

UUSU

Leadership Elections

COUNCILLOR
ROLE DESCRIPTION

Run for election



uusu.org/student-voice/elections

Student Councillors

A Student Councillor is one of you! UUSU is your Students' Union and as a democratic organisation we don't make decisions behind closed doors.

Your say matters and you drive the type of union you want to see, whether that is on sporting matters, societies, campaigns – on any issue that affects your university experience.

At our core is Student Council – it's the boss. This is the group of elected students that decides on what stance the Union takes on issues such as Brexit, Marriage Equality or Climate Change.

How many Student Councillors do we need?

Student Council consists of 48 members including 7 full time officers. We require a variety of seats to be filled to ensure well rounded representation of the student body.

18 x Campus Councillor

Our campus Councillors are Student Councillors elected by the students on your campus. There will be 3 Campus Councillors, per campus, representing the views of everyone on their campus as best they can and are available for any student to put themselves forward for.

9x Equality Councillor

Do you perhaps represent a minority within our University, we want to hear from you! If you self-define as being a member as one of the following groups:

- International Students
- LGBT Students
- BAME Students
- Disabled Students
- Minority Languages Representative
- Faith Group Representative

Then this could be the role for you! Students who are in this post will be responsible for representing the views of all groups equally. Three equality councillors are required per campus.

3 x Mental Health and Wellbeing Councillor

Our Mental Health Councillors on Student Council are here to support the ongoing work we are doing to support Students with their Mental Health. This role helps feed into this work and keep positive mental health approaches on the agenda! We require one Mental Health Councillor from each campus.

2 x Postgraduate Taught Councillor

Are you a postgraduate student on a programme receiving direct teaching? These roles (1x full time and 1x part time) represent the unique views of our Postgraduate population and let us know how best we can improve the experience of postgraduate students.

2 x Postgraduate Research Councillor

This is a role for all of our students who are undertaking postgraduate research, those who are studying for a PhD at Ulster University who wish to represent the views of their fellow doctoral college colleagues in their unique position within the university. These roles (1x full time and 1x part time) allows for the bespoke voice of PhD students to be heard in the decision making chamber within UUSU.

1 x Distance Learner Councillor

Are you studying further afield but still want your views to be heard to influence your university experience and your student union, then this may be the role for you! This is the role to ensure whether you are on campus or not that we hear from you!

1 x Part Time Student Councillor

University isn't just about being a full time student. Being a part time student is a unique experience and we need to ensure you are heard in your learning experience and whole experience as a student. Your views matter whether you are studying one module per term or coming in for night classes we want to hear from you!

1 x Mature Student Councillor

Are you one of our many students coming to university with more life experience, consider becoming a Councillor for your fellow mature students! We know that we all require and wish for a slightly different student experience as we age! If you were 21 or over at the start of your studies, we want your perspective. Consider running to be our Mature Student Rep!

1 x Student with Caring Responsibilities Councillor

Do you have a formal caring responsibility towards others in your life but are a student here at Ulster University? Whether you are a parent or caring for relatives or those important in your life we want to hear your perspective and have you in our decision making as part of our Student Council. Consider putting yourself forward today!

Supporting you in the role

You will receive full training for your Councillor role at the start of the year and receive full support from your Students' Union. There is a dedicated member of staff who serves as the Clerk of Council who is there for your training needs, development of policy or any ideas or issues that you may face in the role. You will also work with and be supported by our full-time officer team and the rest of the UUSU team.

What the role involves

- Being an elected Student Councillor means you are representing the views of your fellow students when it comes to setting the direction we take on social issues as well as issues within the University.
- Proactively engaging with your fellow students to understand areas of concern or feelings on particular issues.
- Engagement with UUSU and its officer team to support campaigns, implement policy decisions and make real change!

Time Commitment

Some periods in the semester will be busier than others, depending on whether you have meetings or training to attend. We have four formal meetings, two in the Autumn Semester and two in the Spring Semester with the potential for more with other opportunities to get involved. Taking this into consideration you should probably expect to volunteer an average of one hour per week to the role (around 30 hours over the two semesters).

Key Tasks

- ✓ Attend the Student Council in person training, making sure you understand your role is key to ensure you best feel supported and get the most out of the opportunity for yourself and your fellow students.
- ✓ Attend Student Council meetings and other appropriate meetings according to your role.
- ✓ Bring your ideas and seek to make change through policy and campaign development.
- ✓ Keep in regular contact with your Course/Subject Director to deal with any day to day collective concerns when they arise;
- ✓ Hold your officer team to account, support them in their activities and be constructive with ideas and criticism if appropriate to help them to do the best job they can do in representing students on a full-time basis.

**For more information on what's involved contact:
Mark Francos**

Governance and Policy Coordinator

m.franco@ulster.ac.uk