

Role Profile

Role title:	Global Student Advisor
Pay:	£12.60 per hour
Full/Part-time:	Part-time
Contract term:	Zero-hours, fixed-term until July 2026
Accountable to:	Activities and Culture Officer
Hours:	Approximately 5 hours per term during term time, with each board meeting being 2 hours, plus half an hour of preparation. Potential to increase the number of meetings depending on engagement and productivity.
Location:	Usually located at the main Students' Union building.
Eligibility:	Applications are open to all current students at the University of Manchester, at all degree levels, who are eligible to work in the UK.
Benefits:	We offer a great range of benefits. You can see them here .

Our Organisation

We are Manchester Students' Union, the biggest SU in the country, supporting over 40,000 students throughout their time at university. We help to make student life the best it can be by supporting students to campaign for change, creating opportunities to meet new people, providing employment opportunities, providing advice and support and being a safe place on campus.

We are a values-centred organisation that employs around 90 permanent, full-time members of staff. We recruit a wide range of roles throughout the year within all our departments from our Commercial team operating Manchester Academy Venues, 13 Media, Bar 532 & Kitchen and Corridor Coffee to our Student Activities, Student Engagement, Marketing and Communications, Finance, HR and Facilities teams. Our team of around 400 part-time, studying staff are instrumental in providing to support to all departments as well as leading major projects like Student Angels. When you join UMSU, you'll be immersed in an environment that empowers staff to make great things happen and we're always on the lookout for innovative, passionate, and proactive people to join us.

Our staff team is led by our senior leadership team who are instrumental in driving our strategy at UMSU. It's made up of our CEO, COO, 3 Directors and 2 Associate Directors. We are governed by our trustees and Exec Officers, you can find out more about that [here](#).

Our Organisational Values

Our values are really important to us and shape the work that we do every day. As part of our recruitment process, we want you to demonstrate how your experiences, behaviours and skills align with our values.

Our values are:

- We put students at the heart of what we do
- We provide a 'great experience' service

- We believe in improvement and progression
- We are a community
- We are open and transparent
- We are inclusive

You can find more detailed explanations of our values on [our website](#).

Role Overview

The Global Student Advisor plays a vital role in shaping the international student experience at the University of Manchester. As part of the Global Students Advisory Board, you will join a diverse group of students representing a range of nationalities, ethnicities and degree levels. Together you will work to influence policy, democracy and decision-making across the Students' Union and University. Your insights, experiences and ideas will help identify challenges and opportunities that affect international students, driving meaningful changes that make UoM and UMSU more inclusive and globally minded.

While you'll receive guidance, support, and training from Students' Union staff, we believe that you know your community best. You'll have the autonomy to bring your own ideas, lived experiences, and priorities to Board discussions, whether that's about dissertation and housing pressures, food provision and catering, or broader issues shaping international student life.

Students will also have the opportunity to suggest discussion topics for the Board. Before each meeting, you'll receive a finalised agenda and are encouraged to read through it and contribute wherever you feel most passionate or informed. You do not need to speak on every point. What matters most is thoughtful, respectful engagement.

As part of the Board, you may also collaborate to propose policies for Union Assembly and work alongside different Union and University teams to influence real, lasting change for international students.

Key Result Areas

Responsible for	Contributor to
Representing the perspectives and experiences of international students from your background or degree level at Board meetings.	The development of new Students' Union and University policies that enhance the international student experience.
Reviewing discussion points on the agenda ahead of each meeting and contributing thoughtfully to the conversation.	Campaigns, initiatives, and projects that promote inclusion, belonging, and cross-cultural understanding.
Identifying and raising key issues affecting international students' academic and social experiences.	Strengthening relationships between the Students' Union, the University, and international student communities.
Collaborating with other Global Student Advisors to explore and develop policy proposals for Union Assembly.	Ensuring that international perspectives are integrated into the SU's broader democracy and representation structures.
Bringing forward ideas and feedback from peers through informal and formal channels.	

Organisational Stewardship & Leadership Responsibilities

- Attend and actively participate in Global Student Advisory Board meetings.
- Contributing to key Students' Union events and activities throughout the year where relevant.
- Work in line with Union's values, policies and procedures.
- Support the Activities and Culture Office and SU Staff in delivering initiatives that impact the global student community.

Person Specification

At this time, this opportunity is open **only to registered international students**. We recognise that identity is intersectional and that the distinction between 'Home' and 'International' is not always straightforward. However, as this is the pilot year of the programme, and its primary purpose is to support and amplify the voices of international students, we are limiting eligibility to registered international students for now. We expect to review this criteria in future years.

Essential Criteria:

- **Education:** Must be a current student at The University of Manchester, graduating no earlier than July 2026
- **Passion for improving the international student experience:** A genuine desire to enhance the experiences of international students and advocate for their needs. Curious about student issues and motivation to create positive change within the University community.
- **Communication:** Confident engaging in lively, respectful, and reflective dialogue with people from diverse backgrounds. Able to listen actively, express ideas clearly, and contribute meaningfully to Board meetings. Comfortable participating in conversations where perspectives may differ.
- **Creative and critical thinking:** Able to analyse different viewpoints, explore new ideas, and approach challenges with an open and solution-focused mindset. Willing to question assumptions, suggest improvements, and contribute thoughtful insights during discussions.
- **Self-management:** Able to take initiative, manage your time well, and prepare independently for meetings

Additional Criteria:

- **Knowledge:** Awareness of the challenges and opportunities faced by international students at Manchester and in UK higher education. Understanding of how global affairs, policy, or cultural differences can influence the international student experience.
- **Insight-driven:** Always looking for ways to listen to, understand and capture the needs of other students in your community and using existing research to shape the work of the Association.
- **Values:** Aligns with the SU's values and behaviours both personally and professionally.
- **Active Bystander:** Continually seeks to dismantle barriers, ensures all working practises are accessible, seeks to ensure all voices are heard and factored in when making decisions.

Our Recruitment Process

The way that we recruit is designed to be fair, transparent and inclusive as well as being an enjoyable experience for everyone involved. You should expect to receive great communication and a warm, welcoming experience.

Given the unusual nature of this role, we have adapted our recruitment process to best suit this particular position.

In order to apply you will just need to submit a 500-word application statement (full guidance can be found in the Global Student Advisor Advert). You will **not** be required to attend an interview.

We aim to appoint around 30 students, with each member representing a different nationality. To represent a particular nationality, you must be a recognised citizen of that country. As part of your application, you will be asked to confirm which nationality you wish to represent.

We expect that when you select a nationality to represent you are doing so in good faith and are genuinely able to offer an authentic perspective from that country. This typically means having lived experience, that enables you to speak confidently and accurately about the student experience associated with that nationality.

To ensure the Board reflects the diversity of our international community, applications will be assessed on merit, while also taking nationality into account. Only one student per nationality will be appointed in order to support a balanced and representative Board.

If you have any questions about the recruitment process, or which nationality you can represent, please contact us at international.su@manchester.ac.uk.