

Student Awards 2018



Student awards is one of the most prestigious award ceremonies that we have at Surrey. It celebrates many important achievements and is a platform for recognition of the fantastic work undertaken by students, staff and members of the local community. We have an array of different awards, all of which have a specific purpose covering all aspects of university life. Below you will see a brief description for each award, to give you a sense of which award(s) you can nominate either yourself or others for -

Society Signatory of the Year

This will be awarded to a society signatory with outstanding qualities, such as excellent leadership, examples of activities beyond the normal call of duty, conflict resolution skills or examples of leading the society to connect with others outside of the society either in the community or on campus.

Society Member of the Year

Awarded to any (non-signatory) elected person OR member involved in a society – who demonstrates examples of activities beyond normal expectations, excellent teamwork and communications skills and going out of their way to develop the activities of the society.

If the nominee is a non-committee member, this person will have demonstrated a high level of enthusiasm about the society and invigorated and influenced the committee from the outside. **NB:** Any *signatories* nominated for this award will automatically be removed from this category and added to the Society Signatory of the Year category.

Most Improved Society

Nominations for this award should include a testimony about where the society was this time last year compared with where they are now. Change does not have to be in terms of size, however the focus should be on development. An example would be societies who have reached out to attract new members through new activities.

Best New Society of the Year

Nominations should be for any society that has been set-up since October 2017. Nominations including examples of the society standing out compared to others in the same category and the impact they've made since becoming a society. Nominations should include examples of the society connecting or reaching out to others, informing others about differences in culture, interest or activities, and getting others involved. Arranging successful/innovative events will also be taken into account, as well as the quality of the organisation of the committee and teamwork in the society.

Entrepreneur of the Year

This will be awarded to a student or group of students that have been innovative and taken advantage of an opportunity to establish a business or initiative that provides a benefit or service to students at Surrey, and also creates opportunities for development for students as well.

Society of the Year

Nominations for this award should include examples of the society standing out compared to others in the same category. The society should demonstrate their ability to connect or reach out to others, inform others about differences in culture, interest or activities, and get others involved. Arranging successful/innovative events will also be taken into account, as well as the quality of the organisation of the committee and teamwork in the society.

Best Newcomer

The Best Newcomer is a student who has during the year become more connected with the Union, recognisable around the Union or are a new addition to a society and have made some great changes. In short we are looking for students who haven't previously taken an active role in Union activities but have become well known recently.

John Hoborough Award for Volunteer of the Year

Nominations for this award will take into consideration the nominee's - commitment, enthusiasm and positivity, promotion of volunteering to others and organisation of volunteering events.

Student Media Award

This award is given to a stand-out student who plays an active role in the media aspect of their club/society. Successful nominees will display qualities such as media skills, can-do approach to requests from others and improvement to organisation and/or promotion of their media service.

Course Rep of the Year

Nominations for this award should demonstrate good communication skills, willingness to pass on and collect information, active communication with the Union, attendance at training sessions and commitment & time given to the role.

The Lynne Millward Award for academic staff member of the Year

Staff nominated for this award will show excellence at engaging, motivating and inspiring students; will go the extra mile to support students and willingness to give up time to answer questions and see students; have a positive attitude to teaching and learning; and the ability to enthuse students about subject area, availability to students on programme.

Personal Tutor of the Year

Staff nominated for this award will display excellence in supporting students - especially students in difficult circumstances; high rates of availability despite their busy schedule; high rates of responsiveness in terms of the time and the quality of the response and show understanding of individual needs of tutees and appropriateness of signposting.

Non-student Resident of the Year

In a time where students are often looked down upon by Guildford residents, this member of the Guildford community goes above and beyond to support students at Surrey and their reputation. The winner of this award may have attended Students' Union events, motivated and inspired students, given up time to get involved with student initiatives and brought smiles to students' faces with their positive attitude.

Student Run Event of the Year

A student or group of students leading an event, either as part of a society or other Union project. Suggested qualities include - enthusiasm, excellent planning and organisation, connection with the Union and use of staff expertise, communication with others about event, promotion, innovative qualities of event and final outcome or success of event.

Fundraiser of the Year

A student or group of students who have stood out as an excellent fundraiser either as part of a society or alone. Qualities of the nominees should include - good promotion of the cause, sustained commitment to fundraising, ability to enthuse others, and amount raised. Societies are eligible for this award, if nominees have worked within the group.

Sam Bull Award for Outstanding Contribution to Student Wellbeing

This award goes to a student who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of University and Union wellbeing services.

Vice Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to University Life

This award celebrates the invaluable contribution that students make to University life and the wider community.

To be eligible for this award you must be a final year student who fulfils many of the qualities mentioned in each of the award categories and is generally a "stand-out" student.

The Vice-Chancellor will be looking for a student who has contributed to their University experience and that of others, and a student who will be leaving a lasting legacy at the University when they graduate. It is essential that each nomination provides clear examples of the lasting positive impact this student has had on their student life and that of others. The VC will be looking for an exceptional winner, who embodies what it means to be a University of Surrey student. This award carries a fantastic cash prize of £2000!

Each winner of the individual awards shall be automatically shortlisted into this category.