan, a second-year PhD student in Education at Monash University. My academic journey includes a Bachelor's in English Literature from China and a Master of Teaching in Early Childhood from Australia, complemented by two years as an Early Childhood Teacher in Melbourne and experience as an English teacher, interpreter, and journalist.

My research focuses on improving teacher professional development in early childhood education across Australian and Chinese contexts, inspired by my experiences in diverse educational settings.

As former Women's Officer and current MGA President for 2024/2025, I've worked closely with the Executive Committee to create an inclusive environment for all graduate students. We've advocated for increased HDR stipends, additional workspace for students approaching thesis submission, and improved student safety and wellbeing. I've introduced MGA services during orientation and facilitated team-building among EC members.

My presidential responsibilities include liaising with the University, advocating for graduate students, chairing MGA meetings, and implementing Executive Committee decisions. I actively address student concerns and ensure appropriate action follows.

As a PhD student, I understand our community's challenges, particularly regarding public transportation concessions for graduate students. If elected as General Representative, I will continue to advocate for your rights and create supportive environments where your ideas can flourish.

I am committed to making your voices heard and ensuring your graduate experience at Monash is meaningful and enriching through understanding, thoughtful action, and collaborative engagement.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE

Zi Xing Mun

Research | PhD, Pharmaceutical Sciences

As a dedicated and community-minded Monash graduate student, I am excited to nominate for the MGA Executive Committee. I have been actively involved in student life throughout my time at Monash, from my undergraduate years to now, taking on various student-led roles that have allowed me to support and advocate for my peers.

My leadership experience includes organising large-scale initiative such as Employability Week, mentoring fellow students, and serving as a faculty and domestic student recruitment ambassador. I have also contributed to student associations and worked alongside academic staff to deliver international and exchange student-focused initiatives that foster a sense of belonging, particularly to those navigating a new environment far from home.

These experiences have deepened my understanding of the challenges faced by students, whether it is adjusting to research life, navigating career uncertainty, or building community on campus. If elected, I hope to bring this perspective to the MGAEC, advocating for more accessible support services, greater career development opportunities, and stronger representation for diverse student voices, including international and research students.

I value collaboration, inclusivity, and practical change, and I am passionate about continuing to give back to the student community that has given so much to me. I believe the MGA plays a critical role in improving the Monash experience for all graduate students, and I would be honoured to contribute to that mission through the Executive Committee.



GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE



Beauty Nalwendo

Coursework | Masters of Public Policy

I am excited to nominate myself as Campus Representative for Monash Caulfield Campus. I am committed to making coursework-related issues a top priority and ensuring that every student's concerns are addressed. I believe that open dialogue is essential to improving our academic experience, and I am dedicated to creating a safe, inclusive space where students can voice their challenges and suggestions.

In this role, I will work tirelessly to bridge the gap between students and faculty, ensuring that our voices are heard and that our academic environment is continuously enhanced. I plan to hold regular forums and feedback sessions to encourage transparency and collaboration. Together, we can identify key areas for improvement and observe our successes as a community.

I look forward to the opportunity to support our campus by advocating for your needs and contributing to a more responsive and engaging academic experience for all.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Hard Gorakhia

Coursework | Master of Business Management in Sustainable Enterprise

Hello fellow grads,

I am excited to nominate myself for a position on the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee (MGAEC). As a forward-thinking business strategist with a background in environmental engineering and sustainable business, I am passionate about creating impactful solutions through collaborative efforts.

Currently pursuing my Master's in Sustainable Business and Project Management at Monash University, I have a proven track record of leadership and community engagement. As an MGA Volunteer Leader and Monash Student Communities Advisor, I have gained a deep understanding of our student community's needs.

I am committed to advocating for initiatives that enhance the graduate student experience, such as increased stipends and improved campus facilities. I believe that serving on the MGAEC offers a unique opportunity to collaborate with like-minded individuals and contribute meaningfully to our community.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Himanshu Sridhar

Coursework / Master of Communications and Media Studies

Hello! I'm Himanshu Sridhar, 25, a Master of Media and Communication student at Caulfield, and a man who, like Chandler Bing with a poetic twist, uses humor as my secret weapon. While I'm a fan of food and new experiences, I'll spare you the culinary tales—for now.

