

# **SABBATICAL ELECTIONS!**

**Talk through + Q&A**

Illustrations by Sadie Falconer

# Welcome to the GSA Students' Association!



We are:

- Radically optimistic
- A charity, established in 1908
- A representational organisation (big change!)
- Home of The Vic & Assembly
- A separate organisation to the GSA, funded by them



# What is a sabbatical officer?



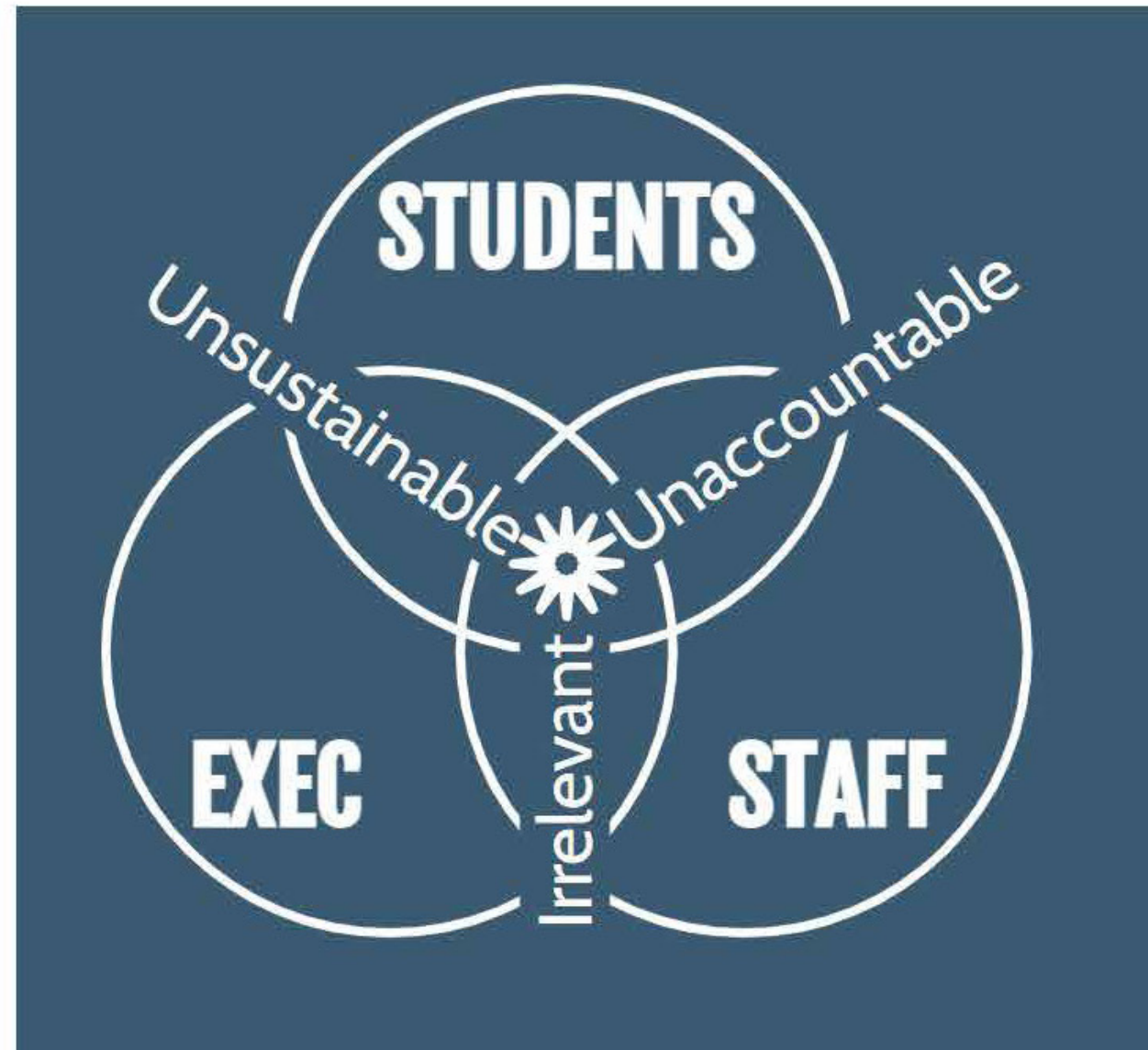
A 'sabb' aka Student President and Vice President is:

- An elected position
- A representative of 3,000 students (student experience, housing, education, equality, employment, travel)
- 12-month salary job (£26,913.90)
- Champion of the student voice
- Ambassador for the GSA Students' Association and GSA



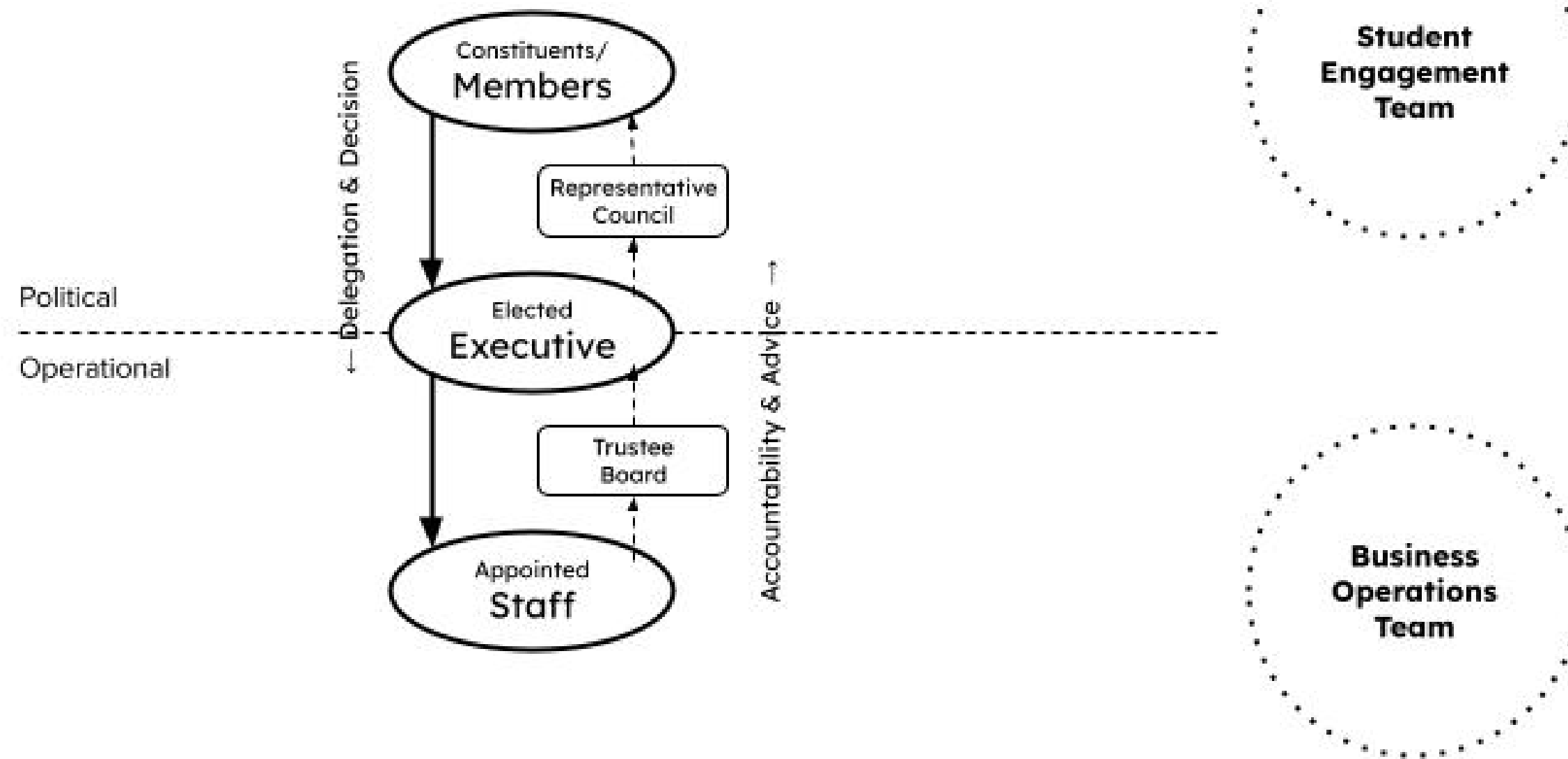
Photo: @aliciabick

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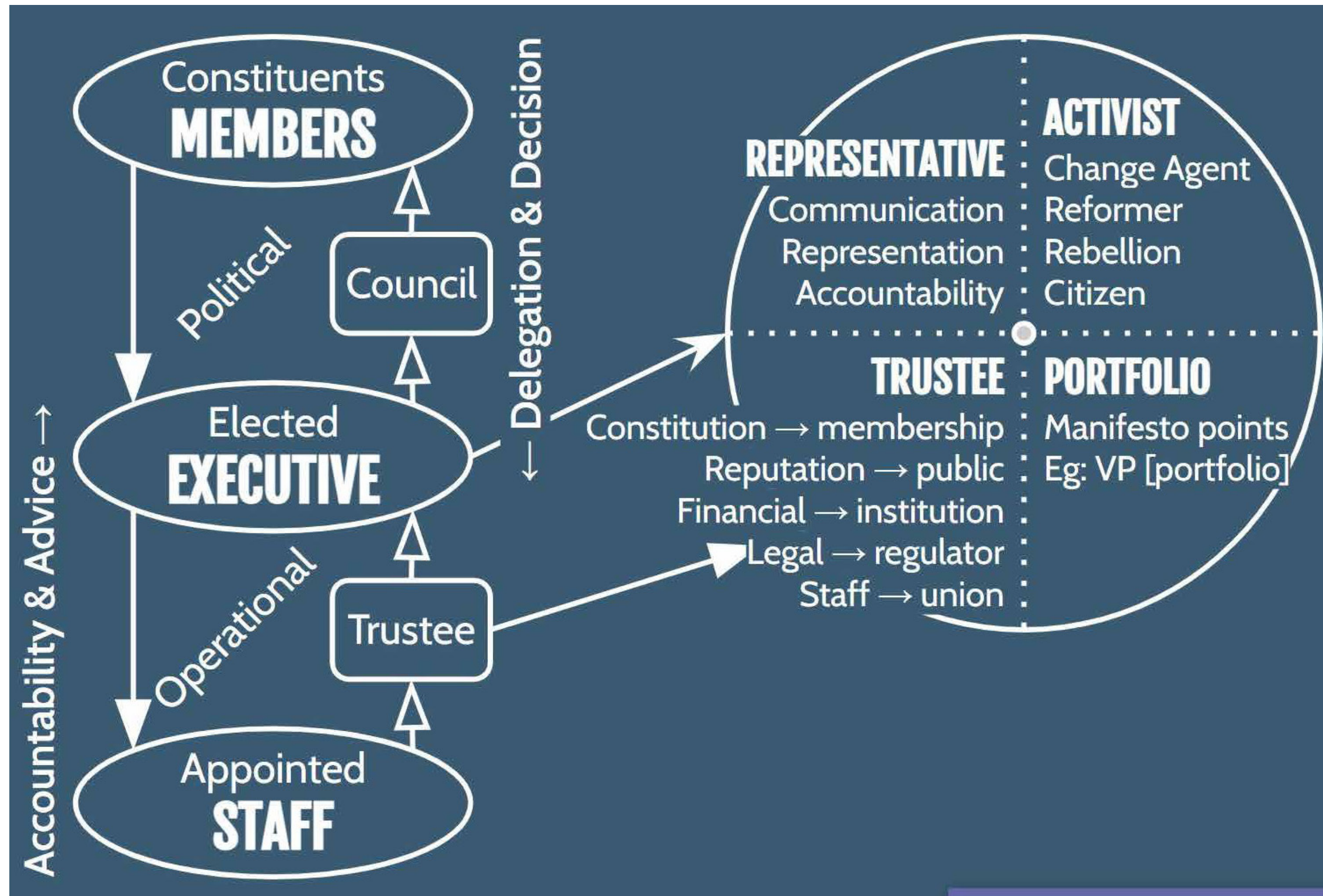




