

Student Academic Reps



Why do we have Student Academic Reps?

Every Higher Education Institution is responsible for ensuring that students receive good quality academic provision and a positive student experience. The University of Cumbria (UoC) is no exception and aims to provide an inclusive environment for student engagement in all quality processes. At UoC, the Academic Reps system is monitored and managed by UCSU, your Students' Union.

UCSU is committed to the continuous improvement of Academic standards through a positive partnership with your University. Being an Academic Representative is your opportunity to shape and influence all aspects of students' academic experience.



What are the Advantages of being a Student Academic Rep?

- You will get a wider perspective on how the University works and greater understanding of some key issues.
- You will improve your employability and enhance your CV by using skills such as mentoring, negotiation, reporting, etc.
- You will bring about positive change for yourself and for others through negotiation.
- You will have direct control and influence over the quality of your studies on an ongoing basis.
- You will provide guidance and leadership to the group through effective mediation.
- You will be able to combine a variety of volunteering opportunities together to gain further certification through UoC's careers and employability service.

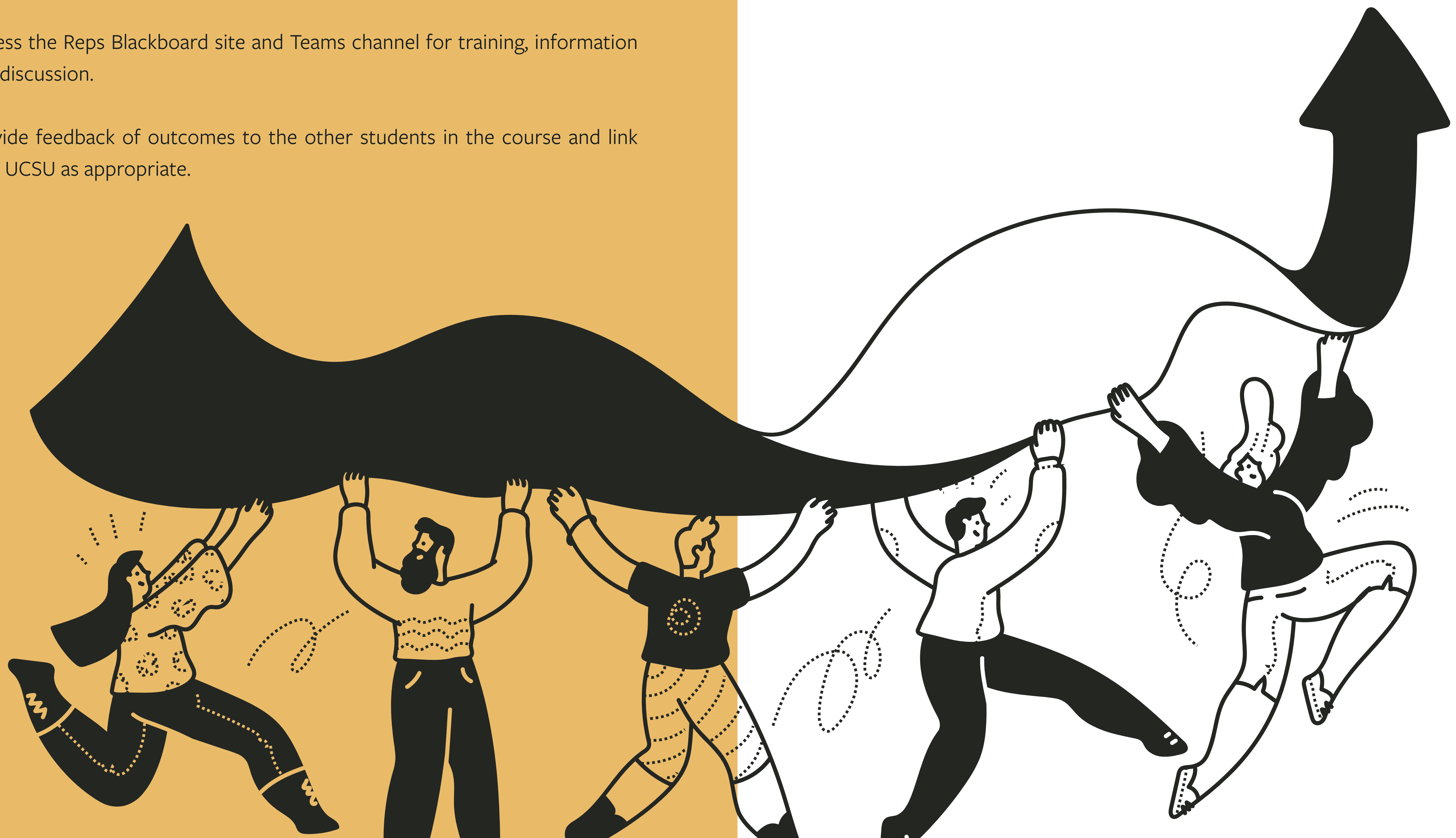
What is the role of an Academic Rep?

- Make yourself known to the students on your course so that they understand who to address if they have any problems or feedback.
- Get their ideas and views regularly to pick up examples of good practice and early signs of problems.
- Make yourself known to all relevant teaching staff – this may be your tutor, related tutors and other relevant academic staff in your department.
- Meet with relevant staff regularly to let them know how the students feel.
- Prepare for and attend formal and informal meetings.
- Access the Reps Blackboard site and Teams channel for training, information and discussion.
- Provide feedback of outcomes to the other students in the course and link with UCSU as appropriate.

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Student Academic Reps play a key role in ensuring academic provision is of the highest possible quality. Courses elect Academic Reps each year, and every student should have the opportunity to put themselves forward for the position and to help choose who they would like to represent them.

The purpose of the Academic Reps system is to ensure constructive feedback between students and their course providers. The system enables a structured dialogue which drives the continuous improvement of present and future delivery with the aim of enhancing student experience and course satisfaction. Academic Reps can bring about significant changes to their courses for the benefit of all students, irrespective of their mode or place of study.



“This role gave me a number of responsibilities which I feel have prepared me for my future career. It has improved my communication skills and has given me the ability to work within a team environment. It has also given me great pride in representing my course and being there for my fellow peers when they are in need of help and advice”

UCSU
STUDENTS' UNION

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**Want to find out more? Contact
us at studentvoice@cumbria.ac.uk**