So why should I be nominated for the Monash Graduate Association (MGA) Representative Committee? Well, I thrive when given the right push. I'm a go-getter, service-minded, and genuinely passionate about helping others through meaningful connections and problem-solving.

As a self-published poet with a book, *Musings of a Wallflower*, I know the importance of expressing oneself and creating space for others to do the same. Through my studies, I've honed my communication skills and developed a strong ability to understand and convey ideas effectively. I aim to bring these skills to the committee, ensuring that graduate students feel heard, represented, and supported.

I'm committed to advocating for the diverse needs of my peers—whether that's academic challenges, work-life balance, or navigating campus resources. My focus will be on building stronger connections, increasing opportunities for personal and professional growth, and fostering inclusivity across the graduate community.

In this role, I'll work to ensure the voices of all graduate students are heard and that we create an environment where every student feels supported. I'd love the opportunity to contribute to the MGA and make our collective experience at Monash even better.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Jonathan Paul

Coursework / Master of Social Work

As an international graduate student from the twin-island Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I thought that moving to Australia would mean that I would struggle with finding community in a strange country with people who are so different from me. I'm happy to have been proven wrong.

My wonderful classmates also striving towards their MSW, my lecturers and tutors, facilities and administrative staff here have been so welcoming, and reinforced my belief that our similarities, regardless of background, nationality, gender and race, can outweigh our differences.

That's what I hope to continue to champion alongside the MGA; creating more opportunities for community with our graduate students, and also helping to steer that power that we have when we gather in community towards giving back and paying forward to others. Specifically, getting involved in the MGA's advocacy, volunteering and economic uplifting work are my main goals.

I've honestly never been too big a fan of student-run committees since bureaucracy and the idea of student governments makes me nauseous, but the MGA's community building and advocacy work seems to be the real deal, and where there's real work to be done, I think we should all pitch in. I'd appreciate your vote to help me be a larger part of this work going forward.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Madhav Ritesh Parikh

Coursework | Master of Banking and Finance

Greetings Everyone! An inquisitive learner, an obsessed athlete and most importantly, an international student rediscovering life, I am Madhav Parikh from Mumbai, India ,who is pursuing his Master of Banking and Finance. Although, having been a Computer Science Engineer in India, I was always charmed by the idea of experimenting with thoughts to repurpose my work in the most unconventional manner.

This inherent drive led me to build technology based initiatives for research and development with universities in countries like Finland, the UK and the Philippines, to become one of the brand ambassador's for VMware, India and eventually led me to win multiple high level competitions, including the Economic Times Campus Star, which declared me as one of the brightest engineering candidates out of 52000+ students. These diverse range of experiences expanded my horizon of thought and transformed me into a person who would seek more practical outcomes from my work leading me to my intuitive transition to finance.

This defines the core of my belief as well, where I intend to understand perspectives in life, not only for my betterment, but also for the people around me. My fundamentals of "Assimilate, Repurpose and Redistribute" have been the key inspiration for my personal and social life to achieve greater goals. And even as I stepped into Monash, I am here, honing myself with extensive pursuits of learning, while establishing meaningful relationships with friends and formals around me, to create an environment of mutual progress and trust on the move.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Nguyen Hoang Mai

Coursework | Master of Business

Hi, my name is Mai Nguyen from Vietnam. I am currently pursuing my Master of Business at Monash University, Caulfield Campus. As an international student in Australia, I understand deeply the challenges that students (especially those who have just moved to a new country) have to face, including academic pressures, career prospects, and mental/physical well-being. I am nominating myself as your Caulfield Representative to dedicate my enthusiasm to listening to and supporting all graduate students on campus, while helping to build a positive, connected, and inclusive environment for everyone.

As an ESFP, I'm a energetic, friendly, and approachable person. I love engaging with others, listening to their stories, and helping them feel heard and supported. I believe these qualities are essential for representing the diverse voices of graduate students. With my background in Marketing and Business, as well as previous work in customer service, I've gained strong interpersonal and problem-solving skills. I'm adaptable and quick to respond to new situations, which I believe is important when addressing student concerns.

