Lecturing Large Groups Tip Sheet

Generating and maintaining interest

At the beginning you should:

- appear enthusiastic and interested yourself;
- be organised, and take control of the lecture room on your arrival;
- know how to use the presentation equipment.

During the first few minutes consider the following:

- Go through the learning outcomes for the session, telling them what they should have learned by the end. This can be a little dry;
- Describe a problem or scenario that is of relevance to the topic, and then go on to outline how the lecture will consider this;
- Share your passion and enthusiasm for the subject by telling students why you are personally in this topic;
- Link the lecture to some current news or activity. You could talk this one step further by asking students to bring examples with them to the lecture, and inviting them to contribute.

To keep students interested during the lecture consider the following:

- use relevant and current examples to illustrate the point;
- where possible draw on the students’ experiences;
- use rhetorical questions on the student as the lecture progresses. Vary between note taking, listening, and active participation;
- use visual materials or artefacts that are relevant to the topic of the lecture;
- use live links to the web to demonstrate currency of the material being presented.