

Introduction to the Student Union.





Hello & Welcome

- Aims for today:
- Learn more about The SU, your role and meet other committee members
- Broaden your knowledge on SU finance and health and safety procedures to assist you with the running of your group.



Thank you!

- Before we tell you a bit about us, we want to thank you for giving your time to better the student experience for your peers.
- Look after yourselves, each other and most importantly enjoy this year!



Who are we?

- Head of Communities – Charlie Florey
- Communities Coordinator – Jasmine St John Wallis
- Sports Coordinator – Tom Milburn
- Supported by SU Crew



Communities

- Fostering a sense of belonging and community by empowering students to lead activities both on and off campus.
- The communities team provide support and guidance for student led communities, groups, activities, projects, and events to ensure everyone is safe and having fun.

Fun facts from 2024/25

- **Members**
 - 3786 Club & Soc Members
 - 653 Committee Members
 - 724 Events submitted
- **Sports Clubs**
 - 54 Sports Teams
 - 2019 Sports Club Members
 - 2,151 Sports sessions
 - 215 Fixtures
- **Societies**
 - 87 Societies
 - 1687 Society Members
 - 28 Guest Speaker events





What is a Students' Union?

- A charity organisation run by students to empower, encourage, and support students to change and create their own university experience.
- Elected officers lead the union in paid roles.
- The students' union is here to help you bring your ideas to life.

SU Advice Team

- We have two experienced advisers as part of The SU team.
- They provide an impartial Advice service that is independent from the university.
- Free, confidential, non-judgmental.
- The Advice team can help you create a budget, look over housing contracts, support you with academic issues, help you make a complaint to the university, and more.
- <https://www.thesu.org.uk/advice/>



Representation

- The SU is run using democratic processes and systems so that students play an active role in leading the union.
- You can represent your course as an elected course rep.
- You can come to Forum to discuss your opinions and experiences.
- <https://www.thesu.org.uk/voice/>



Representation

- A diversity of voices is an important part of democracy.
- We run collectives to support students from underrepresented groups to get involved with the union.
- Disabled students, neurodivergent students, racialised students, LGBTQ+ students, international students, mature students, women students.
- <https://www.thesu.org.uk/voice/>



Key events at the SU

- Applications open for new groups- September
- SU Group funding applications open- September
- SU Group elections- March 2026
- SU Awards- May 2026
- reaffiliations- May 2026



Welcome week and Taster Sessions

- Welcome – great to see so many of you share your committee members on social media.
- Don't forgot to put your events on the website, that is where incoming students will be directed too.
- We recommend you have one or more 'liaison members/buddy' that can meet a potential member ahead of the session or advertise where to meet.
- If for any reason your event needs to be postponed make sure a member of the committee goes to the venue/meeting place to let potential students know, not all will have seen, don't rely just on social media.
- Share images of locations in advance and who is leading so they see a familiar face.
- Inclusive events – there are a small number of U18's.



Welcome Fayre

- Welcome Fayre. Wednesday 17th September.
- Day will be from 11am-3pm. 11am is quiet hour. Set up from 10am.
- Sports Hall for Sports Clubs, Stannary for Societies, Courtyard and Exchange for Commercial.
- Quiet space in The SU.
- SU Crew will be doing tours for students this year.
- Make sure to charge your laptops.
- Use the interest lists on your webpage to contact potential members.



Support

- We are here for you - please come see us and or talk to us.
- Tell us if there is anything we can be doing to help. If you are thinking it, it's like others might be too. From training to guidance documents to networking opportunities with other committee members.
- A member of the community team will be based at The SU on the Penryn Campus Monday-Friday 10-4pm and at The SU Falmouth Campus Monday 10-4pm, and a termly visit to Truro Knowledge Spa. Or email activities@thesu.org.uk
- Please do use the Committee Hub on the website, it has lots of information from reporting incidents and insurance to guest speaker policy.



Stakeholders

- Familiarise yourselves and get to know your stakeholders as they will also be able to provide support.
- Student Support Services
- Safe zone app & campus security
- Facility providers



Enjoy

- Let's make this a year to remember for you and your peers.
- You will gain valuable skills, please do keep an eye out for opportunities for training to enhance your learning and development and take note when coming to the end of your studies.
- We can't wait to watch your groups thrive over the coming year and we are already looking forward to seeing what you achieve at The SU Awards and or recognition at other South- West or national awards.
- Enjoy stay safe & have fun!



Any Questions?



www.thesu.org.uk

Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union is a registered charity in England and Wales No.1145405