

Student Elections 2015

Stand to be a paid
Full Time Officer

Be part of something...
Bigger

Key Dates

Nominations open

Monday 24th November

Nominations close

Friday 20th February, 12 noon

Candidates' Briefings

Friday 20th February, 2pm

Monday 3rd February, 12noon

Candidates' Debate

Wednesday 25th February, 1pm

Monday 2nd March, 3pm

Voting opens

Monday 9th March, 10am

Voting closes

Friday 13th March, 2pm

Results announced

Friday 13th March, 7pm

Once nominations open, the nominations form will be available at www.GCUstudents.co.uk/elections

What's happening?

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.

Just nominate yourself with the form found on our website and we'll support you through every step of the campaign.

What do I need to do?

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.

Contact the current officers to ask them questions about running in the Student Elections and find information online at 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 £16,353, salaried for 12 months with 33 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

No matter which role you go for, you'll gain experience of the following: 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 Academic Schools – SHLS, GSBS and SEBE.

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's 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 and Climbing Wall.



Installation of the 24 hour computer lab and social learning space in Level Zero of the Students' Association Building.



Stopped the university from charging students to take resit exams.



Won a national award for our campaigning work around equality and diversity.



Extended weekend opening hours for the Arc.

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

How do I do it?

Deciding to stand

This year we're doing things a bit differently so have a look online to see how the new Full Time Officer roles will work before you get started. If you're still unsure then have a look through our other elections pages or speak to one of the current Full Time Officers – they will be happy to speak to you.

Nominating yourself

The easy bit. Just download a form from our website and email it in to us. We'll be in touch to tell you what you need to do next.

Getting elected

Voting takes place from 10am on Monday 9th March to 2.00pm on Friday 13th March. 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 £50 from us to fund your campaign.