OU Students Association

UPDATE FOR COUNCIL MAY 2021

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Students ASSOCIATION The Association's Student Leadership Team

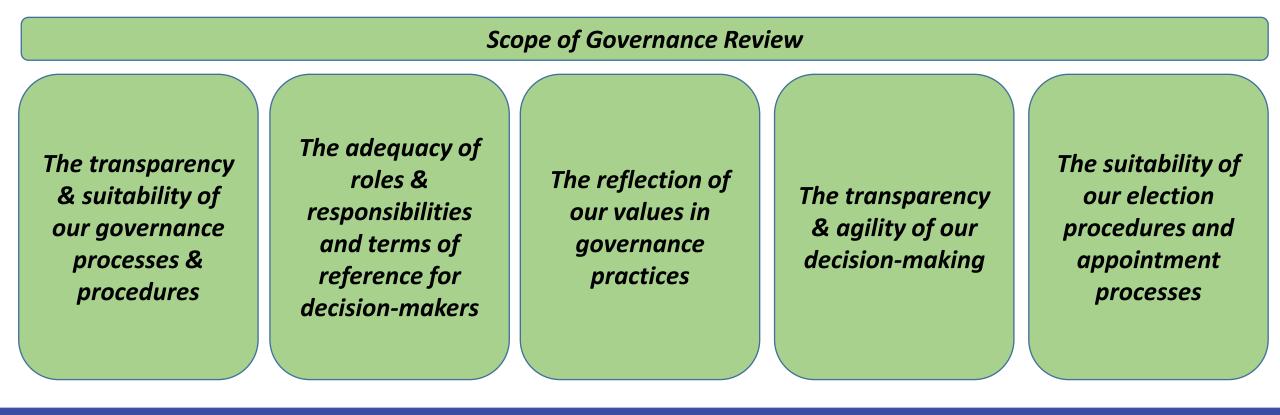
- **President & Deputy President** (paid sabbatical roles)
- Student Member of Council (volunteer role)
- 6 Vice-Presidents (volunteer roles)
- <u>5 Faculty Representatives</u> (volunteer roles) one current vacancy •
- 5 Area Representatives (volunteer roles) three current vacancies
- Elected by the membership every 2 years
- Lead on the delivery of our strategy & ensuring students are effectively represented

Since we last met in February, the team have collectively Attended over 800 meetings Been contacted directly by over (including 70 Committees, 90 700 students asking us to Put in just under 2,800 hours Working Groups and 45 Task & address issues Finish Groups) **ENCOURAGE** SUPPORT EMPOWER

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OU Students ASSOCIATION Governance Review

- A full Governance Review was commissioned this year following our Culture Review in 2019-20
- Conducted by an external agency
- Findings and recommendations have been presented and are under consideration



Students ASSOCIATION Devolved Government Elections

- In the run up to the elections we heavily promoted our <u>Welsh</u> & <u>Scottish</u> manifestos
- These were emailed out to 250 candidates in Wales and to 500 candidates in Scotland
- We also created a website tool enabling students to auto-generate an email to send to all candidates in their voting district promoting our manifesto and policy asks
- We will be following up with emails to successful candidates to keep our policy agenda on their radar!

Candidate feedback

"I wholeheartedly agree with the policies highlighted in the manifesto Digital accessibility is key and it is something that needs addressed in lots of areas in Scotland. Disabled students should not have to do deal with the bureaucracy and the yearly assessments to prove their disabilities if elected in May, I would be more than happy to support your manifesto pledges to ensure more equitable support is in place."

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SNP Candidate, Scotland

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"I am a graduate of the O.U and agree with your manifesto. There are still too many inequalities in the system."

Labour Party Candidate, Scotland

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"... we agree with all of your asks and would fully support a review into removing barriers for people with protected characteristics, and also raising the cap on childcare grants."

Green Party Candidate, Wales

"Should I be re-elected to the Senedd these are issues that I would hope to consider as part of a commitment to lifelong learning opportunities."

Labour Party Candidate, Wales

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