

Draft Laws Working Group

Tuesday 31st March 2026

Activities Office

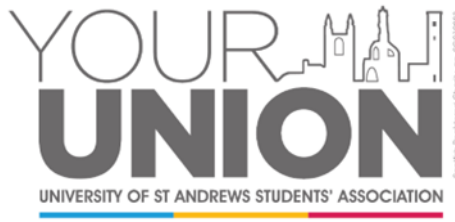
16:05 – 17:05

Minutes

Item	Owner
1. Welcome & Introductions	ALL
2. Review of Actions	ALL
3. Union Executive	JC/JMc
4. Activities Revamp	JG/RM
5. Member Discipline Law	EB/PH
6. Updates for any other laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discussions points and notes re: alternative model to the democracy structure 	All
7. Reviewing the rest of the laws	All
8. Update on timeline	All
9. AOCB	ALL

Actions from previous meeting:

Action	Responsible parties	Status
Reach out to Principal Ambassador RE involvement with Union	JMc	completed
Check font with DSN	HMc	
Review Socs Law (10)	Socs Network	
Check with CS on guest policy	EB	completed
Write role descriptions for Forum Chairs	JMc & JC	completed
Draft recall language distinguishing between political vs conduct removal	TG	completed



Present: Jack McNealy, RoMo, Aidan Cronin, Jacob Carey, Holly McDonald, Elise Bateman, Phil Hulse, Trinity Gortschacher, Anna Di Bona

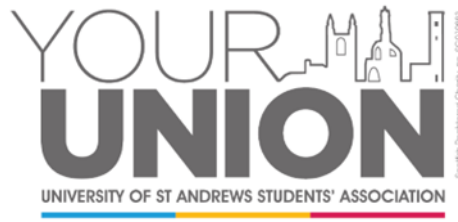
Apologies: Cam Brown

Minutes by: Holly McDonald

Meeting begins: 16:15

- Welcome & Introductions
 - a. The group gave introductions
- Review of Actions
 - a. JMc updated the Principal Ambassador doesn't wish to be involved with the Union's structures, but there are communication/consultation avenues where required.
 - b. HMc's quick internet search noted accessible/readable fonts include widely used fonts such as Arial. JC said sans serif fonts are deemed more accessible.
 - c. Socs Law update to be referred to later.
 - d. EB emailed CS today. AC said there was a disconnect in the Draft Laws and what occurs in practice. Guest policy on the website is what is followed, can be referred/linked to within the Laws. Also referenced that the way it is presently written suggests that non-members cannot buy alcohol or play on gaming machines. There is a need for clarity access availability for current members vs associate/life members/honorary life members (within the Laws or a separate policy). TG noted that types of membership interacts with discipline Law (has had further conversations round this area of work offline with CS).
 - e. Forum chair role descriptions referred to later.
 - f. Distinguishing between recall for political reasons vs officer conduct issues. TG has been in contact with Jonathan who had worked on this initially, and their document should have proposals within this. TG has also met with Graeme Wood on this, who feels conduct should be kept separate from politically-based recall. Conduct element can be added to the member discipline Law/section. JMc and JC felt that conduct on an Executive (e.g. inconsistent attendance or lateness) could be added within this, with staff support to action this in reality (with some differences between Executives as required).
- Union Executive
 - a. JC and JMc ran through the document as presented. One addition has been that the ASF Chair has been added, and as the Chair of the Union Executive. They felt an intern should continue minuting so that the Chair does not have to.
 - b. EB and AC felt that 'a member of the Student Engagement Team' would be preferable naming so as to offer flexibility.
 - c. ADB: need to clarify that the Chair is non-voting, until a casting tie-break.
 - d. Need to standardise quorum as 50%+1 across our spaces

- e. Suggestion to add to the JD for ASF Chair to have an addition around implementation of decisions resulting from democratic structures.
- f. Discussion of clarifying terminology Union Executive vs Executive Officer Team. RoMo suggested 'Presidential Team.' HMc clarified that the University did not agree with 'Sabbatical' terminology, given that PGT and PGR President are not on a sabbatical from their studies.
- g. JC felt we could update the glossary on the website for clarity given that some of the referenced structures no longer exist.
- h. HMc and EB have made comments on conduct of the Union Executive given clarity between meeting conduct vs the officers in general.
- i. JMc sought clarity on Association vs Union terminology. TG noted there is a distinction online for this. AC noted this is covered within the published brand guidelines, outlining that services and representation is the Union (e.g. Union Executive vs Students' Association Board). This may be a question for Board/SMT.
- j. **Action: All to consider a new name for either Executive Officers, or the Union Executive.**
- Member Discipline Law
 - a. PH noted there are a few elements that need updating to reflect practice and for readability/clarity. TG has been in contact with CS about this.
 - b. **Action: PH, TG, SWW (CS) to meet and discuss.**
- Activities Revamp
 - a. RoMo noted the idea is for SocsComm to be replaced with liaisons as intermediaries between Activities Team and groups of similar societies (updates on groupings to follow). Liaisons will get to know each committee and report to the Union with how they're doing, and answer questions for the societies.
 - b. JC noted this is intended to create more consultative opportunities. There will be in addition an Employability Team (and Activities Team) and various roundtables to assist with this. A document is being drafted which will follow.
- *ADB left at 17:01.* Will add their content to Teams for feedback.
- JC suggested more frequent or longer meetings to get through business.
- 8th June is deadline as this is the meeting of ASF. AC felt that June may not be a good time for representative audience to give feedback of this. EB responded that this date is intended to capture PG voices. TG suggested possible consultative survey, though others in the group felt this was impractical. AC felt 8th June would be best for final version but at later point for final sign-off. JC asked if the 8th of June deadline could be moved forward. JC suggests Union Executive consults on calling an emergency ASF in September. Others felt the structure should be confirmed ahead of next academic year. TG felt some of the necessary staff consultation on discipline may not be achievable
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earlier. JMc asked if student approval is needed before it goes to Board. Group felt it wasn't necessary, but it was preferable. JC suggested w/c 25th May after exam diet concludes. Others questioned if this would increase engagement as students may have left prior.

- JC felt this group would be more feasible focusing on clarifying sufficient process/detail as a framework, with other rules/policy to sit with staff and others to consult as required.
 - a. **Action: bring dates for this to Union Executive on Friday**
 - b. **Action: EB to move this meeting to fortnightly**

The meeting concluded at 17:11 with the following items not discussed:

- Updates for any other laws
 - a. [Discussions points and notes re: alternative model to the democracy structure](#)
- Reviewing the rest of the laws
- Update on timeline
- AOCB