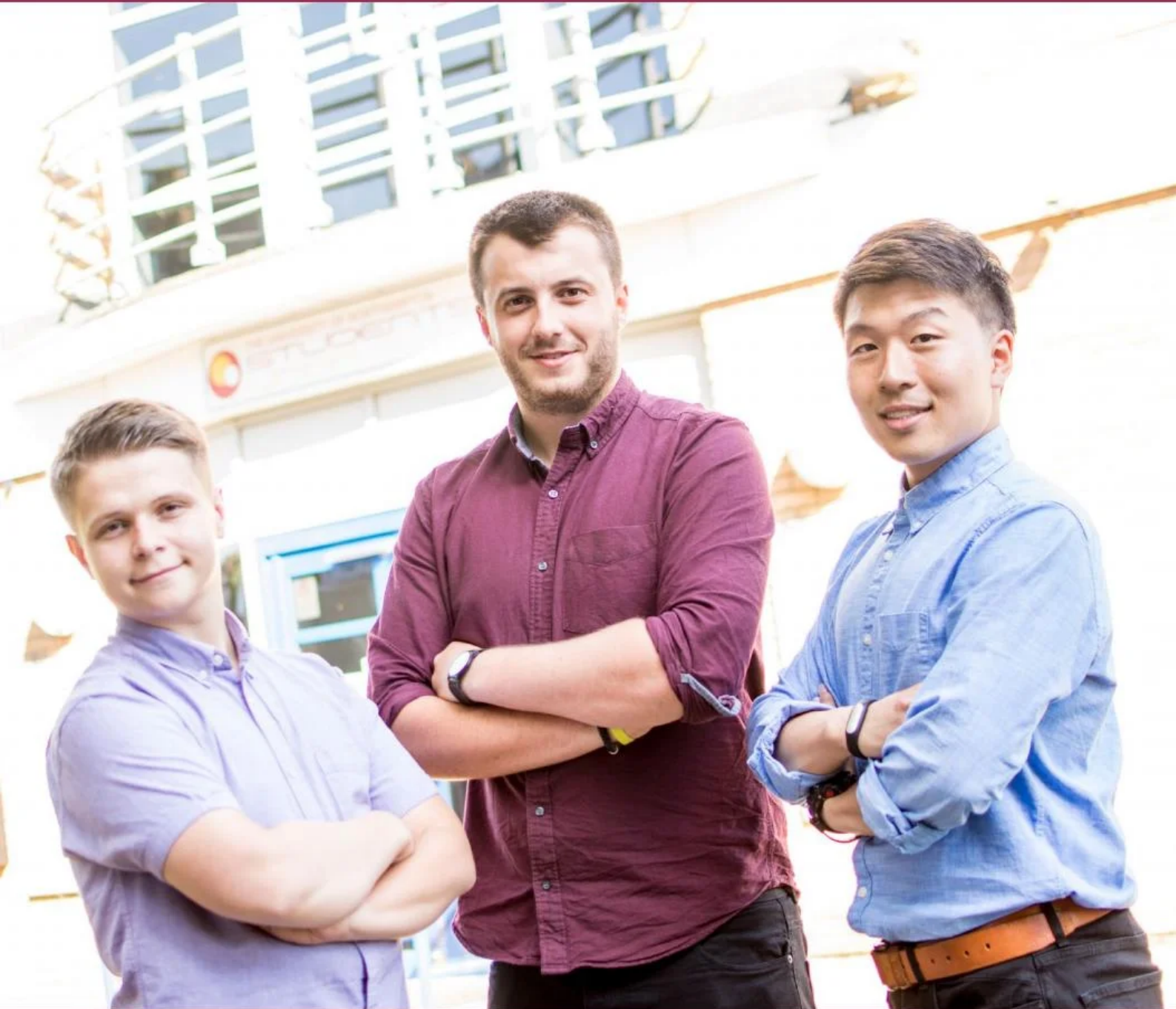


WE ARE THE UNION



A STUDENT'S GUIDE
2016/17

About the Students' Union.

The Students' Union is many things to many people, but the most important thing to know is that it is yours!

As a student of the University of Northampton you are a member of the Students' Union, run by students for students. We exist to represent and support every student at the University and, as a member, you have the power to influence how we operate.

We provide academic representation for those times when things go wrong. Through our democratically elected Sabbatical Officers, Part Time Officers, Faculty and Course Reps we offer support for when your voice needs to be heard.

Throughout the year we run campaigns and raise awareness of issues that affect students. We campaign on the issues that are important to you on a local level, with the University and nationally.

