



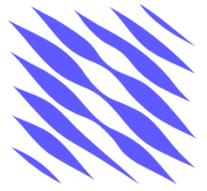
**NeurotechEU**  
The European University  
of Brain and Technology

# Student Engagement NeurotechEU

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*Denise Monkau*

*03.04.2025*



# Agenda

1. Integration of students in the alliance structure
2. The Student Council
  - a. Structure
  - b. Responsibilities
3. Synapses
4. Outcomes and advantages for the students
5. Outcomes and advantages for the alliance

# Menti - meter

How would you describe student engagement within your alliance?

Choose one of the following and explain with 1 sentence:

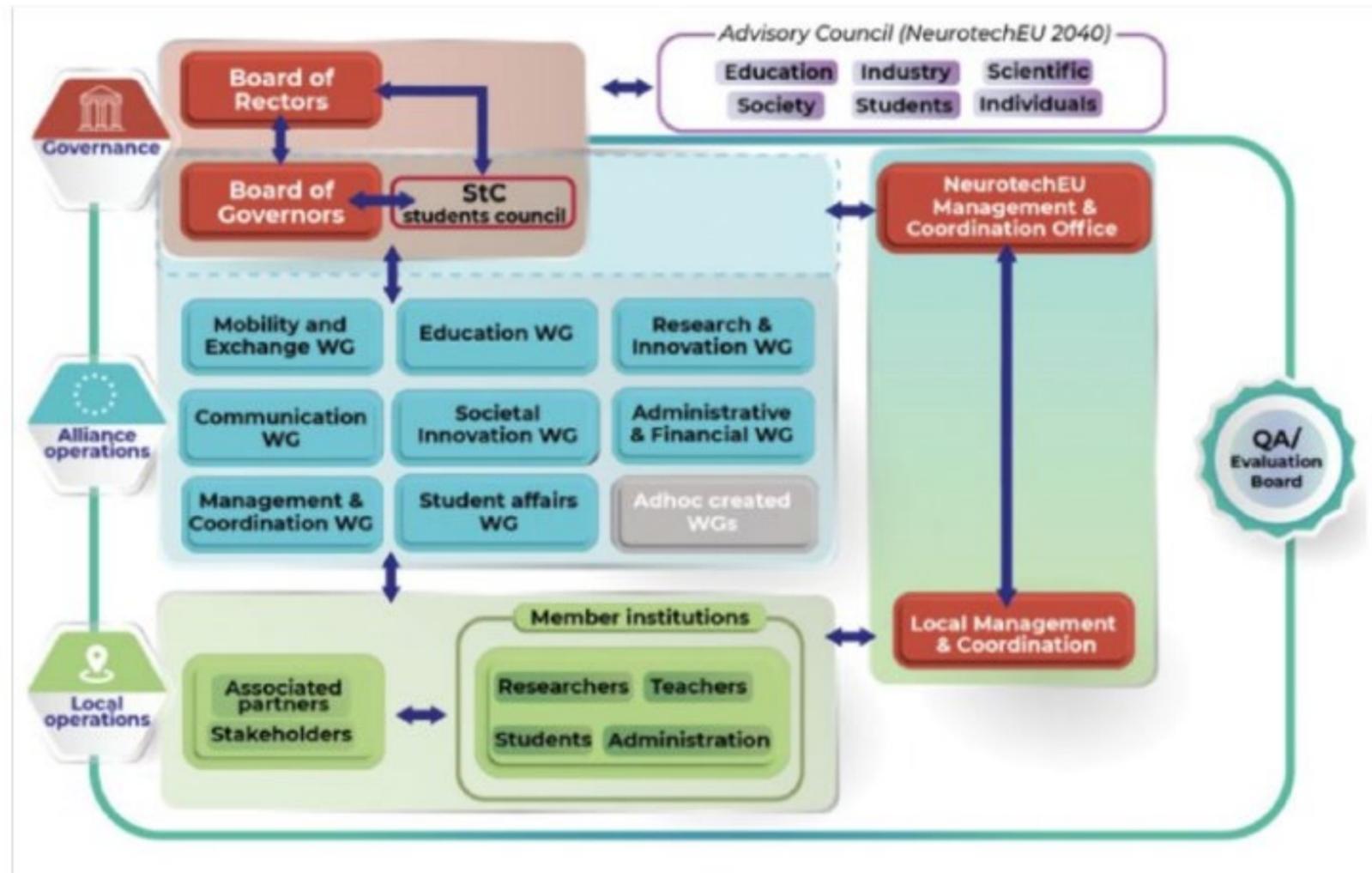
1. Very good
2. Good
3. Could be better
4. Needs improvement
5. Needs a lot of improvement





