

The future of student engagement in college quality review processes

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The Future of student engagement in the college review process

Transforming lives through learning

- We are at a time of unprecedented change in Scotland's Colleges.
- Most Colleges have experienced considerable organisational change due to regionalisation.

- Education Scotland's Quality Framework used for external review.
- Currently there are 3 Colleges participating in Action Learning Pilots ~ (ALPs).

- Since 2007 'Student Engagement' has been one of the three key principles underlying college quality arrangements in Scotland.
- Education Scotland emphasise the role of students through evaluation against the question:
- "How well are learners engaged in enhancing their own learning and the work and life of the college?"

- Students' associations therefore have a key role to play in supporting the delivery of college quality processes and in supporting quality enhancement.
- They also have an increasingly key role to play in the delivery of external quality reviews.

- There are two interdependent factors which are key to developing and sustaining effective students' associations. These are:
- One: A culture within the college which actively values, supports, and encourages the students' association to develop and deliver its autonomous, representative role

- Two: A scaffolding of resources, working structures, processes, and procedures which govern the students' association and ensure that it is able to deliver its responsibilities even when student officers or staff members change.

- **2 recently merged Colleges are here today to share their approaches with you:**
- **Edinburgh College**
- **Dundee and Angus College**

- **Education Scotland**
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A New Framework for Student Engagement in the Quality process



Changing Students' Lives - Together

Why create a framework?

- A process was needed to bring together & celebrate all the great work that goes on within the college & ECSA
- Analyze and develop student engagement in the quality cycle
- A system that allows for working on short, medium and long term issues.
- Ensure our work is Student led from the bottom up



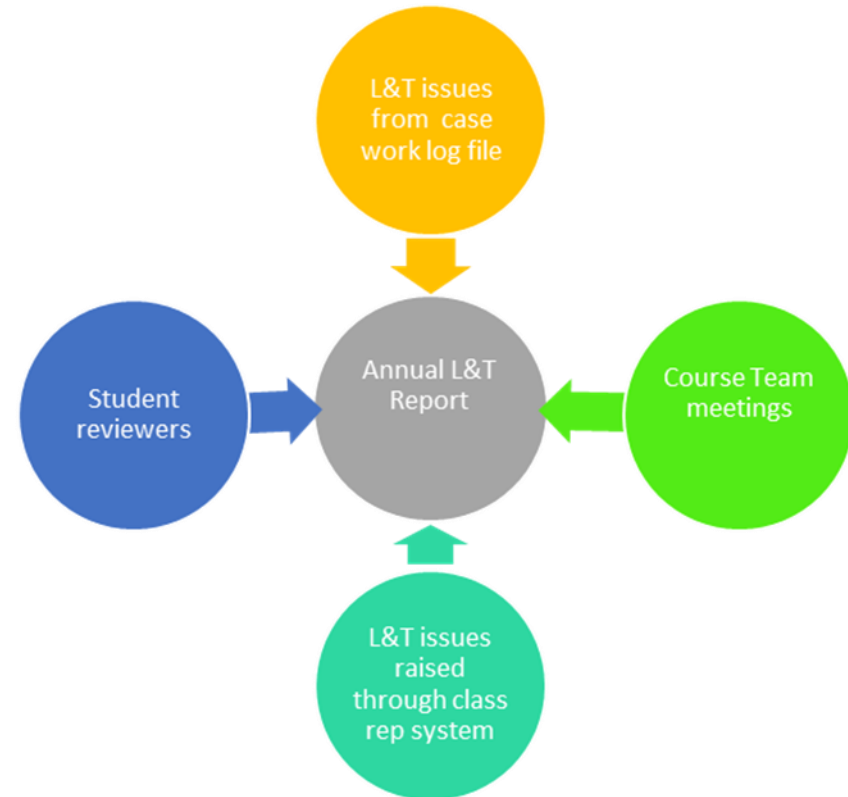
The learner Engagement Framework

- the integration of 4 key components of student engagement
 - *L&T issues from case work system*
 - *Student reviewers*
 - *Course Team Meetings*
 - *L&T issues raised through class reps system*

Outputs

Greater focus on enhancement

Produce an annual report



What will be in the report?

- VP Education summary of ECSA's work throughout the year
- *Highlight great practice*
- *Identifying key areas for improvement*
- *Evidenced based & led by students*



What are the benefits of the framework?

- A more diverse range of students shaping their learning experience
- Documenting the enhancement in learning and teaching
- Students involved in the co-creation of their learning

The end result!

- Improving students learning experience!



Thank you! Any Questions?

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Dundee & Angus College

Engage Me!

