

UWE Bristol Principles of Academic Representation – Support Available

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UWE Bristol and The Students' Union at UWE

Support available for Academic Representation at UWE Bristol

UWE Bristol and The Students' Union at UWE work in partnership with students and staff to support and promote Academic Representation, ensuring students interests are at the heart of decision making across the university in line with the Principles of Academic Representation.

There is a range of support available for students and staff to ensure that student voice activities are effective and meaningful. This document outlines support available, provided by the Representation Team within The Students' Union and the Student Voice and Academic Policy Team within Student and Academic Services.

Student Reps can expect

- Training opportunities for Student Reps working at a course level either face-to-face or digitally where appropriate to provide skills in being a true representative and how to effectively gather / disseminate student feedback
- Enhanced training provided to Lead Department Reps, Department Reps and Programme Year Reps who sit on higher committees to support their committee work and being a representative at a higher level.
- Additional in-year enhancement opportunities (CPD) for engaged Student Reps, such as additional upskilling sessions.
- Central Reward and Recognition packages, which may include but are not limited to, HEAR accreditation, Bristol Futures Award accreditation, digital Rep Certification, Rep of the Month and Student Experience Awards nominations.
- Ongoing support and guidance throughout the year, alongside signposting to other support mechanisms where appropriate
- Elections / recruitment of representatives to attend Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC), Learning Teaching & Student Experience Committee (LTSEC) and Academic Board
- Reps who attend ASQCs, LTSEC and Academic Board will also receive contextualised briefings for these meetings

Academic Societies can expect

- Committees will receive training to be effective in their roles to lead and develop society activity
- Receive advice and assistance where required to develop relationships between societies and academic staff to promote extra/co-curricular activities
- Receive recognition as Academic Society Committee members, which may include but are not limited to, Society Awards nominations, HEAR accreditation and Bristol Futures Award accreditation, subject to eligibility
- Support in identifying methods for Student Reps and Academic Societies to share feedback and run joint projects where appropriate

Other Learning Communities can expect

- Training on being a true representative, feedback gathering and negotiation for learning communities who wish to develop in these areas (optional)
- Support to promote feedback opportunities and identify where learning communities could add their specialist viewpoint and value into conversations

Department/Faculty Staff can expect

- Guidance regarding the election of Student Reps at a course level (Student Reps and Programme Year Reps)
- Bespoke advice and guidance for any queries which might arise regarding Academic Representation, Student Reps and other student voice activities
- Receive support and guidance for the effective conduct of Student Rep Staff Forums (SRSFs) and Programme Management Committees (PMCs)
- Work alongside departments and faculties to develop academic representation plans and actively monitor these in collaboration with the department/faculty

- Facilitate engagement between Department Reps and Lead Department Reps with key members of Department and Faculty Executives throughout the academic year.

Key Contacts

The Representation Team within The Students' Union should be the first point of contact for any queries or support regarding

- Student Reps, Programme Year Reps, Department Reps and Lead Department Reps
- Training and development opportunities for Student Representatives / learning communities
- Reward and Recognition schemes for Student Reps

studentreps@uwe.ac.uk

The Student Voice and Academic Policy Team within Student and Academic Services should be contacted for any queries or support regarding

- Student voice mechanisms in Academic Governance structures (Student Rep Staff Forums, Programme Management Committees etc.)
- Student Surveys (such as the National Student Survey, Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey and Module Feedback Surveys)

studentvoice@uwe.ac.uk