



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

## **AGENDA**

Tuesday 21 April 2015- Students' Association Board 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 Athletic Union President
  - 6.2. Report of the Association President
  - 6.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
  - 6.4. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities
  - 6.5. Report of the Association Director of Representation
- 7. Questions for Committees**
  - 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
  - 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
  - 7.3. Questions for Association Environment and Ethics Committee
  - 7.4. Questions for Association LGBT Committee
  - 7.5. Questions for Rector's Committee
  - 7.6. Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee
  - 7.7. Questions for SRC Education Committee
  - 7.8. Questions for SRC Employability Committee
  - 7.9. Questions for SRC Equal Opportunities Committee
  - 7.10. Questions for SRC External Campaigns Committee
  - 7.11. Questions for SRC Wellbeing Committee
  - 7.12. Any Other Competent Questions
- 8. Unfinished General Business**
- 9. New General Business**
  - 9.1. **J.15-16-** A Motion to Include Students on a Leave of Absence in the Students' Association Elections
- 10. Open Discussion**
- 11. Any Other Competent Business**

## **J.15-16**

### **A MOTION TO INCLUDE STUDENTS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS**

**OWNER:** Elections Committee

**IN EFFECT FROM:** Immediately

**REVIEW DATE:** April 2016

#### **THIS SSC & SRC NOTE:**

1. That the Elections Committee for the Students' Association Elections 2015 recommended to the Councils to clarify the status of students on a leave of absence as ordinary members of the Students' Association and their eligibility to stand, campaign, and vote for in an election.
2. That the Elections Committee recommended that students on a leave of absence who are expected to return in the following academic year are given the same rights of ordinary members of the Students' Association and therefore allowed to stand, campaign, and vote in the Students' Association Elections.

#### **THIS SSC & SRC BELIEVES:**

1. That the Students' Association should give students on a leave of absence who are expected to resume studies in the following academic year a platform for getting involved.

#### **THIS SSC & SRC RESOLVES:**

1. To allow all students on a leave of absence to campaign in Students' Association Elections.
2. To allow students on a leave of absence who are expected to resume studies at the beginning of the following academic year to stand and vote in the Students' Association Elections.
3. To mandate the Elections Committee to come up with an appropriate definition of ordinary membership of the Students' Association and investigate whether the proposed amendment would also necessitate a change in the Constitution of the Students' Association.
4. To encourage Sabbatical Officers and staff in the Students' Association to provide appropriate support to all candidates in the Students' Association Elections.

#### **PROPOSED: ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Ondrej Hajda                      Director of Representation

Joe Tantillo                        Director-Elect of Representation

# **SRC REPORTS**

## **ARTS/DIVINITY FACULTY PRESIDENT- CHARLOTTE POTTER**

*-No Report Received-*

## **ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER- CHARLOTTE ANDREW**

This week has been the build up to the Alumni Festival Weekend, so I've been focusing on advertising the events and trying to pull together every society and subcommittee involved in order to give them help. I've also been planning the launch of advertising for the Alumni Subcommittee, which should be sorted before the next Councils meeting.

## **ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER- CLARE ARMSTRONG**

Putting together a Community Relations Committee has been my primary task this week, so there is now a google document for applicants to fill in, an event for people to join and the roles have been publicised through the Monday emails. Applications will close at 5pm on Wednesday and interviews will be arranged for the end of the week, so I'm hoping that the committee will be up and running shortly after then. All queries about this should be sent to [comrels@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:comrels@st-andrews.ac.uk) and I am really hoping to get a lot of people involved through the interview procedure. I have also spoken with the University Discipline Officer about issues such as anti-social behaviour, and the best way to tackle these issues, and am also working on the possibility of a cycle safety event – in partnership with Transition – for Freshers Week.

## **ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT & ETHICS OFFICER- ALICE PICKTHALL**

In the past week I have attended a Green Week review meeting with representatives from Transition and the Environment Team. A second meeting has been scheduled in the coming week to discuss and begin to plan Green Week to be held next semester in either Week 3 or Week 4. I have met with Maddie, the previous EEO to handover and talk about continuing some of the work she did last year. I will be holding interviews to elect officers for my subcommittee in the next two weeks.

## **ASSOCIATION LGBT OFFICER- SIGRID JORGENSEN**

-Social: We have a Rockeoke event in collaboration with RockSoc on Thursday in Sandy's at 9pm.

