

National Education Officers' Network

Monday 18th September 2023

Welcome!



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Your sparqs team today...



Eve Lewis, Director

Simon Varwell, Senior Development Consultant
(@sparqs_Simon)

Megan Brown, Development Consultant (@sparqs_Megan)

Gloria Laurini, Development Consultant (@sparqs_Gloria)

Justin Walker, Development Consultant (@sparqs_Justin)



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Ok zoomers

- You can use your audio or the chat box to speak.
- Mute your microphone when not talking.
- To speak, type * in the chat window or click the “raise hand” icon.
- If you are having any tech issues, post a comment in the chat.
- **Please change your display name to your own name and institution.**



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Agenda



- 11.00 **Welcome and headlines**
- 11.10 **That was Quality!, this is NEON**
- 11.30 **Introduction to QAA and the Tertiary Quality Project in Scotland**
- 12.00 **Break**
- 12.10 **Tertiary Quality Project: latest updates**
- 12.30 **sparqs priorities for the coming year**
- 12.55 **Conclusions and next steps**
- 1.00 **Close**



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Upcoming events



- 20th September – Tertiary Enhancement Topic event, Glasgow
- 22nd September – AI in college education event, Forth Valley College



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SQA working group



- SQA are seeking the support of a small team of college officers to help them understand the needs of college students who take Higher Nationals (HNCs and HNDs) and NQs (NAT5). SQA is the body that oversees most of the school-level and college-level qualifications in Scotland.
- We are looking for two or more college officers to help SQA understand the needs and perspectives of college students. The work involves participating in regular online meetings throughout the year with SQA and other sector stakeholders. This is an opportunity to contribute to high-level discussions about the qualifications that students take in Scotland.
- We will brief you well so you understand the role and will support you through the year.
- If you are interested to know more, please contact justin.walker@sparqs.ac.uk



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sparqs world



- Remember to check our [jobs board](#)!
- [sparqs' birthday](#) 5th October, sparqs Student Engagement Awards 2023 winners to be announced



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That (was) Quality!, this is NEON

