

Sabbatical Officer Review Information - April 19

Why are we conducting a review of the Sabbatical Officer positions?

In 2014 UPSU embarked on a Governance Review. It was identified by students that our democratic processes needed modernisation as it was creating barriers for students. The review was broken into three key stages:

1. Review of the **democratic change** process, which resulted in the Have Your Say model.
2. Review of the **Student Officer structure**, which resulted in the Network model and Union Actioning Body (UAB).
3. Review of the **Sabbatical Officer positions**, which was put on hold due to the Future Union project.

What is Future Union?

In 2015 UPSU embarked on the Future Union project. Stage 3 of the Governance Review (Sabb Officer positions) was put on hold to await the outcome of this overarching Union review.

- The aim of Future Union was to ensure an agile and responsive Union by 2025 to ensure it can impact **all** University of Portsmouth students.

This Union review is now complete. Stage 3 of the Governance Review (Sabbatical Officer positions) will now look at how Sabbatical Officers can best represent all UoP students.

UPSU officers and staff will use principles identified by student feedback (via focus groups and survey) to create models on how Sabbatical Officers could look.

These models will be put out to wider student consultation in October 2019 with a final model being designed and approved in November 2019.

What are Sabbatical Officers?

Sabbatical Officers, or sabbs, are students who are elected by the student body to run the Union for a year. They are the leaders of the organisation and have a broad remit which covers elements such as:

- A particular role that they are elected to in which they are responsible for developing relevant activities
- Representation of students
- Membership of Union groups such as Board of Trustees and Leadership
- Membership of senior University groups such as Academic Council and University Executive Board
- Supporting other elected Officers such as Faculty Representatives and Network Chairs