

WHAT WE DID THIS YEAR



IMPACT REPORT 2022 / 2023



THE STUDENTS' UNION

QUEEN MARGARET UNIVERSITY

The Students' Union at QMU exists to enhance and support the student experience to make it the best it can possibly be. It has been an extremely busy year full of new and exciting prospects and we're so happy you could be a part of it.

We have made it to the end of the Academic Year 2022-2023! Have a read of our Impact Report and check out all that we have achieved this year.



Aasiyah Patankar,
President – Academic Life

Louise Ford,
President – Student Activities

Our **priorities** are
REPRESENT
COMMUNICATE
COMMUNITY
SUSTAIN

Our **values** are
STUDENTS AT THE CENTRE
INTEGRITY
FUN
RESPECT
WELCOMING
DO WHAT WE DO WELL

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24 FRESHERS EVENTS

BOOKINGS 800+

*We make our diverse student population feel **welcome** from the very start of their university journey, by putting on events like Freshers.*

We received great feedback from students saying how much they enjoyed the 24 events we held in Semester 1.

This year a wider demographic of students attended which was great to see! Highlights included our Post Grad/Mature Student/Direct Entrant Wine & Snacks event where **over 100 students** came to meet others who were on similar courses, and our Neon Jungle Party, where **300+ students** attended in bright colours.

In Semester 2 **over 600 students** partied in the University Square to celebrate the end of the academic year at Big Bang!

"So thankful for Freshers Week where I met most of the friends I still hang out with!"

"Neon Jungle was so fun, please do it again!!"

"Loved the chance to meet other mature students at your cheese and wine event"



COMMUNITY

"Amazing day, loved celebrating with my team"

"TGIT really helped, thank you"

571 GRAND BALL ATTENDEES

VARSITY ATTENDEES 260

149 STAR AWARDS NOMINATIONS

*We always strive to make our students feel like they are part of a **community**, by supporting them and **celebrating their achievements** through the year.*

The S&S **Grand Ball** had 571 attendees at the O2 Academy, Edinburgh. This event saw 17 team/committee awards and over 50 individual awards handed out on the night.

This year we held our **STaR Awards** Ceremony in March. We received 149 nominations for 96 nominees and 14 awards were handed out to staff and students who have gone above and beyond to make the student experience the best it can be.

To support students through the cost of living crisis, we joined forces with QMU and held weekly **TGITHursday** nights, where students got free hot meals served by staff as well as a meal kit to take home. Over **5600 meals** were served through the year.

We also supported the **QMU Food Pantry** which has been visited over 1300 times and has given out 1657 bags of food.



40 SPORTS & SOCIETIES

863 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

197 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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We provide students with **extra-curricular opportunities** which support academic learning and **fun** outside of studying, like our Sports & Societies.

All of our Clubs and Societies put so much effort in to making sure that their student members had a great experience this year.

- Our **performing arts** societies hosted showcases, performances and events at QMU and in external venues.
- The **Give it a Go Fair** had 980 student visits where they had the chance to try out various S&S before committing to a membership.
- **Varsity** was held in March where the overall result was closer than previous years and many QMU students came along on the day to support our Teams.
- Women's Basketball made it all the way to the **Scottish Conference Cup final**.
- Dance won **Overall Best Team** at the Silver City Competition in Aberdeen.
- **Movember** raised a massive **£16000** with the help of our S&S.



"Don't know how I would've got through uni without this Society!"

"I'm positive that I have made friends for life"

REPRESENT

We are the 'go to' place for **student representation**, representing students to the University as well as **training Class Reps**.

ELECTIONS VOTES **3220**
700+ MEETINGS

We have an elected Officer's Committee and a **student-led Trustee Board**. We held our annual **elections** in March this year where QMU students cast 3220 votes to elect the Officers and ensure that the student voice is heard.

Among other things, our Officers have successfully advocated for the Moderator email communications to be replaced with **Student Weekly News** which is sent to QMU students only once per week.

CLASS REPS **324**

84% OF CLASSES HAVE REPS

Over **120 new class** reps attended training.

100% of them said they would **recommend** the training.

"I feel much more confident in gathering and relaying feedback"



Senior Student Representatives were appointed to the Student Experience Committee (SEC), School Academic Boards (SAB) and Senate.

The SU Team attended **700+ meetings** with students, the University and externals such as the Scottish Government, BUCS, SSS.

RESPECT

*We operate in and promote a culture of **respect** for all students, staff and visitors. We always aim to be **inclusive** and to take care of our community.*

QMU and the SU joined forces to host a ground breaking **(meno)Pausitivity** @ QMU day. Staff and students wore a 'menovest' which simulates hot flushes and helps to build understanding and empathy of what many women experience in their workplaces and personal lives. The day was a huge success and featured on STV news.

The **HelpZone** advised over 300 students on University and Welfare matters both online and in person.

3500+ **free condoms** given out by our C:Card Service and we continue to provide free sustainable period products.

We held 6 **Engaging the Bystander** sessions for approximately 30 students. These sessions raise awareness of sexual assault and discuss how being an active bystander can reduce the number of sexual assaults.

300+ STUDENTS ADVISED
BY THE HELPZONE

HOT MEALS
SERVED AT TGIT **5600+**



"The students union was a real support for me when I found myself in a very difficult situation."

"Enabled me to stay on the track I hoped to for my studies."

DURING THE SUMMER WE WILL BE WORKING JUST AS HARD TO MAKE SURE THE NEXT YEAR IS EVEN BETTER THAN THIS ONE! BUT FOR NOW...



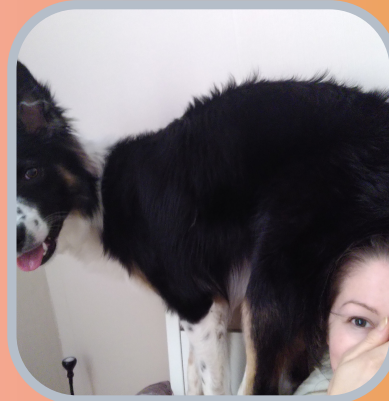
Sacha is looking forward to spending some quality time with her grumpy cat.



Derek will be spending time with his boys and trying to get through the terrible two's stage with his youngest!



Julie is looking forward to meeting her schooldays pen pal for the first time.



Emma will be spending her summer teaching her border collie Sonny not to sit on people's heads.



John will be trying to get the right balance between planning Freshers, Family & Gin...lots of gin!



Chiara will be rehearsing for her Fringe show and catching as much sun as Scotland can give :)



Cristina will be re-adjusting to life in Scotland after a lovely few months in Spain.



Kirsten will be enjoying her last few weeks as our GM with us then making the most of the summer festival season!