

Equalities Network Co-Chairs

Role Description

Equalities Networks are online communities that create a sense of community for students by celebrating diversity, championing their experiences in discussions, and empowering students to be themselves.

Equalities Network Co-Chairs are appointed every October, via a panel comprising of one Students' Union staff member, and two students. The time commitment is around 1-2 hours per week on average. The term for Equalities Networks Co-Chairs is November 2026 to July 2027.

Equalities Networks Co-Chairs will have the chance to receive an honorarium of £100 in recognition of the time, contribution and expertise they bring to the role. The honorarium is intended to acknowledge participation in agreed activities as set out in the 'key tasks' section below. You will receive more information about this when you commence the role.

Two Co-Chair Roles are available for each of the following Networks:

- REACH (Racial Equality and Cultural Heritage)
- LGBTQ+
- Women
- Mature Students
- Students with Disabilities
- Religion and Belief Network
- International Students Network

Role Purpose

Equalities Networks Co-Chairs are an important part of the community experience at the university. They work in partnership with the Students' Union and the University to ensure that the student experience is the best that it can be.

Key Tasks

- Ensure the **formation of a dedicated online student network** to build community for students, utilising tools such as the SU Website, Microsoft Teams and WhatsApp to promote connection.
- Set goals in partnership with students in your community and work towards their delivery.
- Attend and represent the interests of students you represent at the **Student Community Council** and **Student Executive** meetings.
- Engage with **Widening Participation** and **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion** staff and student roles to make positive change.

- Work within and represent the Students' Union both as an individual and as part of a wider team.
- Travel as required to other University of Law campuses, or external meetings and conferences. (All travel costs to campuses other than that at which the postholder studies will be reimbursed.)

Training

You will be invited to attend training in person at the Birmingham campus, on Saturday 31st October. Travel expenses will be paid.

The training is essential – if you cannot attend, you must arrange a time to complete online training.

You will also be provided with ongoing support in your role from the Student Voice Coordinator, SU Co-President (Community) and the wider SU staff team.

Benefits

The Equalities Network Co-Chair role is an excellent opportunity to gain valuable professional experience and communication, teamwork, organisational and project management skills as well as developing professionalism, knowledge and social awareness. The role is intended to fit around the postholder(s) studies and hours of work are flexible to enable prioritisation of the postholder(s) studies.

- The chance to be awarded a £100 honorarium payment each term, subject to submitting a report detailing activities associated with the role.
- Skills development – particularly in communication, organisational, negotiation, and public speaking – all very transferable to the workplace.
- A FREE CPD accredited Negotiation Skills course with The Negotiation Club, paid for by the SU.
- Access to Rep-only prize draws to win vouchers.
- The chance to win SU Representative of the Month, or SU Representative of the Year prizes.
- A University of Law Students' Union hoodie with your role on, plus a badge.
- Access to a range of opportunities not offered to other students.
- Priority access to events and opportunities run by the Students' Union.

Network Definitions and Eligibility

All the Equalities Networks will share a similar function in relation to the students they aim to connect:

- Champion, celebrate and commemorate diverse identities and experiences.
- Advocate for their collective voice, ensuring feedback is heard and actioned.
- Offer opportunities to connect through relatable events and activities.
- Provide community support, protection and solidarity.
- Value and respect each other, as well as building a spirit of collaboration with other networks, representatives and groups across the whole university community.

Network	Specific Scope and Eligibility
Racial Equality and Cultural Heritage Students' Network (REACH)	Students who identify as belonging to a minoritised ethnicity.
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Queer+ Students' Network (LBTQ+)	Students who identify as LGBTQ+.
Women Students	Students who identify as a woman.
Mature Students	Usually a student who is over 21 at the beginning of their undergraduate studies, or over 25 at the beginning of their postgraduate studies. Mature students may have experienced a break in their education before beginning their studies.
Students with Disabilities	Students that identify as disabled.
Religion and Belief Network	Students who value and respect freedom of religion and belief, with a desire to provide equal and neutral representation for students with different religions or beliefs.
International Students Network	Students who join ULaw from outside of the UK, or travel from the UK to study elsewhere, whether online or at a physical campus.

Who should apply

All students are welcome to apply for one of these roles (assuming they meet the eligibility listed above) but will need to be a **current student from November 2026 until at least May 2027**.

Any existing experience, skills, knowledge and behaviours listed below will be beneficial to your application:

- Enthusiasm to work with a variety of people from different cultures, backgrounds and ages, and respectful of different identities, with an empathetic and non-judgemental approach
- Coordinating activities for students/social activities
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills

- Reliable and punctual with good organisational and time-keeping skills, and using your own initiative to be proactive and engaged
- Working alone and as part of a team
- Understanding of safeguarding and professional boundaries
- Willing to learn new skills/behaviours

To apply for this role, please fill out the application form here:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/WkBmk9VPTk>

If you have any questions about this role or the application, please contact:

Student Voice Coordinator: Gary.Knight@law.ac.uk