

## UNION PRESIDENT LAWRENCE COOMBER 2024/25

Area of work: Student Living Experience	
Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
<b>Goal 1</b> <b>Improving and aiding the SASSH (Southampton Accreditation Scheme for Student Housing) System</b>	Work so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Held Housing Fair with UoS Housing and Residences Team</li> <li>Promoted SASSH to students ad hoc</li> </ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create social media content promoting SASSH</li> <li>Gather feedback on SASSH system throughout the year</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 2</b> <b>Work with Solent, UoS and SSC for a Southampton Student Living Strategy</b>	Work so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Group formed – working with all three institutions to coordinate housing policy and development. I sit on the group, and will ensure that student concerns are raised and considered in the process.</li> </ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change of nature of project – UoS leading the project, not SUSU</li> <li>Less involvement but will continue to feed student perspective into it</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 3</b> <b>Create a Student-Council Housing Helpline</b>	Work so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature of project changing – not feasible but alternative is possible</li> </ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rather than connecting to Council, I will help renew and promote Advice Centre material that advises the same way a helpline would</li> <li>Set a schedule to promote social media content around Advice Centre material</li> </ul>
Area of work: Cost of Living Support	
Sabbatical Plan Goal	Details
<b>Goal 1</b> <b>Campaign for Maintenance Loan Rise</b>	Work so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Success! – Maintenance loan will increase by 3.1% for 2025/26 academic year</li> </ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that the campaign continues to push for continuous year-on-year increases in maintenance loan in line with inflation, not just this one off.</li> <li>Will push for this still at Russell Group Students' Union and Southern Unions</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 2</b> <b>Improve Promotion of Advice Centre and Food Bank</b>	Work so far: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>@susucommunities Instagram set up for use by the VP Welfare and Community</li> <li>This is a step up: a dedicated account which the Advice Centre falls under, rather than 1-day weekly takeover of SUSU instagrams on Wednesdays</li> </ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In conjunction with Goals 1 and 3 of Student Living Experience, build the President social media profile to be that of a Housing Rights Advocate</li> <li>Joint posts and support with @susucommunities</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 3</b>	Work so far:

<b>Cost of Living Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working group not yet formed, but cost of living support through the advice centre, as well as digital marketing and student feedback is still ongoing.</li> <li>A working group would meet to discuss what measures and initiatives SUSU should be doing in response to student feedback, either through direct student outreach or sabbatical officer representation.</li> </ul> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with SUSU Senior Leadership Team about feasibility and efficacy of a working group</li> <li>Once established either: form working group and organise schedule, or: continue to ascertain student feedback on what cost of living support they require and implement within the relevant areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Area of work: Modernisation and Sustainability</b>	
<b>Sabbatical Plan Goal</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>Goal 1 Digital ID on the UoS SuperApp</b>	<p>Work so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility issues – UK Gov’t is currently looking at legal status of digital ID, not something that can be independently pursued by SUSU until law change</li> </ul> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project can continue with changed direction: accessibility on campus</li> <li>Already had conversations with Director of Student Experience, will continue to liaise</li> <li>These conversations will involve ‘digital’ rather than keycard entry to buildings</li> <li>Students often forget ID cards; cannot access buildings like 100 or 85 as no door staff like the library</li> <li>Will push for digital scanners to allow students to use ID’s to have full access to campus</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 2 Creation of SUSU App for ordering</b>	<p>Work so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Success! (in the future)</li> <li>Working group met for first time – consisting of relevant SUSU staff (Head of Social Enterprise as chair) and SUSU President, in order to feed student input into the process of rollout and functionality of the app.</li> <li>Staff rollout from now until Christmas (user testing)</li> <li>Student Rollout in the new year</li> </ul> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide student-side input into the working group.</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 3 Estates sustainability</b>	<p>Work so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attended multiple Estates and Infrastructure Committee (EIC) meetings where sustainability has regularly appeared as a topic</li> <li>Attended Sustainability Strategy Board (SSB) meeting where estates is recognised as a key area for improvement</li> <li>Attended multiple North-East Quadrant (NEQ) sessions where the new building is having sustainability embedded into its design and hopes to be an example of the best possible sustainability integration into estates</li> </ul> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to push sustainability in these meetings, particularly in EIC in regards to Long-Term Maintenance (LTM) of university buildings where investments in sustainability can be more easily adopted (insulation, power generation, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 4</b>	<p>Work so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First meeting held – great introduction</li> </ul>

<b>Work with sustainability officers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Held visit from University of Birmingham Students' Guild sustainability officer – shared insight and practices, Plant Pot food was greatly received.</li></ul>
	Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meet with newly by-elected Medicine Faculty Rep</li><li>• Continue to regularly meet with Reps to provide support and guidance for their work in their faculties.</li></ul>