Vacancy: Student Expert Panel member

A number of the students from our current SEP have graduated this summer and so **we are now looking to recruit new members**.

What is the Student Expert Panel?

The Student Expert Panel (SEP) was set up as part of the University's commitment to our Access and Participation Plan and is made up of undergraduate, postgraduate, home and international students from a diverse range of backgrounds. The purpose of the SEP is to inform and co-construct University decisions, projects, policies and services - particularly those designed to address equality of opportunity for underrepresented students at York - in two key ways:

1. **Contributing to strategic consultations** - enabling staff to draw directly on the insights and ideas of students
2. **Designing and facilitating student voice sessions with other students** - generating richer evidence of students' lived experiences at York

What does the role involve?

The primary role of a SEP member is to share your expertise (as a student), lived experiences and ideas with the University. As a SEP member you will collaborate with University staff on strategic consultations, co-constructing with them aspects of planning, monitoring and/or evaluation of key services, policies, interventions and changes. Consultations will cover a range of topics, but discussions will always include a focus on potential barriers for underrepresented students and ideas for how the policy, change or intervention can best promote equality of opportunity for all.

This year, there will also be opportunities for SEP members to gain insights from their peers by designing and facilitating student voice workshops **-** e.g. with underrepresented student groups and/or specific themes.

Specifically, the role will include:

- Working with a range of teams within the University to review and/or co-construct approaches, policies and/or services, through the lens of inclusion
- Contributing to key University decisions, enhancement initiatives and projects through active participation in a range of consultations

- Designing and facilitating student voice activities with peers, contributing to the generation of richer evidence to support the University's understanding of students' lived experiences and risks to equality of opportunity
- Collaborating with colleagues and representatives from York SU, gaining a broader understanding of the diversity of students' experiences and emerging priorities, enabling you to provide insights beyond your own personal experiences
- Work with the Inclusive Education Team to design guidance on effective ways to consult and engage with students from underrepresented groups

This is a great opportunity to:

- Play a key role in improving outcomes and experiences for underrepresented students at York
- Meet and get to know other students from across the University
- Develop transferable skills to enhance employability prospects
- Work with a range of university stakeholders
- Gain experience of designing & facilitating student voice activities, as well as enhancing the University's approach to student involvement in strategic consultations and decision-making

Skills, experience and values required for the role

- A deep understanding of, or keen interest in, the experiences & perspectives of underrepresented students
- A commitment to identifying and challenging barriers experienced by different groups of students at York
- Effectively communicating your perspectives and those of others, with peers and staff
- A commitment to promoting equality of opportunity for all students at all stages, and creating a more inclusive University community
- A commitment to working in partnership with students and staff from a range of backgrounds
- Excellent time management and organisational skills

Expected Time Commitments

- The Panel will meet a **minimum of 4-5 times across the Semester** (new members will only be expected to attend one session in Semester 1, 2026-27)
- Members will work a **minimum of 10 hours across each Semester** (again, this will only apply to new members in Semester 2 of 2026-27)
- **Additional hours will be available** dependent on emerging work and priorities - e.g. committee meeting participation, additional consultations and/or collaborative work with staff
- Time commitments will include a **combination of induction & training, planning meetings, and consultation workshops**
- Meetings will generally take place on **Wednesday afternoons**

Panel members have the option of sitting for a maximum of two academic years.

Pay and Expenses

- Panel members will be **paid £13.84 per hour** (+12.07% holiday pay, which is added on automatically
- Reasonable travel expenses and subsistence will be reimbursed in line with the University of York's travel and subsistence policy.

How to apply

We welcome applications from all current University of York students. We particularly encourage applications from students who come from one or more of the following underrepresented groups: https://www.york.ac.uk/students/student-voice/

To apply for this role, please complete the application form **by 11:59pm Sunday 1 November, 2026**

Please email student-expert-panel@york.ac.uk if you have any queries.