# 1. Integration of students in the alliance structure

- Students are involved in all Work Packages
- Students have a vote in the Board of Governors
- Students are part of the Advisory Council





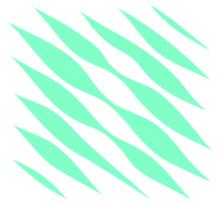
## 2. The Student Council

### What is the student council?

#### The structure

- **StC: Three students from each partner**
  - Bachelor, Master or PhD
  - **Managers**
    - Communication Manager (1)
    - Synapse Manager (1)
  - **Steering**
    - Secretary (2)
    - Chairs (2)





# Steering Elections

- **Structure**
  - Open to all StC representatives
  - Positions
    - Managers
    - Secretaries
    - Chairs
  - Procedure
    - Information
    - Application form
      - Made public before the meeting
    - Anonymous vote during a meeting
      - All universities must be present





# Onboarding

- Onboarding StC
  - Student Council representatives and Project Office select and inform new representative
    - Explain NeurotechEU informally
  - First StC General Meeting
    - Plan **onboarding session** with the secretary (or chair)
      - Introduction
      - Work packages
      - Workgroup





**NeurotechEU**  
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## Welcome Sheet for new Members!

Welcome to our enthusiastic team of student representatives!

Follow the next 3 easy steps to get started in the Neurotech<sup>EU</sup> Student Council (NtSC). We are looking forward to working with you!

### 1 Access to our Wiki, Google Drive, WhatsApp and Slack Channels

In order to access our NtSc Wiki, Google Drive, and be added to all our communication channels you need to write an email to [neurotecheu.student.council@gmail.com](mailto:neurotecheu.student.council@gmail.com)

### 2 Choose your Working Group

Decide which working group (WG) you want to join. Contact your favorite group to get involved and receive updates on their ongoing work. You can choose from:

#### WG Communications / StC Communication

The Communications group is responsible for exchanges of information and public relations work.

#### WG Synapses / Synapse Managers

The Synapses group (aka Student Club) is responsible for organizing seminar series and social events at alternating alliances members for all to attend.



### 3 Choose your Work Package

Limited positions are available within each Neurotech<sup>EU</sup> Work Package (WP) for the NtSc. This is our connection to all Alliance Partners and how our voices can be heard within Neurotech<sup>EU</sup>. Contact the steering group to get involved and receive updates on their ongoing work.

#### Phase II Work Packages:

##### Board of Governors

**WP1** – General Management and Coordination

**WP2** – Interdisciplinary knowledge creation

**WP3** – Empowering Learners and Staff

**WP4** – Common policies and strategy

**WP5** – Impact and dissemination

## Important information



### Neurotech<sup>EU</sup> Mission

Build a trans-European network of excellence in brain research and technologies to increase the competitiveness of European education, research, economy and society

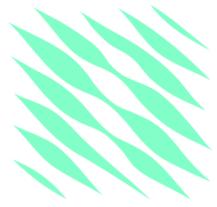
### Contacts

**Steering group** (spokespersons, secretaries)  
[neurotecheu.student.council@gmail.com](mailto:neurotecheu.student.council@gmail.com)

