

UNLOCKING THE VALUE OF THE

STUDENT VOICE

Emma Foulds (She/Her)
Events Manager, UK Recruitment Team

HELOA 10 December 2025

THE STUDENT VOICE

- Perspectives, opinions, actions, feedback, insights, ideas
- Students, past and present
- Collective or individual

Used to inform and improve





VALUE IN RECRUITMENT

- Prospective students respond strongly to authentic peer perspectives
- Relatable, provide insights and recommendations
- Feedback indicates engaging with current students is an important factor in decision making
- Increased engagement = increased leads, applications, offers, acceptances



OPEN DAY FEEDBACK

- I enjoyed all of the subject talks and interacting with students who attend there, I found learning their personal experiences helpful and interesting. I felt the talks illustrated exactly what the course entails and provided me a good taster to studying at Liverpool
- I really enjoyed the Student Experience talks and activities at the University of Liverpool. The sessions were engaging and gave a clear insight into what life is like on campus. The student ambassadors were particularly helpful they spoke honestly about their experiences and answered questions in a relatable way.
- I loved the uni tour because the student explained very well the opportunities and events that go on.

 Bonus points to her funny jokes and loved her honest opinions telling us how her accommodation was really good and travel isn't even far from there.

ORIGINS

CAMPAIGN



e.g. Mat





Origin Stories

It's not where you've come from, it's where you want to go. Our students come to us from all walks of life. Their stories are inspiring, speaking of hurdles overcome, and dreams achieved. They share insecurities, triumphs and personal insights.

Undergraduate

Find a course





GENERATING AN AUTHENTIC STUDENT VOICE

- Represent the student body
- Dialogue: actively listening, engaging, responding
- Encourage, activate and support
- Inclusion and embedded culture
- Accept an element of risk

- Call out to current students
- Existing Ambassador or Advocate programmes
- Working with Alumni
- Widening Participation programmes
- Surveys
- Focus groups

RECRUITMENT EVENTS

Student Advocates

- Roles strategically allocated
- Campus/accommodation tours
- Flagship presentations
- Ask us anything
- Student panels/ workshops
- HE stands
- School visits
- Training

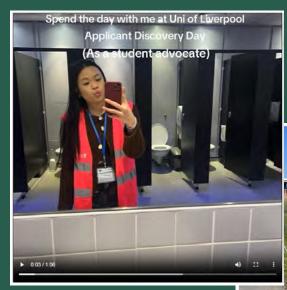
Cross team working

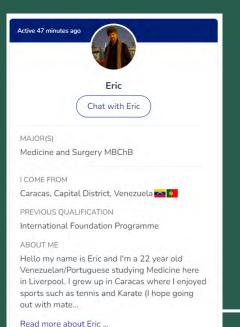
- Alumni
- Career coaches
- Disability coaches
- Guild and societies



ONLINE STUDENT VOICE

- The Ambassador Platform (TAP)
- Social Media student generated content
- Webinars
- Virtual tours
- Website

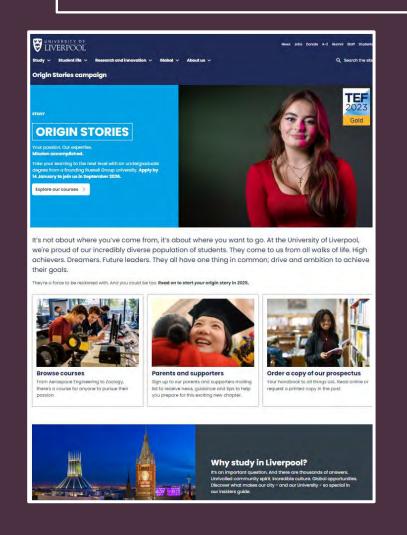


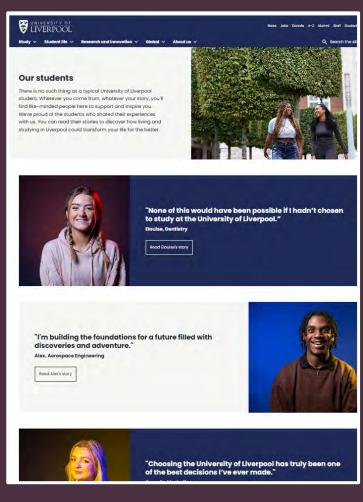


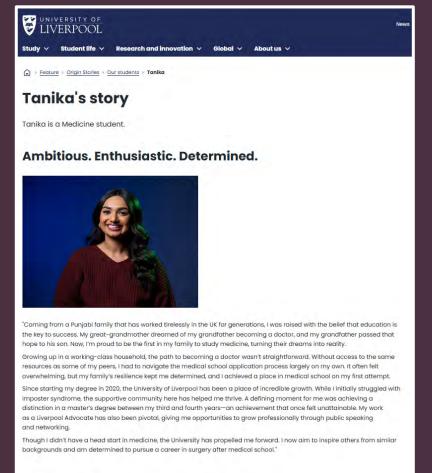




LIVERPOOL.AC.UK/ORIGIN-STORIES







STUDENT GENERATED EMAIL CONTENT

Thoughts from a First Year Student'

- First-semester experience
- Feels relatable, trustworthy
- Practical insights and recommendations
- Shifted the tone from faceless "why we're great" messaging to a peer-to-peer perspective

Subject-specific 'Become Unstoppable' email:

- Real-life student experience within the subject
- Helped push offer-holders toward accepting their offer
- Complemented other
 perspectives, added
 storytelling and authenticity



Dec

I hear you're thinking about studying at the University of Liverpool next year - such an exciting choice! This time last year, I was in the middle of preparing my UCAS application. Fast forward to now, and I'm finishing my first semester at Liverpool. It's been a huge adjustment, but I'm so happy with my decision and can't wait to see what the rest of my first year holds.

I study Medicinal Chemistry, which focuses on drug development in both

open

ming or



Date: 01/12/2025 Your Reference:

Hello.

I'm Sagani, a second-year Aerospace Engineering student at the University of Liverpool. Nice to meet you!

Firstly, I wanted to congratulate you on your great choice in the University of Liverpool and receiving an offer to study within the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. The city and University is a wonderful place to live and study.

I used to watch aeroplanes when I was younger and dream of making one. It sounds a bit corny, but with the support I've found here, I feel like I'm on my way to making it a reality. From lab experiments and lectures, to visits from industry leaders and 'PAL' sessions with more senior students, where you can discuss any challenges you're having with the modules, you learn in so many ways here. The lecturers are so encouraging and enthusiastic and are always there if you want extra support or to help you find additional opportunities.

WIDENING

PARTICIPATION

- At the University of Liverpool, we're working hard to make sure all students have the opportunity to go to university, whatever their background.
- Around half of our Current Advocates have come through WP programmes
- Many of those Advocates now work with prospective students who share similar social backgrounds or are on the same programmes



FINAL THOUGHTS

- Evolved our approach to a way of working which has students as the cornerstone of all our recruitment content
- The Origins campaign will ultimately be replaced, but that approach will not
- The student voice needs to be connected to the heart of the university, to the emotion and lived experiences
- Acknowledge element of risk

Every institution's student voice is unique, what does yours say?