**Election FAQs**

**Nomination Period:**

**What is an SU Officer?**

An SU Officer (President/Vice President) is a student elected from the student body to run the Students’ Union, and to also act as a representative for students at the University, within the remit that they are elected. The role is full-time, paid, and is a legal requirement of the University through the Education Act. The role is diverse, with the elected individual not only being a key contact liaising and meeting students on a daily basis, but also holding a trustee position on the Cardiff Met SU Board of Trustees.

**What roles are available?**

**President** The role of the President includes acting as the chair of the Board of Trustees, along with being responsible for the financial position and performance of the Students' Union.

**Vice President** The role of the Vice-President is to represent the students and make sure that their voice and opinions are heard. The Vice-President is here to help out with anything that students may need during the year. Whether it is support or advice with education and welfare matters to helping you setting up societies.

**How do I become an SU Officer?**

To become an SU Officer you must nominate yourself to stand in the elections. Nominations open on the 20th February for one week, following this there will be campaigning and an election where students will vote for their preferred candidate.

Prior to submitting a nomination it would be a good idea to meet with either **Will Fuller (Incumbent President) or Hannah Reilly (Director of Student Engagement) for any further information about the elections process or the roles of the SU President / Vice President.**

**Elections Officer** – Will Fuller – [wfuller@cardiffmet.ac.uk](mailto:wfuller@cardiffmet.ac.uk)

**Further Information for interested students** - Hannah Reilly - [hareilly@cardiffmet.ac.uk](mailto:hareilly@cardiffmet.ac.uk)

**How will the role help my future career?**

As said above, the role of a Sabbatical Officer is a hugely diverse one, and this means that it gives the opportunity to develop a unique set of skills to use when you graduate. Time management and organisation, leadership, project management and implementation, research, public speaking, reading and creating high level board papers, chairing meetings, and presentation are just some of the skills that can be gained!

**I’m not a final year student can I still run?**

Yes, elections are open to all Cardiff Met students regardless of year or course of study. If successful you will need to take a year out from your studies to undertake the role.

**What is a manifesto?**

A manifesto is; a public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate.

In the context of these elections your manifesto is the document where you get to show your fellow students (the voters) why you’re the best person for the role and what you would aim to do if successful in gaining the position. More information on manifestos is given at the candidates meeting.

**How does campaigning work?**

In the context of elections, campaigning is what candidates do to get votes - it's not just handing out leaflets, though! Successful candidates take time to listen and speak to students, find out about the current issues relevant to the role they're standing for and persuade voters with ideas and enthusiasm, not just trendy slogans or sweets.

**Voting:**

**Who is R.O.N.?**

*All Union elections give the option for voters to express their wish that nominations for a role should be re-opened. Voting for this option is usually taken when voters do not feel as though any of the candidates offer viable or credible policies.*

*Should RON win an election either the post would not be filled or an election would be held at a time deemed suitable to gain the maximum number of voters.*