@NeurotechEU

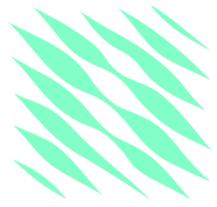


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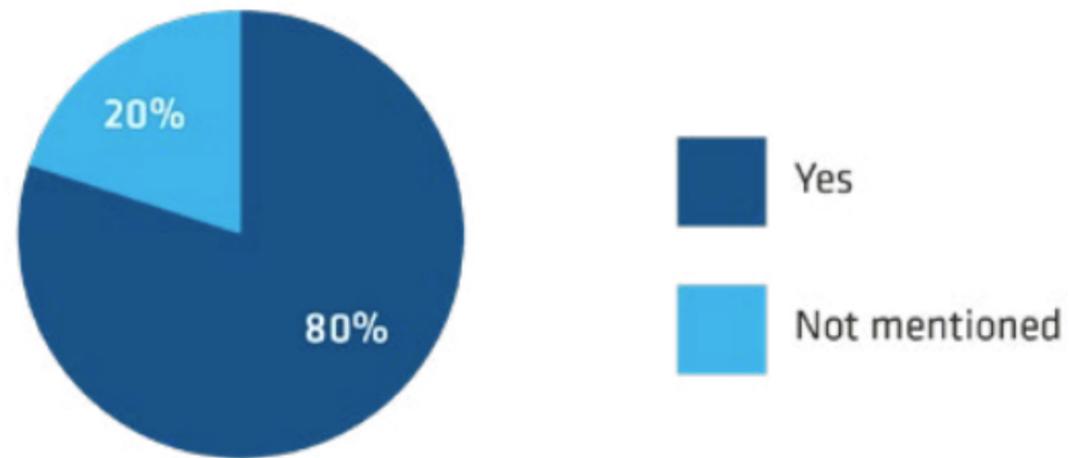


## **2. The Student Council**

**Why do we have a student council?**



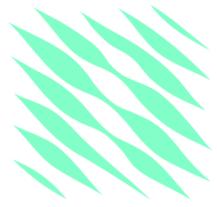
### ➤ Student involvement



**Figure 4** Student involvement in the alliance governance structure (n=20)

As stated in the requirements of the two European Commission calls, student involvement in all levels of governance is highly valued.<sup>16</sup> Most of the alliances in the sample (16/20) report student involvement in their strategic governance, while four did not provide any information.<sup>17</sup>

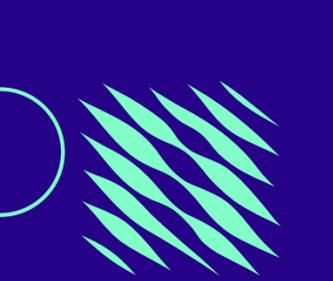
The form of involvement ranges from observation of strategic governing body meetings to participation in the decision-making bodies and/or involvement in the implementation of the work packages. In most cases, a specific student body (“Student Board/Council”) has been set up to include student representatives from each member institution. They often, although not always, take part in the Steering Committee. In some alliances (such as YUFE and EUTOPIA), student involvement is deeply embedded in the governance structure, and elected student representatives also take part in the highest decision-making body. In these cases, students help steer the project, together with the executive leadership and operational management teams.



# The Student Council responsibilities

*NTEU Student Council – Constitution 07.08.2023*





01

REPRESENT THE INTERESTS  
OF ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED  
AT THE NEUROTECHEU  
ALLIANCE MEMBERS AND  
ENSURE EQUITABLE  
OPPORTUNITIES.



02

FACILITATE EXCHANGES OF  
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES  
BETWEEN STUDENTS WITHIN  
ACADEMIA, INDUSTRY AND  
SOCIETY.

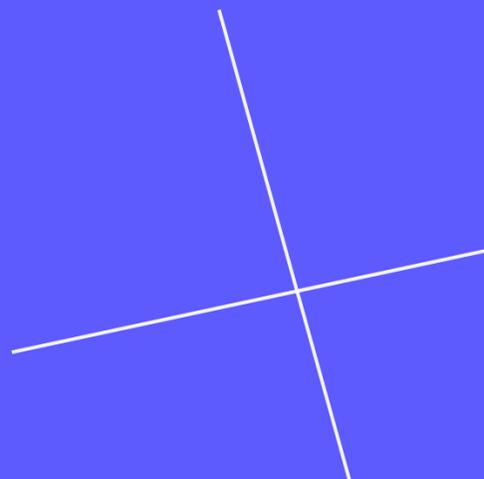


03

ASSIST WITH SKILL  
TRANSFER THAT ENABLES  
OPEN DISCUSSION AND  
COLLABORATION.

04

SUPPORT THE WP'S AND THE BOG  
IN REPRESENTING THE  
INTERESTS OF STUDENTS.





