

**UUSU Student Executive Report**

**Report of the Vice President of Education**

**TITLE PAGE**

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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 [r.robinson1@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:r.robinson1@ulster.ac.uk). 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

* Campaign for more inclusive mental health support for all students (especially those who are living with someone who suffers from poor mental health). It needs to be made clear that the Student Wellbeing resources are for all students.
* Improve student engagement with Employability and Careers Services. Ulster has a wide range of resources available to students, but better advertising is needed.
* Protect ‘KWAF’ (or find a suitable alternative). Students struggle with busy timetables, and many struggle financially, while others have other commitments. Finding a free afternoon for all courses would be beneficial for all students.
* Improve cross-campus communication. All campuses are important, but this is not always conveyed. Belfast and Coleraine receive the most attention, while Magee struggles to keep up. There are instances where all three campuses are out of sync, and students of each respective campus are unaware of what occurs in the other campuses. There are opportunities that we should take advantage of to create a better UU community.
* Encourage education outside the degree. (This feeds into my education campaign.)
* Education campaign – Connected Campus. Engage, Enjoy, Excel. Idea to promote all educational opportunities UU offers students. For example, EDGE, EDGE Excel, Interview 360, Handshake, CV Builders, Societies, Committees, Student Council etc. Promote the idea that there is more to university life than studying, there are opportunities for personal development.

### My Working Groups / Committees

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Working Group / Committee | Reason for UUSU Representation |
| Student Council | Listen to student councillors and influence policy and governance |
| Student Executive | Student Officers can hold each other accountable, give reports and updates on policy developments |
| Student Voice | Ensure students’ voices are heard, and any issues raised are investigated/resolved |
| Post Grad Researcher | Advocate for post-graduate students |
| Management Board | Work together with student officers for advice and support on policy |
| Learning and Teaching Committee | Monitor quality of academic standards |
| Academic Standards and Quality Enhancement Committee | Monitor the quality of courses, room for improvement |
| ASQEC: Regulations Sub-Committee | Challenge authority on policy that will affect students |
| Disciplinary Committee | Ensure fairness to the student in question, provide advice |
| AHSS – Faculty Board | Provide support to AHSS Faculty Rep |
| CEBE – Faculty Board | Provide support to CEBE Faculty Rep |
| LHS – Faculty Rep | Provide support to LHS Faculty Rep |
| UUBS – Faculty Rep | Provide support to UUBS Faculty Rep |
| Revalidation Panel Membership | Ensure required standards are met by staff |
| Leave of Absence Working Group | Ensure students who require a Leave of Absence have the necessary support they need |
| Regulations Sub-Committee | Ensure directives are followed by students and staff |
| Consumer Protection Committee | Ensure students receive what they pay for – protect their right to education |
| In-module assignment recovery group | Signpost academic support for students |
| AROW – At risk of withdrawal (could be under review) | Advocate for students, provide support |
| Student Experience – Student Voice | Student feedback is vital to improve educational services |
| UUSU Magee Development Oversight Project | Ensure students are still receiving a high standard of education amidst the Magee Expansion |
|  |  |

### My Policies / Portfolio Assignments

**List of Policies**

* Timetabling Policy
* Free Education
* AI
* Reasonable Adjustments
* Cost of Learning/Hidden Course Costs

**Your Portfolio**

I am the VP for Education at UUSU, standing for all matters related to education that directly affect students. I represent students in all areas of academia in meetings, policies and campaigns. I will work with academic staff, student reps, student voice, and the rest of the officer team to advocate for improvements for students' educational experience at Ulster. My manifesto also outlines promoting education outside of the degree. I aim to achieve this by highlighting the range of educational services available to students on campus, e.g. Employability and Careers Services (Handshake, Interview 360), the opportunity to be involved as an academic representative (course rep, school rep), and the opportunity to be involved in Student Council.

## Monthly Updates

### July 2025

**Officer Update**

*[Insert general overview, cover broadly what has been going on, with specific detail if appropriate in the relevant sections below]*

*-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*

**Portfolio Report**

*Initial planning for the Education Campaign – Connected Campus. The campaign idea revolves around promoting student engagement with educational services on campus. Various opportunities exist for students, but knowledge and where to find them is the issue.*

*Educational services for future careers, mental health, university involvement etc. Can be advertised online via Instagram. Students rarely check their emails but spend a vast amount of time on social media, so it is one of the best ways to communicate with them.*

*While education will be the primary focus, but student enjoyment will also be promoted. By engaging with societies and becoming committee members, students can develop professional skills but also make memories and friends.*

*Also, initial planning for a Timetabling Campaign (working together with the VPM). The campaign involves petitioning for students to receive their timetables at least two weeks before the start of term so students can organise part-time work, childcare, and caring responsibilities. It is unfair for students to receive timetables the week term begins and for there to be clashes/room changes on the day of class. When Ulster University advertises that it is the Times Higher Education University of the year, they need to be held accountable for timetabling mishaps.*

*Met with UUBS team leads, as well as the new Faculty Rep – briefly discussed plans for the year and offered support and advice for the school’s 50th year celebrations.*

