



National Student Engagement Programme
Clár Rannpháirtíochta Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn

Student Engagement: The Irish Experience

UTS Sydney Sept 2017
#NSTEPRollOut @NSTEPie






Useful links

- NSTEP Partners:
 - Higher Education Authority @hea_iri www.hea.ie
 - Quality & Qualifications Ireland @qqi_connect www.qqi.ie
 - Union of Students in Ireland @TheUSI www.usi.ie
- Irish Principles of Student Engagement Summary: http://www.hea.ie/sites/default/files/principles_student_engagement_insert_final_web_version_0.pdf
- Irish Principles full doc: http://www.hea.ie/sites/default/files/enhancing_student_engagement_in_decision_making_1.pdf
- sparqs – student partnerships in quality Scotland: <http://www.sparqs.ac.uk/>
- European Quality Training resources: <http://quest.esu-online.org/Student+engagement>
- Programme: usi.ie/nstep (updates are posted under the news tab) @NSTEPie

A note on language



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Engagement = Voice = Meaningful involvement = Partnership
College = University = Institute = Higher Education Institution
Students' Union = Students' Association = Students' Council

Ireland

Population: 4,749,153

7 Universities
14 Institutes of Technology
3 public colleges

10 Main Private Providers




Turning 30 in 2017






Student Engagement in Ireland

In 2014, the Higher Education Authority (HEA) established a representative group to explore best practice in relation to student engagement in higher education institutions and to propose a set of principles which would assist institutions in this area.

The report *Enhancing Student Engagement in Decision-Making* was published in April 2016.

Logos for HEA, Irish Universities Association, and QTI are visible at the bottom.

10 Principles of Student Engagement

1. Democracy
2. Student as partner
3. Inclusivity and diversity
4. Transparency
5. Students as co-creators
6. Collegiality and parity of esteem
7. Professionalism and support
8. Feedback and feedback loop
9. Self-criticism and enhancement
10. Consistency

NStEP Objectives

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- To develop student capabilities to engage in quality enhancement and assurance activities at all levels of the higher education system.
- To support institutions in developing processes and activities which support/facilitate the meaningful engagement of students.
- To strengthen the value placed on student engagement across Ireland and develop tools and resources to support a common understanding and build effective practice.
- To lay the foundations to develop work beyond the pilot phase to inform the implementation of a national student training programme and increase capacity to take work further

NStEP Work Streams

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Brief History of NStEP

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Logos for HEA, QTI, and USI are included.

Consultants to NStEP

- student partnerships in quality Scotland
- Full-time staff in Edinburgh and Inverness
- Works with all institutions and students' associations in the university and college sector. Provides international consultancy.
- Scottish Charity - members all sector agencies
- Main Funding – Scottish Funding Council
- www.sparqs.ac.uk

NStEP Activities

2016

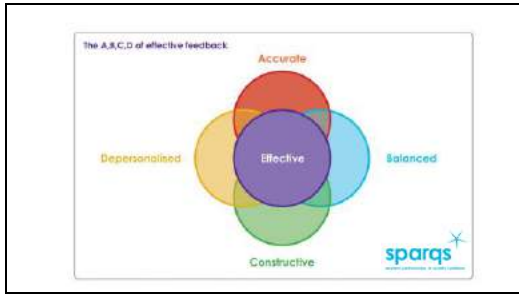
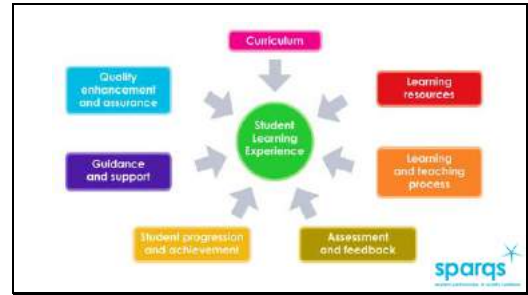
- Mar-May**
 - Pilot HEIs selected
 - Programme Launched in April
 - Student trainers recruited
 - First meeting of the National Working Group – May 17th
- Jun-Oct**
 - Students' Union Training sessions on Student Engagement and Class Reps
 - Class Rep Training Programme designed
 - Student Trainers attend ongoing residential training
 - National Event for Students' Union Officers Nov 3rd
- Oct-Dec**
 - Class Rep Training Programme Delivered
 - Second meeting of the National Working Group Meeting – Nov 10th
 - Institutional Analysis Sessions begin
 - Review of Class Rep Training Feedback

2017

- Dec-Mar**
 - Completion of the Institutional Analysis events
 - Analysis of the Institutional Analysis Outputs
 - Recruitment call for Student Trainers issued
 - Digital Badge Development begins
- Apr-Jun**
 - Selection of the 5 new Projects from the pilot analysis outputs
 - Induction event for HEIs joining the National Student Training Programme Apr 6th
 - Student Trainers Recruited
 - Induction meetings for 2017 Analysis events begin Jun 15th

