



# EXECUTIVE NOMINATION BULLETIN

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
MEDICAL STUDENTS'  
SOCIETY

2020

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# PROCESS

This document contains all of the nominations received for the WAMSS Executive positions as per the WAMSS Election Guidebook 2020 (available at [www.wamss.org.au/get-involved/elections](http://www.wamss.org.au/get-involved/elections)).

The nominations are arranged in a randomly allocated order.

The Returning Officer oversees the election and nomination process to ensure that the elections are carried out in a fair and transparent manner; they are a member of good standing and shall not be nominating for any position on the Committee. Lianne Leung is the Returning Officer for this election period. She can be reached at [21504474@student.uwa.edu.au](mailto:21504474@student.uwa.edu.au). The Elections Admin Officer is James Nguyen, who can be contacted at [elections@wamss.org.au](mailto:elections@wamss.org.au)

## EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS CAMPAIGNING

- Begins: 12:00am Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- Ends: 11:59pm Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- All campaigning must only take place within the stated campaigning period above. This includes any online campaigning, which must cease being actively promoted after this stated period.
- Please limit campaigning at lectures to AFTER the lecture has finished. Lecturers will be informed of the campaign period but please remember to ask lecturers for permission to speak to their class.
- Facebook events, excluding the official WAMSS Executive Elections Facebook event, will not be allowed for campaigning use.
- The Social Media Campaigning Guidelines can be found at [www.wamss.org.au/get-involved/elections](http://www.wamss.org.au/get-involved/elections)
- Failure to comply with campaigning standards may result in disqualification from the election.

## EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS VOTING

- Opens: 12:00am Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- Closes: 11:59pm Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Voting will be conducted online. An individual voting link will be sent to all UWA medical students' email address once voting has opened.

All UWA medical students are eligible to vote – **you do not have to be a WAMSS financial member.**

# PRESIDENT (UNCONTESTED)

## Erin Hassett (MD4)

I'm delighted to be applying to be your WAMSS President in 2021. WAMSS has been a central part of my med school experience, and I am looking forward to giving back to WAMSS and the student body as President.

There is no doubt that 2021 will be a big year of change – moving into a new (hopefully) post-COVID state, the introduction of the revised MD course, and the first year of three graduating medical cohorts in WA. Navigating this requires a President who is experienced, enthusiastic and capable of effectively advocating for all UWA medical students.



My goals for 2021 are:

- **Promoting a smooth transition to the new course structure:** facilitating regular feedback to faculty on course implementation, allowing small issues to be resolved before they impact student wellbeing and education.
- **Focus on student wellbeing:** working with faculty to promote access to support services and academic resources, whilst ensuring WAMSS resources encourage and support student wellbeing.
- **Strong student advocacy:** working to optimise student experience across all years from positive clinical placements, through to internship offers.
- **Ensuring WAMSS represents and meets the needs of all students:** promoting engagement, reviewing events and overall satisfaction with WAMSS's activities.

I have the relevant experience, drive and understanding of the society to achieve these goals in 2021, in collaboration with the student community, WAMSS Committee, faculty and external stakeholders.

In my role as First Year Representative I successfully advocated for student wellbeing and education impacted by the recently implemented 2019 course changes, with this extensive student feedback being a strong driving factor in the course review and eventual restructure. This advocacy and commitment to WAMSS was recognised when I was awarded WAMSS Person of the Year. My involvement in advocacy then continued into the following year, when I was a WAMSS representative on the UWA MD course internal review panel. I would love

the opportunity to see this through, and work towards ensuring a smooth transition to the new course in 2021.

Additionally, my extensive WAMSS involvement as GHSC coordinator, AMSA Junior Representative, and my current role of WAMSS Foundation Chair has given me a rich understanding of how WAMSS operates, as well as how WAMSS can best serve the student community.

In 2021, I plan to lead a WAMSS that is transparent, inclusive and supportive of all UWA medical students, and it would be my honour to represent you as WAMSS President for 2021.

# VICE PRESIDENT INTERNAL

## (UNCONTESTED)

Stuart Purdie (MD3)

It is with great excitement that I am nominating myself for the role of Vice President Internal (VPI) in 2021. For the past two years, WAMSS has been a huge part of my medical school journey and I hope to further contribute by taking on the many challenges that the role of VPI entails.

2020 has brought devastating change, which has challenged us in new and unforeseen ways. With clinical placements thrown into turmoil by COVID19, virtually all classes moving online and face-to-face interactions at an all-time low, the very culture of our medical school experience has been rocked to its core. Moving into 2021, we still have little certainty about what the future holds.

WAMSS will need strong leadership next year from a highly involved executive team, one that encourages open feedback and prioritises student wellbeing. It will also require someone with a strong voice, who will advocate for all students and build upon the existing relationships with faculty and Guild to ensure that we receive the best possible education. Lastly, WAMSS will need someone with experience to lead us through the course changes coming in 2021.

