



# Building blocks to develop your own alumni engagement roadmap

Rachel Bray, CERN Nena Grceva, CEU



### **SESSION OUTLINE**

Surveys and strategic goals

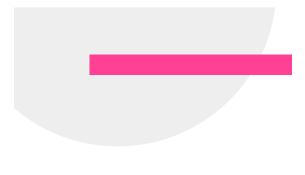
4 Building support across the institution

Building a case for support

Recognize, retain and expand

3 Alumni Engagement

6 KPI, Metrics to evaluate program's success





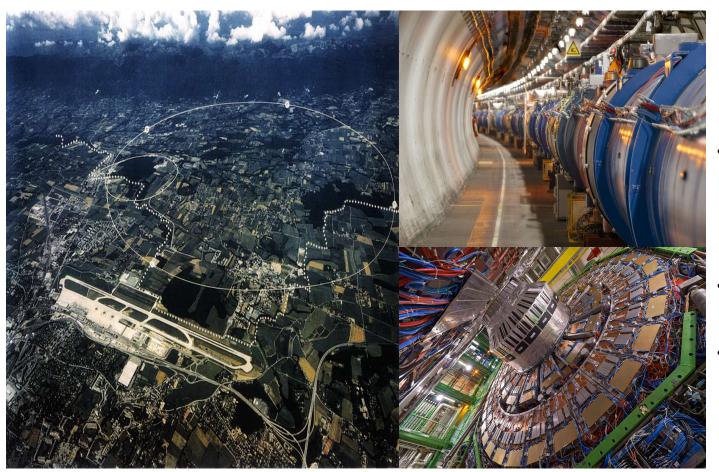
### Poll

How many participants have an/a:

- Alumni engagement strategy
- Recognition program
- Defined KPIs / metrics



# O1 Surveys and strategic goals



# CERN's Mission

- To provide a unique range of particle accelerator facilities that enable research at the forefront of human knowledge
- To perform world-class research in fundamental physics
- To unite people from all over the world to push the frontiers of science and technology, for the benefit of all.



### Why survey?

- Identify alumni outcomes
- Update data
- Demonstrate value
- Alumni pain points
- Who to survey
- How?
- Feedback



### Strategic goals

 Refer to your institution's Organisational goals

"The International Relations Sector, implements the Organization's international relations strategy to generate and secure sustained political, financial and popular support for CERN's scientific and broader societal missions."

#### Goals of CERN Alumni Network:

- demonstrate the positive impact on society of a professional experience at CERN
- build a network of ambassadors
- provide support to early career alumni when they move out of academia

# O2 BUILDING A CASE FOR SUPPORT





#### **CEU: QUICK FACTS**

- Educating global changemakers since 1991
- Campuses in Vienna (since 2019) and Budapest
- Offers English-language BA, Master's and doctoral programs in the social sciences, the humanities, law, management and public policy
- Approximately 1,400 students and 370 faculty members from more than 130 countries
- Accredited in United States, Austria and Hungary
- Programs ranked among Top 100 in the world







What is a case for support and why does it matter?

What are the key elements of case for support?





## Your case for support is a statement explaining:

- What your team does
- Why is your story important, relevant and timely for your institution
- -Why people should support you

#### Your case for support should be:

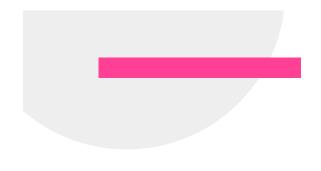
- Inspiring
- Logical
- Emotional
- Brief and interesting



## Your case for support is a tool which you can use to:

- -Communicate clearly the value and impact of your work
- -Inspire support by telling a compelling story of impact
- -Plan future activities
- -Train new members of your tean







