



Students' Union
Awards
2026

Leicester Students' Union Awards 2026

**Nomination
Handbook**

Introduction & FAQ

The Students' Union's Awards celebrate student-led achievements from this academic year.

This is your chance to shine a light on those students who you think deserve recognition for their hard work and contributions to the student community.

The 2025/2026 Awards fall into 5 categories:



Student Group Awards, which celebrate the amazing events, campaigns, achievements and progress made by our clubs and societies.



Community Awards, which recognise all of the incredible efforts in the areas of sustainability, liberation, volunteering and outreach.



Representation Awards, which recognises the efforts and outstanding work done by our academic representatives across all colleges, schools and student types



Superstar Awards, an opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of academic staff across the university.



Special Recognition, individual celebrations of students who have gone above and beyond what is expected of them in numerous ways as members of their student group, community or in their academic representative role.

Nominations close at **9am on the Monday 30th March**. You can make as many nominations as you like, for as many awards as you like. The more detail and information you provide, the more reasons our panel will have to choose them as a winner.

Please note that any nominations less than 10 words long will not be considered. Nominations are recommended to be from 100-250 words.

We welcome nominations from all students, including students who are not a member of any student groups, not a Rep, have not physically been on campus this year, etc. All activities count, whether they were held in-person or online. And yes, you can nominate yourself – in fact, we encourage it!

Below, in this document, you can find further information on the criteria we use to shortlist all award categories as well as who is eligible for each award.

If you have any questions with the awards or nominations process, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at su-awards@leicester.ac.uk



Student Group Awards 2026

Student Group of the Year Award

1. How has the group improved the student experience and community this year?
2. How has the group significantly developed and/or expanded this year?
3. What impact has the group had on the wider community .e.g. fundraising, campaigning, outreach
4. How was the committee successful in running and organising the group?
5. Any other points for consideration

New Student Group of the Year Award

1. How has the group filled gaps in student opportunities this year and/or created impact?
2. How was the committee successful in running and organising the group?
3. How has the group significantly developed and successfully started up this year?
4. What impact has the group had on the wider community .e.g. fundraising, campaigning, outreach
5. Any other points for consideration

Student Group Event of the Year

1. How was the event successfully organised and ran by committee?
2. What significant impact did the event have on the student experience?
3. Did the event have significant impact on the wider community? e.g. fundraising, outreach, campaigning
4. How did the event develop or improve from previous years? (if recurring)
5. Any other points for consideration

Student Group Collaboration

1. How was the collaboration successfully organised and ran by the committees?
2. What significant impact did the collaboration have on the student experience?
3. Did the collaboration have significant impact on the wider community? e.g. fundraising, outreach, campaigning
4. How did the collaboration develop or improve from previous years? (if applicable)
5. Any other points for consideration

Outstanding Contribution to Arts

1. How has the group highlighted the arts this year?
2. How has the group significantly developed and/or expanded access to the arts this year?
3. What impact has the group had on the wider community .e.g. fundraising, campaigning, outreach
4. How was the committee successful in running and organising the group?
5. Any other points for consideration

Outstanding Contribution to Sports

1. How has the group improved the sports experience and community this year?
2. How has the group significantly developed and/or expanded access to sports this year?
3. What impact has the group had on the wider community .e.g. fundraising, campaigning, outreach
4. How was the committee successful in running and organising the club?
5. Any other points for consideration

Outstanding Contribution to the Academic Experience

1. How has the group improved the academic experience and opportunities this year?
2. How has the group significantly developed and/or expanded this year?
3. What impact has the group had on the wider community .e.g. fundraising, campaigning, outreach
4. How was the committee successful in running and organising the group?
5. Any other points for consideration



Representation Awards 2026

Nominees must be a known Academic Rep this includes: Course Reps, School Reps, PGR Reps, College Reps, PGR College Reps. If the nominee is not on our system then they cannot be considered for an award. All Rep types are eligible for the Academic Rep of the Year Awards.

Any Course Reps must have completed their training by the end of the nomination period to be able to be considered for an award.

If you are unsure if the person you want to nominate is eligible, please email su-repteam@le.ac.uk and they will be able to confirm for you.

