UCLan Students' Union

What are the top 3 things students would like to see in careers support in the next decade and how might SUs influence this?

Zuleikha Chikh – President

Students' Union

Personalisation

- 24 hrs access to multiple systems – AI and chatbots.

- Degree and local industry specific knowledge.

- International students – cultural specificities, visa arrangements, English language etc.

Stronger Collaborations

- Consistent communication from academics, career service staff, professional services and employers.

- All the above to stop working in silos – meaningful input into curriculum design.

- Employers connected to the university that promote flexible working, good work-life balance and are ethical in their practices.

- Stronger connections with alumni to enable knowledge sharing.
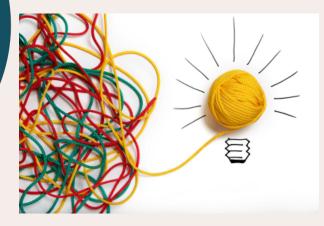
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Confidence Building

- How to get in – how to be a student e.g. maximising their time as a student to acquire new experiences through student opportunities and the wider community.

- Opportunities to develop connections (social capital) and advice on articulating learnings to employers from their degree/volunteering (cultural capital)

- How to get on – how to be a graduate e.g. negotiating salaries, educating employees etc.

- Helping students explore their contribution to their world – building personal brand.

How might Students' Unions influence careers support?

- Partnership working with Careers Services and Employability School Leads – critical friendship.

- Are we in the rooms we need to be in? - Elected Officers involvement in curriculum design workstreams.

- Building in reflection and evaluation – student voice role, committee roles (clubs and socs)and volunteer/leadership development programmes.

- Supporting academic societies to connect with employers e.g. reverse mentoring.

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Thanks for listening

Any questions?

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