

**UUSU Student Executive Report**

**Report of the Vice President Belfast**

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## Introduction

These reports contain an overview of the work conducted from the beginning of my post on the 1st of July 2025, for day-to-day regular updates and for informal vlogs as well as our officer social media accounts please visit [www.uusu.org](http://www.uusu.org/). I welcome comments and/or feedback from members and can be contacted through [Insert Email Here]. For any further queries, please contact the Student Executive Secretariat, Mark @[m.francos@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:m.francos@ulster.ac.uk?subject=Student%20Executive%20Query).

### Manifesto Goals

* **Student Safety**: Advocate for increased campus security presence, especially during evenings and weekends.
* **Strengthening student engagement and participation:** create **m**ore inclusive events that reflect our diverse student body-from cultural festivals to open foru**ms.**
* **Lobbying for student's discounts and financial support:** Lobby more affordable public transport passes for students. Push for university-negotiated deals with supermarkets, cafes, and essential service providers.
* **Making Belfast a Greener Campus: A**dvocate for more green spaces, outdoor study areas, and biodiversity projects on campus. Work with the university to reduce single-use plastics and encourage eco-friendly infrastructure. Lobby for a space to create a wellbeing garden for the university. Encourage cycling and walking by improving bike storage and promoting safe pedestrian routes.
* **Promoting Sustainable Practices:** Lauch campaigns on recycling, waste reduction, and responsible consumption. Lobby to bring back the pantry, promote foodbanks to students. Work closely with the sustainability society to organise more events like swap shop, organise a student-staff events/project together. Promote repair cafes, clothes swaps, and second-hand

book fairs.

**Championing students’ housing and renters’ rights:** Campaign for better university accommodation standards and transparent pricing. Work with local councils and housing associations to expand affordable housing options for students.

### My Working Groups / Committees

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Working Group / Committee | Reason for UUSU Representation |
| Responsible Futures working group | Co-chair. Promoting sustainable practices and encouraging more student engagement and participation. |
| Corporate Social Responsibility Working Group (CSR) | To ensure that students perspectives, priorities, and lived experiences are represented in the university’s sustainability and community impact initiatives. |
| Revalidation Unit | To make sure student needs, feedback, and lived experiences are embedded in the review process, helping shape programmes that remain relevant, inclusive, and of high quality. |
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### My Policies / Portfolio Assignments

**List of Policies**

* Climate and Emergency (Plastic free) (Protecting the pollinators)
* Public Transport

**Your Portfolio**

**Favour’s role as VP Belfast is to support, represent and connect with you, ensuring that any issues you raise are addressed, your voice is heard, and your university experience is the best it can be. She works closely with students and staff and the wider community to create a positive a positive, inclusive, and empowering enviornment where every student can thrive.**

[Brief outline of the portfolio based on role description / own words.]

## Monthly Updates

### July 2025

**Officer Update**

From June 23rd, our induction programme began with a Team Introduction Day, allowing us to meet colleagues, understand team structures, and familiarise ourselves with roles and responsibilities.  
  
 On June 24th, the introduction continued with the Senior Management Team (SMT), providing valuable insight into strategic priorities, organisational leadership, and key decision-making processes.  
  
 On June 25th, I met with the Student Activities Team for an induction session focused on societies, volunteering, and opportunities for students to get involved in campus life. We explored ways to enhance participation, support student-led initiatives, and promote inclusive engagement.  
  
 June 26th marked the Trustee Board Meeting, giving us a first-hand understanding of governance, accountability, and the role of trustees in guiding organisational direction.  
  
 On July 7th, we took part in the Student Voice Induction, which deepened our knowledge of student representation systems and strengthened our leadership skills to better advocate for the student body.  
  
 On July 10th, we completed Difficult Conversations Training, equipping us with strategies to handle sensitive discussions constructively, maintain professionalism under pressure, and resolve conflicts effectively.

In July, we also attended Student Unions training.

