

## Student Council Quick Guide for Reps

### **Q: What is UUSU's Student Council?**

A: Student Council is one of your Student Unions' main decision-making chambers, it brings together 46 different representatives who are all elected to make decisions on the direction that the Union is going to take regarding policy direction

### **Q: What's Policy?**

A: Policy are topics that are brought forward that are debated and set out what our collective position should be on all those important issues that affect your academic journey like additional course fees, Erasmus to things in wider society like LGBTQ+ rights and Climate Change. You can view current policies [here](#).

### **Q: Why do we have a Student Council?**

A: Because it would be a bit undemocratic for just the staff or our Student Officers to determine what we do! We want to ensure that we have the collective represented voices heard, that is why we have councillors elected across all our NI Campuses as well as specific reps for Equality Issues and for those at Postgraduate level, those studying further afield etc.

### **Q: I'm a Course Rep, does that mean I'm on Council?**

A: Not automatically! Every year early in the Autumn Semester we have elections to sit on Council, you might have seen the elections running alongside at the same time as we elected all those hundreds of Course Reps!

### **Q: That sounds good, but I'm not a Councillor how can my voice be heard?**

A: Firstly, check if we have any vacant positions or to bring anything to our attention, feel free to drop an email to Mark (m.franco@ulster.ac.uk). Otherwise, this is where we utilise our existing [Councillors](#) and your [Student Officers](#). If you have an idea, feel free to reach out to one of them and see if it is a bigger issue that is appropriate for council or if one of the officers could help.

- Remember you can support Councillor work by signing to be a backer of policy, they require 50 signatures to get the issue raised at Student Council meetings.
- Keep a lookout at the start of every new academic year for our Council elections.

### **Q: I have a different question not answered here?**

A: Unfortunately, we only have basic mindreading skills, but if you have a query on Student Council, feel free to reach out to our Governance and Policy Coordinator and Clerk of Council, Mark for more information! Email: m.franco@ulster.ac.uk