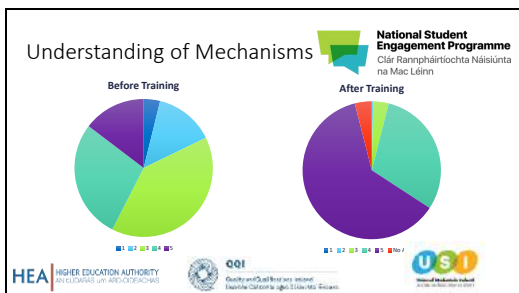
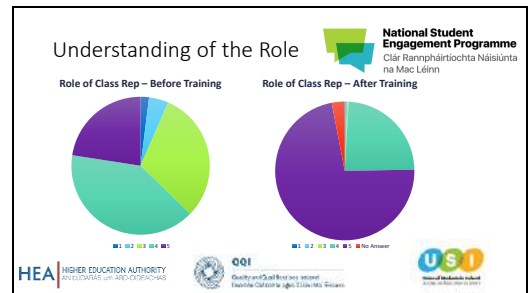
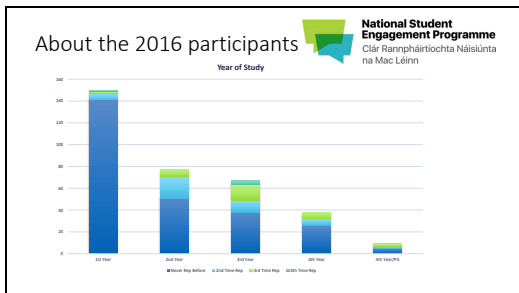
National Training Programme

1. Introduction to the training and NSTEP pilot
2. The Class Rep role and why it's important
3. The Student Learning Experience
4. Gathering student opinion
5. Effective feedback
6. Developing solutions
7. Making change happen
8. Closing the loop



2016 Training Programme Delivery

HEI	Sessions	Time	Participants	Value Rating Average
NUI Galway	5	Early Oct to Early November	169	4.3
Letterkenny IT	5	Late October to Early December	77	4.5
Cork IT	3	Early November	48	4.3
Waterford IT	5	Late November	55	4.5
National College of Ireland	1	Early December	17	4.2





A Ladder of Citizen Participation - Sherry R Arnstein

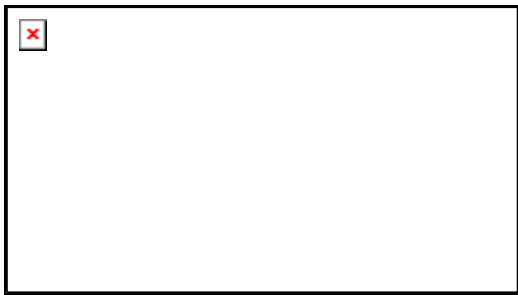
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Cadogan Matrix of Institutional / Students' Union Relationships

Patronised	Partnered
Peripheral	Pioneered

NStEP Institutional Analysis Schedule

2016/2017 Pilot	2017/2018	2018/2019
National College of Ireland	Dublin Institute of Technology	Institute of Technology Carlow
Littekenny Institute of Technology	Griffith College Dublin	Athlone Institute of Technology
NUI Galway	Dublin City University	Carlow College
Waterford Institute of Technology	Institute of Technology Sligo	Limerick Institute of Technology
Cork Institute of Technology	Maynooth University	Institute of Art, Design & Technology
	Institute of Technology Tralee	Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology



- 5 New Projects**
- The Role and Recruitment of Class Representatives
 - The Design, Review and Delivery of Programmes
 - Student Feedback Opportunities, Data and Follow Up
 - Students in formal system level procedures, strategy and decision making
 - Staff Roles and Capacity Building

Quality Reviewers Pool

National Student Reviewers Pool

About the Role
Quality Assurance arrangements in Irish Higher Education include reviews of programmes, departments, units and institutions. Reviews are carried out by a panel of experts who review reports, meet with staff and students and propose recommendations. Students are a very important part of this review panel and contribute the student experience perspective. Student reviewers are good

About the Pool
The National Student Reviewers Pool will be made up of students from different fields of study across institutions. The Pool will contribute to a database of reviewer details, administered by the National Student Engagement Coordinator, which Quality Assurance Officers in institutions will request information from when putting together review panels for sponsoring or funding institutional reviews.

T&L Pool - Call Open

Call for National Teaching & Learning Student Associates

What Does the Role Involve?

- 1. A 12-month period of involvement in the National Teaching & Learning Forum
- 2. A professional network and other opportunities for continuing development
- 3. A chance to contribute to the development of the National Forum's Report on Teaching & Learning in Higher Education
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