-Welfare: We have our final event, a bonfire, of the year on Monday. We went to the International Relations Staff Council Meeting and presented Safe Space to them, Dr.

Beasley is now circulating the application form to the staff members of the school of IR. The anonymous email is now live, please share! Finally, our poster campaign is still up and the person who takes the most selfies with our posters and tweets them to us gets a box of chocolates. Please share this as well!

### **PRINCIPAL AMBASSADOR-BRYONY SHEPHERD**

Last week saw our final Visiting Day of the year, and it all went by without a hitch. Our WP Vice-Principal ambassadors are currently working on organising a WP Reception to thank all our ambassadors who have volunteered on projects this year, and will be inviting staff and teachers involved in our projects along to this. We are also currently working on handing over to the new Principal Team for 2015-2016.

### **RECTOR'S ASSESSOR- ANNIE NEWMAN**

We've been busy with fundraising for/administering the Rectors' Fund. Pat, Catherine, and I attended a fundraising dinner on Wednesday night and raised £14,000 for the fund - the equivalent of 28 scholarships for students to undertake summer internships.

With over 85 applications for the scholarships, the most we've ever received, we gave away £10,000 to 20 second and third year undergraduates and postgraduates, leaving £4,000 in the bank to pursue a long term strategy in terms of the Fund's finances. Some of the places these students are interning include the Assemblée Nacional, an LGBT rights NGO in Berlin, the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, an archeology site in Finland, and right here in St Andrews.

Besides the Rectors' Fund, we hosted our second talk in the Rector Inspirer Lecture Series with Dr Beth Breeze on Friday, as part of the Alumni Festival Weekend.

### **SCIENCE/MEDICINE FACULTY PRESIDENT- KATY RAE**

1) Nominating and encouraging for Teaching awards/Proctor's award; 2) Booked restaurant for SP end-of-year social and have been looking up the cost of pinatas online; 3) Charlotte's event.

### **SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER- ALEX CIRIC**

-Accommodation Forum; 15 people in attendance; small numbers but good feedback according to Ben Stuart, Director of RBS; plan to do again on Monday 27 April (TBC) with Ben Stuart's availability confirmed  
-Discussion with Exec about Accommodation Sub-Committee Structure; Proposal for new Sub-committee after changes made; awaiting reply from Exec  
-Next Senior Student Forum on Tuesday 21 April (2pm-3pm)

-Hall Champions League (combining Interhall Charities, Energy, Sports competitions), Award Ceremony; all members of councils are welcome to attend.

### **SRC EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER- OMAR ALI**

Equal Opportunities Committee has begun its Strategic Planning for the next three years/ As we discussed in our last subcommittee meeting, the Strategic Plan will be modelled on the development goals strategy. Dividing the remit of our committee into 8 sections, we will explore each strand of our equality agenda guided by the relevant members the committee. Members of my team have been collecting data and ideas from their predecessors, focus groups, meetings with societies, and meetings with university officials and they are in the process of presenting their proposals to the group. Once this process is complete, we will compile the proposals into our finalised plan which will be brought to Councils for approval. We've also met with Sukhi Bains, the University's Equality & Diversity Officer in order to discuss how our Strategic Plan can go in line with the University's equality charter marks.

### **SRC EMPLOYABILITY OFFICER- NILS TURNER**

- meeting with TeachFirst Student Brand Ambassadors to discuss cooperation and possible Employability Rep Training for next year (21/04/2015) as well as ongoing email contact with Brand Ambassadors and the National Graduate Recruitment Officer, Jordan Fleary. Phone call to be scheduled with the latter.

- School President's Lunch to introduce idea of tri-weekly lecture shout employability updates on upcoming events to be conducted by each School's Employability Rep (22/04/2015)

- meeting with the Director of the Career Centre, Paul Brown, scheduled to discuss cooperation for next year as well as exchanging ideas (17/04/2015)

- meeting with the University's Enterprise Adviser, Bonnie Hacking, to discuss cooperation projects for next year (date tbc)

- meeting with Vice Principal of Enterprise & Engagement, Verity Brown, to be scheduled to discuss cooperation for next year

-reviewed and finalised Employability Rep Handover Pack

### **SRC EXTERNAL CAMPAIGNS OFFICER- TOBY EMERSON**

Report time!

