



**Volunteering  
Clubs &  
Societies  
Awards 2023**

#MoreThanADegree

**EVENT  
PROGRAMME**

Good evening, everyone, and welcome to the 2023 Volunteering, Clubs and Societies Awards Night! We are delighted to be here tonight to celebrate all the outstanding achievements of our volunteers, clubs and societies.

Our University is home to over 300 clubs and societies, providing a vast range of opportunities for our students to get involved, make friends and pursue their passions. These clubs and societies are run by our dedicated students, who give up their time and energy to create a vibrant and inclusive community here at Glasgow for which we are beyond grateful.

You have all made an incredible impact, whether it be through volunteering in the community, organising events, or pursuing academic or personal interests through your clubs and societies. Every single action, big or small, has been worthwhile and made a difference.

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to the student experience. Tonight, is about you. Make the most of it, grab a drink and enjoy the night ahead as we celebrate the achievements of you and your peers.

Good luck!



Katie Fish  
**Vice President Student Activities**  
**Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**



## **SCHEDULE**

**19:00 – 19:30**

**- Arrival and Drinks Reception -**

**19:30 – 20:30**

**- Introduction to the Evening and First Half of the Awards -**

GU Club or Society Online Presence of the Year  
GU Club or Society Fundraising Award  
GU Inclusive Club or Society Award  
GU Academic Club or Society of the Year  
GU Award for Community Volunteering  
GU Award for Campus Volunteering

**20:30 – 21:00**

**- Interval -**

**21:00 – 22:00**

**- Second Half of the Awards -**

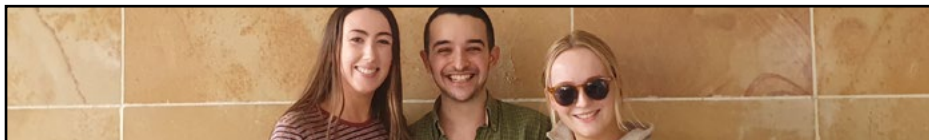
GU Club or Society Event of the Year  
GU New Club or Society of the Year  
GU Club or Society of the Year  
GU Principal's Volunteering Award for Civic Engagement  
Closing statements



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY ONLINE PRESENCE OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the incredible online presence clubs and societies have in this increasingly online world. Whether it's aesthetic social media channels, engaging TikToks, new resources or published works; if it was online, we'll celebrate it!

### UROLOGY SOCIETY



Our first nominee is the Urology Society. This year Urology Society's TikTok account has made waves across a wide audience, with numerous videos achieving "viral" status. Their social media strategy revolves around a blend of instructional and humorous content, which promotes both the society and the urology field as a surgical specialty. Their videos have garnered over 500,000 views, 45,000 likes, and 500 followers, which they use to market their events and inspire others to share their passion for urology.

### WALKING SOCIETY



Our next nominee is the Walking Society. With the artistic touch of their Social Media Director, Orla Troup, their social media presence on campus is truly stunning. Through their Instagram page, you can effortlessly discover their upcoming walks and get a glimpse of the breath-taking scenery you'll encounter along the way. By sharing photos of their walks and walkers, they've established a tight-knit community and have provided us with even more destinations to add to our bucket lists.



## TAYLOR SWIFT SOCIETY



Finally, we have the Taylor Swift Society. The Taylor Swift Society, with a devoted Instagram following of over 2,000, not only promotes their own events and shares memories but also creates memes featuring Taylor Swift photoshopped into various locations in Glasgow, especially around the university campus. These light-hearted posts are shared year-round, with extra effort during exam season to lift the spirits of stressed students. Alongside memes they also use their platform to encourage students to engage in student politics and to promote other societies on campus. We assure you, if you ask anyone on campus, they will know about the Taylor Swift Society's online presence.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY FUNDRAISING AWARD

This award shows gratitude to clubs and societies who use their platforms to fundraise for great causes! Whether through raising record amounts for charity, hosting a creative fundraiser, or bringing people together to spread awareness, this award celebrates our clubs and societies that give back.

