

**Executive Summary of Business
for Teaching and Learning Committee**



Title	Report from Student Rep Elections 2012/13
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Type	
Date	November 2012
Strategic context	
Summary	Reports on election of Student Reps to post and of newly elected Reps to University Committees
Essential reading	None
Risk analysis	Low
Resource implications	None
Effective date of introduction	n/a
Recommendation	The Committee is asked to note the paper

Report From Student Rep Elections 2012-13

Summary of Rep activity and elections

Student Rep elections this year took place against the backdrop of changes to the structure of the academic year but along similar lines to previous years. There are three distinct electoral processes:

1. Reps are elected to post via an online nomination and voting process. Nominations were open for 2 weeks and voting for one week, with results announced 12th October.
2. School Inaugural Meetings where Reps in each school meet and elect members of School committees. Library and IT Consultative Groups and Student Experience Forum.
3. General Meeting open to all Reps to elect Reps onto Teaching and Learning Committee, Senate and Doctoral School Committee. This was held on 7th November.

All three electoral stages have now been successfully completed. In particular, the online election system worked well and the format of the General Meeting was changed following feedback last year. However, overall, 2012 saw a reduction in online nominations and voting from previous years although subsequent recruitment by Schools has resulted in comparable number of Reps to 2011.

Nominations and election summary

Year	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Total Posts available for election	348	291	273	258
Nominations Received	185	280	293	183
Posts filled by October election	134	165 (56%)	176 (64%)	128 (49%)
Vacancies filled by Schools		49	21	60
Total filled to date.		214/291 (73%)	197/273 (72%)	189/258 (72%)

Rep Vacancies by School

SCHOOL	Posts/Vacancies 2011 (Week 5)	Posts/Vacancies 2012	Vacancies as % of posts available	
			2011	2012
BIMM	8/2	4/0	25%	0%
BSMS	9/0	9/2	0%	22%
BMEC	19/5	21/3	26%	14%
Education and Social Wk	40/16	38/21	39%	55%
Engineering and Informatics	24/2	17/0	8%	0%
English	12/3	13/3	25%	23%
Global Studies	35/12	28/13	34%	46%
HAHP	16/5	19/11	31%	57%
IDS	2/1	2/0	50%	0%
Law Politics Sociology	19/0	20/3	0%	15%
Life Sciences	14/1	13/0	7%	0%
MPS	24/1	26/1	4%	3%
Media Film Music	23/13	17/2	56%	11%
SCLS	5/4	5/5	80%	100%
Psychology	14/0	15/3	0%	20%
Total	264/66	247/69		
Other	plus 12 ESW	11 BSMS elected outside process		
Total	276/66	258/69		

Elections: Voting

- **Total Unique Votes 2010/11 = 1502**
- **Total Unique Votes 2011/12 = 1702**
- **Total Unique Votes 2012/13 = 1148**

Discussion and areas for review

- Election process ran smoothly – issues with online voting have been resolved
- Review focuses mainly on lower than expected nominations and voting.
 - This year we have stressed expectations around improving Rep attendance at Meetings and expected some effect on nominations.
 - Although publicity was broadly similar to previous years, the fact that a further 60 students nominated themselves after elections closed suggests we did not reach students with initial publicity.

Improving Publicity

- Some issues affecting 2012 are thought to be one-off occurrences:
 - Changes to SOTAY and shorter summer affected Schools and students.
 - Rep team staffing availability and late recruitment of Teaching and Learning Interns.
- Some issues will need to be addressed:
 - Shorter fresher's/induction week reduces publicity time.
 - Improving communication with Schools and supporting Schools to promote Rep Scheme.

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