Engaging students in learning, life & work



Learner Engagement



Wider Achievement

Students' Association



Representation & Advocacy



1) The idea - a programme that would:

- Enrich the college experience
- Enhance the quality of learning
- Offer opportunities for wider engagement & achievement **FOR ALL**
- Help our students to actively build essential skills- a journey
- Support academic teams in pulling together all of those *extra bits*:
 - equality & diversity
 - health & wellbeing
 - sustainability
 - employability
 - representation
 - socialisation (fun)



2) Develop the idea

Work with the students,
support & academic staff,
and some impressive partners
to pull the programme together



3) Endorsements

The **Engage Me!** programme sounds so dynamic – a true opportunity for students to find their strengths and raise their self-esteem and employment potential. Any additional communication and people skills will help any student wishing to embark on a healthcare related occupation.



This programme could give someone the added extra that employers are looking for.

It certainly did with one of our young apprentices; we were impressed with the variety of skills and experiences he had gained at College
...he really stood out.



The **Engage Me!** programme is an exciting initiative which will provide students with an opportunity to contribute to the college community.

Furthermore, for those interested in applying to university, participation in this programme would be an extremely useful example to discuss in an application, helping to highlight their achievements and commitment to college life.



The Dundee and Angus College **Engage Me!** Programme provides a rich variety of opportunities for all students. Engaging with at least one of these opportunities will add enormous value to each student's formal educational experience.

Organised into eight areas, there are opportunities for everyone, whatever their particular interests are, from the traditional Class Rep and Student Congress roles to Peer Mentoring, becoming involved in large scale events and various campaigns, and volunteering in a range of contexts.

The accompanying Record of Achievement will assist individuals when planning and applying for future destinations, such as further and higher courses of study, volunteering at home or abroad, or directly into employment in their chosen careers.



“It is great to see Dundee & Angus College deliver the innovative Engage Me! Programme. The college already has a good track record in relation to its performance, this programme can only help to contribute towards that and help students gain and evidence their employability and soft skills to employers.”
Outcome Agreement Manager, SFC.”

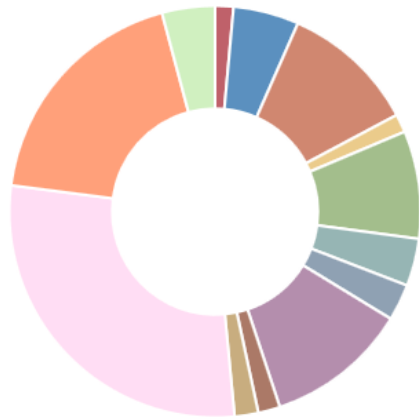


Scottish Funding Council
Promoting further and higher education

4) Recognition & Celebration

The LEAP System!

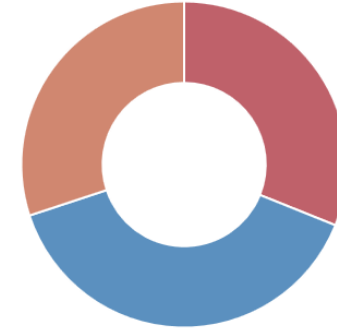
Number of Students by Department



- Building Services: 10
- Business and Essential Skills: 36
- Care: 74
- Construction: 10
- Creative and Digital Industries: 59
- Engineering: 26
- Hair, Beauty and Complementary Therapies: 20
- Hospitality, Retail and Tourism: 78
- Land Based and Access: 12
- Performing Arts: 13
- Science and Sport: 199
- Social Sciences and ESOL: 131
- Supported Education: 29

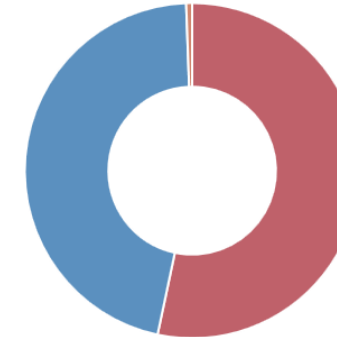
Statistics

Number of Students by Category



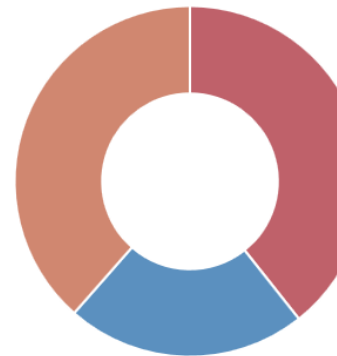
- Sports Union: 215
- Essential Skills Development: 269
- Representation: 208

Number of Students by Gender



- Male: 369
- Female: 319
- Other: 4

Number of Students by Campus



- Gardyne: 334
- Kingsway: 188
- Arbroath: 327



Group discussion

- 1) How does your college/students' association currently engage students in internal college quality review processes/in external reviews?
- 2) How might students' associations be more involved in evaluating college quality and contributing more widely to the work and life of the college?
- 3) What are the challenges and what might students' associations need to be able to do this?

