



98% satisfaction rating
from international students.
Top 5 in the UK*



TUSSU



IN REVIEW 2022//23



- Sport transferred to University - removed from union
- Student Members' meetings, annual one is the 2023
- Officers' accountability is to Student Rep Forum
- Please vote to approve the updated bylaws

- Updated by law
- Sport transferred to University
- Student Members' meetings
- Officers' accountability is to
- Please vote to approve the

OUR 2022/23 IN NUMBERS



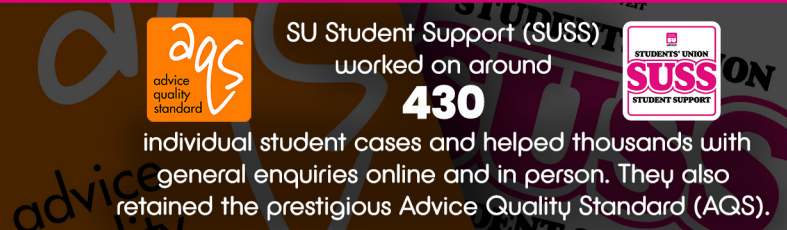
A new record of over
15,000
votes cast by over
4,300
students in the TUSU Elections 2023.



98% SATISFACTION RATING
from international students, placing
TUSU in the Top 5 Students' Unions in the UK.*



Attracted over
400,000
visits to the SU Building.



SU Student Support (SUSS)
worked on around
430



individual student cases and helped thousands with
general enquiries online and in person. They also
retained the prestigious Advice Quality Standard (AQS).



A new record of over
3,800
students participated
in our societies.



Our services and events
generated over
£1,300,000
of income to reinvest
in the student experience.



Our first full Freshers since
2019 attracted over
14,000
visits to events.

*tees-su.org.uk/recognition for a full summary of the sources that the statement is based on.

WELCOME FROM THE STUDENT OFFICERS

Welcome to our review of the academic year at Teesside University Students' Union (TUSU)! We reflect with pride on the work of elected officers, student reps and staff to deliver exceptional activities, event spaces, and support. We also celebrate the high student achievement that we have helped to empower. It has been an honour to be the first all-international Student Officer team as the University becomes ever more diverse and cultured. We have had a unique opportunity to support students and make a difference on the big issues they face, including accommodation and the cost of living.

In the pages that follow, you will see how we have continued to respond to the challenges and opportunities that our changing student population present. Our excellent ratings in the highly prestigious International Student Barometer (ISB), where we scored 98% for satisfaction and placed in the top 5 in the UK are further evidence of the high standards deliver for international students. This is alongside ongoing efforts to represent people from all backgrounds.

There have been many highlights again this year. However, we feel we must single out another memorable set of Student Officer and National Union of Students (NUS) National Conference Rep Elections. TUSU is led by students for students, so it is vital that they participate in the democratic process to choose the people who lead it and represent them. We had over 30 candidates from various parts of the world and secured another record turnout. Over 4,300 students had their say, casting over 15,000 votes across four highly competitive elections.

For two of us (Eby and Nigil), our journey as Student Officers ends this summer; we thank everyone who originally elected us, along with the talented and experienced people who have supported us. We are all confident that TUSU will go from strength to strength in 2023/24 as we collectively build on all that has been achieved. We will respond to new challenges with teamwork, innovation, and a determination to keep improving on the experience we deliver for students.



From left to right

Eby Femi Nigil

President
Education

President
Welfare

President
Activities

tees-su.org.uk/officers

STRIVING TO SERVE STUDENTS

In a year where the University returned to full operation and we saw another significant growth in the number of international students we welcomed, TUSU has been at the very heart of student life, providing essential spaces, support, activities, and events.

The SU Student Support (SUSS) team helped thousands of students with academic and accommodation issues. Meanwhile, their work accrediting local landlords and letting agents successfully continued. Staff once again helped to ensure safer, better-quality housing and fair student tenancy agreements.

They also provided vital support to those still seeking the right place to live and needing short-term accommodation. Their retention, for a seventh time, of the prestigious Advice Quality Standard (AQS) is testament to the quality of the support provided.

Meanwhile the School and Course Reps that the SUSS team train and manage provided an important grassroots link between students and senior management in each school. Their feedback also helped to make our Student Officers aware of ongoing issues and identify possible solutions.

