

# STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

REPORT FOR MAY 2021

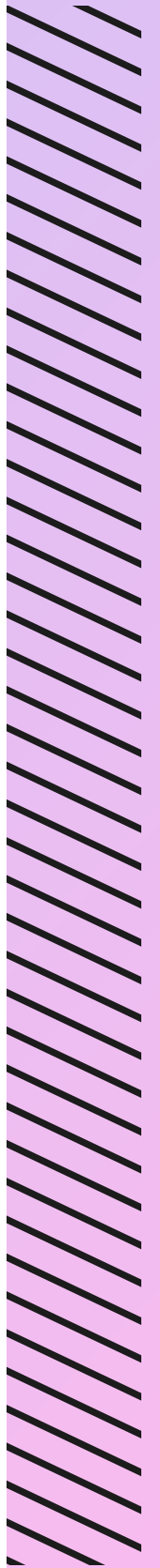


**NCLSA**

## **STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION AND LEARNER ENGAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE**

The Students' Association and Learner Engagement teams have continued to work closely together over the years to build a strong relationship with the student body to effectively deliver the strategic and operational plans of New College Lanarkshire (NCL). Until recently, this arrangement has always been informal.

The Scottish Funding Council (SFC) recently allocated funding on a regional basis to support the development of Student Associations. NCL has used this funding to realign both the Students' Association and the Learner Engagement teams under the one structure, which has brought about renewed confidence and motivation for the upcoming academic sessions.





## **EQFM (EUROPEAN FOUNDATION OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT)**

NCL hosted an EFQM virtual site visit from 26th – 30th April which the Students' Association were able to attend. This was a great opportunity to showcase the great things we have been involved in including some new initiatives that have impacted positively on our students and the community. The session we attended was well received.

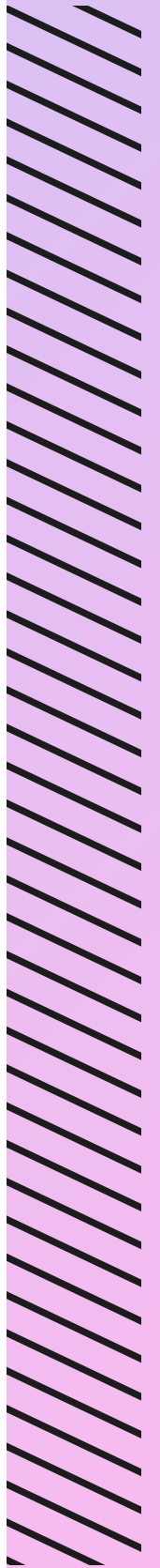
## **FIFA 21 GAMING TOURNAMENT**

The Students' Association and Learner Engagement teams came together recently to organise an online FIFA 21 gaming tournament for students.

As a way to encourage student engagement and extra-curricular activity during remote learning, Kathleen-Anne Fannan and Ross Brand invited students to play in two online FIFA 21 gaming leagues– one on the PlayStation and the other on the Xbox.

32 students from various faculties were matched up with fellow students in a football tournament knockout each evening over the course of a week and all games were supervised over a Zoom session. After several days of intense competition, the final match took place on Friday 26th March.

Two students emerged victorious in their separate leagues to be crowned champions of the first NCL FIFA 21 tournament, winning a £60 gaming voucher each.





## **NCL ESPORTS TEAM**

The College Development Network (CDN), in partnership with the British Esports Association, recently organised an online Esports tournament for colleges across the UK for the shooting and strategy game, Valorant (16+).

The NCL Esports team spent two weeks competing against peers from other colleges before they were crowned runners-up in the final against Dundee and Angus College, which took place on Sunday 2nd May at 2pm. The team had a brilliant time working together to strategise and compete against the other college teams. We hope to help organise more activities like this for our students.

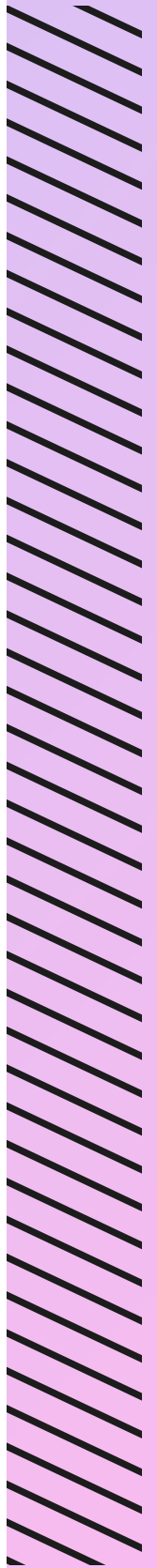
## **SUPPORTING THE 'RACE TO ZERO' CLIMATE CAMPAIGN**

As part of NCL's recent pledge to join the United Nations campaign in the 'Race to Zero', to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2042, the Students' Association aims to support the college by developing sustainable initiatives and activities.