Academic Rep of the Year - Community

1. What did this rep do to build a sense of community amongst students?
2. What significant impact did this reps' work have on community amongst students?
3. What significant impact did this reps' work have on student-staff community?
4. If this rep collaborated with a society, how was the society involved?
5. Any other points for consideration

Academic Rep of the Year - Collaboration:

1. How was the collaboration successfully organised by these reps?
2. What outcomes came from this collaboration?
3. What significant impact did this collaboration have on student academic experience?
4. Any other points for consideration

Academic Rep of the Year - Event:

1. What event did this rep do?
2. What were the outcomes of this event?
3. What significant impact did this event have on students?
4. Any other points for consideration

Academic Rep of the Year - Research

1. What research did this rep undertake and in what format?
2. How regularly did this rep research student thoughts and opinions?
3. How did this rep present their feedback?
4. What significant impact did the outcomes of this feedback have?
5. Any other points for consideration

Most Impactful School Led Vision:

1. How did these Reps work collaboratively within their School?
2. How did these Reps work impact academic experience within their School?
3. What tangible and significant outcome did these reps have from their projects?
4. How were these outcomes communicated to students?
5. Any other points for consideration

Course Rep of the Year:

1. How has this rep improved student experience this year?
2. How has this rep built community for students this year?
3. How has this rep improved the visibility of reps this year?
4. What significant impact has the Rep's work had for students this year and how wide-spread has it been?
5. Any other points for consideration

PGR Rep of the Year:

1. How has this rep improved PGR experience this year?
2. How has this rep built community for PGRs this year?
3. How has this rep developed a research culture for PGRs this year?
4. What significant impact has the Rep's work had for PGRs this year and how wide-spread has it been?
5. Any other points for consideration

Community Awards 2026

The Community Awards recognise all of the incredible efforts in the areas of sustainability, liberation, volunteering and outreach.

Advocacy Award

1. What has been significant about the individual/groups advocacy efforts?
2. How has the group/individual created change this year?
3. How has the individual/group successfully supported other students through their advocacy?
4. How was the committee/individual successful in running and organising advocacy efforts?
5. Any other points for consideration

Community Impact Award

1. What has been significant about the individual/groups contribution to both the student and wider community?
2. How has the group/individual created change this year?
3. How has the individual/group successfully raised awareness of a cause/campaign?
4. How was the committee successful in running and organising the group? (if applicable)
5. Any other points for consideration

Fundraising Award

1. What has been significant about the individual/groups fundraising efforts?
2. How much has been raised by the group/individual this year?
3. How was the committee/individual successful in running and organising the fundraiser/s?
4. How has the individual/group successfully raised awareness of a cause/campaign?
5. Any other points for consideration

Sustainability Award

1. What has been significant about the individual/groups contribution to sustainability on and off campus?
2. How has the group/individual advocated for climate action and awareness this year?
3. How has the individual/group successfully facilitated sustainability-based projects?
4. How has the group/individual successfully contributed to the Students' Unions Sustainability Goals?
5. Any other points for consideration

Frank May Cup

1. How has the individual created significant impact through their volunteering work/projects?
2. How have they demonstrated passion and motivation for their projects/volunteering efforts?
3. How have they demonstrated consistency and commitment, having volunteered on a regular basis over a minimum period of 3 months?
4. In what way have they personally developed through volunteering, in what way have they self-reflected on this?
5. Any other points for consideration

Campaign of the Year

1. What was the campaign about and what impact did it have?
2. What has been significant about the campaign?
3. How was the individual successful in running and organising the campaign?
4. How has the individual/group successfully raised awareness of a cause?
5. Any other points for consideration

Outstanding Contribution

1. How has the individual significantly impacted the student community and experience through their contributions?
2. How has the individual worked with the Students' Union and other departments to create change?
3. How were they successful in representing and empowering their student cohort?
4. How did they show reliability, organisation and consistency behind the scenes?
5. Any other points for consideration

Peer Mentor of the Year

1. How has the individual significantly impacted the student community and experience through their mentoring?
2. How has the individual engaged with the Students' Union to support for their mentees?
3. How did they go above and beyond to support their mentees?
4. How did they demonstrate reliability, organisation and consistency?
5. Any other points for consideration

Most Impactful Part Time Officer Project

1. How did the part time officers project significantly impact the student experience?
2. How did the PTO successfully create change through their project?
3. How did the project support with building communities on campus?
4. How did they demonstrate reliability, organisation and consistency when planning and facilitating the project?
5. Any other points for consideration



Special Recognition 2026

Special Recognition is here for individual celebrations of students who have gone above and beyond what is expected of them in numerous ways as members of their student group, community or in their academic representative role.

