

TITLE: SoCS Rep Officer Report
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SUBMIT TO: <https://lincolnsu.com/change-and-represent/leaders-and-officers/hold-us-to-account>

WHAT HAS BEEN WORKED ON IN THE LAST MONTH?

1. Orientation week activities completed in a smooth and successful fashion. - **Complete**
2. Identify committees that are open in the School of Computer Science to support full student participation – **Complete** - *but need to sit and discuss how we can get a wider participation*
3. Welcome and introduce new 1st Year course reps to the team - **Complete**
4. Send monthly communication to each Year group to formally present the reps team (as committed in School Rep July email) so that students know all clear points of contact for us - **Complete**
5. Support in the collation of feedback on the initial first few weeks of Semester - *Ongoing*

A high paced level of communication occurred over the last few weeks prior to the SoCs welcoming back students. This communication was well received but felt a little late, however, it was worthwhile communication. Feedback that come from this was the sporadic style of the information and how to collate it all in a meaningful way. Several students missed critical information as it was email after email. Several items of which are only found on the email and not accessible or findable via blackboard.

We had a great success with the Orientation week activities as well as wide promotion. Many students took part and Horia spent much time ensuring new teams were created and new friendships started. We feel that this was a good compliment to the online orientation activities that are more formally part of the School induction process.

Course Reps have done a great job ensuring they are known and heard amongst their year groups and getting placed to be someone who can take a question and deliver an answer. Confidence in the reps is growing as is their visibility. This is large part due to the SoCS who kindly promote us within school communication and all student updates.

SUCCESS FROM THE PAST MONTH AND ANY REP WINS:

The team have been busy helping others at the start of the new Semester. Our key achievements over the last 4 weeks have been:

1. **Orientation Week** – Completed with success. Over 60 participants per day per activity with loads of prizes (<https://socsfreshers.github.io/Results.html>) and memes generated! (<https://youtu.be/e4WBRB3X4VA>). It was closed with a great roundup Q&A with Chris Headleand.
2. **Python Buddy Scheme** – Informal buddy scheme initiated by Margaret-Ann Withington between the School of Maths & Physics and School of Computer science. Using skills that both schools have to develop student to student peer learning. 8 volunteers from SoCS already with pairing by SoM&P over the next few weeks. This will go live November for Semester A and then reviewed for Semester B.
3. **2 x Q&A Video Sessions** – Video session (<https://youtu.be/-Q6n71tAKiE>) to take questions to Chris and the Team to enable a simpler way of sharing information and quickly getting feedback. These are viewed by almost 150 people in the first 24 hours and sent to the entire School.
4. **Initial Development of SoCS reading week ‘Showcase Day’** – Working with Horia to development a student led Showcase Day with ‘show and tell’ events in the AM and then peer learning activities in the PM. Circa 7 expression of interest to present have already been received and will be formalising this with new website and twitter promotions over the next month.
5. **Question Feedback** – Reps gathering and answering questions proactively has stopped many small issues growing larger, especially at the start of Semester in and amongst the general chat forums SoCS students use. Some questions and feedback can be found here: <https://socsreps.github.io/feedback.html>

PLANS FOR NEXT MONTH:

Next month we have several items to achieve:

1. Complete Reading Week Showcase event activities (Week 5)
2. Initialise monthly roundtable discussions of all Reps and invite the School to ask any open questions
3. Initialise Women in Science Roundtable with Reps – Identify what we as SoCS can do and develop plan to engage – this is an area that is key to the CoS and SoCS has a large part to play with many great voices wanting to contribute.
4. Complete the collation of feedback on the initial first few weeks of Semester A