

APPLY TO YOUR FACULTY'S FACULTY COUNCIL TO INFLUENCE MATTERS!

We are looking for student representatives for the faculty councils at each faculty for the term 1 January 2024–31 December 2025. This is your chance to get to influence matters!

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

As a member of a faculty council, you will get to **influence** the future direction of your faculty and discipline, make students' voice heard and create useful networks at the same time. You can get credits for serving on the faculty council, and a meeting fee is also paid for the meetings.

In addition to students, members of the faculty councils include professors and other staff members at the faculty. The dean serves as the chair of each council. The duties of the faculty councils are as follows:

- Developing teaching and research at the faculty
- Overseeing quality management over research and teaching
- Deciding on issues such as degree requirements, teaching schedules and student admissions criteria
- Processing any far-reaching plans and other important matters of principle at the faculty

As a member of a faculty council, you will get to ensure that student perspectives are taken into account in the everyday routines of the faculty. Further information on the faculty councils' operation is available in Flamma by searching for the faculty councils by the name of each faculty. According to the Universities Act, the



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administrative language of the University of Helsinki is Finnish, and the faculty councils consequently work mainly in Finnish. However, it is possible to use other languages in its meetings by agreement.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU?

Student members of the faculty councils act as students' voice in the University's decision-making processes. There are only **two** clear requirements: you must be registered for attendance at the faculty whose representative you are applying to become, and you may only be employed by the University if your working hours are a maximum of 50 per cent of normal working hours and your contract lasts a maximum of 6 months. We hope that student members of faculty councils would maintain active contacts with faculty organisations and the Student Union as well as be bold and show initiative when participating in the councils' work.

Previous experience of student advocacy work helps with acting in the position but is not required! Thoroughly reading the meeting material before the meeting, asking for the opinions of – depending on the situation – either your fellow students or subject organisation on the issues on the meeting agenda and speaking up at the meeting itself are quite enough to be successful in the position. You will not have to work alone, as the Student Union will provide student representatives with training, support and our expertise to help you with your work in University administration. The other student representatives will also be there to support you.

HOW MUCH TIME DOES SERVING AS A STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TAKE?

Faculty councils meets around once a month during academic terms. The meetings last around 1–2 hours. Preparing for the meetings by going through the meeting material, for instance, will also take some time, depending on the matters to be discussed.



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HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME A STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE?

Applications should be submitted through the [Hallosed application system](#) by **11.59 pm on 15 October 2023**. Depending on the faculty, we are looking for either 3 or 5 actual student representatives as well as vice members for each of them. The number of positions for your faculty is stated on the aforementioned **Hallosed application website**. We assume that you are available for the positions of both actual member and vice member.

Your application must mention **your current major or degree programme and study orientation**. The Student Union considers the following as advantages and hopes that the applicants address these aspects in their application:

- 1) Motivation towards the position
- 2) Understanding of current affairs at the faculty
- 3) Contacts with a faculty or subject organisation
- 4) Previous experience of acting as a student representative in administration, as a person in charge of academic affairs or in some other position related to student advocacy work

The Student Union hopes to see applications from representatives of different genders and people in different stages of their studies from diverse backgrounds. The Student Union strives to consider different disciplines' representation when making the selections.

Please do not hesitate to ask for further information if you are unsure about anything related to serving on the faculty council or the application process! For further information, please contact:



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Selection Coordinator

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Specialist in Educational Policy

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Further information on serving as a student representative and on applying to become a student representative is available at <https://hyy.fi/representative>. Check out the FAQ section on the page, too!