

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE SU?

THE RECENT REFERENDUM AT THE SU

If you are unaware, the SU recently had a referendum to change the outdated policies at the SU. This was to encourage students to participate and seek help from their student body, but also to ensure that the SU spends their time working for their students and using their time to do this effectively.

The referendum had a positive outcome, and the changes have taken place. One of the major changes of the referendum is that students now have a direct say at SU Assemblies. This is because all members of the student body who choose to come to the Assemblies will now have voting powers, rather than relying on their college representative to be their voice.

Another major change is that now Assemblies have to be called, rather than automatically happening. This means the officers' and students' time is spent where it is needed, when their voices matter.

If you would like to discuss these changes or what they mean for you, email johns.dsu or message the Instagram, also [johns.dsu](https://www.instagram.com/johns.dsu)



DURHAM \$U

THE BELONGING FUND LAUNCH

The SU has launched a new initiative called the Belonging Fund, and I cannot begin to express what an amazing opportunity this is for those who feel unrepresented at the university.

As Abi, the SU President, emphasised, Durham University hasn't always been the most diverse and inclusive environment for those who are from a working-class background to those who are a part of an ethnic minority.

This allows people to create or partake in a project, which helps make Durham a more welcoming place. These projects can range from organising a trip to eat traditional cuisine from your home state or tackling prejudice at Durham. Most importantly, the 'fund' part of this initiative offers students the opportunity to apply for money for these projects, up to five or ten thousand pounds. This awards the opportunity for those partaking in these projects to be paid for their work. This is because it is easy to see how asking students who already work part-time alongside their degree to help with this would defeat the purpose of fostering a fairer environment.