

# Be the Change: Executive & Student Officers enhanced visibility project & Student Ideas Hub

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## Westfield Fund 2016


**Queen Mary University of London**  
**Students' Union**

### Background

Our community of Executive Officers, part-time student representatives, course representatives and halls representatives are vital in shaping the student experience at Queen Mary. Undertaking their role voluntarily, student representatives aim to seek out student views, represent students, and work in partnership with staff to improve the overall Queen Mary student experience. The "Be the Change" project was comprised of 2 main elements;

- Executive Officer Enhanced Visibility
- Student Ideas Hub

### Aims

- Work towards the strategic aim of creating and enhancing School and Course Level communities
- Increase the number of students who know their SSLCs, Students' Union and University can help them to improve their student experience.
- Increase in the number of students who know their officers, and believe representatives have made a positive impact on their University experience.
- Increase in the number of students who feel empowered to deliver change both on campus and in the community.
- Increase in the number of students recognised as partners in learning.

### Outputs

#### Officer Visibility

- **Exec on Tour Pop-Up:** The Executive Officers travelled around numerous locations on campus including Library Square, The Hive, Residences and academic buildings, interacting with current students about a range of topics and issues. This included the "Scream Mary" event where students were invited to submit their concerns in a Halloween themed event.
- **New Video Series & Officer Features:** A new video series was produced featuring regular updates from the Exec. This was filmed monthly by our student videographer Daniel Meszaros.
- **New signage displays:** New prominent displays were created and installed in a number of locations including the outside of the Students' Union Hub building, BLSA building and Ground Café. The 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of this project will see further installations in Residences and QMUL buildings, subject to the necessary permission being sought.
- **Targeted Student Mailouts:** New email updates were produced from officers directly, with wins, achievements and news.

#### Student Ideas Online

The project also delivered a brand new Student Ideas Online system. This has been in development, and will be launched during January 2018. The new online ideas portal will enable students to submit any ideas for change that they think are important to them. Easy to use and accessible, submitting ideas for change will never have been easier. Once submitted an idea remains live for 2 weeks, where students can "up" vote or "down" vote the idea. Debate and conversation will also be encouraged, with students able to comment on "live ideas". If the idea is positively received it will be passed to an Executive Officer, or relevant student-led committee to be progressed, with support from Students' Union staff. The system is anonymous so any student can feel comfortable submitting their idea. An archive of ideas is maintained on the system.



There are further elements of the overall "Be the Change" project still in development, due to be launched shortly, including; school/local level signage & information regarding Course Representatives, Students' Union roadshow tour and Executive Officer Question Time events. Other outputs will also continue to be developed.

The number of students who could recognise at least 2 Executive Officers increased to above 60%

In the 2017 Students' Union Elections turnout was over 27% - the highest on record, and representing over 5000 voters.



**TELLUS YOUR IDEAS**

to improve your

University    Union    City

Sum up your ideas in one or two sentences and submit it on our website. Get other students to upvote it and your student leadership team can help turn it into a reality.

[www.qmsu.org/ideas](http://www.qmsu.org/ideas)

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Students' Union



**Representation at BLSA**

Students in the Barbican and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry are members of the Barbican and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry (BLSA) and Queen Mary Students' Union (QMSU).

QMSU has a team of representatives which are elected by students and meet regularly to help improve your student experience. They are supported by a dedicated staff team and resources for you to get involved with.

**Elect your Student Officers**

**BLSA President**

QMSU has a team of representatives which are elected by students and meet regularly to help improve your student experience. They are supported by a dedicated staff team and resources for you to get involved with.

**Your Course Reps**

QMSU has a team of representatives which are elected by students and meet regularly to help improve your student experience. They are supported by a dedicated staff team and resources for you to get involved with.

BLSA and The London Students' Association

A selection of just some of the new signage highlighting student representatives, plus some of the new Student Ideas online publicity