

## University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2019

### Ref #29: UoMQStep 2019 UoM – Diversity and Inclusion Student Ambassador Programme

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**Organisation Name:** University of Manchester

**Team/Department:** Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team

**Address:** John Owens Building

**Provisional title for project:** Evaluation of the Diversity and Inclusion Student Ambassador Programme

Funded by the Higher Education Council, the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Student Ambassador Programme aims to promote wellbeing and improve outcomes (specifically attainment and student experience) for Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) under-graduate students and those from low socio-economic groups.

Mixed-methods research evaluating the impact and progress of the programme will be carried out over the course of the summer and will form the basis of a report that will be submitted to the Office for Students in September 2019.

This internship will support the research activities of Dr Stephen Ashe (lead researcher on this evaluation), Cath Prescott (D&I Student Ambassador Programme Manager) and Sami Karamalla-Gaiballa (Data Analyst, University of Manchester Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team) which will form the basis of the evaluation report. More specifically, the aim of this internship is to develop the student's knowledge and practical experience of conducting semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions and collecting online survey data. As well as being given an opportunity to gain detailed insights into practical and ethical challenges associated with carrying out such research, the intern will also be mentored with a view to developing the student's quantitative and qualitative data analysis skills.

**Key words (up to 12):** Equality; diversity; inclusion; higher education; quantitative data management and analysis; qualitative research.

#### Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

##### Essential:

- Studying for a social science degree, with an interest in issues of equality, diversity and inclusion. An interest in how these issues relate to Higher Education would be an advantage;
- An interest in quantitative and qualitative survey data management and analysis;



- Good presentation skills;
- Good essay writing and/ or blog writing skills; and
- Ability to work as part of a team and on own initiative.

**Desirable:**

- An interest in issues equality, diversity and inclusion in relation to higher education.
- Knowledge of/ interest in the social scientific theories of social class, race and ethnicity, racism and intersectionality.

**Where the work would be carried out:** University of Manchester Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Team, John Owens Building

**Preferred selection method (interview or other method):** Interview

**Interview preference (on campus, remote, in your office):** No Preference

**Support and training offered by the organisation:** Supported by Dr Stephen Ashe, Cath Prescott and Sami Karamalla-Gaiballa, the intern will be given an opportunity to:

- Receive training and hands-on experience of conducting qualitative and quantitative interviews and focus groups;
- Learn advanced IT skills, especially for data presentation purposes using Microsoft Excel;
- Learn data visualisation skills using Tableau, Microsoft Power BI and R Studio; and
- Gain an understanding of internal and external staff and student datasets, metrics, data definitions and benchmarks used in the Higher Education sector.
- The intern will also be given the opportunity to participate in the other on-going D&I Student Ambassador Programme activities taking place during the period of the internship such as Active Bystander Training. If of interest to the intern, the student will be offered an opportunity to continue working alongside other University of Manchester students who are already participating in the D&I Student Ambassador Programme after the internship has concluded.

**Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:**

The student would have to abide by the University Research Ethics Committee guidelines as specified in this project's application for ethical approval. The intern will receiving training on this before commencing the activities outlined above.

**Supporting information:** None

**Financial assistance offered by the organisation:** The Diversity and Inclusion Programme will cover the costs of travel should the intern wish to participate in any of programme initiatives taking place during the course of the internship.