

Policy, Education and Communities Committee

Student Representative

Term: 5 years

Time commitment: 3 meetings per year, plus preparation and occasional activity between meetings

The Policy, Education & Communities Committee (PECC) oversees several important aspects of Society's work: shaping and promoting membership; involvement in science and education policy; promotion of teaching, education and careers; external impact, reputation, and advocacy.

The PECC Student Representative will bring the perspectives, experiences and priorities of the student community to the Biochemical Society's PECC. They will help identify emerging issues and opportunities and support the committee to ensure that its activities are relevant, accessible and meaningful to students.

They will be expected to bring curiosity, insight and a willingness to consider different perspectives, helping the Committee to ask the right questions and identify opportunities to make a positive difference.

Role responsibilities:

- Attend and actively participate in PECC meetings.
- Read and consider papers in advance of meetings and contribute constructively to discussions.
- Advise on member support requirements and engagement strategies for students, helping the Committee understand what students value, need and may find challenging when engaging with the Society and the wider bioscience community.
- Where appropriate, advise the staff team on any external trends or changes impacting student communities, and identify potential barriers to participation and engagement.
- Provide student perspectives on committee initiatives or projects relating to membership, policy, education and careers.
- Ask questions and respectfully challenge assumptions where appropriate.
- Consider how proposed initiatives and activities may be experienced by students from different backgrounds and circumstances.
- Where appropriate, seek informal feedback and perspectives from fellow students and student networks.

Requirements:

- Currently studying for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree in biochemistry or a related molecular biosciences subject.
- Able to communicate ideas clearly and confidently and engage constructively with different perspectives
- Willing to ask questions and challenge assumptions
- Be respectful, open-minded and willing to consider alternative viewpoints.
- Be able to prepare for and attend meetings, complete agreed actions within the required timescales, and handle sensitive information appropriately.

The following would be an advantage but are **not essential**:

- Experience of student representation or involvement in a student society or network.
- Ability to demonstrate interest in science policy, teaching and learning, would be beneficial.
- Experience of volunteering, outreach, advocacy or campaigning

Previous committee experience is **not required**. We are interested in what candidates could bring to the role and their willingness to learn and contribute.