

November Briefing

Opening Note

November has been an important month for the UoR M&A Society. Since launching only a short time ago, we've already had the chance to bring people together around deals, finance, and careers, along with testing ourselves in a real M&A setting. It has been great to see so many students interested in the society and coming along to events.

November in UoR M&A

November was about turning ideas into something real. We've expanded the committee beyond the original four roles to include dedicated support for events, socials, and research, so that we can plan things properly and keep the society running smoothly. The aim is to create a space where students who are curious about M&A can meet, learn, and work on interesting projects together.

Our First Competition Experience

A key moment in November was our participation in the CapitOx Winter Open, our first external M&A competition. Our two teams developed full investment cases for a live-style transaction, covering industry analysis, valuation, and a proposed deal structure, presenting it as a pitch deck. To share this experience more widely, we held a follow-up event where a competition team went through the case, the slides, and the reasoning behind our recommendation. The focus was on how to turn information into a clear equity story, how to structure a deck so it makes sense to the reader and how to present a view with confidence. We want this kind of session to become a regular part of the society, so that every project we take on becomes something that every member can learn from.

Socials and Collaboration

We also held a joint social with the Entrepreneurship Society, giving members a chance to meet other like-minded peers. It was a relaxed and informal way to network and to get to know people beyond our regular events. We're planning more socials with other societies in the new year, offering opportunities to widen your network, share ideas across disciplines and get involved with our society.

Research Team and Monthly Newsletter

November also saw the launch of our Research Team. From December onwards, they will publish a monthly M&A newsletter, summarising recent deals, key themes in the market and what these might mean from a strategic and valuation perspective. The idea is to give members an accessible way to stay up to date with transactions, build their commercial awareness and have examples to refer to in interviews and conversations with employers. The first edition, covering December activity, will be released on 1 January.

Speakers and Events on the Horizon

Alongside competitions and research, we are putting together a programme of events aimed at bringing M&A to life on campus. Several guest speakers from the university and from industry are currently being arranged, with sessions designed to connect what you learn in lectures with how deals are sourced, analysed and executed in practice. We are also planning practical workshops on topics such as reading deal announcements, understanding valuation in an M&A context and working through simple case studies in a group.

Closing Thoughts

As December begins, we are very grateful for the interest and support the society has received so far. The combination of competitions, research, speakers and external events is starting to take shape, and we are looking forward to building on this in the new year. Everyone is very welcome to get involved and grow with us.

Thank you and hope to see you soon
University of Reading Mergers & Acquisitions Team