

**STUDENT LEADER  
CONFERENCE  
PROGRAMME**

**HERTS SU**  
YOUR UNION



# OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Student Leader Conference!

The conference very much reflects the kind of thing you can expect in the working world, so this is a great step in making sure you're career ready. You can expect a mixture of sessions that focus on confident leadership, skills workshops and talks that explore other areas of interest.

The best bit? You get to share this exciting opportunity with other student leaders. In the room we'll have everything from Careers Coaches & Club Sport Committees to Res Life Assistants and School Community Organisers, so it's a rare opportunity to network with other student leaders that you don't normally get to interact with.

Today is all about you. You can shape your conference however you like! We hope that you'll come away feeling empowered, so you can take on the rest of the year with refreshed confidence and some new ideas.

# HOUSEKEEPING

Please arrive promptly as we have a very full schedule!

Most sessions will take place in Seventy7, but some will be held in other venues (The Loft and Hutton Hall). Please ensure you're familiar with all the details overleaf.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided and served in Seventy7. We're able to cater for veggies, vegans and those with other dietary requirements (i.e. allergens, halal etc). But please make yourself known to us on the day so we can advise you accordingly!





TIME	SESSIONS
10:30 – 11:00	<p align="center"><b>Registration &amp; Breakfast</b> Seventy7</p>
11:00 – 11:15	<p align="center"><b>Conference Opening</b> Jubair (President) Seventy7</p>
11:15 – 12:15	<p align="center"><b>The Landscape of Higher Education for Student Leaders</b> Jim Dickinson (Associate Editor, Wonkhe SUs) Seventy7</p> <p align="center">Jim will explore the rapidly changing world of higher education and what it means for student leaders today. He will touch on emerging trends, key challenges and growing opportunities for students to have real influence on their campuses &amp; communities.</p>
12:15 – 12:30	<p align="center"><b>Break</b></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p align="center"><b>Keynote Speech</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Building a Brand That's Bought NOT Sold – The Journey of Crep Protect</b> Nohman Ahmed (Co-Founder &amp; CEO, Crep Protect) The Loft</p> <p align="center">Herts graduate and now global entrepreneur, Nohman (BSc (Hons) Aerospace Technology with Management, 2009) is the Co-Founder and CEO of leading sneaker care brand, <u>Crep Protect</u>. With innovative products, rapid growth and celebrity endorsement, Crep Protect is an international best seller, sold in more than 20,000 stores and over 100 countries worldwide. Join us for this year's keynote talk, where Nohman will walk you through his entrepreneurial journey!</p> <p align="center"><i>In collaboration with the University's Enterprise Team as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week</i></p>
13:30 – 14:30	<p align="center"><b>Lunch</b></p>

# TIME

# SESSIONS

14:30 – 14:55

## Mental Health and Neurodiversity Awareness

**Ra-Becca Gooljar (Mental Health Trainer & Tutor, [Mind](#))**  
Seventy7

Mental health charity, Mind, will be joining us to provide you with an introduction to the topics of mental health and neurodiversity. As student leaders, be the role models we want to see and be a champion for inclusive leadership!

Please note that this is a 55 minute session

15:00 – 15:25

## Leadership Myth Busting

**Phil Dowler (Director of Advocacy & Opportunities, Herts SU)**

The Loft

Challenging common misconceptions about leadership and providing practical insights that empower students to lead effectively.

15:30 – 15:55

## Imposter Syndrome: How Your Mind Lies to You – And How to Take Back Control

**Raza Khan (Chief Executive Officer, [Sage Mentor](#))**  
Seventy7

Ever felt like you don't belong – even when you've earned your place? You're not alone. In this honest and engaging session, Raza unpacks why capable people doubt themselves, how limiting beliefs feed the "fraud feeling," and how to rebuild confidence from within. Because imposter syndrome isn't a flaw – it's a sign that your growth has outpaced your belief.

In collaboration with the [Enactus Society](#).

## Leveraging Your Leadership: Showcasing Your Unique Skillset Through the Recruitment Process

**Helen Meyer (Career Development Consultant, University of Hertfordshire)**

The Loft

Our friends from Careers will be focusing on how to effectively utilise the skills you've developed as student leaders within different stages of the recruitment process to help you achieve future goals.

## Graduate Schemes: How You Might Translate Your Student Leadership Skills to a Blue Chip Graduate or Internship Application Process

**Rebecca Jones (Coach Consultant, [Tesco](#) & Principal Lecturer, University of Hertfordshire)**

The Loft

Rebecca will share the application route for Tesco's grad schemes, looking through the lens of how you can translate your student leader skills to an application process.

We highly recommend this session for 2nd and 3rd year students, but it is open to everyone!

## Giving Other People Power Through Rights

**Jim Dickinson (Associate Editor, [Wonhke SUs](#))**

Hutton Hall

This session explores how you can empower the students around you by ensuring they're familiar with their rights and by role modelling them in practice.

## Engaging Students Through Effective Social Media

**Chloe McKendrick (Marketing Executive, Herts SU) & Lambert Chan (Creative Content Producer, Herts SU)**

Hutton Hall

Don't let ChatGPT run your socials! We'll empower you to feel more confident on social media, helping you to appeal to (and engage with) bigger audiences.

## Everyday Courage: Skills for Positive Intervention

**Libby Freeman (People and Development Manager, Herts SU)**

Hutton Hall

Understand how you can safely intervene when dangerous or uncomfortable situations arise. Be the student leader you want to see!

**TIME****SESSIONS****15:55 – 16:10****Break****16:10 – 16:45****Your University, Your Voice: Live Q&A with the Pro Vice-Chancellor****Charmagne Barnes (Pro Vice-Chancellor Education and Student Experience, University of Hertfordshire)****Seventy7**

Your Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education and Student Experience will be joining us to round up the day. Join us for an open and interactive session designed to give you as student leaders a direct channel to senior leadership. This live forum provides a unique opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and hear firsthand about the university's priorities, upcoming initiatives, and long-term vision.

**16:45 – 17:00****Closing Remarks****Rebecca (Chief Executive Officer, Herts SU)****Seventy7**



# MAKE IT COUNT

We hope you get lots out of today. You're one of around a hundred student leaders who put themselves forwards for this development opportunity, and we think that's worth celebrating!

Be sure to post about your day on [LinkedIn](#). Using pictures will make your post stand out more and drawing on any personal highlights (maybe your fave sessions) or key learnings is a great way to showcase the value you got from the conference.

# KEEP IN TOUCH

Make sure you continue celebrate any of your student leader successes on LinkedIn throughout the year! Be sure to tag us when you shout about your wins so that we can get behind you.



Hertfordshire Students' Union



# REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

Feeling inspired and want to achieve even more out of your student leader role? There are a number of ways we can help you in fulfilling your ambitions!

## RUN AN EVENT

We can help you bring your event ideas to life. Complete our [Event Request Form](#) and we'll work with you to make it happen.

## SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Let us know what you're hearing on the ground by completing our [Student Voice Form](#). This enables us to raise it with the relevant departments at the uni, pushing for improvements where needed.

## PUSH FOR CHANGE

As student leaders you have an exclusive invite to every [Student Council](#), the most senior representative forum we have and, essentially, an open conversation between you & us. You can use this platform to have your say on things that are happening at Herts, as well as putting forwards ideas of your own.



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