

Weeds of Remote Studying Students

Introduction

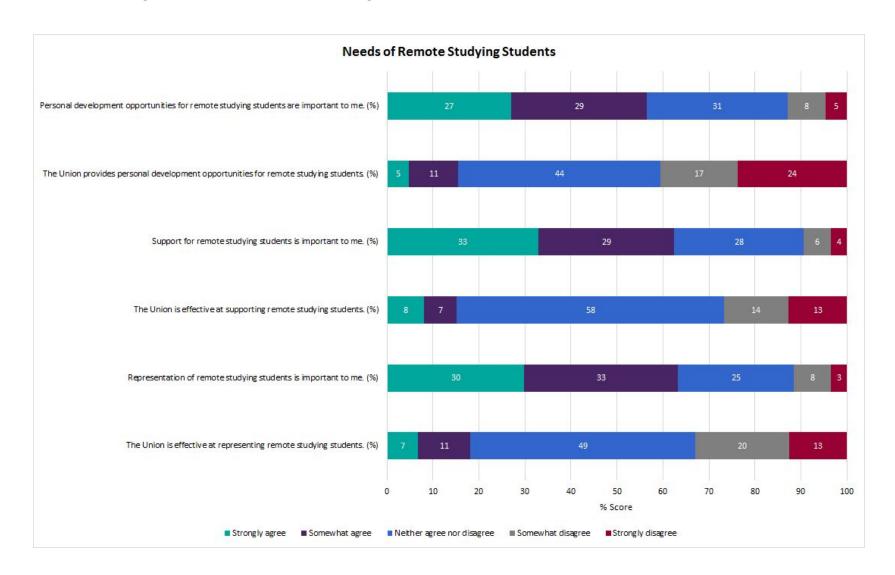


This survey was created to look into what remote studying students (anyone who is not based at a University campus within Portsmouth) need and want from UPSU.

- 5879 students were eligible to complete this survey
- There were 89 final respondents to the survey
- This is roughly a 90% confidence level with a +/- 9% margin of error
- 39 students consented to taking part in a digital focus group
- The questions in this survey were broken down into the three strategic areas
 of the Union; Representation, Welfare, and Development.
- These areas were then further broken into needs and wants to identify what is integral to students and what will enhance their experience.



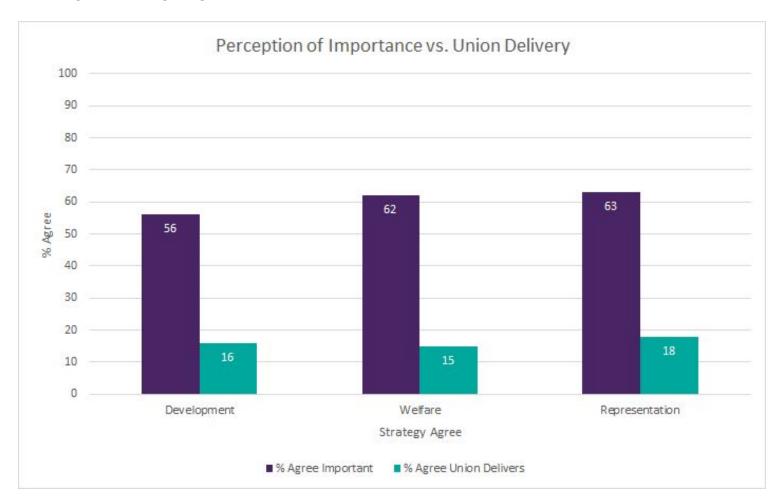
This below graph shows the % agree for each question.





This quantitative data shows a clear link between what remote students' consider to be important, and their opinion of the Union in the same area.

The below graph highlights this correlation.





The qualitative questions were also broken into the Union's areas of strategic focus, then into wants and needs.

Although all areas were covered by the qualitative responses, they not did significantly vary for each question and were often in the wrong section, suggesting a lack of understanding of what these terms mean.

This may have also been affected by the lack of qualitative responses in general, as there is an average of only 17 responses per question.

As such, the responses have been merged for the purpose of qualitative analysis, but the raw data can be provided.



