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| Sabbatical Officer Name: | Noah Russell |
| Sabbatical Officer Role: | VP Undergraduate Students (Education & Welfare) |

**Section 1: Sabbatical Officer Report**

*This section is to be completed by the Sabbatical Officer prior to the accountability session.*

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| **General Report**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this report is aimed at providing insight into their work/activity since the last accountability session or the start of their term in office)* | |
| The last couple of months have largely been taken up with ensuring ongoing projects are handed on to the next sabbatical officer team. We want to ensure any support we offer students at present will continue and develop.    We have also been working on the Student View, a document analysing what the University needs to improve based off data we’ve gathered from student feedback across multiple channels. On top of this I’ve been focussing on the ‘Making Cardiff a greener University’ campaign promise I’ve made which I’ll cover below, as well as attending frequent university meetings on education and student experience to represent the student body, which take up a majority of my time.    As I reach the end of my term over the next couple of months I doubt much sizeable progress will be made, but I will continue to lobby for students’ issues up until I leave my post and organise passing over any projects as seamlessly as possible. | |
| **Manifesto Update**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this section is aimed at tracking their progress against manifesto commitments made by them during their successful officer election)* | |
| **Testing your gear for free at the SU** | As previously mentioned, this project has been fully achieved and drug testing kits are available to all students. Sustainable funding is still being looked into for the project, including a recommendation in the Student View for the university to fund the project. |
| **Making Cardiff a greener University** | This is a project I’ve been focusing on since our last meeting. I’ve had several meetings with a professor focused on increasing biodiversity within the University and Cathays at large, as well as developing the local community of students and local residents. Green overhaul projects aimed at creating nicer and more environmentally friendly areas for students to enjoy in their local community are the priority, including potentially putting beehives on the SU roof, looking at options for community gardens in Cathays and doing up currently empty and lacklustre green spaces. This is still relatively early days but I’m hoping to develop ideas further with this professor to help fulfil my campaign promise or at least make a sizeable start by the time I leave office. |
| **Free STI kits on campus** | Again this project has been completed, alongside offering free pregnancy tests to students. |
| **A new blended learning framework** | This project is now completed with the rollout of Blackboard Ultra. While the framework is still in the process of troubleshootig it has been extremely well received by students and staff so far which is very positive. I’m very proud of the rollout and the very satisfied with the student representation. |
| **Mental health and wellbeing support** | This has been an ongoing project which is now highlighted in the Student View considering the wealth of data we have. We have highlighted the need for more support for neurodivergent and students struggling with poor mental health in particular. Hopefully the university will heed our advice on ensuring all pathways to support are clear and available to students, spaces are provided for neurodiverse students to decompress and cope with issues like overstimulation. |
| **Lower international student fees** | As previously mentioned, while we’ve lobbied on this topic to the university there is little headway. We have also worked with NUS Wales and UK to push for pressure on the government but again with little success. I’m very disappointed with this but there is little I am able to do in this context. |
| **10% of salary to Cardiff Foodbank in light of the Cost of Living Crisis** | I continue to meet this promise. |
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| **Policy Update**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this section report is aimed at tracking their progress against any relevant policy passed by Student Senate or AGM)* | |
| **Gender Identity Fund:** This is still an ongoing project, while we have written and submitted a proposal to HEFCW we have no update from them.    **Introduction of VP International Students (Education and Welfare):** I have started writing the handover to Ana, our next VP International Students officer, in order to ensure she can fit the role well into the team and represent International Students while the team ensures the representation of undergraduate students isn’t lost.    **Time to Act: Tackling Sexual Misconduct at Cardiff University:** I’ve been supporting the members of Time To Act in whatever form they’ve needed, while I’m not heading this project I have been supporting the proposer in ensuring they feel comfortable talking to the Union and speaking up in university meetings.    **Ceasefire Now:** We have been lobbying Cardiff University to both call for a ceasefire and remove its ties to arms companies. While there has been little success on this front we will continue to use our influence to push Cardiff University to call for an end to the genocide in Gaza.    **Fossil Free Careers:** I have joined the University’s Ethics, Values and Sustainability group and made some headway in lobbying for the removal of fossil fuel companies from campus. This is the first breakthrough in a while on this motion which is a very positive step forward.    **Other Projects:** I have been supporting colleagues in the completion of other motions such as the A Better & More Inclusive University policy, I have also been given a place on the SWP monitoring group but am awaiting a vetting process before I can join the first meeting. | |

