



Society Elections Nominee Guidance

This guide is designed to give you a whistle stop tour through how to stand during our Society elections.

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If you have any questions, get in touch with societies@roehampton.ac.uk

Introduction to RSU and leading a Society

Roehampton Students' Union (RSU) is a democratic charity led by students for students. We are here to provide support, representation, events, communities, and services for you.

We have over 120 Society committee leaders, delivering activities and events for nearly 1000 members. Being part of a Society committee is a great way to get more involved in your favourite group, gain leadership skills and improve the Society for others. Roles up for election are called the **signatory roles**:

- President – they run the society, make crucial decisions and resolve disputes
- Secretary – handles the paperwork, sign-ups and emails
- Treasurer – handles the society's finances, and deputises for the President
- Vice President – deputises the President, often in-place of/combined with another role

It's important to consider which role best suits your personality and availability. It can be helpful to consider the following:

- How much time you have
- How committed you can be
- What suits your personality or personal development

If you're ever in doubt, get in touch with the current Society committee member of the role you're considering as they can explain how they've found it.

Key dates

Nominations Open Online – Friday 11th February

Nominations Close Online – Friday 11th March

Voting Open Online – Monday 21 March

Voting Closes – Midnight on Thursday 24 March

Results Online – Friday 25th March. These will be posted on the Roehampton SU Website.

New Society Committee Training Sessions - This year we will be carrying out a week of online training in April. More information to follow.

What to expect: Nominations

When you nominate yourself for a role, you must enter the key fields such as your name, role, and group. But we also ask you to submit a Manifesto. This is defined as:

“A written statement declaring publicly the intentions, motives or views of its issuer” – Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

We encourage you to include:

- A photograph, this helps everyone know who you are and help you stand out from the crowd
- A statement, this is a short summary of why you are running for the role and what you would want to do in the position.

You should ensure to complete this before voting opens, as you won't be able to edit it afterwards.

What to expect: Campaigning, voting and results

All voting will take place online via our [website](#), any member of the Society will have the opportunity to view your manifesto and cast their votes during the voting period.

You will never be uncontested in your position, as every election has re-open-nominations, or RON for short – if RON receives the most votes, the election will be re-run for that role.

You should speak to the current Society committee regarding any arrangements they've made for campaigning – such as posting on social media, or an in-person candidate night.

Rules and regulations

To ensure the elections process is free and fair, we have a set of rules to be followed in your manifestos, and campaigning generally:

- To stand, you must be a student at Roehampton and be attending next academic year
- You must not slander other candidates
- Don't use RSU, University or College logos/crests in any promotional materials
- To not use Students' Union resources, such as computers or premises for your campaign
- To not seek the endorsement of staff, committee, or instructors/coaches

Any reports and disputed should be emailed to societies@roehampton.ac.uk.