

How to utilise your SCO

We understand that not everyone knows how to utilise the SCOs, or even what the role entails. In this guidance document we have outlined some SCO core responsibilities and linked those with ways in which you can work with your SCOs to collaborate on enhancing the sense of community within your school.

Social events

SCOs work to enhance the sense of school community beyond the classroom by organising social events. In the past this has included quiz nights, balls and helping with the Deans award. If you are looking to organise any kind of social event for students or students and staff, then you should consider getting an SCO involved.

Academic representation

A key responsibility of the SCOs is to support the Reps and ensure they are aware of the feedback Reps are receiving in order to identify any trends across programmes. One-way SCOs have supported Reps in the past is by organising PCM pre-meets to ensure Reps are prepared and attending those meetings with solutions as well as feedback. Therefore, you can help the SCOs to organise and/ or encourage Reps to attend such meetings. When it comes to the SCOs identifying trends across programmes, you can be open to listening to what the SCOs are feedbacking to ensure the student voice is being represented and acted on.

NSS

SCOs are crucially important in ensuring response rates to the NSS are adequate within each School. In the past SCOs have come up with various ideas to encourage students to complete the survey including a response being matched with a charity donation and pizza parties. You can help to support SCOs with the materialisation of ideas they generate for attracting NSS responses.

Communication

Staff can provide an important communication bridge between SCOs and students. For some schools, having the SCOs occasionally takeover their social media accounts has provided an effective way for the SCOs to communicate with students. This could be something that your school can consider doing also. When it comes to contacting students over email, your SCOs may need some help with this depending on what data they have access to. You can also utilise your SCO by providing them with information you want to be pass over to Reps.

Link with HSU

We have regular communication with the SCOs over WhatsApp, in our monthly forums and in emails. They provide an invaluable link between us at the SU and each of the Schools at Herts. Should you need to speak with someone from the SU or want to know more about what we do, your SCO could be a good person to speak to for signposting or more information.