



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH

Edinburgh  
University  
**Students'**  
Association



# STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT



The Student Partnership Agreement serves to highlight ways in which the wider University, including all students and staff, can effectively work together to enhance the student experience.

It sets out our values, our approach to partnership and the priorities we have agreed to work on together during the academic year.

Senate approved the first Student Partnership Agreement for the University on the 4th October 2017. This booklet gives an overview of the funded projects that took place throughout 2017/18 in support of the Agreement.



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## Student Voice: *'Two way street'*



**Academic**  
*Support*



**Promoting**  
*positive mental  
health & wellbeing*





## STUDENT VOICE: TWO WAY STREET

- Working together on student feedback – value, share, consider, act and use
- Strengthening student representation structures

## CHEMUNITY SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

This project canvassed student opinion on the themes of the Student Partnership Agreement and used this to create a student-driven web-based resource and social media presence for disseminating useful information.

A launch event was held in the School's Social Space with upwards of 50 students (UG and PG) attending. Board games were provided at the event, including a customised version of Guess Who? using the faces of Chemistry academic staff.



Opinions, feedback and suggestions for website content were collated on the night, and these were categorised depending on whether they best refer to the student voice, academic support, or mental wellbeing themes.

A longer-term aim is to engage with other schools and support services in order to arrange joint events and to share this project's practice and findings. The website is now fully functional and was ready for the new academic year. Visit the site at [www.chemunity.chem.ed.ac.uk](http://www.chemunity.chem.ed.ac.uk).



## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- What's available?
- Who does what?
- How to access?
- Facilitating students to engage!

## THAT VET LIFE PODCAST

### ROYAL (DICK) SCHOOL OF VETERINARY STUDIES

'That Vet Life' is a student hosted podcast created to highlight the people and experiences that inspire, encourage and challenge the veterinary profession.

The podcast consists of interviews with students, educators and professionals covering topics on the veterinary experience. The topics covered are not only relevant for the target audience of students and veterinary professionals, but are also accessible to those outside of the profession.

The podcast format allows this project to be easily accessed by its target audience, and also gives this project longevity as it matches the current trend towards consumable audio content.

The podcast can be found on any major podcasting platforms as well as at <https://thatvetlife.wordpress.com>.



## MAKING OF A BETTER YOU

### ROYAL (DICK) SCHOOL OF VETERINARY STUDIES

The Making of a Better You event, aimed at supporting new students, focused on the theme of 'a new start to the new year'. It took an all-encompassing view of academic skills, including both study and non-study support.

Each day of the week-long event had a particular study skills focus that was communicated via a daily poster, to which students were invited to contribute ideas.. Student VetPAL Leaders took charge of the planning and running of the activities, thus leading to a diverse range of events and building a sense of community.

On each day the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' postcards were made available as an ongoing thread to the week, which proved useful. Making of a Better You has now been embedded in the School's annual calendar of events.



## PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Mental health training & guidance
- Grow peer support networks
- Engaging with mental health awareness events

### TOP TIPS FOR STAYING IN GOOD MENTAL HEALTH

#### SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY & LANGUAGE SCIENCES

This project developed a dedicated resource to help students maintain good mental health, as well as inform them of the available sources of support in the School and across the University.

The aim was to develop a single, easily accessible resource that could be used in a variety of ways to support students in times of need.



The information provided in the resource is evidence-based, and draws on psychological research into wellbeing and resilience. The resource is available as a [postcard](#) and [poster](#) an important feature of which is the attractive and engaging graphic design. Whilst the resource was produced with Psychology students in mind, it is relevant to all students across the University.

## THE HCA STAFF-STUDENT CUP

### HISTORY, CLASSICS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

This project was the first of an annual staff-student competition within the School which included three rounds: a quiz, a choir 'Sing-Off' and a sports day.



All HCA staff and students were invited to take part, and each event gave different staff and students the chance to take part in something suited to their talents and abilities. The trophy for the competition is prominently displayed within the School, and the events were publicised widely via the School's social media pages.

The primary aim was to bring students and staff together in a friendly and informal setting to help build community in the School. The project has had a positive impact on student-staff interactions and will be developed further next academic year.



## FULL LIST OF STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FUNDED PROJECTS 2017/18.

### STUDENT VOICE: TWO WAY STREET

- Exploring the educational training requirements of nursing and medical students at the University of Edinburgh — **Maggie Carson, School of Health in Social Science**
- A Students' Guide to Conferences — **Sarah Finnie, School of Clinical Sciences**
- Chemunity — **Dr Chris Mowat, School of Chemistry**
- Making of a better you — **Dr Jessie Paterson, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- Keeping well abroad — **Veronique Desnain, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures**
- The ECA Student Voice — **Dr Kate Carter, Edinburgh College of Art**

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

- Coding Club- advancing quantitative skills peer to peer — **Izzy Rich, School of GeoSciences**
- Making of a better you — **Dr Jessie Paterson, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- 'That Vet Life' Podcast — **Moriah McCauley, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- Chemunity — **Dr Chris Mowat, School of Chemistry**

### PROMOTING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Scottish Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA) training – UG/Staff — **Mike Grieve, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- Scottish Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA) training – PG/Staff — **Omar Alfituri, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- Keeping well abroad — **Veronique Desnain, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures**
- Solidari-Tea — **Dr Louise Horsfall, School of Biological Sciences**
- Top tips for staying in good mental health — **Kasia Banas, School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences**
- Chemunity — **Dr Chris Mowat, School of Chemistry**
- Immersive Art Therapy Space for Students — **Ayshia Taskin, Edinburgh College of Art**
- The HCA Staff-Student Cup — **Dr Esther Mijers, School of History, Classics and Archaeology**
- Yoga @ CRM — **Joan Casamitjana, MRC Centre for Regenerative Medicine**
- Our SpeakEasy — **Daniel Pokras, School of Engineering**

# STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

For more information on the Agreement, or to share feedback or future project ideas, please contact:

[academic.services@ed.ac.uk](mailto:academic.services@ed.ac.uk)

[reception@eusa.ed.ac.uk](mailto:reception@eusa.ed.ac.uk)



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