SR Contribution to their Society:

(only members or committee members of student groups are eligible for this award)

1. What has been significant about this individual's contribution to their society/club?
2. How have they successfully improved/developed the society/club?
3. How has the individual had an impact on their fellow society members?
4. Any other points for consideration

SR Community Impact:

1. What has been significant about this individual's contribution to the student community?
2. How have they significantly impacted the wider community. E.g.: fundraising, campaigning, advocating?
3. How has the individual had an impact on other students through their community outreach?
4. Any other points for consideration

SR Academic Representation

(Only academic college/school or course reps are eligible for this award)

1. What has been significant about this individual's contribution to the student academic experience?
2. How have they gone above and beyond their role to advocate for students?
3. How has the individual had an impact on other students through raising student feedback?
4. Any other points for consideration

Superstar Awards 2026

The Superstar Awards are an opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of academic and supporting staff across the university.

Nominees must be a University of Leicester staff member or PGR(/PhD student) and you may not nominate if you are a university or SU staff member. (PGRs can nominate for all categories other than "PGR Teaching Excellence")

Best Lecturer

1. How has this lecturer gone above and beyond to deliver engaging teaching?
2. What has this lecturer done to develop a great professional relationship with the students in the class?
3. When has this lecturer set time aside within lectures to ensure that everyone understands the content?
4. When has this lecturer been approachable for students to ask any questions?
5. Any other points for consideration

Best Personal Tutor

1. How has this tutor gone the extra mile to ensure that their tutees feel supported?
2. When has this tutor provided extra support to their tutees when they need it?
3. How has this tutor ensured that they met with their tutees face to face and had consistent contact with them?
4. Any other points for consideration

Best Supervisor

1. How has this supervisor supported their student(s)/PGR(s) in getting extra training or resources where required?
2. How has this supervisor enabled their student(s)/PGR(s) to grow and improve across their project?
3. What has this supervisor done to go above and beyond for their student(s)/PGR(s)?
4. Any other points for consideration

PGR Teaching Excellence

This award is for a Postgraduate Researcher (or PhD student) who teaches undergraduate and/or postgraduate students

1. How did this PGR/PhD student put in extra work to ensure that the students they are teaching or demonstrating understand the content?
2. How did this PGR/PhD student demonstrated a passion for the subject they are teaching or demonstrating for?
3. What did this PGR/PhD student do to ensure that students they are teaching feel supported?
4. Any other points for consideration

Best Supporting Staff

This award is for any staff members which are not academic staff members including student support services, security, estates, catering staff and admin staff

1. How has this staff member created a welcoming and supportive atmosphere within their service?
2. What has this staff member done to address challenges faced by students to improve services and processes?
3. How has this staff member shown a dedication to students academic experience?
4. Any other points for consideration

Best Academic Supporting Staff

This award is specifically for Academic (teaching) staff, if the member of staff you are nomination is a member of support staff, please nominate them for "Best Supporting Staff" instead

