



THE
SU
VOICE

Becoming a Students' Union Officer

Make a Difference. Lead Change. Represent Students.

What is an SU Officer?

Definition: Full-time, paid, elected student leaders of the Students' Union.

**Full-time job from June 2025 to June 2026.*

**Payment of £30,000 for your year in office.*

**You will be expected to work in person, primarily on the Claverton Down Campus.*

**You cannot do this role alongside your studies (PGT Student? – this is different! We are happy to explain).*

Your role: Represent students, run campaigns, improve the student experience.

How: Liaise with students, working with senior staff, attend various meetings.

Examples of Positions: SU President, Education Officer, Sports Officer...

What is a Student Trustee?

Through appointment of becoming an SU Officer, you are expected to fulfil trustee responsibilities via attendance at Trustee Board Meetings.

**You would not fulfil these responsibilities until you have officially in position.*

**You would be subject to standardised checks to ensure your legitimacy to become a trustee.*

**You would be registered on the charity commission website.*

As a trustee you are responsible for the SU's governance:

- Overseeing Strategy
- Managing Finances
- Ensuring compliance and risk management
- Actively involving yourself in meetings and relevant discussions

“Students” → “Student Officers” → “Trustee Role” → “Positive Impact”

What is the Trustee Board?

The SU is a registered charity which exists to achieve a charitable purpose as outlined in our Articles of Governance. As part of this we have a set of Charitable Objectives that must be upheld. These are,

- *Promoting the interests and welfare of Students at The University of Bath during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;*
- *Being the recognised (legally) representative channel between Students, and The University of Bath and any other external bodies;*
- *Providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students.*

The board includes...

Student officers + Student Trustees + Lay Trustees + Senior SU Staff

Your Dual Role

“Two Roles, One Mission”

Student Officer	Student Trustee
Represent students' views.	Oversee the SU Strategy.
Lead campaigns and events.	Uphold and support SU Finances.
Liaise with senior stakeholders.	Ensure charitable objectives are upheld.
Champion inclusion and equality.	Make long-term decisions.
Be the face of the Student Body.	Manage and oversee risk.

What does it look like Day-to-Day?

Example Scenario... **Should the SU remain affiliated to NUS (National Union of Students)?**

- **SU Officer:**
 - What is the benefit of being in the NUS? - lack of impact, lack of support, etc.
 - There is a huge cost associated with being a member of the NUS.
 - Students could be wanting the SU to spend money on other initiatives.
- **Student Trustee:**
 - There is a financial impact on commercial services by disaffiliating.
 - We would miss out on sector networking opportunities by leaving the NUS.
 - Push for a referendum to allow students to make a choice either way.

No experience? No Problem!

You don't need to know anything before you start. All the training and support you will need is provided!

Key Areas of Training:

1. Officer Handover

You'll liaise with the outgoing officer to gather their intel, knowledge and expertise.

2. Induction Programme

You'll receive a comprehensive training programme, delivered by SU Staff and significant stakeholders.

3. Ongoing Support and Development

You'll receive regular briefings and check-in's as well as mentoring and professional develop sessions.

This is a learning role — you'll gain skills, confidence, and knowledge as you go.

How to become an SU Officer...

Step 1 – **Head to the SU Website**

Read through the available information; understand rules and check your candidacy.

Step 2 – **Nominate Yourself**

Submit a nomination, and complete relevant forms (available on the SU website).

Step 3 – **Plan Your Campaign**

Decide on your key messages, what changes do you want to make?

Step 4 – **Write your Manifesto**

Your Manifesto is your opportunity to tell people why they should vote for you.

Step 5 – **Voting Opens**

All students can vote for the candidate who best represents their interests.

Step 6 – **Results Announced**

Why you should become an SU Officer...

- **Make a Real Difference:** Be the voice for students.
- **Leave an Impact at Bath:** Champion for shared values.
- **Develop Key Skills:** Leadership, Communication, Strategy, and decision-making.
- **Shape the SU:** Influence its future direction and improve student life.
- **Gain Experience:** Looks great on your CV and prepared you for leadership roles.
- **Empower yourself:** Get involved in some once in a lifetime opportunities.

Key Takeaways

1. As an SU Officer, you are the **voice of students**.
2. As an SU Officer, you will take on a **full-time paid job**.
3. As an SU Officer you are a **staff member** of the Students' Union.
4. You will help run and improve the SU as a **Student Trustee**.
5. You will uphold the SU Strategy and **prepare the SU for the future**.
6. You'll **lead campaigns, manage change, and make a lasting impact**.
7. You will liaise with senior stakeholders and **build your network**.
8. You'll **shape your CV** and gain real-world examples to help you stand out.
9. You **don't need prior experience** – just enthusiasm & passion to make a difference.
10. Throughout the process you will receive **staff support**, as well as a **staff mentor**.

GET INVOLVED!!!

How to nominate yourself for elections – **Head to the SU Website.**

Key Dates and deadlines –

Nominations Close – Monday 10th February

Deadline for Manifesto's and Candidate Forms – Monday 17th February

Candidates Meeting – Wednesday 19th February

Candidates Announced – Thursday 20th February

Questions to Candidates – Monday 24th February

Voting Opens – Tuesday 25th February

Voting Closes – Thursday 27th February

Results Announced – Friday 28th February

For any help or significant questions, please email sureturningofficer@bath.ac.uk

Over to you. Any questions???

“This is your chance to lead, inspire and make change happen”



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