Upon my election, I will consistently and actively consider your unique ideas and recommendations, as well as your concerns, to promote actions (such as events, career-supporting seminars, study success groups) that will ensure you have an unforgettable experience at Monash University and that all Caulfield students have a strong voice in MGAEC.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Noopur Modi

Coursework / Master of Business

Hello, I am Noopur Modi. I have done Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engineering. I graduated from National Institute of Technology, Surat. I have worked with Suzlon Group, an renewable energy company, as BI Analyst for about 7 months, where I created and developed Power Bi reports. Also, I have done my industrial internship at Linde Engineering under instrumentations department.

Apart from this I love swimming and dancing. I am also a graphic designer and a video editor, and software's like adobe premiere pro, after effects, and illustrator are known to me. I have done 250 hours of community work in National Service Scheme, an organization in India. I was joint secretary and treasurer of Centre for Human Resource Development, the largest club in my undergraduate college, and have worked with permissions, budgeting, event handling, social media managing and sponsorships. It would be my pleasure to work with MGA so as to come out as a strong personality and also bring experience to the table.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Saher Omar Siddiqui

Coursework / Master of Communications and Media Studies

I am honoured to submit my nomination for the position of Campus Representative, driven by a deep commitment to student advocacy and fostering a vibrant, inclusive campus community. As an active and engaged member of the university, I recognise the importance of ensuring that every student's voice is heard and that their concerns are addressed effectively.

If elected, I will prioritise strengthening student engagement, improving access to essential resources, and advocating for policies that enhance academic, social, and mental well-being. I am dedicated to fostering transparent communication between students and university leadership, ensuring that decisions reflect the diverse needs of our campus. My experience in leadership roles has equipped me with the skills to represent student interests, drive meaningful change, and create initiatives that enrich campus life.

Additionally, I will work towards creating more networking opportunities, student support services, and initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. I believe that a strong campus community is built on active participation and collaboration, and I am eager to work alongside students and faculty to make our university a better place. Together, we can create an environment where all students feel valued, supported, and empowered to succeed. I look forward to the opportunity to serve as your representative and to advocate for your needs. Let's make this one happen!



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Shreeja Swamy

Coursework / Master of Business

Hello, I am Shreeja Swamy from India. I have done my Bachelors in Business Administration with an honours in Marketing from SK Somaiya in Mumbai. I am currently enrolled at Monash for a Masters in Business specialising in Marketing. I have worked as a Marketing Executive in a Creative Agency and have some internship experiences in various roles of marketing.

I have done community work with Rotary club. I have leadership experience from when I was Co-VP of Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship club at College. All of my such experiences have helped me gain valuable skills of being a team player, compassion, leadership, communication, marketing, problem-solving, creative thinking, event planning, and much more. I am good with handling social media, campaign planning, event organising and other managerial roles and I have prior experience in the same. I would be delighted to be a part of the MGA team and take this amazing initiative further on a bigger scale.



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Yidi Luan

Coursework / Master of Advanced Finance and Global Business

Hello everyone, my name is Yidi Luan, and I am a master's student in Advanced Finance and Global Business. I am excited to run for the position of Caulfield Campus Representative on the 2025/26 MGA Executive Committee.

My experience as the Women's Officer made me realize how meaningful it is to advocate for postgraduate students and help address their concerns. I also truly enjoy engaging with my peers, which is why I want to continue in this role.

As the Caulfield Campus Representative, I will work to create a cleaner, more comfortable, and quieter study environment for students. I will advocate for more events specifically for the Caulfield campus and serve as a bridge between students and MGA, ensuring that concerns from Caulfield students are heard and addressed. Additionally, I will actively seek feedback from students and help them navigate the available resources to ensure their voices are represented and their needs are met.

I believe that through our collective efforts, we can build a stronger and more supportive postgraduate community. Thank you for your support!



