

Benefits of being a Student Representative



Student Resource

In addition to ensuring your voice is heard in University decision-making, being a student representative offers great opportunities and experiences to develop personal and professional skills that will be useful when applying for jobs, scholarships, or other positions.

These skills include:

- Increased **confidence** through public speaking, committee meetings and presentations
- Rhetorical skills by using **persuasive** language to construct compelling arguments
- Critical thinking and **problem-solving** by analysing data and information before making judgements
- **Interpersonal skills** such as empathy and active listening skills by interacting with peers and decision-makers
- Decision-making skills and developing **sound judgement**
- Understanding **governance processes**
- Organisational and **time management** skills

It is important that you keep a record of your experience and aim to continually develop your skills and knowledge and look for opportunities to do so.

Helpful Hints:

- Ask for **constructive feedback** from your peers and the committee you are working with.
- Make a list of the **skills** and knowledge that you feel you have developed well and those that you would like to develop further.
- Look for professional learning and **development opportunities** to expand your skill set.
- Seek out a **mentor** who can offer you advice and feedback. Find out what experiences and opportunities they have found useful and rewarding.
- Keep an **updated resumé** that tracks your experience and clearly demonstrates the skills and knowledge you have developed with concrete examples.
- Keep a file of any **certificates** or acknowledgement received.
- Be open to **new experiences** and opportunities to enhance your expertise.