# What is a sabbatical officer?



# What is a sabbatical officer?



# Why run?



- There is nothing like it
- Sabbs go on to do big things!
- Learn loads
- Meet loads of awesome people
- Make change





# Role Description: President



- Leader
- Campaigner
- Strategic & Governance Focus
- Governor of GSA
- Chair of Board of Trustees
- Champion of Student Welfare & Interests
- Community & Engagement Focus



Photo: @aliciabick



# Role Description: Vice President of Education



- Leader
- Campaigner
- Academic Advocate
- Educational Development
- Governor of GSA
- Trustee of GSA Students' Association
- Representation Focused (SRC)



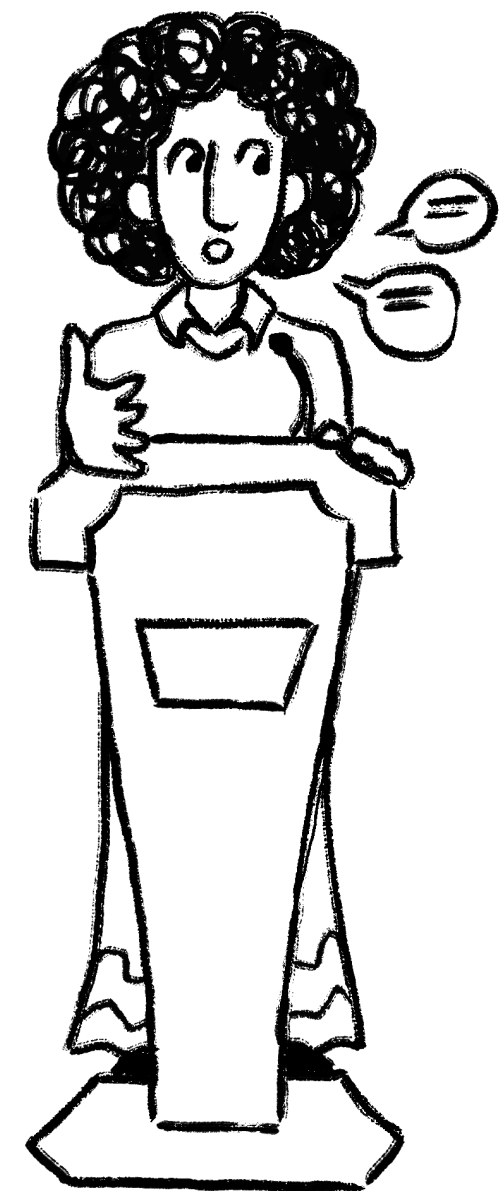
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# Role Description: Key Differences



The President is the primary leader and spokesperson for all aspects of student life, with broad strategic and governance responsibilities.

The Vice President Education is the dedicated specialist focused on representing and improving the academic experience, including teaching quality, learning resources, and the student voice in curriculum matters.



# What have we been up to so far?



- Campaigning (free soup, Fight For The Night, knitwear)
- Representing students on committees and boards (Board of Governors, Academic Council, Environmental and Social Justice)
- Going to governance training
- Networking
- Fixing things (our constitution, Board of Trustees, SRC)
- Coordinating workshops, fundraiser events, educational talks





# 'They Shoot Horses'





# Halloween Club Night



Photo: @hiattlibby



# Fight For The Night with Stitch and Bitch Society





# Burns Night Ceilidh with RCS SU



Photo: @ \_ng.visuals\_



# Governance Training in London





# Free Soup Campaign





# What are the challenges of the job?



- Relationship management
- Perception from GSA staff & students
- Shift in environment
- Self-management
- Engagement
- Prioritisation
- Managing expectations from GSA staff & students
- Understanding of the role



