

## About volunteering with SUSU:

The Disabilities Officer works to represent student with disabilities at Southampton. This includes working to collaborate with relevant student and community groups to help promote the interests of disabled students. You will also work with teams at SUSU and the University to help promote campaigns and activities.

In order to apply for the role, you must have experience of living with a disability. When applying for this role you are confirming that you meet the eligibility criteria for the role.

We provide full training at the beginning of the year as well as advice and support as you continue in your role. You will gain a wealth of experience through your voluntary role with SUSU, experience that you can use to improve your future employability while receiving recognition for the work you accomplish.

## Main purpose of the role:

- 1) To act as the lead representative for disabled students.
- 2) To work to promote the interests of disabled students.
- 3) To collaborate and work with relevant student and community groups.

## Main responsibilities of the role:

### To act as the lead representative for disabled students

- *To facilitate the Disabled Students' Network, leading monthly meetings and working with other representatives to ensure relevant issues are discussed.*
- *To be accessible to disabled students as a key point of contact between the Union and the disabled student community.*
- *To identify issues experienced by disabled students through consultation with the relevant student cohorts, and feed back on these issues to the relevant Sabbatical Officer, Union staff, and University staff.*

### To work to promote the interests of disabled students

- *To work with relevant Sabbatical Officers and staff to ensure that the needs of disabled students are reflected through the activities of the Union.*
- *To work with the VP Welfare & Communities on planning and promoting events such as Disability History Month.*
- *To be the lead on other campaigns that are topical and relevant to the disabled student community.*

## To collaborate and work with relevant student and community groups.

- To work alongside societies which represent disabled students to promote and support their activities.
- To promote links with other similar groups and organisations, within the local community, regional area, and nationally.

## Where can you find guidance?

- Sabbatical Officer: [vpwelfare@soton.ac.uk](mailto:vpwelfare@soton.ac.uk)
- Activities Team: [suactivities@soton.ac.uk](mailto:suactivities@soton.ac.uk)

## How to nominate for the role:

In order to stand as a candidate, you will need to submit a short statement letting everyone know why they should vote for you. You don't need to have any previous experience so simply focus on what you will achieve if elected.

Log in to our website at [www.susu.org/elections](http://www.susu.org/elections) and fill out the nominations form. There is no need to create a new account, just use your University credentials.

For any queries about the election, please contact us at [representation@soton.ac.uk](mailto:representation@soton.ac.uk).

## Time Commitment and Expectations:

There will be times throughout the year where you may be called on to help promote and spread awareness for SUSU campaigns. There will be key meetings that you must attend and you must attend relevant SUSU meetings.

If at any point you find that you are struggling to balance voluntary work with your studies we understand that your degree must come first. Please, come and speak to us and we will always try our best to make things easier.

Term of office: 1st July – 30th June

## Our Values

As an organisation, our values underpin our work and guide what we live by in order to achieve our mission:



### Stand Strong

We stand up for students and make sure their voices are heard.

We stand strong when facing challenges and are not afraid to be different. We think big and work to achieve great things.



### Join Together

We are an inclusive and diverse community of students and staff.

We join together with each other, the University, and the local community to make a positive difference.



### Take Responsibility

We take action on the issues that matter to students and act with integrity.

We continually work to be more sustainable, challenging discrimination and prejudice. We strive to be a force for good for students and wider society.