

About working with SUSU:

Our vision for the future is that: **every student loves their time at Southampton.**

Independent from the University, we are here to represent the voice of students at every level and ultimately make their university experience unforgettable.

As a Sabbatical Officer, you are the key student leader who sets the direction of the Union on a specific area of work. Representing the view of the student body both within the Union and to the University. You will work in partnership with relevant Union and University Staff in all areas of work and will be held accountable to union members for your work and projects.

A Sabbatical Officer role is a **full time, paid position**, where you will hold office **from 1st July for a period of 1 year**. As a figurehead of SUSU you will be expected to be a public face of the Union, this includes but is not limited to online platforms, public speaking at internal and external events, and within the University and wider Southampton community. You will also be required to act as Trustee of the Union.

The main location for your role is on Highfield Campus, however you will be expected to travel to other campuses and sites as part of your role. You will also be expected to work outside of core office hours where the role requires, including some evening and weekend work.

We provide full training and support throughout your term in office. You will gain a wealth of experience through your role with SUSU, experience that you can use to improve your future employability while receiving recognition for the work that you accomplish.

This list of duties is not exhaustive but presents an outline of the core duties and responsibilities of the role.

Main purpose of the role:

- 1) Representing all students' academic interests
- 2) Ensuring students have a voice in the University
- 3) Representing academic communities and subject based societies
- 4) Advocating for a healthy academic culture within the University

Main responsibilities of the role

Representing students' academic interests

- *Lead and support the Undergraduate, Postgraduate Taught, and Postgraduate Research academic representation structure*
- *Work to increase student engagement in these structures*
- *Support academic representatives with their projects and campaigns*

Ensuring students have a voice in the University

- *Lobby the University over students' academic and educational issues, and attend high-level University education strategy meetings*
- *Ensuring students studying at International campuses and studying via Southampton online are represented and have a voice within the university*
- *Act as Deputy President of the Union, stepping in for the President when needed*

Representing academic communities and subject based societies

- *Lead and support subject based societies, academic communities and their elected committees*
- *Work to increase student engagement in these communities*
- *Ensuring academic communities are represented and have opportunities to feed into relevant university initiatives*

Advocating for a healthy academic culture within the University

- *Champion and take a lead on, campaigning for a healthy work life balance for students*
- *Attend high level university meetings on the academic experience, advocating for a healthy work life balance*
- *Lobbying the university on issues around timetabling, assessments and workload which impact on a healthy academic culture*

As VP Education you will be expected to attend the following meetings and key working groups within the University and SUSU:

- *Education and Student Experience Committee*
- *Academic Quality Standards Subcommittee*
- *Education Partnerships Subcommittee*
- *Doctoral College Board*
- *University Senate*
- *Regular meetings with the University's Vice-President (Education)*
- *The University's Strategic Major Projects as relevant*

This list is not exhaustive, you will be required to attend other meetings and be involved with projects and campaigns as they arise throughout your term as a sabbatical officer, as deemed appropriate by the Union.

Where can you find guidance?

- *Representation Team:* representation@soton.ac.uk

How to nominate for the role:

In order to stand as a candidate, you will need to submit a short statement letting everyone know why they should vote for you. You don't need to have any previous experience so simply focus on what you will achieve if elected.

Log in to our website at www.susu.org/elections and fill out the nominations form. There is no need to create a new account, just use your University credentials.

For any queries about the election, please contact us at representation@susu.org.

Term of office: 1st July – 30th June

Our Values

As an organisation, our values underpin our work and guide what we live by in order to achieve our mission:



Stand Strong

We stand up for students and make sure their voices are heard.

We stand strong when facing challenges and are not afraid to be different. We think big and work to achieve great things.



Join Together

We are an inclusive and diverse community of students and staff.

We join together with each other, the University, and the local community to make a positive difference.



Take Responsibility

We take action on the issues that matter to students and act with integrity.

We continually work to be more sustainable, challenging discrimination and prejudice. We strive to be a force for good for students and wider society.