**2020 Distinguished Achievement Awards**

**Citations for the Undergraduates of the Year**

**Ms Tara Bharadia, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health**

Tara Bharadia is about to enter the final year of her Dentistry course.

Tara is considered to be an exceptional student and a role model for many of her peers. She has been an active member of her local community by being part of the Homeless Healthcare Society, Refugee Crisis Foundation Committee, and Cancer Awareness Society.

She is the Dental Ambassador and Co-President of the Manchester Dental Students Society. She has won the Stellify Award and been nominated for the Ethical Dental Student of the Year Award.

Tara has an active role in the Dental Research Society and represents her peers at the Undergraduate Programme Committee. She makes positive contributions to the discussions involving changes to the undergraduate curriculum and is the student voice of the committee as the co-editor of the Dentistry’s monthly newsletter.

**Mariam Hussein, Faculty of Humanities**

Mariam Hussein has just completed her BSc in International Business, Finance and Economics (or IBFE).

As well as working hard for her degree, Mariam has made an exceptional contribution to the student experience within the Alliance Manchester Business School.

As a Student Representative she has been proactive in improving programme identity and has always been forthcoming with opinions, ideas and resolutions to problems.

She has done a fantastic job as Chair of the Student/Staff Liaison Committee and supports her fellow student representatives. Mariam has helped her School to improve its environment and its processes as well as the curriculum, social events and student wellbeing.

In addition, she has shown great initiative in organising and delivering peer support study sessions. Mariam has also transformed the IBFE Society. As President, she has organised events and developed a strong presence on social media.

Mariam’s nominator describes her as showing immense dedication to everything she does.

**Megan Kirkman, Faculty of Science and Engineering**

Megan Kirkham has just completed her Master of Physics course.

Meghan is described as having made outstanding contributions to the life of her Department and the student experience in several ways.

Her exceptionally professional, highly articulate and diplomatic approach has been invaluable in her role as student representative. She has enhanced relationships between staff and students, effectively communicated issues and concerns from her peers and influenced improvements to the Department’s teaching and learning.

In a separate arena, she leads a team of one hundred undergraduate physics students who volunteer their time to outreach activities. They work with around 850 children and young people per year, most in primary schools identified by the University as a high priority for engagement.

Megan’s commitment to science communication and inspiring the scientists of the future is exemplary.