The below table shows how many comments were received for each question:

Total	156
Other Comments	17
Other Wants	12
Other Needs	17
Development Wants	13
Development Needs	17
Welfare Wants	16
Welfare Needs	23
Representation Wants	20
Representation Needs	21



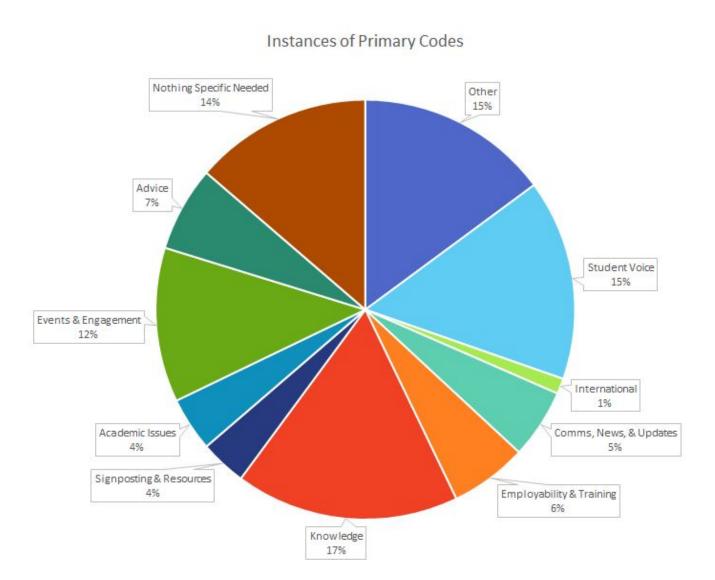
The responses have been split into 11 codes 168 times, and 35 sub codes 101 times. The full list of sub codes is available on the data set.

The primary themes are:

- Student Voice
- International
- Comms, News, & Updates
- Employability & Training
- Knowledge
- Signposting
- Academic Issues
- Events & Engagement
- Advice
- Nothing Specific Needed
- Other



The below graph shows how many instances there were of each primary code:





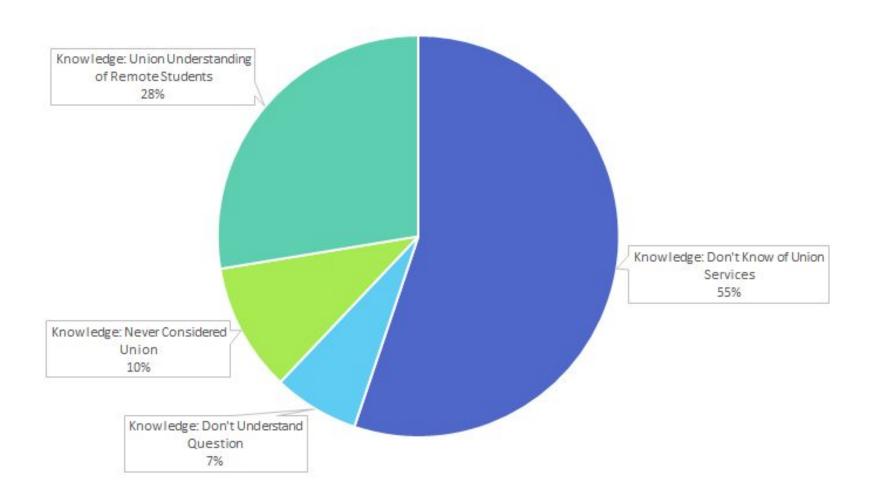
The top five themes were:

- Knowledge (17% of comments)
 - 55% of these were comments referring to lack of knowledge about the Union services and what we can offer both all students, and specifically remote studying students.
- Other (15% of comments)
 - These comments were either too vague to code or unique. There were also some positive and negative comment which can be viewed in the raw data.
- Student Voice (15% of comments)
 - 47% of these comments discussed specific distance learner representation, and there were multiple comments through the survey highlighting their voice.
- Nothing Specific (14% of comments)
 - These comments stated that they need nothing specific.
- Events & Engagement (12% of comments)
 - This group was coded into the most secondary themes, and comments focused on timings of events, and opportunities to socialise and networking with other students.



Knowledge theme broken into sub codes:

Instances of comments on Knowledge





Comments on Knowledge:

Personally I do not know what support is offered by the Union and how it would benefit me so to start with I need to know what support is available and can I access it remotely.