CAULFIELD REPRESENTATIVE



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE



Anusha Shrivastava

Coursework | Master of International Development Practice

Dear Monash Graduates <3

Imagine this - \$1 Snack Bars, inter-cultural or Bollywood Live Music Nights, free Zumba Sessions, a more accessible Campus Mapping/Navigation system, cheap rentable bikes, a streamlined part-time Job Opportunity Announcement Network, an all-student Clayton Campus Community connecting us across disciplines, and a monthly MGA Clayton gazette to celebrate your achievements!

This is how your life may be envisioned when you elect me - Anusha Shrivastava - as a member of the MGA Executive Committee. As an international student from India, I know how hard it can be to accommodate oneself to a new environment. This is exactly why I wish to provide a safe and interactive space for all international and national students in Clayton campus to voice their concerns, however trivial they may be. My simple vision is to make campus life at Clayton easier, for both on-campus and off-campus students.

To know more about me and my work experience, connect with me on Instagram or LinkedIn. I will be happy to hear about your day :)

See you at the voting booth!

VOTE ANUSHA FOR MGA!



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Junyu Tao

Research | PhD, Music Education

As a PhD student in Music Education at Monash, I am passionate about fostering a supportive and enriching environment for graduate students on campus. My experience as a musician and educator has taught me the value of collaboration, creativity, and advocacy. I aim to ensure that all graduate students have access to the resources, opportunities, and community support they need to thrive academically and personally. If elected, I will work to enhance student engagement, promote wellbeing initiatives, and ensure that our voices are heard in decision-making processes.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Kalani Imalka Perera

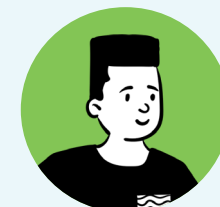
Research / PhD, Monash Sustainable Development Institute

Hello, my name is Kalani Imalka Perera, and I am a PhD scholar at the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, hailing from Sri Lanka. My passion for improving student life and contributing to the postgraduate community motivates me to run for a position on the Monash Graduate Association (MGA) Executive Committee. I believe in being a voice for the unheard and giving back to the community that has supported me.

If elected, my goal is to focus on the mental wellbeing of graduate students and provide support for those facing challenges. I aim to be a strong advocate for international graduate students, ensuring their voices are heard and addressing issues related to representation and support systems. I am also passionate about women's empowerment and would work towards strengthening support structures for women within the postgraduate community at Monash.

Believing and aligning with the words of David Orr, "The planet does not need more successful people. But it does desperately need more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of every kind. It needs people who live well in their places. It needs people of moral courage willing to join the fight to make the world habitable and humane", I want to commit myself to creating a supportive and inclusive environment where students can thrive and grow.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve this vibrant community, and I humbly ask for your support in this election. Thank you for considering my candidacy.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Mugdha Samanta

Coursework | Master of International Development Practice

Having spent the last year studying at Monash, I've come to value the little things that shape student life—quiet corners in the library, warm chats in Menzies lawn, the scramble for parking, and the calm of Wilson Hall. Yet beneath the surface, many face immense academic stress, social isolation, or financial strain.

I'm nominating for this position because I want to help shape a campus that feels like home. A place where students not only study but thrive. I believe that every student should have access to mental health support, affordable food, safe transport, and genuine community. If elected, I will advocate for more student-led events, better infrastructure for inclusive spaces, and stronger support systems for both coursework and HDR students. As someone who values emotional intelligence, cultural sensitivity, and practical solutions, I hope to bring a grounded yet hopeful energy to the MGAEC. I'd be honoured to represent the graduate cohort and co-create a campus experience that centres wellbeing, respect, and shared joy.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Natasya Jestine Wiraatmaja

Coursework | Master of Business Information Systems

Hello everyone, I am Natasya Jestine Wiraatmaja, a first-year postgraduate student in Business Information Systems (Faculty of Information Technology) at Monash University. I am excited to run for the position of Clayton Campus Representative on the MGA Monash Executive. Before coming to Monash, I served as an Education Officer office bearer at the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) International during the 2022/2023 committee during my undergraduate studies.

