

Student Isolation during Covid-19 Pandemic

Student Council Notes:

That a large volume of students in first year are reporting difficulty getting to know other students in their course due to the challenges of online learning this year.

Student Council Further Notes:

That feelings of isolation and loneliness can contribute to poor mental health and contribute to student drop-out rates in university.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

That the VP's for education in each campus lobby academic council regarding the possibility of lecturer/tutor-organised ice-breaker sessions for first year students this year. These brief-sessions could be integrated into lecturing hours (e.g. immediately after finishing a lecture) and lecturers/tutors could encourage students to exchange social media information, set up group-chats, as well as join student union and society pages.

Student Council further Mandates:

That the VP's for education in each campus work with College officers and school reps to conduct a survey(s) regarding these issues in order to 1) get feedback on what first years would like and 2) to gauge success of these measures. These sessions and survey(s) should be distributed at class rep meetings where relevant and completed by the second student council of the second semester.

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