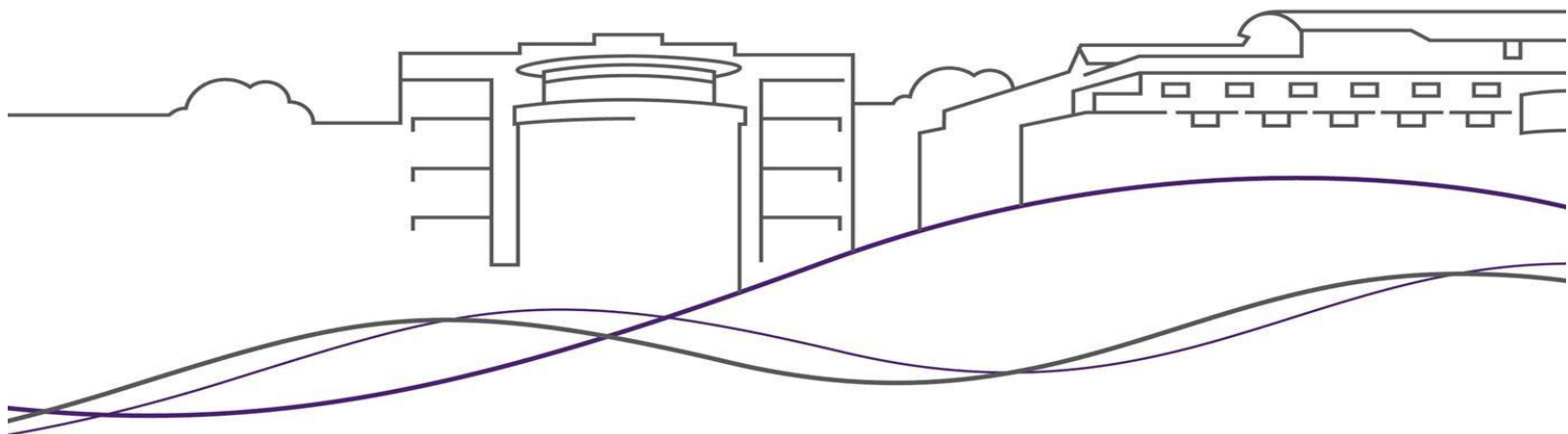


Strategy



HIGHER EDUCATION

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY v5.0



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Introduction

'Student Engagement is the involvement and empowerment of students in the process of shaping the student learning experience, to inform the College's quality systems with the purpose of improving the student educational experience for both current and future cohorts.' The QAA UK Quality Code Chapter B5, Student Engagement.

The aim of this strategy is to communicate our partnership approach with university students at South Devon College, through a shared vision of enhancement, responsibility and academic pursuit.

The college recognises that the views of students, individually and collectively, should inform quality systems with the purpose of improving the student educational experience both for current and future cohorts. Student involvement in quality can have a positive influence on the delivery and development of any aspect of the student educational experience.

1. Purpose

This strategy outlines the mechanisms by which students participate in quality enhancement and quality assurance processes, which includes but is not restricted to representation of the student view through formal representation mechanisms.

The College will foster an appropriate range of student engagement activities to establish a culture and environment where students are encouraged to take up the opportunities on offer. Aspects of the educational journey into which students will be invited to offer insight into include:

- Application and Admission
- Induction and progression Programme and curriculum design, delivery and organisation
- Teaching and learning
- Assessment
- Learning resources
- Student support and guidance.
- Other areas identified by the student body

2. Student involvement in Quality

All students studying at the University Centre, South Devon College have the opportunity to be involved in quality enhancement and assurance processes in a manner and at a level appropriate to them. Support and information will be provided to students to ensure their understanding of student engagement and enhancement along with their individual and collective responsibilities in the process.

South Devon College is committed to:

- encourage active student participation in South Devon College quality systems, including using individual and collective feedback from students
- implement transparent mechanisms, for the nomination and election of Course Representatives
- provide induction and on-going support for students and staff appropriate to their quality assurance roles
- Monitor, review and enhance the effectiveness of their policies and processes for engaging students in the South Devon College quality processes.

Student involvement is represented through the development of three key roles:

- **Lead University Student Representative**

The Lead University Student Rep is elected as the central representative for all students studying at the on a university course at South Devon College. This individual also represents the university student body at the South Devon College Governance and Corporation Board.

- **Student Fellows**

Student Fellow will be appointed on an annual basis, and will attend Higher Education Groups and as the student representation as well as working on a range of projects.

- **Student Academic Representative (StARs)**

Student Academic Representative, will be elected at course level and will represent the student body at Programme Committee meeting and termly Student Forums.

3. Student Engagement Strategy

3.1. College level

At the College level students through their elected Student Academic Representatives collectively form the University Student Forum. This group will meet with the Vice Principal and invited service managers on a termly basis. Feedback from this forum will be shared with Academic Representatives and college Managers and will be published on Moodle.

The collective student voice is represented through annual quality and satisfaction surveys, (Student perception Questionnaire –non final year, National Student Survey, College Induction Survey and Student Support Services Review). These annual quality and satisfaction surveys are reported through the college management meeting structure and result in the development of initiatives to address feedback. Student feedback on these surveys will take place at a College level during the autumn term forum and at programme level during the Annual Programme Monitoring.

3.2. Course Level

At the Programme Level, one student from each study group is elected by fellow classmates to represent them as a Student Academic Representative (StAR). Training will be provided to Student Academic Representatives at the start of their academic year, with on-going support through the year, to enable Student Academic Representatives to act as a single voice for their fellow students on their course, and provide feedback to fellow students and College managers to facilitate in closing the feedback loop.

Student Academic Representatives are full members of bi-annual programme monitoring. Programme monitoring is the process undertaken by the programme managers and their teams to review the operation and delivery of a programme or course of study during an Academic Year and to prepare an action plan for the operation and delivery of that programme or course of study during the forthcoming Academic Year.

3.3. Module Level

All students have the opportunity and are encouraged to complete the Early Module Review, and Programme Evaluation Survey. These surveys will be undertaken by an anonymous online survey, in the first instance. If a course response rate is low the He Team with the support of the Student Academic Representatives will facilitate a paper version of the survey.

The Programme Evaluation considers the teaching, learning and assessment of the programme by module along with reflections on learning resources and the general learning experience. Programme Evaluations are analysed by the programme manager and are used to inform the Annual Programme Monitoring.

4. Higher Education Faculty Office

The HE Admissions, Outreach and Engagement Senior Coordinator, along with the Higher Education Faculty Office will provide on-going training to the Student Representatives and act as a key liaison point between Student Academic Representatives and South Devon College management and staff. The HE Team will also provide administrative support to the Student Academic Representatives, and ensure the outcomes of all meetings are appropriately distributed.

Feedback is returned to students via course reps in response to discussions and outcomes held in the Student Consultative Forums throughout the year. Personal tutors will feedback tutorial sessions.