*Attended SUT in Galway – received extensive training that can be implemented in all aspects of my role.*

*Completed extensive training from various UUSU staff including Green Dot Training, Recruitment and Selection Training, Student Voice induction, Finance Training, HR training etc.*

*Started working on Policy drafts.*

**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]** |  |
| **Timetabling** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **Free Education** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **AI** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **Reasonable Adjustments** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **Cost of Learning/Hidden Course Costs** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |

**Campaign Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campaign Name** | **Campaign Focus Week** | **Associated Policy** | **Latest Developments** |
| **Mental Health (Aiding)** | **TBD** | **Mental Health First Aid (may be revised)** | **Meeting to discuss our approach** |
| **Education Campaign** | **Connected Campus (TBD)** |  | **Initial planning** |
|  |  |  |  |
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**Networks Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Network Name** | **Date of Meeting** | **Membership Engagement** | **Latest Developments** |
| **DisABILTY Empowerment Network** |  |  |  |
| **Women’s Empowerment Network** |  |  |  |

**Event and Activities Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/Activities Name** | **Date of Event** | **Membership Engagement** | **Successes** | **Recommendations** |
| **SUT Galway** | **21st – 25th July 2025** | **Student Executive** | **Received SU training that can be used in my role** | **Beneficial for future officers** |
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**Meetings Attended**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Name** | **Matters Discussed** | **UUSU Contribution** | **Action Required** |
| Student Executive 01/07/2025 | Initial planning for the year, explanation of Officer Reports | Student representation | Completion of Officer Reports for next SE |
| Officer Catch Up with Mandy  08/07/2025 | How I’m settling in, responsibilities, discussion regarding committees | Support, advice | Introductions, learn from Emily’s experiences |
| Meeting with Aisling  08/07/2025 | Reasonable adjustments for my disability | Support | Communicate my reasonable adjustments, ask for clarification |
| UUBS UUSU New Team Introductions 09/07/2025 | Introductions, plans for 50th Anniversary celebrations | Ideas for celebrations, plans for working relationships | Keep in contact |
| Palestine Stance Meeting  29/07/2025 | Review of statement | Minor amendments  100% backed | Share on Officer socials |
| SUT Final Planning  17/07/2025 | Expectations, requirements | Advice | Contribute and learn |
| Mental Health Campaign Meeting 1  29/07/2025 | Campaign planning document, initial events planning | In charge of campaign | Further planning, appoints leads for each event |
| Liberal Arts Revalidation  29/07/2025 | Course content | To be discussed | Contact Paul Frazer and President then email Jan |
|  |  |  |  |

### August 2025

**Officer Update**

*[Insert general overview, cover broadly what has been going on, with specific detail if appropriate in the relevant sections below]*

*-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------*

**Portfolio Report**

*Further planning for the Education Campaign – Connected Campus. The campaign will revolve around promoting student engagement with educational services on campus. Various opportunities exist for students, but knowledge and where to find them is the issue. Ulster offers educational services that help students prepare for future careers, mental health, university involvement etc. Can be advertised online via Instagram. Students rarely check their emails but spend a vast amount of time on social media, so it is one of the best ways to communicate with them.*

*While education will be the primary focus, but student enjoyment will also be promoted. By engaging with societies and becoming committee members, students can develop professional skills but also make memories and friends. Activities will include EDGE, EDGE Excel, UUSU Societies, Course Reps, Student Council.*

*Further developments have been made with the Mental Health Campaign. I oversee Stress Less for the examination period. Social media will be used to create serious and humorous reels about exam stress and how to cope with it. Promotion of Student Wellbeing for students who are struggling.*

*Further developments have also been made with the Social Justice and Activism Campaign. I oversee the Disability project which will run all year round, but specific campaigns will highlight Disability History Month and ADHD Awareness Month. The aim of the project is to create a more inclusive university experience for disabled students who can feel disconnected from their peers for many reasons such as accessibility.*

*Over the past few weeks, I have also been introduced to core contacts. Gained more understanding of my role as VPE, what meetings I am required to attend, and how to contribute meaningfully to them and represent students.*

*Attended SUT+ at Queens University in Belfast. The training was very beneficial, and we all gained important skills that can be implemented in all aspects of our roles. I feel more prepared.*

*Made first connections with the Doctoral College. I attended the DC Coffee Morning, chatted with PGRs, making sure they understood that UUSU represents them, too.*

*Finalising Policy Drafts with Mark – Hidden Course Costs, AI, Timetabling, Free Education, Reasonable Adjustments.*

***First learning curve – I failed to follow the proper procedures to pursue timetable changes. I overstepped the boundary, so all communications and developments are paused until further notice.***

*Completed more essential training for the officer role – WONKHE Training, SUT+, and Policy Training.*

**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]** |  |
| **Timetabling** | **New draft pending/almost complete** | **Review** |
| **Free Education** | **New draft pending/almost complete** | **Review** |
| **AI** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **Reasonable Adjustments** | **New draft pending** | **Review** |
| **Cost of Learning/Hidden Course Costs** | **New draft pending/almost complete** | **Review** |

