

# University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

## AGENDA

Tuesday 11sth April 2017 – Committee Room - 6.00pm

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda
- 2. Apologies for Absence
- 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 5. Open Forum

### 6. Reports of Sabbatical Officers

- 6.1. Report of the Association President
- 6.2. Report of the Association Director of Representation
- 6.3. Report of the Athletic Union President
- 6.4. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
- 6.5. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

## 7. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers

- 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
- 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
- 7.3. Questions for Association Environment Committee
- 7.4. Questions for Association LGBT+ Committee
- 7.5. Questions for SRC Member for Racial Equality
- 7.6. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality
- 7.7. Questions for SRC Member for First Years
- 7.8. Questions for SRC Member for Age Equality
- 7.9. Questions for SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
- 7.10. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
- 7.11. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Officer
- 7.12. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
- 7.13. Questions for Rector's Committee
- 7.14. Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee
- 7.15. Questions for SRC Education Committee
- 7.16. Questions for Principal's Ambassador
- 7.17. Questions for Member Without Portfolio
- 7.18. Any Other Competent Questions

- 9. Unfinished General Business
- 10. Collaborative Solutions

## 11. Any Other Competent Business

#### SRC REPORTS

# ARTS/DIVINITY FACULTY PRESIDENT & SCIENCE/MEDICINE FACULTY PRESIDENT

We're heading towards the end of our terms as FPs and the past few weeks have seen an Academic Council with discussion of Lecture Capture policy which we were mandated to speak in favour of at the last meeting of Joint Councils before elections. The policy is moving forward in the staff sphere and we have done our bit with representing the student view.

There were also the elections, during which we both were part of elections committee, which meant we were spared from campaigning or accepting any stickers #impartial but had some wonderful fun with the elections portal (with flashbacks to class rep elections madness) and elected most of the positions woooo!

We also spent a long evening shortlisting for the Association Teaching Awards, but it's reassuring to see that so many people have such nice things to say about teaching staff, the awards ceremony is soon.

We're also in the process of preparing handover for our successors who take over in July, and we're planning an end of year dinner with the School Presidents.

This is maybe actually our last SRC meeting in our positions, so over and out and have a blast next year! xoxoxox

#### ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER

In my first few days as Association Alumni Officer I've been working on the Alumni Festival Weekend. I've also got some extra people for the mentor scheme which is great, and have a reformed subcom structure, prior to recruitment after AFW. Last years recruitment gained 6 applicants for 6 positions so it was obviously very easy to fill places but this year it would be great to get a few more! When the application link goes up I'll be sure to send it out to you all. Make sure and take a look at what we have on offer this alumni festival as its set to be amazing! <u>https://sparc.st-andrews.ac.uk/alumni-festival-weekend</u>. Invite your alumni friends and bring along current students, there's plenty of free stuff to be given!

#### ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

We are still taking applications for our Committee, and are hard at work making plans for our annual May Dip campaign! This year will have a more emphasized health and safety element, as we are teaming up with the St A British Red Cross Group to try and prevent too much craziness. We are also doing some preliminary work on possible collaborations for the next year with a couple student organizations around town, including the Fellowship. Also, meetings are already going on behind the scenes to hopefully make that *Gilmore Girls*-style festival come to life in the fall!

#### ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

I will be holding my AGM next week sometime (hopefully the 19th) so if you know of anyone who would like to get involved please let them know! I have also met with Transition St Andrews to discuss my ambitions for the year, such as getting compost heaps and food waste bins in more halls and setting up sensor lighting around campus, and, after I organise my subcommittee, we will start meeting with regards to Green Week. Transition also has an upcoming AGM so if you are interested in working with them, please go along.

#### **ASSOCIATION LGBT+ OFFICER**

Saints LGBT+ are doing well! We've fully handed over to our new committee now, who are rearing to go, and with three events and our first committee social upcoming, it's going to be a busy one!

On Sunday we're driving all over St Andrews collecting unwanted clothes as donations for our <u>Trans</u> <u>Clothing Drive</u>, which eases the financial burden on people transitioning in gender or changing the expression thereof.

