

Why 'First Year Matters' Shaping Institutional Habitus and Championing an Institute-Wide Extended Orientation Programme

The First Year Matters Programme in IADT, Republic of Ireland

June 2014

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Communications

IADT

Nottingham Trent University



FYM 2013

The link below is to the video from the FYM programme for the first week.

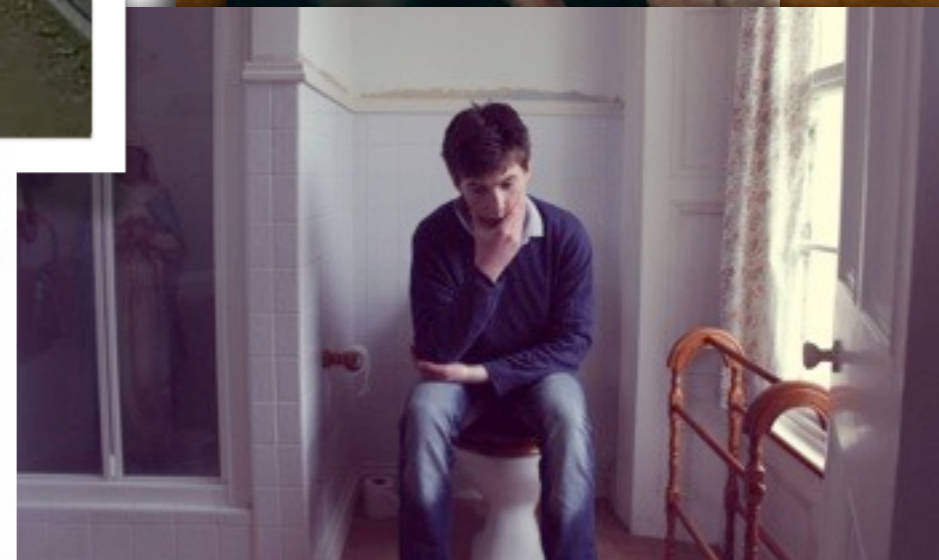
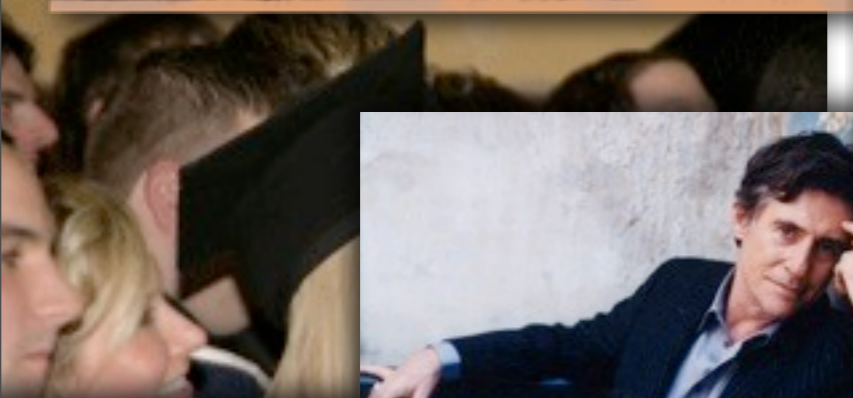
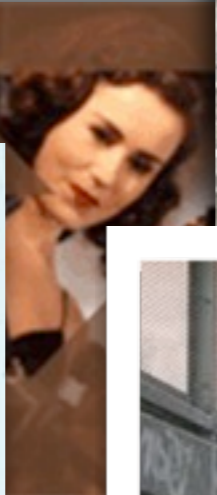
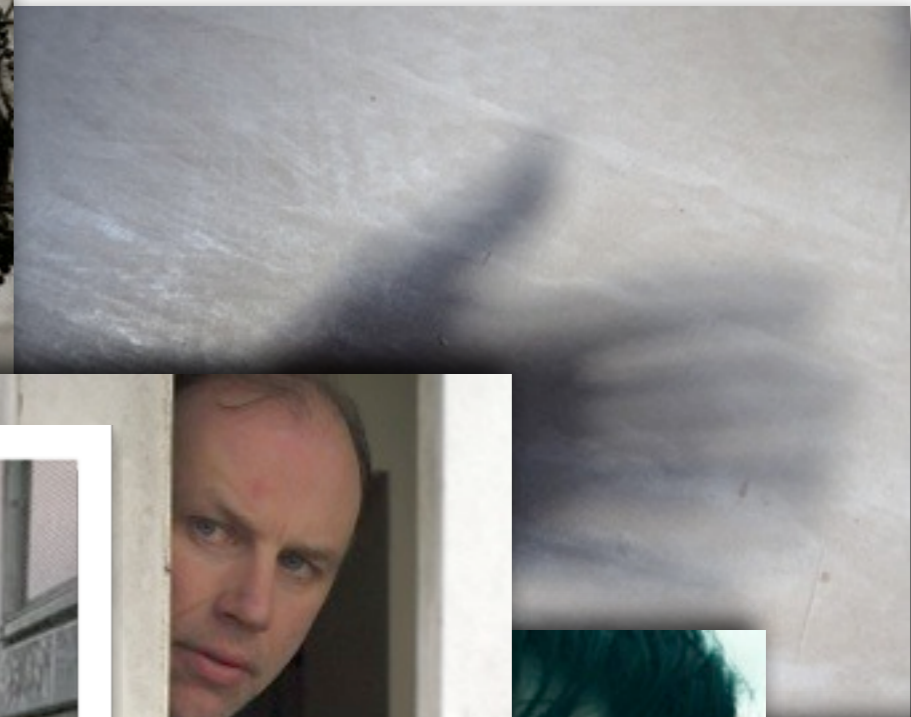
Shot and edited by Amy Driver and Ana Shine

FYM 2013

National Film School, IADT https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=BjZtNVaYOx8&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DBjZtNVaYOx8%26feature%3Dyoutu.be&app=desktop

