

Students' Ombudsman: Rights protection and intermediation with academic institution

Alessia Ettorre

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Management Engineer

Students' Ombudsman in University of L'Aquila since October 2016

Summary

- Students' Ombudsman: how University of L'Aquila defines this role
- Students' Ombudsman main tasks
- How this figure can support students
- How to be effective
- Main situations analyzed

Students' Ombudsman: how University of L'Aquila defines this role

Role regulated within University Statute

Acknowledgement in the most important document, according to Italian organization of University rules

Choosed among people coming from different environments (external from University)

Third party between students and University

 Selected by Students' Council first and then Academic Institution, to be a <u>body to uphold</u> the protection of students' rights

Students' Ombudsman main tasks

- Collect and manage complaints received by students
- O Interact with all the departments and all the administrative offices, according to the problem to fix, and complete access to documentation
- O Ensure anonimity, if asked
- Make suggestions to improve the quality of students' life

How this figure can support students

 When problems detection it's not easy, an Ombudsman represents a bridge between students and administration

Have a good knowledge about how the University works and which are the rules

O The Ombudsman has to have a clear understanding of the problem

Manage written communication it's better! Eg by email

 The target is to identify the proper interlocutor to clarify problems and implement solutions

Build good relationship and have clear requests

How to be effective

O Provide quick response

O Make analysis of the cases to make suggestions



Main situations analyzed

Administrative issues (taxes, registration, career...)

Problems related to exams (dates, registration...)

Difficulties in communication with Professors

