

Suggested opportunities for former students' association education officers

As you leave your education officer role, and sabbatical life more generally, what next? If your studies are complete, you might be forging a new career or returning to the world of work, but either way, you may want to apply the incredible skills and experiences you've gained during your term as an education officer and even stay within a related role. You'll be departing your post having worked in many areas, such as learning and teaching development; education policy (institutionally and nationally); governance and trusteeship; leading volunteers; strategic planning; participation and community building; partnership; equality, diversity and inclusion; campaigning; welfare and rights; and much, much more.

Many organisations are really keen for these skills and experiences, especially in young graduates, and there is also a huge demand for more young people to be involved in public sector governance. That all means that education officers (at any age!) have so much to offer the job market, as well as to wider society, through governance and other voluntary positions.

If you've enjoyed working in education and students' associations, then the following development opportunities and portals for paid or voluntary roles might be worth exploring.

<p>Roles in institutions and agencies – QAA Scotland recruit part-time student reviewers regularly – opportunities which are open to students for a period of time following graduation. Also keep an eye on the job pages and social media accounts of universities, colleges and sector agencies, policy bodies, consultancies or civil service, who will have dedicated recruitment pages.</p>
<p>sparqs' jobs board – Student engagement opportunities, including full-time posts within institutions and students' associations and relevant governance and trustee posts.</p>
<p>Get into Governance – An online course run by the College Development Network to help you consider applying for a college Board of Management.</p>
<p>Scottish Government Public Appointments – You've probably sat on your college Board of Management or university Court, and they are examples of the many governing bodies accountable to the Scottish Government for a range of public services and agencies.</p>
<p>CDN's college vacancies directory – Containing jobs from colleges in Scotland.</p>
<p>Committee of University Chairs' vacancies portal – With positions in university governing bodies in Scotland and across the UK.</p>
<p>www.jobs.ac.uk – A portal for jobs in colleges and universities across the UK.</p>
<p>su.careers – A directory run by NUS with vacancies for staff and trustee roles at students' unions across the UK.</p>
<p>Goodmoves – A jobs directory for the third sectors run by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO). Third sector interfaces (TSIs) may have jobs listed locally.</p>
<p>Local authorities – Your experience of working in a democratic organisation means you might be interested in jobs in a local council ...or you might even want to stand for election!</p>
<p>Changing the Chemistry – A charity which aims to work with boards in all sectors to improve and promote diversity. They provide coaching and mentoring for prospective board members, run events and activities, and promote board vacancies.</p>
<p>For Good – A platform created by Students Organising for Sustainability to link students and graduates with research and placement opportunities in sustainable development.</p>
<p>Governor Competencies Map – Developed by Advance HE to help university Court members to reflect on their progress and development.</p>