REGIONAL BOARD REPORT

Subject: Borders College Student Association February Update	**Purpose:** **For Approval** ☐ **For Discussion** ☐ **For Information** ☒
Prepared by: P McNeill	**Date:** 3 February 2022

Purpose:
To provide an update to the Board on the activity and progress made by the Student Association

Linked to Strategic Ambition: Create high quality learning and training opportunities which are relevant, enabling and flexible

Performance Measures: Student, staff & employer satisfaction in top quartile nationally

Linked to Strategic Risk Register: New Risk (outwith themes)

New Risk Commentary:

Executive Summary:

The main items to note:

Rebranding of the logo for the student association
Creation of the Lavender Lounge a safe meeting environment
Continuing efforts to gain responses on student satisfaction
Engagement with board member and NUS

Recommendation: For the Board to note the content of the update

Previous Committee Approvals: No

For publication ☒	**For publication with redactions** ☐	**Not for publication** ☐

BCSA February 2022 Update

1. BCSA is being re-branded with students expressing a preference for the new logo to be based on the national animal of Scotland, the unicorn, with a rainbow splash. A cross-college competition has been launched to design this logo.

2. February is UK LGBT+ History Month, and this week we are launching the Lavender Lounge – held every Tuesday afternoon at the Library, this is an Inclusive, safe and confidential environment for LGBTQ+ students to meet up. Further activities are planned.

3. The Pass the Torch Relay, held on the 25 February, is a collective challenge and LGBT Youth Scotland will aim to cover 2,500km, equivalent to the entire outline of Scotland, in one day, to raise £20,000. The BCSA are planning to participate by cycling at least 5K on an exercise bike, and have a target to raise £350 as a team.

4. Julia Dodds, an officer with responsibility for students with disabilities' wellbeing, has resigned due to her workload.

5. The Student Satisfaction survey over the Christmas period had a low number of responses, and so the deadline was extended to 7th February. A big thank you to the hospitality team, particularly Gareth, who has provided students at Newtown with soup every day this week as an incentive to complete the survey. When the survey was due to close we had 21 responses, and so far we now have 64 responses.

6. BCSA is sponsoring one student, a middle-distance runner to compete in in the Scottish Students National Indoor Athletics Meeting and the Outdoor Championships in the summer.

7. Pitra and Amy met with board member David Peace on the 24th January and discussed the possibility of having a new larger area for the BCSA at Gala, next year. He was supportive and suggested this be bought to the campus management committee. This would support with the new location of a sustainability shop for students. Items that would usually be thrown away, including short shelf life food items will be offered to students free of charge and students can 'rent a shelf' to sell items they have re-made or re-purposed. We hope to grown this as an enterprise initiative, with a schedule of workshops next year, which will be free to students.

8. Wellbeing class representatives will be asked to volunteer to welcome new students to the campus at the open day planned in April/ May. They will also be asked to volunteer at Induction in a meet and greet capacity.

9. A student IDEAS* group has been set up to provide feedback and suggestions on how we progress equality and the BCSA will work with EDI Officer to identify and deliver race equality events and activities this term.

10. BCSA president will attend NUS Scotland Conference on 5 - 6 April 2022 in Dundee.

11. A big sex education talk is planned in the auditorium for June. The board are currently in discussions with external agencies to plan.

12. NUS has agreed to provide election support for the BCSA spring elections in 2022. National reporting on candidate demographics will form part of the 2021-22 NUS Election Report. Key dates are:

Date Nominations Open	07 Mar 2022
Date Nominations Close	16 Mar 2022
Date Polls (Voting) Open	16 Mar 2022
Date Polls (Voting) Close	25 Mar 2022
Date of Results being announced	29 Mar 2022