

LEAD KENT: STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT

The Students' Union President is the lead student representative in the Students' Union, and acts as the main liaison between the University and students. This vital role chairs the Students' Union Board of Trustees and sits on the University Council, ensuring that student voice is heard at the highest levels of both the University and the Students' Union. The Students' Union President ensures that the Students' Union and the other Full-time Officers represent the 16,000 students at the University. The successful candidate will be expected to represent all students in line with the 2010 equality act.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- To promote, extend and defend the rights of all students at the University of Kent.
- To act as the lead voice of students to Kent Union, the University and external organisations.
- To lead the officer team to ensure that the team is working well together and that the work the team produces is to a high standard and meets students' needs.
- To lead reviews and projects that will enhance the student experience.
- To work with the National Union of Students and to be the lead delegate to NUS Conference and other events.
- To lead on the development of Kent Union and the implementation of the Kent Union Strategy.
- To lead campaigns to improve the overall student experience and to assist in campaigns that other officers may be running.
- To be the Chair of the Board of Trustees and to sit on all Board Committees.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- Vice-Chancellor and other members of the University's Executive Group
- Senior Managers of the University at Director level and above
- Elected Kent Union Officers
- Chief Executive and senior management of Kent Union
- Deputy Chair of the Board of Trustees and all other Trustees
- Senior staff and officers of NUS

IN A WEEK, YOU MIGHT...

- You'll be working with Staff in the Mandela Student Centre in Canterbury with the other Full-time Officers to represent the student body.
- You'll be the primary liaison between the Students' Union and the University.
- Attend university committees meeting to discuss University finances and spending plans
- Meet with the Representation & Democracy staff team to agree plans to improve student engagement in Students' Union democratic structures
- Working on the student priorities voted on, decided by the students you represent.
- Alongside other Officers, meet with University leaders to discuss issues affecting students
- Meet with local leaders to lobby for improvements for students living in the local area
- Work closely with the Chief Executive to oversee strategic planning
- Chair a Board of Trustees meeting

PERSON SPECIFICATION

All Full-time Officers should be committed to the purpose, objects, and values of Kent Union; Able to act reasonably and responsibly when undertaking their responsibilities; Able to analyse information and, when necessary, challenge constructively; Able to make collective decisions and stand by them; Firm supporters of equality of opportunity and committed to promoting diversity.

Be Bold, Supportive, and Inclusive!

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A TRUSTEE

As a Full-time Officer you will also be a Trustee; Trustees deliver the responsibilities detailed in the Terms of Reference of the Board of Trustees.

- Ensure that Kent Union acts in accordance with its charitable objects, constitution and other guiding documents and, in particular, remains true to its Vision and Values.
- Help Kent Union achieve its objectives and improve the lives of its members.
- Ensure that Kent Union complies with all relevant legislation and regulations, including relevant charity acts and education acts.
- Ensure that Kent Union does not undertake activities that put its financial stability, members or reputation at undue risk.
- Work with other trustees, staff and volunteers in a constructive manner and for the greater good of Kent Union.
- Participate fully in Board meetings and join one of the Board's Committees.
- Use their personal skills and experience to ensure Kent Union is well run and efficient.
- Seek external professional advice where there may be material risk to Kent Union or where the Trustees may be in breach of their duties, or at any other appropriate moment.
- Add value to the Board and Kent Union through generating ideas, challenging the status quo, broadening thinking and supporting and promoting innovation and creativity.
- Ensure decisions of the Board and its Committees take account of the needs and views of Kent Union's members.
- Ensure Kent Union considers the needs and views of all student groups, for example postgraduate, international and part-time students.
- Ensure effective communication between Kent Union and its members.