



# PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

# PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT: NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE AND NESCOLSA

## The Agreement

North East Scotland College and the Students' Association (NESCoISA) agree to work in partnership to achieve shared priorities outlined in this document. Both parties will work collaboratively to ensure that all students can get involved in actively shaping and influencing their College experiences.

This agreement has been developed through various discussions and workshop activities involving students, sabbatical officers, senior management, curriculum & support staff and the College's quality team with input from SPARQs. Updates on progress were made available to students through a range of engagement activities.

## What is Student Engagement & Who Benefits?

Engagement is about:

- Delivering opportunities for students to take responsibility for their learning and contribute to a successful learning & teaching experience.
- Developing processes for students to feedback on their learning experience and for the College to hear what students are saying in relation this, so that students & staff can influence change.
- Providing students with responses to feedback so that they see their contribution is valued and is used to shape successful experiences for them, future learners & the College.
- Identifying and supporting opportunities for all students to be involved in wider College experiences.
- Encouraging personal and professional development opportunities for students & staff.

## Content of the Partnership Agreement

**Part A** of this agreement provides an overview of the opportunities the College and the Students' Association provide for students to engage in their learning experience currently. A working group of College and Students' Association staff took part in a mapping exercise, which informed the creation of Part A.

**Part B** focuses on how we can take student engagement forward in partnership. This section identifies key projects to work on and the responsibilities for College, the Association, students and staff to develop these. Progress on completing the tasks and evaluating impact will take place on an annual basis.

## PART A

### Curriculum

Class Rep System  
Course Committee Meetings  
Focus Groups  
Suggestion Forms  
In-class feedback  
Work Experience  
Volunteering Units  
Sports Departments Clubs  
Recycol  
Performances  
Enterprise Activities

### Quality Team

Focus Groups  
First Impressions Survey  
Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey  
Lesson Observations

### Guidance Staff

Feedback during timetabled guidance sessions  
Regular access to guidance staff

### Association

Sabbatical Officer Posts  
Voluntary Officer Posts  
Faculty Rep  
Class Rep  
Peer Led Reviews  
Student Surveys  
Regional Board  
Committees  
Student Engagement Enhancement Group  
Freshers' Fair  
Evaluations  
Class Rep Councils  
Students' Association AGM  
Lecturer of the Year Awards

### Support Services

Library and IT Satisfaction Survey  
Library Steering Group  
Publicity and Marketing Ambassadors

### Student Services

Evaluation Questionnaire  
Focus Groups  
Careers and Volunteering Fair



## PART B THE PROJECTS

### Project 1 - Promoting student engagement in shaping quality and college community

- Responding to challenges in the nature of the student community (including young and local student profile), including skills and confidence to engage.
- Reaching out to engage students beyond class reps.
- Communicating what students are engaging in - the value of surveys, the role and visibility of Students' Association (see project 2), and the impact and result of feedback.
- Timetabling space to allow students to engage with and discuss their learning.

### Project 2 - Developing the students' association to engage effectively in the life and work of the college

- Facilitating Students' Association involvement in key processes such as key challenges for the college, mental health and so on.
- Promoting an active Students' Association where there are clear benefits of participation including the employability value.
- Developing effective representative structures, including where the faculty rep structure fits well into and builds on the class rep system.
- Agreeing and articulating the role of staff and curriculum areas in supporting the students' association.
- Agreeing and articulating the impact of student services, recruitment and other service departments on the Students' Association
- Exploring Students' Association visibility, including induction and physical presences at campuses.

### Project 3 - Reviewing and reshaping tools of student feedback

- Engaging students in questions around what should be asked, when and how.
- Avoiding ambiguity and duplication in feedback tools.
- Creating map of feedback activity throughout the year, accommodating key national and sectoral constraints/factors.
- Exploring the potential role of students in interrogating and explaining feedback data.
- Exploring the scope for students to work as interns in quality including on some of these projects.

## HIGH LEVEL TASKS (action plans are in place for each project)

Create a College-wide communications plan that takes into account the student journey and ensures that information is disseminated;

Take account of the diversity of the College population when developing a communication plan;

Deliver capacity-building opportunities to help students feel confident about engaging.

Build a sense of belonging and community through a programme of awareness raising events, societies & clubs;

Develop promotional materials related to the Students' Association;

To increase the capacity and reach of the Students' Association by enhanced promotion and partnership working involving the whole College staff.

Develop co-working quality initiatives that have the potential to bring about positive change;

To ensure that student feedback informs and shapes the quality of opportunities available to them;

Deliver responses to students following their feedback.

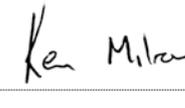
SIGNATURES:



**Josh Gall**  
Student President



**Liz McIntyre**  
Principal & Chief Executive



**Ken Milroy**  
Chair of Regional Board