As VPI, I would be best suited to navigate these challenges, maintaining WAMSS' close working relationship with the medical faculty while tackling the ups and downs 2021 will bring. In my previous role as First Year Representative (2019), I represented my peers at faculty meetings and fiercely advocated for changes to better our educational experience. As Treasurer (2020), I lead five portfolios and exhibited strong leadership through my close involvement with the executive team and the decisions made on behalf of the medical student body. I gained further advocacy experience in 2020 by assisting in policy writing for AMSA, which represented medical student views at a national level. As such, I believe that I am the perfect candidate for VPI.

Lastly and most importantly, I am always approachable, friendly, and down for a chat. I believe that to ensure all student's views are advocated for, it is important to have a VPI who is receptive to feedback and will take everyone's opinions into consideration when representing student views. I hope that I can be this person for you next year, and it would be my honour to represent you.

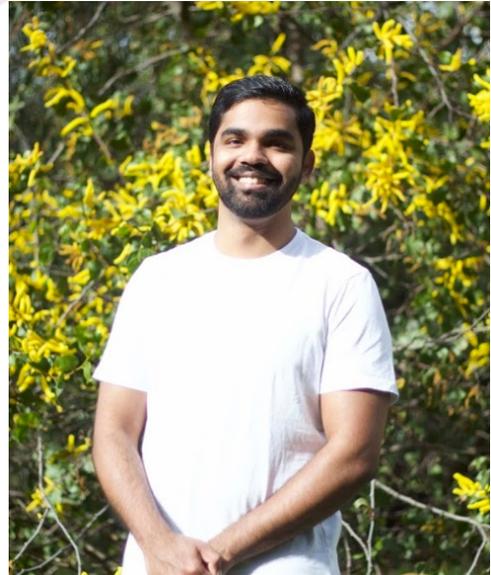


# VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL (UNCONTESTED)

## Toby Thomas (MD4)

Hey everyone, my name is Toby and I'm super excited to have the opportunity to run to be your Vice President External for 2021!

I've been a WAMSS regular since my undergrad years, with my involvement ranging from volunteering with Teddy Bear Hospital and IIMC, to having the honour of having been your AMSA Representative last year. While I have been taking a break from the committee side of things in the sunny beaches and wineries of the South-West through RCS this year, I haven't quite been able to stay away from WAMSS entirely (peep me at every social event this year)! What this means is that not only am I familiar with the current members and structure of the committee, but that I am also back refreshed and with a reinvigorated zeal to engage all our members, expand our financial portfolio and to enhance the image of WAMSS.



This year has been unique and challenging in many ways. WAMSS has had less events and thus sponsorship than previous years, and we've had to make changes to market and attain similar funding as before. All this of course, against the added competition for sponsors as the Curtin medical school's student body continues to grow through to next year. Whether or not things to return to 'normal' in 2021, it is going to be important to take charge and optimise our marketing strategy as soon as possible to maintain a strong standing to run high quality academic, advocacy and social ventures next year.

I have had experience communicating with sponsors from MDOs and the AMA through my role as AMSA Representative last year in running the WA Leadership Development Seminar, and have experience collaborating on making a prospectus through my role as Sponsorship Co-Convenor for the Global Health Conference running in Perth next year. This experience will be specifically useful as VPE and would mean that I can get right into kicking goals rather than needing too much time understanding and getting comfortable with the responsibilities!

Put simply, I just love WAMSS and our student body, and want to work towards making it a fun and approachable environment for everyone, while keeping our society strong and well-representative of its members. I believe that I am the right person for this role, and would be absolutely privileged to be your Vice President External in 2021. Thank you for your consideration!

# TREASURER (2 NOMINATIONS)

## Haseeb Riaz (MD2)

Hi there! My name's Haseeb, and I am super excited and proud to be nominating for Treasurer in 2021. The role WAMSS played in strengthening my passion for medicine and introducing me to an incredible community of like-minded students has been immense, and I'm sure that many other students feel the same. As Treasurer, I hope to foster these elements in more students and to support rebuilding WAMSS up from the logistical difficulties of 2020.

For those students who don't know me, I graduated from Medical Sciences at the end of 2019 (starting my MD2 in 2021) and took 2020 off in an attempt to travel, and although I know that "I was supposed to be in Austria right now" is not a personality trait, it is definitely true. My experience on health and medical student related committees includes having the opportunity of being a Dr YES coordinator in 2019, being on the Red Party committee as quiz night manager last year and also as the WAMSS Associate Members' social representative in 2018.

I'm hoping that this experience and engagement with students from the HMS faculty speaks to my commitment and passion to advocate for you, as the Treasurer of your representative body. As the new Integrated pathway approaches too, I hope to support in assimilating all medical students in their journey and making sure that cohorts and students feel comfortable and supported, no matter their background.

Being Treasurer also requires some financial background and experience, which I hope to bring through my role as Treasurer of LOVE Foundation (now Artists Against Poverty) for 18 months; a charity that raises funds to provide microfinance loans to women in Indonesia through promoting local arts back here in WA. This role has given me an insight into the organisation, proactive nature and accountability that comes with the Treasurer title, and hopefully means that you can trust me in budgeting and financing all the incredible social events and academic opportunities that WAMSS provides.

