

## U0837\_2: Nominations Form

**Full name\*** Jade Mary-Ann Wood

**Candidate Question 1: What attracted you to stand for this role**

The role of Vice President Administrator at the Open University presents an attractive opportunity for several reasons. Firstly, my background in the school council and youth parliament has provided me with a unique perspective on governance, policy-making, and advocacy, making me well-equipped to navigate the complexities of administrative duties within an educational institution. This role offers the chance to apply and further develop these skills in a professional setting, contributing to the enhancement of organizational effectiveness and student engagement. Moreover, the prospect of pursuing a career in administration aligns perfectly with my long-term aspirations. The Vice President Administrator position at the Open University not only allows me to fulfil this ambition but also offers a platform to make a tangible difference in the lives of students and faculty members alike. The opportunity to spearhead initiatives that promote inclusivity, diversity, and student welfare resonates deeply with my values and professional goals. Furthermore, the Open University's commitment to providing accessible and quality education to all is a mission that resonates strongly with me. By serving as Vice President Administrator, I can actively contribute to advancing this mission, ensuring that administrative processes are efficient, transparent, and conducive to the overall success of the institution and its community.

**Candidate Question 2: What are the top two issues that you would want to address as part of the 2024-26 Student Leadership Team?**

Headline 1: Mental health issues among students

Prioritising enhanced mental health support services at the OU is crucial. It matters as mental well-being directly influences academic performance, satisfaction and quality of life. By bolstering resources like peer support networks, we can create a more supportive and inclusive environment. Addressing mental health concerns not only fosters student success but also promotes empathy and holistic development within the community.

Headline 2: Strengthening Career Development

Career readiness is pivotal in the university experience, yet many students struggle with the transition to the workforce. It matters to OU students because robust career support equips them with the skills, knowledge, and opportunities necessary for successful career paths. Advocating for initiatives like career counselling, internships, and networking events empowers students to explore interests, develop professionally, and achieve career goals. Strengthening these resources enhances post-graduation outcomes and fosters a culture of lifelong learning and professional growth within the OU community.