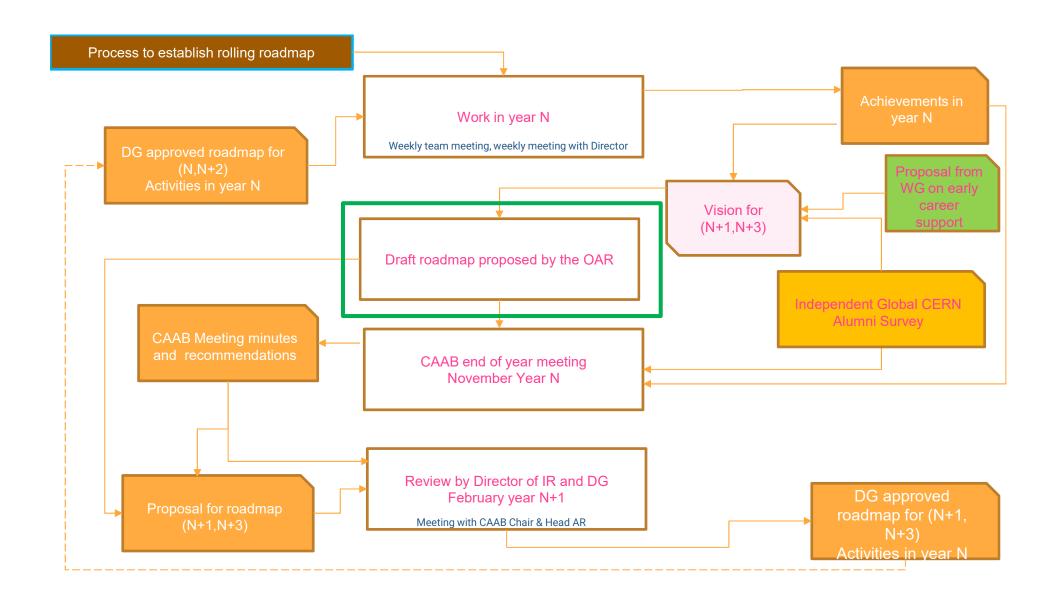
### Interactive exercise

Map out your stakeholders and draft a sample case for support for your institution in Miro Breakout room discussion for 10 mins



# Your case for support

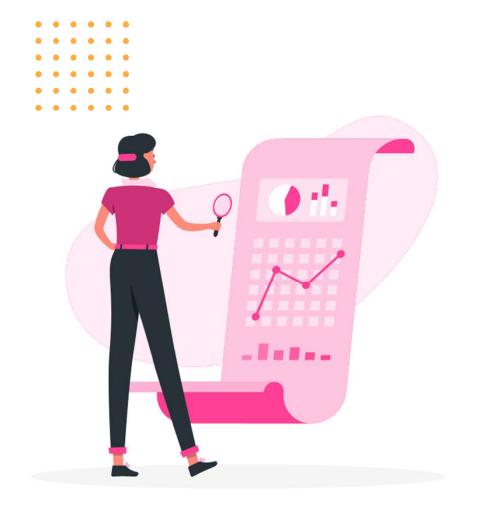
- Highlight the 'what's in it for me?'
- Identify your stakeholders
- Define your UVP for your stakeholders
- Resources







### Break



03
ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT



# What is alumni engagement?

Meaningful activities that:

- Alumni value
- Build enduring and mutually beneficial relationships
- Inspire loyalty and financial support
- Strengthen the institution's reputation and advance its mission



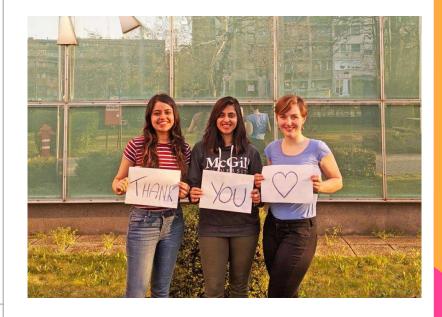
<sup>\*</sup> From Alumni Engagement Metrics White Paper 2018, Council for Advancement and Support of Education



Pillar # 1: Volunteer engagement: local groups, student recruitment, career development and more.

