

SCO Applications 2021

What did this year's SCOs have to say about the role?

Hannah Blagden (Business School)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Seeing the changes you make put into action, resulting in helping students and even staff. You build so many great connections.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “There are so many things to be proud of such as awareness, myself and Dan created about SNA and mental health within the business school which resulted in an extra reading week, on the week beginning the 8th of March as well.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “You get to have a positive impact on student experiences, gain skills and branch out within the university.”



Beyza Kayali (Creative Arts)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “As a Super Rep, I have been enjoying the communication with the rest of the one hundred and four student reps in the creative arts school. It is so nice to support their dreams and wants and let them know about the opportunities they have at uni.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “My biggest achievement in my role was to boost the number of student reps in my school, in the beginning of the semester after the rep elections in the courses the number of student reps was very little, I have contacted to other people, courses, and levels, promoted, and encouraged students to become student reps and at the end of the process, we have reached the number of 104 student reps which was amazing.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Becoming an SCO gives you the biggest insight about what is going on your school and the university. You feel like you become a bigger part of your school's community. You meet with many great people, such as all the students in your school, many amazing staff members at uni, a lot of supportive people form the Students' Union who can help you always.”



Jakob Magnusson (Creative Arts)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “What I have enjoyed most about my role has been the ability to work with staff at the uni to bring forth ideas from a student's perspective that they can incorporate in their work to improve the overall experience for students.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “My biggest achievement has been getting to know multiple departments within my school and the uni and then working with them to develop events and other activities.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Becoming an SCO is a lot of fun as you get to know new people working in different parts of the university. The best part about the job is that it is a very fulfilling role since you can see the fruits of your labour across the different events or projects you have taken part in.”



Ellie Brock (Education)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “The best thing about being an SCO is the ability to get involved in so many opportunities! From getting involved with student council, programme committee meetings to hosting our own events; these are just some of the highlights that have made my time in this role so enjoyable.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “I think my biggest achievement in this role has been the massive confidence boost I’ve gained; If you’d have told me a year ago that I’d be comfortable speaking in front of lots of senior members of the university community, I wouldn’t have believed it! But it’s something that I’m proud to say I’ve accomplished, and would happily do again!”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Applying to be an SCO is a bit like taking the leap of faith; you might feel nervous about what the role entails, but it’s something you’ll look back on as one of the highlights of your university experience! It’s an incredible opportunity to make friends, develop your professional skills and it looks great on a CV!”



Miriansteve Ebigbo (Education)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “The most exciting moment is having the opportunity to meet with senior authorities of the university for example, Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Education.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “One of our biggest achievement was the period we organised “Achieve Your Academic Best”. The aim of the workshop was to enlighten student on how to enhance their academic writing to achieve their academic best grade. The workshop arose positive feedback prompting a recent replay of the recorded version through Canvas.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “It is highly recommendable for students apply to the post of School Community Officer. SCO is an endearing role for students to represent their school during student union meetings, liaise with their school, student reps and staff. Being a school community officer is a grooming ground for leadership development and also enhance their communication skills to bolster their employability.”



Harriet Podmore (Health and Social Work)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I have really enjoyed working with different courses in my school and meeting a diverse range of people and hearing all their ideas.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Launching the HSK Instagram page to highlight and promote all the fantastic work being done in our school to current and prospective students.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Being an SCO will help you develop your confidence as well as your management and is a fantastic opportunity to enact change and development in your school.”



Rubi Thomson (Health and Social Work)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Being able to build a network and influence change as well as working with reps and department heads.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Being able to communicate effectively across all levels and using my voice to influence change that is important to students.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “It helps build vital skills in networking and communicating across all levels within an organisation as well as allowing you to personally influence change.”



Callaghan French (Humanities)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Knowing that I’m having a direct impact on improving the student academic experience and seeing action being taken based off of the feedback put forward.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Being awarded SCO of the Month!”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “If you want to have a direct impact on improving the student academic experience, being an SCO is immensely rewarding!”



Gemma Olive (Humanities)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Being able to help promote the community better within my school and become more engaged with the wide variety of students we have.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “So far, my biggest achievement has been the successful promotion of societies linked with the school, by helping promote their events, collaborating on events and encouraging students to join.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Students should apply to the position because it’s a wonderful opportunity to get connected with their school a lot better and learn valuable skills they can take forward once they graduate.”



