

Volunteer Officer Report November 2018

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What has been worked on in the past month?

The school of psychology held their annual alumni event where Lincoln psychology alumni are invited to come and speak about their experiences post degree and as they enter the working life. I helped with the organisational and on the day runnings as well as delivering the closing remarks for the event, with the event being the schools best turn out to date. Further to this I have been dealing with various issues this month regarding a specific module for the second years. There has been unrest among the student body because of these issues, something that myself and the second year reps have actively sought to dampen. Because of the extent of the issues I organised an emergency meeting with the second year reps and also liaised with the module team and deputy head of school to seek resolution; something which we feel has now been achieved. Further to this there has been a great deal of questions logged on coursemate which myself and the reps have sought to address together and have found solutions for nearly all logged student issues. Related to this, over the past month I have sign posted various students to the correct channels such as the advice centre and school office regarding issues they have been having. With deadlines coming up many students have been unsure of the extension process, something which myself and the reps have helped inform people about.

The school of psychology had their subject committee this month where various issues were addressed. During this meeting a proposal from myself and a proposal from one of my reps were delivered. My proposal was for the introduction of a rep drop in, something which the committee approved. The drop in will provide students with the opportunity to come and talk to the reps about any issues as well as integrating PG reps, with them being in attendance to answer any concerns regarding postgraduate study. The second proposal was for a 'rep blog' that would have information, updates from the reps and helpful hints and tips. This was discussed and it was agreed that it would co-exist alongside the already up and running Digi psych blog-ran by students for students. From this the Digi psych working group met with the lecturer in charge to create an action plan. The rep blog would also work alongside the social media working group. Following the subject committee a 'rep tea' was conducted where a handful of the available reps met with various academics to have an informal chat about various issues- with the main topic of conversation being the development of skill sets throughout our time at university and discussions as to how we could integrate this more clearly.

The school of psychology's rep TEF has been completed with each of the reps being assigned a question with the task of speaking to 5 peers to gather feedback. Many of the reps have reported that in my using this method it has allowed them to develop a greater confidence in their role and increase their visibility among their peers.

I am still regularly holding monthly meetings with my reps to check in and make sure everything is going well and that they are supported, something I've been told the reps feel is beneficial to their role.

Successes from the past month and any Reps Wins

I feel like this month has been filled with many successes, including the turnout at the alumni event. The handling of various module issues, signposting both by me and the reps and the fact that all psychology reps are reporting to feel supported and confident within their roles. Another success is that the school also have 2 PG reps who have been well integrated and made welcome to the rep group.

Plans for next month

To continue pushing forward with both the rep blog and the rep drop in, to continue signposting to services and to continue making my reps feel well supported. I am also planning to have all social media accounts set up by next month. As well as meeting with the psychology society to create an academic working partnership.