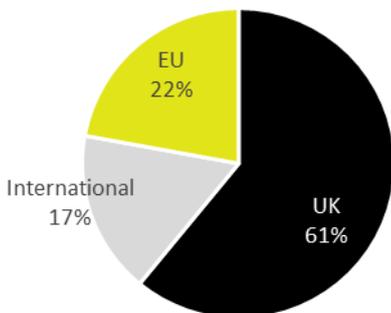
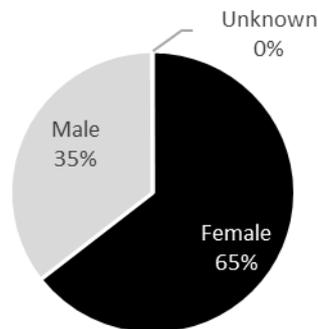
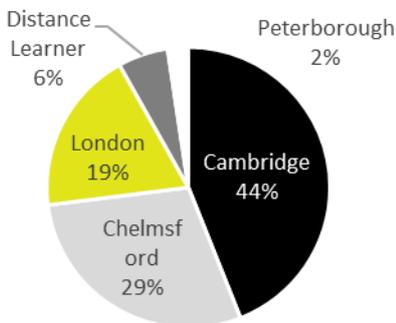
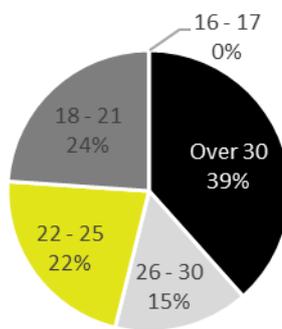
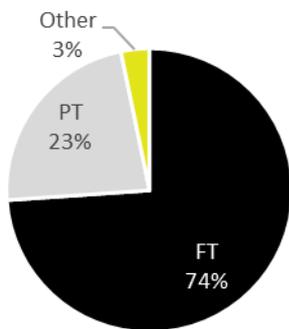
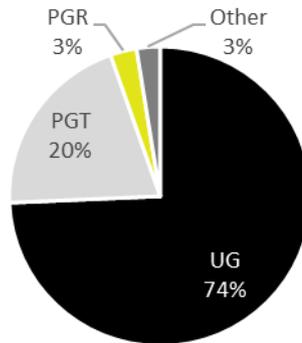
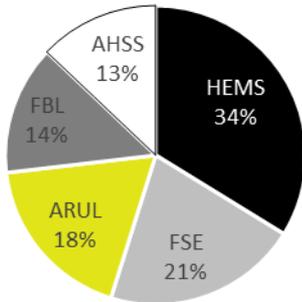


CAMPAIGNS & THEMES FOR CANDIDATES

Who we are at ARU



There were just under 20,000 students studying at ARU

There are more students in HEMS than in AHSS and FBL combined

There were 926 Degree Apprentices

There were around 650 Post Graduate Researchers

The majority of our students are over 26 years old.

There were 22 students whose gender was defined as "unknown"

**data taken from membership list on 21st May 2019*

CAMPAIGNS & THEMES FOR CANDIDATES

University-wide student feedback

- Many students have reported facilities issues- particularly around the cleanliness of toilet facilities throughout the Cambridge campus.
- The new branding has caused lecturers to make PowerPoints which have blue backgrounds and yellow writing. This affects student's ability to read and a policy could be put in place to prevent this. A law is coming into effect regarding accessibility, so potential officers should keep an eye on this.
- Canvas is better organised but course are set up differently across the faculty. There could be some uniformity across the faculty to lower confusion and increase efficiency.
- Canvas links need to be uploaded in better time and also working. Despite this reading lists are good and are actually better than last year.
- Even with the re-opening of LAB (Cambridge), there are still issues of rooms being too small, cramped and unsuitable for the purpose and lecture content.
- Food on the Cambridge campus is very expensive and doesn't have a good variety. The canteen also closes early. The Café in Compass House suffers from these same issues and students would like for their prices to be reduced further with better variety as well.
- Making Canvas more user-friendly with training videos/sessions and uploading content in multiple different formats has been requested.
- Team-based learning is widely praised throughout the faculties, but the large amount of studying and self-learning to meet learning objectives can be difficult.
- Making sure the bar on the Cambridge campus is student-led all throughout its inception and running.
- More social events in places like 92 and the Cambridge bar.
- Access to mental health services – ties into the university's Wellbeing Strategy and their wish to do Let's Be Honest 2. Let's Be Honest was a report run in 16-17 looking into student mental health at ARU, and has been widely praised and even taken to Parliament to inform the government on HE mental health. The university think 2020-21 would be a good time to have an update on the report, and run another one with data from the new cohort of students.
- Students have a number of issues with university-run accommodation, so having an officer take their feedback to any working groups around this, as well as relying on the Rent Report would be a great idea.
- Travel to and from campus is an issue across the entire university; the old Wheels in Motion campaign could use a revival.
- Accessibility, as in the VP B&L's campaign this year, has been a key topic of conversation. Continuing this is vital.
- Making sure the student voice is delivered and listened to at all levels of academic decision making.

