|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sabbatical Officer Name: | Deio Owen |
| Sabbatical Officer Role: | VP Welsh Language, Community and Culture |

**Section 1: Sabbatical Officer Report**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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)* | |
| Since the last meeting at the end of February, I’ve been busy celebrating St David’s Day, with free Welsh cakes being given out, as well as learn Welsh pamphlets. I was successful in getting the University to not fly the union jack over the weekend of the 1st of March, and fly St David’s banner instead, the first time in several years for the University to do this.  I’ve also been working on several committees, including the summer graduation planning committee, the University senate and council, and the Welsh executive committee, to name but a few. We also held the spring elections and it’s a pleasure to welcome Catrin Edith Parry to this role, starting on the 1st of July. We also held the annual Stomp in March in cooperation with the School of Welsh, and it was great to see students competing enthusiastically once again.  March also saw the start of the conference season, when I was in the National Union of Students Wales Conference in Aberystwyth representing Cardiff students, as well as the UK National Union of Students Conference in Blackpool. I also went on a Give It A Go trip to North Wales with over 50 students for three days, in order to show them the best of the north. I also went on a trip to Aberystwyth and Bangor Students’ Unions to learn about best practice from their Welsh officers and staff. This was a great opportunity for us as officers and staff to see the Welsh offers of other Students’ Unions in Wales.  I also ran the Alright Mate? campaign, with over 150 students engaging with the campaign on the first day, and the wider campaign running for over three weeks - work now continues into the future.  We have also been working hard on a Cynnig Cymraeg with the Welsh Language Commissioner, a scheme which allows charities and businesses to demonstrate their commitment to the Welsh language and create a development plan to ensure that there’s a Welsh offer within the organisation. We are proud to announce that Cardiff Students’ Union is the first Students’ Union to receive this recognition and it’s an opportunity for us to continue with our work and create a new language policy towards the end of the year. The work around the ‘cynnig’ continues and any feedback is welcomed so if you have anything to add or any recommendations, please share them. The work so far has led to a (partially) bilingual website with more work continuing to be done on this, staff training, new policies, new social media guidelines and more.  I have also developed a student view document on a Welsh university which will be presented to the University, asking them to make specific commitments to the Welsh language and to improve provisions and systems across the organisation. It’s hard to include all the feedback in one document but this is an annual process where there will be opportunity to expand the work next year. | |
| **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)* | |
| **Represent Welsh students** | **Work continues since the last update** |
| **Ensure Welsh opportunities** | **Been working on a variety of departments across the University to see what is currently available and how we can develop further** |
| **Give a Welsh welcome to every student** | **Work has continued since the last update** |
| **Bilingual website for the SU** | **Toggle now in place and we’re working on translating the rest of the website. We have decided not to use machine translation in order to maintain a high standard** |
| **Work with other unions** | **Been working with other unions through the National Union and visited 2** |
| **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)* | |
| I have been supporting work aimed at tackling violence on campus where needed, as well as implementing the national honours and Welsh independence policy. The last Student Senate of the year will be held on the 4th of June, where there may be further updates. If you would like to attend contact [democracy@caerdydd.ac.uk](mailto:democracy@caerdydd.ac.uk) | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Chair of the Accountability Session: | Catrin Edith Parry |
| Vice Chair of the Accountability Session: | Owain Sion |
| Additional Members of the Accountability Session: | Cynwal ap Myrddin  Ifan Jones |
| Date of the Accountability Session: | 16/05/2024 |

**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.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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.* | |
| Completed lots of work on policy  Very visible as a sabb  Increased opportunities for Welsh students within the Union  The language is more visible within the Union  Promoting events in Welsh  Would like to thank Deio for his work as the first in a completely new role | |
| **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.* | |
| Room to improve the relationship between the GymGym and the union, considering many members are students of other universities (Cardiff Met). Would like to increase understanding of how the GymGym differs from other societies | |
| **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. What differences would you like to see in the role next year, in terms of content and job description** | **A1. Has changed the name of the role, wants to expand the focus from academic maters to activities e.g. music gigs. To do what the other officers do through a Welsh lense.** |
| **Q2. How can we improve the relationship between the GymGym and the Union** | **A2. The Union want to support the GymGym, need to sit down and discuss a plan with the activities department** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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.* | No |

**Section 3: Accountability Session Outcomes**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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. | |
|  | |
| 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. | |
|  | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 |