



Education Committee

St Andrews Students Association

Meeting date: Thursday 28th October 2021, 6pm (Microsoft Teams)

AGENDA

1. Welcome, general updates and housekeeping **10 mins**

(Art Div FP)

- Sam (SP Philosophy) has resigned for personal reasons.
 - o There will be a co-option meeting with the current Philosophy reps this week.
- From now on please send apologies directly to Alice (aar20@st-andrews.ac.uk) for both reports and attendance.
- From next week Chase will give access to work support resources for all SPs
- The DoWell raised a motion to the Union Exec committee to disband SWAG – The motion has passed, and the group has been formally abolished.
 - o SPs who were carved up to SWAG will now have informal meetings to discuss things that would have been discussed in SWAG.
 - o Any SP is welcome to join these discussions.
 - o It is important that SPs still have the ability to speak on wellbeing issues in their schools.
- Study and Careers Peer Scheme updates:
 - o These will be launched within the next two weeks.

- *Action Point:* SPs to contact their Mentoring champions to see if they are willing to be trained on SUMAC.

2. Postgraduate updates **5 mins**

(PG Convenor)

- Postgraduate reps have now been elected and most schools are entirely full.
 - Divinity and Social Anthropology are having trouble.
- Some schools have PG sustainability reps, and some do not – if no one stood for that school those roles will not be co-opted.
- Three of the officer positions are filled and have been trained.
- Send all questions to Caroline and she will refer to the proper PG rep.
- Jessica Haghkerdar (PGR President) is in attendance and adds that she is excited about this year and excited to move forward.

3. Careers update **15 mins**

(Art Div FP)

- Updates from CERF
 - Only 6-7 representatives showed up. There should be at least one from each school – this is very concerning.
 - *Action Point:* SPs give a nudge to their careers representatives to attend the meetings and be involved.
 - Was difficult to engage the representatives well.
 - The feedback varied – very clear that sciences feel more employable than arts.
 - *Action Point:* SPs direct your reps to the careers handbook.
 - The reps shared their concern on communication with the Careers Centre.
- On October 26th the FPs had a meeting with Lorna (the Director of the Careers Centre) to inform her of the issues that have been occurring.
 - Lorna is investigating into the issues.
 - *Action Point:* If SPs have trouble with a specific member of the Careers Centre private message Lucia who that member is and there will be an investigation.
 - There is a strategy being created to fix these issues:
 - This includes coffee chats with the Careers Centre.
 - Changing the SP training for next year – collaborating with CEED and the Careers Centre.
 - *Action Point:* SPs who would like to read the minutes from the meeting with Lorna email Lucia.
- On October 26th there was the first SPAG meeting of the year
 - Ryan Patterson sent EDI prompts that will be shared next week.
 - Big takeaways: Streamlining the communication, a guide from Lorna on how to talk to the Careers Centre, and the creating of an events form.
- Student Run Careers Week

- *Action Point:* SPs involve the careers representatives in the marketing for this.
- *Comment:* SJ (FP SciMed) adds that there is now an agreement that the staff in the Careers Centre needs to reply to SPs within five working days and this works vice versa.
 - If the Careers Centre do not respond within five days inform the FPs.

4. EDI update **10 mins**

(Art Div FP)

- This week the FPs had a meeting with the EDI leads for the ArtDiv and SciMed faculties
- If any SPs have specific requests contact the EDI leads.
- Non-definitive points from the meeting:
 - There is talk about creating a survey on how students feel about discussing EDI issues within the school.
 - There are different ways of engaging with EDI issues – if SPs feel overburdened they do not have to attend EDI meetings for their schools, but SPs can and should elect a different dedicated member from their school to attend. SPs can also invite students to attend if they are interested.
 - There is talk about creating informal forums with non-representative students so they can also have a voice on EDI issues.
 - All members in the meeting agreed it would be helpful to invite Anna and Jillian to EduCom once or twice a semester to give updates.
 - FPs are looking into whether to also invite them to the SP forum.
- The EDI conversations are ongoing this year and are central to all FPs and Edu Exec manifestos.
- *Question:* SJ (FP SciMed) asks if there are any SPs who do not know who the EDI advisor in their school is. No SP raises their hand.
 - SJ reminds SPs that there should always be at least two student voices on the EDI committee.
- *Action Point:* If you are an SP who has not been invited to an EDI committee meeting yet, check in with your EDI advisor.

5. End of semester reports **5 mins**

(Sci Med FP)

- Early warning for SPs and LCs that one of the requirements of their role is to give a report to their school at the end of the semester.
- Report Info:
 - There is no minimum or maximum word count or specific format.
 - The report must detail anything done that semester (meetings, events, etc.).
 - The report must detail manifesto progress.
 - The report must detail the SP or LC's goals for second semester.
 - The reports are very important as they are read by a member of Board.
 - Once the report is submitted Leonie can make sure your role goes on your transcript.

- Due Date: Sunday Week 1 of Semester 2
- SJ (FP SciMed) will share example reports from past SPs and LCs.

6. Merch update **5 mins**

(Academic Coordinator)

- Merchandise was ordered a few days ago and will hopefully come sooner rather than later.

7. AOCB

- Update from CERF – LG (FP ArtDiv) recommends that each representative run a careers survey within their schools so that the reps can be truly representative.
 - *Action Point:* SPs to broadcast that survey.
- The motion for in-person teaching came to councils.
 - The Proctor sent an email with a teaching update that negates the need for the petition to have happened in the first place.
 - This email was the first time Edu Exec also found out about the changes.
 - The motion did not pass in councils.
 - SJ (FP SciMed) explains why the motion did not pass – The SA could not pass the motion as the motion was phrased to say that SA would stand against the government guidelines which would be against the law.
 - Some SPs signed on with their titles – if schools would like to know what happened in the meeting, they can look at the minutes that were taken.
 - All SPs can let their students know that they were not involved in the changes that will be implemented in second semester.
- *Action Point:* SPs log all your volunteering hours!!!!
 - SJ (FP SciMed) will be in the union tomorrow October 29th if anyone needs help documenting their volunteering hours. This is important for those who are graduated this year.
 - *Question:* TR (SP Phys & Astro) asks what would count as evidence for volunteering hours. *Answer:* They will accept almost anything. Avery (DoSDA) who accepts the hours knows how hard the SPs and LCs work.
 - If anyone is struggling on how to log volunteering hours email Avery
- On the 4th of November there will be representatives from the library coming to EduCom to speak and give updates.

Additional information

CERF minutes

https://universityofstandrews907-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/cmg9_standrews_ac_uk/EX6c7MZ9jgtIrsVVJGY1uPoB7TlisIQFHAHb_G5IG5iwxw?e=8LHvxL