

Contact details	
Your name (Proposer of the policy)	Catriona Dodd
Your email	catriona.dodd@students.plymouth.ac.uk
The name of a person who supports the policy (Seconder of the policy)	India Ellis
Seconder's email	India.ellis@students.plymouth.ac.uk

Student Impact	
Have you consulted students about your proposal? Please explain how many students you have engaged with and how.	I have spoken to ADA course reps about this, alongside other school reps. The visibility of the roles is lacking, and reviewing the representation system enables a way forward to increase visibility at an academic level. It is believed this would ultimately celebrate the course reps' roles, whilst ensuring the student body know who to contact.
How does your proposal impact the students at the University of Plymouth, what difference will it make to students?	Increased visibility of course reps ensures students are able to direct their feedback appropriately, and celebrates the commitment students have made in becoming course reps. This in turn pressures courses into filling these roles, facilitates greater reach of the union and democracy within the student body.

Policy Proposal	
The Union Notes (Facts) This section should include facts, not reflection or opinions. Please provide references where possible.	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A course may elect students to represent them. These students liaise with their course staff and School Representatives to seek support on issues relating to the academic experience. 	
The Union Believes (Opinions/Beliefs) This section requires reflection on the facts stated in 'The Union Notes'	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every course should have reps, though this isn't mandated. These reps should be approachable, and the student body should feel comfortable talking to them. 2. Course and School Reps should receive appropriate support from the University and Students' Union to enable them to carry out their duties to the best of their ability. 	

3. The system of representation should be visible and easily accessible to all students.

The Union Resolves (Actions) Here you will describe the action you want to be taken, be specific.

1. UPSU should conduct a thorough review of academic representation at a School and Faculty level, as part of that review they should consult with relevant staff and students to get feedback.
2. That feedback should then inform a best practice toolkit to be shared by the Student Voice and VP Education at the end of the academic year, to all relevant University staff with the purpose of supporting the following academic year's structure.

Appendices/supporting information Please include any supporting information relevant to your motion, this could include; consideration of how you would achieve any points in 'The Union Resolves', links to news articles or online publications

1. A more standardised approach to promoting the academic representation structure/academic reps would ensure every school is able to get the most out of the representation structure.

Excerpt from minutes of meeting 18th March 2021

Academic Rep Structure Policy Proposal

Cat Dodd - School of Art, Design and Architecture Rep and proposer gave an overview of the proposal which calls for a review of the academic representation system and to set a benchmark level of consistent practice across the university. This involves collating and sharing best practice and expectations of reps, staff and the SU in a toolkit.

Taku Mawera – Part-time BAME Officer noted that it would be prudent to include the roles and the School reps and Part-time Officers in the information shared with staff and students. Cat Dodd, agreed and commented that academic representation was used in the proposal as a blanket term but it is not only limited to Course Reps.

The Chair called for a vote

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

The proposal passed