



Press Release from the Students' Union at
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SUBU Officer Elections voter turnout breaks records

Students at the Students' Union at Bournemouth University (SUBU) voted in their thousands to elect their new leaders this week.

The Students' Union Elections are a crucial aspect of the democracy and leadership opportunities for Bournemouth students. The 2017 elections were the most successful elections on record, with 3,416 students casting their vote. The elections decide the all-important full time Union Officer positions for the following 17/18 academic year, giving students the chance to nominate themselves, set up a campaign, and be elected into office.

Elections week created a great buzz on both Talbot, and Lansdowne campuses; as 20 hopeful students campaigned for votes. Banners were hung around campus, and walls decorated with posters and flyers were a constant theme throughout the week; and an atmosphere of excitement and uncertainty filtered through the University creating a buzz on campus.

Brooke Elias, the current Vice President Activities, is standing a second year in office. She states; "As always it's a bit nerve racking putting yourself out there so much, but then as the week goes on you get used to it and it's amazing the amount of support I got."

The week consisted of campaigning, and a new re-branded hustings event, 'Candidate Question Time' in The Old Firestation. This event saw the candidates for each position face off in a variety of questions, to a live audience. Students got to see their candidates and quiz them on their policies and manifestos, and as to why they should receive a vote.



The results were finally announced by 24th March. The officers declared as representing students for the next academic year are as follows:

President	Daniel Asaya
VP Activities	Brooke Elias
VP Education	Joseph Ajiboye
VP Community	Said Diguier
VP Welfare	Charlie Souter Phillips

Caston Matewu, the Democracy and Equality manager for SUBU said
“The election also recorded the highest ever turnout for FTO elections at SUBU. The most contested position was that of the Vice President Education which set a new record for a single position at 2,697 votes cast.”

Georgia Larkins, the Chief Returning Officer for this for the 2017/18 election states
‘The elections were a huge success in terms of numbers with the most amount of student engagement throughout all the years of SUBU. The candidates worked their socks off this year and were a really passionate, inspiring group of students. A report summarising the election will be heard at the Trustee Board and later published online.’

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