

**Senate Election Statements 2024**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Candidate 1:** Professor James Esson

**Election Statement:**

I am keen to bring critical and fresh perspectives to Senate, using my experience in university governance. At my previous institution, I was elected and appointed to key governance committees, where I contributed to the scrutiny of policies and procedures concerning academic standards, academic freedom, and research integrity. I currently serve as a Research and Higher Education representative and trustee for the Royal Geographical Society, and as a trustee at the Geographical Association. These roles have enhanced my understanding of strategic oversight and institutional accountability. I was also on the panel that devised the latest Subject Benchmark Statement for Geography by the Quality Assurance Agency. If elected, I am committed to fostering an educational and research environment that balances care and support for staff and students with the pursuit of academic excellence. It would be an honour to represent my colleagues on Senate and help shape the future of QMUL.

**Candidate 2:** Dr Luigi Ventimiglia

**Election Statement:**

As Queen Mary's governance contributes to how its core values evolve in practice, I will support Senate to maintain and improve this where possible. If elected as an academic staff member, I will provide critical independent oversight of Senate's key functions in the areas of academic standards, freedom, research, and organisation. I have been working at the School of Economics and Finance since 2013, I have been chair of the exam board for six years, where I sought to promote inclusive assessment as well as maintain standards while supporting students during the pandemic. I have been fellow of the QM Academy for three years focusing on extensive analysis of students' attainment gaps within various UK institutions. I am currently co-director of the Centre for Education and Scholarship Research in Economics, Finance and Business Management where we seek to promote teaching and learning fostering a culture of celebration and trust in colleagues' wide-ranging research and engagement activities.