The TUSU Activities service has supported a record number of societies and society members in 2022/23, helping groups to run smoothly and develop the experience they provide to members. In the first-ever year of entirely free membership of societies, the team worked closely with a wide range of individuals, including many from an international background, to deliver distinctive events celebrating various cultures and faiths.



Worked on

430

individual student cases
and gave general support
to thousands more people.

Trained and
supported nearly

540

School and
Course Reps.

The Terrace, SU Shop and Welcome Desk were all essential services and spaces in a consistently busy TUSU building throughout the academic year. Students got support, information, and signposting from the desk while the SU Shop provided thousands of students with affordable meal deals, snacks, drinks, and course materials. The Terrace was there day and night through the year for refreshment and safe, welcoming social space where students could enjoy events and relax. Staff also worked closely with many international societies on activities celebrating their culture and faith that people from all backgrounds enjoyed.



Sold nearly
32,000
meal deals in
the SU Shop.

Attracted over
100,000
visits to events in
the SU Building.

Saw a
106%
increase in
society membership.

Accredited over
1,150
beds in over
340
properties.

Attracted over
33,000
visits to over **230**
external events held
in our venues.

Served
21,000
delicious hot meals
in The Terrace.

Supported and developed
27
Academic Societies
with over **1,400**
student members.

Rated
98%
for satisfaction by
international
students.*

CELEBRATING SUCCESS



The TUSU Annual Awards 2023, in association with TS1 Students, took place on Thursday, 30th March and was a very welcome opportunity to honour individual students and groups who have excelled over the past year. Across ten categories, we celebrated the societies and society members who have gone the extra mile with their activities and events, fundraising and the smooth running of their group. We also recognise an individual society leader who has supported and inspired both their own members but also those in other societies.

Alongside those awards there was time to acknowledge the vital work that our School and Course Reps do gathering grassroots feedback from students then working with the Student Officers and senior staff in each school to act on it. We were delighted to honour the individual reps and the team who we felt had made the biggest difference through their efforts this year.

Full list of winners:

Societies Personality of the Year - **Anirudh Sharma**
 Academic Society of the Year - **Postgraduate**
 Cultural Society of the Year - **Indian**
 Faith and Lifestyle Society of the Year - **Islamic**
 Pastime Society of the Year - **Comic**
 New Society of the Year - **Environmental Research**
 School Rep of the Year - **Divine Favour Okezie**
 School Rep Team of the Year
 - **School of Computing, Engineering and Digital Technologies**
 Reps Rep of the Year - **Lysa Hare**
 Course Rep of the Year - **Matthew Lewis**



Find out more about the awards and watch video from the event through tees-su.org.uk/awards.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Records were again broken in this year's Student Officer and National Union of Students (NUS) National Conference Rep Elections as over 30 candidates from a wide range of backgrounds and, in many cases, originally from outside of the UK competed for the coveted positions. They were looking to secure the roles of President Education, President Wellbeing or President International. Other students wanted to represent Teesside University at the biggest single annual gathering of students' unions. A place where they would be able to participate in the national decision-making about student issues.

A new record of 4,308 eligible students had their say casting 15,446 votes across the four hotly contested ballots after a busy week of campaigning. We are delighted to say we have seen our second ever all international Student Officer team elected (see Page 8) and they will officially take office or resume their role from the start of July.

View a full breakdown of elections results and watch video highlights through tees-su.org.uk/elections.



KEY MOMENTS BY MONTH

SEPTEMBER

- ★ The New Student Officer team, the first-ever all-international one, get to work. tees-su.org.uk/officers.
- ★ Day and evening events at Freshers 2022, the first full fortnight of events since 2019, attracts over 14,000 visits.



ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

TUSU COST OF LIVING CAMPAIGN DAY

OCTOBER

- ★ Work on new campaigns around the cost of living and academic misconduct gets underway along with existing initiatives on accommodation, safety, student participation in activities and more. tees-su.org.uk/officers.

NOVEMBER

- ★ Over 220 students have their say at the TUSU Annual General Meeting (AGM) approving important changes to the constitution and a restructure of the Student Officer team for the 2023/24 academic year. tees-su.org.uk/agm.

