

Department of Quality Assurance and Enhancement

**Information for Students Meeting with Programme
Review and ELISR Panels**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



What are Programme Review and ELISR events?

Programme Review events normally take place every five years. This is when an existing academic programme is presented for periodic review; a panel will consider things such as ongoing viability, annual monitoring outcomes, any proposed changes, and students' experience of the programme.

Enhancement-Led Internal Subject Reviews (ELISR) events take place in addition to, or are most often combined with, Programme Approval and Review. ELISR panels consider the provision of a whole subject area or Department (rather than an individual programme), usually every five years. The overarching theme is to consider the effectiveness of the Department and wider School in taking deliberate steps to enhance the student learning experience.

What role do I have in this?

You have been invited to meet the panel because you are either a current student or recent graduate from the programme or subject being reviewed. You are therefore a key stakeholder and your involvement allows the panel to use your student expertise and voice to inform any enhancements. You will normally meet the panel virtually with a small group of fellow students and/or graduates and collectively you will be asked questions about your experiences of being a student on your programme or in your Department. The exact questions or topics that the panel raise with students will vary from event to event, but typically they will be interested in your learning experience, covering themes such as:

- Learning and teaching, including assessment and feedback
- Support and guidance available to students
- Learning resources, environment and technologies e.g. library or computer labs, IT
- Student engagement and partnership working opportunities

Your voice and expertise are crucial to informing enhancements to the learning experiences of future students and you are encouraged to take part if invited to do so by your Programme Leader.

What benefits are there to getting involved?

- ✓ An opportunity to work in partnership with the University; to share your experiences and to influence and shape high-level decision making.
- ✓ Development of your knowledge and skills in a professional setting. These include, but are not limited to: partnership working; communication; critical and systems thinking; confidence; emotional intelligence. Prospective employers in a range of industries and professions like to hear examples of when you have demonstrated these skills.
- ✓ Enhancement of your CV. Showcase the experience and skills you have gained as a student stakeholder in your CV and job applications.

What does an event look like?

All events are organised by a representative from the Department of Quality Assurance and Enhancement who also acts as the Coordinating Reviewer. They are normally held virtually via Microsoft Teams, but may occasionally be held on campus or by correspondence.

Programme Review and ELISR panels are normally comprised of a panel chair, two GCU academic staff members, two (or more) external panel members (one academic and one from industry/practice for each subject area), student services professional services staff (ELISR only) and a student representative (student panel member).

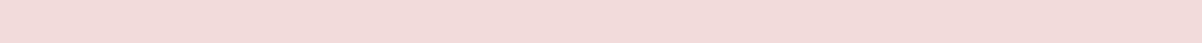
As a student stakeholder **you won't normally be asked to participate for any longer than an hour on the specified day.** Your Programme Leader will confirm the arrangements.

Do I need to do any preparation before the event?

Yes, you should reflect on your learning experience of the programme or subject area being reviewed, and consider how you can use this expertise to contribute to the event itself. To inform your thinking, you may find the [sparqs Student Learning Experience Model Digital Resource](#) helpful. You are not expected to get to grips with everything contained within this model, but it may give you a useful steer towards the types of things you should be thinking about when we talk about your learning experience. The School/Programme contacts who have invited you to meet with the Panel as a stakeholder will be able to provide you with more information and may invite you to a briefing session prior to the event itself.

Do you have any top tips for being a successful student stakeholder?

- ✓ Try and maintain a positive atmosphere to encourage open dialogue and discussion.
- ✓ Avoid being purposefully challenging or critical; provide balanced, constructive feedback that considers what works well as well as what could be improved.
- ✓ Offer solutions where possible – what could programme teams do differently to improve the learning experience for future cohorts of students?
- ✓ You might want to provide examples to explain your views – but try to keep them general and don't single out members of staff.
- ✓ Focus on key issues and try not to be side-tracked; panels can't consider or resolve individual issues for participants.
- ✓ Maintain confidentiality at all times.



If you have any questions or queries about the event that you are participating in, please contact your Programme Leader who will be able to help. We hope that you find being a student stakeholder to be an interesting and worthwhile experience and would like to thank you in advance for your valuable contribution to quality assurance and enhancement at GCU.