Understanding of what you can offer in simple terms tailored to distance learners.

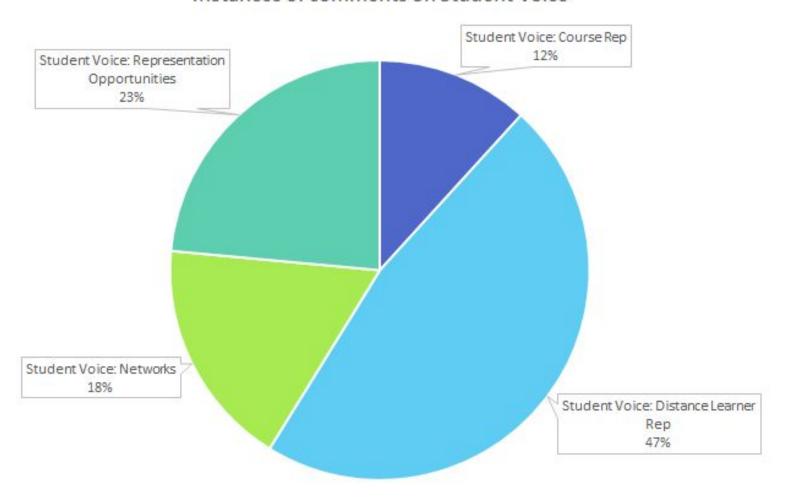
Today is the first day of my life that I have heard about "the Union".

A starting point would be to make yourselves known to remote students and let us know what you can do for us. At the moment I have no real idea what you do for other students or how you can support us.



Student Voice theme broken into sub codes:

Instances of comments on Student Voice





Comments on Student Voice:

I do not know if there are any reps for us. I saw the list of student reps for departments, but realised that there were not any DL reps...why is that?

A distance learning rep who understands the differences to remote learning and to assist with inclusion.

Dedicated officer if possible.

A part time student voice / rep.

Having a say more than just the course rep.



Comments on Nothing:

(NB. Nothing was not coded into any sub codes)

Frankly, nothing specific but it's already good to receive university e-mail update time to time. Being remote, it's also good to feel a sense of belonging.

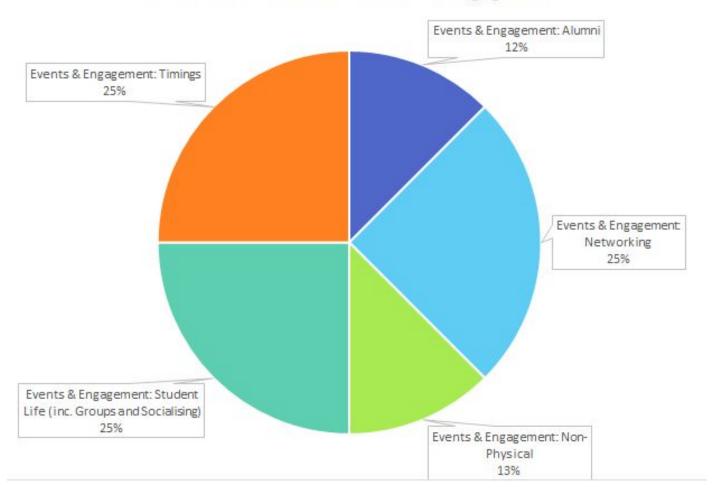
I don't need representation as a distance learner I feel too far away from the institution

None as yet required! Just want to know that someone is there 'just in case!'

None, so far as I can see, but then again, I've never had any issues about anything. Perhaps I would feel differently if I had.

Events & Engagement theme broken into sub codes:

Instances of comments on Events & Engagement





Comments on Events & Engagement:

Making events accessible to outside or normal working hours or weekends

1. What about Alumni and networking with other students?2. How can we represent our college and how can I represent the University in Tamil Nadu, India for example.

Part time students to have a place to meet up / socialise

The remote students may be given chances to upload their products- in the form of video, audio or written articles to be the part of student Media.

Better communication with remote students and more consideration for the fact that they can't attend events most of the time. More ways of being involved when we aren't physically there.