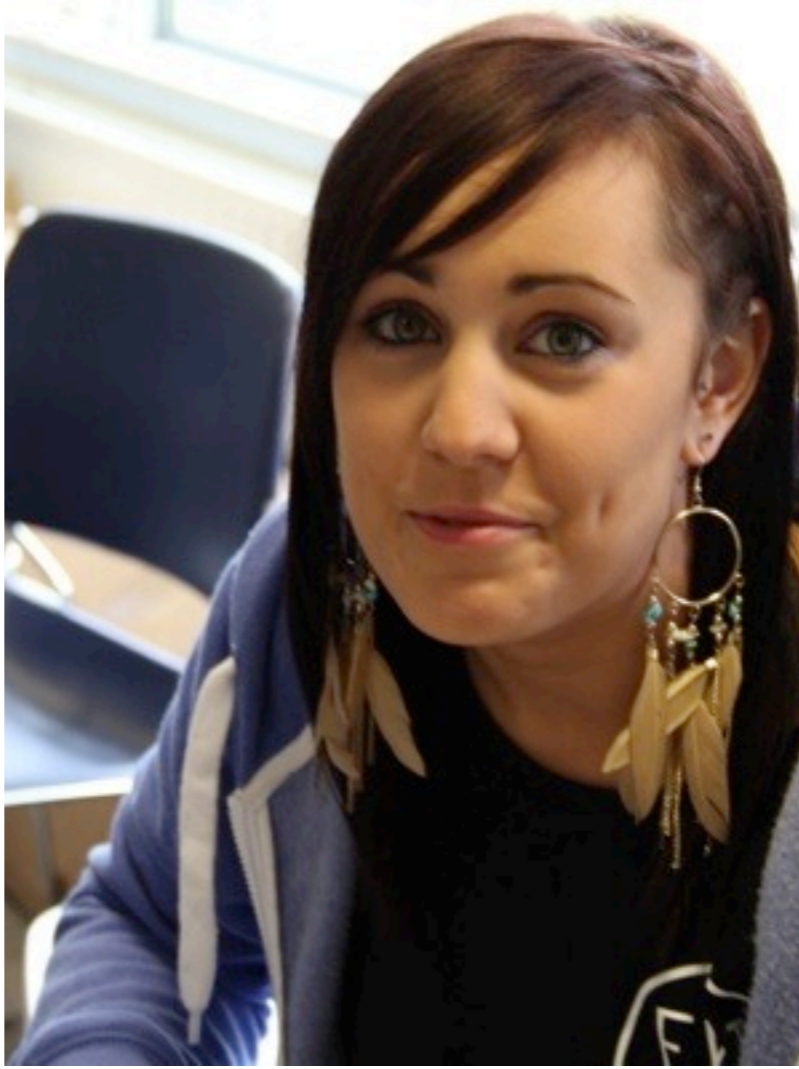


iadt
DUN LAOGHAIRE











F T R S T

Y F A R

M A T T F R S

More about IADT, Dublin

In addition to all things Film and Television...

- Business, Humanities, Fine Art and Design Communications
- Arts Management, English, Cultural Studies and Media, Applied Psychology, Web Engineering, Multi-Media, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise
- Animation, Model Making, Photography, Design for Stage and Screen
- PostGraduate by Research and Taught Masters programmes in Cyberpsychology, Visual Practice, Radio Broadcasting, Scriptwriting, Public Culture
- IADT is a small institute, with 2,300 undergraduate students across two Faculties
- We are 'strategically positioned at the centre of the cultural and creative industries' (Doona, 2014) in Ireland and our graduates are successful across the globe



Irish Higher Education

- 1980 - 15,000 new students
- 2009 - 42,500 new students
- 18.2% increase in full-time undergraduates since 2008
- Today over 55,000 students are sitting their Leaving Certificate (State Examinations)
- Enrollment trends are set to continue into the next two decades.



FYM

The First Four Weeks

- Week One:
Induction and Registration
(Social)
- Week Two:
Freshers' (Social)
- Week Three:
The Roll-Over (Practical)
- Week Four:
Head in the Game (Academic)



FYM Student Leaders

10 current students

Rigorous application and interview process

Small Honorarium

Training and mentoring from key departments

The First Four Weeks



“I felt really proud to be a part of my college”

“It was amazing to see all of my lecturers wearing FYM tee-shirts”

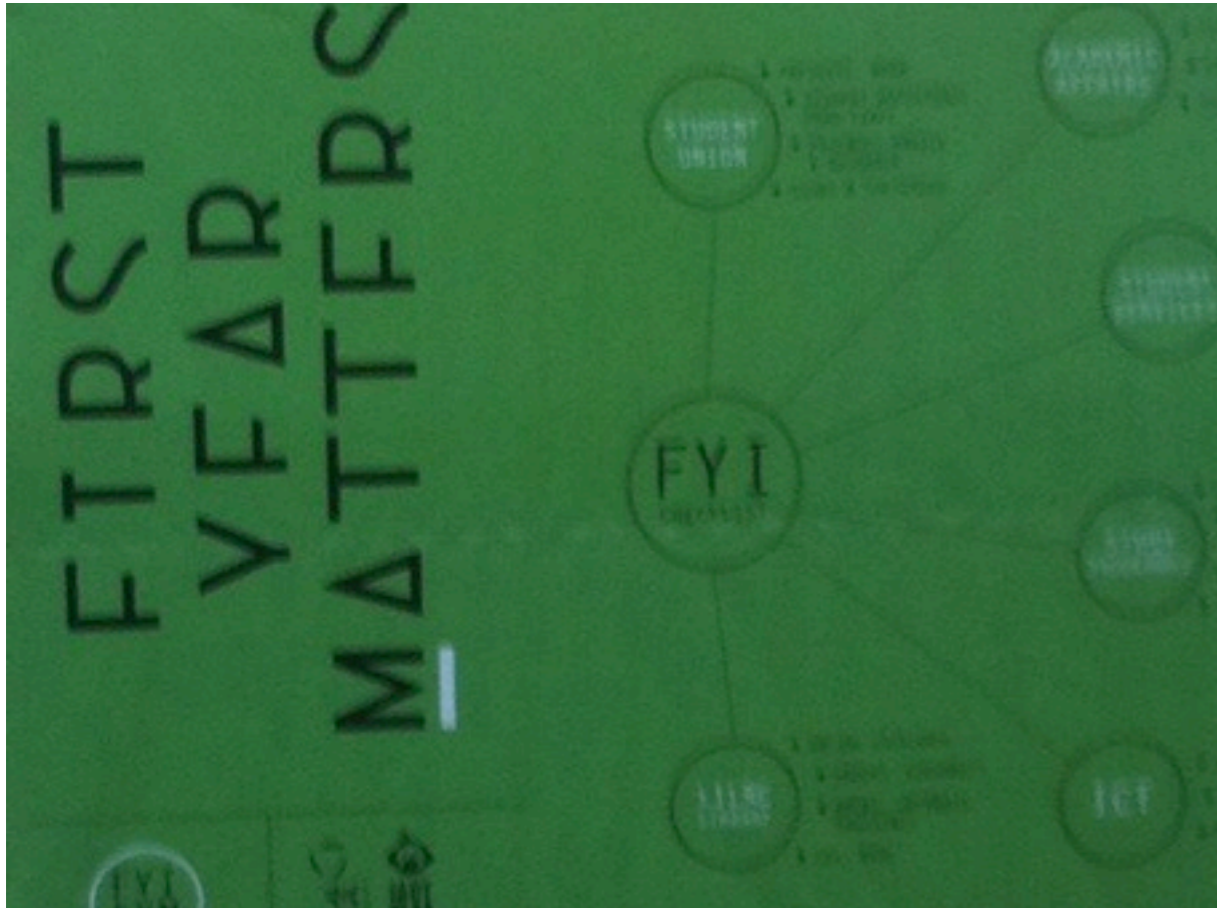
“I was excited to be a part of it - it was great to help the first years.”

