



University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

AGENDA

Tuesday 1 November 2016 - 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 Association Equal Opportunities Committee
 - 7.6. Questions for SRC Member for Racial Equality
 - 7.7. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality
 - 7.8. Questions for SRC Member for First Years
 - 7.9. Questions for SRC Member for Age Equality
 - 7.10. Questions for SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
 - 7.11. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
 - 7.12. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Officer
 - 7.13. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
 - 7.14. Questions for Rector's Committee
 - 7.15. Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee
 - 7.16. Questions for SRC Education Committee
 - 7.17. Questions for SRC Wellbeing Committee
 - 7.18. Any Other Competent Questions
- 8. Unfinished General Business**
- 9. New General Business**
 - 9.1. Carve-up for Elections Committee (x2 positions)
 - 9.2. R.16-4 A Motion To Provide For the Co-option of the SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
 - 9.3. J.16-18 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.
- 10. Collaborative Solutions**
- 11. Any Other Competent Business**

SRC REPORTS

ARTS/DIVINITY FACULTY PRESIDENT & SCIENCE/MEDICINE FACULTY PRESIDENT

Louise and I have been working with Education Committee over the past few weeks to reevaluate and amend our collaboration statements. As a committee, we decided to replace the statement regarding the ease and accessibility of early information (which has been on EduCom's agenda for the past two years) with a focus on the evaluation and improvement of the experiences of taught Postgraduates – we then communicated this update to the deans at School President's Forum.

Technology Enhanced Learning was a large item on the School President's Forum agenda, as well as learning and teaching priorities for the 2016/17 academic session. As a committee, we proposed that PhD tutor's be facilitated with some kind of mental health first aid training (after feedback suggested something in this vein is greatly sought after), and the Dean of Arts and Divinity resolved to talk to Student Services and get back to us with more information regarding how much attention this area is currently given, and what else, if anything, could be offered.

ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

ASSOCIATION LGBT+ OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

ASSOCIATION EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

PRINCIPAL AMBASSADOR

Nothing to report

RECTOR'S ASSESSOR

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

Pangea week is coming up Oct 29th- November 3rd

5 events

Bonfire- 29th

Food festival – 30th

International Run – 1st

Culture and Religion a Panel Discussion- 2nd

Diversity in Theatre- 3rd

Robert (Equal Opps. Officer) has put forward for the SSC the idea of a cultural societies forum that will help with the rebranding of Pangea as it is a great idea on paper but when it comes to execution more people need to be involved and the societies forum will help with celebrating everything that Pangea wishes to do but it will be done from the people who we want to celebrate.

Meetings have been set up with the ELT school at St Andrews to see how we can help their students make the transfer from a foundation program to a full degree, to see how we can help with the change for them and to ensure they have help with language and ensuring the

curriculum they are taught is diverse and allows them to learn a lot from a lot of different places before starting their degree.

SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEAR

Spoke with Sigrid re: previous work on free sanitary towels within halls. Now working on getting in touch with Wardens/Hall Coms to implement this.

SRC MEMBER FOR GENDER EQUALITY

- Working on my visual campaign in collaboration with FemSoc and LGBT+. Hoping to have it running this semester
- Also looking into an idea for an event linked to campaign – similar to Queer Question Time and Ask a Feminist events.
- Currently meeting with Jack and Charlotte to discuss and plan the Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling event for this year

SRC MEMBER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

SRC MEMBER FOR AGE EQUALITY

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

NA

SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

I, along with Charlotte Andrew, will be setting up a Widening Access Group. The aim of the group will be to explore new avenues for participation within the University.

SRC POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC OFFICER

Since the last SRC I have continued to attend the Education Committee, the School Presidents' Forum, and the Postgraduate Society Committee. I have completed the training of those postgraduate representatives whose names I have received from the School Presidents, and have put together a programme of concerns and priorities drawn from these meetings. With the issues arising from the meetings hosted by the Postgraduate Development Officer, these include provision for research students beginning at non-traditional times of year, the accuracy of information available online for Masters degrees prior to the beginning of courses, and the relationship between publication and material included in doctoral dissertations. I have raised these and other relevant issues for research students at the first Postgraduate Executive Forum on the 6th of October. Relevant issues for taught students will be aired at the forum on the 17th of November. I am also in contact with relevant Directors of Teaching and Directors of Postgraduate Research to address these questions at the coming meetings of the University's Learning and Teaching Committee and the Postgraduate Research Committee. In addition, I have begun, in cooperation with one of the reps with experience of a similar scheme at the University of Manchester, to plan a postgraduate mentoring scheme. If volunteers are forthcoming, I hope that this might take root least in the schools with larger cohorts, and work to speed the induction of new research students in the second semester and ideally, in the next session, new taught students too.

SRC POSTGRADUATE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

SRC WELLBEING OFFICER

Hope everyone had a lovely reading week!

Raisin went well, we managed to hand out most of the packs and had good uptake on the water stand.

We are collaborating with DanceSoc to have free classes throughout the entirety of Week 9.

Look out for more details!

We are also looking ahead to deadline and revision de-stress plans and into next semester and partnering with the AU.

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:

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.
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

**R.16-4 A MOTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE CO-OPTION OF THE
SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DIASBILITIES**

THIS SSC NOTES:

1. A casual vacancy exists in the office of the Member for Students with Disabilities.

THIS SSC RESOLVES:

1. To co-opt a new Member for Students with Disabilities at the next meeting of the SRC on 15th of November 2016.
2. To mandate the Director of Representation to advertise the position.

PROPOSED:

Jack Carr, Director of Representation

SECONDED:

Charlotte Andrew, President

Taryn O'Connor, Director of Events and Services

Caroline Christie, Director of Student Development and Activities