In this role, I was committed to advocating for students' rights, tackling academic issues, and creating spaces where everyone felt heard and supported. I've worked closely with students, staff, and other union members to address concerns and implement solutions, and I'm ready to bring that same energy and dedication to Monash. If elected, my focus will be on building a stronger, more inclusive community for postgraduate students at Clayton.

I will work to amplify our voices, improve access to resources, and organize events that cater to both your academic and social needs. I am committed to fostering an environment where every postgraduate student feels empowered, supported, and connected while balancing study and having social life. I hope to contribute to the continued success of Monash University by ensuring that postgraduate students at Clayton are well-supported and heard.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Prabhnoor Kaur

Coursework | Master of International Development Practice

As a Master's student in International Development Practice at Monash University, I am deeply committed to fostering a collaborative, inclusive, and supportive environment for graduate students. My experiences as a volunteer at various NGOs and having a leadership position at various , student-run cooperative, and my background in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and social work in India have strengthened my ability to advocate for student well-being, diversity, and academic support.

If elected, I will focus on:

- Enhancing campus engagement through events and networking opportunities that bring students together.
- Advocating for better academic and mental health support to address the unique challenges faced by graduate students.
- Strengthening student representation by ensuring that campus-specific concerns are effectively communicated to decision-makers.

I believe that a strong, connected campus community enhances the graduate student experience, and I am eager to work towards that goal. I welcome your support and look forward to making a meaningful impact.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Rajdeep Singh Jammu

Coursework / Master of Cyber Security

Clayton is Monash's powerhouse, yet our graduate students continue to face significant challenges beyond the basics. I will deliver what Clayton graduates need. No excuses, no delays.

Last semester, during finals, I hit a breaking point. At 2 AM, drowning in deadlines, I called Monash counselling, only to hear a voicemail. I was left to deal with my emotions and exhaustion all alone. You can imagine how this sacrificed my sleep and clarity. Imagine if I'd had immediate support: a text line, a crisis counsellor, or after-hours workshops to recalibrate. And I know I am not alone. My work suffered, but it doesn't have to be this way. I'll fight for 24/7 mental health services that provide real-time counselling, crisis teams, and wellness hubs so no student faces darkness alone.

Financial strain amplifies these struggles. Stipends haven't kept pace with inflation, forcing students to choose between groceries and lab supplies. So, I will push for a comprehensive review and increase of stipend allowances, coupled with dedicated research funding that meets today's living and academic costs.

Finally, I will establish an Integrated Graduate Success Network. This comprehensive support platform offers a rapid response to immediate issues like supervision conflicts and technical setbacks and provides long-term professional development through peer mentorship, networking events, and career workshops.

This isn't about résumé padding; it's about real, sustainable change. I am committed to turning our shared frustrations into tangible improvements for every Clayton graduate. Vote for leadership that listens, acts, and delivers.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Ruyu Zheng

Coursework | Master of Food Science and Agribusiness

As a graduate student at Monash Clayton, I am dedicated to fostering a supportive and engaging campus environment. My leadership experience, including serving as Vice President of the Golden Z Club and Captain of the PolyU Women's Basketball Team, has strengthened my ability to organize events, advocate for students, and build strong communities.

Additionally, my volunteer work at Monash, where I led city tours for new and exchange students, has allowed me to help students integrate into campus life. If elected as Clayton Campus Representative, I will work to create a more connected and supportive student community by launching engaging events, and strengthening academic and career support. My goal is to ensure that every student feels heard, valued, and empowered to make the most of their graduate experience at Monash.

Together, we can build a campus where every voice matters and every student thrives.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Sakshi Petkar

Coursework / Master of Environment and Sustainability

As a new member of this campus community, I am excited to apply for the Campus Representative position. With my background in civil engineering and experience in leadership and event management, I am confident that I can make a positive impact on campus life.

I am impressed by the campus's vibrant culture and commitment to academic excellence. As a Campus Representative, I aim to work closely with students, faculty, and staff to identify areas for improvement and develop initiatives that enhance our campus experience.