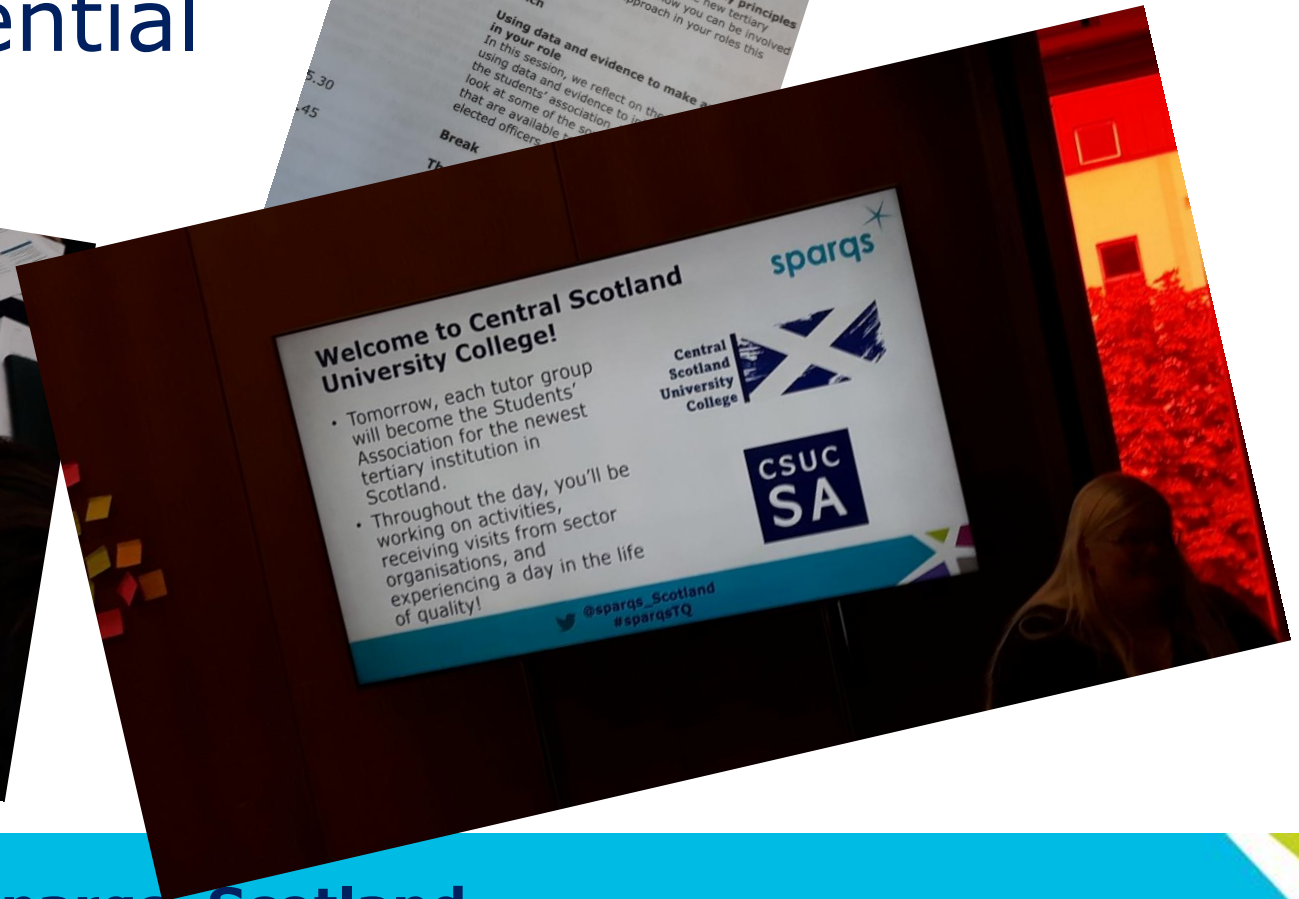
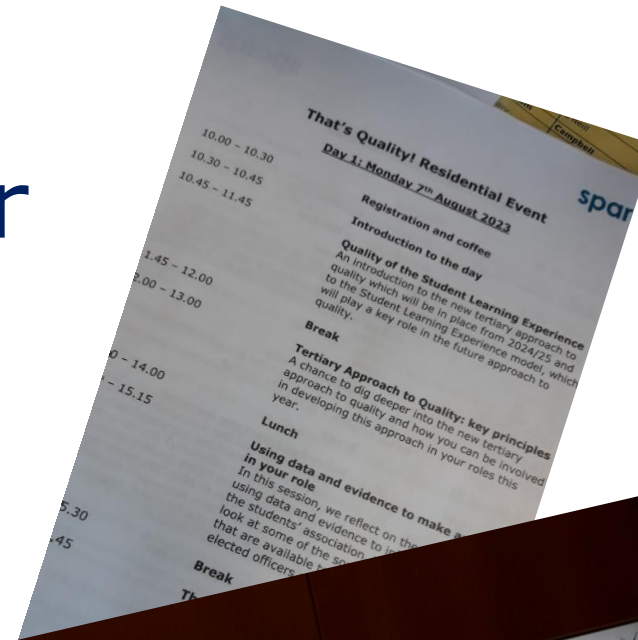
Simon Varwell, Senior Development
Consultant, sparqs



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Reflecting on the summer

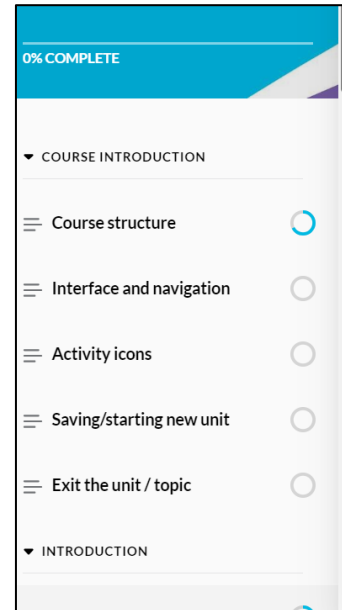
- That's Quality! residential



Reflecting on the summer

- That's Quality! residential.
- That's Quality! module.

This is in your
welcome
email...



0% COMPLETE

▼ COURSE INTRODUCTION

- ≡ Course structure ☐
- ≡ Interface and navigation ☐
- ≡ Activity icons ☐
- ≡ Saving/starting new unit ☐
- ≡ Exit the unit / topic ☐

▼ INTRODUCTION

module. This online module is aimed at strengthening your knowledge after the event which took place on July 6th, in preparation for the person event on August 7th and 8th.

This year, That's Quality! has a focus on the updated landscape of quality assurance for colleges following the SFC coherence review. The information you will receive will support you in your role as the sector keeps working toward a common approach across colleges and universities.

