

**Student Engagement Staff Network meeting  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
By Zoom**

**AGENDA**

- 9.45 Registration**
- 10.00 Welcome**  
Headlines and outline of the day.  
*(Simon Varwell, Senior Development Consultant, sparqs)*
- 10.10 Supporting transitions**  
A discussion and activities relating to ongoing challenges of transitions presented by the pandemic, and the role of students' associations in providing support and shaping practice.  
*(Stef Black, Senior Development Consultant, sparqs)*
- 11.10 Break**
- 11.25 Developments in institutional student-staff partnership**  
A discussion of student-staff partnership in learning and teaching, prompted by an overview of projects at Edinburgh Napier University including their Students as Colleagues peer review scheme, and the involvement of students in Institution-Led Review.  
*(Pamela Calabrese, Quality and Standards Manager, Edinburgh Napier University)*
- 11.55 If I were the course rep...: The dead lecturer**  
The first in a new series of fun reflections about engagement and learning. See the next page for details – and some prior reading!  
*(Megan Brown, Development Consultant, sparqs)*
- 12.25 Conclusions and evaluation**
- 12.30 Optional informal chat**
- 1.00 Close**

## If I were the course rep...

What would you do if you were a course rep at Crunchem Hall, the school of Matilda, Miss Honey and the dreaded Miss Trunchbull? Or a sabbatical officer at Harvard University as Mark Zuckerberg (or the Winklevoss twins depending who you ask!) created Facebook? How about being the course rep at Greendale Community College (home of the TV show Community), or Horace Green Preparatory School (bonus points for if you know that this is School of Rock!)?

We are introducing a new series of sessions to SESN: "If I were the course rep...". The aim is to have some fun and informal discussion about learning, teaching and student engagement through the medium of books, films and articles, in a way that we hope gets you thinking about your role and how you work with staff and students to create effective partnerships.

There are a few ideas in the mix, but feel free to suggest a topic for a future meeting.

### If I were the course rep... March 2021

For our first discussion topic, please read the following Twitter thread and article before the meeting:

- The twitter thread, from student Aaron Ansuini, can be found here: <https://twitter.com/AaronLinguini/status/1352009211501289472>
- The accompanying article, 'Dead Man Teaching' by Tom Bartlett, in The Chronicle of Higher Education: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/dead-man-teaching>. If you don't already have an account, you can set one up for free. If you still have any issues accessing the article then please do let us know.

Then consider the following questions:

- What are your initial thoughts about this situation?
- What questions does this situation raise about the nature of learning and teaching? Would we feel differently about the situation if the lecturer had just retired? What about lecturers who deliver each other's materials or who use SQA modules where the author is not indicated?
- What issues does this situation raise in terms of partnership working and student engagement?
- What could the institution have done differently?
- **If you were the course rep... what would you do?**