DECEMBER/JANUARY

- ★ TUSU retains the nationally recognised Best Bar None accreditation. A tribute to high standards of training and service in The Terrace venue. tees-su.org.uk/recognition.
- ★ Students are welcomed back with a week of day and evening Refresh activities and events, including a focus on managing the cost of living.

FEBRUARY

★ Over 30 students stand in the Student Officer and NUS National Conference Rep Elections 2023. The vast majority are originally from outside of the UK. tees-su.org.uk/elections.

★ Started supplying free breakfasts to students as part of our wider work on the cost of living. tees-su.org.uk/col.

MARCH

★ A new record number of students voted in the TUSU Elections, with our second ever all international Student Officer team eventually elected to lead TUSU next academic year, tees-su.org.uk/officersselect.

★ Outstanding societies and society members are honoured at the TUSU Annual Awards 2023. tees-su.org.uk/awards.

APRIL

★ SU Student Support (SUSS) retain the prestigious Advice Quality Standard (AQS) it recognises high standards or support for students.

★ TUSU scores 98% and places in the Top 5 in the UK following feedback to a prestigious survey from international students*. tees-su.org.uk/recognition.

MAY

★ We round off the academic year with a week of big events celebrating the diversity of our student population, including Desi Hungama and Afrobeats nights, plus our first final day extravaganza since 2019. tees-su.org.uk/sendoff.

MEET THE NEW GUYS!

After voting in the TUSU Elections 2023, which concluded at the start of March, we saw only our second-ever all international Student Officer team elected. Femi Abolade (President Wellbeing from July 2023) secured a second term and will be joined by Nevin Edwin, who takes over the role of President Education and Michael Adewunmi, who will take up the new role of President International. Femi and Michael are both from Nigeria, while Nevin is from India. They will officially take office from the start of July this year.



Femi: *"I was delighted to be entrusted by students with the responsibility of being a Trustee of their Students' Union and one of their elected officers for a second year, it is a truly wonderful thing to be the voice of students, and it also continues to help me develop my skills and experience. I want, working with my colleagues, to continue and build on the important work being done this year and do more on issues such as childcare and the level of support that students living with disabilities receive."*



Nevin: *"Having studied and lived here for three years now, I have developed a strong understanding of the challenges faced by those who have relocated to Teesside from outside of the UK. I recognised this new Student Officer role as an excellent opportunity to apply my knowledge and make a real difference while developing as a person. It's a huge honour to be the first holder of the role, and it presents a unique opportunity for me, working with others, to make life even better for international students, both on and off campus."*



Michael: *"I have three goals above anything else. I am keen to see more peer-to-peer mentoring between students with those who are doing particularly well on their course or have already completed some studies sharing their knowledge and experience with others. I also want to continue the good work that has been done this year on academic misconduct to further improve awareness of this important matter. Finally, I want to try and widen the academic opportunities available to students, including scholarships and placements."*

Find out more about them through tees-su.org.uk/officersselect

INVESTING WISELY

The 2021/22 financial year was one of recovery after the Covid lockdowns. We invested in reopening as many services as possible for our student members. We also incorporated the SU so it was a 14 month year and (as a result) the figures below are higher than usual, if you would like to know more about TUSU finances or incorporation please email ceo@tees-su.org.uk.

£1,430,680

Uni Block Grant

£1,102,365

Music, food & drink

£236,144

Spent in our Shop

£217,791

Other Uni grants

£54,819

Sponsorship and other

£7,907

Government grant (CJRS)

£3,049,706
Raised

£3,049,706
Spent

£ 581,456

Pension deficit + other costs

£571,908

Advice Rep Campaigning

£541,478

Bar and Shop wages

£435,053

Activities
(Clubs and societies)

£ 391,460

Building Costs

£335,225

Music, Food & Drink

£123,506

Shop Costs

£69,620

Strengthening reserves

*Figures come from our audited accounts for 2021/22.

OUR MISSION

Enriching the lives of students
at Teesside University

OUR VISION

We are dynamic and ambitious
in meeting the needs of current
and future students.

OUR VALUES

Safe, Friendly, Helpful, Fun,
Open Minded, Democratic.

 tees-su.org.uk

    /teessidesu

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 Pictures courtesy of:
Lauren Close and Philip Bulmer