On Monday evening is our annual <u>LGBTed Talks</u> event, which sees 5 student speakers talking about their experiences of different aspects of LGBT+ life, and a subsequent reception in Beacon Bar. I'm really excited about the kind of discussions that this will facilitate, and I think it's going to be an awesome event.

We're also working with the AU this week for a collaborative **Rainbow Laces Sinners**! We'll be running a campaign next week in support of this amazing Stonewall initiative which encourages LGBT+ equality in sport, and I'm also just really excited to cover Sinners in rainbows. Everyone will be encouraged to come in their rainbowest garb (I've heard rumours of drag queens, too...) - make sure you get a wristband, it's going to be fab.

Beyond that, we're looking at updating our constitution a little bit to flesh it out, and scheduling our budget meetings to plan next year's events! If you want to have your say in the work we do next year, please come along to our <u>Coffee Morning + Feedback Event</u> on Saturday in the Beacon Bar!

#### PRINCIPAL AMBASSADOR

Nothing to report!

#### **RECTOR'S ASSESSOR**

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#### SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

- Meeting with Senior students, discussing both budgets and handover dates
- Joining the meeting was an auditor from KPMG to discuss Halls financing and bursary "ease of access"
- Meeting with AU President to discuss plans for the rest of semester and into next year included:
  - Discussion on new Scottish legislation, creating a "no-end date" policy on housing contracts
  - $\circ$  HMO ban plans
  - o Hall transitions
  - Restructuring of Bursary system
  - Possibility of creating a video for Tenants Rights (video already sort of in the works for an updated Halls of Residence one)
  - Organising a Housing sub-committee

#### Meeting with CAPOD

- Halls of Residence event on the 24<sup>th</sup> April
- Discussing who needs to attend event and what they need to bring

Overall, a productive week.

#### SRC MEMBER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

As SRC MWP, I've been working on getting the social media accounts back up and running, especially the Twitter live feed, and trying to encourage wider interaction with that. Kevin and I also planned out first social last week, which despite the serious lack of actual pub quiz was actually super fun. We're also working on a top secret end of term social.

#### SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

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#### SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEAR

I had a meeting with Charlotte to discuss about my plans throughout the year during the spring break. As my main goal at the moment is to make a new accommodation video for every halls that will be available for next year students, I have contacted a couple of people to help me with it. I have few student ambassadors and first year students who are willing to participate in giving the hall tours in the film. As I was elected as SRC Societies Committee, I went to all the meetings and AGMs. I plan to start filming around next week and busy deadline week is over.

#### SRC MEMBER FOR GENDER EQUALITY

I've received my handover from the previous Member for Gender Equality, which has been forwarded to DoSDA. Progress on Sexual Health and Safety Guide, the content for which ideally is to be finished before breaking for summer, has begun! An email has been sent to members of Student's Services has been started, requesting a meeting with advisors and/or staff about the appropriate content for a flyer or leaflet about sexual health and misconduct. Hopefully will receive a reply to the email and a meeting will be arranged soon!

Otherwise, nothing else of yet! It's been a busy two weeks of essays, AGMs, and On the Rocks.

#### SRC MEMBER FOR AGE EQUALITY

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#### SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

This week I arranged to meet with a student carrying out a survey which looked into students' perspectives on disability and the services available to them. I participated in the survey but also was able to discuss with the student carrying out the survey about using her report to improve the services available to students based on their feedback.

#### SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

Nothing to report!

#### SRC POSTGRADUATE DEVELOPMENT CONVENER

#### SRC POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC CONVENER

I attended the Academic Council on the 8th of March to support the Lecture Capture policy for PGT students who are taught be lecture.

I have also attended the meetings of the Learning and Teaching Committee, and supported (in the end) a policy to readjust the marks required to attain a Masters degree to match those for undergraduate degrees on the common reporting scale. It was an important aspect of this change that a change in marking descriptors **and more importantly in marking practice** was included in this reform, so as to maintain standards at Masters level, and I would recommend to the future DoEd and PG Academic Convenor that part of their work for the next year be checking up on this using the network of PG reps throughout the academic Schools.