



**University of St Andrews
Students' Association
Student Services Council**

MINUTES

Tuesday 8 Nov 2016, Student's Association Board Room, 6 pm

Present

Member's Name	Position
Rebecca Ryce	Association Alumni Officer
Aine Bennett	Association Community Relations Officer
Sigrid Jorgensen	Association Chair
Mariya Simeonova	Association Environment Officer
Charlotte Andrew	Association President
Ben Peddie	Athletic Union President
Taryn O'Connor	Director of Events and Services
Jack Carr	Director of Representation
Caroline Christie	Director of Student Development and Activities
Lottie Haswell-West	SSC Arts Festival Convener
Charlotte Flatley	SSC Broadcasting Officer
Kristen Tsubota	SSC Charities Officer
Beckie Thomas	SSC Debates Officer
Francis Newman	SSC Employability Officer
Hannah Jacobs	SSC Entertainments Officer
Jamie Minns	SSC Member Without Portfolio
Alasdair Milne	SSC Music Officer
Annabel Ekelund	SSC Performing Arts Officer
Ariana Brighenti	SSC Postgraduate Officer
Pia Szabo	SSC Societies Officer
Sarah Rodway-Swanson	SSC Volunteering Officer

In Attendance

Iain Cupples	Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager
Jonathan Skavroneck	The Saint
John Kennedy	Societies Committee

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was amended to add the following items:

7.19 Detailed Look at Societies Committee

DRAFT ONLY

7.20 Detailed look at Mermaids

9.3 Elections Committee

In addition, since the sabbatical officers had to leave early the committee agreed to deal with items 6 and 7 after item 10.

With these amendments the agenda was **adopted**.

2. Apologies and Absence

Member's Name	Position	
Robert Aston	Association Equal Opportunities Officer	Absent
Taylor Almeraz	Design Team Convener	Absent

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To be circulated.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

None

5. Open Forum

There was no business in the open forum.

6. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

(Sabbaticals absent)

7. Questions for Subcommittees

7.9 Entertainments Committee

Hannah reminded the group that Ents User Group meetings were on Wednesdays at 1pm: if subcommittees had bookings with technical requirements they should attend. Members were reminded to make technical requirements known when making room bookings – assistance on this was available from Reception staff.

7.10 Employability Committee

Francis discussed the employability strategy and asked for input.

7.11 Debates Committee

There was a discussion of overseas events.

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7.14 Performing Arts Committee

The Freshers' drama festival would take place this weekend. Discussions with Development over an alumni drama mentorship scheme, where alumni who had entered the performing arts in performing or technical roles could be put in touch with current students needing mentorship in those areas.

7.15 Societies Committee

The Socs EGM would take place tomorrow at 4pm.

7.16 Volunteering Committee

Give Back Weekend would be held this weekend. A third sector careers talk was being organised.

7.17 On The Rocks Committee

The first semester event had gone well and applications were now open. In response to a question Lottie confirmed that the application fee applied to all, but only once accepted, and that it covered printing and publicity among other costs. Pia pointed out that for affiliated groups, the societies committee could help with OTR application fees.

7.18 Detailed look at Societies Committee

Pia discussed the operations of societies committee in providing a resource for grants, elections, and the affiliation process.

7.19 Detailed look at Mermaids

Annabel discussed how Mermaids facilitated theatre and performing arts groups for over 40 shows each year. The criteria used to assess applications were discussed: financial viability, logistics and skills development. Annabel pointed out that these did not include decisions on perceived artistic merit – the aim of Mermaids was to put on financially and practically viable shows that developed students' performing arts skills.

8. Unfinished General Business

None.

9. New General Business

9.1 J16-18 A motion to recommend that the Students' Association Board of Trustees creates the offices of Director of Education and Director of Wellbeing, and retires the office of the Director of Representation, effective July 1st 2017.

