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**Queensland**

# Engaging online and distance students in sport and extra curriculars in a post COVID-19 world

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# Higher education trends post COVID

- Universities are reappraising their business models
- Higher education is becoming an increasingly competitive market
- COVID forced new approaches to assessment
- Increased demand for flexibility now that students know it is possible
- The perception that online course delivery is inferior to face-to-face is diminishing
- Overall increase in the demand for online learning

*“The online capacity that has been built in this crisis will allow international brands and leading universities to offer courses without the need for residence.” (Croucher & Locke, 2020)*



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Is sport's contribution to the student experience only possible in the traditional on-campus model of higher education?



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# UniSQ Initiatives

**75% distance and online students**

- Strava Running Group
- USQ Sport Weekly Challenge
  - Soccer Ball Juggling
  - The Plank
  - 1km Row
  - 5km Stationary Bike Ride
  - 5km Treadmill Run
  - Burpees in a minute
  - Leadership boards
- Esport tournaments
- Home workout sessions
- Virtual marathon





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# Roundtable exercise

In your groups:

1. Brainstorm solutions for the problems you have been provided
2. Identify other challenges you believe online and distance student may face when trying to engage in sport and extra-curricular activities
3. Present your findings to the room

# References

Croucher, G., & Locke, W. (2020). A post-coronavirus pandemic world: some possible trends and their implications for Australian higher education. *Melbourne Centre for the Study of Higher Education: The University of Melbourne*.