Gertrude Tuffour (Joint Honours)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I love the planning and organising events as working with a team and sharing ideas inspires and motivates me to keep improving my skills.

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “My biggest SCO achievement is my recent monthly creative activities plan. This is huge for me as it is not easy to engage JH students. I have worked long hours to develop and deliver engaging and create unique visual activities for students to do in lockdown.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Recognition of your contribution in your School level is a good starting point as a future leader. You can develop transferable skills that will prove invaluable in years to come.”



Ethel Boms (Law School)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Interaction with students and staff, as well as positively affecting student experience.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Creating a platform for all students to interact freely and have their voices heard.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “It is an opportunity to learn and make an impact.”



Rhiannon Ellis (Law School)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the student reps and members of staff throughout the law school to provide student feedback and influence changes to the course.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Playing a key role in the safety-net policy amendments.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “It will give you the opportunity to make a change in your school, to increase your leadership skills and to do something outside of assignments which adds enrichment to your degree. It will also give you the chance to meet new people and become a recognised member of your school.”



Annie Clarke (Life and Medical Sciences)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I have enjoyed being able to work with and influence academics to improve our courses and lecture material which has been massively beneficial for all.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Holding virtual events which students have loved as it’s given us a way to connect during the lockdowns.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “You have a great chance to take your education into your hands and work with students and staff to improve the student university experience.”



Greta Mazeikaite (Life and Medical Sciences)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “What I enjoyed most about this role is the ability to take matters into my own hands and implement change. This is a role where all you need is big ideas and the power to execute them- making nothing impossible.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “My biggest achievement this year was developing the personal and professional development seminar series with my colleagues. However, being able to plan events, give advice to students and be a part of change makers was also something I personally feel very proud of.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “I think students who have a strong desire to help others and make the University experience better for other students should definitely apply. It is such an empowering role that any student should at least give it a try- although it does require a lot of work, it is greatly rewarding.”



Thelma Gossel (Life and Medical Sciences)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I’ve mostly enjoyed being able to work in a team, it has allowed me to build a really good relationship with people from different cohorts. It’s allowed me to learn skills and attributes that I believe will be very beneficial. I have also been able to help my programme to achieve it’s best by working with student reps and understanding the concerns that students may have.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “My biggest achievement is being able to start a professional development seminar with my team. This has been incredibly useful in motivating and helping students remain motivated, especially during the pandemic. Being able to actually give a talk myself was very rewarding too!”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “It’s extremely rewarding!! Being able to actually make a change and learn things whilst being an SCO makes it such a rewarding role and I would encourage all students to apply to become one.”



Don Ratnayake

(Physics, Engineering and Computer Science)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Being able to be able to bring forward the student concerns and to be their voice and a chance to organise events to make University life for the students exciting.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Successfully lobbied for International student needs during the pandemic , student course changes, postgraduate student module issues and promotion of discussion forums as platforms for students to voice concerns.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Being a SCO opens up many exciting opportunities and you get to be the voice of the students while being an active part of the change it brings forward.”



Michelle Chido Mawarura (Physics, Engineering and Computer Science)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “Planning and hosting quizzes, games nights and other events has certainly been an absolute thrill!”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “The highlight of my role has been the INSPIRE A PEER PROGRAM. I believe using other students’ achievements to drive change, inspire others and challenge them to give their best is an amazing way to bring a community together.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “You get the chance to make a real difference in student experience, bring your creative ideas to life, push for and actively support the causes you are passionate about all whilst having fun too.”



Zara Haram Syeda (Physics, Engineering and Computer Science)

What have you enjoyed most about the role?

- “I enjoyed that I was able to participate in a variety of opportunities, helping students academically and hosting events being my most favourite.”

What has been your biggest achievement?

- “Extending the final year project deadlines for SPECS students and lobbying for the current safety net policy along with my colleagues.”

Why should students apply to become an SCO?

- “Being an SCO is a great way to form connections with various students and staff and get an insight into how our SU and the University work together to ensure students have the best time here at Herts!”

