

## **PG Society AGM**

**Date:** Monday, 29 September 2014

**Time:** 7-7.50pm

**Venue:** Arts Building, Seminar Room 2

**Present:** Ondrej Hajda (Dorep), Tania Strützel (PG Convenor), David van Brussel (PG Society President), Scott Schorr, Alison Holiday, Syme van der Lelij, Andreea Oniga, Horizonz Zhang, Brianna Vandrey

- I. Welcome
- II. PG Society President Report

David stated that all events for semester 1 are planned but that any new ideas and help with the Graduation Ball on 1 December are welcome. He explained that the Society's focus this year will be on getting more postgrads involved with the Union and also work more with other societies. The main part of the committee's job will be to organize semester 2 and summer events.

- III. Treasurer report

David also gave the Treasurer's report stating that the exact amount of the PG Society's budget still remains unclear but that the Society is in good shape financially. Together with the new Treasurer, David will attend training and aim to find out exact budget numbers.

- IV. PG Convenor Report

Tania pointed out that the PG rep elections are happening this week. All 85 elected PG reps will receive training by Ondrej and her. Tania also ran a survey targeted at the PGT cohort that just left to gather feedback on their dissertation experience. Tania also attended Senate last week and will be attending Learning&Teaching Committee this Wednesday together with Ondrej.

- V. Election

Ondrej explained the election process for all four positions and what responsibilities each role contains.

- a) Election of Treasurer

Candidate: Syme van der Lelij

Syme worked as treasurer for two societies in the past years and would like to continue this work. He is a great fan of the PG Society and of what he has seen so far and would like to contribute to that. He believes that the PG Society plays an important role in creating a united PG community in St Andrews.

Candidate: Chyanne Holmes

Chyanne sent her apologies for not attending the meeting since she had to work. David read out a statement on Chyanne's behalf. She used to work as Treasurer for the Debating Society and political societies at her previous university and would now like to be involved with the PG Society.

With 6 votes for Syme, 1 vote for Chyanne and 1 invalid vote, Syme was duly elected as Treasurer.

b) Election of Secretary

Candidate: Alison Holiday

Alison was previously the Secretary of the Film Society and also a class rep. She enjoyed her time as Secretary and would like to continue that work in the PG Society.

With 8 votes Alison was unanimously elected as Secretary.

c) Election of Ball Convenor

Candidate: Scott Schorr

Scott served as PG President in 2013-14 and therefore has extensive experience and skills in planning large scale events. He still has contacts to the Old Course and Scores Hotel and other large venues suitable for balls. He suggested organizing a third ball in semester 2 to add to the normal December and July PG balls. Scott emphasized that all events are a team effort and that he is open to any ideas. He would like to stay involved with the PG Society to support other continuing committee members from last year.

Ondrej asked how Scott would manage all his other commitments. Scott replied that Enterprise Week will be finished after week 4 and then his only other commitment would be the Fashion Show. He is also more flexible now as he doesn't have classes any more.

Candidate: Horizonz Zhang

Horizonz was involved in organizing large-scale events at his previous university and therefore has the communication and organization skills to negotiate with hotels and sponsors to host large balls. This is his second year in St Andrews and he would like to contribute to the PG Society and community.

With 6 votes for Scott and 2 votes for Horizonz, Scott was duly elected as Ball Convenor.

d) Election of Event Convenor

Candidate: Andreea Oniga

Andreea was previously involved in the Interpretative Dance Society and successfully organized events for her dance group. Andreea would like to be creative and bring more societies together in order to better engage postgrads in the various events.

Ondrej asked if she had already thought of creative event ideas.

Andreea answered that one of her ideas is a Dance night hosted by the different Dance Societies. Another idea would be to work with the Mermaids Performing Arts Subcommittee.

With 8 votes Andreea was unanimously elected as Event Convenor.

The committee congratulated all newly elected members on their positions.

Meeting adjourned.

**Date of next meeting:** TBC