



Student Transitions: Example of transitions practice

Title: Supporting an Inclusive Approach to ‘Becoming’ and ‘Belonging’ at the University of Dundee

Transition(s) the practice supports:

This practice aims to support students who are not based on campus, and to support them in ‘becoming’ part of and ‘belonging’ to the University. Often, most of the activity with which the Students’ Association is involved is based on our main campus, located in Dundee City. Dundee University Students’ Association (DUSA) has made a particular effort this year to broaden our audience, and have started live streaming the majority of our events, in order to develop a more inclusive approach and to support the transition experience of ‘becoming’ a student at the University of Dundee.

Abstract:

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is now live streamed on each occasion via our Association’s website as well as streaming live on YouTube. Moreover, larger events such as the Scottish Parliamentary Leaders’ Debate are also live streamed. Events on a large scale such as this one, which attracted almost all of the Scottish Party Leaders to the University of Dundee, caused a lot of hype on campus and also on social media. In order to make all students feel associated with this event and have access to the same information as students on campus who could attend easily, DUSA live streamed this event. This live streaming was very popular, and attracted more than 2,000 viewers. A link to the event can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zt5J1tthw6o>

Description:

This practice was developed as a result of a realisation that the Students’ Association struggles to engage with non-traditional students and in particular, distant learners. As an organisation we felt like there was more we could do, and as we have a well-established Media Team, we looked to them for help. The live streaming has been successful and each week we have roughly 100 viewers. We started live streaming the SRC events in September 2014 and have live streamed 7 SRCs since then.

This has a wide benefit as it means that all University of Dundee students have access to the same information being discussed at the highest student representation body. We have had good feedback from students who are on a semester abroad also, saying it helps them keep in touch with what is happening at the University and with DUSA, and can therefore to continue to support them as not just 'becoming' but in 'belonging' to the University of Dundee

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