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SU Part- time Societies Officer Application Manifesto

My name is Ishani Banerjee and I am a second- year international student at TU Dublin Tallaght. I am enrolled in an undergraduate course in sustainable energy and environmental engineering. I am also the founder and chairperson of WiSTEM Society and the Board of Irish College Societies Student Networking representative for Tallaght campus.

I am going to get a little raw and open with the ones reading this: In my first semester, I was struggling a lot mentally as I was having a hard time fitting in. I was miles away from home, in a foreign country, with a new culture and people. I felt like I had no common ground with the people in my class and felt alone. I decided to still make the most of my college experience and push myself. I decided to run for class rep. It gave me the chance to learn so much, but still, I felt like I was missing something. In my mind, I was expecting the college experience to be more fulfilling than what I was feeling. One of the lecturers told me that I should try joining a society as she thought it would benefit me. And man, she was right.

In my second semester of first year, I decided to join a society. I also decided to push myself again and became a part of the committee. I started off as an OCM, getting promoted to chairperson, and later went on to start my very own society- WiSTEM Society. The society started off with just myself and a vision I had, and today, it has become an amazing community that feels like family to me. For the first time, I truly feel like I fit in, am not alone and have met people that I am proud to call my friends.

Being involved with student life has completely shifted my mental state. I know first-hand how important societies are for a full 360- degree college experience. It gave me the opportunities to take risks, continue to push myself and expand my comfort zone. The growth I have experienced from this process, is incredible. If it were not for the journey I have been on ever since I have been involved with societies, perhaps I would not be sitting here, typing this manifesto.

I understand the hard- work and dedication that goes into building and running a society. I promise to always provide the support a society needs to thrive successfully and add value to its members. This could be organizing and hosting events, general committee administration, anything you need, I will be right there to help you. I am truly passionate about helping students build, develop, run and grow their societies. Hence, I am applying for the Students' Union Part- time Societies Officer position.

This manifesto I have written, is real, honest and straight from the heart. You can put your faith in me, knowing that I am willing to do whatever it takes to always be by your side, supporting the works of your society, providing you with the help you need, which would ultimately aid your society in being honored for all your efforts by

enhancing both yours as well as the members' college experiences and participating in the BICS awards.