### MACMILLAN SOCIETY

Our first nomination in this category is the Macmillan Society. This society unites compassionate students with a shared goal of hosting fundraisers throughout the year to raise both funds and awareness for Macmillan Cancer Support. This society has made remarkable progress this year, raising an impressive £1,400 through a variety of activities such as raffles, bake sales, a ceilidh, glitter stalls, and coffee mornings. Additionally, they have collaborated with other clubs and societies such as the GUU Games Committee, Yoga Club, and the Anthony Nolan Society, to expand their reach and impact.



### GLASGOW UNIVERSITY CHARITY FASHION SHOW

# GUCLS

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY CHARITY FASHION SHOW

Our second nominee is the Glasgow University Charity Fashion Show, which has been running for nine years and raised nearly £200k for charity during that time. This year, they focused their efforts on fundraising for Glasgow Clyde Rape Crisis and organized over 100 events and fundraisers in support of this cause. Their annual charity fashion show is the largest student-run charity event in Scotland and consistently breaks fundraising records, generating tens of thousands of pounds each year.





# ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS, LAWYERS WITHOUT BORDERS, AND FRIENDS OF MSF GLASGOW



Our last nominee is a collaboration between Engineers Without Borders, Lawyers Without Borders, and Friends of MSF Glasgow, who joined forces to raise funds for their respective charities. They organized a joint ceilidh and raffle for their members, which generated over £1,000 split equally among the charities supported by each society. By utilising their communities, the societies brought together students from different disciplines to have fun, support a good cause, and engage in critical issues facing the world today. Their collaborative efforts demonstrated the power of teamwork and cross-disciplinary cooperation in making a positive impact on society.



## GU INCLUSIVE CLUB OR SOCIETY AWARD

This award is for clubs and societies that go the extra mile to create inclusive environments. Whether it's starting a new welfare initiative, ensuring events are accessible or simply being the friendliest club or society on campus, we celebrate those who put their members first.

### SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY



Our first nominee is the Shakespeare Society. The Shakespeare Society has had inclusion and accessibility at the heart of everything they've done this year. In response to the cost-of-living crisis the society decreased their membership fees and established a financial aid system for students who need it. The society has organized workshops tailored to new students, providing them with an accessible introduction to Shakespeare's work and the audition process. This year all their performances have a gender-open casting call, and they specifically reserved the lead role in their performance of *The Tempest* for a non-binary or trans actor, which attracted many new students to the performance and brought a sense of innovation and joy to the stage.

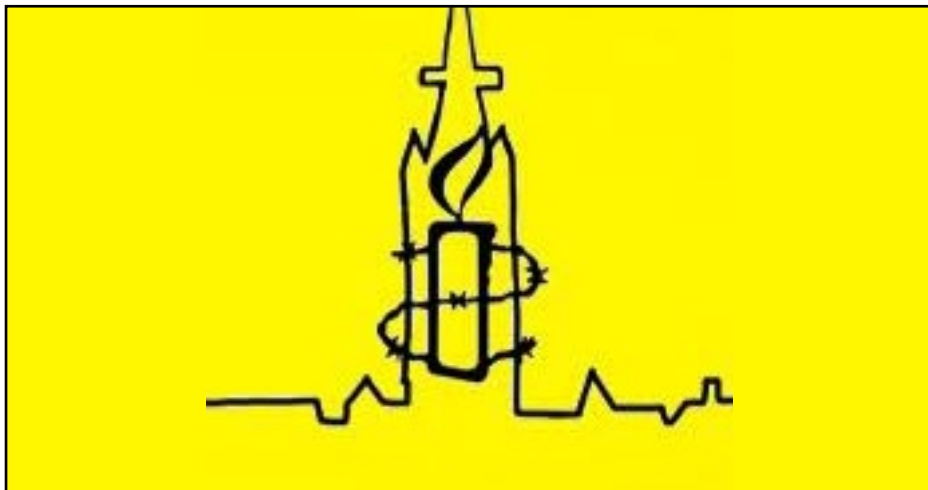
### oSTEM SOCIETY

Our second nomination is the oSTEM Society, short for Out in STEM, society. This year, the society has gone above and beyond in creating an event schedule that is truly inclusive. Acknowledging that many LGBTQ+ social spaces often revolve around alcohol, the society made a conscious effort to create sober spaces for students to meet. They introduced biweekly coffee afternoons, which have been hailed as "the highlight of my week", providing opportunities for members to socialize, play games, create art, and make new friends. Furthermore, the society ensured that their events took place at various times and in accessible locations, allowing members to attend regardless of their schedule or transportation or access needs.