# Expectations and Accountability

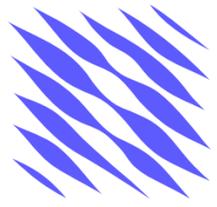




# Expectations

- Coordinate and control Synapse events
  - University or Study association events
  - Collaboration over competition
- Students being involved in the work packages
  - Meetings on- and offline
  - Work groups
    - Deliverables
- Communicate with and enthuse local students

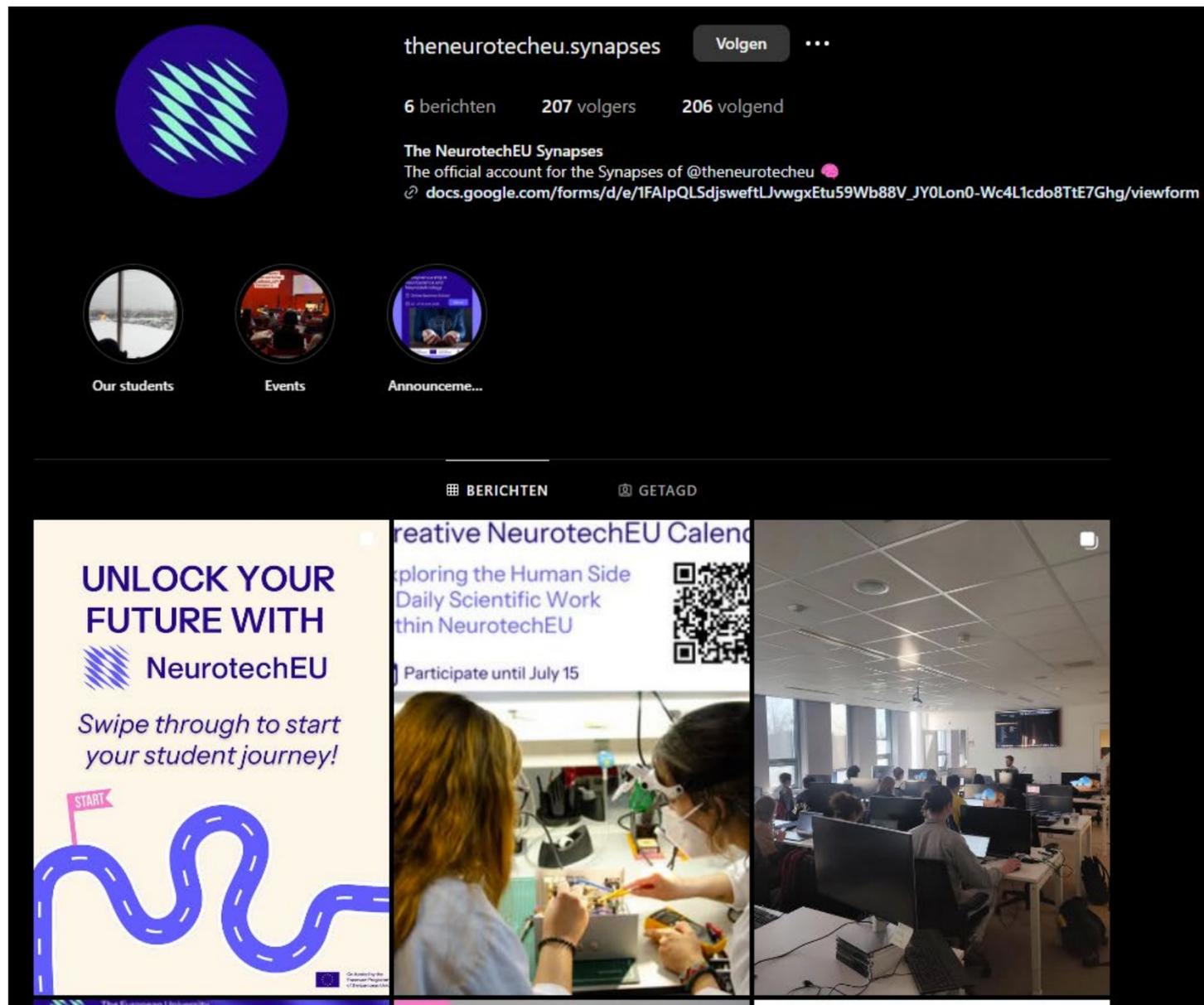




# Expectations

- Other kinds of events
  - University events
  - Alliance events
  - Study association events
- Collaborate not compete
  - Radboud University examples:
    - Dondrite (CNS): Synapsium
    - CNS Journal: Student Led Journal
    - Young Neuromorphs: Neuromorphic Workshops
    - ...