Leader Feedback:
The First Four Weeks



“My favourite moment was when I was out shopping in ‘Forever 21’ in town and someone ran up behind me, poked me and said 'FIRST YEAR MATTERS'... I just think it's great that everyone got behind it and that they recognised us as being there for them.”





First Year Student Data

339 participants in the questionnaire on the day of their registration, 2013.

92 participants in the questionnaire in March/April 2014 as part of Programmatic Review (data still being collected).

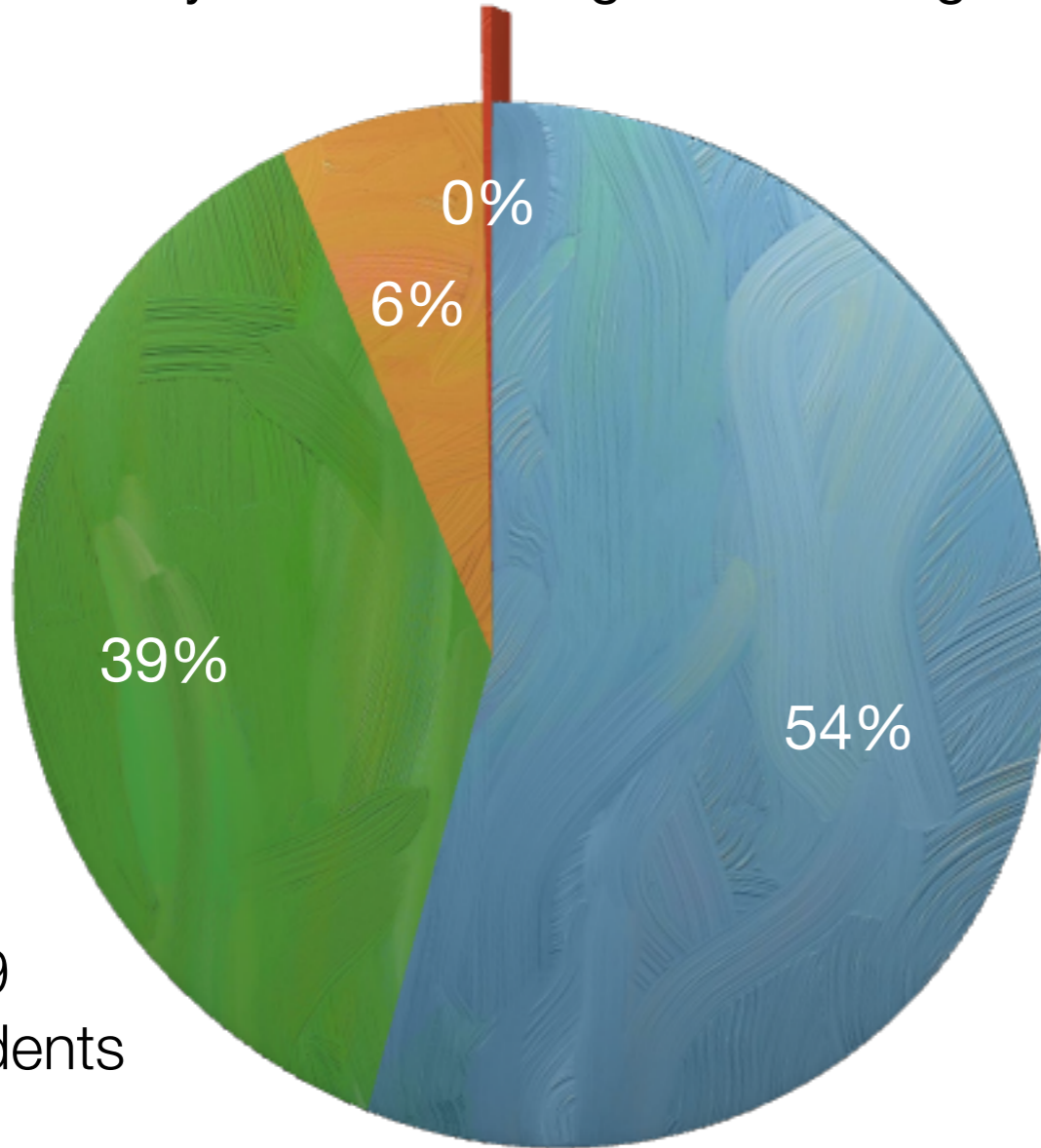
Plans to follow up with second year students in 2014/2015.