## GU AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY



Our final nomination is GU Amnesty International Society. GU Amnesty International Society has gone above and beyond in creating a safe and inclusive environment for all their members to engage with their activities. They ensure they have a welfare officer present at every event to provide a safe and comfortable space for students to discuss sensitive and serious topics surrounding human rights and have made their welfare policy easily accessible to their members online. To further increase awareness about inclusivity on campus, the society has also discussed disability rights and inclusivity with their previous president, who plans to host a talk to discuss these important matters with their society members.



## GU ACADEMIC CLUB OR SOCIETY OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the clubs and societies that teach us new things! Whether a dedicated academic society or a society that dabbled in an educational event this year, this award is open to all of our clubs and societies who mix business with pleasure and allow students to further build upon their employability skills and network with other industry professionals.

### MODEL UNITED NATIONS SOCIETY



Our first nomination is the Glasgow University Model United Nations Society, also known as GlasMUN. This society cultivates a platform for students to enhance their negotiating skills and become world-class debaters. This year they will be hosting the very first Glasgow Model United Nations Conference in March, which invites delegates from various nations to represent countries alongside members of the society. The conference provides an opportunity for young advocates to connect with like-minded individuals and build an international network of world-changers while having a fun experience.

### SOCIOLOGY SOCIETY



Our next nominee is the Sociology Society, which has made great strides in promoting knowledge and discussion in their field this year. They have organized well-attended panel events on topics such as “conflict” and “housing,” inviting experts from universities across Scotland to share their expertise and facilitate valuable networking opportunities for students, with academic staff and the general public. In addition to their panel events, the society has also hosted seminars and film screenings, each followed by a social event to foster a strong sense of community among members who share a passion for sociology.



## NEURO SOCIETY



Our last nominee is the Neuro Society. They recently organised their 10th annual International Glasgow Neuro Conference, which featured workshops and talks on various neuroscience-related topics. Additionally, the society holds talks throughout the year and offers numerous teaching sessions designed for first- and second-year medical students. These sessions aim to introduce students to the field of neuroscience, provide support for their studies, and help members of the society develop their teaching skills through hands-on experience.



## GU AWARD FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

This award recognises our students' partnership and involvement with Glasgow's local community, to challenge deprivation and inequality and to help build a positive relationship between the University and its neighbours.

### UOFG EVERGREENS



Our first nominees are UofG Evergreens; a conservation society comprised of volunteers who are interested and passionate about combatting global warming and protecting our planet. Throughout the year, they encourage members of the UofG community to be more mindful of their impact on the environment and promote positive environmental action through fundraising events, school visits, and activities including tree-planting and beach clean-ups. Last year, the society travelled to Irvine for a beach clean-up, helping to make the coastal area greener and cleaner for everyone!

### ALEX NELSON



Next up, we have Alex Nelson, who has been volunteering with Glasgow University Service to the Homeless for several years. GUSH is a long established, student-led initiative, offering students the opportunity to work in partnership with Glasgow's community to help the City's homeless. Twice a week, they meet with local charities Help4TheHomeless and Emmaus Glasgow in the City Centre, to provide vital hot drinks and food for those who need it. As GUSH's former President and current Fundraiser, Alex continues to give up so much of her time to help the society. Alex consistently leads shifts, almost every week, and is an invaluable member of the team. As Fundraiser, Alex spearheaded one of GUSH's most successful terms ever, helping the society raise over £700 before Christmas. Alex's unwavering commitment to GUSH is truly commendable and their efforts have had a significant impact on the individuals they serve.



## OLIVIA SLOAN



Our final nominee is Olivia Sloan, this year's Outreach Convenor for Glasgow University's female engineering society, FemEng. FemEng is a network aimed at empowering women in the School of Engineering. Throughout the year, the society provides a variety of different opportunities to its members, including panel discussions, mentoring, and social and networking events with industry professionals. One of their most successful projects is their school outreach programme, in collaboration with Glasgow City Council, designed to introduce children – particularly young girls – to the world of engineering through presentations and interactive activities. This year, Olivia has overseen FemEng's largest outreach programme to date; helping the society to deliver workshops to 44 schools across Glasgow, reaching over 1500 pupils. Olivia is responsible for the organisation and execution of the workshops and supports each of the classes by arranging Q&A calls with FemEng members and professional engineers, to give young people a fun and engaging introduction to engineering.



