

**Equality Champion**

*Role Descriptor*

**What are ‘Equality Champions’?**

Equality Champions are representatives roles at RGU:Union where individuals act as ambassadors for students who define into minority groups and have protected characteristics. Ideally, Equality Champions self-define into these strands to fully understand the issues faced by these students.

Introduced in 2013/14, it is a volunteer role where training will be provided. They will work alongside the President (Education and Welfare) and the Vice Presidents to help create an inclusive environment at RGU, representing the views of these student groups. The changes you make could have a positive impact on all students’ experiences at RGU, and really enhance student life for those who identify into a marginalised group.

Some examples of work from 2016-17 are the introduction of gender neutral toilets on campus, working in partnership with support services to improve mental health support and a successful showcase of inspirational women at RGU as part of the NUS Scotland campaign #InspireHerFuture

**What are the roles?**

There are currently 7 Equality Champion roles:

* LGBT+ Champion: *lgbtchampion@rguunion.co.uk*
* Mature Student Champion: *maturechampion@rguunion.co.uk*
* Postgraduate Champion: *postgradchampion@rguunion.co.uk*
* Woman’s Champion: *womanschampion@rguunion.co.uk*
* Black, Minority and Ethnic (BME) Champion: *bme@rguunion.co.uk*
* Disability Champion: *disabilitychampion@rguunion.co.uk*
* Faith and Belief Champion: *faithbeliefchampion@rguunion.co.uk*

**What will I do?**

* Attend training events hosted by RGU: Union, specifically Equality Champion training;
* Actively promote equality and diversity on campus, working with the Staff Equality Champions;
* Be accessible to students and engage to ensure inclusivity;
* Help organise events related to your remit;
* Gather and communicate feedback from students to the Union and University;
* Ensure the University and Union are acting in the interests of all students at all times;
* Report issues experienced by students;
* MUST attend the Equality & Diversity Advisory Group meetings;
* Work to improve the student experience at RGU through a small campaign or project;
* Most importantly, **ensure RGU has a vibrant and diverse culture which is safe and free from discrimination.**

**Who are we looking for?**

* Current matriculated student at Robert Gordon University who self-defines into the relevant protected characteristic;
* Interest in student representation and engagement;
* Confidence to speak and present publicly;
* Friendly, approachable, and engaging personality;
* The ability to effectively manage your time;
* Ideally, knowledge of workings of students’ unions and universities.

**Benefits of the Role**

* Able to participate in volunteering award schemes, and representative award schemes;
* RGU:Union will provide a free hoody to our equality champions
* You’ll gain experience of working at a high level within the university and participating in meetings
* The knowledge that you’re helping to make RGU a safe environment for all;
* Leadership and time-management experience;
* Possibility of enhancing skills such as presentation, problem solving and team-working.

The University and Union acknowledge you are a student with course commitments. These will always come first and the role is flexible to fit around your studies.

**How do I apply?**

If you are interested in applying to be an equality champion, and would like to find out more information, please contact the President (Education and Welfare) on [presew@rguunion.co.uk](mailto:presew@rguunion.co.uk)

If you would like to submit an application, please go to the RGU:Union website ([www.rguunion.co.uk/whoarewe/equality/](http://www.rguunion.co.uk/whoarewe/equality/))