
Student Member Candidate

VICTORIA ADEGOKE

- a. **Nominated by:** Sevdalina Valentinova Stoyanova, Joseph Stancer, Remi Phillips-Hood, Daniel Joseph McBride, Andreas Leonidou, Aimee Ellen Williams-King, Sean Andrew Martin
- b. **School of Architecture:** Manchester School of Architecture



Election Statement:

Studying Architecture has been a stretching yet gratifying experience both personally and financially. Architecture school is quite unique in its focus on research led design. As part of a professional studies module, I wrote an essay outlining how I, if given the opportunity, would like to see improvements in the course structure, design and outcomes. This role allows me to work on students behalf and feedback into the cycle of research led design, sustaining and improving Architecture education.

The first issue is improving students overall well being and rethinking current learning environments. Secondly better integration with students and professionals and increasing interest in Architecture as a career for younger generations of students. Lastly creating a more sustainable rapport between students, early career professionals and the RIBA - increasing its value for its members.

The three main outcomes reflect the following:

1. A more holistic approach in teaching and learning. This requires encouraging universities to rethink how we review and feedback to students and to appropriately use feedback in their work. This aims to reduce issues and maintain a better result, regarding the current mental health crisis plaguing many.
2. Increased opportunities for students to gain invaluable professional experience from year 1 through year 6 and beyond. Approaching Architecture school as an integrated academic apprenticeship, with varying intensities throughout the course, will increase students working knowledge and in turn create better equipped graduates to transition into full time roles. This also includes fostering links with other professionals of the built environment, beginning at university stage.
3. Increasing RIBA support for students from all socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds, by creating channels that RIBA use to provide much needed information so members better understand the process of how to become an architect and utilise our skills in Architecture, the built environment and design.

Student Member Candidate

MARYAM AL-IRHAYIM

- a. **Nominated by:** UCLAN Architecture Union
- b. **School of Architecture:** Grenfell-Baines Institute of Architecture
UCLAN



Election Statement:

There is a common notion that we must accept “the way things are “Yet, architecture has always been about designing the future, changing our surrounding and improving people’s lives including our own.

Yet till this day Architecture students everywhere participate in the “how many hours did you sleep?” competition. Who slept the least before the final crit? that is if you slept at all. This accepted ritual like other comments we receive has become the norm. Students who do not study architecture are often surprised by how much you spent on materials. Yet we don’t question it.

The topics at the forefront of architecture students are mental health, rising cost, and skills acquired in university that are reciprocal in practice. These need to be discussed and rethought about to ensure we as future architects are prepared for the upcoming challenges that our generation face. Every generation face but us even more. Are we preparing for designing for climate change? Are we ready to work alongside each other and are we committed to leaving the world for once, better than we were given it?

I promise if elected I will ensure that you’re heard and listened to. Every voice is important, I believe this position is not for me to speak alone. But, rather an opportunity to pass the mic along and ensure that a student in any University is represented. So, if elected I hope to bring transparency to issues that we all face. If one person has a problem, I guarantee you are not alone. We have all probably faced similar issues and this is our chance to bring them forward with the hope of opening the conversation up.

Change has a higher probability of succeeding if we all try. I promise to try and try and try.