We have 37 Sports Clubs to choose from, ranging from American football and cheerleading to trampolining and rugby, regularly playing in British Universities and Colleges Sport competitions (BUCS).

The Union also has an array of diverse and popular societies – 48 to be exact – including the Medieval Society, Doctor Who Society, Education Society and Islamic Society! Even if you can't find the one you're looking for – you can start your own!

We have retail outlets on both campuses, offering a range of convenience goods, sandwich deals and the obligatory University hoody. All the money we raise from our shops, bars and events are used to fund all the other great things we offer and our loyalty scheme will put 5% of all your purchases back into your pocket!

Your time at university is really what you make of it. However, no matter your sex, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, race, religion or belief, colour, nationality, disability or age, your Students' Union will always be here to help you make the most of your experience at the University of Northampton.

“ Hello and welcome to the University of Northampton Students’ Union ”

We’re your Sabbatical Officers and we’re here to ensure that your time at University is the best it can possibly be, that it is rewarding, fulfilling, memorable and above all else fun!

Every student automatically becomes a member of the SU as soon as they enrol and it’s absolutely free! This means the Students’ Union will be there for you from day one.

As a member you are entitled to all of our great services and opportunities on both Avenue and Park Campuses, from student representation to Sports Clubs and Societies, our retail outlets to our nightclub. We have something for everyone.

You can come in anytime to see any of us at the Union and we’ll help you with whatever your problems are; whether you have a course-related concern, a financial or a welfare issue, or you simply fancy a cup of tea - our door is always open to you!

In the following pages you will find everything you need to know about the Students’ Union. If you have any questions please don’t be scared to just come in and ask us or contact us using the details provided throughout this handbook.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

David, Liam & Danjie.



Liam Bligh

Liam.Bligh@northampton.ac.uk
@YourSUPresident
01604 89 2351

Students' Union President 2016/17

Hi, I'm Liam and I'll be your Students' Union President for the upcoming year.

To all first years, welcome to the University of Northampton; and to all returning students, welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready to go for the year ahead!

The other Sabbatical Officers and I are here to make sure your experience at University is as wonderful as we know it can be. As President of the Students' Union I am here to represent you directly on matters relating to the University and Student Welfare so if you have any issues then come speak to me about it. It's really important for us to hear what you think and how best to represent you!

One of my main objectives this year is to make sure you have as much support as you need to maximise the time you spend with us at the University of Northampton and the Students' Union.

You will see me around on campus so don't be shy to ask any questions about University, raise any problems you might be facing or simply have a friendly chat.

You can contact me via Email, Facebook, Twitter and phone or by dropping into the Students' Union. I'm definitely looking forward to meeting you all and wish you the best of luck for the year ahead!



STUDENTS' UNION MAIN HANDBOOK 2016/17

Danjie Zhong

Danjie.Zhong@northampton.ac.uk

@YourVPEducation

01604 89 2551

Vice President : Education 2016/17

Hello and welcome! I am Danjie Zhong your Vice President: Education for the upcoming year at the University of Northampton Students' Union.

As your VP Education, my job is to make sure that your academic experience at Northampton is the best that it can be. This involves sitting on a number of University Committees, providing student input into decisions made about your experience.

I work closely with your Faculty and Course Reps; who are voted in by your course mates and help me gather evidence of the issues that are hindering your academic experience, so that I can represent your views to the University.

These issues can include timetable clashes, learning resources, late feedback and library facilities, but no matter the issue, however big or small, make sure to contact me, I will be happy to help you!

So do not be afraid to get in touch, you can find my contact details at the top of this page!



David Lewis

David.Lewis@northampton.ac.uk

@YourVPUnionDev

01604 89 3464

Vice President : Union Development 2016/17

Hi, I'm David Lewis, your Vice President:
Union Development.

To get the most out of your experience here at the University of Northampton, you'll want to make the most out of everything student life has to offer and for many that will include getting involved with your Students' Union.

My role as Vice President: Union Development is to make sure that the Students' Union is providing everything that you need. Be it free sports and societies, volunteering projects, the products that are stocked in our shops and on our bars or variety of events that appeal to everyone. Here at the University of Northampton Students' Union we really do care about your student experience and I urge you to give everything we offer a try.

If you don't fancy any of the activities we provide, you can set up a new Sports Club or Society yourself. All it takes is one conversation with myself or a member of Union Staff and you could be changing and creating things that not only benefit you, but the rest of the student body.

So get involved and get stuck in!



