

# Become a Member Director



**NUS is seeking member directors to serve on the boards of both NUS UK and NUS Charity, to provide support, advice, scrutiny and oversight of our work.**

**These elected positions help ensure that students and students' unions are at the heart of our decision making and that NUS is truly member led.**

**Specifically we are recruiting for:**

- **Two student member directors: current students or sabbatical officers, ideally with at least a year left of study or going into a new sabb year.**
- **Two member directors: current CEOs or Senior Managers in students' unions.**

**These are elected positions and will be voted on by NUS UK's members. The term of office for each of these positions is three years.**

# Contents

<b>About NUS UK and NUS Charity</b>	4
<b>About Member Directors</b>	5
<b>About You</b>	7
<b>Skills and Expertise</b>	7
<b>Legal and Governance Responsibilities</b>	8
<b>What You Get Out of Volunteering</b>	9
<b>The Elections Process</b>	11
<b>Timeline</b>	12



# About NUS UK and NUS Charity

## **Mission**

To make education, and society, better through the collective power of students and the transformative power of students' unionism.

## **Vision**

That every student has the chance for personal transformation, representation, and opportunity through their experience in post-16 education.

## **The NUS Family**

### **NUS UK**

National campaigns and student voice

### **NUS Charity**

Developing powerful students' unions

### **NUS Services**

Delivering income and enterprise to SUs, NUS Charity and NUS UK

**Our goals: excellence, reputation, growth.**



## **Proudly radical since 1922**

# About Member Directors

**We are seeking a new member to join our Boards to support our work. We're looking for independently minded people who can offer insight and leadership to scrutinize our work and bring the voice of members to decision making.**

Our member Directors serve on the boards of NUS UK, NUS Charity and NUS Services. This allows an overview over all areas of NUS' work. Member Directors also sit on NUS committees including the HR and Finance committees.

As a director you'll attend board meetings, scrutinise finances, feed into strategy for NUS UK and NUS Charity and make sure we are using our resources responsibly. You'll be appointed for a three year term, with the option to stand for a second term.





# About You

To help students shape NUS' future direction, you will need to be able to think strategically, be creative and bring a range of different perspectives to the Board. You will be used to working in a student-led, democratic environment and value equal opportunities. You will need to use a highly collaborative style to deliver real progress against a challenging, political mission.

This is a non-political role and committee members are not in place to shape the political and campaigning decisions, but they are in place to ensure we have a sound organisation with the best resources and finances in place to enable us to campaign.

## Skills and Expertise

We want a wide range of applicants with a diverse range of skills who share a common belief in the power of students to make change. This is open to anyone who believes they can volunteer to take NUS on the next steps of our journey.

These positions are elected by the membership. Ultimately, it's up to voters to decide. However the board has identified the following broad areas of skill which would be helpful to deliver NUS' strategy.

- Campaigning and influencing including community organising, Liberation politics and lobbying.
- Movement development including in depth knowledge of SUs.
- Social enterprise including SU trading and income diversification.
- Board leadership including strategic finance, risk management and change management.

We're totally committed to equality of opportunity for all. We welcome applications from individuals regardless of their age, disability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation. We particularly welcome applications from black, asian and minority ethnic candidates, as they are currently under-represented as Directors of NUS and within the sector more broadly.



# Legal and Governance Responsibilities

The lay board members will formally become a Director of **National Union of Students United Kingdom** as well as a Director/Trustee of **NUS Students' Unions Charitable Services** and director of its trading subsidiary **NUS Services Ltd.**

Before putting yourself forward for this position we strongly advise you to make yourself aware of the duties and responsibilities of company Directors. Specifically as a Company Director there are a significant set of legal duties you should be aware of.

The Board as a whole has responsibilities to:

- Act as a single body
- Ensure the organisation has a clear strategy or set of goals
- Ensure the work and goals of the organisation are in line with the Objects of the relevant entity
- Keep a check on the organisation's finances and activities
- Act in accordance with duties and responsibilities of company Directors
- As a trustee of NUS Charity, Act in accordance with The Charity Commission's Essential Trustee Guide and advance the charity's purposes for the public benefit
- Act in accordance with the Nolan Committee's Seven Principles of Public Life
- Champion the values of our organisation.

Before taking up office we strongly advise you to make yourself aware of the duties and responsibilities of company Directors as well as the responsibilities of Charity Trustees.

NUS expects all Trustees to read and agree to follow our Trustee Code of Conduct, a confidentiality agreement and a committee member agreement. In addition, as part of our due diligence, at the interview stage we will ask candidates to declare and disclose any past actions which could impact on the reputation of NUS.



# What you get out of volunteering

## Support the student movement

This is a great way to support the wider student movement. Our mission is to make education, and our society, better through the collective power of students and the transformative power of students' unions. As a board member you'll be at the heart of delivering this mission.

## Volunteer

Volunteering is a great way to give back and share the knowledge and expertise you have gained. NUS is a unique place to spend some time volunteering. Through the voices of 7million students we work to create a better world and support students to drive change.

## Support

We value the Directors of NUS UK and seek to support them as volunteers. Feedback is a valued part of your experience and throughout your term you will be given opportunities to feedback on your experience. During your term any additional access needs or requirements will be supported.

## Meet Others

This is a great opportunity to work with passionate, talented and experienced people from a diverse variety of backgrounds. This role will enable to you make great connections with student representatives, other trustees and colleagues which in turn will develop you as a person and in your career.

In addition we provide a comprehensive induction for board and committee members. All reasonable expenses will be covered by us for the duration of your service as a volunteer.





# The Elections Process

These are elected positions. The following positions will be elected:

- NUS Member Director (Student). Two (2) positions.
- NUS Member Director (Staff). Two (2) positions.

The elections take place under the Articles of Association of NUS UK. The voters in the election will be students' unions affiliated to NUS UK on a one member one vote basis (i.e. each students' union receives one vote).

To nominate yourself for election you must be either:

- For student positions a current student or sabbatical officer with at least one year remaining as either a student or a sabbatical officer.
- For staff positions a CEO or Senior Manager in a students' union.

We'll ask you to submit a photo plus a short statement detailing your motivation to be a board member and the skills and experience you will bring to the role. You can also (optionally) upload a CV. There will be a form when nominations open.

In addition you must be nominated by three people from three separate students' unions by either students or staff (whichever position you are applying for).

All candidates and nominators must be from students' unions that are in membership of NUS UK. This is because the election takes place under NUS UK's articles.

Once nominated you'll have a dedicated 1-2-1 session with an NUS senior staff member to talk to you about the role and the work of the boards.



# Timeline

Nominations open	30 March.
Nominations close	13 April.
1-2-1 meetings with candidates	13 April – 24 April.
Announcement of candidates	27 April.
Meet the candidates session (online)	5 May.
Voting period	5 – 7 May.
Announcement of results	7 May.
Term of office commences	1 July.

# Get in touch