Attitude and Expectations

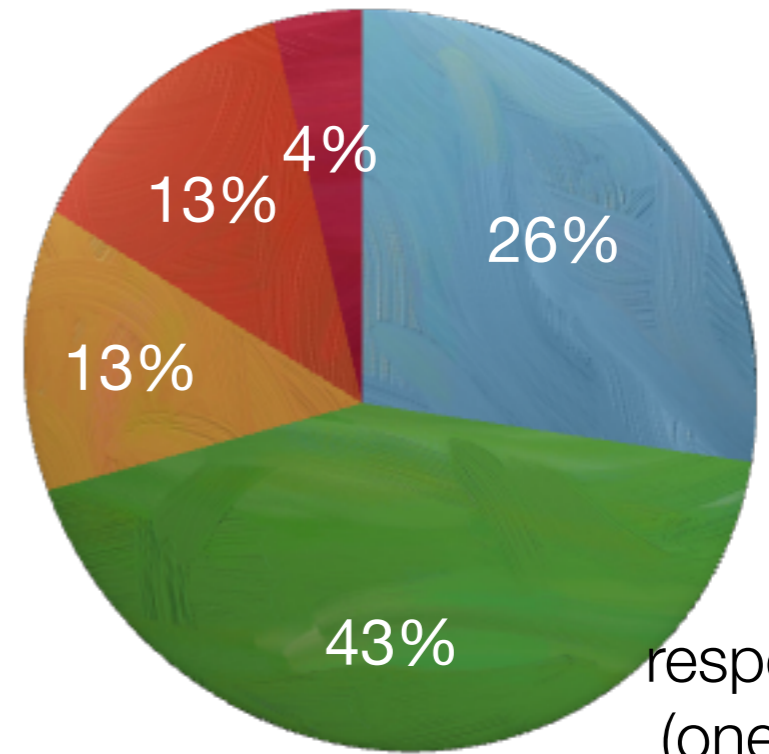
'I am very excited starting/about College'

- Strongly Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Agree
- Disagree



339
respondents

September 2013



53
respondents
(one faculty
only)

