International Representative

The International Representative has the primary responsibility of supporting the development of a student community for students living outside of the UK and, where necessary, representing the views of International Students to the Central Executive Committee and the Open University.

The International Representative:

- Is the first point of contact and a public face of the Association to students studying outside of the UK and are prepared to communicate with students through a range of platforms.
- Supports students in providing local events such as online meet ups, volunteer projects and other initiatives. Takes a lead role in coordinating Freshers activities in their area.
- Closes the feedback loop on matters affecting students which are specific to those studying outside of the UK, using a range of appropriate media to ensure content is engaging and available to a wide range of students.
- Supports the delivery of training to International Community volunteers, working collaboratively with a range of staff and volunteers to ensure that appropriate support and guidance is provided.
- to promote and share different cultures and history with all OU students, to create an inclusive culture and understanding of the different challenges and motivations for International Students.
- To support the production of a monthly Newsletter for International Students

Key skills and attributes

The post-holder will need to possess, or be prepared to develop rapidly, the following:-

- A broad understanding of issues affecting students who are studying outside of the UK.
- Commitment to develop further skills and knowledge appropriate to the role.
- A broad understanding of the Students Association and the Open University.

Training and support will be offered to any successful candidate.

Role Specific Essential information, including time commitment

This is a voluntary role which requires on average 10 hours a week, but is busier at some times, such as during Freshers.

This role is predominantly remote, and many meetings will occur within usual business hours for GMT time-zones, though we try to be as flexible as we can to support those on different time-zones.

Any travel for face-to-face meetings, will be negotiated upon election to the role.

It is important to also read the shared responsibilities document, which lists shared aspects of the roles which elected student leaders all commit to upon election to the role.
Examples of meetings attended by Nation and Area Representatives
Meetings are arranged as and when needed to provide training, host community sessions and to get involved in delivering freshers and other engaging student-led activities. Other Nation and Area Reps have found it beneficial to meet together on a semi-regular basis, along with VP Community to share best practice and ideas.
Along with other CEC members, the International Representative will attend CEC meetings four times per year, these meetings take place over weekends, and will generally be attended remotely by the International Representative.

Association Staff Support Link: Community Team (Community Projects Officer)