

Your monthly guide to the latest news, information and opportunities for Strathclyde University Class Reps



NOVEMBER 2009

Welcome to the monthly Class Rep Newsletter

Hello and welcome to the brand new publication from your Students' Association, specifically for Class Reps. In each issue, you will find the latest news, information and opportunities for Class Reps at the University of Strathclyde.

If you have any questions, comments or just want to have a blether, give us a shout on classreps@theunion.strath.ac.uk

Teaching Excellence Awards Launched! *Your degree. Your teaching. Your decision*

It gives me great pleasure to announce Strathclyde's first ever *Teaching Excellence Awards* which have been possible thanks to the support of the University, the Higher Education Academy and NUS Scotland.



They give you the chance to tell us, and the University, about examples of excellent teaching you receive - rewarding those doing it, and giving others the chance to learn from it. The awards are a way of positively engaging in the way you are taught, and ensure that as the University moves towards an increasing focus on research, learning and teaching isn't downgraded or neglected.

You can nominate online in two categories - Innovative Teacher and Outstanding Teacher - over the next four months, with a student and staff panel meeting in March to choose a shortlist. The eventual winners will be announced and rewarded at a joint staff and student awards lunch, hosted by the Students' Association.

At the same time we will also recognise and reward you; Class Reps working at a grass roots level in the University to ensure that academic matters are being represented to senior figures. Reps will be able to nominate from amongst themselves for the awards of Faculty Representative of the Year, as well as an overall Student Representative of the Year.

University's need to remember why they exist - and that's not simply to provide an outlet for leading research, but to educate and inform. The University was founded on the motto of "the place of useful learning" and we need to ensure that founding principle is being adhered to; that teaching is at the forefront of our activities, and, in line with the awards, is innovative and outstanding. The university's updated values and mission provide a starting place for that, and we are hopeful that the introduction of these awards with their support will see a practical and tangible application of those words.

So what are you waiting for?! Make sure you get online and nominate at:

www.strathstudents.com/tea

Philip Whyte | USSA President | president@theunion.strath.ac.uk

You're a Class Rep - So what happens next...?



Hi guys and gals, my name's Darren Young and I'm the Academic Affairs Officer for 2009/2010. Let me just say a big welcome to all of our new, and continuing, Class Reps for this academic session.

I suppose you're all wondering, 'what do I do now?' The best piece of advice that I can give to you is to be pro-active. Introduce yourself to your class or even on Learn-online if you don't have the confidence to stand up in front of people. Try and make sure people know who you are and get them to come and speak to you on any problems they encounter on their course.

If you have any queries or any problems please do not hesitate to contact myself at academicaffairs@theunion.strath.ac.uk

Send your feedback to: classreps@theunion.strath.ac.uk



Win an iPod Touch!

This year the University is going through an external review process concentrating on the quality of experience it offers to students, and as part of it the Students' Association wants to hear from you on what you think of your Strathclyde experience.

But here's the thing, we don't want just a regular old essay (unless that's your thing!) but want you to do it any way you want!

Basically, tell us about your experience (anything from feedback to exams, the library to course materials) and tells us your way; it could be...

- A song
- A poem
- A play
- A cartoon strip
- ...or an essay!

It's all about you and your creative juices!

Submit your entry to deadlines@theunion.strath.ac.uk and not only shape your experience but also for the chance to win some great prizes for the top entry!

For more information, check out www.strathstudents.com/deadlines



The Class Rep Christmas Catch-up!



So...it's only a month away and the dreaded 'C word' has wormed its way into our vocabulary already (I am of course referring to Christmas and nothing else). So, as stated in the heading, it's our way of getting all you guys together for a catch up and a wee chat on the issues that have been brought up within your class.

Provisionally the idea is to have it on Thursday the 10th of December, where there will be a formal presentation/discussion for around an hour to an hour and a half within Debates starting at 5pm. Then moving into the Priory for some free food and drinks (that's always a good gimmick) and even some free Union branded goodies. You never know, Santa might even put in a appearance!

So remember and keep the 10th of December free for a night of Academic related topics rounded off with a good old drink in the Priory. Hope to see you all there.

More info at: www.strathstudents.com/catch-up



Putting a name to the face

There are over 500 Class Reps just like you on Campus. We don't expect you to get to know them all, but, to help you along, we'll be introducing you to one in each issue of Rep.

Name: *Asmaa Hounat*

Course: *BA Economics with Finance*

Level: *2nd Year Undergraduate*

Age: *18 years old*

Hometown: *Glasgow*

Likes: *Dancing; Going out; Having a good time!*

Dislikes: *Being sad; Self-involved people; Ignorant people*

Inspired by: *My Mum because she has two degrees, one in Medicine and the other in Pharmacy from this very University. She made a life from herself despite coming from extreme poverty within Algeria*

When I grow up, I want to be...

A CEO within the banking industry

