



Student Transitions: Example of transitions practice

Title: Zombie Apocalypse Event

Transition(s) the practice supports: Events were designed to encourage engagement with current students. It was open to all UWS students on all four Campuses. Two events have currently taken place at two different campuses with a third one scheduled for April, the aim is to take it to all four campuses to promote a sense of belonging.

Abstract:

The UWS Student Engagement Team in partnership with staff from the Business School created a Zombie Apocalypse event in November 2015. During the event students worked together in small teams to complete the task in the shortest time. The Zombies, which were student volunteers enhanced the game by causing a distraction and adding a fun element. Over 150 students registered for the game in November, the majority of which played as a human and 30 students volunteered to be Zombies. Due to the success and student demand it was decided that we would then offer this again at a different campus.

Description:

The event was developed as the Student Engagement team were looking for something which was current, relevant and interesting to our students. Social Media such as Facebook and Twitter were used to raise awareness and excitement around the event prior to the event taking place. As we were asking students to either stay on Campus until evening or return to campus for the event we felt it had to be something with a high impact. After brainstorming with a couple of Lecturers from the Business School this idea was formed. We then needed to discuss the idea with various departments, such as Health and safety, Estates etc. to ensure it went ahead safely. Students were asked to sign up for the event through an email to their student email account and the maximum number of 120 Human Participant tickets were requested within 48 hours of the email link being sent out, this was a clear indicator that there was an appetite for this event. Recruitment for the Zombies reached 30 very quickly. On the night of the event students and staff were all given the rules of the game and a safety briefing. Students were then formed into small teams and had to work together to complete the game. This event promoted enhancement of core skills such as team working communication as they were in a heightened state during the game. The games also gave students a sense of belonging. Positive student comments could be seen across a range of Social Media channels after the event. Pictures and video taken on the

night were also shared via Social Media for students to see. This prompted another event at a different campus which produced the same results. We then had requests to offer the same event at the other two campuses, these are now scheduled for April and September

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9uJE7tzzOs>

All examples provided will be posted to the Enhancement Themes website with the intention of including them in the National Transitions map.