

Distinguished Achievement Awards 2024 – Citations for Undergraduate Student of the Year

1. UG Student of the Year – Jasmine Hewitt – Faculty of Science and Engineering

Alongside her first class academic record, Jasmine displays boundless energy and generosity of time for her community. What sets her apart from her peers is her enthusiasm and ability to engage with and enhance the experience of other students and learners. Jasmine has had several difficult personal circumstances to overcome in the past year but she has pushed herself to engage with her studies and extra-curricular activities during difficult times.

She has been a PASS leader and engagement officer for MathSoc and has also assisted with a variety of outreach activities, including 'Taking Maths Further' for GCSE students and acting as an ambassador at UCAS visit days.

As engagement officer for MathSoc, Jasmine has been involved in organising a programme of extra-curricular mathematical talks aimed at undergraduate students and several careers activities.

Jasmine is currently co-organizing the annual Manchester Interdisciplinary Mathematics Undergraduate Conference. She also spoke to academics at a recent EDIA meeting to give DASS students' perspectives on the accessibility of teaching resources.

2. UG Student of the Year – Lida Koutsou – Faculty of Humanities

Lida has enhanced other students experience at University with passion and dedication through activities such as peer support and student societies.

She has been instrumental in leading and managing the coaching initiative for BSc Accounting to help students develop both personally and professionally. She is a dedicated coach who goes above and beyond to support her coachees by sharing valuable advice on work-life balance, work applications and assessment centres.

The initiatives she has driven will leave a lasting legacy for future students on the BSc Accounting programme and will help inform the ways in which the school supports students in developing their employability skills in the future.

As a student ambassador she has supported a wide range of campus based activities such as open day tours, writing blogs and participating in panel sessions. She has shown courage and honesty in sharing her experiences about her placement year. She is a credit to this University as she continues to make a significant difference to students' University experience.

3. UG Student of the Year – Hithin Noble – Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health

Hithin Noble co-founded Scrubbed Up during the Covid-19 pandemic. Scrubbed Up is a non-profit organisation to support students getting into medical school and further through it. They believe that doctors of tomorrow should be representative of the patient population it is one day going to treat.

With a commitment to continuous growth and sustainability, Scrubbed Up's comprehensive support begins at the application stage and extends past graduation, fostering a tight knit community of students who can both give and receive support.

From peer led teaching, widening participation outreach, to work with their charity partners, Scrubbed Up's sphere of influence is vast and rapidly growing – they have impacted over 5,000 prospective and current medical students and there has been over 1,000 volunteers for the organisation in the last 3 years.

Hithin has played a vital role in many other initiatives that have enhanced student experiences, such as the SUCCEED Refugee Mentorship Programme which seeks to help refugee and asylum seeker students to consider a career in healthcare, and humanitarian outreach activities, enabling others through his infectious enthusiasm and selflessness.