

## Full subscribers – in house training

Subscriber SUs are entitled to a day’s “in house” training. It’s aimed at officers and usually run over the summer during (or adjacent to) officer induction – although staff are welcome to attend!

No two days are the same, and we try to shape the content around needs and your particular induction programme. The sessions below are indicative and we are happy to run additional events as required (for a charge!) – just [contact the team](#).

We make presentations, handouts and other materials available after the event so that staff can follow up with additional support.

**Hell in a handcart:** In this session we share the latest expertise on what is going on in the policy sphere for students and students’ unions and what could be coming down the track.

**Understanding the system:** Higher education has a “design”, and it’s crucial that officers understand the system in order to influence it. This session explains.

**Students’ Unions reconceptualised:** In this session we look at the role of SUs, stressing the importance of not viewing representation as an end in itself.

**Righting the wrongs:** What is the difference between a student moaning and an effective policy intervention from a sophisticated policy actor? This session explains.

**Irrationally rational:** In this session participants gain an understanding of rationality theory, understanding the different frames in which policy and politics can be situated.

**Understanding policy choices:** All policy comes down to a secret sauce of four choices that those who develop it make. This session reveals the secrets and gives participants a toolkit to evaluate any policy from a handy perspective.

**The history of student representation:** In this session we deliver a plotted history of the student movement making clear that delegates are the guardians of hard won arguments about student representation and rights.

**These are the sounds of the wickedness:** Some policy is easy to implement, some necessary and urgent. But what about those problems that have been around forever that

no-one has ever fixed? This session explores “wicked problems” theory and thinks through how it applies to SUs

**Hook me up:** In this session participants explore their manifesto goals, identifying major policy agendas and regulatory standards that can provide a bedrock for arguing for change

**How to be an assertive SU:** We talk about working in partnership with universities, but how do we escape the clichés of passive and aggressive? In this session we find out.

**Understanding student representation:** This session explores some key theories on student representation focussing on key tensions for student representatives and leaders.

**Students’ Unions are Amazing. But are they?:** This session seeks to challenge participants on the legitimacy of students’ unions and their leaders, provoking fresh perspectives on the development of students’ unions into the future.

**From student representation to student politics:** This session explores the concept of politics in students’ unions, and asks if there’s a place for politics in student representation.

**Power play:** In a simulation game participants interact with each other to understand to understand power and leadership.

**The public sphere:** This session gives participants an opportunity to understand a key piece of political theory, and consider how they may analyse and influence the spheres relevant to their role and goals.

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We also offer a one day Public Speaking masterclass:

### **Purposeful public speaking**

There are lots of companies and consultants that offer training on speaking in public. Most of it follows a well trodden path – focussed on the basics of breathing and effective preparation.

But what if a one day masterclass was shaped specifically around the role that SU officers play in influencing policy, inspiring students and winning the confidence of university audiences?

This masterclass isn’t about presenting, it’s about persuading – giving participants the tools and ability to mobilise ideas, appeal to values and inspire action.

There are many different “skills” involved in speaking well, but ultimately officers need to know how to choose and organise words - they need to be able to write. This masterclass teaches how.

It will also help officers to develop a unique style and a unique command of their subject, with techniques that have worked for some of the greatest speakers in history.

The session has a five participant maximum, runs for a full day and involves exercises, writing and intensive coaching.