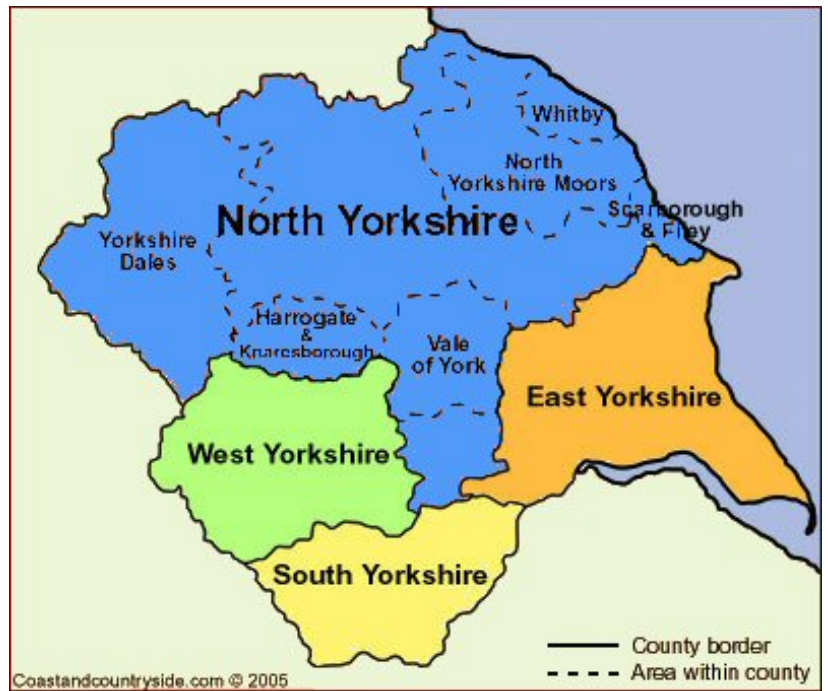




OU Students
Association

**Yorkshire
Assembly
Newsletter
May 2011**



Our Website: www.ousayorkshire.org.uk

Accessibility

If you need this newsletter in larger print or another format, please email: kj2582@student.open.ac.uk



Dear Student,

Welcome to the Open University Students Association in Yorkshire

Welcome to all new and experienced O U students. As an O U Student you are automatically a member of OUSA, which is the Student's Association of the Open University.

This month's newsletter is just a brief outline of what's happened since the Assembly elections and what happens now that Members have been elected. Things are moving forward now with the roll-out of the OUSA Futures and we want to get as many people involved as possible in shaping the Yorkshire Assembly into a representative student body which can act effectively in the interests of all the students within the Yorkshire region. This means we need YOU!

The Yorkshire Assembly's main principle is that the Assembly is open to all and should not be run by just a handful of students. The more students we have on board, the more effective we are in promoting our interests.



The Assembly

The Assembly is taking shape now following the elections but is still in an embryonic stage which will grow as more are involved. The results of the February elections are as follows:

Members:

Kaye Jones

Peter Harvey-Jones

ECM Yorkshire (*vacant at present!*)

Ian Blackburn

Josh Brumpton

As you can see, there is scope for much more participation in the Assembly and we would be interested in hearing from students interested in becoming a member, Executive or otherwise, with a view to a possible further round of elections.

The next Assembly meeting will be held online in the Yorkshire Forum for 10 days from Friday 1st July to Sunday 10th July 2011.

If you are interested or have any questions please feel free to get in touch with us:

Kaye Jones: kj2582@student.open.ac.uk

Peter Harvey-Jones: phj34@student.open.ac.uk



Following on from this, the opportunity to register in Yorkshire for your right to vote in all elections relevant to you, is now open again until **24th May 2011**.

So, how do we register to vote?