**Campaign Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campaign Name** | **Campaign Focus Week** | **Associated Policy** | **Latest Developments** |
| **Mental Health**  **(Support)** | **November/Movember**  **Examination Weeks** | **Mental Health First Aid (may be revised)** | **Campaign projects agreed, initial planning sorted** |
| **Education Campaign**  **Connected Campus** | **All year** |  | **Initial planning** |
| **Social Justice Campaign**  **(name TBD)**  **My responsibility - Disability** | **Disability History Month – November-December**  **ADHD Awareness Month** | **Reasonable Adjustments (being reviewed)** | **Initial planning**  **Commemorative days for disability need to be narrowed down.** |
|  |  |  |  |

**Networks Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Network Name** | **Date of Meeting** | **Membership Engagement** | **Latest Developments** |
| **DisABILTY Empowerment Network** | **Has not occurred yet** | **N/A** | **Charlotte has created a network guide and provided a logo** |
| **Women’s Empowerment Network** | **Has not occurred yet** | **N/A** |  |

**Event and Activities Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/Activities Name** | **Date of Event** | **Membership Engagement** | **Successes** | **Recommendations** |
| **SUT+** | **13th-15th August 2025** | **N/A** | **Student Union Training – how to cope throughout the year** | **Beneficial for future officers** |
| **DC Coffee Morning** | **20th August 2025** | **7** | **PGR connections** | **Good event to attend to reach PGRs** |
| **Student Voice – New Survey Questions Workshop** | **21st August 2025** | **N/A** | **Represented UUSU in the survey** | **Good to engage with staff and explain the importance of Student Voice** |
| **AI Conference** | **26th-28th August** | **Very few** | **Gained better understanding of AI** | **Good information, useful for AI policy** |
| **WONKHE Training** | **29th August** | **All 7 Officers** | **Understanding of how to approach problems, work together, prioritisation, recognising our power** | **Highly useful information, confidence booster** |
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**Meetings Attended**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Name** | **Matters Discussed** | **UUSU Contribution** | **Action Required** |
| Mental Health Campaign Meeting 1  29/07/2025 | Campaign planning document, initial events planning | In charge of campaign | Further planning, appoints leads for each event |
| Liberal Arts Revalidation  29/07/2025 | Course content | To be discussed | Contact Paul Frazer and President then email Jan |
| Revalidation chat 31/07/2025 | What they are, my role explained | My role as VP Education | Be prepared for revalidations |
| Social Justice and Activism Campaign Meeting  31/07/2025 | Campaign planning document, initial events planning | In charge of campaign  VPE - Disability | Further planning, fill out campaign sheet |
| VPED x PRES 121  31/07/2025 | General catch up/plans | Advice from PRES | Officer Year Plan |
| Trustee Board  31/07/2025 | Updates | Sport? |  |
| Sport Induction  4/08/2025 | Sports situation, plans for the year | Fundraising ideas and sports promotion | Sporting events suggestions for Caoimhin |
| Education Campaign Meeting 1  4/08/2025 | Discussion of initial plans/whether they are viable | My campaign, my responsibility | Campaign planning sheet, project strands |
| Mentor Meeting  4/08/2025 | How it’s going | Advice from David | Keep going with my plans, reach out if I need help |
| Big Campaigns Catch Up  5/08/2025 | Discussion/sharing progress of all campaigns | Suggestions from officers, involvement in all campaigns | Continue planning, collaborate with other officers |
| Academic Integrity – Resources Sub-Group  7/08/2025 | Role of Academic Integrity, explanation of my role, introductions | Explanation of my role so I can contribute to future meetings |  |
| VP Ed Catch Up 11/08/2025 | Discussion with Mandy and Charotte, how things are going, plans, what I need | Mandy – point of contact | Keep planning the year |
| Mental health campaign meeting 12/08/2025 | Finalising campaign strands and who’s in charge of what | Caoimhin, Chris, Rebekah | Keep filling out form |
| Policy Day  18/08/2025 | Explanation of how to write policy, assignment of policy | Student Officers responsible for UUSU policies | Keep drafting revised policies |
| Student Events Budget Discussion  18/08/2025 | Extra money left in budget for extra event, brainstorming and planning for event | It will be a UUSU Event | Finalise event idea |
| DC Pre-Meeting  19/08/2025 | What to expect | PGRs are represented by UUSU |  |
| DC/UUSU Meeting  19/08/2025 | Introductions, DC plans for the year | PGRs are represented by UUSU, we need to make the effort to connect with them | Attend DC Coffee Morning |
| UU Groupwork Assessment Review  19/08/2025 | Discussion with Rachael about groupwork in courses – pros/cons - how to improve the experience | Gather student opinions about groupwork – UUSU represents students | Gather student opinions about groupwork/brainstorm ideas how to improve experience |
| Freshers Week Events  19/08/2025 | Assigning who is attending which events | UUSU representation – students need to know us, we’re running the events/supporting events | Give Laura definite answers |
| UUSU VP Ed Intro – M Keenan (CEBE)  20/08/2025 | General introduction, initial plans for the year, how I can help | UUSU represents CEBE students |  |
| Social Media Weekly – VP ED and Reps  22/08/2025 | Initial social media planning, discussion of what students engage with | UUSU promotes Student Voice, centre for Reps | Brainstorm serious and comedic video ideas |
| Mandy/Rebekah  22/08/2025 | Discussion of how things are going, what I’ve been doing | Mandy – core contact | Continue planning, use Mandy |
| VPE/GPC Policy | Review my progress of assigned policies, making changes | UUSU policies, my responsibility | Continue to adjust policies |
| Mental Health Campaign Meeting  25/08/2025 | Discussed completed campaign sheet, minor adjustments to be made | UUSU Campaign | Make necessary adjustments |
| Social Justice and Activism Campaign Meeting  28/08/2025 | Discussion of campaign ideas/project branches, list of who to contact, make minor adjustments, complete sheet | UUSU Campaign | Make necessary adjustments |
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### September 2025