Part Time Officers

In addition to our three full time Sabbatical Officers, the Executive Committee of the Students' Union includes a number of Part Time Officer positions. These students are volunteers who have been similarly elected to represent the students of the University on a particular issue, with respect to a particular Students' Union service or on behalf of a particular student demographic.

We have 12 Part Time Officer positions available, but they're not always filled. Currently eight of these positions have had students elected to the role, the other four remain vacant and will become available for nomination in our bye-elections this October.

BME Students' Officer

Olaide Abiodun Ojo
BMEOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Mature Students' Officer

Jemma Vobe
MatureStudentsOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Disabled Students' Officer

Lianne Davies
DisabledStudentsOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Societies Officer

Kara Lawson
SocietiesOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Ethics & Environment Officer

Artemis Artemiou
EandEOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Sports Officer

Hannah Foggett
SportsOfficer@northamptonunion.com

International Students Officer

Wuliang Zhang
InternationalStudentsOfficer@northamptonunion.com

Women's Officer

Rebecca Chapman
WomensOfficer@northamptonunion.com



Elections & Democracy

The Union's Executive Committee is made up of a combination of full time Sabbatical Officers and Part Time Officers, and elections are held twice a year for the student body to choose their representatives.

The main elections take place in the spring term and all positions become open for the following academic year. The Union also holds bye-elections in the autumn term to fill any openings that haven't been filled.

You can hold these Officers to account and ensure you get the experience you want from your time at University by attending Student Council. This is your opportunity to speak out about where you want change on campus and what you want your representatives to work on as a priority.

Student Council is also where all the big decisions regarding Students' Union policy are made. By attending you can ensure you shape the Union's future direction

To find out more about Student Council, future dates and agendas visit:

northamptonunion.com/StudentCouncil

or email Roger Weston our Membership services Manager on:

Roger.Weston@northampton.ac.uk



Student Reps

If you're passionate about ensuring the best student experience for your course mates, think about becoming a Course Rep!

Reps are responsible for finding out about any course related issues you might be experiencing and ensuring they are resolved by the University and Students' Union.

By becoming a rep you can become the voice of your classmates, drive change or lead one of the Students' Union's campaigns.

You'll develop your skills in advocacy, representation and leadership - increasing your employability - and receive formal recognition from the Students' Union and the University for the work you put in.

All of our Course Reps and Faculty Reps that make up the Student Representative system are nominated and elected by students.

To find out more information about the role and how to start representing visit

northamptonunion.com/studentreps

or email Sammi Wright our Student Voice Coordinator at

Samantha.Wright@northampton.ac.uk



Stallions Sports

Sport at the University of Northampton Students' Union continues to go from strength to strength.

There are now 37 Sports Clubs to choose from, with the majority competing within BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport) competitions each week, travelling to other Universities in the Midlands and beyond.

Best of all, participation is entirely FREE. There are no fees to pay to join!

This is great if you've not played a sport before or practiced for a while, because there's no upfront cost to pay to give any of our Clubs a go!

Our athletes receive:

- free professional coaching at training sessions
- all match day costs
- transport to and from games
- all required equipment & facilities - everything you need to play!

If you're looking for something a little less competitive we also offer a number of free fitness classes - so there really is something for everyone!

For more information or to sign up visit www.northamptonunion.com/sports



Student Societies

At the University of Northampton Students' Union we make things easy - all our Societies are free to join.

Joining a Society is undoubtedly the best way to make new friends and meet more people from outside of your course – get away from the books and have some fun!

Societies regularly run a number of social events, meetings and trips throughout the year – There's something for everyone, so you can get involved as much or as little as you want.

The Union has an array of diverse and popular Societies, 48 at last count - ranging from the Medieval Society to the Islamic Society and if you can't find the one you're looking for, then you can start your own!

You might start a Society around your degree programme or set up a Society to find other people interested in your hobby or interest – like chess, gaming or film – or just to bring together like-minded people such as a religious or political group.

Whatever your passion, the number of opportunities for involvement are limitless!

For more information or to sign up visit:
www.northamptonunion.com/societies



Volunteering Projects

If you want to get involved in something new and make a difference, why not think about volunteering?

The University of Northampton Students' Union has a wide variety of Volunteering Projects, led by students and by external partners, for everyone to get involved with including our microbrewery, allotment, student radio station, food bank scheme and Nightline service.

We also support a number of international expeditions abroad and in the past have sent students to the Philippines, Uganda, Kenya, and Zimbabwe.

