

Expansion Pack Review: Executive Summary

Author: Joe Horsnell (Arts & Divinity Faculty President 2020-21)

Date: 2 March 2021

Current situation

- The expansion pack system is confusing to School Presidents, Convenors and often the class reps themselves
- The term 'expansion pack' does not actively reflect what these roles are
- School Presidents find that some roles are useful and effective, and others are not
- The roles are incredibly unbalanced, with some reps having lots of work to do (e.g. careers) and other reps having very little (e.g. online/social)
- Some reps find the roles unfulfilling and that their remits are unclear

Methodology of this report

- Expansion pack class reps and School Presidents were surveyed in Week 5 of Semester 2 (2020-21) to gather evidence for this report

Recommendations

- **Rename 'Expansion Packs' as 'School Roles'**
- **Abolish the library rep** role and replace it with Library staff attending Education Committee twice per semester to receive student feedback in place of SLUG
- **Maintain the Careers & Employability rep** but update the training and offer a handbook with examples of past successful events and key contacts
- **Abolish the Social rep** and replace it with a **new Community & Events rep** which will have a clear remit to promote community in their School, maintain their School's social media and support the School President and other reps in putting on events
- **Add a wellbeing remit to the Disabilities Rep** role to create a Disability & Wellbeing rep
- **Rename the Minutes rep** as Secretary and add 'feedback loop' remit
- **Rename the Online rep** as the Online Learning rep and expand their remit to include all online resources (including their School's website and platforms such as Moodle, MMS and Online exams)
- **Bring the Mentoring Champion into the academic representative team** so that they report to the School President directly (this can be a class rep or co-opted student)
- **Create a specialised structure for the School of Modern Languages**

Action Plan

1. Go to the Director of Education for approval
2. Translate these changes into a clear handbook detailing the new system for all
3. Run these changes past School Presidents – not at Education Committee, but in Office Hours
4. Implement the communication plans detailed in the proposal section of this report in advance of the class rep elections in September, adding to yourunion.net
5. Pass these changes into the Laws of the Students Association and/or Education Committee Constitution
6. Conduct a survey of the new School Roles in December 2021 (at the discretion of the next Director of Education and Faculty Presidents) to assess the success or failure of the changes