In addition to the one day online event, this year we will also host a two day training, where you will be able to apply the knowledge you gained during the event and by completing this module. It will be an opportunity for you



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- during the coming academic year and want to welcome you to the role and introduce you to the work of spargs and the support we can provide.
- If you are returning for a second year as a student officer, then welcome back and we look forward to continuing working with you.
- ### That's Quality!
- You will be aware of our induction and support programme, That's Quality!, in which we provide a comprehensive introduction to student engagement in quality, student partnerships at both institutional and national level, and your role in linking student views to the decisions being made about the shape of learning at this challenging time.
- Our That's Quality! college programme began with the **online event** on 6th July 2023 and is followed by an **online self-study module** and concludes with a **two-day residential event** on 7th and 8th August 2023 at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.
- If you're signed up for the whole programme (even if you weren't able to make the online day) then we look forward to seeing you on 7th and 8th August (you'll receive joining instructions for that part in due course). If you've not yet signed up, there are still a few places left, so it's not too late, even though you've missed the online session! You can register now, access the materials from the online session, complete the module and attend the residential in August. If you need to check whether you're registered or not, please contact us at admin@spargs.ac.uk. If you know you need to register, you can do so on the [event page](#).
- The self-study module will be a useful resource for you, not only this summer as you learn about your role, but also as a reference point throughout the year. It includes of important background information about the student role in enhancing the learning experience, and is worth dedicating some time to reading over the course of your induction period this summer.
- Access the module here: [That's Quality! Online Module Colleges 2023](#)
- The residential draws together education officers such as yourself from our colleges, university students' associations, and will be a chance to network, build on your experience in the role so far, and look ahead to some of the challenges and questions facing the sector.



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What is NEON?



- Our National Education Officer Network is your space to come together.
- We meet a handful of times a year, to...
 - Update you on key developments in learning, teaching and quality across Scotland's tertiary sector.
 - Consult with you on national decisions.
 - Involve you in the work of the other sector agencies.
 - Help you learn and share from each other.

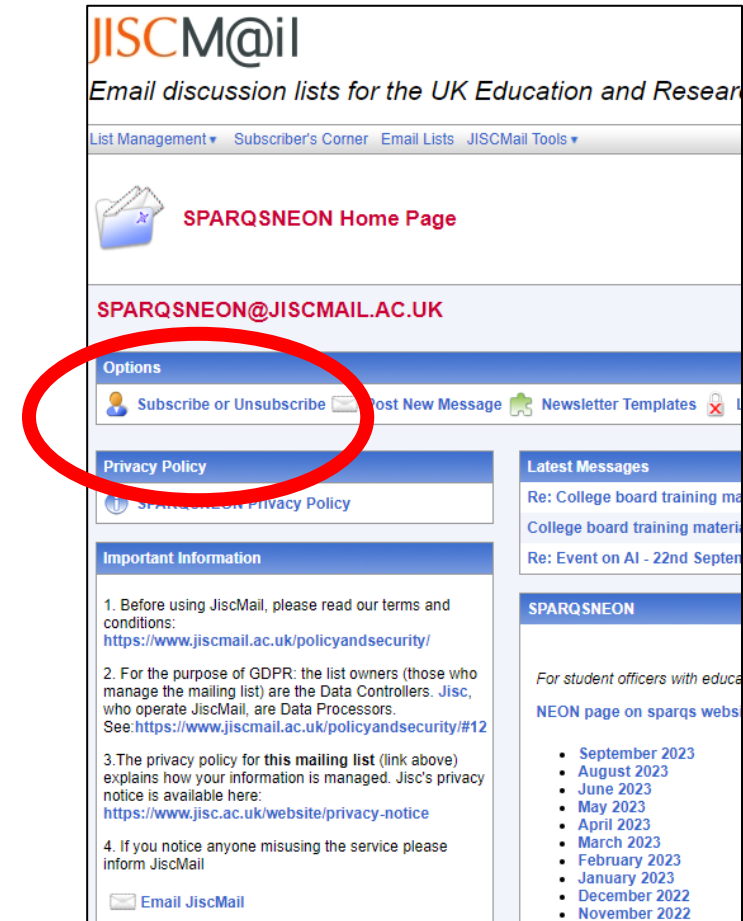


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The NEON Jiscmail list: your forum



1. Sign up (or check you're on).
2. Post an email to say hi!
 - A quick line about your role.
 - A current question or challenge.
3. Reply to one email (or more!) with something you can share. Remember you can "reply all".



