



### WHAT IS REPRESENTATION?

The notion of Representation in Higher Education Establishments works to constantly improve the service available to students. Having Representatives from programmes who can liaise directly with their academic staff allows for avenues of discussion which promote a healthy relationship between staff and students. These networks of communication allow students to raise issues regarding their programme, to have a say in their own education, and to shape their experience of the programme and that of their fellow students.

### BEING A STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE...

Student Reps hold a privileged position in a system of representation which strongly influences the practices and processes of your programme. As you are individual students on a University programme it would be beneficial for you to have links with other students on the programme and strong lines of communication to raise issues and tackle problems. Developing the role of Student Rep would allow for one (or more) nominated person(s) from each group and/or each cohort to be allowed the opportunity to discuss formally with other Reps and academic staff issues that are of importance to the student body

### ISSUES...

You may find that yourselves and your fellow students are facing a particular issue around resources or assignment deadlines; it would be beneficial to yourselves and the programme team to have an area where these issues can be discussed and resolved.

### SSL (Staff Student Liaison) MEETINGS...

As a Student Rep you can hold a position of authority sitting on SSL meetings within your programme. Gaining firsthand knowledge from your academic staff and feeding the views of your fellow students into discussions of practices across the wider community of students on your programme.

### REPRESENTATION...

Christ Church Students' Union is a representative body whose purpose is to represent the general interests of all students studying under the University. Being a nominated Student Rep would allow you to be included in a forum of all Student Reps from across the wider University (over 500). You would have an insight into how the University runs and gain knowledge of processes that may affect yourselves and your fellow students.

### SUPPORT...

We in the Students' Union are keen to keep in regular contact with all students who study under the University and are therefore entitled to the support and advice that we offer. I am the Student Representation Coordinator and Advice Caseworker and it is my responsibility to ensure equality across all programmes in the experience of students and the ability that they have to discuss issues in an open forum with their academic staff, as well as offering advice and guidance on University procedures, such as academic appeals or plagiarism charges.



### OWNERSHIP...

As members of the student body you are entitled to benefit from this service. We are keen to promote Student Reps across all programmes to inspire a sense of ownership for students over their studies and their access to resources. By taking on the role of Student Rep you are offering yourself and your fellow students the chance to communicate directly with your academic staff and influence change, or give praise where it is needed.

### HOW IT WOULD WORK...

One (or more) person(s) from each cohort or each group of students will be nominated to be the Student Rep(s); if a number of students are interested in this position then the main body of students can vote on who shall be their Rep. This could be by a show of hands at a group/course seminar or by an election run by the group/year tutor.

This person will then hold the position of Student Rep for the entirety of their study time. If they wish to stand down, a new Rep can be elected. This person will be included in all SSL meetings with all other Student Reps and Academic Staff from the programme. The Rep will also receive information via the Student Forum Blackboard on which all 500 Reps are registered.



## REWARDS...

Student Reps are entitled to claim Volunteering hours for the time that they dedicate to being a Rep. The University will formally recognise any time spent on activities outside of your academic studies and will award students for this time. [volunteer@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:volunteer@canterbury.ac.uk) can issue you with a passport in which you record all time you dedicate to being a Student Rep. Once you have reached 10 hours, the University will reward you with £5 free printer credit! At the end of each academic year the University will award certificates to Volunteers, as a formal recognition from the University of the commitment to their post.

## TRAINING...

As a Student Rep you will be fully supported by Christ Church Students' Union, we offer training sessions to all Student Reps on how to fulfil their duties. Dates for these sessions can be found on the website [www.ccsu.co.uk/studentreps](http://www.ccsu.co.uk/studentreps) The training is also available online in order to fully prepare Reps for the role they are to take on.

It is recommended that all Student Reps attend an initial training session to allow them to fully understand their role. The Students' Union also hold an Annual Student Rep Conference which all Students Reps attend. All training and Conference can be recorded as volunteering hours to go towards a University recognised award.



I look forward to working with you in the future and assisting you in the development and productiveness of your programme,

Kind regards,

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STUDENTS'  
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# Nominating yourself to be a Student Rep

## How does it work?

