Area Representative for (Scotland/Wales/Northern Ireland/Republic of Ireland) 2018-20

Overview of role

Area Association Representatives have the primary responsibility of supporting the development of a student community in their area and, where necessary, representing the views of students in their assigned area to the Central Executive Committee, the Open University and relevant external bodies.

The Area Representative:

- Is the lead contact in negotiations with national Parliaments/Assemblies/Higher Education bodies/OU in the Nations (N Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Wales).
- Ensures the Central Executive Committee is aware of the impact of decisions for students in their nation.
- Works in collaboration with other members of the Central Executive Committee to meet our strategic objectives.
- Is visible and contactable for students to support with area-specific study issues.
- Supports students in providing local events such as meet-ups, local volunteer projects and other initiatives.
- Works with Vice President Community to support Community volunteers in their area.
- Is the lead contact for ‘Meet Your Students Association’ events supported by Vice President Student Community and other Central Executive Committee members.
- Supports Vice President Student Community in Association wide initiatives.

You will have:

- Passion for the OU Students Association Vision, Mission and Values.
- Willingness to engage with students, volunteers and Association staff in pursuit of our shared objectives.
- Good communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
• Commitment to develop skills and knowledge appropriate to the role.

**Time commitment**

Within this role you can expect to spend on average 10 hours per week. This role offers slightly more flexibility than an officer role but is of equal importance and your attendance may be required at local events such as meet ups, ‘Meet Your Students Association’ events and at meetings with local parliaments and assemblies.

You will also be required to attend campus for the following:

**Central Executive Committee Meetings** – these are held four to six times a year on weekends (dates which have been confirmed for these meetings are held in a separate document available in useful documents and the candidate zone.)

**Induction Session** – All newly elected representatives and trustees are expected to attend an online welcome and induction session Friday 15 March 2019 7-8pm.

**Association Conference** – All newly elected representatives are invited to join us for our biennial conference, held on Milton Keynes Campus June 2020.

Please note that meetings often require preparation time outside of the hours mentioned. Travel time to and from meetings has not been included in our estimation of the time commitment for individual roles.

**What additional support will you receive**

As part of your role you will be supported by Vice President Community and the staff Community team based on campus.