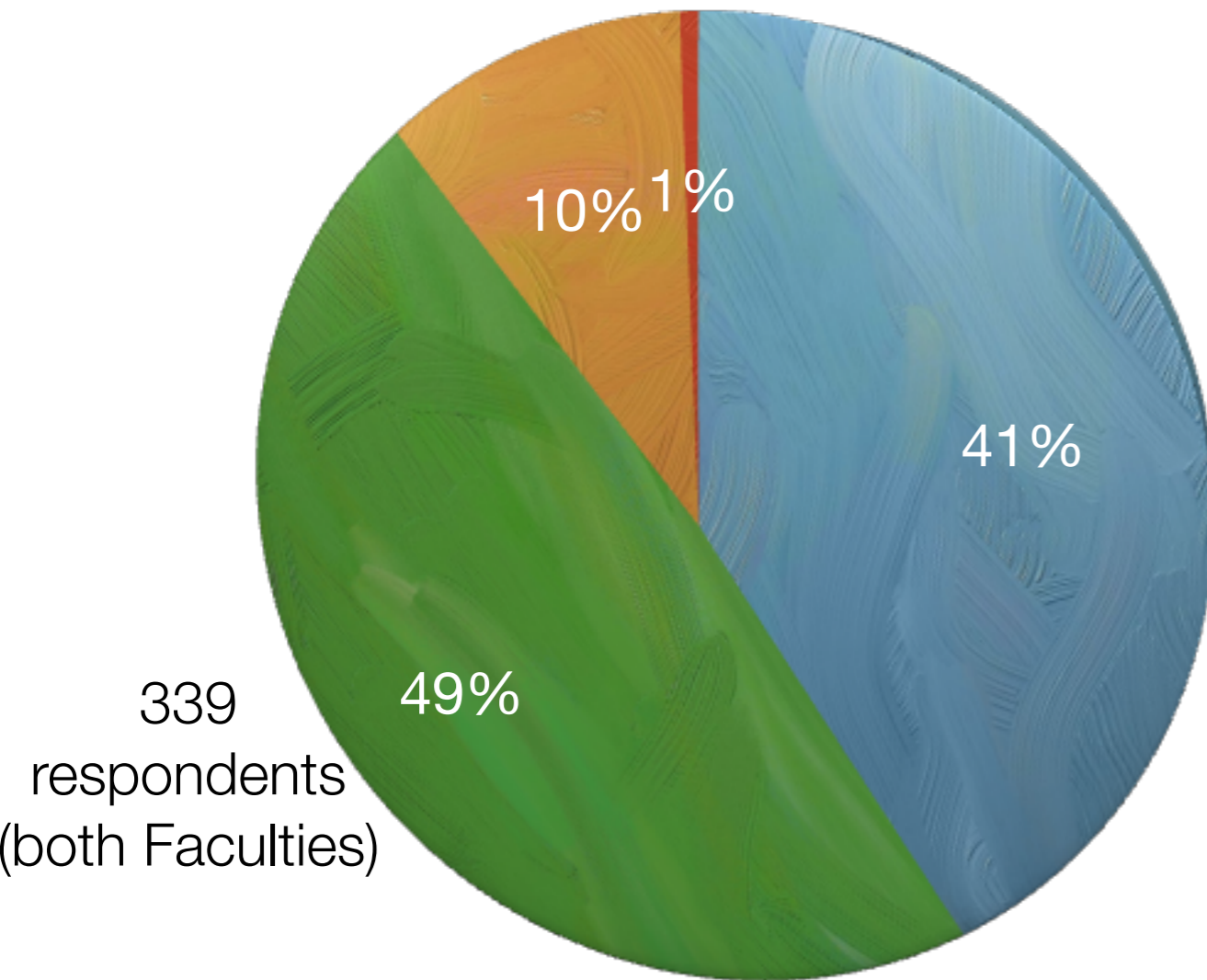
March/April 2014



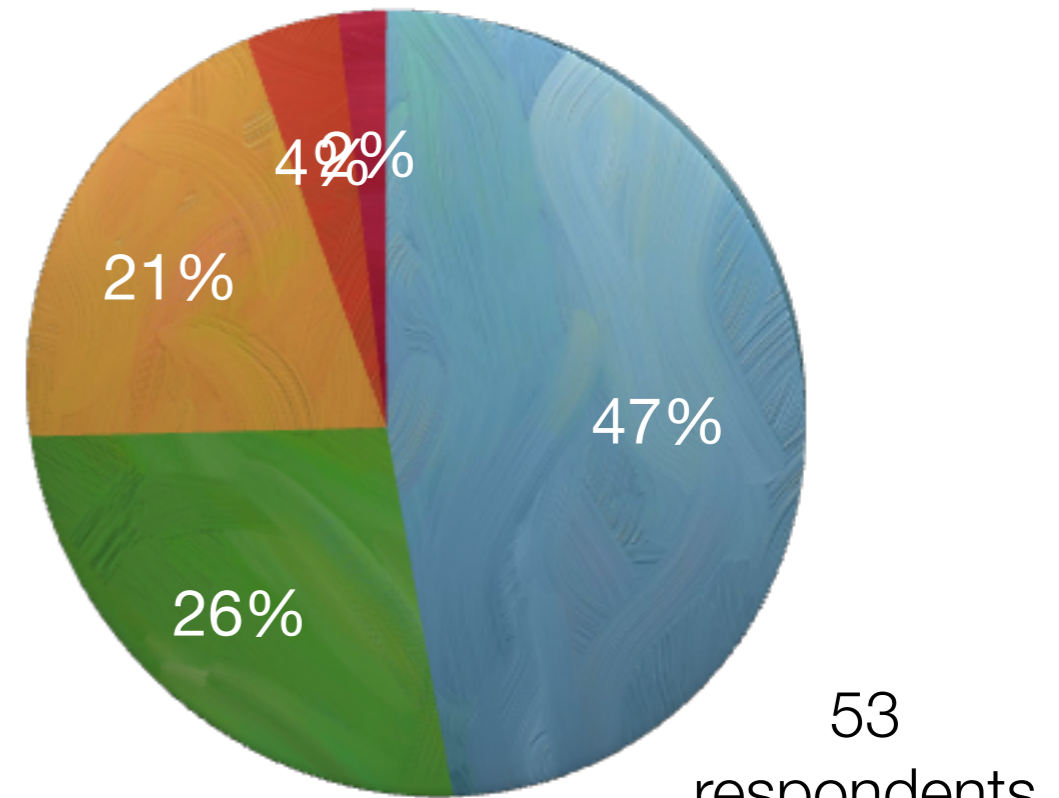
Course Choice

'I know I've chosen the right course for me'

- Strongly Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Agree
- Disagree



September 2013



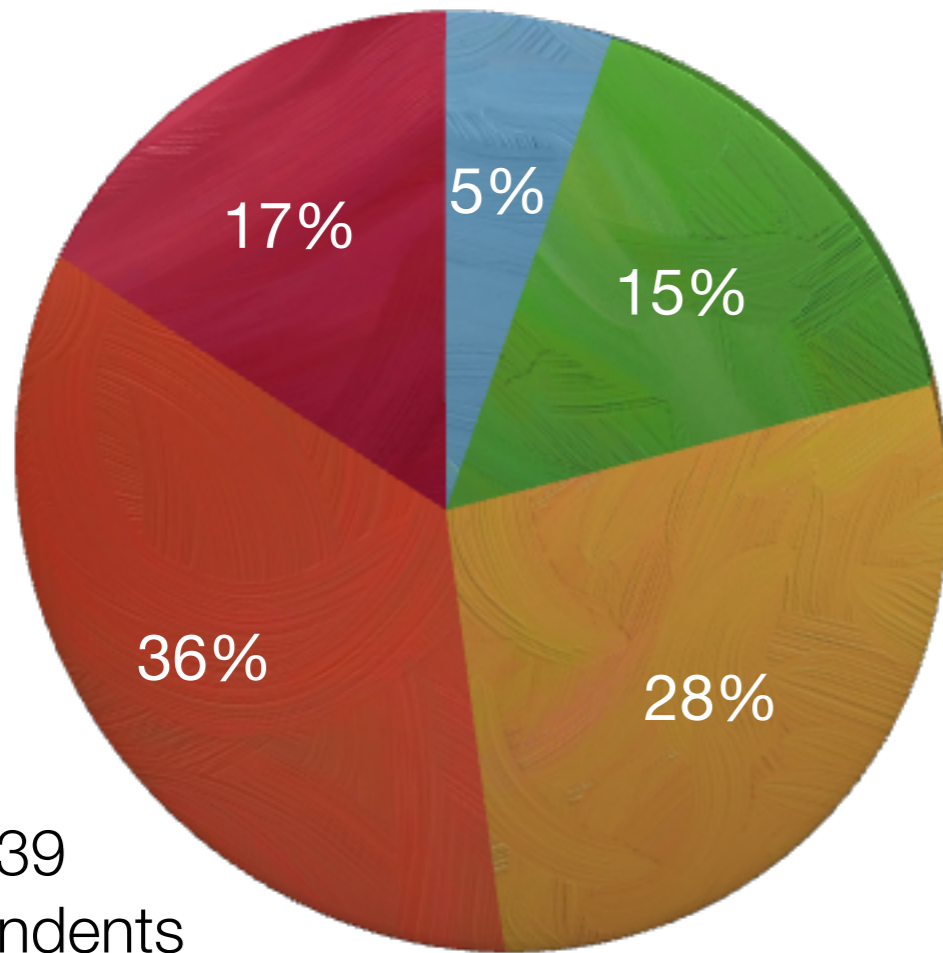
March/April 2014



Social Integration

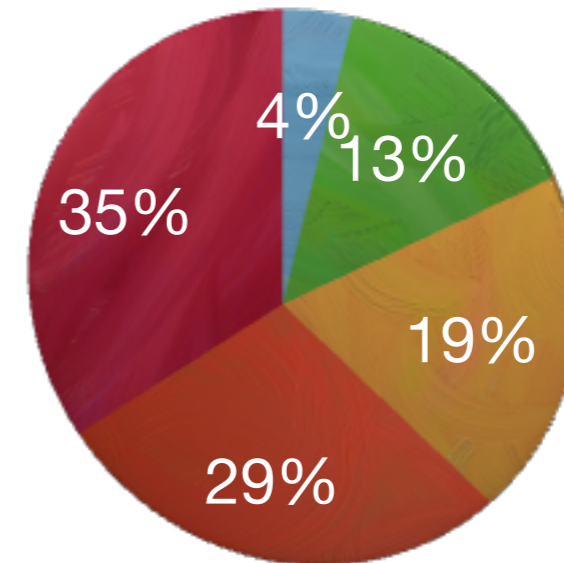
- Strongly Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Agree
- Disagree

