

Partnerships In Real Life – How do they actually work?



Changing Students' Lives - Together

Introduction

- Welcome
- Edinburgh College Students' Association
- Partnership with College



Partnership Agreements – What are they?

- Formal agreement between College and Students' Association.
- Extended beyond Learning and Teaching
- Making change
- It's the first part of a long term process
- Partnership can only happen with autonomy

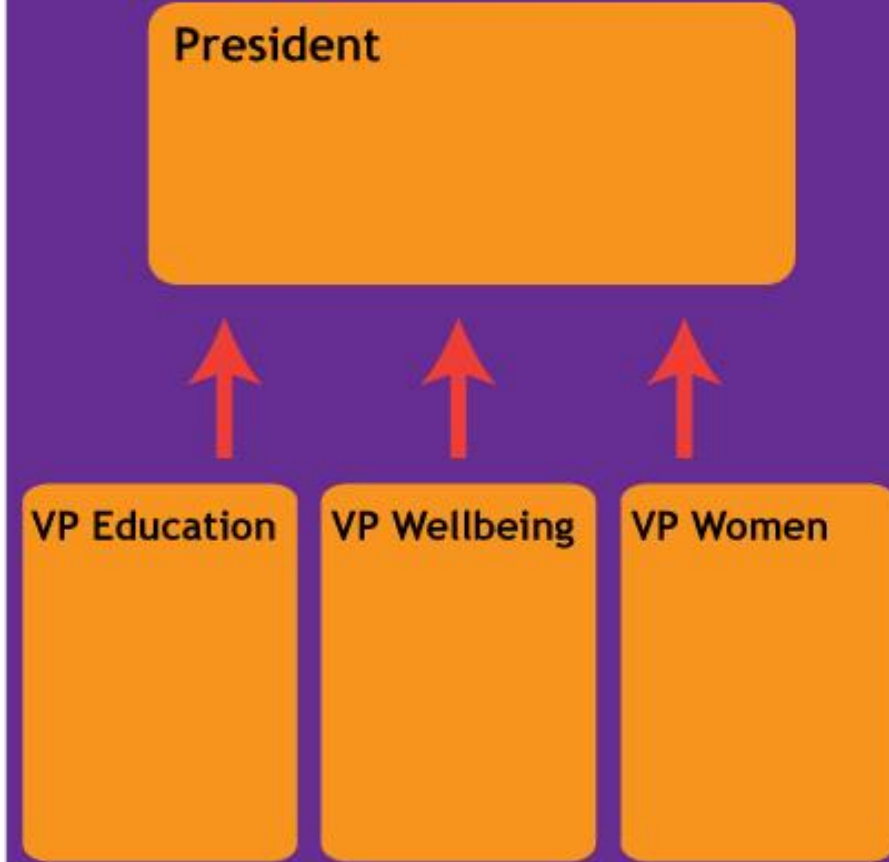


ECSA – Edinburgh College Students' Association

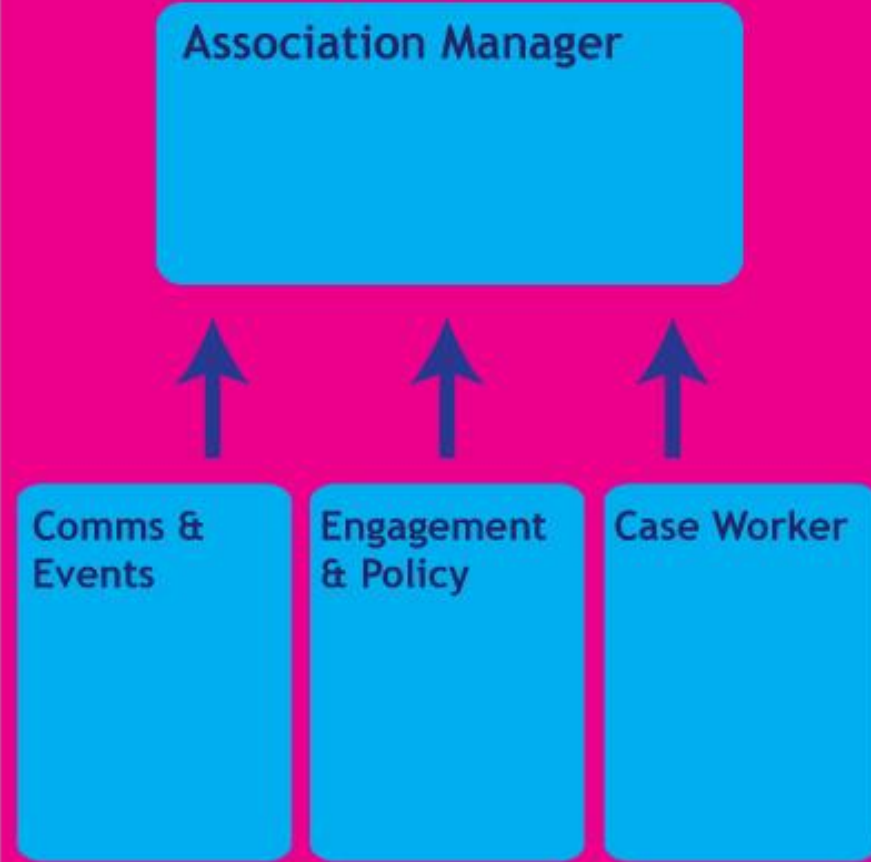
- Representation
- Making Change
- Student led, professionally supported
- Constantly evolving
- Fully funded by Board of Management



Sabbatical Officers



Staff



ECSA Organisational Chart

2014 - 2015

Partnership Agreements – The next step

- The PA is step 1.
- The Association must start developing its vision and strategy
- Strategy leads to operational work
- Look to where it can partner with college departments & services
- Develop areas of work – class reps.
- Become a sustainable organisation



Making Partnership A Reality

- Building relationships & engaging with staff – they need to know who you are!
- Partnership doesn't mean always agreeing – be a 'critical friend'
- Help achieve
- Everyone has a part to play in improving the student experience
- Trust & legitimacy



What Can The College Do?

- Actively work with the association
- Involve students association in the college structures
- Build trust - There will be bumps in the journey
- Partnership doesn't mean agreeing on everything



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Outcome Agreement

- ECSA selected certain measures for Outcome Agreement
- Negotiation Process and Joint Ownership
- Measures include –
- *Number of women enrolled onto Construction and Engineering courses*
- *“I feel I can influence the planning and delivery of subjects in the course”*
- *Number of class reps trained*



How do you know it has been successful?

- Closer alignment between association & student services – avoiding duplication
- Culture change
- Clear evidence of work on Outcome agreement & partnership agreement.
- Association able to demonstrate impact
- Continuous dialogue between college staff & association



What Did This Process Do For ECSCA?

- Strategic vision
- Operational plan
- Develop structures for sustainability
- Association can demonstrate its impact
- Clear outcomes delivered through partnership
- More proactive in the work it undertakes
- A culture shift
- Greater accountability
- Growth in engagement
- Lots of learning & experience



Examples of partnership in practise

- Class Cover & Merger guidelines
- Student registers
- Learner Engagement Framework



Thank you! Questions?

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