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Recipients	<b>UK higher education institutions and further education colleges; the National Union of Students; sparqs; WISE; sector bodies; other representative bodies; professional, statutory or regulatory bodies; employer bodies</b>
Of interest to	<b>Individuals with institutional responsibilities for quality assurance and corporate governance; staff involved in student engagement and representation; students and their representatives</b>
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Respond to	<b>Responses will be gathered through an online survey, available at: <a href="http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/UKQCHE_B5_Student_Engagement">www.surveymonkey.com/s/UKQCHE_B5_Student_Engagement</a></b>
Consultation document	<b>UK Quality Code for Higher Education, <i>Chapter B5: Student engagement</i> <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Newsroom/Consultations/Pages/student-engagement.aspx">www.qaa.ac.uk/Newsroom/Consultations/Pages/student-engagement.aspx</a></b>
Related documents	<b>UK Quality Code for Higher Education <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/quality-code/Pages/default.aspx">www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/quality-code/Pages/default.aspx</a></b>

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to notify you that we are now consulting on the draft content of a new Chapter of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, *Chapter B5: Student engagement*.

In recent years, student involvement in quality assurance and enhancement has become a higher priority for institutions, to the extent that it is now well established. Across the sector, students' voices are being heard and their views are being taken seriously. This new Chapter is intended to recognise the value of student engagement in quality assurance, and the important role that students can play in enhancing their learning experience.

The drafting of the Chapter has been undertaken with input from a wide range of experts in student engagement from across UK higher education, including academics, quality assurance and student engagement professionals, students, and student representatives. The work has been led by an expert advisory group.

Developing a new document such as this is a challenging task. The Chapter needs to capture and reflect the enthusiasm that exists across the sector, but also to represent the totality of higher education providers in the UK, whilst remaining a practical tool for quality assurance. Our advisory group have handled this task with energy, enthusiasm, and sensitivity, but the draft is a work in progress and you may note that it still bears the marks of lively debate.

As such, we hope that this consultation process will be provocative, generating widespread dialogue and discussions about what it is possible to say, at a sector-wide level, about student engagement in the UK. We are keen to receive diverse and varied feedback, which can be used to produce a final publication that is of value and relevance to all potential users. It is likely that the final publication will look quite different from the draft as it stands today.

We therefore welcome contributions to this consultation from anyone with an interest in student engagement in the UK, including representatives from all four countries; prospective, current and past students; and staff from the full range of higher education providers.

The consultation will be open until Wednesday 18 April 2012. Please submit responses through the online [survey](#) before this date. The final version of this Chapter will be published at the end of June 2012.

We will be running consultation events during the consultation period. Please see our [website](#) for further details.

If you would like further information relating to this consultation document or the consultation process, please contact Janet Bohrer ([j.bohrer@gaa.ac.uk](mailto:j.bohrer@gaa.ac.uk)) or Cathy Kerfoot ([c.kerfoot@gaa.ac.uk](mailto:c.kerfoot@gaa.ac.uk)).

I look forward to your response to this consultation, and to your continued engagement as the UK Quality Code for Higher Education is developed.

Yours sincerely



Anthony McClaran  
**Chief Executive**



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