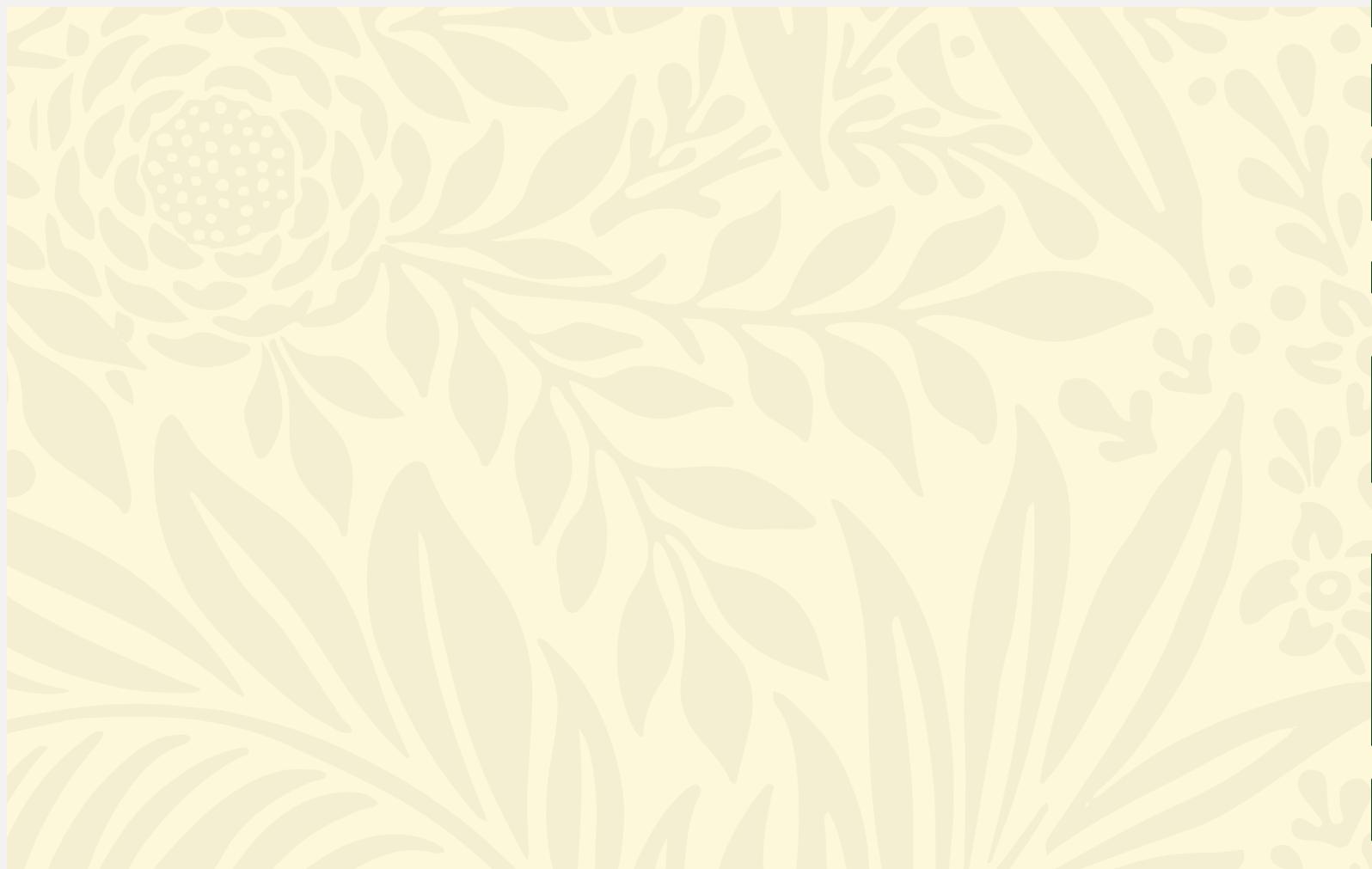
1. What has this staff member done to support students in their academics?
2. How has this staff member taken extra time to support students in extra curricular projects?
3. How has this staff member fostered an environment which has enhanced student academic experience?
4. Any other points for consideration

Best Implementer of Feedback

1. How has this staff member worked with Academic Reps in Student Staff Committees to ensure that feedback is acted on and results are fed back to students?
2. When has this staff member successfully changed things to benefit students after mid module temperature check feedback?
3. How has this staff member regularly sought out feedback from students in order to make changes and improve things?
4. What has this staff member done to actively listen to students concerns and tried their best to implement them?
5. Any other points for consideration

Most Inclusive Practice

1. How has this staff member demonstrated exceptional commitment to inclusivity within the university community?
2. When has this staff member promoted equal opportunities across all aspects of student and academic life?
3. How has this staff member actively engaged with liberation groups within their school or across the university to promote an environment of belonging and inclusion?
4. What has this staff member done to make a positive impact towards increased inclusivity on campus?
5. Any other points for consideration





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