



Full Time Officer **Elections** 2021

**Standing to be a
paid Full Time Officer**

Why stand and how to do it

Be part of something...

Bigger

What are Full Time Officer Elections?

Every year four students are paid to work full time to lead GCU Students' Association. Elected by their peers, they become leaders of an organisation with a £700,000 budget, trustees of a charity and representatives of 16,000 students.

Find out more about nominating yourself at [**www.GCUstudents.co.uk/elections**](http://www.GCUstudents.co.uk/elections).

We will support you through every step of the campaign.

Can I be a Full Time Officer?

Any registered GCU student is eligible to stand to be a Full Time Officer. That means if you are currently a registered student studying at GCU then you can do it.

You don't need to be in your final year. In the past many officers have taken a year out to lead the Students' Association before returning to finish their degree.

If successful you will become a trustee of the organisation. That means you'll need to meet a number of legal requirements—you can find details of these on our website.

Find information online at [**www.GCUstudents.co.uk/elections**](http://www.GCUstudents.co.uk/elections)

What do Full Time Officers get?

If you're successful you'll not only find yourself in paid full time employment, you'll also gain unique skills and experience.

Pay

You'll receive £19,612, salaried for 12 months with 38 days annual leave.

Campaigning

Obviously not everyone who takes part is successful, but whether you win or not you'll gain great experience through running your election campaign which is an excellent CV booster—demonstrating motivation, determination and hopefully creativity too.

Mentoring

Throughout your year in office you'll be mentored by our team of staff who will support, challenge and motivate you to get the most from your experience.

Trusteeship

In your role as a trustee of the charity you'll not only gain invaluable insight into how our organisation works, you'll also make real decisions that shape our future.

Experience

Experience will include: chairing meetings, leading campaigns, managing budgets, communicating and team building skills.

Employability

Leading an organisation with a £700,000 budget, before you've left university, puts you in a great position.

Past officers have found their experience in the role of great benefit when applying for graduate careers.

What do Full Time Officers do?

In our elections, we elect all four officers through a single election with the first placed candidate being offered the role of President and the other three winning candidates each becoming a Vice President with specific responsibility for engaging with students in each of the Academic Schools—SHLS, GSBS and SCEBE.

This approach gives each officer the opportunity to get involved in all areas of the work we do including representation, campaigning, activities and events. It also means that we focus equally on each part of the university.

Full Time Officers also take on individual areas of responsibility within the Students' Association which are allocated after the elections take place. This is done in agreement between the newly elected officers.

The Students' Association constantly strives to improve upon the services and activities we offer and to ensure that the voice of all GCU students is heard. In order to make this happen, our Trustees have come up with a strategic plan to take us forward.

Our Full Time Officers work to implement this plan and ensure that it remains relevant to the lives of our members—GCU students.

Working through this plan has led to important and tangible results for our members:

- ▶ Construction of the Multi User Games Area (MUGA), Outdoor Basketball Court, Climbing Wall and Outdoor Gym.
- ▶ Installation of the 24 hour computer lab and social learning space in Level 0 of the Students' Association Building.

- ▶ Stopped the university from charging students to take resit exams.
- ▶ Worked with the University for no Graduation fees from Summer 2020.

By becoming an elected officer, you can make a difference to the lives of GCU students.

How do I do it?

Deciding to Stand

Take a look at the Role Description online and speak to the current Full Time Officers about their experiences. Our Officers get to decide which areas they'd like to work on at the start of their term in office so also consider which aspects of the Students' Association interest you the most.

Nominating Yourself

The easy bit. Visit **www.GCUstudents.co.uk/nominate** and complete the Nomination Form. We'll be in touch to tell you what you need to do next.

Getting Elected

Voting takes place over four days, from 10am on Monday 1 March 2021 to 5pm on Thursday 5 March 2021.

To be successful you'll need to convince people you're the best person for the job. That might sound daunting, but there's plenty of support on offer to you.

We've got campaign advice online to help you start planning, and all candidates will be invited to attend a Candidates' Briefing session as well as optional campaign training sessions. You will also get £60 from us to fund your campaign.

Key dates

Nominations Open

Monday 11 January 2021, 9am

Nominations Close

Friday 12 February 2021, 12noon

Candidates' Briefing

Friday 12 February 2021, 12:30pm

Manifesto Training

Friday 12 February 2021, 3pm

Candidate Training and Preparation Week

Monday 15–Friday 19 February 2021

- ▶ **Manifesto Training (Repeat)**
Monday 15 February 2021, 12noon
- ▶ **Manifesto and Candidate Photo Deadline**
Tuesday 16 February 2021, 10am
- ▶ **Digital Campaign Training Bootcamp**
Wednesday 17 February 2021 12noon–4pm
- ▶ **Campaign Video, E-flyer and Social Media Deadline** Friday 19 February 2021, 12noon

Campaign Kick-Off

Monday 22 February 2021, 10am

Voting Opens

Monday 1 March 2021, 10am

Voting Closes

Thursday 4 March 2021, 5pm

Results Announced

Friday 5 March 2021, 7pm

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