

**SUBJECT LINE:** Ready for student rep post-pandemic?

**SNIPPET TEXT:** Tips, inspo and a webinar to help you improve engagement

Student satisfaction took a nosedive during the pandemic. Whilst figures are improving, [almost a third of students](#) still report being dissatisfied with their academic experience.

In this newsletter, we take a closer look at **how we can improve student engagement and representation as we move beyond COVID-19**.

## Event: Student Voice Network - Effective student representation post-pandemic

Student representation has changed. In a post-pandemic world, how do we ensure student engagement? How do we capture and respond to *all* student voices? 🗣️

We'll be addressing these issues in **our upcoming webinar**, with all participants getting the opportunity to network, pose questions and share best practice.

Here's a little more information on what you can expect from this interactive event.

### The speakers

#### **Sherry Iqbal**

Sherry is the Representation & Democracy Co-ordinator at York Graduate Students' Association. She has a wealth of sector experience, working as a Sabbatical Officer for HE and FE throughout the past four years. She specialises in supporting underrepresented students.

#### **Ashley Storer-Smith**

Joining Sherry to lead the webinar is Ashley. Ashley is Academic Voice & Policy Manager at Warwick Students' Union and a Trustee at Trinity St David Students' Union and Keele Postgraduate Association.


### The focus


We'll be looking at how we can best represent students in the "new normal", focusing on:

- the importance of both language and digital spaces
- how a blended voice system can be used for a new hybrid model of learning
- tangible action SUs can take to adapt and better engage with students post-pandemic

## Want to join us?

**Student Voice Network - Effective student representation post-pandemic** will take place:

 **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

 **10am to 12.30pm**

Register [HERE](#) to claim your place.

## Interview: How Encouraging Student Engagement is Key to the University Experience

We sat down with Dylan Wilson, former VP Education at Art's Student Union, to find out **how he built engagement and awareness with students** during his stint as Sabbatical Officer.

He talked to us about the challenges of COVID-19, about the Pyramid of Engagement and why meeting students one-on-one has been a top priority.

▶ Click [HERE](#) to read the full interview.

## Interview: COVID – Creating Effective Change and Influencing Policy

Persuading 19 schools and over 200 courses to agree to the same thing? Sounds like a tall order.

But that's exactly what Mari Chappell did. **The former Education Officer at Keele University successfully achieved meaningful change for students** – whilst dealing with COVID-19 chaos too.

▶ Click [HERE](#) to find out how she did it and read her tips for how other student representatives can do the same.

## Interview: How to use your voice to inspire change

How transparent was your university during the upheaval caused by COVID-19?

For Isabella Enozi, recently elected as Vice President of Education at the University of Exeter, her institution failed to engage students in the conversation or deliver real-time communication.


Frustrated, Isabella took action. **She co-founded the initiative Students for Academic Mitigation**, started a petition that gained 24,000 signatures and encouraged the university to come up with new solutions.

▶ Click [HERE](#) to read about how Isabella found her voice and discovered a passion for student advocacy.

## Tech, transparency and the topics students really care about

As is clear from all of the above, COVID-19 is forcing universities and student representatives to adapt. Communication across a range of channels and tech that's up to the challenge are needed if *all* student voices are to be heard.

That's exactly where Unitu can help. Our platform joins the dots between students, their representatives and university decision makers – helping leaders make insightful improvements that really impact student experience.

 [Request a free demo](#) to see what our student feedback platform is all about.