Firstly, my predecessor, Walt, has continued to work on his general election debate events, which he is keeping me informed about and are proving popular.

On my part, I've been continuing to contact society and group presidents to try and find ideas for future events.

### **SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY- JACKIE ASHKIN**

- roughly designed committee positions, which were shown to Ondrej; I'm currently working on basic role descriptions and should have applications open within a week
- attended more Racial Equality Charter Meetings; wrote several pages for the final report regarding the student side of racial issues at the University
- contacted Alyssa about adding a debate to the calendar for Black History Month
- met with Joe to discuss ideas for Bongo Ball action
- attended conference in Edinburgh about E&D in the curriculum

### **SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEARS- HOLLY JOHNSTON**

Over the past week I have met with the President of the Student Minds society to discuss ways in which we can promote wellbeing amongst first years, which I have also been discussing with the Wellbeing Officer Miriam. I am exploring plans to introduce a student wellbeing representative into halls of residence which I have spoken about with various societies and will present to the Senior Student Forum on April 22nd. In addition to this, I have been exploring the possibility of placing volunteers around town during week 1 to aid first years in finding classes and plan on working with Max over the next few weeks to create an alternative prospectus for incoming students.

### **SRC MEMBER FOR GENDER EQUALITY- ALICE LECOINTE**

- Consent Awareness Initiative
  - I met with Penny Turnbull from Student Services and the Doreps, and everyone is very keen to implement this. We are calling it an 'initiative', even though it is very similar to a campaign, as we would like the project to last much longer than a campaign
  - I've managed to form a subcommittee to help me organise everything; this includes members of LGBT, Wellbeing, Sexpression and hopefully one of the sports clubs
  - So far we are working on finding the right logo and branding for this project to be a success within the student body. If anyone has any ideas please email me on all5@
  - The message will be distributed through Social Media, the Union (and hopefully University) website, local and national press with a video, infographics, posters and banners, merchandise etc
  - I've also been introduced to Sukhi Bains who is the University's Equality and Diversity Officer, he supports the project and I'm putting together the relevant budget proposals for him

-This project is being launched during Fresher's Week but I'm hoping that it will be successful enough to be a permanent project for the University

- As part of the Equal Opportunities strategic planning I've put together a three-year plan regarding Gender Equality. This still needs some work but the biggest project is the Consent Awareness Initiative. I also would like to work on better representation / inclusion and society collaboration and involvement.

#### **SRC MEMBER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS- ADAM STROMME**

*-No Report Received-*

#### **SRC MEMBER FOR MATURE STUDENTS- AYSHA MARTY**

- Had my handover meeting with Mel and Jo Fry to discuss plans for the coming year

- Organising a meeting with the president of Townsend society to discuss their needs and how we can help them

- Have contacted ASC to discuss the logistics and possibility of having orientation packs sent to the addresses of incoming students who aren't staying in halls

#### **SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES- KATE MAYER**

Here is my report for the SRC meeting on April 21, 2015:

-I am in contact with Teach First to see how the SRC can build a relationship to assist this organisation and create a more welcoming community.

-I am planning events and reaching out to speakers who would be interested in coming to speak at said events

-I am looking into creating an anonymous email for the use of students to voice concerns and ask questions

#### **SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION- MAXWELL SPEIRS**

I have formed a small group of volunteers to determine the content of the planned alternative prospectus. We are meeting next Wednesday.

I manned the union stall and have spoken with various council members to see what information for prospective students can be provided here.

As part of the Equal Opportunities Committee, I drew up an initial plan / manifesto for what I intend to accomplish in this role.

#### **SRC POSTGRADUATE CONVENER**

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## **SRC WELLBEING OFFICER- MIRIAM CHAPPELL**

Wellbeing report:

- We have some new committee members! Secretary, treasurer, SHAG convenor, publicity, and design.
- SHAG week plans are officially in progress. Had a successful brainstorming meeting and have developed a provisional calendar. Keep a weather eye on the horizon for applications to be an event manager! (By the time of this SRC meeting applications should be open)
- SHAG Week policy for societies: Week 3 is SHAG week and that means sexual health events. If a society wants to run one in week 3 and wants to be associated with SHAG Week, send us a proposal, we'd love to hear from you.
- Week 10 was Mental Health Awareness Week championed by Student Minds.
- Look out for Nightline exam packs, distribution planned for week 11!