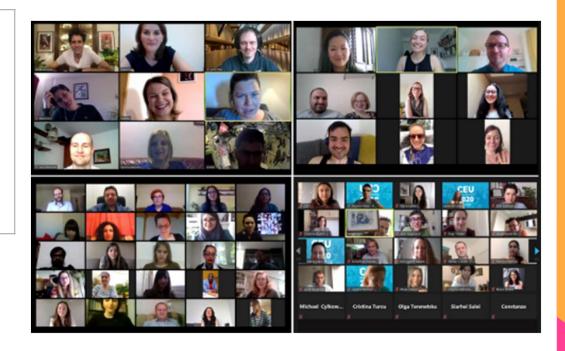
It's a strange and stressful time for all of us, so just note I'm here for you if you need to discuss your topic, get through academic concerns, or simply just vent to someone and get some recommendations on what to watch."

Lucy Szemetova (NATI ,19)
Thesis Buddy alumna volunteer



Pillar #
Experi
engage

Pillar # 2: Experiential engagement: events, services & benefits



Pillar # 3: Communication engagement: social media, E-news, web

- Updates from CEU
- Alumni news: awards, appointments, publications
- Nostalgia
- Event promotion
- Volunteering opportunities
- Fundraising





#### Pillar # 4: Philanthropic engagement:

funds supporting students and departments



#### STUDENTS IN THE FOCUS:

**COVID-19 Emergency Assistance for Students** 

#### What alumni are saying:

"To have the opportunity to give back to my Alma Mater is my greatest pride. Helping the most vulnerable during these difficult times should be the utmost goal of each of us."

"You may be far from home, but you are not alone!" -

"Everyone deserves a chance to complete their education, no matter how great the challenge. Good luck!"

04

# BUILDING SUPPORT in practice



# Building alumni engagement.

- Identify reasons for engagement 'what's in it for me?'
- Altruistic/Self-centered?
- Clear opportunities & guidelines
- Match with strategic goals

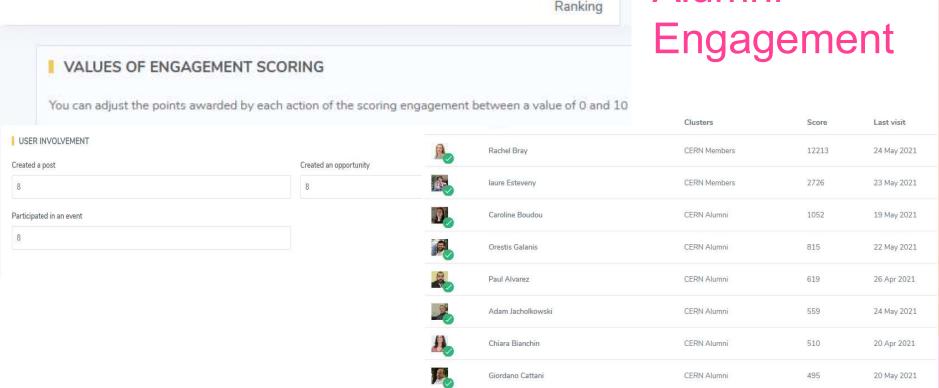


# The High-Energy Netword Le Réseau des hautes ént engagement. Building alumni engagement.

- CAAB Member
- Group managers
- Mentor
- Speakers & panellists
- Organise an event
- Content providers
- Advertise jobs
- Sponsor CERN project via CERN & Society

#### **Engagement Scoring**

**Alumni** Ranking

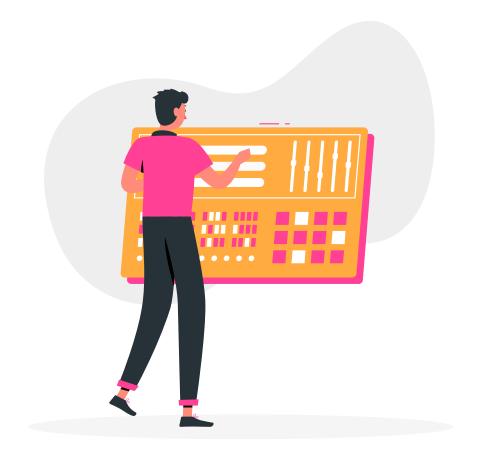


O5

RECOGNIZE,

RETAIN AND

EXPAND



#### **CEU's Volunteer Recognition Program**



Those alumni who engage with CEU as chapter, career or recruitment volunteers.

