



UoR Mergers & Acquisitions Society

Quarter 1 Report

January 2026 – March 2026

Opening Note

Quarter 1 has been a major period of progress for the University of Reading Mergers & Acquisitions Society. From the start of the year, our focus has been on building consistency across research, competitions, events, and external engagement. Over the past three months, the society has continued to grow in both activity, visibility, with stronger member participation, increasing attendance at events, and greater recognition for the work being produced across the platform.

Quarter 1 in UoR Mergers & Acquisitions

This term has been defined by momentum. We released the January, February, and March editions of our M&A Newsletter, continued to expand the work of our research team, and hosted a range of activities that gave members practical exposure to finance, investing, and dealmaking. Alongside this, the society strengthened its external profile through competitions, partnerships, and attendance at high-level events.

Research Team and Monthly Newsletter

A key part of Quarter 1 has been the continued development of our monthly newsletter. Across January, February, and March, the society published three editions covering major live transactions, industry themes, and technical insights across the M&A market. This has become an important part of the society's offering, helping members build commercial awareness, stay close to current deal activity, and engage with the market in a more analytical way. The research team has played a central role in this progress, and the quality and consistency of output has continued to improve over the quarter.

Warwick Economics Summit 2026

From 6 to 8 February, members of the society attended the Warwick Economics Summit 2026. This was a fantastic opportunity to hear directly from senior figures across business, media, economics, and policy. Over the three days, delegates attended corporate seminars, the career fairs, and a series of high-level discussions covering leadership, decision-making, macroeconomic stability, global risk, long-run growth, and climate economics. The summit was a valuable opportunity for members to gain broader perspective and engage with discussions taking place at the highest level.

Competitions and Technical Development

The first event of the year was our Futures Trading Challenge, using the CME Group platform. The competition attracted over 30 participants, creating a highly competitive environment from the outset. It was a strong way to begin the term, giving members the chance to test themselves in a live market setting.

Quarter 1 also saw one of the society's strongest competitive achievements to date. We took part in the UK & Europe M&A Case Competition, hosted by Warwick Finance Societies, UCL M&A Group, and LSESU Private Equity Society. Out of more than 120 teams, we reached the top 5 finalists and went on to place 3rd overall. Our team presented live in front of judges from Nomura, PJT Partners, Neuberger Berman, and BGF, competing against leading universities including LSE, University of Oxford, UCL, and Católica Lisbon. This was a significant result for the society and a strong reflection of the technical standards the competition team has been building.

Following the competition, the team also presented the 3rd-place pitch back to the society at a dedicated event, allowing members to see the process, structure, and reasoning behind the case in more detail.

Partnerships, Speakers, and Society Events

The society also expanded its collaboration with other student organisations during the quarter. We partnered with the Entrepreneurship Society for a Meet the Investors event, featuring a panel of senior investing professionals and focusing on venture capital and private equity. We also partnered with the Consulting Society for a fireside chat with Tim Jones, former Deutsche Bank Managing Director and former JPMorgan Equity Research Analyst. These partnerships have helped broaden the society's reach while giving members direct access to experienced professionals across adjacent areas of finance and investing.

Closing Thoughts

As Quarter 1 ends, it is clear that the society has taken another step forward. Membership has grown strongly, attendance at events has increased, and the University of Reading M&A Society name is continuing to build recognition both on campus and beyond it. Across newsletters, competitions, external events, and partnerships, the aim has remained the same: to create a society that gives students serious exposure to M&A, investing, and corporate finance in a practical and ambitious environment.

Thank you and we look forward to building on this further in the next quarter.

JP Ornellas Filho

President

UoR Mergers & Acquisitions Society

