

WOLA Handbook
2024/2025
First edition

1. Who Are We?

Women Leaders of Afrika (WOLA) is the first university-based Afrikan society dedicated to empowering Afrikan women to confidently take up space on campus and become their best selves. We focus our resources on tackling key issues that impede the growth of Afrikan countries, such as brain drain, mental health challenges, and the erosion of self-empowerment among Afrikan women.

2. Why Join WOLA?

- **Overcoming Inferiority:** Have you ever hesitated to apply for leadership roles in societies, feeling inferior to your non-Afrikan counterparts? As African women, including those in the diaspora, we've been unconsciously taught that we must change our identities to be appreciated. At WOLA, we challenge this narrative.
- **Empowerment:** We organize workshops and events aimed at improving the lives of African women both at home and abroad. We provide a supportive environment where you can embrace your identity, develop leadership skills, and contribute meaningfully to the development of your home country.
- **Taking Action:** It's crucial for someone to take the lead in addressing these issues, and WOLA provides you with the platform to do just that. Join us to be part of a community that is actively working towards making a difference.

3. Our Programs and Activities

- **Leadership Workshops:** We host regular workshops designed to equip you with the skills needed to step into leadership roles confidently. These workshops cover topics such as public speaking, negotiation, and strategic planning.
- **Game Nights:** Our game nights are not just about fun; they also provide a relaxed environment for networking and building connections with fellow members.
- **Volunteering Opportunities:** We offer various opportunities to volunteer both within the UK and in projects that benefit African communities. These activities allow you to apply your skills in real-world contexts and make a tangible impact.

4. General Information

- **Election System:** We use a democratic election system where all society members have the right to vote for committee positions during our Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- **Annual General Meeting:** Attendance at the AGM is compulsory for all members. This meeting is crucial for discussing the society's progress, planning for the upcoming year, and electing new committee members.
- **Eligibility for Committee Roles:** All members, regardless of background, are encouraged to apply for committee roles. We are inclusive and value the diverse perspectives that non-African allies can bring to our mission.

5. Our 2024/25 Committee

- **President:** Alinda Mutabazi (Uganda)
- **Vice President:** Merit Ugwa (Nigeria)
- **General Secretary:** Ifeoluwapo Ijaware (Nigeria)
- **Publicity Officer:** Berucha Ssali (Uganda)
- **Finance Officer/Treasurer:** Patience Awor (Uganda)
- **Project Manager:** Tania Bita (Kenyan)
- **Events/Social Officer:** Oluwadara Oke (Nigeria)
- **Welfare and EDI Officer:** Kamsiyonna Ukatu (Nigeria)
- **Editor in Chief:** Maryam J-K Gadzama (Nigeria)
- **Assistant Editor:** Nwadinma Amuchaezi (Nigeria)

6. Society Enquiries

For any questions or additional information about WOLA, please contact us at women-leaders-afrika@uonsu.com. We're here to support and guide you on your journey to becoming a leader in your community and beyond.

You can get your membership at <https://su.nottingham.ac.uk/activities/view/WLA>