I can feel the passion and engagement that medical students bring to their degrees, and it's not just academically. Whether it be at an internship networking night, a surgical lecture series or at the end of year Med Dinner, I would be honoured to be a member of the executive that advocates for what you care about it, and I hope that you trust me with your vote for 2021!



## Aidan Lewins (MD2)

*Just want to follow in the footsteps of my favourite 10-dollar-founding-father, handle our financial situation and be treasurer.*



Having spent a non-trivial component of my undergrad being pursued by committee treasurers to pay for ball tickets, camps and other events, I'm well aware that this role can be tedious, repetitive and downright frustrating. I am yet to encounter a treasurer from any UWA club or society that is willing to give a glowing, or even notably positive endorsement of the role and all it entails after spending more than 3 months in the position. Nonetheless, I refuse to be discouraged, the role of treasurer is integral to the functioning of WAMSS, and I believe I am a great fit for that responsibility. Why would I be such a great fit for this responsibility? Well, to quote my favourite treasurer of all time, Alexander Hamilton:

"I'm a diamond in the rough, a shiny piece of coal

Tryin' to reach my goal, my power of speech: unimpeachable."

I would love the opportunity to be WAMSS treasurer for 2020. Having accrued an array of experiences in event budgeting, working in a committee environment and executive responsibility over the course of my undergraduate studies, I also know I'll be well suited to the role. The WAMSS community presents itself as an inclusive and fun environment, and I see this as an excellent opportunity to get more involved.

My relevant past experience is as follows:

- Club Executive Experience during undergrad with UWA Science Union (Welfare Vice-President 2019).
  - Event Budgeting.
- Dr YES Coordinator 2020.
  - Event Budgeting.
- Global Health Short Course Convenor 2020 (RIP COVID events).
  - Event Budgeting.

# SECRETARY (2 NOMINATIONS)

## OLIVIA TAN (MD3)

I am stoked to be nominating for 2021 WAMSS Secretary! I believe my experience on three Faculty Societies over four years has equipped me with the skills to ensure that 2021 is an organised and smooth-running year for WAMSS.

The role of secretary requires sound managerial skills to set up meetings, collate documents, write minutes

and send weekly bulletins. I chaired the WAMSS Undergraduate Communications subcommittee as 2020 Undergraduate Communications Officer (UCO), as well as the Education subcommittee and Science Presidents' Forum as 2019 Vice-President (Education) of Science Union (SU). In these roles I organised meetings, wrote minutes and followed up for completion of allocated tasks. I am also familiar with Mailchimp having redesigned and sent out the undergraduate bulletins this year as UCO. This experience will allow me to be efficient in this area of work, giving me more time to dedicate towards other aspects of the role.

The secretary also works with committee members in running social, welfare and academic events, all of which I have a wealth of experience in. As SU Education VP, I ran events including study nights, panel discussions, the National Science Week Fair with ten clubs, and the Science stall at Open Day. As MSS Social Representative I ran sundowners, quiz nights and the annual ball. Through running these events, I understand the administrative processes (all the paperwork) required and am happy to help with these aspects. I have experience running social media, websites and promotion for events, having been admin of the WAMSS Connect Facebook and Instagram, SU Media Officer, as well as being in charge of social media on the Australian Medical Student Orchestra committee. Furthermore, WAMSS is a Guild-affiliated club and having sat on the UWA Student Guild Education Council, I can bring valuable information about the Guild to the team.

Being UCO this year has been amazing as I worked to rebrand WAMSS Associate Members to WAMSS Connect when we were unable to run in-person events. Boosting engagement with undergraduate students has been a primary goal of WAMSS over the past few years, and an increase in engagement was reflected in our recent "Journey to Becoming a Doctor" panel event that maxed out the current capacity of Alexander Lecture Theatre. I have loved every minute on the WAMSS committee and am excited to be given the chance to continue my work on WAMSS as Secretary!



## Alexander Lawrie (MD2)

Hello! I am nominating for the position of WAMSS Secretary. As a current first year medical student I feel my experience has been enriched by the activities of WAMSS, and I would love the opportunity to participate as part of the executive. I will be an effective secretary as I love meeting new people, writing and organisation. I also have extensive experience in the role of secretary of a busy classic car club. As part of this I handled correspondence, represented the organisation at events, successfully applied for financial grants and sponsorship for events, and maintained accurate and timely minutes. Additionally, I was responsible for granting club registration permits through the Department of Transport. As a part of the club executive, I was also involved with an exploratory committee that liaised with LotteryWest and the State Government to develop plans and build suitable club facilities. Whilst the role secretary is not typically associated with a policy agenda, I do have ideas that fall within its purview. With the roll-out of the UWA App, there is a great potential for expanding the communication capabilities of WAMSS and interacting with its student body beyond email or surveys. None of this will happen quickly, but I will apply myself with discipline and passion to make sure that WAMSS is the modern and effective organisation that its student body expects. Thank you for your time and please consider giving me your vote.

