

Queen's University Belfast Students' Union

Full-Time Student Officer Report

Role: Student Officer Equality and Diversity

Name: Suyi Yang

Period: December

Introduction:

As the Equality and Diversity Student Officer at the Students' Union, my role is to advocate for an inclusive and supportive environment where all students, regardless of background or identity, feel represented and valued. I work closely with various teams across the Queen's and Queen's Students' Union to make sure students' voice is heard. Through campaigns, events, and initiatives, I aim to foster a campus culture that celebrates equality and empowers students from all walks of life.

Activity	Description
Pink Training	I attended the Pink Training organized by USI, alongside the Chair of the Trans Association and the Chair of the LGBTQ+ Association. During the event, we participated in a variety of workshops on topics such as LGBTQIA+ sports, mental health, campaigns, and societal issues. These workshops provided valuable insights into student-led initiatives that we can bring back to our students' union.
International Volunteer Day Info Session	I attended an informational workshop organized by Queen's Language Centre, where I gave a presentation on the SU Volunteer program. The students were highly interested in the program.
Students' Union Council 3rd	I attended the 3rd Students' Union Council, where we presented ideas on changes to student officer roles and the upcoming referendum.
Sanctuary Coffee Morning	I co-chaired the Sanctuary Coffee Morning as part of the University Sanctuary Program, which was also a part of the Winter Festival at Holly Land Community. During this coffee morning, all attendees were highly engaged in sharing winter traditions from their home countries. It was a great opportunity to learn how to organize a cultural event and create a safe space for people from minority backgrounds to share their stories.
RGSU International Student Research Survey Launch	I attended the Russell Group Students' Union meeting regarding the International Student Survey. In this meeting, student officers from different universities discussed the current

	issues facing international students. The RGSU launched the survey to address financial, housing, and mental health issues affecting international students across the UK. I plan to promote the survey at campus and aim to complete it by February.
Queen's Southeast Asia in-market Recruitment Team Meeting	I met with staff from Queen's Southeast Asia In-Market Recruitment Team, where I presented an introduction to the Students' Union. The SU Director, Ciaran, attended the meeting with me. We answered questions from the staff and provided them with a better understanding of the SU to add in recruiting international students.
Winter Graduation	Join the procession at winter graduation as a SU representative
Race Equality Charter Meeting	I attended the REC Charter meeting, where we discussed plans for Race Equality Week in February and issues related to visas for international students and staff. I raised concerns about the lack of funding and support for the Race Equality Charter Network across different schools, as well as its inconsistencies. I also provided support in building a wider, student-led REC network.
NUS-USI Meeting	I attended the NUS-USI catch-up, where I presented work updates to members and discussed national union updates. I also had a conversation with UUSU about the upcoming International Summit and Women's Leadership Event in 2025.
CNY Meeting	I participated in a meeting with the Campus Experience team, the Language Centre, and the Chinese Students' Association to plan Chinese New Year events. The venue and date were confirmed during this meeting. A Year of the Snake Fair will be held that week, alongside several cultural workshops.
Commercial Services Meeting	I attended the Commercial Services meeting, where we received reports from SU Operations, the SU Shop, Union Bar, and Mandela Hall. We received positive feedback from students regarding the new Wee Coffee Bar, with many expressing satisfaction with the extra seating.
Campaign Committee Meeting	I attended the Campaign Committee meeting, chaired by the C&E Officer, where I gained a better understanding of the campaign community's structure and reviewed the main campaigns we are focusing on this year, including the housing

	campaign and cost of living campaign. I introduced my new campaign for neurodiversity this year.
Academic Offenses Workshop	I attended an Academic Offenses workshop organized by the Appeals, Conduct, and Complaints team. In this workshop, I joined staff from different departments to discuss academic offenses practices. We reviewed the strengths and weaknesses of the current process, identifying inconsistencies across different schools and the lack of clarity around the definition of self-plagiarism.