

1. Project

We are asking for a budget of £2000 from the Discretionary spend to support the OU Students Association's Tutor Awards Project.

The OU Students Association **Tutor Awards Project** aims to recognise a tutor from each faculty and Access who has gone above and beyond in their support of students in the last 18 months. Through student nominations and panels led by each respective Faculty Association Representative, winners of this award will be determined and presented with their award a Freshers event to be held on campus during the autumn 2022 Freshers period.

Full details of the project can be found in the attached project proposal papers (Appendix A and B)

2. Strategy

This project seeks to uphold our principles of kindness, compassion and collaboration.

It also seeks to benefit the Associations strategy of engaging and informing by providing opportunities for students to further interact with the Association in a positive manner, whilst allowing us to grow and enhance our relationship with the OU, in particular with the AL body.

3. Benefits

- An opportunity for a wider breadth of students to interact with the Association.
- An opportunity to grow our relationship with the OU, with particular emphasis on the AL body.
- A chance to celebrate positive contributions to the student experience.
- Foster a feeling of pride in the work taken to enhance the student experience.
- Wider awareness of the Students Association and its work will lead to wider student awareness and to greater involvement.

4. Risks

Risk	Mitigation
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**Application for Discretionary spend:
Tutor Awards
21/3/2022**

Lack of nominations.	A clear advertising process through a wide variety of Association, University and Social Media platforms designed to ensure engagement.
Wasted Financial Resources	A significant aspect of the finance requested is to cover travel, accommodation, and subsistence for the award winners. The risk of this being wasted is mitigated through a reimbursement policy, requiring the outlay, and subsequently the risk, to be borne by the award winner, with repayment contingent on attendance.
Reputational	All efforts will be made to ensure the reputation of Association is protected. This will be through the careful consideration of the applicants by the Shortlisting Panel, as well as an opportunity being given to the CEC and BoT to raise any objections if a known reputational risk exists.

5. Estimated Costs

Travel, accommodation and subsistence for award winners	Up to £300 per winner. 5 winners in total
Award costs	Approx. £100 per winner. 5 winners in total.
TOTAL REQUESTED	£2000

6. Other Comments

It is hoped that Tutor Awards could become an annual initiative. If this is the case, the Board of Trustees will need to consider future inclusion in annual budgets. As this event occurs in the next financial year, this request would necessitate payment from the discretionary fund in 2022/23 financial year, unless another suitable funding stream can be identified.

7. Governance and staffing

Project Sponsor: Gareth Jones

Accountable Executive: Beth Metcalf

Project Managers: Gareth Jones, Beth Metcalf and Sarah Jones

Supporting team members: Steph Stubbins, Bev Smit, Nichola Connolly, Lucy Richardson and Heather Bloomer.