

Appendix 2 - CCR Quarterly Impact Report January 2022

Central Committee Representatives act as the voice of OU students on **36 different OU committees** ranging from representation at individual school level all the way up to Senate, the academic authority of the OU. Between them, they represented students at **more than 60 committee meetings** between September and December. Although many of the specifics are confidential, relating to modules, qualifications, partnerships, and policy all under development, this report outlines some of the achievements and advances made throughout the first quarter of the 2021-22 academic year.

VP Education – Cinnomen McGuigan

The new term for Central Committee Representatives began on 1 September 2021 and we have successfully recruited many reps to roles right across the governance and sub-governance structure at the OU. **As of January 2022, there are 58 CCR's, 27 of whom were new to representation at the start of the academic year.**

One of my manifesto stances was to achieve a more inclusive representation team, so that we could ensure a wider and more diverse team of students were able to input and engage at all levels. With this latest recruitment cycle, I can say that we have moved much closer to achieving that. We have taken several actions to ensure we are fielding applications from some of our harder to reach student communities. This work is paying off, and we have a few on-going actions to ensure that we embed this engagement work in all our recruitment cycles.

All representatives, both old and new, attended one of two Student Voice Training Weekends hosted by myself, and the Volunteering and Representation Team. Here, they honed their skills at effectively identifying and responding to common student issues on committees. Feedback from students who attended our latest training weekend suggests that we are making strides in the right direction. They felt engaged and included, and that we managed their expectations well. The work that went into that weekend is a great reflection of the whole Volunteering and Representation team, because we pulled together, and built on our lessons learnt from last time to make the event the best that it could be, and to know that students really enjoyed it was great.

Quality Monitoring and Enhancement (QME)

All CCR's sitting on a Board of Studies were invited to submit a report for the Quality Monitoring and Enhancement process. This is an annual process which provides a supportive mechanism for faculties and units to enable them to effectively review student performance and experience on modules and qualifications. Reps reported on:

- Whether academic standards and student learning experience are sound
- Whether the management of the processes for assuring and enhancing the quality of academic standards and the student learning experience are sound

Modules, Qualifications, and Partnerships

A large part of the work that CCR's do is scrutinising modules, qualifications, and curriculum partnerships at every stage of their lifecycle. During the last quarter, **5 new curriculum partnerships and 2 new degrees were approved**, each of which represents a significant amount of input from representatives at school, faculty, and institutional level across many months or even years.

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Amplifying the Student Voice

Despite covid-19 restrictions meaning that many representatives have never met their fellow committee members, CCR's have managed to forge strong relationships with OU staff to ensure that the student perspective is more strongly sought after and considered.

Some highlights from CCR reports:

"The Chair and Secretary are keen to follow-up on student consultation results and asked me to discuss this further with them"

"I was impressed how student concerns were being considered in the various module planning and approval processes. It was also good to see EDI principles being embedded in course materials"