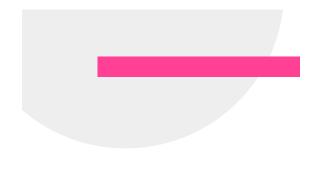


Volunteer Champions

Those alumni who engage frequently and / or across various volunteer roles.





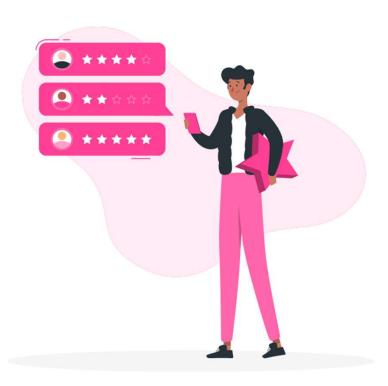




### Interactive exercise

How to recognise your alumni?
Brainstorm your examples on Miro. 10 MINS
CEU's volunteer recognition program:
https://alumni.ceu.edu/get-involved-give-your-time-talent-and-help-ceu-thrive

# 06 KPI'S & METRICS



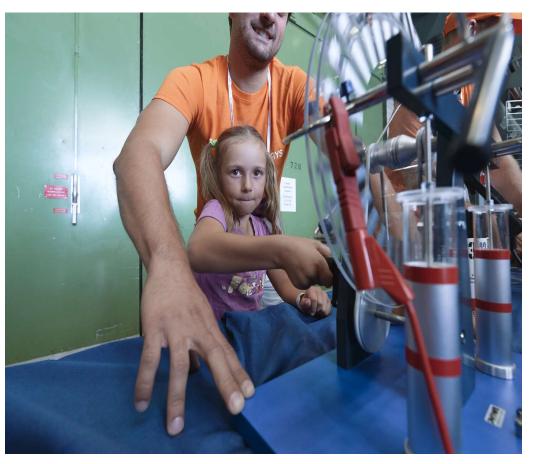
### CASE GLOBAL ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT METRICS SURVEY

Annual survey launched in 2019, participating institutions from more than 80 countries. Measures alumni engagement across four "modes": Philanthropic, Volunteer, Experiential, and Communications

The survey results enable participating institutions to:

- Measure and compare metrics across global and aspirational peers year-over-year.
- ✓ inform initiatives supporting educational advancement.
- ✓ Help institutional leaders set goals, assess performance, build capacity, and make informed, strategic decisions regarding investments in advancement.





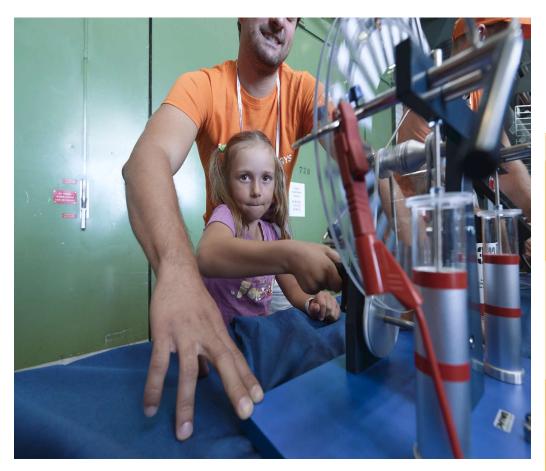
# KPIs and Metrics to measure success.

"

What can't be measured, can't be managed!

"

- Measure volunteering (both volunteering & interest
- Event attendance, participation & value
- Content comments & shares
- Email open & click rates



# KPIs and Metrics to measure success.

| Objective                                    | Metric   |
|--|--|
| Enhance Stakeholder<br>Experience            | <ul><li>Community growth</li><li># active users as % of total</li><li># visits/ user</li></ul>   |
| Increase support to early career transitions | <ul> <li># jobs posted</li> <li>Post evet survey (satisfaction, lessons learnt, value)</li> <li># registered mentors/mentees</li> </ul>            |
| Develop appealing content                    | <ul> <li>Measure traffic to platform &amp; returning visits.</li> <li># number alumni interactions</li> <li># alumni generating content</li> </ul> |

### **THANKS**

Do you have any questions?