

U0837_2: Nominations Form

Role Category*

Faculty Representative

Preferred name*

Jack Flaherty

Candidate Question 1: What attracted you to stand for this role

I am standing for a full term of FASS Rep after being co-opted last September. I have enjoyed the challenging role immensely. Since starting, I have worked as part of the current student leadership team and closely with OU staff to ensure that FASS student voices are heard. I have restarted FASS Connect, a monthly online gathering of FASS students allowing a space to talk, vent, and learn. I have been active on social media platforms and on student forums.

I have attended many governance and academic committees and done the best I can in voicing what I hear and see from my fellow students. I have reached out to the Executive Dean, heads of schools, and any other staff to establish positive working relationships with them and allow a better flow of regular communication.

If elected, I hope to build on what I have learned and the relationships I have formed in this role to work on creating a better OU for all students and staff.

Candidate Question 2: What are the top two issues that you would want to address as part of the 2024-26 Student Leadership Team?

Student support and retention

My first priority will be to continue working with OU staff to focus more on retention issues such as increasing student support hours and ensuring tutors are held accountable for consistently delayed TMA results or replies to students' queries. In addition, the faculty should work on guaranteeing tutorials at times when students have the time to attend and day schools that are accessible.

Distance learning

The OU should continue to prioritise distance learning. We all attend the OU because of the freedom in how and when we study. I will oppose any plan such as Campus 2030 that makes these students less of a priority and takes away resources from us. The OU should be a leader in online teaching and not lose track of why students attend.

Constituency*

Faculty Representative - Arts and Social Sciences