August15th-18th  
  •Attended Students’ Union training at Queen’s University Belfast, alongside other student unions across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.  
  •Engaged in brainstorming on improving student representation and collaboration.  
  
August29th  
  •Attended Wonkhe Training, exploring higher education policy and leadership development.  
September 2nd  
  • Participated in the NUS-USI Working Group/HE Officer Meeting to discuss student priorities and policy updates.  
  • Joined the Reusable Cup Day Working Group Meeting, focusing on sustainability initiatives.  
  • Contributed to the Development of Officer Engagement Plans to strengthen student involvement  
September3rd  
 •Completed SSA Training and Society Management Training, enhancing understanding of student society support and administration.  
  
September4th-5th  
  •Attended the RAISE Conference, learning about student engagement, inclusion, and best practices in student partnership.  
  
September8th  
  •Met with the Climate Strategy Consultant to discuss sustainability goals and student-led environmental initiatives.  
  
September 10th

•Participated in Anchor Day in Belfast, representing UUSU and engaging with stakeholders.  
 •Attended the Net Zero Meeting, contributing to discussions on the university’s sustainability commitments.  
  
September11th  
 •Supported and attended Society Rep Training, helping to equip student leaders with skills and resources.  
 •Participated in Student Autism Awareness Day, where we presented the student networks to attendees.  
 Attend a Student Panel Meeting to share updates and gather student feedback.  
 •Joined the No Disposable Cup Day campaign to promote environmental awareness.  
September12th-13th  
 •Took part in Public Speaking and Social Media Training, improving communication and engagement skills.  
 •Joined Mature Students Training, supporting inclusivity for returning learners.  
  
September14th  
 •Engaged with students during Move-In Weekend, welcoming new students and promoting UUSU services and opportunities.  
  
September 15th  
 •Officially launched Welcome Week, marking the beginning of student activities, events, and community engagement for the academ️ic year.

**September 16**  
**• Officially launched *Welcome to UUSU* and *Student Representation Nominations***

**• Welcome new students and introduce them to the Students’ Union, its services, and how to get involved.**

**September 17**

**• Attended a Revalidation meeting.**

**• Led a campus tour for prospective students at Belfast, highlighting SU involvement opportunities.**

**September 18**

**•Participated in *SDGs and UUSU Meet – A Meeting Point*, bringing together university and SU staff to align on shared priorities and goals for the year.**

**•Attended *Postgraduate Induction*, promoting SU events and student engagement.**

**•Spoke at *Year 1 & 2 Accounting and Law Inductions* to encourage student involvement.**

**September 19**

**•Travelled to Dublin to participate in the *Cearta Irish Language Campaign Protest*.**

**September 22**

**•Supported the *Fees and Funding Campaign* launch.**

**•Kicked off *Freshers Week* with “Meet Your UUSU,” engaging new students about joining societies and getting involved.**

**September 23**

**•Joined the *Sunrise Hike* and *Petting Farm* events.**

**•Attended *Freshers at 123 York Street*, *ResLife Induction*, and *Big Freshers Quiz*.**

**September 24**

**•Participated in *Ice Cream Giveaway*, *Give Impact SU Launch Webinar*, *Craft and Chat*, *ResLife Induction*, and *Gaming Night*.**

**September 25**

**•Supported *Belfast Freshers Fayre*, *Pizza & Paint*, and *Sex Toy Bingo*.**

**September 26**

**•Hosted *Wind Down with UUSU,*  an amazing turnout across all Freshers events!**

**September 29**

**•Contributed to the *Money Talk Campaign* planning, a new initiative to help students manage finances and address cost of living challenges, including budgeting tips and meal prep videos.**

**September 29 – October 4**

**•Led the *No Reusable Cup Week* campaign, encouraging staff and students to use reusable cups instead of disposables.**

