

## Student Engagement in Quality

The University actively engages with students to shape the direction of teaching and learning. This includes involving students in the University's quality processes to assure and enhance the quality of taught programmes, such as the programme approval process.

## What is Programme Approval?

Before a new taught programme can be offered to students, it must first be approved by the University (in line with recognised good practice set out in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education). The approval process involves a panel of academic and professional experts from the University, including a current student, and at least one external panel member from another university or from industry. The panel meets to review a new programme proposal, then meets with the programme team before deciding an outcome. The University requires that every approval panel has a student panel member from a different subject area to the programme under consideration.

Programme Approval determines:

- whether the programme meets the required academic standards for the award;
- that the learning, teaching and assessment approaches enable students to achieve the learning outcomes and;
- that the programme provides students with access to high quality learning experiences.

## What is the role of the student panel member?

Student panel members are responsible for:

- bringing the student perspective to the entire review;
- reading documentation in advance of the event;
- identifying key issues in the documentation to formulate themes for discussion during the event;
- actively participating in the event, by asking questions of the programme team and engaging in discussions;
- commenting on the draft report produced after the event (a record of discussions and decisions).

## What's in it for you and how will you be supported?

Serving as a student panel is a voluntary experience, which will give you an insight into the University's quality assurance and enhancement processes and the opportunity to gain experience of a professional panel environment, working with staff at the University to enhance the quality of the educational experience at Edinburgh Napier. You will also be contributing to a national process of ensuring the quality of Scottish university education.

You will have the opportunity to meet with a member of the Quality & Standards Team in advance of the event to talk through the process.

## Further information

- The Quality Framework, Section 1c, the Approval of Taught Provision:  
<http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/dlte/quality/qualityframework>
- sparqs (student partnerships in quality Scotland): <https://www.sparqs.ac.uk/>

## How to get involved

To apply to be a student panel member, please send a short expression of interest explaining why you would like to be involved and any relevant experience you feel you have to [quality@napier.ac.uk](mailto:quality@napier.ac.uk). Please include your name and current programme of study.