

Exploring ways to engage the OU community in the OU Students Association's research work

By Student Voice Researchers - Jessica Drue Williams and Kajan Kokulanathan



In these reports, OU students Jessica and Kajan discuss the subject of engaging students in research work and identifying ways in which to improve participation. These reports discuss in detail the barriers students encounter such as; time constraints, time constraints, lack of confidence, perceived lack of diversity, and concerns over accessibility

After gathering information from students, Kajan and Jessica produced their reports, giving an insight as to how more students can be encouraged to participate in research activities at the Association and why some students will choose not to engage.



To increase engagement, Jessica and Kajan made the following suggestions

Build on the student community with more opportunities for meeting face to face via local meet-ups and opportunities to visit the Milton Keynes campus.



Provide additional support for those suffering from anxiety or special educational needs such as dyslexia.



Improve website navigation making research opportunities easier to find.



Meaningful research projects that link with students' own studies.



Ensuring students gain a sense of achievement from their participation in research activities



Increase awareness of the Association - make links to the Association's website more visible, mention the Association during student phone calls, increase social media presence, request that Tutors signpost the Association as a useful tool.

Click on the links below to read Jessica and Kajan's reports and gain an insight into what it means to be a Student Voice Researcher.