Vice President Education

Salary  Circa £22,000
Duration  Fixed term – 12 Months
Location  Based in Potterrow Office

About Edinburgh University Students’ Association
Edinburgh University Students’ Association is the body representing all students at the University of Edinburgh. We work to the following vision: We believe all students at Edinburgh should have the power to shape their own future and enjoy being part of a vibrant and cohesive student community where everyone is valued and respected.

The Sabbatical Team
The Vice President Education sits within the Sabbatical Team in the Students’ Association. The Sabbatical team includes the President, Vice President Community, Vice President Welfare, Vice President Education and Vice President Activities and Services. Members of the team work closely with staff across the Students’ Association and with other student representatives to ensure the views and needs of our membership are represented.

Sabbatical Role Description
This is a key role within the Students’ Association, with principal responsibility for devising and leading the organisation’s work to involve students at all levels on all elements of the academic experience, ensuring that their views are represented to the University and beyond.

Vice President Education Specific Responsibilities

- Lead on the development of policy and campaigning positions that support the Students’ Association’s ongoing activity on the academic experience, including academic and pastoral support, assessment and feedback, learning and teaching, libraries and academic services, IT provision, quality enhancement, research support, employability, and many other issues.

- Contribute to and influence the University’s learning and teaching strategy both through participation in committees and other meetings with key University staff, to ensure that student interests are effectively represented.

- Liaise and work with external and internal stakeholders, including Students’ Association members and staff, the University of Edinburgh, external organisations such as the National Union of Students (NUS) and Student Partnerships in Quality Scotland (Sparqs) as required to successfully deliver projects, policy and campaigns relating to the academic experience.

- Ensure that members of the Students’ Association are engaged with and involved in developing and implementing your projects, policies and campaigns, consulting with students to represent their views and act on issues affecting them in relation to the academic experience. You will report on your work at Student Council where you will be held accountable to the students that you represent.
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- Provide practical support and knowledge to other elected representatives, particularly Undergraduate and Postgraduate School Representatives and Class Representatives, on issues which relate to the academic experience, including key events and projects they hold.

- Act as the first point of contact for students with questions or concerns about the academic experience, signposting students to the Students’ Association’s support and advice services or representation team where required.

**General Sabbatical Officer Responsibilities**

- Work closely with the other Sabbatical Officers on Students’ Association priority campaigns. Some of these may relate to Sabbatical Officers’ objectives, but many are often reactive, depending on issues that arise throughout the year.

- Uphold and advance the reputation of the organisation, attending and speaking at official University of Edinburgh events and ceremonies as appropriate e.g. welcome talks, open days and graduation.

- Support and promote activities the organisation is carrying out which support the goals of the strategic plan, including but not limited to Welcome Week, elections outreach, face to face and social media engagement, surveys and Students’ Association led events.

**Trustee Role Description**

As a Sabbatical Officer, you will also be a member of the Edinburgh University Students’ Association Trustee Board, overseeing the financial, legal and strategic activity of the organisation. Below you will find some of the main responsibilities, but for more information visit eusa.ed.ac.uk/trustee.

**Trustee Responsibilities**

- You will play a significant role in governance of the organisation, helping to give the organisation strategic direction through actively participating in Board meetings and monitoring the implementation of decisions taken by the board.

- You will ensure that the organisation complies with its constitution, charity law, company law and other relevant legislation.

- You will provide the organisation with leadership, contributing to the development of the Students’ Association’s mission and values and helping to promote and raise the profile of the organisation.

- You will play a key role in developing the organisation’s strategy, reviewing and agreeing any major changes to the organisation.

- You will monitor and assess the organisation’s work in relation to the agreed strategy and budget and to agree alternative action to remedy shortfalls if required.

- You will be involved in risk management, maintaining a robust overview of the principle risks facing the Students’ Association.
Key relationships

- **Students’ Association:** Sabbatical Officers, Senior Management Team, Representation and Democracy Manager, Academic Engagement Coordinator, Schools Engagement Officer, the Advice Place and the Communications and Marketing Team.
- **Members:** Student representatives, particularly Undergraduate and Postgraduate School Representatives and Class Representatives.
- **University:** University Secretary, Deputy Secretary and the wider University Secretary Group; Principal; University Assistant Vice Principals; Senior Vice Principal Learning and Teaching; Assistant Principals; Heads of Schools; Heads of Colleges; College Deans; Senior Tutors; Senior University Management and academic staff at all levels; Academic Services; and Information Services.
- **External Organisations:** National Union of Students’ (NUS) Education Officers; external organisations related to academic matters such as Student Partnerships in Quality Scotland (sparqs); and your counterparts at other institutions.

Training

- Extensive training and support will be provided to ensure that you are fully equipped for the role. Training is provided by the Students’ Association, NUS and Sparqs.
- Newly elected Sabbatical Officers are required to attend the changeover and induction period which takes place during the two weeks after semester finishes, and is followed by further training during the summer period. This includes a four day residential and a handover week with your predecessor.
- There will also be regular buddying sessions with senior Students’ Association staff
- Newly elected Sabbatical Officers should check with Students’ Association staff prior to making any summer vacation arrangements as a lot of training is scheduled over the summer period.
- Additional training and ongoing support is provided throughout the academic year.