**Portfolio Report**

*Further planning for the Education Campaign – The name has changed to Empower Your Education. The campaign will revolve around promoting student engagement with educational services on campus. Various opportunities exist for students, but knowledge and where to find them is the issue. Ulster offers educational services that help students prepare for future careers, mental health, university involvement etc. Can be advertised online via Instagram. Students rarely check their emails but spend a vast amount of time on social media, so it is one of the best ways to communicate with them. I have started to map out a timetable for releasing the social media posts and have started creating content.*

*While education will be the primary focus, but student enjoyment will also be promoted. By engaging with societies and becoming committee members, students can develop professional skills but also make memories and friends. Activities will include Ulster Graduate Award, EDGE, EDGE Excel, UUSU Societies, Course Reps, Student Council, Library Services, Employability/Graduate Futures Services. It's all about preparing student for the future and empowering them to get involved, use their voices, and gain experience for the working world.*

*Further developments have been made with the Mental Health Campaign. We have a clear plan in mind for the year’s events, and planning for Movember is in motion. I support Caoimhin with this. I oversee Stress Less for the examination period. Social media will be used to create serious and humorous reels about exam stress and how to cope with it. Promotion of Student Wellbeing for students who are struggling. The SOS Guide (Stressed Out Students) is mainly complete – I have added in a paragraph of my own. The guide offers alternative study techniques, tips for mental health and wellbeing, and how to study effectively. It should be beneficial for students.*

*Further developments have also been made with the Woke Up Like This (Social Justice and Activism Campaign). I oversee the Disability project which will run all year round, but specific campaigns will highlight Disability History Month and ADHD Awareness Month. The aim of the project is to create a more inclusive university experience for disabled students who can feel disconnected from their peers for many reasons such as accessibility. Plans have been made to upload acknowledgement posts of Dyslexia Awareness Week and ADHD Awareness Month; they just need to be completed. I uploaded a post for the International Day of Sign Languages which received positive feedback and showed UUSU’s commitment to diversity and inclusion.*

*Over the past few weeks, I have also been introduced to core contacts. Gained more understanding of my role as VPE, what meetings I am required to attend, and how to contribute meaningfully to them and represent students. I attended my first ASQEC and LTC. Both meetings were highly productive, and I made sure to represent the students’ interests. First meeting with Professor Odette Hutchinson – beneficial meeting, aligned plans for the year.*

*Welcome Week and Freshers – 2 amazing weeks making the first connections with new and returning students. I had many good chats with students, promoting Course Rep and Student Councillor nominations. Many students were keen to get involved. It was a wonderful experience and a great part of the role. I helped out with Freshers Fayres and Evening Events – there was great student engagement, and I hope this continues throughout the year.*

*Finalising Policy Drafts with Mark – Hidden Course Costs, AI, Timetabling, Free Education, Reasonable Adjustments. Each policy has a full draft. Any adjustments will be made in due course.*

*Win – Supported Psychology students in advocating for themselves in an SSCC. The students felt empowered and managed to secure an extension and a proper brief for the assessment.*

*Ongoing – we are supporting students who are raising a collective complaint at subject level with the Head of School.*

*I have started looking into SEATs and TImetabing complaints brought forward by Year 2 History students – students are timetabled for rooms too small for their capacities, often have to move rooms in the middle of class, and are being taught in the I Block atrium. This is unacceptable. I’m looking into the matter further.*

**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]** |  |
| **Timetabling** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Free Education** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **AI** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Reasonable Adjustments** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Cost of Learning/Hidden Course Costs** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |

**Campaign Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campaign Name** | **Campaign Focus Week** | **Associated Policy** | **Latest Developments** |
| **Mental Health**  **(Support)** | **November/Movember**  **Examination Weeks (SOS Guide – Stressed Out Students Guide)** | **Mental Health First Aid (may be revised)** | **Campaign projects agreed, initial planning sorted** |
| **Education Campaign**  **Empower Your Education** | **All year** | **Free Education**  **AI**  **Cost of Learning**  **Reasonable Adjustments** | **Planned** |
| **Social Justice Campaign**  **(name TBD)**  **My responsibility - Disability** | **Disability History Month – November-December – posts/event planning in progress**  **ADHD Awareness Month – post in progress**  **Dyslexia Awareness Week – post in progress** | **Reasonable Adjustments (being reviewed)** | **Initial planning**  **Commemorative days for disability narrowed down – focus points down** |
|  |  |  |  |