Volunteering can make a real difference to your own life and the lives of those around you. It is also a great way to meet new people, whilst developing transferable employability skills and gaining valuable learning opportunities alongside your University studies.

To find out more about our Volunteering Projects and opportunities visit:

northamptonunion.com/volunteering

or email Kerri Wheeler, our Member Development Manager on:

Kerri.Wheeler@northampton.ac.uk



Employment Opportunities

In order to provide our Union services and activities we employ a large team of part time student staff and invest in supporting their personal and professional development.

Both our paid and voluntary opportunities present a fantastic opportunity to develop your skills in a professional, fast paced and fun environment providing a first class service to our members.

Whether you want to work in our bars or nightclub, are interested in events marketing or looking for administration experience we have a wide range of roles to suit everyone.

You'll gain real world experience and develop a range of transferable employability skills that won't only complement your studies, but aid you in seeking employment when you graduate. Not only that, but we'll help you in attaining the University's Certificate in Employability.

To find out more about the opportunities available at the Students' Union, when we're recruiting and how to apply visit www.northamptonunion.com/jobs



Student Advice

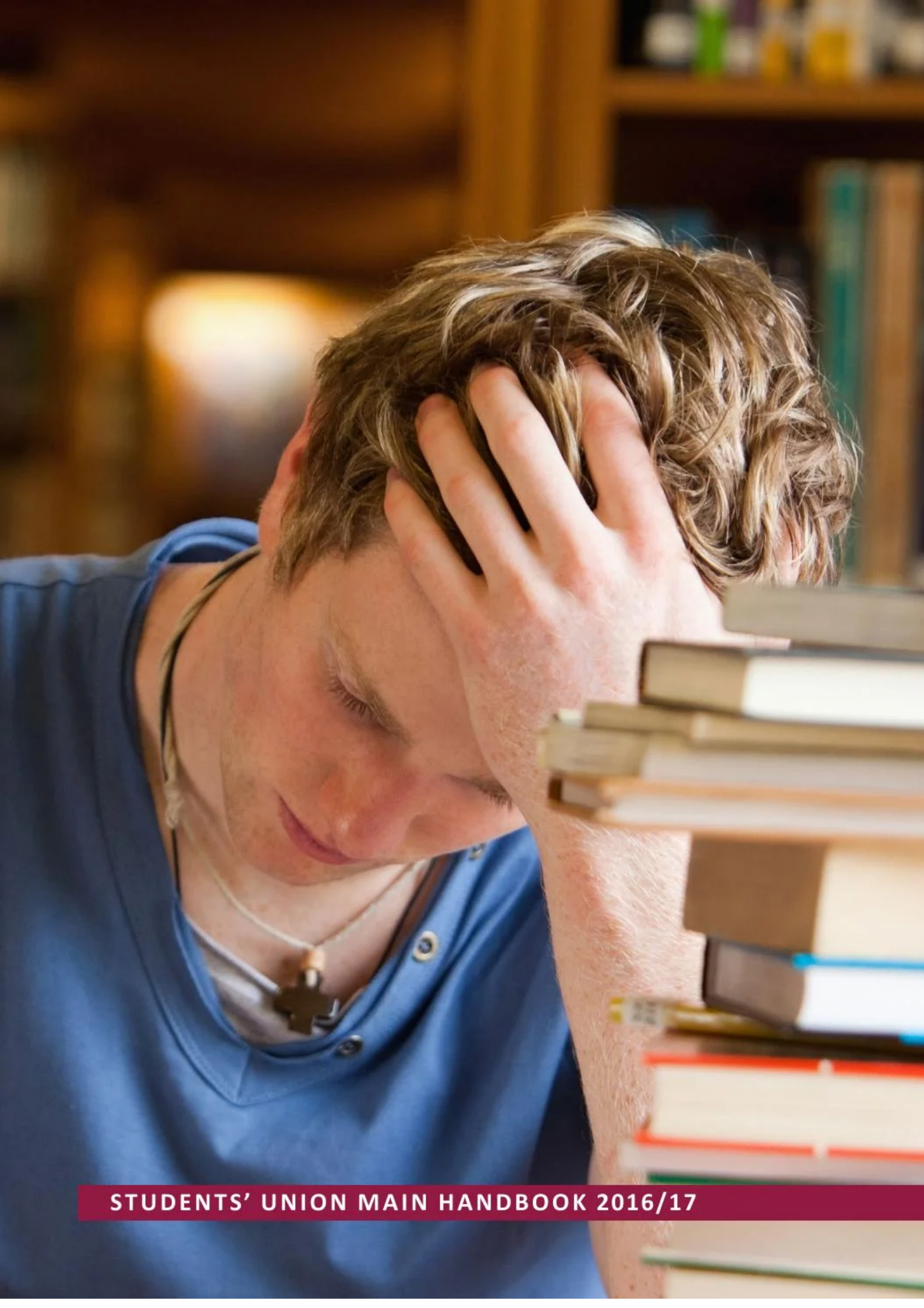
Your time at University should be enjoyable and rewarding and not spoiled by unnecessary worries. As soon as you are aware of a problem seek help, and remember, it is never too late to ask for advice.

