

SPRING ELECTIONS 2024

VICE PRESIDENT COMMUNITIES

The Vice President Communities will be an equal member of the Union's Sabbatical Officer team responsible for representing and championing the rights and views of all 18,500+ students at the University of Stirling.

The University of Stirling Student Union Vice President Communities is a fixed-term 12-month elected role, based in Stirling, with an annual salary of £21,840 (28 days holiday, including public holidays). Sabbatical Officers will be working around 35 hours a week, with some weekend and evening work, depending on the needs of the role and priorities for the year.

All newly elected Sabbatical Officers must be available to begin their roles from 1st June 2024 for a full-time induction and handover period. The induction will continue throughout the summer months with training and introductory meetings.

If you have any questions regarding this, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.

Am I eligible to stand for Vice President Communities?

Any matriculated University of Stirling student can stand in the Union Elections, whether you are in the middle of your studies or due to graduate in June 2024.

If you are a mid-studies Undergraduate, if elected you will need to arrange to take a year-long leave of absence from your studies from June 2024 and return to your degree in June 2025.

If you are a Postgraduate Taught student, we can support the conclusion of your programme alongside your elected role.

What does the Vice President Communities role involve?

- As part of the Sabbatical Officer team, provide the overall political leadership of the Union.
- Act as the lead Societies contact and continually develop, support and guide Societies within the Union.
- Ensure an effective strategy is in place for recruitment, retention and reward for Student Volunteers.
- Campaign and coordinate the personal, and professional, development of students in their time at University in order to enhance their employability, student experience and wider civic engagement.
- Deliver change projects and campaigns based on your manifesto.
- Ensure the implementation of, and adherence to, an effective [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy](#).
- Be the main point of contact and provide support to the Community Volunteer Officers and campaigns to ensure the provision of appropriate events for these groups and their enhanced representation.
- Attend all appropriate training events and conferences to ensure familiarity with their role and current issues affecting students.
- As a Trustee of the Union, adhere to the expectations and rules in relation to being a trustee, which can be found on the [Students' Union website](#).

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Key Students' Union Meetings	Key University Meetings
Trustee Board (and sub-committees)	University Court
General Meetings	Student Experience Committee
Executive Council	Joint Policy, Planning & Resources Committee
Communities Zone (and sub-committee)	Student Life, EDI Comms & BeConnected

Who will I be working with?

The Vice President Communities will be working with a wide range of internal and external relationships including:

Students	Students' Union	University	External
Students	Chief Executive	Vice Chancellor	NUS
Community Zone Members	Union Senior Managers	University Secretary	NUS Scotland
Community Volunteer Officers	Union Coordinators	University Deans	Local Politicians
Societies		Executive Directors	Local Organisations
		Student Services Hub	Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise

What are the benefits of the role?

- Achieve political, social and educational change that will have a lasting impact on the student experience at the University of Stirling.
- Gain in-depth knowledge of the Students' Union, the University of Stirling, and the Higher Education sector.
- Training and personal development opportunities tailored to the individual role.
- Gain experience in leading, developing and supporting campaigns for change and shaping the students' experience at Stirling.
- Develop transferable skills, such as leadership, project management, and professional communication, whilst also gaining experience in leading a student-led organisation.
- The Sabbatical Officer role will also be documented on your academic transcript.
- Each of the four Sabbatical Officers will receive an annual salary of £21,840, paid monthly.

Where can I get further information about the role?

If you have any questions regarding this role, you can contact the following people for more information:

- **Zoë Crosher**, Vice President Communities 2023/24 (communities.union@stir.ac.uk)
- **Jordyn Austin**, Activities and Volunteer Coordinator (jordyn.austin@stir.ac.uk)
- **Al Lawley-Powell**, Chief Executive Officer (al.lawley-powell@stir.ac.uk)



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I want to stand for Vice President Communities, what next?

1. Submit Nomination

Nominations will open at **10:00 GMT on 11th December 2023**, you can submit your nomination online through stirlingstudentunion/elections where you'll be asked to provide:

- a. Your candidate photo
- b. Your manifesto
- c. Your campaign slogan

You can edit this anytime until the deadline. The deadline for you to complete your nomination is **10:00 GMT on 12th February 2024**.

2. Sign your Officer Code of Conduct

All candidates are required to sign the Officer Code of Conduct. You can find and agree to the Officer Code of Conduct by [completing this form](#).

The deadline for you to complete your Officer Code of Conduct is **10:00 GMT on 12th February 2024**.

3. Nomination Confirmation

Once your nomination has been submitted and you have completed your Officer Code of Conduct form, we will confirm your nomination via email.

4. Candidate Briefing

Following the close of nominations, you will be invited to a Candidate Briefing where the Deputy Returning Officer shall communicate all important information to you on the Election process and answer any questions. If you cannot attend this meeting, you can send a representative on your behalf.

5. Candidate Support

There is support available to all candidates, including access to a range of candidate guides and workshops which can be found on the [Students' Union website](#).

We would also strongly encourage all Sabbatical Candidates to arrange a time to speak with the current Sabbatical Officer or a member of staff within the Students' Union. You can arrange this one-to-one meeting via the [Union Elections Booking page](#). You can use this meeting to find out more about the Vice President Communities role, and the Students' Union can offer advice on your manifesto and campaign planning while answering any of your questions.

6. Campaigning and Voting Period

Campaigning begins at **10:00 GMT on the 20th of February 2024**. Voting then opens at **10:00 GMT on the 27th of February 2024** and closes at **17:00 GMT on the 29th of February 2024** with results being announced the following day.

If you have any questions regarding the Elections more generally, please email Natalie Hay, Democracy & Representation Coordinator, natalie.hay@stir.ac.uk.