CAMPAIGNS & THEMES FOR CANDIDATES

Student feedback by faculty

Health, Education, Medicine, and Social Care:

- Students appreciate curriculums that have practical knowledge that they can put into practice immediately, particularly in regards to courses where the students go on placement.
- Paramedic, Nursing, and Midwifery students would like more information in the curriculum about what it is like working in the NHS.
- External guest speakers for areas where students need more support (e.g. ECG and maternity) have been requested before, and HEMS course based societies have suggested setting up a day where visitors from various relevant organisations could visit the students and do guest lectures/demonstrations/etc.
- There has been a breakdown of communication regarding placements, for example, when mentors are on leave or the arrangements for travel to and from placement. Students are unaware that they are allowed 4 study hours a week or allowed sickness time.
- Involving Peterborough in social activities such as Freshers Week, putting on transport to get them to Cambridge events, having more SU representation in Peterborough, having a proper canteen in Peterborough, etc.
- Nursing students in Chelmsford would like access to the medical building and cadaver lab as they feel it is important to their course.
- An adult nursing society in Chelmsford has been requested multiple times.
- The paramedic bursary has now been introduced; the incoming HEMS VP should definitely comment on this, as this has been something HEMS has had on their agenda for a while.

Faculty of Science and Engineering:

- Students on the Cambridge campus have had Compass House open with extended times. However, the faculty has undone this and causing the same issues, so students want this change to be permanent.
- The new 'MyShowcase' system has been met with mixed review, with many students saying that the amount of points required to complete it needs to be reduced. This could be reviewed to have a better process for next year.
- There is great in-class content and lecturers seem approachable – particularly where individual support is concerned.
- Students would like more interactivity and more contact time in class to help improve engagement further where students have mixed feelings about engagement levels currently.
- Students would like more interactivity and more contact time in class to help improve engagement further where students have mixed feelings about engagement levels currently.
- Placement students generally feel isolated and under-informed due to late placement lectures and information.
- Class disruption is still a continuing problem. Students are asking for more to be done by the lecturers when resolving this problem by being more assertive and cracking down on bad behaviour and tap-ins.

CAMPAIGNS & THEMES FOR CANDIDATES

Faculty of Business & Law:

- A large theme for FBL is transparency in communication, both internally and between staff and students. This is in regards to assessment information and where to find it, who the support services are and where to go with queries. Knowing who their supervisors and support staff for their work are, and why lecturers are leaving/changing over. Timetabling concerns and last minute changes are also affected by this communication.
- Students use the wellbeing service a lot in FBL and would like for waiting times to be reduced as they feel there is a high demand for them.
- Due to the nature of FBL being very international student heavy, lecture pace is a great concern across the faculty, as well as comprehending lecturers in class. Students would like teaching weeks to be increased from the standard 8 hours of contact time to 10+, this will reduce pressure on lecturers to fit in content and slow down, and help international students feel like they get more “value for money” when attending classes.
- To supplement the point above, students LOVE lecture captcha and would be really keen to have it implemented as a lesson standard across the faculty to help with pacing and comprehension as well as distance learning. There are promises for this already for 20/21 so students want to ensure this is followed on through.
- Students have concerns about the marketing of some courses in the faculty, saying the module content doesn't match module titles and which means students are becoming unhappy with their pathways.
- Class disruption is a pervasive issue. Students have suggested a 3 strike rule as well as cracking down on this behaviour by setting a standard that this will not be tolerated.

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences:

- Students have raised concerns assessments delivery- they would like marking criteria given to them in a clearer way, a more streamlined online submission process, and a broader range of assessment delivery (i.e.: more presentations where written assessments are usually favoured).
- Students feel there is a general lack of communication and organization, this is particularly felt in regards to timetabling for classroom space, and the lack of a booking system in place for specialised areas students may need to work in.
- Students are dissatisfied with employability around the arts and humanities, they have raised the need for outside professionals to come to lectures, seminars, or scheduled talks to discuss employment after graduation.
- Students have repeatedly raised issues related to specific equipment needed for various courses (printers, sound equipment, etc.) and the lack of accessibility students have to these things, whether that's because the equipment is broken, too expensive, or ARU simply doesn't have it.
- Students have raised concerns about the costs of materials needed for their courses, this is very common within the art school- including the cost of printing as well as other materials.
- Students have requested that more art supplies be available for purchase at cheaper costs within the SU Store.

CAMPAIGNS & THEMES FOR CANDIDATES

- Students have voiced concern about the future of BooksPlus across all schools within AHSS but especially the art school as they can use a portion of that allowance to purchase supplies from the SU shop.