**Networks Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Network Name** | **Date of Meeting** | **Membership Engagement** | **Latest Developments** |
| **DisABILTY Empowerment Network** | **Initial meeting to gain more knowledge of networks** | **N/A** | **Charlotte has created a network guide and provided a logo** |
|  |  |  |  |

**Event and Activities Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/Activities Name** | **Date of Event** | **Membership Engagement** | **Successes** | **Recommendations** |
| **NUS-USI Working Group** | **2/9/2025** | **N/A** | **Plans for the year** | **Keep in touch with QUBSU and NUS-USI** |
| **SAA Training** | **3/9/2025** | **5** | **Made initial connections with SAAs – detailed training given that was engaging** | **Keep in touch with SAAs – offer support** |
| **Raise Conference** | **4/9/2025-5/9/2025** | **Whole Officer Team** | **Officer bonding, insightful sessions about student finance, engagement etc.** | **Keep students involved with SU decisions – promote staff/student relationships** |
| **Belfast society rep training** | **11/9/2025** | **100+** | **Engaged society reps given detailed training. Happy to be involved with UUSU. Most societies have full committees** | **Check in with societies, promote their events, attend events** |
| **UUSU Department Reps Training** | **11/9/2025** | **10** | **Engaged School/Department/Faculty Reps – built initial connections through activities – set up group chat to keep them updated with all things Student Voice**  **Identified myself as Key Contact** | **Keep in touch with reps, ask them about training (what do they think could be improved)** |
| **Welcome to UUSU (Belfast)** | **15/9/2025-18/9/2025** | **150+** | **Students interested in freebies, some asked about nominations, wanted more information about UUSU** | **Clearer rota** |
| **Meet your UUSU (Coleraine)** | **22/9/2025** | **200+** | **Students got involved, followed UUSU Presents on Instagram, interested in Freshers Events, good conversations about Volunteering, Course Reps, Networks** | **Additional space if possible**  **Good for engagement** |
| **Magee Sunrise Hike** | **23/9/2025** | **15** | **Beautiful walk, built connections with some students, interest in Course Reps** | **Better advertising for meeting place**  **Inclusive activity** |
| **Magee Freshers Fayre** | **23/9/2025** | **300+** | **Great start to Freshers Fayres, good engagement due to prize incentive, but students were willing to listen to Student Voice, voted using ducks, engaged in activities** | **For Magee – bigger space if possible**  **Popular event with students** |
| **UUSU Sex Toy Bingo (Coleraine)** | **23/9/2025** | **300** | **Enjoyable event for students**  **Conversation starters for SHAG Week** | **Better organisation needed – sign in sheets were difficult to keep track of**  **Popular event – should keep going** |
| **Freshers Fayre (Coleraine)** | **24/9/2025** | **500+** | **Great engagement with Student Voice (the duck helped), students happy to learn about course reps, wanted to know how to get involved, good engagement with networks** | **Organisation**  **Popular event for students, good for building connections with students** |
| **Freshers Fayre (Belfast)** | **25/9/2025** | **600+** | **Fabulous engagement with Student Voice, students loved the duck, they voted in our poll, found the hidden ducks, keen to learn about course reps and councillors. Success for networks.** | **Busiest Freshers’ Fayre – perfect even for students** |
| **UUSU Sex Toy Bingo (Belfast)** | **25/9/2025** | **190?** | **Fun night for students – great engagement – started chats for SHAG Week** | **Fun event for students, should continue** |
| **Freshers’ Week Wind Down (Belfast)** | **26/9/2025** | **20+** | **Relaxed event for student after Freshers’ chaos – time for quieter conversations about course reps, timetabling concerns, SEATS** | **Good event for socially anxious/neurodivergent students** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Meetings Attended**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Name** | **Matters Discussed** | **UUSU Contribution** | **Action Required** |
| **Student Executive 1/9/2025** | **Officer training and development**  **Social media plan and strategy** | **All officers updated on roles and responsibilities – working groups to commence from September - prepared** | **Review working group materials – be prepared for meetings, complete officer reports** |
| **Networks Debrief 1/9/2025** | **Structure of Committees, how they will run, who can join/be committee members** | **Gained understanding of network inner workings** | **Work with Charlotte to recruit members and committee members** |
| **Briefing Seminar 2/9/2025** | **UUSU involvement in revalidations** | **VPE delivered a presentation explaining the importance of Student Voice in course revalidations** | **Read papers of revalidations before they begin** |
| **Developing Officer Engagement Plans**  **2/9/2025** | **Discussed results of NSS – identified areas of little engagement, formulated plans to raise engagement in these areas** | **Commitment to courses – UUSU introductions to be made at welcome week** | **Ensure less engaged/satisfied courses have course reps in place, establish UUSU connection** |
| **Check-In RR/AB 3/9/2025** | **Meeting with Aisling about Work Plan, wellbeing etc.** | **N/A** | **N/A** |
| **Pre-LTC Meeting 8/9/2025** | **Committee Structure, how we can contribute meaningfully to the committee, represent student perspective** | **Gained understanding of role** | **Read papers, make notes on issues involving students** |
| **Chat re. Senate 8/9/2025** | **Committee structure, learned about meaningful contributions, student voice** | **Gained understanding of role** | **Read papers, develop statements** |
| **Groupwork Assessment Student Data Collection Plan 9/9/2025** | **Chat about Groupwork Survey development, how this will be assessed, options for students to complete**  **How UUSU can help** | **Opinion of students on surveys, VPE experience with groupwork – understanding of situation** | **Advertise survey, encourage student participation** |
| **VPE/Rosie Education Campaign Chat 9/9/2025** | **Campaign planning rejigged. Name change. Social media based** | **Officers to support** | **Calendar plan** |
| **LTC Meeting**  **10/9/2025** | **Seats, Mid-Module Survey, NSS, PTES, Extension and Deferral Policy, AI** | **Asked questions relating to student perspective – offered student insight** | **Read papers in preparation for next meeting** |
| **1-1 with David 11/9/2025** | **Officer Plan, discussed if any support is required** | **N/A** | **N/A** |
| **1-1 with Professor Hutchinson 11/9/2025** | **Discussed my Education campaign. Identified areas where Odette can help me. Odette discussed her plans** | **Keep in contact with Odette**  **Planned actions** | **Prepare for next meeting and reach out when I need to.** |
| **ASQEC September 2025 15/9/2025** | **Matters arising, Consumer Protection Policy, Course Revisions, NSS, PTES, Explorance (survey),** | **Defended student voice, asked questions concerning surveys and module feedback** | **Ensure to gauge student opinion on SEATs, AI, Timetabling etc.**  **Read papers for next meeting** |
| **SIF Teaching and Student Centre 16/9/2025** | **Pre-meeting to discuss what to expect, get up to speed with the process** | **Asked questions to improve understanding** | **Read/scan documents for next meeting** |
| **SU Officer Revalidation Training 17/9/2025** | **Discussion on how UUSU contributes to course revalidations** | **N/A** | **Keep in touch with Colette and Helen, read papers before attending a revalidation** |
| **SGS UUSU Meeting 18/9/2025** | **Meeting to discuss plans with the year and identify key contacts to see who can help us achieve our goals** | **Discussed plans, campaigns – made connections with key contacts and departments** | **Keep in contact with relevant departments, build relationships** |
| **SIF Teaching and Student Centre – Working Group 1 18/9/2025** | **3D walkthrough of building** | **Concerns raised over accessibility and room layout/sizes** | **Read papers and building plans for next meeting – do research for student benefit** |
| **FINAL PLANNING DAY, SEMESTER ONE**  **19/9/2025** | **Made plans for each campaign strand – major events noted, materials needed identified** | **Offered input for events – planned Disability branch of Woke Up Like This** | **Stay on track of plan, delegate tasks, keep in contact with Rosie and the team** |
| **UUSU & Library Service Meeting 26/9/2025** | **Conversation about how students are finding the library services (accessible etc)** | **Semester only started, no issues identified yet.**  **Offered to advertise library services as part of education campaign – action agreed** | **Gauge student opinion of library services, flag areas where improvement is needed**  **Support student engagement with library services** |