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Good luck this year, but...



- Keep in touch with us!
- Come to NEON meetings.
- Don't forget to keep reading the TQ module.
- Speak to your students' association staff, key institutional contacts, and other national agencies.



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An introduction to QAA and the Tertiary Quality Project in Scotland

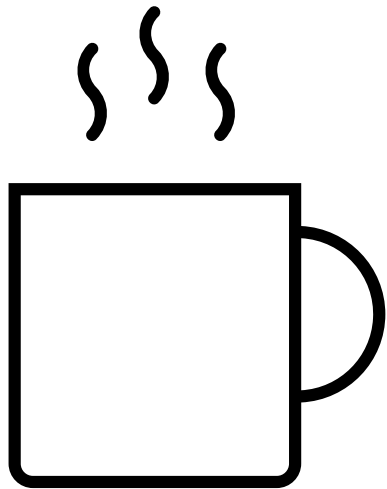
Caroline Turnbull and Debra Macfarlane,
QAA Scotland



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Break

**Please stay connected,
and be back at 12.10pm**



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Tertiary Quality Project: latest updates

Megan Brown, Development Consultant,
sparqs



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Shaping the common approach - management of co-creation and integration of workstreams



Using data and evidence to understand, evaluate and improve student outcomes



Strengthening institutional monitoring, self-evaluation and reporting on quality



Evaluating and enhancing the student learning experience and student partnership



Tertiary sector enhancement activity

SFC has set up a series of 5 workstreams to help shape different parts of the tertiary approach.

Workstream 3: institutional monitoring & self-evaluation



- This workstream will deliver a template **Self-Evaluation and Action Plan (SEAP)** for the college and university sectors.
- The draft templates and accompanying guidance will be tabled at the next Tertiary Quality Steering Group (TQSG) meeting for scrutiny and feedback, prior to being **piloted in a small number of institutions in Autumn 2023**.
- The workstream leads will work together with SFC and pilot institutions to support the initial completion of the draft SEAP and gather feedback to inform and refine the final version.
- The final template will be made available to institutions in **Spring 2024**. All institutions will be required to use the new template to submit a self-evaluation and action plan by the **30th of November 2024**, reflecting on the 2023-24 academic year.



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Workstream 2: using data and evidence



- Currently developing a **key question set** that can be used to assess, manage, enhance, and report on the quality of teaching and the student experience.
- Broadly these relate to **access; retention; completion; success; progression; student feedback; student outcomes; learning gain; and success.**
- Once this initial work is completed, further consideration will be given to how the key data set can be used to support institutions in completing the Self Evaluation and Action Plan.



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Workstream 4: student learning experience & student partnership



- The Student Learning Experience (SLE) model and accompanying questions have been finalised and will be published at sparqs' birthday party on **5th October**.
- Over the next year, we will develop **supporting guidance** to facilitate institutions and SAs to use the model in practice.
- **Descriptors of student partnership in quality processes** are being created for the end of September. These will be used by institutions piloting the SEAP.



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How you can get involved



- Join our Tertiary Quality Student Expert Group.
 - The group is comprised of mostly students.
 - Email Megan.Brown@sparqs.ac.uk if you'd like to join.
- Attend NEON throughout the year.
- Attend sector events from QAA Scotland and SFC
 - sign up to our newsletter.



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sparqs priorities for the current academic year

Eve Lewis, Director, sparqs



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Conclusions and evaluation



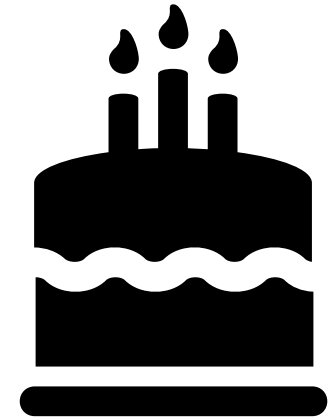
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Our next NEON meetings

1. In person, a all-day joint SESN/NEON/JAG 5th October, before sparqs birthday celebrations. Link to register:

'Planning for the year ahead' with JAG/SESN/NEON – 5th October 2023

2. On Zoom, Wednesday 6th December, 10am to 1pm.



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Last thing, promise!

- Complete the [evaluation form](#)
- (select "September").
- Sign up to the [sparqs newsletter](#).
- Remember to sign up to the [NEON's Jiscmail](#)(and do use the list to chat and share!).



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Thank you and see you soon!



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