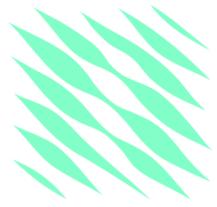




# Accountability

- Synapse events :
  - Shared calendar
  - Synapse Manager
  - Synapse NTEU Social Media
- Involvement in the WP's:
  - Reports in monthly meetings by students
- Communicate with and enthuse local students:
  - Word of mouth
  - Group chats
  - Presentation





# 3. Synapses

## Engaging students locally

- Synapse:
  - Student council members
  - Ambassadors/Synapse Managers
  - Bachelor, Master or PhD students from any discipline

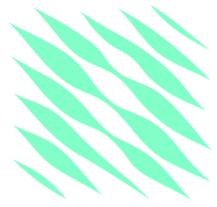




# Onboarding

- Onboarding Ambassadors
  - Locally elected (within Synapses )
  - Added to Global Ambassador group
  - Plan onboarding session with the secretary (or chair)

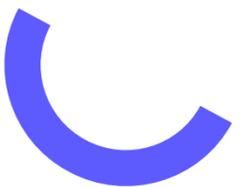
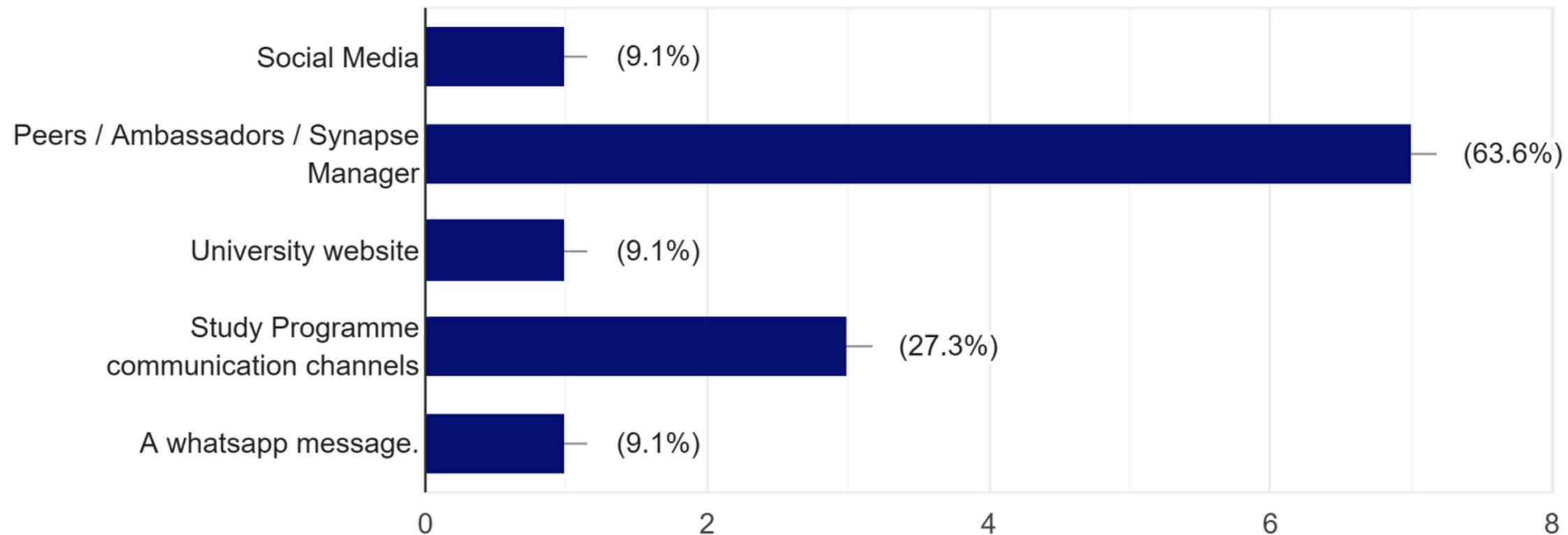


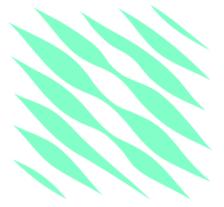


# 3. Synapses

## Engaging students locally (2023 - 2025 local events)

How did you hear about this event?



