

## Learning, Teaching & Student Experience Committee

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> of November 2025</b>
<b>Paper No.</b>	<b>LTSEC2-D</b>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Subject of Paper</b>	<b>Students' Associations Update</b>
<b>FOISA Status</b>	<b>Disclosable</b>
<b>Primary Contact</b>	<b>Flora Irvine-Hall, Student President;  Megan McClellan, Students' Association Coordinator</b>
<b>Date of production</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025</b>
<b>Action</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>

### 1. Recommendations

- 1.1. To discuss the work of the Students' Association (SA) surrounding the Students' Associations representation systems that influence the student experience.

## **2. Consultation**

The Students' Association (SA) annually outlines its work after consulting student representatives during their induction and through Annual General Meetings. Our work is evaluated through various student feedback methods, including surveys, focus groups and digital analysis

2.3 Our [Student Partnership Agreement](#) helps ensure that our systems are working effectively and provides an outline of how the Students' Association works in partnership with the College.

## **3. Key Insights**

The SA Strategic Plan 2023-28 outlines our vision to work with students to influence change and add value to the student experience. Our work this academic year is guided by this strategy, shaped by the Presidential team's manifestos and informed by feedback from students. This report provides the Committee with an update on the following work:

- **Class Representation Systems**
- **Faculty Ambassadors**
- **Student Parliament**
- **Volunteer Ambassador**
- **Student Pantry**
- **Student Feedback**

## **4. Impact and Implications**

Having wider college staff support for our representative systems is important for ensuring the continuous improvement of the Student Experience. Staff support ensures that students throughout the College have the opportunity to engage in representation actively and have an influence on their journey.

Having a diverse range of students within our representation systems, such as parliament roles, allows students to offer guidance to the Students' Association on how our work will impact minority groups at the College.

## **Appendix 1: Students' Association Report**

### **1. Class Representation**

#### **1.1 Elections, Training and Inductions**

The following election, training and induction stats were accurate as of November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. We are thrilled to see there has been a significant increase in the number of students elected within the Nautical and STEM faculties. For comparison, last year we had the highest number of elected representatives in Nautical and STEM since pre-Covid elections and had finished the year on 65% of classes having an elected representative.

Our lower induction percentages are likely due to a delay in setting up our Class Rep Canvas Hub for this academic year. We had postponed the launch until the October break in the hopes that we would be able to provide information about both of our Faculty Ambassadors.

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>% of Classes with an elected Rep</b>	<b>% of Classes with an inducted Rep</b>	<b>% of Classes with a trained Rep</b>
<b>Education and Humanities</b>	89%	20%	42%
<b>Creative Industries</b>	83%	21%	38%
<b>Hospitality and Leisure</b>	94%	24%	30%
<b>Nautical and STEM</b>	82%	35%	21%
<b>Overall</b>	88%	25%	33%

## **1.2 Meetings**

In October we completed our first round of Class Rep Meetings. These meetings were held in partnership with the college's Trauma Informed Working Group to discuss what current processes and systems currently supported students to feel welcome and comfortable throughout their time at the college.

Across the week, we held 10 Class Rep Meetings across the Riverside and City campuses, with 119 Class Reps attending throughout the week.

## **2. Faculty Ambassadors**

We have 2 dedicated faculty ambassadors to support our faculties. Our faculty ambassadors Euan Buchanan and Valaria Ramos will continue to deliver our class rep training and collaborate closely with their assigned faculties to gather feedback and report back to their faculty boards. We are excited to share that our second Faculty Ambassador has now been officially onboarded by HR and was able to start work w/c the 27<sup>th</sup> of October.

### **2.1 Faculty Ambassadors and their roles**

- Euan will be supporting the Hospitality and Leisure faculty and Education and Humanities faculty.
- Valaria will be supporting the Creative Industries and Nautical and STEM faculty.

### **2.2 Changes to Faculty Ambassadors**

This year we have reduced from four to two Faculty Ambassadors. This reduction is to allow for a better experience for our Faculty Ambassadors and a more substantial impact as previously we were only able to offer 1-2 hours a week of paid work. This is due to only having enough funding to support 180 hours of work across the academic year to support our Faculty Ambassador roles, which we found wasn't a meaningful opportunity when split amongst four people.

## **3. Student Parliament**

Having a college parliament allows students who are part of disadvantaged or underrepresented groups to have a voice.

### **3.1 Student Parliament Roles**

This year, we have a full team of parliament officers. Our roles this year are:

- International Students' Officer
- Disabled Students' Officer
- Care Experienced and Estranged Students' Officer
- LGBTQ+ Students' Officer
- Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Students' Officer
- Mature Students' Officer

### **3.2 New Election Process**

It should also be noted that we have changed the way the roles were elected this year. Previously, even if only one person put themselves forward for a role, they would still have to take part in an election. We have now changed this, meaning that if someone is running

for a role that is uncontested, they will automatically get it. We made this decision to make Parliament more accessible and to make it less intimidating for students.

All of our roles were non-contested, apart from the Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Students' Officer. The two students who applied for this role have agreed to share it.

### **3.3 Introduction to Parliament**

On Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, we carried our introduction session to Parliament. The aim of this was to introduce the student officers to each other and to the rest of the SA team and to explain how college Parliament works.

### **4. Volunteer Ambassador**

We have now recruited our Volunteer Ambassador for the academic year. Adam Ali (also the network lead for MARS) will be responsible for supporting a diverse group of volunteers and empowering them to make the most of volunteering opportunities

## **5. Student Pantry**

### **5.1 City Pantry**

At our City Campus, we currently have a total of five volunteers and are looking to recruit more. The opening times for our City Campus are as follows:

- Monday: 10:30-11:30am
- Tuesday: 2:30-3:30pm
- Wednesday: 10:30-11:30am
- Thursday: 2:30-3:30pm
- Friday: We receive donations from partners between 3pm and 4pm

### **5.2 Riverside Pantry**

At our Riverside Campus, we have one volunteer and are looking to recruit more. The current opening times for our Riverside campus are as follows:

- Monday: 1:00-2:00pm

## **6. Student Feedback**

### **6.1 Laptop Loans**

We have had several students enquiring about longer laptop loans. A lot of our students live far away and are having to travel to college even when they don't have classes just to

return their laptop. It might be worth discussing if students can take the laptops out for longer than 48 hours or other alternatives such buying donated laptops or getting extra support from student funding.

## **6.2 Extra costs for courses**

We have had a few students who have raised their concerns about the extra costs for their courses that have incurred but weren't advertised at the start of the year. Examples include the costs of kits and uniforms and the costs of being able to take home food that was prepared in class (Cooking classes etc). It might be worthwhile to advertise which courses will include extra costs to avoid any confusion.