Student Activities Awards 2023/24



SOCIETY OF THE YEAR 2023/2024

**Notes for Applicants**

The ‘Society of the Year’ award is the most prestigious of the Societies awards, and is presented to the society that exceeds both normal expectations and the standards of other applicants in terms of its own development and the provision of opportunities and support to its members.

It is important that applicants

* clearly and concisely state the reasons why they fulfill the different criteria for the ‘Society of the Year’ award AND
* provide clear evidence for their statements in the form of concise and verifiable examples, relevant documents, relevant data, etc. - please feel free to submit a separate portfolio or attach additional sheets, as necessary – including a breakdown of how contributions from individual executive members, to facilitate inclusion on University transcripts should you succeed.
* **The deadline for this application is 8th April at 12pm noon.**

Please note that for the purposes of the 2023/2024 Awards, activities and achievements from Summer Term 2023 - Spring Term 2024 will be taken into account.

**Applicants should not exceed the word per section limits, stated below –applications that exceed the word count will be cut off from the point the word limit is exceeded and this content will not be regarded, as it is important that all applicants have an equal opportunity to present their case. The use of bullet points is recommended.**

**Name of Society ………………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Name & Executive Position of Applicant ……………………………………………………………………**

**……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Remember, the panel will look for clear evidence that your society has substantially exceeded both normal expectations and the standards set by other applicants in these areas.**

**STRUCTURE, ORGANISATION AND COMMITMENT (MAXIMUM TOTAL 1000 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

* How are different functions and responsibilities within the society organized and shared, and what if any benefit does this provide to members?
* What kinds of activities has the society run this year, and what commitment does this require from organisers?

**HIGH QUALITY MEMBERSHIP (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

What do individuals gain from being members from your society? (You may want to include details of social opportunities, competitions, support services, etc.)

**‘THERE FOR EVERYONE’ (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

How does your society try to involve all its members equally, regardless of age, ability, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion or year of study?

**COMMUNICATION (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

How does your society communicate with members, non-members, the SU Societies Staff team and the SU Officers (sabbatical & part-time officers)? How has communicating with these various points of contact been effective for your society?

**SUPPORTING YOUR ESSEX SU AND UNIVERSITY (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

How has your society actively supported events and/or campaigns run by your Students’ Union and University over the past three terms? Examples could be the SU Freshers Fair, SU Fireworks Night, or University Open Days.

**EXTERNAL INVOLVEMENT (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

What has your society done to involve itself with community and/or other groups outside the SU and University?

**COLLABORATIONS (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS THIS SECTION)**

What activities and events have your society undertaken and organised in collaboration with other SU Student Activities groups? (Societies, Clubs, VTeam, Rebel etc).

***Please carefully read over your application. Make sure that you have included all the information you want the panel to consider, and that you have attached evidence to support your statements, as you will not be able to submit this after the closing date for applications. If you submit any pictures as evidence and would be happy for them to be shown at this year’s Student Activities Awards, please tick the box.*** [ ]

***Applicant’s Signature ………………………….…. Date ………………………..***

***President’s Signature ……………………………… Date ………………………...***

Once completed, please email this application to susocs@essex.ac.uk with the subject title ***“\*Society Name\* Application for Society of the Year Award – Student Activities Awards 2023/24”***