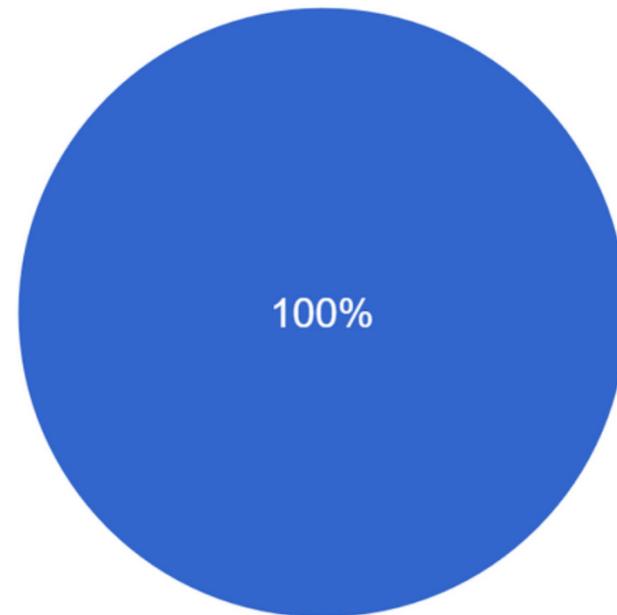


### 3. Synapses

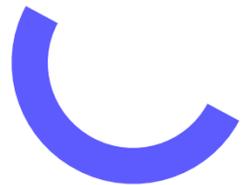
Engaging students locally (2023

- 2025 local events)

Would you attend a similar event in the future?



- Yes
- No
- Maybe





## 4. Outcomes and advantages for the students

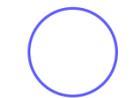
- Student mobility
- Knowledge exchange
- Interdisciplinary interactions and experiences





## 5. Outcomes and advantages for the alliance

- **Fresh Perspectives**
  - Student input in the project output, such as deliverables, tasks and milestones
  - Feedback and input on events from the alliance
- **Diverse contributions**
  - All study levels
  - Diverse backgrounds and experiences
- **Increased Awareness**
  - Reaching the (local) student community à increasing mobilities and student engagement
  - Fostering a sense of community in the younger generations
- **Collaboration Opportunities**
  - Access to academic resources and networks
- **Future Leaders**
  - Advance the goals and mission of the alliance



# Menti - meter

Do you have any suggestions for NeurotechEU to improve student engagement?





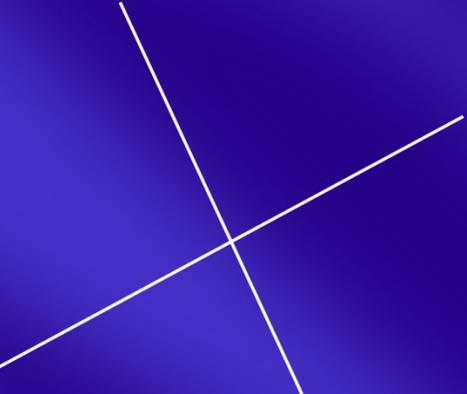
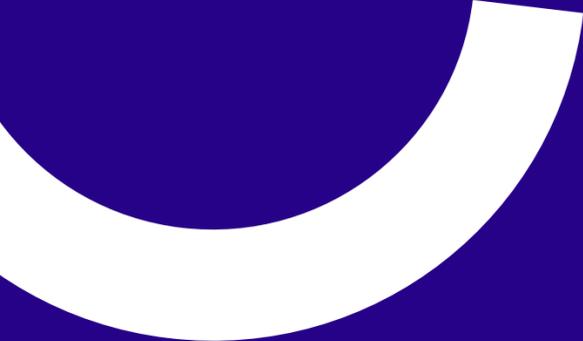
# Thank you



NeurotechEU



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# Discussion

- How can students reinforce the goals of collaboration and why?
- Why is student involvement so important?