## GU AWARD FOR CAMPUS VOLUNTEERING

This award celebrates the wonderful work our volunteers have undertaken right here on campus, for the benefit of the student community.

### YUTING TIAN



Our first nominee is President of the Glasgow Chinese Students and Scholars Association, Yuting Tian. The society are committed to enriching the cultural life of students and scholars within the Glasgow area, through the organisation of various activities and events both on and off campus. Examples include Chinese Culture Week, the Chinese Spring Festival Gala and the New Students Pick-Up event. Over the last few years, Yuting has helped organise and participated in these events, assisting over 1000 students. During this year's Welcome Week, as part of the society's New Students Pick-Up event, she helped coordinate taxis to pick up nearly 600 newly arrived students and bring them to their student accommodation, to welcome them into the city.

### GLASGOW STUDENTS' NIGHTLINE

Our next nominees are Glasgow Students' Nightline. Nightline is a confidential telephone, text, and online listening and information service run by trained student volunteers, for the students of Glasgow University, Glasgow Caledonian and Strathclyde University. This year, Nightline have expanded their service – now operating six days a week from Sunday to Friday – to support students across campuses in Glasgow with their mental health, ensuring they have a safe space and someone to talk to. Nightline volunteers must remain anonymous, and so do not get much individual recognition for their roles. Each volunteer commits a significant amount of their time to provide emotional and practical support to their peers.





# BRIGHTHER SOCIAL ENTERPRISE



Our final nominees are BrightHer Social Enterprise; a student-led registered social enterprise which works to empower and support victims of domestic abuse. BrightHer partner with two local charities, the Women’s Support Project and Glasgow Women’s Aid, to support their beneficiaries in women’s refuges through peer support and skills workshops. Over the past two years, BrightHer have delivered over 25 women empowerment peer support workshops for survivors of domestic abuse, organised social events and programmes for women and have helped to expand Glasgow Womens Aid’s support services. The society have also launched their own product line of sustainable candles, collaborating on campus with other societies to raise funds for their work.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY EVENT OF THE YEAR

This award celebrates the incredible range of events clubs and societies have put on this past year. Whether a solo or collaborative event between societies, here we celebrate the best memories made on – or off! – campus this year.

### **ENACTUS GLASGOW: GU Meet Cute**



Our first nominee is Enactus Glasgow for their exceptional organization of the 'GU Meet-Cute' event. This remarkable fundraiser on Valentine's Day was a collaborative effort of 20 societies, attracting an impressive turnout of nearly 250 attendees. The event offered students the opportunity to sign up for either romantic or platonic dates, emphasizing the importance of building meaningful connections on their own terms. With overwhelmingly positive feedback and rave reviews across campus, the 'GU Meet-Cute' was a standout event.

### **INDIAN SOCIETY: Diwali**



The Indian Society earns our second nomination for their remarkable Diwali celebrations. Known for their lively and enjoyable events, The Indian Society did not disappoint with their Diwali Dhamake club night. Over a hundred students packed the Well, enjoying an evening of traditional Desi music and drinks. The Society warmly welcomed students from all backgrounds and went above and beyond to accommodate everyone's needs. It was an unforgettable night that left everyone in high spirits!



## UOFG NERD SOCIETIES: Nerd Collab Ceilidh



Our last nomination is for the collaboration between the UofG Nerd Societies, or NerdSoc, and their Nerd Collab Ceilidh. The NerdSoc Ceilidh united 10 of our campus nerd societies, bringing together more than 150 people, and raising over £300 for charity. This exceptional event took months of planning and organization, resulting in an unforgettable experience that allowed attendees to make new friends with shared interests while boosting the growth of the societies involved. The NerdSoc Ceilidh exemplifies the power of shared interests to bring people with similar interests together and create an amazing night of ceilidh dancing.



## GU NEW CLUB OR SOCIETY OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the newest additions to our family of clubs and societies on campus. Here we commemorate the creativity and commitment it takes to launch a new society and recognise the wonderful things they have achieved in limited time!