This SRC and SSC notes:

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1. The circulated paper "*Review of Sabbatical Remits and Oversight of Representational Activities*," presented by the Director of Representation to the Students' Association Board on Thursday 20th October.
2. That the Students' Association Board of Trustees has approved the concept of a fifth Students' Association Sabbatical.
3. That the financial aspects of the introduction of the role have been considered by the Students' Association and University and have been approved in principle.
 - i. That there will be no impact upon the student spend i.e. subcommittee budgets.
4. That there will be changes necessitated to the make-up of the Association Councils - notably the addition of an additional Sabbatical Officer, the removal of the position of Wellbeing Officer and the addition of a Member for Mental Health Awareness.
5. That there will be an additional student and lay trustee of the Students' Association.
6. That there are no other institutions in Scotland where education, wellbeing and equality are represented by one single Sabbatical Officer.
7. That the first objective of the Students Association according to its constitution is to provide services for the health and wellbeing of its members.

This SRC and SSC believes:

1. The Director of Representation's remit covering Education, Wellbeing, Equal Opportunities and Democracy is too broad for one Sabbatical Officer.
2. That the Students' Association has a duty to represent students to the best possible standard in every area of that remit.
3. Student Wellbeing and Equality deserve the attention of a Sabbatical Officer in a way which is currently left lacking due to the demanding nature of the Education remit.
4. That the split of responsibilities as set out in the paper "*Review of Sabbatical Remits and Oversight of Representational Activities*" is an appropriate separation of the Director of Representation's remit.
5. The position of Wellbeing Officer should have its responsibilities entirely subsumed into the Director of Wellbeing Remit and be removed from the SRC after the 2017 Students' Association Elections.
 1. That this can be considered a promotion of that role and that this will both align with our constitutional aims and be of benefit to the Student Body.

This SRC and SSC resolves:

1. To recommend to the Board of Trustees that from July 2016, there should be a Director of Education and a Director of Wellbeing.
2. To recommend to the Board of Trustees that from July 2016, there should not be a Director of Representation.
3. To mandate the chair and sabbatical team to amend the laws with appropriate remits at the time which is deemed most appropriate.
4. To mandate the Director of Representation to create formal handover documents for both positions.
5. To mandate the Association Councils to communicate this change to the Student Body before Students' Association Elections in 2017.

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6. To elect a Director of Education and a Director of Wellbeing in the Students' Association elections in 2017, subject to the approval of the Students' Association Board of Trustees.

Proposed

Jack Carr - Director of Representation

Charlotte Andrew - Association President

Caroline Christie - Director of Student Development and Activities

Taryn O'Connor - Director of Events and Services

Ben Peddie - Athletic Union President

Seconded: Lewis Wood - SRC Senior Officer, Association LGBT+ Officer; Pia Szabo, SSC Senior Officer, SSC Societies Officer

Sigird notified SSC of two amendments made by SRC that would first have to be considered, as follows:

Amendments from the 1/11/2016 Meeting of SRC:

Point 4 in notes: That there will be changes necessitated to the make-up of the Association Councils - notably the addition of an additional Sabbatical Officer and the removal of the position of Wellbeing Officer. The addition of a Member for Mental Health Awareness is approved pending remit approval in the Next Joint Councils Meeting.

Proposed By Charlotte Andrew, Seconded by Caroline Christie

Point 1 and 2 in Resolves: correct all mentions of 2016 to 2017

SSC passed both of these amendments without dissent. The council moved on to questions on the motion.

Charlotte Flatley asked if the intention were to introduce these new posts for the next set of elections in March. Jack confirmed this was the aim. Beckie asked how this change would be promoted to the student body: Jack said he thought it would be welcomed. Annabel asked who would chair the Wellbeing committee under this proposal: Jack confirmed this would be the Director of Wellbeing.

SSC then passed the motion, as amended, without dissent.

9.2 J.16-19. A Motion for The Purchase of the Lizard Remains

THIS SSC AND SRC NOTES:

1. That the night club venue the Lizard has been a well-loved fixture of the St Andrews student night life for many years.
2. Following the closure of this venue there may be a feeling of loss among the student population.

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THIS SSC AND SRC BELIEVES:

1. That it would be a benefit to student wellbeing to acquire the flooring of the Lizard for the Union building as a memory and continuation of this long tradition.
2. The Union would do well to benefit in many ways from the inclusion of such furniture into the night life spaces of the Union building.

