How have we been supporting Rep communication and community during COVID-19?

Natalie Hay (she/her)
Academic Engagement Coordinator
Pre-COVID

• **Main communication tool: emails**
  - High volume of emails overwhelming for Reps
  - Difficult to manage last minute requests
  - Difficult to differentiate between key information and optional opportunities

• **Main community-building tool: in-person events**
  - High cost due to provision of food
  - Limited capacity due to physical constraints
  - Not accessible to online learners and students based at other campuses
How have we responded to COVID?

Academic Representation Forum

- Forum brings together academic representatives - both Programme and School Representatives - from across the University.

- Space for Students' Association to share key information and opportunities, and for Reps to contact each other and discuss issues.

- Microsoft Teams and Channels:
  - All Programme and School Representatives
  - All School Representatives
  - All UG Representatives
  - All PG Representatives
  - The School and Programme Representatives in each School
Short Survey about Hybrid Teaching

IMPORTANT!
Short survey about hybrid teaching provisions to inform planning for semester 2

General
Hi Everyone!
I’m conducting a survey to get an idea of what you expected this semester to look like vs. what it actually has looked like and what you would like to see next semester. Any input you give will help ensure that we can accurately prioritize resources and support. Please take a moment to fill out the form below.

See more
forms.office.com

Fee Reduction Task Force
Hello all. Hope you’re all doing well during this busy time! Following a Student Council motion that passed in February, we’re putting together a student task force that will “research, prepare, and present to the University a case for reducing tuition fees for the 2020/2021 academic year”.

[Email is formatted in a way that is difficult to read. It contains a link and mentions the need for students to be involved in the task force.]

See more
Fill | Fee Reduction Task Force: Expression of Interest
The Fee Reduction Task Force is an opportunity for student representatives to be involved in a group that aims to "research, prepare, and present to the University a case for reducing tuition fees…"

forms.office.com

18 replies from Ellen, Laura, Mia Yang, and 3 others

Moffitt Sarah 23/10 19:07
Introducing your new PPLS Postgraduate School Representative AVANT Ross! If you’re a Postgraduate Programme Representative then don’t hesitate to contact Ross for support, or to highlight issues which affect PG students across multiple programmes.

↩️ Reply

Craig Trace 09/11 19:50
Hello! I’m Craig Tracey - the USG Representative for HCA this year. You will have received an email from me last week but this is just a reminder that the first HCA School Council meeting of the year will take place tomorrow from 2-3pm in Microsoft Teams [31] pop a link to the meeting below! This is an open meeting for any student enrolled in HCA to bring their feedback, concerns, thoughts for improvement and to raise any other matters relating to the School. If you have any questions, please feel free to comment below or send me a message. Look forward to speaking with you all tomorrow.

Click on this link to join the meeting!

Steve Lally 09/11 17:28
Hello! I’m Steve Lally and I am one of the programme reps for the Sociology PhD together with Tadz Can

↩️ Reply

Ojey 02/10 09:41
Hello! I’m Ojey, one of the reps for the PG in Digital Society. Please to meet you all!

↩️ Reply

Pereixin Bassam 15/09 10:28 AM
Hi! Students’ Association Academic Representative! I was wondering if it would be possible for fellow reps to share this with your programmes/departments? We have a really exciting event coming up this Thursday organised by the School of Health Social Science PGR reps, which is free to attend & open to everyone! Sign up via Eventbrite:

convetAccents with Barbara Benson
Join us for convetAccents with Barbara Benson

Sign up now

23 replies from Tug, STL, Eleny, and 5 others

Edinburgh University Students’ Association
What have we learned?

What’s working well?
• Great engagement from Reps!
• Space to ask quick questions which can be answered by other Reps or staff
• Easy way for School Reps to connect with Programme Reps without relying on Schools to facilitate communication
• Students’ Association oversight of local activity

Challenges
• Volume of contact, particularly early on with students asking about training
• Reps posting about School events e.g. training or SSLCs confuses Reps who aren’t in that School
• Managing expectations around response times
Thank you!
natalie.hay@eusa.ed.ac.uk