

Conference 2020

The Open University Students Association Conference is held every two years to offer delegates the opportunity to engage with fellow Open University (OU) students, participate in a variety of activities and events, and learn more about how their Association supports their student experience and represents their interests.

OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

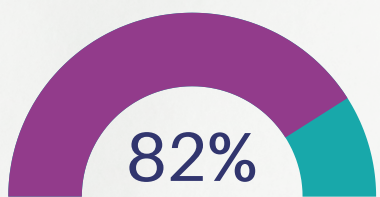
Aligned to the **Inform and Support**, **Engage and Involve**, and **Influence and Transform** strands of the Association's Strategy, our objects were to ensure all conference attendees:

- gained a good understanding of what we do and our relevance to their student journey
- have an opportunity to provide feedback and input
- have a positive and uplifting experience that inspires them to get further involved

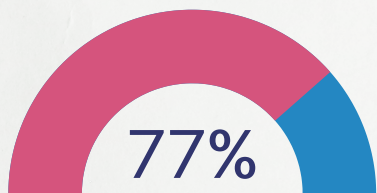
CONFERENCE DURING COVID TIMES

Due to the restrictions on large-scale gatherings in 2020, the Association decided to host Conference 2020 as an online-only event; this was also the first time that the Conference weekend would be hosted entirely online.

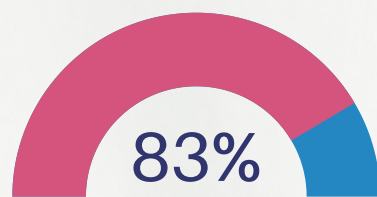
411
attendees



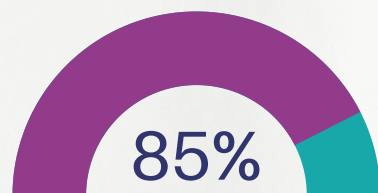
of delegates would definitely recommend Conference to a fellow student



of delegates felt that attending Conference increased their sense of belonging to the OU student community



of delegates felt that Conference weekend reflected the Association's commitment to inclusivity and diversity



of delegates felt that Conference met their expectations

As these highlights demonstrate, the Association hosted a successful event, delivering on its Conference 2020 objectives as well as progressing its broader strategic objectives. Delegates' positive experience of attending Conference 2020.

"It was an amazing experience and I felt very included in everything that went on while there. It has made me feel more confident as a student and in myself in general."

"It can be difficult to feel part of a community when undertaking distance learning. Having an opportunity to attend the conference helped to foster a sense of community. Interesting to 'meet' others. The speakers were excellent and clearly a lot of thought, time and effort had gone into organising the conference."