



**OUTER HEBRIDES
INNSE GALL**

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PROGRAMME LEADER

BA (HONS) SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

UHI OUTER HEBRIDES

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SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

STUDENT SOCIETY
PRESIDENT

A Partnership Approach to Creating & Supporting Academic Societies

Supporting Student Societies: Our experience



HISTORY



IMPORTANCE



PARTNERSHIP



FUTURE FOCUS

History and Development

- ▶ One of UHI's longest running student societies
 - ▶ Set up to bring together students studying online in different, usually rural, places
- ▶ Focus initially on organising annual residential weekends
 - ▶ Also creating shared social media groups, student-led seminar series, involvement in Green Week activities...



Importance of Student Society

For students

- ▶ Making informal connections across year groups and with staff
- ▶ Feeling of being part of a community
- ▶ Building internal and external networks
- ▶ Gaining skills in organising, communicating etc

For staff

- ▶ Getting to know the students
 - ▶ Retention
 - ▶ Feedback
- ▶ Recruitment
- ▶ Employability
- ▶ Being able to be involved in wider activities

Partnership



Need to find one or two willing individuals to drive it



Decide on priorities and who will lead



Evolves over time;
succession planning

Future Focus



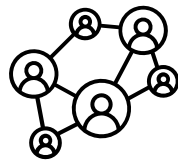
Encouraging wider student participation



Forward planning



Funding for online student societies



Keep up and build relationships with HISA and other student societies

Thanks for listening and any questions?



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