



Glossary of Elections Terms

BALLOT: This is where you vote for the candidate(s) you wish to win the election. You'll see their names and a link to their manifestos. As you can vote preferentially, you can select your first favourite, second favourite, third favourite (and so on) candidate on this.

CAMPAINING: Campaigning is what candidates do to get people to vote for them. It could be creating posters, hosting events, speaking to students on campus, using social media, or anything they can think of!

CANDIDATE: Every student whose nomination is approved becomes a candidate in the election. This means they could be elected into the role.

COMMITTEE: A committee is a group of people who sit in meetings about a specific topic. For example, the Sustainability Committee meet to talk about how the University can become more eco-friendly, and come up with initiatives for students that benefits the environment. All elected Officers will be invited to various committees.

FULL TIME OFFICER: a full-time Officer is a student who is elected by the student body and is then employed (paid) full-time by CSU to represent students and lead the direction of the organisation. They are elected in the Spring Elections and start their role in the following July for one year. There are three types of full-time Officer.

INTERRUPTION OF STUDIES: An interruption of studies is where you hit pause on your degree for a year, to be continued where you left off in a year's time. All full-time Officers who have not finished their studies before they begin their role must take an interruption of studies.

MANDATORY BRIEFING: This is the session that all confirmed candidates must attend before starting to campaign for votes. It gives them all the information and rules they need to know. If candidates cannot attend the scheduled briefing, they can attend this via a 1-1 or small group session at another time.

MANIFESTO: A manifesto is a piece of writing that states why you should be elected, and what you are planning to do if you are elected. It is a persuasive piece of writing, but should always tell the truth.

MEMBER: When you join University of Chester as a student, you automatically become a member of CSU. You are entitled to remove your membership, but you will not be able to vote or become a candidate in our elections.

NOMINATION: If you'd like to become a candidate in the election, you need to nominate yourself. This means you fill in a form to tell us that you'd like to run for a position.

PART TIME OFFICER: a part-time Officer is a student who is elected by the student body to represent a certain demographic or community of students. They sit on Union Assembly and are voluntary (unpaid) positions. They are elected in the Spring Elections and start their role in the following July for one year. They may also be elected in the Autumn By-Elections if there are remaining roles to elect. There are various types of part-time Officer.

PREFERENTIAL VOTING: We use a voting system which means you can vote for more than one candidate. You pick your first favourite, then second favourite, and so on. For more information about how the voting system works, you can watch our video.

TRUSTEE BOARD: CSU is a charity, which means we have Trustees. This group of people sit on a meeting called the Trustee Board, and they ensure we're acting in the best interests of students and fulfilling our duties. As full-time Officers, you'll be on the Trustee Board and the President acts as the Chair of the Trustee Board, which means they lead the meeting.

UNION ASSEMBLY: Union Assembly is CSU's student decision-making body. Part-time Officers sit on Union Assembly and bring feedback, ideas, and perspectives to CSU and its full-time Officers.