My leadership skills, combined with my experience in organizing events and programs, will enable me to effectively represent the interests of our campus community. I am eager to listen to student concerns, provide support, and promote initiatives that foster a sense of belonging and community on campus.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Samarth Patel

Coursework | Master of Cyber Security

Alright, let's talk about Monash University—the place where you walk in with a dream, and a few years later, you leave with a degree and a serious caffeine addiction. You come in thinking you'll change the world, and leave wondering how to survive a 9 AM lecture after staying up all night trying to finish that one assignment you forgot about.

But hey, at least you get a fancy degree that makes you an expert at Googling things like “how to write an essay at 3 AM” and “how to make instant noodles without a microwave.” And let's not forget the survival skills: figuring out how to pretend you're paying attention in a lecture when you're really just wondering how the person next to you manages to eat chips so quietly.

Now, it's MGA election season, the time when we choose who gets to sit through countless meetings about vital issues, like whether the café should add more vegan options or whether there should be an extra power socket in the library. But let's be real, we're all just hoping for a campus map that actually shows where your next class is.

So, take a minute, skim through the candidate list (hint: look for my name), and vote. Because if we don't, we can't complain when the campus café runs out of coffee. And let's be real, that's a crisis none of us are ready for.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

San Nhi Chung

Coursework | Master of Teaching in Early Childhood and Primary Education

I am excited to run for the roles of General Representative and Clayton Campus Representative on the 2025/26 MGA Executive Committee. As a dedicated student leader and an advocate for postgraduate voices, I believe my experience, passion, and commitment to student well-being make me a strong candidate for these positions.

Throughout my time at Monash, I have actively engaged in leadership roles, including serving as an Access Monash Leader and being involved with MONSU. These experiences have allowed me to develop strong communication, event planning, and advocacy skills while connecting with diverse student communities. Having recently commenced my Master of Teaching in Early Childhood and Primary Education, I understand the importance of fostering a supportive and inclusive campus environment where students feel valued and heard.

As General Representative, I will work to ensure that all postgraduate students have opportunities to engage in academic, social, and professional development activities. I will advocate for policies that enhance student experience and well-being. As Clayton Campus Representative, I aim to strengthen the campus community by addressing student concerns, improving access to services, and creating more networking opportunities.

I am committed to being an approachable and proactive representative, ensuring that student voices drive meaningful change. I look forward to contributing to the MGA Executive Committee and making a positive impact on the postgraduate experience at Monash.

Thank you for your consideration.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE

Vedika Shivhare

Coursework / Master of Information Technology

Vote for a representative who listens and delivers!

I, Vedika Shivhare, a Master of Information Technology student, am eager to represent my campus as a part of the Monash Graduate Association Executive Committee (MGAEC). Having taken on various leadership and volunteering roles in the past, I am passionate about working towards practical solutions that improve student life.

A major concern on our campus is the surging parking charges, which affect daily commuters. Additionally, the high membership fees for clubs and societies, especially sports clubs, limit student participation. If elected, I will advocate for fairer pricing, increased student discounts, and better funding to ensure that all students can actively engage in campus life.

I believe in fostering an inclusive, supportive, and vibrant campus experience. With your support, I will work towards making real, impactful changes that benefit everyone.



CLAYTON REPRESENTATIVE



PENINSULA REPRESENTATIVE



Jason Yeung

Research | PhD, Occupational Therapy

I am currently a PhD student, lecturer, and proud Monash alumnus based at the Peninsula campus. I completed my Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at Monash and have remained actively connected to the university community through both teaching and research roles. As a current student and academic staff member, I bring a unique blend of insights and experience that helps me understand the needs of graduate students from multiple perspectives.

Having come from a culturally diverse background and experienced the journey from international undergraduate to postgraduate student, I appreciate the diverse challenges and opportunities faced by graduate students from different walks of life. During my undergraduate years, I served as the Occupational Therapy representative in the international student group within the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. This early involvement sparked my interest in student advocacy and deepened my appreciation for inclusive, community-focused initiatives.