'I am worried I will not make friends in College'

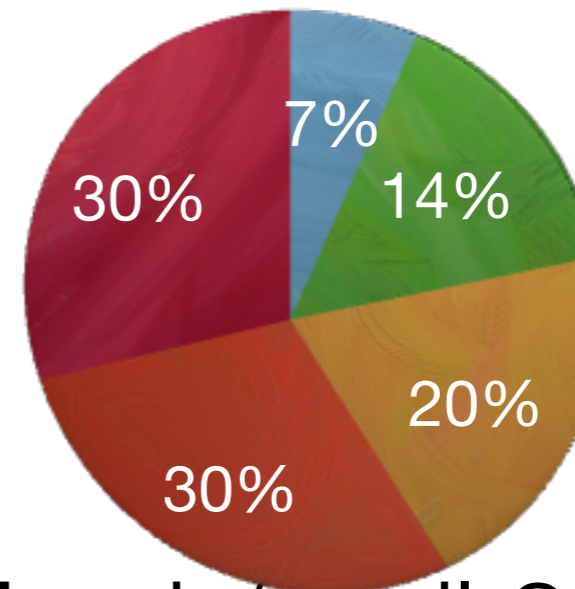


339 respondents
(both faculties)

September 2013



92 respondents
across both
Faculties



Each
Faculty
represented
separately

March/April 2014

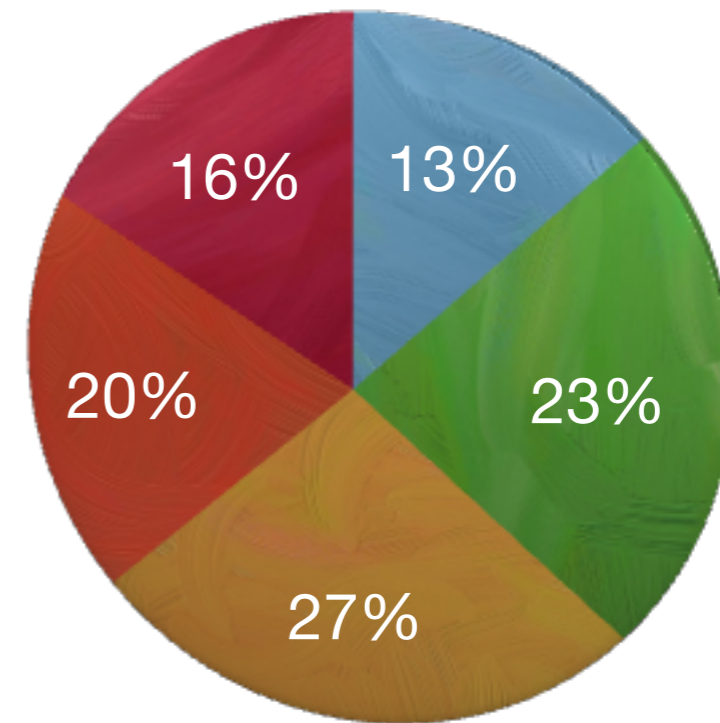
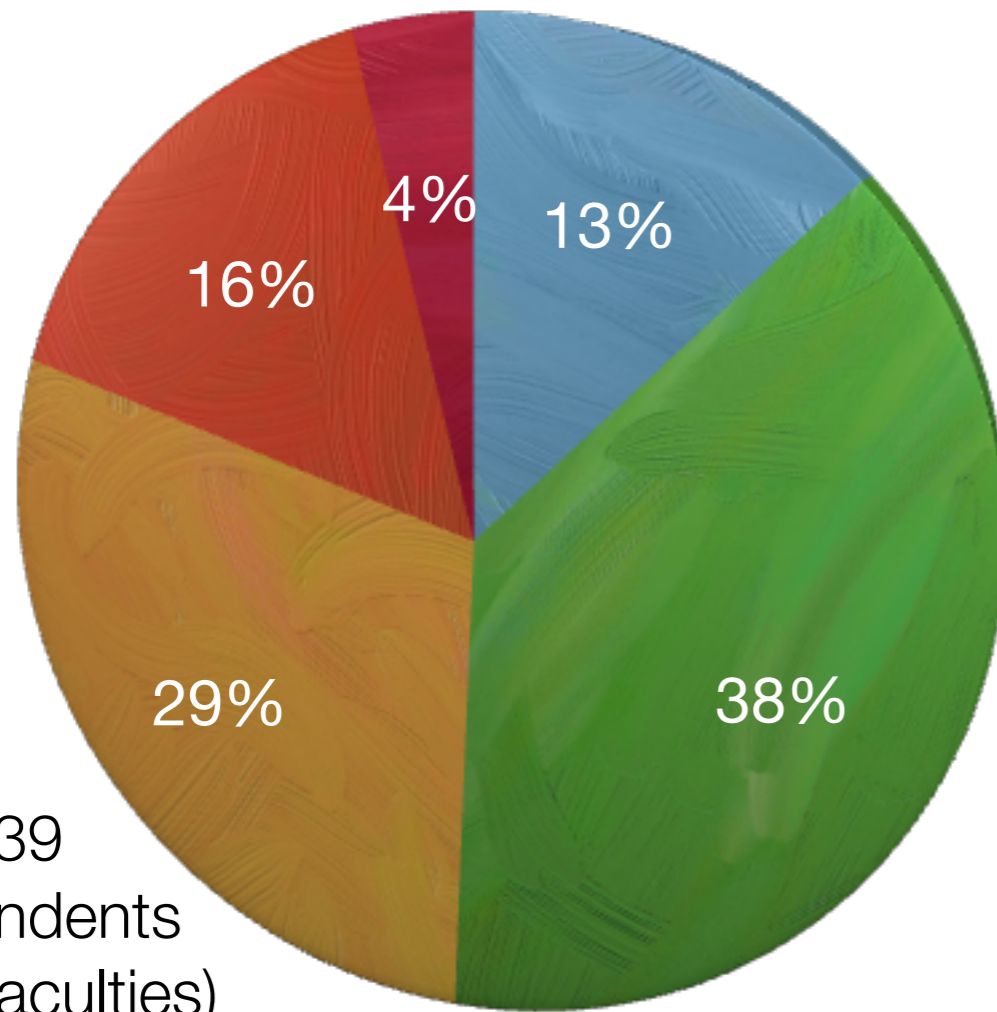