THIS SSC AND SRC RESOLVES:

1. To seek to acquire the dance flooring and any other appropriate fixtures from the Lizard.
2. To create a memorial space within the Union where such mementos might be put to good use.

PROPOSED:

Pia Szabo, SSC Societies Committee Officer

SECONDED:

Jack Carr, Director of Student Representation

Lewis Wood, Association LGBT+ Officer

Ben Peddie, Athletic Union President

SSC granted speaking rights to John Kennedy of the Societies' Committee for this motion.

John discussed the advantages of the proposal as he saw them – the potential to harness student and alumni nostalgia for the Lizard as a venue, and to improve entertainment events in the Union building in general. In response to questions he clarified that he had not made contact with the relevant parties yet and so did not have information as to costs, timescales, technical specifications, or even whether the flooring was available for purchase. In response to this an amendment was proposed as follows:

Amendment – change Resolves point 1 to read 'To seek to acquire information pertaining to the dimensions, cost and availability of the dance flooring and any other appropriate fixtures from the Lizard.'

Proposed: Pia Szabo, seconded: Lewis Wood. This amendment was **passed without dissent**.

On a procedural point, Ben noted that he had not been aware of being listed as a seconder to the motion. He said he was happy to remain listed as such.

John said he saw the flooring as being for the Main Bar rather than Club 601, although concerns were raised that installing such a floor for free Main Bar events would make paying for access to Club 601 relatively less attractive. There was a discussion of whether the motion's supporters would support installing some other dance floor in the Main Bar if the option outlined in this paper proved impossible: however, this was recognised as outwith the scope of the current motion.

Jack said that he did not support the assertion that this motion would be a benefit to wellbeing and opposed the motion for this reason among others.

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In response to a question from Kristen, Iain clarified that the motion could not be put into effect without discussion with and approval from relevant staff.

Rebecca noted that the proposal was at least light-hearted and had provided some levity in the meeting.

Charlotte Andrew proposed an amendment to strike Resolves point 2: Jack seconded. This was **passed without dissent**.

Pia moved to vote on the motion as amended.

Office	Name	Aye	No	Abstain
Association President	Charlotte Andrew		X	
AU President	Ben Peddie		X	
DoES	Taryn O'Connor		X	
DoRep	Jack Carr		X	
DoSDA	Caroline Christie		X	
Community Relations Officer	Aine Bennett		X	
Environment Officer	Mariya Simeonova		X	
LGBTQ+ Officer	Lewis Wood	X		
Broadcasting Officer	Charlotte Flatley		X	
Charities Officer	Kristen Tsubota		X	
Employability Officer	Francis Newman		X	
Debates Officer	Beckie Thomas		X	
Alumni Officer	Rebecca Ryce	X		
SSC Member without Portfolio	Jamie Minns		X	
Music Officer	Alasdair Milne	X		
Performing Arts Officer	Annabel Ekelund		X	
Societies Officer	Pia Szabo	X		
Postgraduate Officer	Ariana Brighenti	X		
Volunteering Officer	Sarah Rodway-Swanson		X	

With 5 members in the affirmative and 14 in the negative, the motion **failed**.

9.3 Elections Committee

Three vacancies on the committee existed. Jack clarified that all members of SSC (voting and non-voting) were eligible and that members could withdraw if they later decided to stand in the elections in March. External members would be appointed to replace withdrawn members in the run-up to the elections themselves.

Charlotte Flatley asked for information about responsibilities of committee members: Jack responded that at present these would be mainly to draw up rules for approval by Councils.

DRAFT ONLY

SSC were asked for nominations. Lottie Haswell-West, Charlotte Flatley, Kristen Tsubota, Hannah Jacobs, and Pia Szabo were nominated.

After speeches and voting, **Lottie Haswell-West, Pia Szabo and Charlotte Flatley were elected** to serve on the committee.

10. AOCB

Members were reminded to submit reports on time.

Any proposals for changes to the Laws should be submitted to the Chair by the deadline for the next Joint Councils meeting.

11. Collaborative Solutions

(In camera discussion, not minuted.)