

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 wondering where your career will go, but you may also want to continue working in the same field and apply the incredible skills and experiences you've gained over the past year.

You'll be departing your post having worked in a wide range of areas, such as learning and teaching development; education policy (both institutionally and nationally); governance and trusteeship; strategic planning; democracy, representation and stakeholder engagement; partnership building; equality, diversity and inclusion; welfare and rights; and much, much more.

Moreover, due to the ongoing pandemic during 2020-21, you've been involved in crisis management; public health responses and information; working digitally; and developing rapid systems of decision-making, engagement and feedback. Many organisations are really keen for these sorts of 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 you have so much to offer the job market, as well as wider society, through governance roles and other voluntary positions.

If you've enjoyed working in this field, then the following job portals, training opportunities or voluntary role directories might be worth exploring.

<p>Roles in institutions and agencies – 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>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 this year, and they are just two examples of governing bodies accountable to the Scottish Government for a huge 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 containing vacancies for staff and trustee roles at students' unions across the UK.</p>
<p>Goodmoves – A jobs directory for the voluntary, charity and civil society sectors run by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO). Third sector interfaces (TSIs) in your area 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 as a councillor!</p>
<p>Changing the Chemistry – A charity who 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>