

In-house training 2022

Full subscriber SUs are entitled to a day's "in house" training. It's aimed at officers (staff that support officers are welcome) and can be taken over the summer during (or adjacent to) officer induction, or later in the year as part of "taking stock / review and action planning" activity.

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 content as required – just [contact the team](#).

Think of the elements below as roughly 60-90 minute building blocks, with a full day taking up around 4-5 blocks. We make materials/blogs 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 for officers at your university.

Manifesto to action: There's lots of ways to make change on an issue for students – direct delivery, policy change, getting students involved in campaigning, lobbying for policy change and more. This session works with officer manifestos to identify the options and plot the strategies for success.

Changing your university: What are the problems at your university and how might they be solved? What sort of leadership should you expect from your university in solving them? This session pulls it all apart and reveals leadership secrets to solve problems for people.

Equality and Equality: Thinking about the winners and losers on campus – and why some students have a better experience than others – is crucial to understanding how to make a fairer university. This session gives the tools to make that difference.

Influencing the culture on campus: A lot of student representation is about trying to influence collective behaviour – students, academics, landlords and so on. This session looks at the policy tactics and techniques used to deliver effective change.

Righting the wrongs: What is the difference between a student moaning and an effective policy intervention from a sophisticated policy actor? This session explains and discusses how to make both individual students and the student body more powerful.

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.

Communicating to win: Are there ways for officers to improve their profile and purpose with students that mark them out as people to be rooted for rather than to be resented? There are, and this session reveals how.

Student apathy doesn't exist: How does student apathy get created, does it exist, and how do you make students care? This session reveals the secrets and gets participants in the habit of motivating others to reflect on and agitate for change.

How to be an assertive SU: We talk about working in partnership with universities, but how do you escape the clichés of passive and aggressive? In this session we dive into the theoretical and the practical to build a better and more productive relationship with your university.

Making the most of university committees: Are the hours spent in meetings really worth it? In this session we look at the secrets to reading papers, being heard and listened to, and making time on university boards, working groups and committees impactful.

We also offer (chargeable at £500 per day) 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 six-participant maximum, runs for a full day and involves exercises, writing and intensive coaching.