I am passionate about fostering a strong, connected graduate student community at the Peninsula campus. During my undergraduate studies, I co-founded the first international student society at Peninsula—HongKostralia—alongside peers, to create a welcoming and supportive space where students could feel heard, empowered, and involved. I have strong experience in student engagement, liaising with staff, and initiating and convening meetings and events.

As Peninsula Representative, I would be committed to ensuring that campus-based graduate voices are represented and supported. I look forward to working collaboratively with the MGA and my peers to enhance the graduate experience through thoughtful advocacy, inclusive communication, and engaging campus activities.



PENINSULA REPRESENTATIVE

Eunice Mataka

Coursework / Master of International Relations and Journalism

I am nominating myself for the position of Peninsula Campus Representative because I am passionate about strengthening the graduate student experience and ensuring our voices are heard. As a current master's student in International Relations and Journalism at Monash, I have found a home in the graduate community through the support of the MGA at the Monash peninsula campus, through taking part in the MGAs initiatives and volunteering with the MGA on this campus. I now want to contribute by advocating for fellow graduate students and helping make campus life more inclusive, vibrant, and responsive to our needs.



PENINSULA REPRESENTATIVE



PARKVILLE REPRESENTATIVE



Abdullah Jaafar

Research | PhD, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science

I am a dedicated Doctor of Philosophy candidate at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, based at the Parkville campus. Alongside my academic pursuits, I bring extensive professional experience as a pharmacist, team leader in pharmacy, educator, and preceptor. These roles have equipped me with strong leadership, communication, and advocacy skills, which I aim to contribute to the MGA Executive Committee.

My research focuses on developing resilience curricula in pharmacy education, preparing future pharmacists to navigate academic and professional challenges. This has strengthened my understanding of student well-being and the importance of fostering supportive, inclusive, and engaging learning environments.

As a team leader and preceptor, I have mentored pharmacy students and interns, supported their professional development, and advocated for their learning needs. I have also supported the continuous professional development of my pharmacy team. These experiences have reinforced my commitment to creating spaces where students voices are heard, valued, and acted upon.

As a representative, I am dedicated to championing the interests of students. I will actively engage with the student community, listen to feedback, and collaborate with the MGA to develop initiatives that enhance student well-being, academic support, and social engagement.

I believe in fostering a sense of belonging and advocating for positive change. If elected, I will work with integrity and dedication to ensure students feel supported and empowered throughout their academic journey.

I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the MGA Executive Committee and advocate for the vibrant student community.



PARKVILLE REPRESENTATIVE

Nick Hetrelezis

Coursework / Master of Pharmaceutical Science

I am a detail-oriented and passionate individual who is eager to demonstrate my capabilities within the Monash Graduate Association. My background is in education, formulation development and oncology production, with strong rehearsal in voluntary efforts across a diverse range of organisations.

Beyond science, I actively contribute to community initiatives at my local tennis club, from organising grants and sponsorships for local sports clubs to excelling in endurance and team-based competitions. My experience with the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences has also fundamentally developed my appreciation for the efforts required to organise student-led events.

I am looking forward to addressing and assisting in any challenges across Monash through the executive committee and would endeavour to put my best efforts in advocating for our graduate cohort.



PARKVILLE REPRESENTATIVE

Vidhi Agarwal

Coursework / Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences

As an international student at Monash University's Parkville campus and a graduate of King's College London, I bring a unique, global perspective to student advocacy. Having experienced two different education systems, I understand the challenges graduate students face—whether it's financial pressures, academic concerns, or student well-being.

If elected, I will:

- Advocate for improved campus facilities, including better study spaces and recreational areas to enhance student experience.
- Push for more transparent communication between students and faculty regarding course structures, assessments, and feedback mechanisms.
- Work towards expanding welfare initiatives, ensuring international and domestic students alike have access to financial and mental health support.
- Strengthen the Parkville student community through networking events, academic workshops, and social gatherings.

As a former Vice-President and Treasurer of the Neuroscience Society at King's College London, I have successfully led initiatives that empowered students and fostered an engaged academic community. I am committed to ensuring that Parkville graduate students have a strong voice in MGA's decision-making. Vote for me to build a better, more inclusive campus experience!



PARKVILLE REPRESENTATIVE