

Queen's University Belfast Students' Union

Full-Time Student Officer Report

Role: Student Officer Undergraduate Education

Name: Eli McBriarty

Period: July- October 2025

July

- Engaged in training of the new Student Officer team, along with introducing new Student Officers to important contacts within the University, such as Deans, Directors of Education, Trade Union representatives, Faculty heads and other senior members of staff within the University.
- As a Union we also attended the NUS 'Lead and Change conference'. This was designed to build our skills as Student Officers along with establishing a national network of support for ideas and other projects we may want to work on during the year. I also began to plan out what projects I will be working on during the year with the SU Voice team.

August

- As a team we hosted the UCL Sabbatical Officer team. This trip was focused on UCL coming to QSU to learn from us as the No. 1 Students' Union in the country. We discussed ongoing projects and relationships within the university, along with new developments within the Higher Education sector.
- We also hosted the AMLÉ Students' Union training, which included a range of sessions around political lobbying, managing of Student Reps and various other sessions to help us achieve our goals for the year.
- I engaged with the Education strategy strand of Strategy 2030, including improved student partnership frameworks, better welcome and induction for incoming and returning students along with better digital and Artificial Intelligence resources being provided. This also included my continued chairing of the Transformative Student Experience working group, which oversees the welcome and induction

program along with various other strategic projects that are ongoing in the University.

September

- The SO team met with Academic Services to discuss our priorities for the year; this department includes key stakeholders from the university who engage with the Strategy 2030 working groups.
- I met with the NUS Cymru president to discuss their 'European Minority Languages Conference' which would bring together representatives from across Europe from minority language backgrounds.
- I assisted in delivering a section of the new and improved welcome and induction, this included sections around the services provided by the student union and promoting our student rep signups for the coming year, this continued for the rest of September to ensure that all students across the University are adequately represented.
- Nadine (Postgraduate Officer) and I delivered the second part of the UG School and Faculty Rep training, this included an overview of the University representation structure along with some guidance around other aspects of their roles such as gathering feedback and managing relations with staff.
- Met with the National Student Union President as a team along with UUSU Student Officers to discuss plans for the HE Funding review along with various campaign ideas and plans for the year. This was a great opportunity to discuss what plans both the national student union, NUS-USI and UUSU have planned for the year to best coordinate how we can improve the experience of students nationally.
- Attended and manned a stall at the Freshers' Fair, this was to promote the work of the Student Officer team along with promoting our Academic Reps and Student Council positions.
- I was appointed to the Student Union seat on university planning and finance committee. This committee handles the financial outturn of the university, and I sit alongside the Student Union President.

- Alongside other members of the Students' Union team I attended the CEARTA march in Dublin on behalf of increased funding for Conradh na Gaeilge and better housing conditions in the Gaeltacht. This was part of a student block organised by AMLÉ the national student body in the Republic of Ireland.

October

- I continued to work alongside the student reps to set them up for their coming Student Voice Committees, we also hosted a Rep Mixer event aimed at promoting the Students' Union Council seats that are available for student reps, this was also an opportunity to chat to the reps informally about any feedback they may have coming up through the system.
- Attended and completed the 'Train the Trainer' Green Dot active bystander session which now qualifies myself and the other Student Officers to begin to train students as active bystanders. This training was developed by UU with the intention of raising awareness around safety and ensuring that students can act to call out negative or harmful behaviour safely.
- Promotion of NUS' "Fair deal" week, aimed at increasing student minimum wage and decreasing the tuition fee burden placed on students.