### October 2025

### **Portfolio Report**

*Further planning for the Education Campaign – The name has changed to Empower Your Education. The campaign will revolve around promoting student engagement with educational services on campus. Various opportunities exist for students, but knowledge and where to find them is the issue. Ulster offers educational services that help students prepare for future careers, mental health, university involvement etc. Can be advertised online via Instagram. Students rarely check their emails but spend a vast amount of time on social media, so it is one of the best ways to communicate with them. I have started to map out a timetable for releasing the social media posts and have started creating content.*

*While education will be the primary focus, but student enjoyment will also be promoted. By engaging with societies and becoming committee members, students can develop professional skills but also make memories and friends. Activities will include Ulster Graduate Award, EDGE, EDGE Excel, UUSU Societies, Course Reps, Student Council, Library Services, Employability/Graduate Futures Services. It's all about preparing student for the future and empowering them to get involved, use their voices, and gain experience for the working world.*

*After speaking with the President, who looked at my campaign from a different angle, I will also put together some questions for students, asking them if they knew about certain opportunities provided by UU or if the advertising was inadequate. Everything centres around students empowering their education, but they cannot do that if UU doesn’t advertise opportunities sufficiently.*

*Further developments have been made with the Mental Health Campaign. Movember is planned, and my responsibilities are clearly outlined. I support Caoimhin with this campaign. I have events to organise and materials to source. I oversee Stress Less for the examination period. We will be launching the SOS Guide during Movember. The guides have been printed and contain a message from myself and VPSW. Social media will be used to create serious and humorous reels about exam stress and how to cope with it. Caoimhin and I have also brainstormed ideas of theme music for Movember events (ABBA SOS). The guide offers alternative study techniques, tips for mental health and wellbeing, and how to study effectively. It should be beneficial for students.*

