

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee

Student Representative

Term: 5 years

Time commitment: 4 meetings per year, plus preparation and occasional activity between meetings

The EDI Committee works to support a diverse and representative community, helping to ensure our activities are open, transparent, and available to all. This work includes proactively identifying and advising on EDI matters relevant to the Society's activities and strategy, providing oversight of our EDI strategy and EDI Community partnerships, and inputting into our mentoring/internship offerings and external EDI sponsorships.

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

Contribute to committee discussions

- Attend and actively participate in meetings of the EDI Committee.
- Read and consider papers in advance of meetings and contribute constructively to discussions.
- Bring a student perspective to the Committee's discussions, decisions and priorities.
- Ask questions and respectfully challenge assumptions where appropriate.
- Consider how proposed initiatives and activities may be experienced by students from different backgrounds and circumstances.

2. Bring student perspectives and insight

- Share relevant issues, experiences and emerging priorities affecting students.
- Help the Committee understand what students value, need and may find challenging when engaging with the Society and the wider bioscience community.
- Identify potential barriers to participation and engagement.
- Where appropriate, seek informal feedback and perspectives from fellow students and student networks.

3. Help shape EDI activity

- Contribute ideas to the development of the Society's EDI initiatives, events, resources and communications.
- Provide input on activities aimed at engaging students and early-career members.
- Help the Committee identify gaps or opportunities in its current EDI work.
- Where appropriate, support the development or delivery of specific EDI projects or activities.

4. Act as a connector

- Help strengthen connections between the EDI Committee and students across the bioscience community.
- Share relevant Society opportunities and EDI activity through appropriate student networks where useful.
- Encourage greater student engagement with the Society's EDI work.

Requirements:

- An interest in EDI issues and in creating a more inclusive bioscience community
- 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

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

- Experience of student representation or involvement in a student society or network
- Experience of volunteering, outreach, advocacy or campaigning
- Experience of working with or supporting diverse groups

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