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| Chair of the Accountability Session: |  |
| Vice Chair of the Accountability Session: | Joshua Tandy |
| Additional Members of the Accountability Session: | Arnav Jain |
| Date of the Accountability Session: | 25/04/2024 |

**Section 2: Accountability Session**

*This section is to be completed by the accountability session members prior to speaking to the Sabbatical Officer. This section should then be used to aid discussion with the Sabbatical Officer and information added where relevant.*

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| **Areas Working Well**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should detail areas the members think is working well and what they believe the Sabbatical Officer should keep doing)*    *Note for the accountability session members: Don’t forget to ask the Sabbatical Officer their opinion on what is working well.* | |
| * Progress on every policy – Clear he is making improvements * Up to date with organising exec meetings – Bit slower at the start but frequent now – Keeping everyone in the loop * Meetings about contact hours – Formal documents to show it has been done would be nice to see * Otherwise very happy with overall feedback – Improvement in each aspect * Handover very good idea * Happy with outcomes – As long as ‘Making Cardiff a Greener University’ is started, everything has been covered in terms of the manifesto * Lowering student fees out of our hands – Shows you have tried * Nice to hear you have been involved with many policies and supporting people this year | |
| **Areas For Improvement**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should detail areas the members think could do with additional focus).*    *Note for the accountability session members: Don’t forget to ask the Sabbatical Officer their opinion on what could be improved.* | |
| * Make more clear scope of committee – Not sure what I can and can’t raise – If it’s academic, government issues, local issues, etc. – More of a general goal * When things are raised in college forums etc., would be great to see what’s happening there and to have some ongoing feedback – Why they can/can’t do it | |
| **Accountability Session Questions**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should outline the key questions the session have for the Sabbatical Officer, a notes of the answers should then be provided in the next box).* | |
| **Q1.** | **A1.** |

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| **Does the accountability session wish to consider any of the following notices?**  *If Yes, please provide details of the reasons for such motion or notice in the box provided.* | |
| **Motion of Censure**  *Motions of Censure shall be considered when the committee believes the elected officer has committed a serious offence against their office or democratic responsibilities as outlined in the bye-law appendices. Note: When motions of Censure are considered the elected officer shall be provided with at least 48 hours-notice in order to be able to provide a fair and accurate response to the reasons for the censure.* | No |
| **Notice of Requires Improvement**  *Notices of Requires Improvement shall be considered when the committee is dissatisfied in an elected officers work or conduct in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto commitments. Note: When notices of Requires Improvement are considered the elected officer shall be provided with at least 48 hours-notice in order to be able to provide a fair and accurate response to the reasons for the notice.* | No |
| **Notice of Satisfaction**  *Notices of Satisfaction shall be considered when the committee wishes to formally recognise an elected officer for outstanding work in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto committee. Note: Prior warning for a Notice of Satisfaction is not required.* | Yes |

**Section 3: Accountability Session Outcomes**

*This section is to be completed by the accountability session members following their meeting*

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| Is the session satisfied with the discussion held with the Sabbatical Officer? | Yes |
| If the answer to the above question is **no** please provide additional details below. | |
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| Is there anything the session wishes to make Student Senate aware of as a result of the meeting? | No |
| If the answer to the above question is **yes** please provide additional details below. | |
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| **Following consideration did the accountability session apply any of the following motions or notices?**  *If Yes, please provide details of the reasons for such motion or notice in the box provided.* | |
| **Motion of Censure**  *Motions of Censure shall be considered when the committee believes the elected officer has committed a serious offence against their office or democratic responsibilities as outlined in the bye-law appendices.* | No |
| **Notice of Requires Improvement**  *Notices of Requires Improvement shall be considered when the committee is dissatisfied in an elected officers work or conduct in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto commitments.* | No |
| **Notice of Satisfaction**  *Notices of Satisfaction shall be considered when the committee wishes to formally recognise an elected officer for outstanding work in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto committee.* | Yes |