

Dear all,

I am emailing you to inform you of an important change to the student academic representation system. Following student feedback and discussions between the Union, Ross Renton and Sarah Greer, it has been decided to rename Student Academic Reps (StARs), with immediate effect, to **Course Reps**. We have also agreed to set up a joint University/Students' Union working group to review the system over the next academic year to ensure that it is fit for purpose and genuinely representative of the views of University of Worcester students. While this review will take some time, it was felt that the name change should be implemented now for the following reasons:

- The course experience survey showed knowledge of the StARs is inconsistent and that the name Course Rep reflects explicitly what they do as reps.
- Students have fed back that they feel the name StAR was a term they felt more appropriate for schools and colleges rather than university
- The name Course Rep would tie in better with the Institute Rep role.

As part of the change we will now refer to those StARs Coordinators, within each institute, as Academic Representation Coordinators or Rep Coordinators for short. This reflects that they support both Course and Institute Reps. We will call the overall system the student academic representation system.

The Students' Union will be running a campaign to inform returning students of the change when they arrive back in September. We will also undertake with the University to ensure all documentation is updated. Please could you ensure that you filter this down to your teams and ensure that all documentation produced for 2017-18 refers to Course Reps rather than StARs. We are aware that some material may have been produced so there may be a period where both names appear but we will need to ensure that students understand the name has changed.

We are excited about this change and the upcoming review and we look forward to implementing an even more effective system for students. If you have any questions regarding this change please email me and our Student Engagement Manager; Tim Hewes-Belton (t.hewesbelton@worc.ac.uk) and we will be happy to help.

Thank you all in advance for your continued support,

Kind Regards,
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