*Further developments have also been made with the Woke Up Like This (Social Justice and Activism Campaign). I oversee the Disability project which will run all year round, but specific campaigns will highlight Disability History Month and ADHD Awareness Month. The aim of the project is to create a more inclusive university experience for disabled students who can feel disconnected from their peers for many reasons such as accessibility. I uploaded a post for the International Day of Sign Languages which received positive feedback and showed UUSU’s commitment to diversity and inclusion. With help from a student and the VPC, video content has been uploaded for Dyslexia Awareness Week and ADHD Awareness Month – both videos received positive online interaction, students have reached out to show their appreciation for the representation. Events for Black History Month are underway – great engagement so far. Students are embracing the content UUSU is promoting. Catherine, Favour and I have been attending the events recording engagement. The events are a small part in UUSU’s representation of minority students.*

*Since Freshers, many student issues and concerns have been raised. With the help of Mandy, Paul, and Tony, UUSU was able to provide these students with sufficient support which aided in the solution of these issues. Collective student issues such as SEATS and timetabling have been recorded the relevant people have been emailed. A meeting concerning the issues of SEATS is being scheduled.*

*The Course Rep Nominations and Elections are complete. Social media content to promote the nominations was successful. Students loved the content. Slight dip in number of nominations (580), but we are looking for quality over quantity. Being a Course Rep or a Student Councillor is a responsibility. Voting was largely successful, with a 26% increase for Course Rep voting (1484), and a 29% increase in voting for Student Councillors. Training for these roles has been carried out, so students are ready to represent their course mates. Some of these skills have been put into practice already – students are passionate about representation – this is fantastic.*

*Policy Drafts are completed. Hidden Course Costs, AI, Timetabling, Free Education, Reasonable Adjustments. Each policy has a full draft. Any adjustments will be made in due course.*

*Team dynamic is strong. We are working well together; the results can be seen in the planning for events and their success.*

**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]** |  |
| **Timetabling** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Free Education** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **AI** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Reasonable Adjustments** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |
| **Cost of Learning/Hidden Course Costs** | **New draft complete** | **Review** |

**Campaign Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Campaign Name** | **Campaign Focus Week** | **Associated Policy** | **Latest Developments** |
| **Mental Health**  **(Support)** | **November/Movember**  **Examination Weeks (SOS Guide – Stressed Out Students Guide)** | **Mental Health First Aid (may be revised)** | **Campaign projects agreed, planning sorted, tasks delegated** |
| **Education Campaign**  **Empower Your Education** | **All year** | **Free Education**  **AI**  **Cost of Learning**  **Reasonable Adjustments** | **Planned** |
| **Social Justice Campaign**  **(name TBD)**  **My responsibility - Disability** | **Disability History Month – November-December – posts/event planning in progress**  **ADHD Awareness Month – post in progress**  **Dyslexia Awareness Week – post in progress**  **BHM – in progress** | **Reasonable Adjustments (being reviewed)** | **Events planned**  **Commemorative days for disability narrowed down – focus points down**  **Social media content created** |
|  |  |  |  |

