

PRESIDENT



The University of Surrey
Students' Union

UNION PRESIDENT

Full Time, Paid

The Union President is the lead representative of the Students' Union – this is the lead officer position, responsible for leading the strategic direction of the Students' Union with the support of the officer and staff team. The role of Union President involves grasping important student issues, management the Vice Presidents, chairing the Union's Board of Trustees and having a vision for the organisation. The President is also a trustee of the University, making this officer a voting member on University Council.

Leading the Union | As the leader of the Union, the President drives the agenda for what the organisation focuses on during their time in office, and ensures that the team are working to improve the student experience and students' satisfaction in the Union. Leading the Union involves having a vision, and the President will work with full time members of staff to implement their vision for the year that they are in office. The President also leads the sabbatical team and delegates to relevant Vice Presidents when necessary.

Lead Representative | Being the lead representative for the Union means that the President is the lead spokesperson for the organisation to senior University staff, local Council and nationally. The President works with all the Vice Presidents and full time members of staff to ensure they fully understand the issues that each zone is tackling on behalf of students, and discuss those issues at all the senior meetings that they attend, to better the student experience. The President will also be the officer to respond to the press in the first instance if necessary.

Being a Manager | This officer will manage the Vice Presidents and has a close working relationship with the Union's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who is accountable to the Board of Trustees. Managing the Vice Presidents will involve regular one-to-one meetings to track their progress on their manifestos and ensure they are fulfilling their promises to the student body. The President will also need to be prepared to resolve any conflict within the team and with the help of full time staff, so that there is a strong working relationship between all officers. Working closely with the Union CEO, the Union President helps to ensure that they are fulfilling their responsibility to the Union's Board of Trustees, which the President leads. The relationship between the CEO and the President is one of the most important relationships within the organisation and the President will need to ensure that this relationship is maintained.

Liberation Committee | The President works with the Union's team of Liberation Reps and zone members throughout the year to represent different sections of the student community at Surrey. The President chairs the Liberation Committee and supports events, projects, and feedback opportunities led by the Liberation Reps.

Students' Union Board of Trustees | The Board of Trustees is the governing committee for the Union, looking at the current and future strategy, ensuring the good practice on the board and that the Union is operating within the law. The President is chair of the board of trustees and is responsible for ensuring all trustees are engaged, talking about relevant issues and setting the agenda for the meeting.

University Council | As a voting member of the University Council, the President will contribute to the strategic decisions that the University makes from the student perspective, and ensure that the student experience is embedded into the University strategy.

University Committee Roles | Each of the full time sabbatical officers sits on several University Committee meetings, making decisions at the highest level and having a real impact on the student experience. The President is a member of: University Council, University Senate, Capital Planning Committee, Executive Board Estates Committee, Executive Board IT Committee, International Relations Executive Group, Quality and Standards Subcommittee, The Campus Catering Management Group, Accommodation Steering Group, Simply Fresh Management Group, Surrey Sports Park Board, Learning and Teaching Spaces Steering Group and the University and Students' Union Committee.

Union Committee Roles | The Union President sits on a number of Union Committees including: Board of Trustees (Chair), Finance Committee (Chair), Management Committee (Chair), HR Committee (Chair), Democracy Committee, Health and Safety Committee and the Union's Executive Committee.

University Panel Member | All full-time sabbaticals become University Panel Members, joining senior University staff in making decisions regarding academic appeals, complaints, disciplinary hearings, fitness to study and fitness to practise. Officers receive full training and support with this role.