Kathleen-Anne Fannan, Student President for Community & Sustainability, said: "I can't begin to explain how excited I am that NCL has committed to carbon neutrality by 2042.

"At the beginning of my post as Student President, I would never have thought that this would have been possible. But, due to the shared passion for climate change with our Principal, this is becoming a reality – so I'd like to say a massive 'thank you'.

"We have a lot of hard work going on in the background to help students get involved with making a contribution to COP26. And not only that, we also want to encourage our students to make more sustainable lifestyle changes that will produce huge benefits."



## STUDENT ELECTIONS 2021

The Student Elections for 2021 are currently under way. With the help of the Learner Engagement and Brand teams, an election schedule has been produced alongside a campaign plan which aims to reach as many of the student body as possible.

Three positions are open again this year: Student President of Sustainable Projects, Student President of Curriculum and Engagement and Student President of Resource and Wellbeing.

The key dates for the elections are as follows:

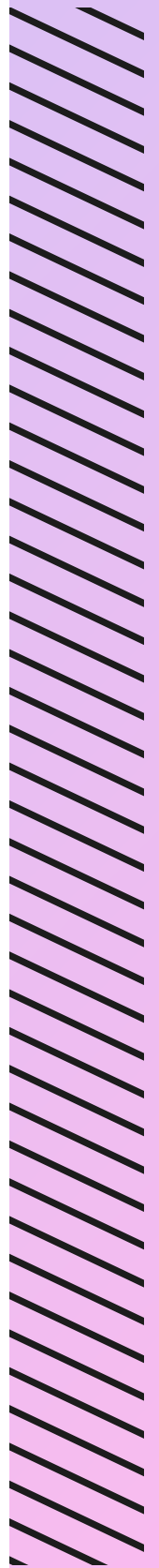
- **4th May:** Nominations open
- **10th-11th May:** Information sessions with the Returning Officer
- **14th May:** Nominations close, 12 noon
- **17th-18th May:** Mandatory candidate briefings
- **19th May:** Campaigning period begins and candidate material published
- **1st June:** Voting opens, 9am
- **4th June:** Voting ends, 12 noon
- **4th June:** Results announced by 4pm

Further information on each role and the election process can be found on the college website:  
[www.nclanarkshire.ac.uk/student-elections](http://www.nclanarkshire.ac.uk/student-elections)

## **CLASS REP DIGITAL HANDBOOK**

Student President Calum Smith has been working on the creation of a comprehensive class rep handbook. This will provide students wishing to take on the role of class rep with the relevant information needed to become a successful candidate.

The handbook will include information such as what it takes to become a class rep, the benefits of being a class rep, a class rep checklist and diverse representation. The handbook is currently within its final stage of development before being handed over to the Brand team for design.







## **MOVIE CLUB**

After a recent poll on the Students' Association Facebook group, the team have decided to run a new movie club for students which will take place every second Thursday at 7pm.

The aim of the club is to bring like-minded students who have a passion for movies together, so they can discuss films and recommend new ones to one another, while getting to know each other in a fun and relaxed environment.

We hope that, similar to a book club, the group can decide on a dedicated movie to watch at home and then two weeks later, come back online and have an open discussion about the plot, the characters, the film making – whatever they wish.

If successful, the plan would be to continue this club when students are back on campus and host movie nights for interested students.

## **NCL CAREERS HUB DASHBOARD**

As part of the Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) project, Kathleen-Anne Fannan has been working with a dedicated group to add a careers hub dashboard onto NCL+ for all students.

With the help of Scott Robinson from Skills Development Scotland and My World of Work, this student dashboard will provide students with the relevant information they need when looking for a job. From the start of the job seeking process to the interview stage, the dashboard will provide information sections on various topics such as how to write a CV and cover letter, how to iron a shirt or sew on a button, how to tackle tough interview questions and there will even be an interview tool which will take students through a mock interview.

There will also be sections for apprenticeships, work experience and how volunteering can help when applying for jobs. Our aim is to cover every aspect that a student will need to know when applying for and getting jobs.



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