

Student Academic Development Research Associate Scheme (SADRAS)

Partnership – Research - Student Experience

Call for Applications 2015/16

SADRAS is designed to enable students and staff to work in partnership in the design and implementation of research to enhance the academic experience of students and collaborative research experience of staff at the university. It supports the corporate “Led by Learning” strategy through enabling Kingston students to actively contribute to course development as part of a learning community. The scheme enables students to undertake paid research in an academic environment while giving them an opportunity to make a positive change to the learning experience at Kingston.

SADRAS is funded through the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) via the Access Working Group (AWG). The scheme is jointly managed by the Centre for Higher Education Research and Practice (CHERP) and the Union of Kingston Students to ensure that the student voice is prominent in an academic community that drives forward learning, teaching, research and innovation.

Submitting a Project Proposal

Student staff teams are invited to submit project proposals which aim to improve student experience. These must include and make reference to **at least one** of the overarching strategic priorities for students:

- Retention and progression,
- Attainment
- Employability

SADRAS is funding through the Kingston University Access Agreement which require that projects have a demonstrable impact that will benefit **at least one** of the underrepresented groups below:

- Disabled Students
- Students from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds (BME)
- Mature students
- Students from lower socio economic backgrounds
- Students who are care leavers

Your proposal should clearly indicate which of the groups you will aim to benefit.

Ideas for projects may have arisen from Staff Student Consultative Committees or other formal student consultations but may also be provoked by individual thoughts, ideas and experiences.

Project proposals should be submitted by either students or staff but must demonstrate how staff and students work in equal partnership.

Project proposals must address all of the following criteria:

- A. The project is tackling a current student experience issue
- B. Alignment of the bid with the overarching themes and target groups of students outlined above
- C. Potential impact
- D. The research method
- E. Demonstration of equal partnership between students and staff
- F. Feasibility of the bid

Each project will be funded up to a maximum of 100 hours of paid student work (@ £10 per hour) with approximately 20-25 projects funded.

The key dates are as follows:

Open Meeting: **2nd November, 12pm -2pm** at Penrhyn Road Room: PRJG3002. This meeting is designed for students and staff to meet potential collaborators, discuss project ideas and ask questions.

Proposal Submission Deadline: 16th November, 5pm

Notification of outcome: 27th November

All project teams must agree to commit to the following:

4 th December, 2pm-5pm	Attend induction event
18 th December	Submit application for ethical approval. Upload project plan to blog
13 th Jan – 10 th February	Present report of plans and progress as a poster at the Festival of Learning
18 th March	Submit Interim Report based on template provided
25 th May 2pm-5pm	Present a poster detailing findings at the SADRAS Conference
27 th May	Submit Final Report based on template provided

A minimum of one student and one member of staff from each team must attend the induction event and present a poster at the SADRAS conference. At least one student member from each team must present the poster of plans and progress at the Festival of Learning

Each project team must update their reflective blog each week.

Successful applicants will be asked to complete a short online survey outlining expectations of the project and follow-up survey at the end of the project. This and all data collected by SADRAS teams may be used by the SADRAS evaluation team with assurance of complete anonymity.

Payments for student hours will be made at 3 points during the year subject to meeting the agreed deadlines. The procedure for making claims will be explained in the Induction event.

To submit a project proposal please complete and return the SADRAS application form 2015/16

If you have any queries regarding SADRAS or this call for applications please email Catherine McLean at catherine.mclean@kingston.ac.uk

SADRAS Application Form 2015/16

Project Title
Names of Partners Please list the names and KU IDs of student and staff partners
Project background and justification (200 words max) [criterion A] Outline your proposed research project explaining what it aims to achieve and why it is important
Alignment with overarching themes and target groups [criterion B] Which of the underrepresented target group(s) will your project benefit? Which of the overarching strategic priorities will your project address? How will your project benefit the target groups?
Impact [criterion C] Approximately how many students do you anticipate will benefit and in what ways? (this assessment criterion will consider the anticipated benefit in proportion anticipated number of students affected) Describe how project outcomes will be disseminated and influence a wider university audience. Describe how you would like to see your project sustained and its potential long term impact
Research methodology (max 250 words) [criterion D] What are your research question(s)? Describe how the research will be performed?
Partnership [criterion E] Describe how the student/staff partnership will work in practice including the aspects of the project that will be led by the student partners.
Feasibility [criterion F] Please include an indicative timeline of key project activities. Please outline each activity and the number of hours anticipated (up to a maximum of 100 student paid hours at £10 per hour). Clearly indicate your total anticipated cost for student hours.

Please name your team member(s) to be responsible for:

- A. Ensuring that submission deadlines are met:

- B. Ensuring that the reflective blog is updated weekly:

Please, expand the sections as needed to complete the form and take careful note of the assessment criteria and other details within the Call for Applications.

Submission deadline **by email to catherine.mclean@kingston.ac.uk by 16th November 2015**