

Guidance for Students – Status of Faculty and School Committees

Your Faculty and School have a number of committees or groups. These may have an executive, managerial and/or strategic role. Most have student representation. They meet on a regular basis to discuss, advise, progress, recommend, approve and/or resolve a range of matters including those relating to learning, teaching, quality standards and to the student experience at undergraduate, postgraduate taught and postgraduate research levels. Generally, these committees and groups report to other committees, including University-wide ones (such as Senate or the Learning and Teaching Committee of Senate). You may find that they are referred to in different ways across the University.

In the interests of clarity, you may find the following guidance, which was approved by the Learning and Teaching Committee of Senate on 26 May 2010, helpful in understanding the status of Faculty and School-based committees across the University:

- The term 'Committee' indicates that the body has formal status, which means that it has some Faculty and School-based decision-making powers and is usually responsible for reporting on its activities to the next level (eg from School to Faculty; from Faculty to University level)
- A 'Group' or 'Advisory Group' indicates that it has an advisory, not decision-making role, and its recommendations may feed into a Committee with formal decision-making status. Some groups are working groups established for a specific purpose and generally for a specific period of time
- Each School has one or more Staff:Student Liaison Committees(SSLC) but they may not all be called that within the School, although their responsibilities are those of an SSLC (for example, there may be separate UG and PG Committees). Where an alternative title for a Staff/Student Liaison Committee is used, for clarity, the acronym 'SSLC' should be included as a suffix to indicate its status.

For further information relating to your own Faculty or School committee structure, please consult your course handbook. You may also consult the University Calendar which sets out the membership of key University Committees and also contains an illustration of the University Committee structure:

<https://intranet.uea.ac.uk/calendar/Committee+Structure>