

LAY TRUSTEE APPLICATION PACK

GRADE: VOLUNTARY
RESPONSIBLE TO: TRUSTEE BOARD
RESPONSIBLE FOR:
FINANCE, GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY

STUDENT LED. STUDENT DELIVERED. STUDENTS EMPOWERED.



On behalf of the officers, trustees and staff, thank you for your interest in the role of [Trustee](#) at Winchester Students' Union. We have recently undergone a period of change and development here at the Union. These changes have included updates to the way we are governed along with both incorporating to become a charitable company and developing, and delivering on, a new Strategic Plan that maps our future ambitions.

We are currently looking for **a committed and knowledgeable individual** to join our Board of Trustees as an External (Lay) Trustee. This is a chance to bring your expertise, insight and energy to a vibrant, student-led charity and help us deliver our mission of empowering every student at the University of Winchester.

You don't need to have prior trustee experience, though knowledge and experience of both financial management and the 'education sector' would be beneficial. What matters most is that you can use your skills and judgment to support our Board, challenge us constructively, and help steer the Union through the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Alex

Alexandra Wilson - President of Winchester Students' Union



ABOUT US

Winchester Students' Union is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, based within, but separate to, the University of Winchester in the heart of Hampshire. We are led by students, supported by volunteers and staff, and are dedicated to representing and supporting our student members, as well as providing a wide range of opportunities, activities and events across our Education, Welfare, Activities and Commercial Services Zones, all to enrich the student experience.

All students automatically become members of the Student Union at enrolment meaning we have a rich, vibrant and diverse community, and we seek to ensure that we provide commensurate representation, advocacy, and opportunity to meet the expectations of this diverse membership.

Above all we cherish the opportunity to express our values of being creative, engaging, supportive and honest. We keep these firmly in mind when seeking to realise our vision of **empowering our membership** through the creation of innovative and inclusive **student-led, student-delivered** activities and opportunities.

OUR PEOPLE

Each year students elect a team of *eight* Student Officers from the membership who lead the work of the Union on behalf of student members. The Union campaigns and advocates on behalf of students on priorities determined by our student leaders, which has ranged from securing cost of living funding and resources for students in hardship, to reviewing and developing student representations at programme and faculty level.

The Union has a small but knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and dedicated staff team whose purpose is to support and realise the goals of the student leadership, alongside ensuring compliance to organisation strategy, statutory compliances and other stakeholder and board set targets. The Union has recently reviewed its staffing structure and developed staff roles to better serve such purpose.





ABOUT YOU & THE ROLE

We are looking to appoint a Lay Trustee to Winchester Students' Union's Board. As a Trustee you will bring your professional expertise, insight, and independent perspective to the governance of Winchester Student Union. Working alongside our elected student leaders and staff team, you will help ensure that the Union continues to be well-governed, financially sustainable, and true to its charitable objectives. This is a voluntary, non-executive position that carries important responsibilities for oversight, challenge, and support at Board level. Lay Trustees play a vital role in guiding our strategy, upholding our values, and enabling us to deliver the best possible experience for our diverse student membership.

Experience or understanding of the education sector is particularly welcome, though not essential, and we value candidates who can bring skills from other fields such as finance, governance, HR, law, business, or community engagement.

We are especially keen to hear from applicants who will add to the diversity of our Board, reflecting different lived experiences, cultural backgrounds, and ways of thinking. Above all, you will be collaborative, open, and able to contribute constructively as part of a team of Trustees.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE ROLE

As a Trustee, you will be expected to engage fully with the work of the Board. This includes attending all four scheduled Board meetings each year, which may be held either in person or in a hybrid format, as well as any additional meetings that may be called if required. Trustees are asked to read and reflect on Board papers in advance of meetings so that they can contribute effectively to discussions, with guidance and support provided by the Chair of the Board where needed.

Trustees are also expected to uphold the highest standards of confidentiality, ensuring that sensitive information discussed within the Boardroom remains private.



WE ARE

DEFEATING STEREOTYPES

YOUR APPLICATION

Applications for this role can be made via the below, 'expression of interest' form which will capture relevant information about you in order for us to process your application. We would also be delighted to arrange a call for you to discuss this opportunity further with the Union's Chief Executive, Andrew Hodgson (who's contact details are below).

Express interest here: <https://winchesterstudentunion.typeform.com/to/gDLVTP62>

Contact the Union's CEO: andrew.hodgson@winchester.ac.uk, 01962 827429

We are happy to discuss any reasonable adjustments individuals may require during this recruitment process, on commencement, or once in post.

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