Career Path

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

'I know what career I will pursue when I graduate'

92
respondents
across both
Faculties



September 2013

March/April 2014

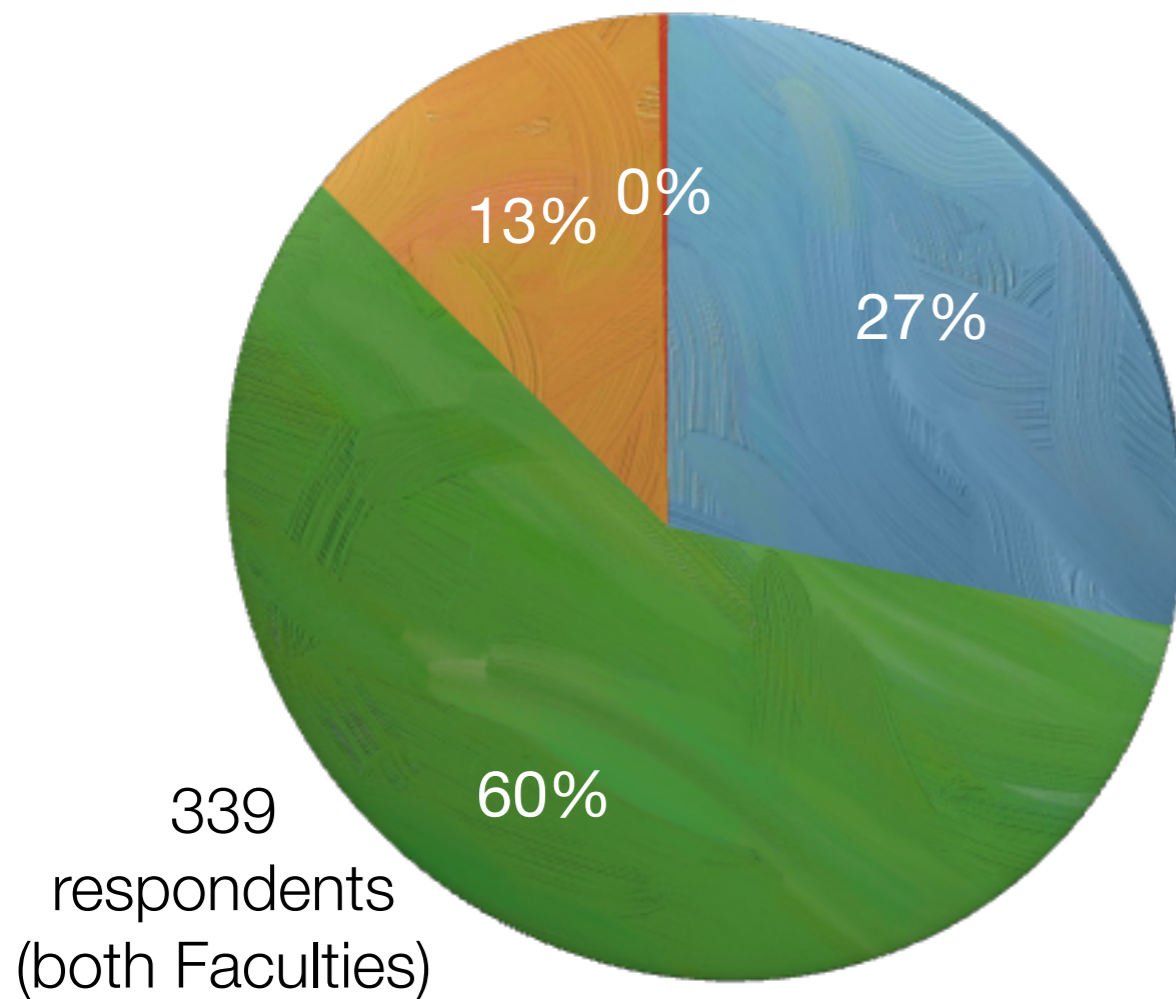


Confidence in Success

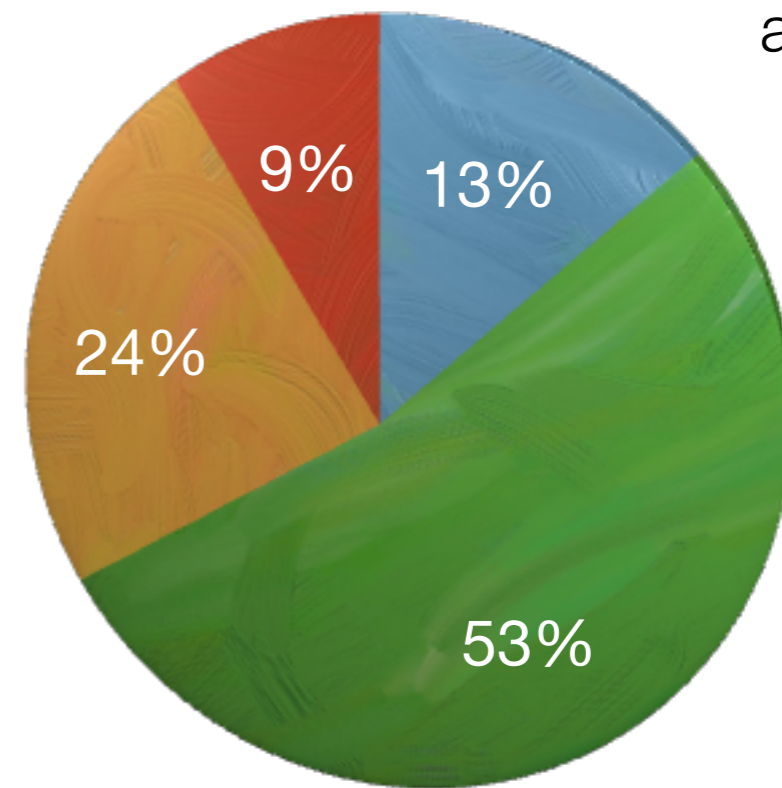
- Strongly Agree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly Disagree
- Neutral

