Student Representation for Reps at a Distance: Support, Community and Inclusion

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Starting points

January 2014:
Review of QAA Quality Code Part B

September 2014:
Task group set up
Deliverables

- Guidance for Schools re: ODL students & Quality processes
- Guidance for Schools & EUSA re: effective communications with ODL students and representation structures
- Outline of training requirements for meetings with ODL students
Central questions

How should the student representation system work for online distance learning at the University?

What needs to happen to enable the student representation system to operate effectively and inclusively of distance learners?

How can we put this in place, who will do it, and by when?
Recommendations

- Share student university email address within the student representation system
- Develop new ODL student representation web presence
- Update existing guidance relevant to ODL student representation system
- Develop briefing document for training providers
- Develop briefing document for Schools
Successes

New webpages to clarify ODL student representation processes and facilitate inclusion
Edinburgh University Students’ Association developed Class Rep Online Training and trained a record number of 1,371 Class Reps.
Successes

Engagement with Class Rep Online Training increased by 169%

ODL Reps could participate in the Edinburgh Award for Representing Students for the first time

Class Reps wrote nearly 200 blog posts, earned Open Badges to reflect on their work and share their successes with the students they represent
Challenges

- Communicating new processes to staff
- Communicating regularly with ODL Reps (not too much and not too little)
- Engaging ODL Reps in our online Rep community and in wider student representation projects across the University
Discussion

• How do you support and create a community of Reps at a distance?

• What can be done to ensure ODL Reps are included in quality enhancement processes including student representation?