

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



## SA

#### Students' Association A... ...

#### General

All Postgraduate Academic Represent...

All Undergraduate Academic Represe...

- Biological Sciences
- Biomedical Sciences

Business 🖰

- Chemistry 🖯
- Divinity 🖯
- Economics 🔒
- Edinburgh College of Art
- Edinburgh Futures Institute
- Edinburgh Medical School

Engineering 🖰

GeoSciences

## 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

Edinburgh University Students' Association

## 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 

#### See more



#### Fill | Rep Consultation on Hybrid Learning Experience

The University is currently reflecting on the academic year so far and planning for Semester 2. To ensure that the Students' Association is best able to represent our members' views, we want to hea.

forms.office.com

#### 21 replies from Seva, Emma, VP Education, and 7 others

LL	LE ROUX Lucy 23/10 0957 Hello, I am Lucy and I am one of the programme reps for the Africa and International Development MSc along with NGWAMBE Me	🤞 2 ekila
	← Reply	
	HAXHIU Andi 22/10 11:19 Hello everyone 😂	<u>é</u> 3
	I'm Andi Haxhiu and I am one of the programme reps for the Sociology PhD together with TAO Can	
	$\leftarrow$ Reply	
СМ	COHEN Maya 23/10 11:26 Hello! I'm Maya and I am the programme rep for year 4 of the BSc in Social Work 😂	<u></u> 3
	← Reply	
MM	MAASS Max 23/101228 Hi all, I am the programme rep for MSc International and European Politics. Nice to meet you 🙄	<u>é</u> 3
	← Reply	
OJ	OSTREM Jackie 23/1015:44 Hello! I'm Jackie, one of the reps for the MSc in Digital Society. Nice to meet you all!	<u>é</u> 1
	$\leftarrow$ Reply	

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.

#### MACRAE Ellen 08/04 15:05 C Edited 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".

#### 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, Mu Yang, and 3 others

 $\leftarrow$  Reply

#### CRAIG Tristan 03/11 17:03 Edited

Hello History, Classics and Archaeology Representatives! For those of you who don't know, I'm Tristan - the UG 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 (I'll 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 at 2pm tomorrow to join the meeting!

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CoveRACEions with Barbara Becnel

www.eventbrite.co.uk

Join our first ConveRACFion with Barbara Becne

#### See less

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See more

← Reply

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JANUARY 28TH 202

#### PIERS Rowena 1/26 11:58 AM

Hi Students' Association Academic Representation Forum! 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 in Social Science PGR Reps, which is free to attend & open to everyone! Sign up via Eventbrite.

🤞 14 🖤 2

29 replies from Tuji, Ella, Esther, and 22 others

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← Reply

👍 2 🛡 4

## Edinburgh University Students' Association

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MOFFAT Sarah 23/10 19:07

## 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!

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