

University of Surrey Life-wide Learning Award 2010

We want to be inspired by the story you tell about trying to become the person you aspire to be

The Award is made by SCEPTRe (Surrey Centre for Excellence in Professional Training and Education at the University of Surrey) to an undergraduate and a postgraduate student who have demonstrated commitment to making their own educational experience more complete by the learning they have gained from experiences that are in addition to their academic programme.

1) Please tell us about the things you **have done in addition to your academic programme** while you have been at university and **why you did these things**, and **how you have developed as a person** through doing these things (no more than 1000 words).

2) And tell us **what a more complete education means to you** (no more than 100 words).

What we hope to discover:

- Your appreciation of the rich and diverse experiences you have had
- Stories of what has inspired you in your life
- Insights you have gained
- Understanding of how you are becoming the person you aspire to be

Diversity and inclusivity: We want to embrace all forms of experience through which you believe you have developed as a human being

Insights We are interested in how you have reflected on your experiences and what sorts of understanding about yourself you have gained. We want to know why you believe these forms of learning and personal development will be useful to you in your future life.

Application and integration We are interested in seeing how you have integrated or applied what you have learnt into other aspects of your life

A good story This is all about telling a very personal story that has important meaning to you. Telling a story is a creative process. We encourage you to be imaginative. If it helps you can use photos and images. We want to be inspired by your story of trying to become the person you aspire to be.

Suggested examples of additional experiences that might be included (this is not an exclusive list)

On campus

Getting involved in Student Union activities / joining or running a society
Being a volunteer within the university
Being a course representative
Contributing to STAG Newspaper
Taking part in GU2 Radio
Getting involved in educational activities outside your programme like Cultural Academy or Enterprise Academy
Creating and running a small business
Putting on or organising a show, gigs & performances, organising an event or creating a film
Helping to support other students through being a mentor Fresher's Angel
Joining the University's Student Ambassador scheme
Getting active in the Sports Centre and its teams
Learning another language
and many more things

Off campus

Part-time work
Being a member of a drama group or other association
Volunteering for a community organization
Travel and exposure to other cultures
Engaging in a challenge like running a marathon or raising money for charity
Being a carer
and many more things that we can't imagine

They might also include **personal challenges** such as being a parent/ single parent, overcoming illness, injury or bereavement, overcoming financial hardship or dealing with difficult personal relationships while you are at university.

HOW TO ENTER THE COMPETITION

Please email your story as a **WORD DOCUMENT** to sceptre@surrey.ac.uk no later than **12pm Wednesday May 5th**

Make sure that your **name, course (undergraduate or postgraduate) and email address** is at the top of your entry.

The **winner will be notified on Friday 14th** and the award will be made at the USSU annual award ceremonies on the evening of **Thursday May 20th**.

How the information you provide will be used:

- The names of students entering the competition will only be known by the SCEPTrE team
- Anonymous entries will be reviewed by a small judging panel.
- After the event the stories will be analysed to look at common themes and a small booklet will be produced to show the diversity of ways in which students gain the experiences they need to develop themselves. Extracts may be used from individual stories but no students will be identified.
- The booklet will be published on SCEPTrE's life-wide learning wiki <http://lifewidelearning.pbwiki.com/>

If you know of anyone who you think deserves such an award please let them know about this opportunity and encourage them to apply.

Visit <http://lifewidelearning.pbworks.com/2010+LIFE-WIDE+LEARNING+AWARD> for further information and announcement of the winners.

Professor Norman Jackson
Director SCEPTrE