



Scottish Regional Development Officer Report

Key activity undertaken:

During the year I have visited several stations in the region. I have attended their general meetings, committee meetings and screenings. I have tried to keep in regular contact with my stations and have made myself available for answering questions, especially at busy periods such as during affiliation and submissions weeks. I forwarded questions to the exec or other stations where appropriate and in a timely manner. I met with several station managers in November to discuss NaSTA in general, what they expected from me and how they could help each other.

Impacts

As a result of these actions, I feel like I have been a friendly and familiar face for stations in Scotland. I have provided a link between the station managers and the exec and I believe I have allowed the stations to feel more included in NaSTA. I think I have been approachable and stations have not hesitated to get in touch if they had any issues. I feel like this is important as the stations know there is always someone there to discuss things with and it can take a wee bit of pressure off the station manager if they get a prompt response.



Future activity

In the next few months, I aim to welcome the new committees to NaSTA and build the community feeling from the very start, working off the back of the main NaSTA conference. I also aim to find a new Scottish Regional Development Officer and provide as smooth a handover as possible. I aim to provide the new exec with as much information about the Scottish stations as I can to allow for an efficient transition there as well.

Challenges and Recommendations

This year was more challenging for me personally as I had graduated from uni so was carrying out my RDO duties from outwith the uni bubble. I was not directly involved in the day to day "messy bits" of student tv and was not attached to one particular station.

Another major challenge, somewhat related to the above, was that I did not receive a lot of the booklets and documents that were sent to stations throughout the year. This provided a challenge as stations were asking me questions specifically related to the paperwork and I had to ask for screenshots or browse the website to try and understand where the question was coming from. A recommendation for future years would be to include the RDOs on the mailing list for stations so we are aware of the correspondence between exec, host station and station managers and are therefore in a stronger position to answer questions.



Other comments

It was impossible for me to visit all stations this year, especially as I returned home and moved further away from the majority of members, meaning time and transport were issues, but I did my best to visit most stations and tried to accommodate all stations who specifically requested a visit.

As a side note, I'd like to thank the execs of 2015/16 and 2016/17 for their support during my time as Regional Development Officer for Scotland. I'd also like to thank the Station Managers, Presidents, Controllers, committees and general members of the Scottish stations (and any other station I worked with) for making my job so enjoyable over the past two years and for making my five years in student television so memorable.