

R-24-XX Motion to establish an official International Students' Subcommittee

Owner: Taasia Thong, SRC International Students' Officer

In effect from: immediately

Review date: December 2025

This SRC notes:

1. The International Students' Officer was introduced by the SRC in the 2021/2022 academic year.
2. International students approximately comprise of 40% of the University's student population and hail from 135 countries (Appendix A).
3. Other than the International Students' Officer, there are no official student groups within the Students' Association solely dedicated to representing and supporting international students and their interests more broadly which are represented within its governance structures.

This SRC believes:

1. Despite international students comprising a large percentage of the students at the university, there is only one official representative for international students on the committee. By creating a subcommittee, this would allow international students from a range of backgrounds and experiences to be represented (such as mature international students).
2. While there are individual cultural societies (such as Japan Society), there is an absence of a singular space dedicated to representing international students. The absence of a space to foster cross-cultural connections is something that the subcommittee hopes to address.
3. Having a dedicated official subcommittee to better represent and support international students would be beneficial to international students by creating a bespoke official space for international students within the university.
4. The existence of a dedicated subcommittee for international students would mean that the International Students' Officer could pursue and complete projects (such as the International Students' Guide), as well as host events (such as socials for international students) more quickly and efficiently than a singular officer ordinarily would.
5. Having an official subcommittee for international students would also demonstrate that the Students' Association and the university takes the representation and voices of international students seriously.
6. An official subcommittee for international students would encourage and give international students (especially international students who otherwise may not volunteer) the opportunity to engage and work more closely with the Students' Association.

This SRC resolves:

1. To establish a subcommittee that will be chaired by the SRC International Students' Officer with immediate effect.
2. To add this amendment to the Students' Association Laws constitution (see Appendix B) and Subcommittee Constitutions (see Appendix C).
3. To review the implementation of this subcommittee at the next SRC meeting.

Proposed by: Taasia Thong, SRC International Students' Officer

Seconded by:

Caitlin Ridgway, Director of Wellbeing and Equality

Hitanshi Badani, Director of Education

Jack Kennedy, SRC LGBT+ Officer

Appendix A: University's reporting on international students

[The university's official facts and figures page](#)

[UCAS's St Andrews 2024 Statistics Page](#)

Appendix B: Proposed amendment to the Laws of the Students' Association

4.13. The International Students' Officer shall:

1. Have responsibility for issues concerning international students.
2. Coordinate with the University to improve the experiences of international students.
3. Chair and convene the International Students' Subcommittee.

14. The Community and Representation Subcommittees are:

- 14.1. Accommodation Subcommittee
- 14.2. Alumni Subcommittee
- 14.3. BAME Subcommittee (BAME Students' Network)
- 14.4. Charities Subcommittee (Charities Campaign)
- 14.5. Community Relations Subcommittee
- 14.6. Disabilities Subcommittee (Disabled Students' Network)
- 14.7. Education Subcommittee
- 14.8. Environment Subcommittee
- 14.9. Equality Subcommittee
- 14.10. International Students Subcommittee
- 14.11. LGBT+ Subcommittee (Saints LGBT+)
- 14.12. Lifelong and Flexible Learners Subcommittee (Lifers)
- 14.13. Societies Subcommittee
- 14.14. Wellbeing Subcommittee

Appendix C: amendment to the Subcommittee Constitutions

Chapter 9: International Students' Subcommittee

1. Remit

- 1.1. The subcommittee will represent international students and advocate for them to the Association and the University.

1.2. The subcommittee will create a welcoming and inclusive space for international students within the Association.

2. Committee Structure

2.1. SRC International Students' Officer (Convener and Chair)

2.1.1. Fulfil responsibilities as defined in the Laws of the Association

2.2. Vice President

2.2.1. Chair subcommittee meetings in the absence of the International Students' Officer

2.2.2. Assist the International Students' Officer in collaborating with University administration and relevant Students' Association members

2.2.3. Liaise with University on issues relevant to international students alongside the International Students' Officer.

2.3. Secretary

2.3.1. Oversee all correspondence on behalf of the International Students' Subcommittee.

2.3.2. Manage the International Students' Subcommittee's email account alongside the International Students' Officer.

2.3.3. Take accurate minutes of subcommittee meetings.

2.4. Treasurer

2.4.1. Maintain the accounts of the International Students' Subcommittee.

2.4.2. Work with the International Students' Officer to produce the annual budget.

2.4.3. Oversee all spending by the International Students' Officer subcommittee and ensure the effective use of resources.

2.5. Publicity Officer

2.5.1. Promote all the activities of the International Students' Subcommittee and manage their social media.

2.5.2. Create promotional materials for the subcommittee, ensuring a cohesive brand for the subcommittee.

2.6. Events Officer

2.6.1. Organise International Students' Subcommittee events.

2.6.2. Liaise with other student groups for collaborations, with help if necessary from the Students' Association Societies Committee.

2.6.3. Work with the Wellbeing and Publicity Officers to ensure events are inclusive and accessible.

2.7. Wellbeing Officer

2.7.1. Oversee wellbeing events and initiatives organised by the International Students' Subcommittee.

2.7.2. Signpost to support resources for members.

2.7.3. Liaise with Student Services and wellbeing-oriented student groups to highlight wellbeing issues faced by international students.

2.7.4. Ensure committee members have received relevant trainings such as condom training, Got Limits and Got Consent committee workshops.

2.8. Careers and Alumni Officer

2.8.1. Organise careers and networking events for international students.

2.8.2. Work closely with the Careers Centre, SRC Alumni Officer and SRC Employability Officer to highlight careers information relevant to international students.

2.9. Director of Wellbeing and Equality (sabbatical overseer)

3. Appointments

3.1. The International Students' Officer is elected in the Students' Association Elections.

3.2. All other committee positions will either be elected at AGM or interviewed.

3.2.1. The interview panel will consist of the SRC International Students' Officer and either the Director of Wellbeing and Equality or Director of Wellbeing and Equality-elect.

3.2.2. Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings shall operate as outlined in the Laws of the Association.

4. Meetings

4.1. All meetings shall operate as outlined in the Laws of the Association.

4.2. Committee meetings shall take place at least once a month.