### RAREWARE GLASGOW



The first nominee on our list is RAREAware Glasgow, an organization dedicated to promoting awareness of various diseases that often go unnoticed. Each week, they feature a different rare disease through interactive social media posts that challenge students to identify the condition before the answer is revealed. In addition to raising awareness about misdiagnosis and little-known diseases, RAREAware Glasgow also hosts social events and educational activities such as Medicine Year 1 Mock exams. It's impressive to see the broad range of initiatives they've undertaken in a short period of time.

### KERALA SOCIETY



Our second nomination is the Kerala Society. The Kerala Society garnered a significant number of nominations due to their lively and welcoming community and vibrant events. In their first year of existence, the society has successfully organized numerous large-scale events aimed at showcasing and sharing the culture, cuisine, and language of the southern Indian state of Kerala. The Kerala Society has created a welcoming space for Keralites and non-Keralites alike to come together and learn about the rich and diverse culture of Kerala. Through their events, the society promotes cultural understanding and awareness, as well as fostering an engaging and lively community.



## HISTORY SOCIETY



Our final nomination is the History Society. After a lapse in activity during the pandemic, the History Society has made a remarkable comeback this year. Their event schedule has been incredibly creative and diverse, featuring a unique historical twist on many classic society socials. These events include a Historical White Lies Social, Horrible History Karaoke, Tour of Glasgow Necropolis, and Museum exhibition trips and scavenger hunts. In addition to these social events, the society has also organized events to support students with their studies including a dissertation help forum and study sessions. It is no wonder that the society is widely known for its positive and inclusive community, and efforts to make students feel welcome at their events.



## GU CLUB OR SOCIETY OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the most extraordinary clubs and societies on campus! Here we celebrate standout clubs or societies that have achieved something incredible, celebrated a milestone or just been all-round fantastic throughout the year.

### GU ORBIT

Our first nomination is GU Orbit, a society that is quite literally out of this world. The society has made a name for itself in the student engineering world through multiple competition wins and conference papers in recent years. This year, the society broke into the industrial domain by participating in and ultimately winning a prestigious national competition sponsored by the UK government and the UK space agency. As a result, the society has been awarded £600,000 to develop a climate change satellite from scratch which will be launched into space. The society also pushes pioneering, inclusion and passion within the Glasgow University STEM Community, firmly believing that rocket science is not only for “rocket scientists”, but rather for whoever has a passion for space and engineering.

### UG RACING SOCIETY

Our second society is the UG Racing Society. UG Racing is the University of Glasgow’s Formula Student team, consisting of almost 200 students from various disciplines. This year, the team achieved an incredible feat by winning the entire Formula Student competition and becoming the overall champions for the first time in their history. The competition involves entirely student-run teams designing and building a formula-style single-seat race car and competing in numerous events on track including acceleration, sprint, endurance, and off-track including cost, design, and business plan. Despite having a significantly smaller budget and fewer sponsorships than their competitors, UGRacing made history by becoming the third university from the UK and the first team from Scotland to win the competition overall. The team’s countless hours of dedication and hard work designing, paid off and has put the University of Glasgow centre stage as it deserves. UGRacing is the epitome of dedication, hard work, motivation, and commitment.





## **MALT WHISKY SOCIETY**

Our third nomination is the Malt Whisky Society, a highly sociable and welcoming group dedicated to promoting Scottish culture and tradition, with a particular focus on whisky. They organize various engaging events, including biweekly tastings that provide an educational experience where members can learn about the history and myths behind each whisky. Additionally, they offer fun trips and experiences, such as the National Whisky Festival. The society's infectious passion for whisky and Scottish culture attracts a diverse membership from all around the world, including many international students who highly praise the society for helping them feel more at home in Glasgow by introducing them to the culture and tradition of Scottish whisky. Some even state that joining the society has 'changed their lives.' This society is truly at the heart of the university, bringing together students from various backgrounds over a shared interest and passion for Scottish whisky.