All students currently registered for, very recently completed or undertaking an O U course will be eligible to register to vote and to stand in the elections. To register you will need to send an email with your name, your region (Yorkshire) and your P.I. number, (that's the 7 or 8 digit number that the O U gave you when you first became a student), your O U computer user name and a contact email address to Rachel Lambert 3, c.c. Tracey Philemon (both on server 1) or r.l.lambert@open.ac.uk , c.c. t.k.philemon@open.ac.uk from outside FirstClass.



Groups in Yorkshire

So far in Yorkshire, we have two groups set up and running:

Yorkshire Theatre Group - - -

The Yorkshire Theatre Group has had a very good meeting with members of the graduates group and both have agreed to share the interest in the Theatre. In May 2011, the members of the group in Hull are attending the New Theatre production of 'Spamalot', meeting in the cafe/bar prior to the production and afterwards for a drink and a chat.

The group asks others in Yorkshire to let them know of events in the area, that can be attended and also so that members can place these events on the forums available, give their reviews of any shows seen, and recommendations whether good or bad of shows going round the region.

For further details contact – ian2blackburn@yahoo.co.uk

Photography Group - - -

The Photography Group have posted their latest competition on Flickr, this time it is called ' Spring has Sprung' and can include any photograph you feel represents Spring. The next competition will be in June and ideas are warmly welcomed.

Become a Residential School Representative

Do you have some time to spare during the summer months you would like to put to good use? Would you like to spend a week in the company of fellow students at an O U Residential School? Each year OUSA provides a team of Residential School Representatives who are the face of OUSA to the students (our members), to the O U staff and tutors, and also to the host institution and student union.

The range of tasks undertaken by our "resi-reps" is quite diverse and includes meeting and greeting, marketing operations, social event organising, providing local information and generally being a friendly face for the students. Their whole aim is to help make a student's experience of Residential School enjoyable, informative and stress free.

Further information about becoming an OUSA Residential School Representative can be found at: www.open.ac.uk/ousa/residential_school.php or email our office on ousa-resi-rep@open.ac.uk.

Become a Student Representative

Representing the student viewpoint to the University is one of the most important functions of OUSA. The Association appoints 'Central Representatives' to sit as student members on the University's Senate, Governance Committees and Faculty Boards.

Our team of Central Student Representatives are essential to our role in representing O U Students; they are their eyes, ears and voice in our communications with the University. As the 'Students' Voice' they ensure that the O U students opinion is heard by the University, they fight for the rights of the students to receive the high quality service to which we are accustomed, they put forward OUSA policy and they are involved in discussions with the O U on the best way forward, through the present economic difficulties.

Would you like to become one of our Central Representatives? You would need to be able to attend between 4 and 6 week day meetings per year (depending upon the committee to which you are allocated) at Milton Keynes; travel and accommodation expenses are paid. To find out more, please see www.open.ac.uk/ousa/governance.php or email the OUSA office on ousa-cen-rep@open.ac.uk.

Some Services provided by OUSA

OUSA Membership Card

This is free. Many discounts available on entrance prices and shopping etc., particularly in the U K but sometimes in Europe too. To apply, you need to send proof of registration with the O U and a passport-sized photo and a postage stamp for its return. Applications should be sent to OUSA Office. (See www.ousa.org.uk for details).

NUS Extra Card

This costs £11 from www.nusextra.co.uk. You will need a scanned passport-sized photo, or a web cam (software fits your image to the online form), as well as your PI Number (the registration number the O U gives you). The card gives you a wide range of discounts from stores such as Amazon. The ISIC card which needs to be applied for separately is accepted worldwide, for example in hotels.

Disabled Student Group

Offers advice, company and support to disabled students - <http://ousa-dsg.open.ac.uk/> or contact OUSA Office and ask to join. The Forum will then be added to your desktop. The group doesn't yet have a presence on Moodle, but once it's accessible to our members we will!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING YOUR TIME TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER, IF YOU REQUIRE FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US.

E-mail: regional-forum@ousayorkshire.org.uk

Website: www.ousa.org.uk and www.ousanearyou.co.uk