

NEON Awards 2024 Nominations

Category

NEON Widening Access Initiative (Retention and Progression) Award

Name of project and institution

Student Advisory Panel, Edge Hill University

Brief Description

Now in their fourth year, Edge Hill University's Student Advisory Panels allow students to share their lived experience to shape the future of our university services. Our panels aim to move beyond student consultation, towards ongoing co-production with our students with the ultimate objectives of improving access, attainment, continuation, and progression gaps amongst students from underrepresented backgrounds. The outputs of the Panels are felt across the University and have led to the creation of new initiatives, policy and activity which has a positive impact on the experiences of both current and prospective students.

Why has this project been nominated

Our Student Advisory Panel initiative aims to give students from underrepresented backgrounds the opportunity to inform the design and delivery of a wide range of university policies and procedures. The Student Advisory Panels allow students to share their lived experience with teams from across the university to shape the future of our university services. The ultimate aim is to improve the access, attainment, continuation and progression gaps amongst students from underrepresented backgrounds. The Widening Access and Participation Team first convened a Student Advisory Panel for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Students in 2020/21 in response to the Black Lives Matter movement. This panel proved so successful a further four groups were convened in 2021/2022. The five panels listed below have now run for two academic years: - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Students - Care Leaver, Care Experienced and Estranged Students (CEES) - Disabled Students - First Generation Students - Mature Students The Panels are now in their 4th year and continue to go from strength to strength. The outputs of the Panels are felt across the University as demonstrated by the breath of departments that engage with our members. Our on-going goal is for students to actively and genuinely contribute to the design and delivery of our University wide APP interventions. As the panels continue to grow, for 2023/24 we added intersectional student panels to our offer, this was due to both staff demand for this, and panel members wanting more opportunities for interactions between the different panels.

How long has the project been running

4 years

Number of participants for each year of the project's operation

There have been between 40 - 70 panel members recruited each year

More details

<https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/departments/support/studentrecruitment/widening-participation/student-advisory-panels/>

