Tom Clarke, Vice President Education

StARs

At the time of this report being written there were over 570 StARs uploaded onto the University SOLE page.

Myself and the Pro Vice Chancellor Students have in the previous weeks started to undertake our part of the action plan that the board requested as part of the response to the Internal Student Survey. With us visiting all the Institute Boards to discuss the StAR system as a whole, the plans that the Institute has to engage with the system and also to gather examples of best practise from across the Institutes. To date we have met with the Boards for;

• Humanities and Creative Arts

• Health and Society

• Science and the Environment

• Sport and Exercise Science

From speaking with various members of University staff the attendance and input that has been taking place at Course Management Committees has been praised very highly.

StARs Training

This year’s training took place during the University's first Worcester Week, with 210 students attending throughout the week.

Due to demand we h decided to expand the training programme into Worcester week 2 which saw more training sessions run aimed at developing the StARs yet further. A further 150 StARs booked onto the sessions timetabled below;



Plans are now being made for me to visit one of our partner centres in Roche, Cornwall to deliver a training session to the StARs down there.

Training Evaluations

I have attached below the tables that summarise the points made on the StARs Training evaluation Forms from all sessions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The part of the training I most enjoyed | |
| videos | 18 |
| quiz | 17 |
| presentation | 14 |
| Information (about role) / Informative | 12 |
| relaxed / friendly / informal | 3 |
| Accreditation / v-record / rewards | 3 |
| Interactive | 3 |
| Free stuff (the pack) | 3 |
| visual aids | 2 |
| Introduction | 2 |
| Meeting other StARs | 2 |
| All of it | 1 |
| None | 1 |
| Catering | 1 |
| Cheering | 1 |
| VP Forum | 1 |
| Not boring | 1 |
| Guidance on communication | 1 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Least enjoyed | |
| NUS Propaganda / Stuff | 5 |
| Too general / more detail needed | 3 |
| Session scheduling / timing | 3 |
| videos | 2 |
| No food / biscuits | 2 |
| Presentation | 2 |
| Others chatting | 1 |
| Everything | 1 |
| Employability | 1 |
| Group reflection | 1 |
| Awkward classroom | 1 |
| Quiz | 1 |
| Assumed knolwedge | 1 |
| v-record | 1 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| What motived you to attend training today? (please tick all those that apply): | | | |
| Accreditation | 38 | V-record | 37 |
| Contact from the SU | 33 | Encouraged by lecturer | 24 |
| Requirement of the role of StAR | 61 | Enhance my CV | 46 |
| Other (please detail) help other students, learn about role, to do my best in new role | | | |
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StARs Forums

The first StARs Forum of the year took place on Monday 3rd November with the main theme of the meeting being centred on Academic Tutoring. The meeting was attended by the Vice President Education, Pro Vice Chancellor Students and Head of Educational Development to field the questions put by the StARs. There were a total of 91 StARs present at the forum.

A high proportion of the student’s comments were positive, with many of the students commending the system. In particular students from Science and the Environment, Health and Society and Humanities and Creative Arts were incredibly pleased with the way things were run in their Institutes. Many of negative comments were centred on students not knowing how their Academic Tutors were, not being taught by their tutors for any of their modules and also availability of staff to actually book a tutorial.

The second StARs Forum took place on Monday 1st December, with the theme of Assessment and Feedback. The meeting was attended by the Vice President Education and Pro Vice Chancellor Students, with 51 StARs also attending.

As with the first forum many of the comments were positive. However there were a few issues raised centred on the preparation that students were given for their assessments.

Volunteering

215 StARs have signed onto the Volunteering Scheme just under their role as a StAR, logging approximately 1000 hours so far.