OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Central Executive Committee (CEC)
23 July 2016

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

The CEC is asked to:-

i) note the background of this paper

ii) agree next steps

iii) individuals to express interest to President if appropriate

1. Background

1.1 New Appointments Committees are usually formed at the first CEC meeting of the year. However, changes in the OU Academic Governance structure coming into effect from 1st August 2016 require that a new Appointments Committee is convened as soon as is reasonably possible. It was agreed from 2015-2016 that the composition of the Appointments Committee for the year ahead should be:

- President
- VP Education
- Member of CEC
- Member of BoT
- Two Central Reps

1.2 Central Representatives are appointed by the Appointments Committee on behalf of the Board of Trustees for two years. The current term for Central Reps is 1st August 2015-31st July 2017 but due to extensive changes to the committees in the OU Academic Governance structure it has been necessary for the current Appointments Committee to make adjustments to some appointments midterm to ensure that the majority of committees have student members appointed to them.

1.3 The extensive changes to the Governance structure have also resulted in an increased number of student member categories and it will be necessary to recruit new Central Reps to ‘top up’ the current team of reps. To ensure wherever possible reps are in place for the start of the committee year for
2016-17 it would be useful for a new Appointments Committee to be formed as soon as is reasonably possible. The new Appointments Committee would then be able to consider the applications received hereafter.

1.4 OU Students Association Senate Reference Group meetings are currently held on the Wednesday morning of the Senate meeting. The Annual Effectiveness Review highlighted several disadvantages of this arrangement and it was suggested that some consideration be given to holding the meeting on the day before Senate.

2. Discussion Items

2.1 The Appointments Committee appoint three Central Reps to Senate. In order to benefit from any induction provided to Senate members by the OU, it would also be useful for the Appointments Committee to make these appointments before the next CEC meeting.

2.2 The President as the Chair of the new Appointments Committee will also be required to appoint a member of the new CEC to Senate. Again, to benefit from any induction to Senate, it would be useful for this appointment to be made before the next CEC meeting.

2.3 The President as the Chair of the Students Association Senate Reference Group will be required to make a decision about the day and time of meetings for 2016-17.

3. New or continuing members of the CEC or BoT are asked to:

3.1 Please talk to Ruth Tudor, Josh Brumpton, Rob Avann or Wendy Burrell if you would like more information regarding the role of members of the Appointments Committee over the weekend.

3.2 Inform the President that you are interested in the role either during the weekend or in the week afterwards

4. It is anticipated that the new Appointments Committee will be convened and will meet online for the first time in August 2016

Helen Janes
Education Policy Officer