
TRINITY LABAN STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 25th June 2025, 6.30pm - KCC Bar/Undercroft & Teams Conference Call

Executive Summary to introduce the 2 Staffed Roles to TLSU

Over the past few years, Trinity Laban Students' Union (TLSU) has made huge strides in engagement, events, and representation. We've rebuilt student activity after the pandemic, launched new events like the Winter Ball, grown the bar offerings, expanded societies, and taken a more active role in student voice. But behind the scenes, TLSU is being held back by a structure that simply isn't fit for purpose.

Currently, the entire Union is run by one full-time elected President and one part-time Administrator. That's it. The President is expected to manage everything, from day-to-day operations, budgets, bar staff, and events, to institutional meetings, student campaigns, and support for all student reps. This role turns into a full-time operational manager, events coordinator, finance lead, HR contact, and your lead representative, all within two weeks of training.

As a result, every year starts in survival mode. Presidents burn out, key services fall through the cracks, and long-term planning is nearly impossible. The Union ends up reacting, instead of leading.

This proposal is a solution.

We're asking for your vote to support the introduction of one new professional role: a 0.6 FTE (part-time) Students' Union Operations Manager.

This new member of staff would:

- Take on the daily running of the SU, including bar operations, finances, communications, event logistics, and long-term planning.
- Help develop a 5-year strategic plan for TLSU, ensuring consistency across student leadership terms.
- Support better governance and prepare TLSU to register as a charity by 2026, something you already voted to do.

At the same time, the existing SU Administrator role would be refocused to work exclusively on SU needs like communications, meeting organisation, and supporting the student exec.

How this benefits you as a student:

- More and better events: With operational tasks handled professionally, your SU will have the time and structure to plan bigger, better events, with consistency across the year and across campuses.
- Better representation: The President will finally have the space to focus on your feedback, attend programme forums and academic committees, and be a visible, active representative in student life.
- A stronger student voice: The new structure will improve how student feedback is collected and acted on, especially in time for the National Student Survey (NSS), which directly affects how well the institution supports us.
- A more inclusive and accessible Union: With plans to launch a bar presence in the Laban building, TLSU will be able to connect better with dance and musical theatre students, not just those at KCC.
- Increased student opportunities: With better infrastructure and support, there will be more ways to get involved, through societies, paid work, leadership, and creative projects.
- More control and identity: TLSU will take back merchandise and expand bar services. That means more branded hoodies, pop-ups at performances, and student-led creativity, and the profits stay within the SU to reinvest in you.

This model also reflects how other successful student unions in the UK already operate, including Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, which recently made a similar change and saw a significant improvement in engagement, services, and financial sustainability.

Why now?

- TLSU is growing, with income expected to rise to over £150,000 in two years, but our staffing hasn't changed.
- We're on the road to becoming a registered charity, which requires proper governance and systems.
- Trinity Laban has made student experience and TEF Gold a priority. A stronger SU helps deliver that by improving feedback, belonging, and student satisfaction.

The ask

We're asking you, the students and members of TLSU, to vote in favour of this proposal so we can move forward.

By supporting this change, you are saying yes to:

- A more impactful, visible, and consistent Students' Union
- More opportunities for students to connect, create, and campaign
- A structure that actually supports the President and student leadership to succeed
- A Union that can meet the needs of today, and the ambition of tomorrow



This isn't just about staffing. It's about building an SU that finally matches the creativity, passion, and potential of its students.

Vote yes to support the expansion of your Students' Union.