

Maria Rubbani

Re-Election for BLSA President

Why I'm Running Again

For almost 31 years, BLSA has changed presidents every single year.

That constant turnover creates instability.
Post-COVID, we are still living with the consequences.

Lower engagement.
Fragmented momentum.
A weaker sense of belonging across campuses.

This year, I focused on repair.

Not noise. Not optics. Repair.

We rebuilt structure.
We generated small but sustainable event profits.
We secured new sponsorships.
We began reform in education and wellbeing.

We stopped firefighting and started laying foundations.

But foundations need time.

Nothing meaningful sticks if it is not given time to grow roots.
Institutional change requires consistency.
Community confidence requires continuity.

The feedback this year has been clear: things feel different.
Now they need embedding, scaling, and protection.

In one year, I stabilised and built momentum.
In two years, I will secure lasting change.

What I Have Delivered



Operational Stability

- Established the first **Full BLSA Board in 30 years**, restoring governance and representation
- Strengthened Malta, Dental, and Research Institute integration
- Passed the **Ethical Investment Policy**, embedding student values structurally
- Created a Conference Funding Pot to widen opportunity access



Education

- Embedded student voice into the MBBS Curriculum Feedback
- Initiated the student voice into Pharmacy Teaching Review

- Placed Academic Reps within Research Institutes
- Secured a Free Quessmed Clinical Question Bank Trial

This is not surface-level change.
It is structural academic representation.

Welfare That Is Practical

- Delivered Free Exam Library Snacks during peak pressure
- Secured repair of the Mezzanine Lift
- Began demystifying welfare pathways
- Advocated for accessibility in education

Welfare should be visible, usable, and stigma-free.

Community Rebuilding

- Launched Culture & Faith Exchange
- Lunched Trade Fair & Careers Day (due soon)
- Activated BL Markets (starting end March)
- Restarted Alumni Reconnection
- Expanded EMSA & IADS international opportunities progression

Belonging does not happen by accident. It is built.

Sports & Societies Infrastructure

- Increased and protected sports funding (in progress)
- Began integrating sports into wider student societies
- Improved storage and infrastructure support
- Strengthened structural communication with societies
- Launched mentorship programme groundwork

We are rebuilding the ecosystem not just running events.

What Comes Next

The second term is about consolidation and scale.

Operational

- Expand hardship and conference funding access
- Introduce responsible AI integration into education policy
- Fully embed Malta, Dental & Research Institute representation

Education

- Complete curriculum reform work
- Improve TBL delivery
- Build an Integrated Clinical Resource Pool for consistency in placement years
- Create protected extracurricular Wednesday afternoons for PG students

Welfare

- Expand the Food Pantry
- Launch a proactive wellbeing model
- Introduce Wellbeing Rental Libraries
- Deliver Free Exam Day Breakfasts

Community

- Deliver a flagship End-of-Year Barts Bash
- Launch Institute Balls
- Establish permanent creative student spaces
- Strengthen Whitechapel community partnerships

Sports

- Create a larger protected sports funding pot (with the aim of minimum kits and matches transport covered)
- Secure institutional recognition for athletes
- Revive and revitalise Tables energy and culture
- Deliver a Barts Sports Day

Societies

- Represent modern student culture by more diverse events
- Strengthen society engagement pipelines
- Formalise clearer structural communication to support societies in financial security and welfare

The Difference

This year was about rebuilding trust.
Next year is about securing identity.

One year builds progress.
Two years builds permanence.

Continuity is not comfort.
It is responsibility.

Vote Maria Rubbani
For stability. For belonging. For lasting change.