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| Sabbatical Officer Name: | Deio Owen |
| Sabbatical Officer Role: | VP Welsh Language, Community and Culture |

**Section 1: Sabbatical Officer Report**

*This section is to be completed by the Sabbatical Officer prior to the accountability session.*

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| **General Report**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this report is aimed at providing insight into their work/activity since the last accountability session or the start of their term in office)* | |
| So far this year my time has mostly been filled with meetings, planning sessions, and dealing with matters that have arisen. I also sit on the University Council which allows me to have a good relationship with individuals within the University and to mainstream the Welsh language into decision making, planning and new policies within the University.    I have also been reacting to any problems that have arisen such as concerns regarding learning central in schools, personal tutors, and Welsh language assessments to name a few. Additionally, I have been working towards recognition of the Union’s ‘cynnig Cymraeg’ (Welsh offer) to ensure that the Welsh offer is available to everyone, as well as revisiting the Union’s Welsh language policy to ensure that it’s up to date and ready for the future.    I am also in the middle of planning for March when we will be celebrating Welshness in the Union and showing the best bits of Wales to students. | |
| **Manifesto Update**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this section is aimed at tracking their progress against manifesto commitments made by them during their successful officer election)* | |
| **Represent Welsh students** | I have, and I continue to represent Welsh language students and they’re interests. Whether through formal committees, 1-2-1 meetings with University Staff or discussions with the Union. Through this, Welsh is part of the discussion and maters that arise are given the attention they deserve by the Union. |
| **Ensuring Welsh opportunities** | I have been working with entities such as Dysgu Cymraeg Caerdydd and other initiatives within the University to ensure that there are opportunities for students to receive work and opportunities in Welsh during their time here. |
| **Give every student a Welsh welcome** | During this year’s freshers’ fairs there was an increase in the number of students who came over to the UMCC stand to show an interest in learning Welsh, learn more about the culture and hear about the opportunities available to students to study and complete assessments in their first language. Additionally, I’ve been working to ensure that Welsh content will be shared on the Union’s social media channels so that the Welsh language is visible and is a part of students’ lives once they arrive in Cardiff. |
| **Bilingual SU website** | Work on the website continues and the toggle is ready to be implemented. We’re hoping to launch a language option soon and receive feedback to improve function and ensure it’s works as well as possible. |
| **Work with other Unions** | Since starting my role, and before then, I’ve been working with Wales’ other Unions including UMCB, UMCA, NUSW and others to improve intercollegiate relationships and solve problems together and see how we can cooperate on any concerns. Through NUSW (National Union of Students Wales) I have been working and discussing with unions across Wales and over the border in Britain to tackle maters that effect students from every background and see if we can arrive at solutions through cooperation. |
| **Policy Update**  *(Written by the Sabbatical Officer this section report is aimed at tracking their progress against any relevant policy passed by Student Senate or AGM)* | |
| As part of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year, a policy was presented to change this role’s name from ‘Vice President Welsh Language, Community and Culture’ to ‘Vice President Cymraeg’. This change through the AGM was essential as there’s a triple lock on the job which ensures that the role is protected from change, and it must be included in each sabbatical election. Following the AGM, I presented the policy to the Student Senate and to the Union board to confirm the change. As a result, the name of the role will be changed to the above in this year’s election. I’ve also been giving input and support with the enactment of other policies passed in the AGM to ensure that the student voice is realised. Additionally, I have presented a policy to the NUS Wales conference calling on NUSW to support independence for Wales and stating that NUSW should be a separate entity from NUS UK. Another motion I proposed calls on Cardiff Students’ Union to support independence for Wales and lobby the University to refuse to nominate individuals for national words (CBE, OBE etc.). I will update you on any progress on this. | |

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| Chair of the Accountability Session: | Betsan Angell |
| Vice Chair of the Accountability Session: | Efa Ceiri |
| Additional Members of the Accountability Session: | Owain Sion |
| Date of the Accountability Session: | 22/01/2024 |

**Section 2: Accountability Session**

*This section is to be completed by the accountability session members prior to speaking to the Sabbatical Officer. This section should then be used to aid discussion with the Sabbatical Officer and information added where relevant.*