The Students' Union is an independent organisation to the University, so we can provide you free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support on a range of academic and non-academic issues.

The Student Advice Service is staffed by a Student Policy Advisor who is trained to advise in both generalist and specialist areas. You will be able to get support and advice from us in a private, friendly and relaxed office which is located on the ground floor of the Students' Union building on Park Campus.

We aim to ensure that no student is adversely affected because of a lack of information about their rights and responsibilities - so you can make an appointment by visiting our receptions at Park or Avenue Students' Unions, by calling 01604 89 2818 or emailing our Student Advice Coordinator Wei Zhao: wei.zhao@northampton.ac.uk.

Appointments can also be made for meetings to be held at Avenue Campus or during vacation periods.



Our Venues

Park Campus boasts three distinct venues that offer everything from coffees and paninis to jagerbombs and pinot grigio in addition to our fantastic membership services and retail outlets. Whatever your tastes we have the perfect offer for you.

In 2012, the first floor of the Students' Union underwent a £450,000 refurbishment to create a flagship nightclub and multifunctional social space now called The Attic. Between lectures it's the perfect place to meet friends, have a coffee, watch TV or play on one of our X Box 360 or Playstation 3 consoles.

At night, we offer an exciting programme of events with an A list line up of DJs and bands that in the past have included Duke Dumont, Katy B, Naughty Boy, Zane Lowe, Jameela Jamil, Doctor P, Huw Stephens, Danny Howard, Sigma, Gorgon City, Example and Ministry of Sound.

Downstairs, you'll find our Central Park Bar, which focuses on bringing you a wide range of hot and cold drinks and quality home cooked food at affordable prices. Our relaxed attitude and friendly staff truly make this a home away from home. Combined with free wifi, free withdrawal ATM and large projection screens showing your favorite TV programmes, Central Park is sure to become a part of your daily routine.



Across campus, located near Spencer Perceval and Simon Senlis Halls of Residence, you will find Pavilion, a cosy and comfortable venue offering fresh pastries, homemade sandwiches and salads all year round.

In addition, Pavilion proudly serves the full range of Starbucks coffees, teas and beverages. So whether you need something to wake you up in the morning or something to cool you down in the summer we've got you covered.

Avenue Campus is home to its own sleek and modern bar, convenience store, radio station, and art shop!

With a fun, vibrant and widely-stocked bar Avenue SU boasts a fantastic, large outdoor seating area, and serves hot, comfort food all day. What's more with two massive 55 inch 3D screens it's the perfect location to meet your friends between lectures or enjoy a drink after a long day.

In the evenings we host regular events including comedy nights, open mic nights, karaoke and popular pub quizzes. Being home to the School of the Arts we also regularly host home grown bands, aspiring dance groups and other student organised events.

Over in the Maidwell Building, you'll find The Art Shop and as the name would suggest it sells a comprehensive range of quality art materials, but at far more reasonable prices than those in town. Whether its paint brushes, paper, pencils or putty erasers we've got everything you'll need for class - so the only thing you need to worry about is your work.



REWARD YOUR LOYALTY

get money back for all your purchases

LAST YEAR WE
GAVE OUT OVER
1,900,000
POINTS
TO OUR
STUDENTS
SAVING THEM
THOUSANDS OF
POUNDS.



5% back

on purchases at all Students' Union Venues

Every student is automatically enrolled onto our loyalty scheme when they arrive at the University of Northampton.

It works like any other loyalty card, **when you spend you get money back**. Our card gives you a whopping 5% back on all purchases at our venues, so for every £1 you spend, 5p goes straight back onto your loyalty card, **making it one of the best cards on the loyalty market!**

*The Loyalty Points scheme excludes tobacco products. Full terms and conditions apply.

Where can I earn points?

UniExpress
The Art Shop
Avenue Shop
Pavilion

Park Campus Students' Union
Avenue Campus Students' Union