

My name is Dua Ahmed, and I am a Master's student in Leadership and Management in Education at Mary Immaculate College. I am running for the role of Advocacy Officer because I believe every student deserves to feel supported, included, and heard during their time at MIC.

I come from Gaza, Palestine, and my journey has given me a deep understanding of how important inclusion, respect, and equal opportunities are for individuals and communities. Having experienced the challenges of exclusion myself, I understand how powerful it is when people feel welcomed and supported in their environment. This motivates me to work towards ensuring that every student at Mary I feels that they belong and that their voice matters.

Before coming to Ireland, I worked for eight years with the United Nations, where I gained valuable experience working with diverse communities and advocating for people's rights and wellbeing. This experience taught me the importance of listening, collaboration, and standing up for others.

If elected, I will work to ensure that all students, undergraduate and postgraduate, Irish and international, feel included, supported, and represented. I will actively listen to student concerns, advocate for stronger wellbeing supports, and work with the Students' Union and college management to ensure every student's voice is heard.

I am committed to helping build a supportive and inclusive community at Mary I, where every student feels valued and respected.

Thank you.