**September 30**

**•Participated in the *Woke Up Like This* campaign and *Society Forum*.**

**October 1**

**•Attended *Online Divestment and Ethical Financial Training*.**

**October 2**

**•Joined the *Money Talk Campaign* follow-up meeting.**

**October 3**

**•Attended *Student Executive Meeting* in Coleraine.**

**October 6**

**•Took part in the *Big Campaign Meeting* to review progress and plan next steps.**

**•Met with *Go Global* to discuss a collaborative student event.**

**•Participated in the *Freshers Week Retro* to celebrate success and gather feedback for next year.**

**•Attended *Accounting Induction*.**

**October 8**

**•Collaborated with *Student Wellbeing* to celebrate *World Mental Health Day.***

**Ongoing Work**  
 **•** **Promoting student representation nominations across events and social media.**  
 **•** **Supporting inclusion, engagement, and wellbeing initiatives for all students**

*[Insert details of actions taken in your specific portfolio, for example, development of green week if you were leading on the Sustainability Portfolio, or details of a plagiarism campaign if you were leading on Education for example.]*

**Policy Updates**

*Insert list of policies you are responsible for and outline latest developments*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Policy** | **Latest Developments** | **Next Steps** |
| **[Vegan Cheese on Pizza]** | **[Dominos have announced their support for all cheese to be vegan]** |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Climate Changes and** | **Currently under review** | **Arranging a one-one meeting with Mark before council meeting to review policy.** |
| **Public Transport** | **Currently under review** | **Arranging a one-one meeting with Mark for review before first council.** |

**Campaign Updates**

*Insert list of Campaign you are responsible for and outline latest developments*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campaign Name** | **Campaign Focus Week** | **Associated Policy** | **Latest Developments** |
| **Fees and Funding** | **Throughout the semester.** | **Cost of living**  **Public transport** | **Money talk campaign-a series of events designed to help students plan their budgets and save money. W e also plan to do a series of meal prep video to show students how to save cost and manage well.** |
| **Transport** | **Throughout the semester** | **Public Transport** | **In collaboration with queen student union to lobby for student discount.** |
|  |  |  | **Late night buses have recently been achieved coming into operation by December, a great achievement, we will keep encouraging students to us them more.** |
|  |  |  |  |

**Networks Updates**

*Insert list of Networks you are responsible for and outline latest developments*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Network Name** | **Date of Meeting** | **Membership Engagement** | **Latest Developments** |
| **DisABILTY Empowerment Network** | **2nd of October** | **10** | **Met online to let member know SWANN no longer exist, and DEN has recently been launched, and they are free to join ib or contact Charolette if they are interested on becoming a committee member.** |
| **Women’s Empowerment Network** | **2nd October** | **Lots of students about WEN,** | **TCurrently collating videos about what empowerment means as a woman and got a good number of responses.** |

**Event and Activities Updates**

*Insert list of Events and Activities you attended this month*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/Activities Name** | **Date of Event** | **Membership Engagement** | **Successes** | **Recommendations** |
| **Launched welcome to uusu and student representation Nominations.**  **Led campus tours for prospective students.**  **Delivered inductions for postgraduate, accounting, and law students.**  **Participated in fresher's week events:Sunrise Hike, petting far, ice-cream give away, Pizza and Paint, sex toy bingo and more...** | **Sep 16-Oct 8** | **We had a good turnout throughout the events.** | **All Events went well, and students were really excited to join in,** |  |
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**Meetings Attended**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Name** | **Matters Discussed** | **UUSU Contribution** | **Action Required** |
| Revalidation Meeting | Concerns raised by students. | Suggestions to help improve student's experience. | To make some changes to help students. |
| Divestment, reinvestment and ethical finance training | Facts about redirection, aligning student funds and university partnerships with student values, (sustainabillty, equality, justice). | An eye opener to factual examples given and give us a good sense of direction. | Ask the right questions and see how to lobby more opportunities that will help students. |
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|  |  |  |  |

### August 2025

Insert above once complete.

### September 2025

### October 2025

### November 2025

### December 2025

### January 2026

### February 2026

### March 2026

### April 2026

### May 2026

### June 2026