**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** | **Not yet** | **Committees being set up**  **Members still needed** | **Charlotte has created a network guide and provided a logo**  **Social media post created to increase student engagement ready to be posted** |
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**Event and Activities Updates**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event/Activities Name** | **Date of Event** | **Membership Engagement** | **Successes** | **Recommendations** |
| **Course Rep/Council Brew Day** | **8/10/2025** | **150+** | **Reached many Coleraine students – high interest in Course Reps = more nominations achieved** | **Should be done every year (but bigger and better) theme them for better engagement** |
| **AMLE Dundalk** | **16/10/2025 - 17/10/2025** | **(UUSU) 5 Officers** | **Valuable insights from other Unions on how to organise fundraisers and events** | **Good for future teams to build connections and share ideas with other unions** |
| **Diwali Henna Workshop** | **20/10/2025** | **Coleraine 10+ students** | **Celebration of diverse culture – students enjoyed the experience** | **UUSU could look into doing a larger event or possibly run an event in the evening when more students are available to attend** |
| **Coleraine Black History Month Pub Quiz** | **20/10/2025** | **50+ students** | **Night full of good craic – Black History round taught students more about Black History – great engagement** | **Perhaps there could be more questions in the round for next year and perhaps get more prizes in the event of bigger teams** |
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**Meetings Attended**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Name** | **Matters Discussed** | **UUSU Contribution** | **Action Required** |
| **Mental Health Campaign Meeting 29/9/2025** | **Movember Plans, progression of SOS Guides** | **Our campaign**  **Gave ideas for mental health events** | **Caoimhin to delegate actions** |
| **Groupwork Assessment T&F Group: Student Data collection planning 30/9/2025** | **Discussion of how data will be collected, went through the questions that will be posed to students** | **Gave student perspective – highlighted current student opinion of groupwork – largely negative** | **Rebekah to promote survey when it goes live** |
| **Woke Up Like This Campaign Meeting 30/9/2025** | **Final planning for Black History Month – post ready to go on the 1st of October** | **Delegation of responsibilities – deciding which member of the campaign will be on each campus for the events** | **Repost social media post – promote UUSU BHM events** |
| **CEBE LTC 2/10/2025** | **Introductions to CEBE team – discussion of CEBE plans for the semester** | **Shared that I had come across no issues for CEBE so far** | **Had to the leave the meeting early due to illness** |
| **The Big Campaigns Catch Up 6/10/2025** | **Update on all campaigns** | **Shared updates with Disability strand, education campaign and mental health** | **Rely on each other for support for campaign events and surveys** |
| **Mental Health Campaign Meeting 6/10/2025** | **Continuation of big meeting – SOS guides ready to be printed, final planning for World Mental Health Day** | **Pointed out WMH Day is a Friday, hosting events mid-week to get more student engagement** | **Support with WMH Day** |
| **Rebekah/David 1-2-1 Catch Up 6/10/2025** | **Discussed progression of my agenda, plans to up engagement for CR and SC nominations** | **David offered support, reminded me to rely on my team** | **Focus on CR nominations, create plan that involves all officers** |
| **Mandy/Rebekah 9/10/2025** | **Discussion of CR and Councillor nominations, how I’m doing, successes and concerns. Plans for voting** | **Mandy stressed that I have support, it’s not all on me** | **Brainstorm ideas for CR elections** |
| **Voice Election Catch Up 9/10/2025** | **Discussion of nominations – comparison of numbers, highlighted success** | **The SV team appreciated my efforts, noted social media aided in nominations, better ideas for next year** | **Brainstorm ideas for the election period, make sure election materials are put up around campuses** |
| **Reval check in 9/10/2025** | **Meeting with Paul to prepare me for revalidation** | **Facilitate conversation between students and panel** | **Create a comfortable environment for students to share their views of the course** |
| **Rebekah and Charlotte 1-1 9/10/2025** | **Discussion of social media content, plan for engagement with student voice** | **Charlotte offered support when needed** | **Continue to promote networks, create a social media post promoting them** |
| **UUSU Trustee Board meeting 9/10/2025** | **Discussion of agenda, finance report, engagement report, President’s update for all areas of UUSU.** | **UUSU members offered insight to student experience and issues that had arisen since the last meeting** | **Keep gauging student opinion** |
| **Revalidation Unit: 10A1a Electronic and Mechatronic Engineering 10/10/2025** | **Revalidation of Electronic and Mechatronic Engineering** | **Facilitated student opinion of course**  **Supported discussion of revalidation** | **Created positive environment for students to contribute meaningfully to revalidation** |
| **Elections Engagement 10/10/2025** | **Meeting with charlotte to discuss incentives for voting** | **Decided to go with voting incentives** | **Rebekah to create socials – charlotte to finalise prizes** |
| **UUSU Events Committee 13/10/2025** | **Selection of chair – discussion of upcoming events, deciding what to have at Christmas** | **Personally, I did not contribute, more concerned with elections – just listened** | **Communicate with events team when organising campaign events, use who’s available** |
| **Rebekah and Paul 13/10/2025** | **Update on student issues, discussion of nominations and CR training** | **Highlighted positive engagement** | **Rebekah to help with CR training if possible – keep up work with elections** |
| **UUSU Volunteering Committee 15/10/2025** | **Selection of chair, discussion of volunteering fair** | **Suggestion of socials content boosters** | **Promotion of volunteering fair, continue to promote volunteering on socials** |
| **SIF Teaching and Student Centre – Working Group 1 16/10/2025** | **Discussion of classroom layouts – deciding between linear and cluster – cluster preferred where possible** | **Highlighted some accessibility issues – taken on board** | **Continue to represent student perspective** |
| **121: Odette/Rebekah**  **16/10/2025** | **Discussion of arising matters – Odette gave an update** | **Made Odette aware of issues and concerns faced by students (Seats and timetabling)** | **Odette to send emails out to appropriate people and CC me in** |
| **ASQEC 20/10/2025** | **Short meeting – most matters to for information** | **Highlighted that Odette was aware of student issues – plan in motion** | **Continue to listen to student issues – escalate when needed** |
| **SV Team – Election Review**  **20/10/2025** | **Discussion of how to improve election process for everyone** | **Highlighted issues experienced by students when attempting to nominate themselves and when voting** | **SV team to review suggestions and make changes for next election process** |
| **Mental Health Campaign Meeting 20/10/2025** | **Went through plan for Movember** | **Caoimhin explained everyone’s actions and what events are most important** | **Rebekah to plan disability event, social media post, ensure SOS guides are ready to be handed out.** |
| **Rebekah and Paul 10/20/2025** | **Discussion of recent student issues, plan of action** | **Advise students on next steps, include Tony in coversations** | **Rebekah to reach out to affected students and offer meetings to ensure students are heard** |
| **Student Council Prep 10/20/2025** | **What to expect, what the agenda will be, how to gauge student opinion** | **Mandy explained everything, Emily helped** | **Contribute to Council meeting** |

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### November 2025

### December 2025

### January 2026

### February 2026

### March 2026

### April 2026

### May 2026

### June 2026