

Monthly Magazine



CONVERSATION



■ **LEADING WITH PURPOSE**
Growth beyond technical success

■ **A CHAPTER OF GROWTH**
Moments that defined him

ARJUN SAILESH
Former President
of Space Society

***EUROTECH SPOTLIGHT**

MARCH 2026

Arjun Sailesh

MEET OUR FORMER PRESIDENT

Arjun Sailesh served as President of the Space Society for the 2024–25 academic year, following his term as Vice President in 2023–24. A BEng Mechanical Engineering graduate and now an alumnus of the University of Birmingham, Arjun played a pivotal role in elevating the society's technical ambitions and national presence.

Under his leadership, the society achieved historic milestones, including competing internationally at the UKSEDS National Rocketry Championship. His tenure was defined not only by competitive success, but by resilience, innovation, and a commitment to pushing boundaries.



The Interview

1 *How did your team leader's experience help you grow professionally and personally?*

Working as a team leader definitely helped me in the real-world when it came to technical and organizational experience. It just pushed me to think beyond just completing tasks. I learned how to approach problems systematically, communicate my ideas clearly, and take ownership of my work.

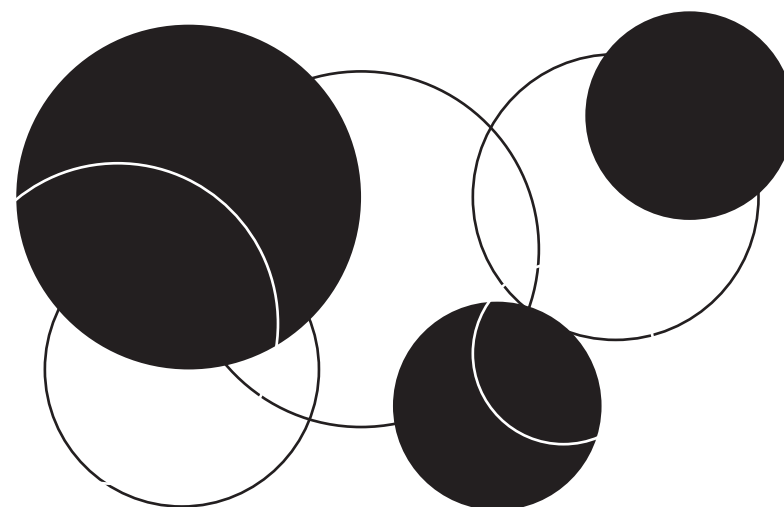
Personally, I think the role of being a team leader definitely helped and still does help me handle pressure, setbacks, and team dynamics with resilience and professionalism. It has helped me develop confidence in decision-making and the ability to work effectively within a diverse team.

2 *What projects or achievement are you most proud of during your tenure, and why?*

My proudest achievement has to be flying 2 rockets at the UKSEDS NRC '24.

Now don't get me wrong, finishing second overall in the competition and winning the Jacobs 'Not Just Avionics' award are definitely key highlights, but knowing how much me and my team struggled to get all the logistics in place, only to go and be the only team from overseas to fly in the competition, that too twice?

That is my proudest achievement.



3 *Define your time spent in space society in one word after three years of endeavors.*

Historic.

Vice-President — President
2023 - 2025

UKSEDS NRC '24
3 Years of Endeavors

The Interview - Continued

4 *Are there any particular moments or memories that stand out from your time with the society that you feel define your contribution the most?*

I know this might sound strange, but all the times we failed during our road to NRC. I'm not saying we failed because of me, not like we succeeded only cause of me either, but the way I helped navigate past all the obstacles and see failures as just momentos to keep (like the failed 3d printed prototypes I have at home) and reach the heights (no pun intended) that we've reached, that I think will define my contribution the most.

5 *How do you hope your work and achievements will inspire future*

members of the society?

Being one of the smaller and more niche societies on campus, I knew that to be recognised, not just by engineers or space enthusiasts, but by everyone, we had to do something insane. Take me back to October 2023 when we decided to take on the competition, and I can guarantee no one barring me and my team would've been confident that we would make it. Fast forward a year, and every year since then, we've had people waiting to see us attain more glory. The only thing I can hope, is that this feeling continues amongst the general consensus, and that the floogates to further glory remain open, so that the Space Society can continue to shine.



EuroTech Future Leaders Program

As part of the EuroTech Future Leaders Program, the University of Birmingham Dubai Space Society was invited to present its high-powered model rocket project and share its broader mission. The team showcased their work on building and launching a rocket equipped with full recovery systems and advanced data logging capabilities — demonstrating not only technical precision but also structured engineering design and execution.



Space Society Showcases Rocket Innovation

The invitation reflects growing external recognition of the Society's efforts in innovation, collaboration, and leadership. Being welcomed by industry professionals provided members with the opportunity to present their work beyond campus and engage with future-focused initiatives. This collaboration highlights the Society's commitment to bridging academic learning with real-world application and strengthening its presence within the wider engineering community.

Birmingham Dubai Space Society showcased a high-powered rocket with advanced data logging and recovery systems, demonstrating innovation, teamwork, and real-world engineering.



STAY TUNED FOR NEXT EDITION!

University of Birmingham Dubai Space Society

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