

Passionate about the Academic Experience? Why not run as VP Education?

The Vice President Education role really says it all in the name; it is everything Learning, Teaching, Exams, Coursework, Studying and Academic Representation. They develop and implement education policy, ensure quality teaching, learning support and resources and ensure that the university develops graduates ready for the world of work.

There are certain meetings that the VP Education attends to better understand these issues many of these are with different departments and boards within the University. To ensure students are represented in the development of student academic experience at Worcester.

More importantly you will lead the Academic Representation programme, working closely with Institute Reps and Student Academic Reps (StARs) to ensure that the student voice is heard from course to University Executive level. You will work with Reps to find out what issues students face in their academic life, ensure this is fed back to the University and that action is taken to resolve any issues that students face.

This is because big part of the role is putting **pressure** on the University to make improvements that are important to students. Lobbying, negotiating, campaigning are all tactics that VPs use to do this.

Within the remit it is really up to the individual what they want to achieve and how they want to go about it.

All Full-Time Officers' Responsibilities

- Be a Trustee of Worcester Students' Union, playing an active role in the Board and its Sub-Committees and ensuring the Union complies with relevant legislation;
- Work with trustees, staff and volunteers in a constructive manner and for the greater good of the Union;
- Ensure that the Union does not undertake activities that put its financial stability, members or reputation at undue risk;
- Be an active Student Councillor, attending all meetings and providing reports;
- Be a key member of Executive Committee and support part-time officers and reps in their roles;
- Work collaboratively with Union staff and the Chief Executive to ensure the Union meets its charitable aims and furthers its strategic goals;
- Represent the Union and its members on University Committees, panels and working groups, preparing reports and presentations if needed;
- Attend regular meetings with the University Executive, Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellor (Students);
- Chair relevant Union committees and meetings;
- Promote active involvement in the Union to all its members, including mature, part-time, postgraduate and international students;
- Initiate and promote campaigns that improve student life;
- Constructively challenge the Union and University to meet the needs of a diverse membership, ensuring their views are researched and represented;
- Promote creativity and innovation in thinking and delivery of services;
- Ensure the Union's governance and democratic processes are relevant and accessible to students;



STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

Don't DUCK out of democracy



- Play an active role and represent the Union in key events such as Welcome Week, Varsity, Open Days and Celebration Week;
- Support the delivery of the SU on Tour programme and ensure the Union reaches out to a wide range of students;
- Always act and behave in accordance with the Union's values, vision, policies and procedures, setting an example to others;
- Promote the values of diversity and equality of opportunity, as well as of the environment, amongst the membership.
- Maintain a good knowledge of current issues affecting students in Higher Education;
- Act as a signatory on the Union's bank accounts.

Individual Role Description

Vice President Education

- **Deputise for the President** when necessary;
- Represent members' interests in relation to academic issues, working closely with the **University Pro Vice Chancellor (Students)** and academic leads;
- **Initiate and co-ordinate campaigns** that support students' academic interests;
- Ensure that the Student Voice goes from strength to strength with active and engaged Course Reps;
- Ensure a regular **forum for Institute Reps** to feedback on current academic issues and to generate ideas;
- **Co-ordinate and chair** the Course Rep Forums, in collaboration with the Pro Vice Chancellor (Students), ensuring relevant agenda items and attendance of appropriate senior staff;
- Play a key role in the co-ordination and **delivery of training** and ongoing support of Course Reps;
- **Liaise with the University** to ensure appropriate support and contact with students and Reps at partner institutions;
- Lead on the planning and promotion of the **Students' Choice Awards for Outstanding Staff**, ensuring it is a recognised element of the University calendar;
- **Provide information** for individual students or groups of students around academic issues, referring them to the Union's advice service and, where necessary, accompanying them to formal meetings or hearings;
- Liaise with University departments such as **ILS** and **Student Services**;
- Represent the membership in relation to **quality assurance** arrangements, as well as on policies relating to **achievement, progression and retention**;
- Lead on the Union's efforts to help the University **promote the NSS** or its future equivalent;





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- Lead on the Union's negotiations and discussions with the University in relation to **national educational policies**;
- Ensuring Union input into the development and review of **academic policy**;
- **Liaise with the Union's Advice Service** on academic related issues or trends that may be affecting the membership and require action;
- Attend Union meetings and committees as required.
- Other reasonable duties as may be required that are commensurate with the role.

Along with your individual manifesto aims and role descriptions, there will be operational activities within the Student's Union and University that you will automatically be involved in as one of the SU's Full Time Officers.

Below are a few examples of these activities that the Vice President Education has undertaken, from the last couple of years:

- Working with the University on new policies and processes e.g. the Student Charter, The Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF), Timetabling etc.
- Co-ordinating and chairing Course Rep forums and regular meetings with Institute Reps
- Helping to organise the Union Awards: Student Choice
- Supporting the promotion of the National Student Survey (NSS) and Course Experience Survey (CES) and working with the University on any action plans coming out of the results of the NSS or CES

