

UNION CHAIRPERSON

Part Time, Voluntary

The Union Chair is the only full time student that is a trustee of the Union and a part time officer. This officer chairs the Union Executive Committee (Exec) and is the lead student representative – responsible for leading the conversation, holding the elected officers to account and upholding the Union's byelaws and policies.

Student Trustee | The Union Chair is a member of the Board of Trustees that governs the organisation and votes on the strategic direction that the Union takes. This officer is a member of this board to ensure that the Union always places student interests at the heart of its decision making processes.

Union Executive Committee (Exec) | This committee discusses Union policy and decides on the opinion of the Union on certain issues, and will also decide on the action the Union will take regarding these issues. The Union Chair ensures that there is a fair debate amongst members of the committee so that a fair decision can be made. This officer also raises awareness about the committee by advertising the meeting times and location through appropriate channels, and ensures that students have the opportunity to submit motions and participate in the meetings.

Union Policy | The Union Chair has responsibility of ensuring the Union is taking action to fulfil any policies passed at the Union Executive Committee. This officer also ensures that all policies passes at Exec are on the Union website and communicated to students through appropriate channels so that students are aware of what is happening at their Union.

Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) | The AMM is an opportunity for all students to shape their Union by approving the final draft of the proposed subvention request, discussing Union affiliations and reviewing/ amending Union policy. The Union Chair is responsible for raising awareness about their event and allowing students to submit motions to be discussed at the meeting. This officer will also ensure that there is a fair debate where necessary to ensure a fair decision is made on any issues. The Union Chair will work with full time members of staff to ensure that the rules for the AMM are clearly advertised in advance, so students attending are aware of how the meeting works.

Union Byelaws | The byelaws are a set of rules which the Students' Union has to follow. The Chair is responsible for ensuring that Union is operating within its byelaws, and if necessary make any rulings based on the byelaws. Any decisions made by the Union Chair based on the byelaws are final and can only be overturned by the Board of Trustees.

Holding Elected Officers to Account | The Union Chair will hold all officers to account during Union Executive meetings but is mainly responsible for holding the Union President to account. This officer will ensure that the President is leading the organisation in a way that is right for the student body, and fulfilling the promises made in their manifesto to the student body.

The Union Chair will also chair other additional committees throughout the year, such as Democracy Committee and election planning meetings.

All Union officers are asked to participate as part of a team in activities that enhance the Students' Union's engagement with its members.

Overall, this part time student role is an excellent choice for any student looking to take on a leadership role in their spare time. An interest in policy and democracy is an advantage, but knowledge is not essential, full training and support will be provided.