# What are the best things about the job?



- Experience
- Opportunity
- Being elected
- People
- Facilities
- Being a governor of the GSA
- Stepping stone for the future



# How do I run?



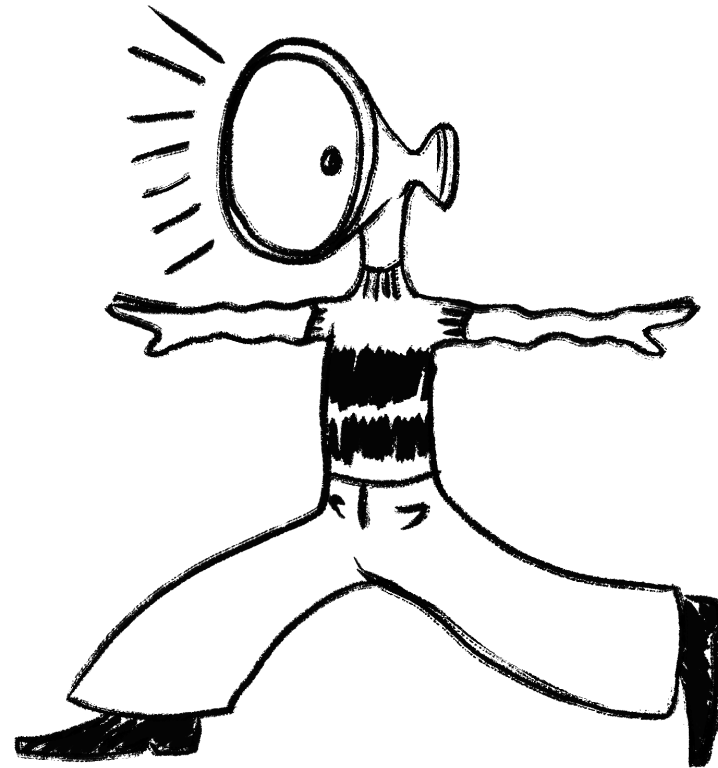
## Sabbatical Elections 2026 Timetable



<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>	<b>Nomination Period Opens</b>  <i>Role descriptions available on the GSASA website and sent via student email.</i>  <i>Applicants can request nomination packs from <a href="mailto:gsasa@gsa.ac.uk">gsasa@gsa.ac.uk</a>.</i>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026, 5pm</b>	<b>Deadline for Nomination Forms</b>  <i>Candidates must send nomination forms and manifestos by the deadline to <a href="mailto:gsasa@gsa.ac.uk">gsasa@gsa.ac.uk</a>.</i>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 5-6pm</b>  <i>Hybrid session if required.</i>	<b>Candidate Meeting (one meeting for all candidates).</b>  <i>All Sabbatical candidates meet with all current Staff and Sabbatical Officers.</i>
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 10am</b>	<b>Campaign Period Begins</b>  <i>Candidates are not permitted to publicly campaign before this time.</i>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 5pm</b>	<b>Sabbatical Candidate Question Time</b>  <i>Sabbatical candidates will take part in Candidate Question Time, held in person (location TBC).</i>
<b>Voting opens on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 at 10am, and closes on Thursday 2nd April 2026, at 2pm</b>	<b>Voting</b>  <i>Voting will take place on the GSA Students' Association Canvas page.</i>
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 4.30pm (approx.)</b>	<b>Results Announced</b>  <i>Results communicated to nominees, posted on the GSASA website, and sent via an all-school email.</i>



# Questions?



Please don't hesitate to get in touch :)

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Charli (Vice President)	<a href="mailto:c.runcie@gsa.ac.uk">c.runcie@gsa.ac.uk</a>
Choterina	<a href="mailto:c.freer@gsa.ac.uk">c.freer@gsa.ac.uk</a>