



University of Lincoln Students' Union Volunteer Officer Report

23rd March 2018

School Rep Tourism

What has been worked on in the past month:

Since all the snow at the end of February led to university being cancelled, our subject committee meeting was no exception. Both, the PG and UG one's were then rescheduled on short notice. However, many course reps were able to attend the committees which was great and those who haven't were able to send an email with their comments so that these were read out and added to the minutes as well.

During the Spring Program Leader Lunch, I have had the chance to talk to some of our PG course reps about their experience as a rep and if they could think of ways of how we as school reps could support them and possibly enhance their experience. I was glad to hear that all reps agreed that they have really enjoyed being part of the rep system.

Further Alex, who is the school rep for marketing and I had a meeting with Tommy this month to talk about the fact that marketing and tourism will be sharing one school rep for the upcoming academic year, as these two subjects have been merged into one department/school. While we would love to have two separate reps for the upcoming academic year in order to divide the work load and ensure great representation across all degrees within our subject group, we were informed that is currently not possible to put a second school rep in place. However, due to the support of their course reps, the other school reps within the business school, our new college officer, the senior rep group and the SU in general we all hope that our new school rep will be confident enough to take on the new role and know that he or she will be supported thoroughly by everyone along the way.

As earlier mentioned the SU hosted a Program Leader Lunch in March to which all reps and members of staff were invited, and while it was great to see familiar faces it was also nice to speak to reps from other departments and courses within the business school and talk about their experiences in the past year. This being said, it was also great to see a number of the tourism and event course reps at the Academic Rep Reception hosted by the SU which gave us all the opportunity to socialise and also reflect on our experience as reps within the past year.

Successes from the past month:

I'd say the biggest success this month was one achieved during the subject committee meeting. A number of direct entry students into third year that have joined us from universities abroad or colleges within the country have spoken to their course reps about how hard transitioning from their former institutions to the University of Lincoln was. Many felt that receiving a handbook or some guidelines, as well as a welcome talk would have helped them very much. When this was addressed at the subject committee meeting it was minuted that these students may be invited to welcome talks that are traditionally designed for first years. A blackboard page with all the relevant information as well as contact details e.g. name and email address of the subject librarian and services the library offers such as dissertation or academic writing help, was suggested as well. These things will hopefully be actioned on by the beginning of next year to make the transition into third year and into UoL a very smooth and comfortable one for our direct entry students.

Plans for next month:

For the next month, I will try to get a hold of the reps I haven't been spoken to yet about their role and listen to how they liked being a course rep and where there might be room for improvement and support on the side of the school reps but maybe also staff or the SU.

Also, I want to motivate students that have enjoyed being a rep in the past year to nominate themselves for a course rep or if they'd like to, even school rep position.