## **NINTENDO SOCIETY**

The final nomination goes to the Nintendo Society, the ultimate hub for all Nintendo enthusiasts. The society has something to offer for everyone, be it casual gamers, speed runners, or any Nintendo lover in between. The committee has put in an enormous amount of effort this year to create a safer and more inclusive space on their Discord server with improved moderation, more discussion channels, and a diverse range of pronoun and interest roles. With a welcoming and inclusive environment, the society provides an array of activities for its members, ranging from in-person gaming sessions to online watch parties and socials on their Discord server with a whopping 500 members. Their events are always a massive hit, featuring highlights such as Pub Quizzes, the Chill Gaming Hour, and the Halloween Pub Social. The society went above and beyond to secure a special guest appearance by none other than the voice actor of Super Mario, Charles Martinet, for their Mario Day celebration, providing a unique opportunity for members to express their appreciation for his exceptional work.



## **GU PRINCIPAL'S VOLUNTEERING AWARD FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

This award – selected by the Principal – recognises exemplary contributions made by student volunteers to communities beyond campus. Recipients of the award demonstrate a personal commitment to civically engaged life in Glasgow; working for social justice, motivating others to become caring, active, responsible, and informed citizens. Their work inspires and helps advance communities, improve the common knowledge, social cohesion, and quality of life for others.

### **SHEREIF KHOLEIF**

Our first nominee in this category is Shereif Kholeif. Shereif has been an active volunteer throughout his time at university, engaging with the wider Glasgow community. His most recent and notable work has been leading the Rising Stars basketball outreach programme. Shereif initially volunteered as a coach, before taking over the programme as chair. Rising Stars reaches out to young, vulnerable children and teenagers in the wider community of Glasgow, using basketball as a means of facilitating their development. The programme has provided over 350 children with weekly basketball sessions and has also developed over the last year to include the provision of academic tuition and mentorship, as well as free basketball equipment and kit. The programme has recently achieved charity status, and Shereif has been recognised by the international basketball association, who have made him a youth leader. He continues to do this in his final year, whilst working towards his masters and working full-time as an NHS doctor.

### **STUDENT ACTION FOR REFUGEES (STAR)**

Next up we have Student Action for Refugees (STAR). STAR Glasgow is part of a national charity, who work to raise awareness of the issues facing refugees and asylum seekers. The society is made up entirely of volunteers, who organise weekly conversation clubs to help local members of the refugee and asylum community to learn and practice their conversational English skills. In addition, the society host various fundraising events throughout the year to help subsidise the travel costs of their learners, help with technological accessibility, and provide critical support to the community.



## MOHAMMAD AL KHATIB



Our final nominee is Mohammad al Khatib, who volunteers with local charity, Community InfoSource, who work with marginalised communities in Glasgow, primarily asylum seekers and refugees, to put their ideas into action and to secure their rights. Mohammad has consistently delivered a face-to-face ESOL class every Wednesday afternoon, supporting refugees and asylum seekers to overcome their language barriers by providing lessons in practical and situational English. Mohammad is directly responsible for helping 12 of their service users gain access to further education in colleges across Glasgow. In total, Mohammad has supported 60 learners in Glasgow to access services that are available to them whilst building confidence in English language and knowledge of their new city.



This evening has been a wonderful celebration of the power of student-led initiatives and the dedication of our volunteers. Our clubs and societies are at the heart of our university community, providing opportunities for students to make connections, memories and explore their interests and passions.

To all our attendees, whether you are a club leader, member, volunteer, or simply someone who came to support your friends, thank you for being here tonight. Your presence and participation are a testament to the strength and vibrancy of our community.

As we conclude this event, I encourage you all to continue pursuing your passions and exploring new opportunities through our clubs and societies. Together, we can continue to build a more connected and engaged University of Glasgow!

It has been an absolute pleasure to host the University of Glasgow's Volunteering, Clubs and Societies Awards Night. It has been an evening full of celebration, recognition, and gratitude.

Thank you, and good night!



Katie Fish  
**Vice President Student Activities**  
**Glasgow University Students' Representative Council**



# **AWARD CATEGORIES**

**GU Club or Society  
Online Presence  
of the Year**

**GU Club or Society  
Fundraising Award**

**GU Inclusive Club or  
Society Award**

**GU Academic Club or  
Society of the Year**

**GU Award for  
Community Volunteering**

**GU Award for  
Campus Volunteering**

**GU Club or Society  
Event of the Year**

**GU New Club or  
Society of the Year**

**GU Club or Society  
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**GU Principal's  
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