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| **Areas Working Well**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should detail areas the members think is working well and what they believe the Sabbatical Officer should keep doing)*    *Note for the accountability session members: Don’t forget to ask the Sabbatical Officer their opinion on what is working well.* | |
| Has reached the majority of his manifesto objectives to a positive level  Lots happening during Freshers’, made himself visible to new students  Welsh is more visible  Good relations with the University  Good to see him at events such as Rhyn-gol and other Union activities  Has raised the profile of the role in a short amount of time  Lots about assessments on social media + email  Visible on social media  Good to hear that the website update is in progress  Supportive of the role name change    Deio –  Planning Welsh language lessons for staff, different levels for administrative staff/those who work with students. Planning to put resources on the website with sayings and words that societies/sports clubs can use on social media. | |
| **Areas For Improvement**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should detail areas the members think could do with additional focus).*    *Note for the accountability session members: Don’t forget to ask the Sabbatical Officer their opinion on what could be improved.* | |
| Is it the VP’s role to be political in terms of Welsh independence?  Unsure how the role is connected to UMCC and how UMCC connects with students  Would like to hear more about the plans for March  Would be nice to be able to present any assessment in Welsh without having to be proactive and ask the University  Would like to have a Welsh language website as soon as possible and it will be important to maintain this in the long-term. | |
| **Accountability Session Questions**  *(Written by the accountability session members this section should outline the key questions the session have for the Sabbatical Officer, a notes of the answers should then be provided in the next box).* | |
| **Q1.**  **What are the plans for March?** | **A1.**  Haven’t yet completely decided. Discussing traditional dance lessons with Expression Dance. General theme for the month, disco, Welsh language music + Welsh lessons. Hoping to launch the Welsh website toggle and the ‘Cynnig Cymraeg’ at the same time. |
| **Q2.**  **How are you planning to reach the wider Welsh community, outside of individuals who are part of the GymGym etc.?** | **A2.**  Planning to start a social event for students to get to know other Welsh individuals in a more relaxed setting. Will ask students for feedback on how to improve and grow this. |
| **Q3.**  **What is the relationship with UMCC? How does it affect policy/how is it represented?** | **A3.**  Sit on the Union council and make regular reports on UMCC. Lots of work done in the name of UMCC. But the current focus is on establishing the role and hopefully next year’s VP Cymraeg can give more time to UMCC. |
| **Q4.**  **Should there be such a political aspect to the role in terms of independence?** | **A4.**  Such political matters are a personal choice for the student in the role. |
| **Q5.**  **How do you intend to get more societies to use the Welsh language?** | **A5.**  Working with VP Societies to create a resource and include engaging with Welsh culture in the tier system. Some already use Welsh on social media and societies can send things to the Union’s team to translate. |
| **Q6.** | **A6.** |
| **Q7.** | **A7.** |
| **Q8.** | **A8.** |

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| **Does the accountability session wish to consider any of the following notices?**  *If Yes, please provide details of the reasons for such motion or notice in the box provided.* | |
| **Motion of Censure**  *Motions of Censure shall be considered when the committee believes the elected officer has committed a serious offence against their office or democratic responsibilities as outlined in the bye-law appendices. Note: When motions of Censure are considered the elected officer shall be provided with at least 48 hours-notice in order to be able to provide a fair and accurate response to the reasons for the censure.* | Yes / No |
| **Notice of Requires Improvement**  *Notices of Requires Improvement shall be considered when the committee is dissatisfied in an elected officers work or conduct in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto commitments. Note: When notices of Requires Improvement are considered the elected officer shall be provided with at least 48 hours-notice in order to be able to provide a fair and accurate response to the reasons for the notice.* | Yes / No |
| **Notice of Satisfaction**  *Notices of Satisfaction shall be considered when the committee wishes to formally recognise an elected officer for outstanding work in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto committee. Note: Prior warning for a Notice of Satisfaction is not required.* | Yes / No |

**Section 3: Accountability Session Outcomes**

*This section is to be completed by the accountability session members following their meeting*

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| Is the session satisfied with the discussion held with the Sabbatical Officer? | Yes / No |
| If the answer to the above question is **no** please provide additional details below. | |
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| Is there anything the session wishes to make Student Senate aware of as a result of the meeting? | Yes / No |
| If the answer to the above question is **yes** please provide additional details below. | |
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| **Following consideration did the accountability session apply any of the following motions or notices?**  *If Yes, please provide details of the reasons for such motion or notice in the box provided.* | |
| **Motion of Censure**  *Motions of Censure shall be considered when the committee believes the elected officer has committed a serious offence against their office or democratic responsibilities as outlined in the bye-law appendices.* | Yes / No |
| **Notice of Requires Improvement**  *Notices of Requires Improvement shall be considered when the committee is dissatisfied in an elected officers work or conduct in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto commitments.* | Yes / No |
| **Notice of Satisfaction**  *Notices of Satisfaction shall be considered when the committee wishes to formally recognise an elected officer for outstanding work in relation to their role, responsibilities and manifesto committee.* | Yes / No |