'I know I will meet the challenges ahead and succeed.'

92
respondents
across both
Faculties



September 2013



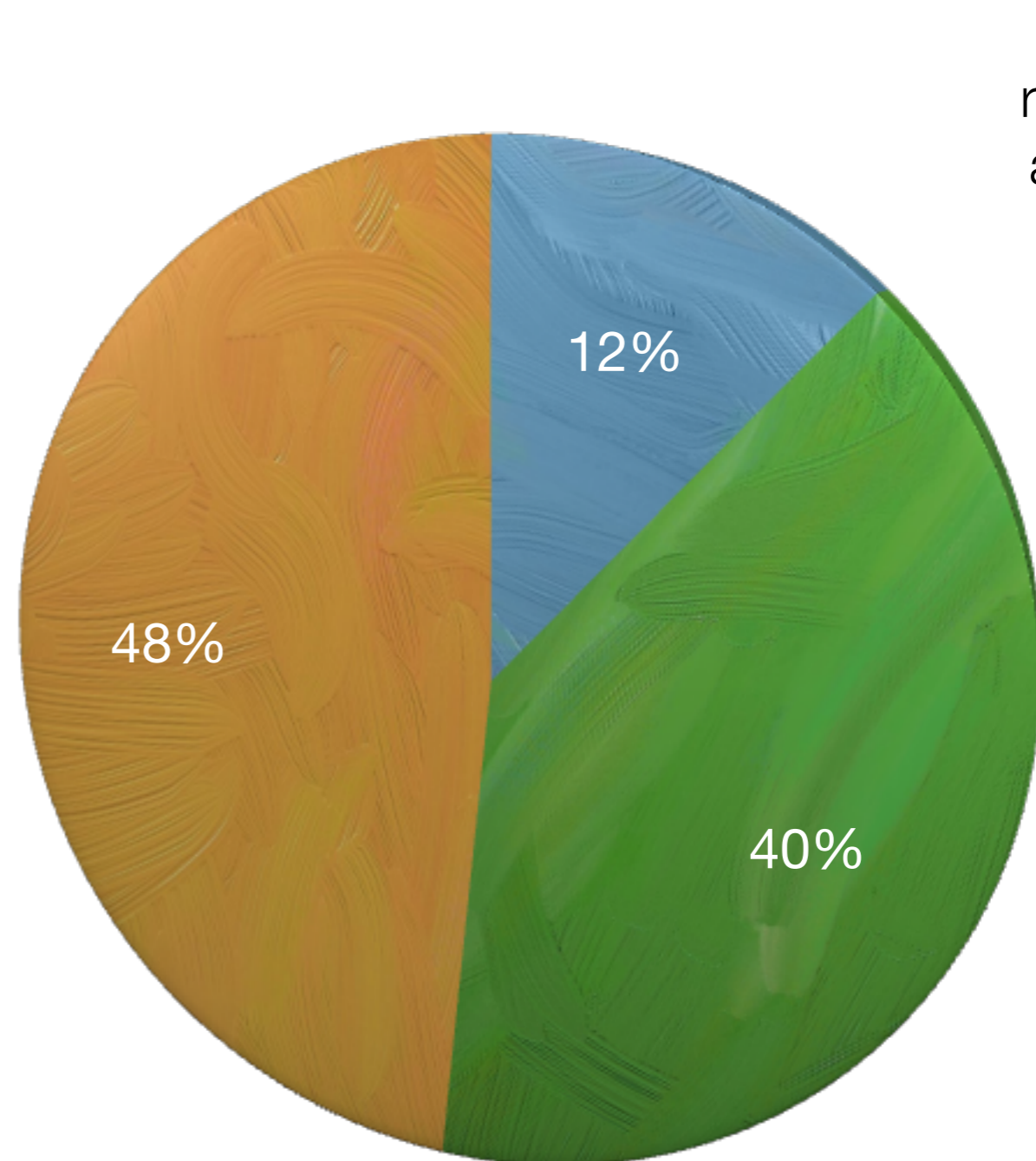
March/April 2014



To Note...

‘Were you asked these questions or something similar during Registration?’

● Yes ● No ● I don't know



92
respondents
across both
Faculties

Parting Thoughts

We look to the literature for guidance, but each Institution knows their students best - find out what the issues are, research through the literature, then develop an action plan in consultation with others to address them. Value all stakeholders. Depend on the student voice; here is where you will find the best ideas. Include student government (Student Union), find champions within management and lecturing staff, remember to ALWAYS frame your argument with your audience in mind; Financial controllers will want to know how your proposed programme will save them money, based on similar programmes that have saved other institutions money, not necessarily what great fun it will be for the students (though that can be persuasive too)! Everyone needs to have ownership and a stake in any student success programme, (especially the students). This is particularly true with implementing Institute-wide initiatives. Baby Steps. We will all get there. This is important work.

By fostering belonging in others,
we create belonging for ourselves.



For More Information:

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'First Year Matters'

design by

Ron Hamilton

First Year Task Force IADT: Patricia Byrne, David Doyle, Cliona Flood, Christine Horn, Laura McDowell (SU Education Officer) Tara Ryan, Rebecca Roper (chair)



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