

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

### **MINUTES**

Tuesday 3 November 2015 – Committee Room – 6pm

#### **Present**

Member's Name Position

Charlotte Andrews Association Alumni Officer

Zara Evans Association Chair

Clare Armstrong Association Community Relations Officer

Kyle Blain Association Director of Student Development and Activities

Alice Pickthall Association Environment and Ethics Officer

Pat Mathewson Association President

Sarah Thompson President of the Athletic Union
Louise McCaul Science/Medicine Faculty President

Alexandre Ciric SRC Accommodation Officer
Omar Ali SRC Equal Opportunities Officer

Nils Turner SRC Employability Officer
Toby Emerson SRC External Campaigns Officer
Jackie Ashkin SRC Member for Racial Equality
Holly Johnston SRC Member for First Years

Adam Stromme SRC Member for International Students
Aysha Marty SRC Member for Mature Students

Kate Mayer SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Melissa Turner Member for Widening Access and Participation

Miriam Chappell SRC Welfare Officer

**In Attendance** 

Iain Cupples Education Advocate

Ilaria Gidoro Education and Representation Coordinator (Minutes)

**Absent** 

Nicola Kennedy Principal Ambassador

Alice Lecointe SRC Member for Gender Equality

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without dissent.

2. Apologies for Absence

Member's Name Position Reason

Eleanor Mullin Arts/Divinity Faculty President

Chris MacRae Association Director of Events and Services
Joe Tantillo Association Director of Representation

Sigrid Jorgensen Association LGBT Officer

Annie Newman Rector's Assessor

Tania Struetzel SRC Postgraduate Convenor

#### 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting would be circulated by email.

#### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

N/A

#### 5. Open Forum

There was no business in the open forum.

#### 6. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

#### 6.1 Report of the President of the Athletic Union

Ms Thompson informed of the screening times of the rugby games of the men's and women's St Andrews teams.

#### **6.2 Report of the Association President**

Mr Mathewson informed that the longlisting for the Principal would happen the following week. He attended Academic Council. Lastly, he was collecting feedback on summer storage companies (also advertised in The Saint).

#### 6.3 Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Mr MacRae was absent.

#### 6.4 Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

Mr Blain reminded that several balls were going to happen soon. He was working in preparation for University Challenge. He reminded that that Friday was the re-affiliation deadline. Room booking for the next session would start on November 16 for sub-committees and on November 30 for societies. He reminded all to let the reception know well on time when they are not going to use a room anymore, as there have been many no-shows recently.

#### 6.5 Report of the Association Director of Representation

Mr Tantillo was absent.

#### 7. Questions for Committees

Mr Mathewson stressed that all officers must submit a report by the deadline.

#### 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee

Ms Andrew asked all to fill in a form by that Friday if they wanted to run an event during the next Alumni Festival.

#### 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee

Ms Armstrong encouraged all to send her any Raisin feedback they have received from the community (she only received a couple so far). Moreover, they were going to launch a survey on recycling habits on November 23.

#### 7.3 Questions for Association Environment and Ethics Committee

They were organising transportation for the Climate march on November 28.

#### 7.4 Questions for Association LGBT Committee

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#### 7.5. Questions for Rector's Committee

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#### 7.6 Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee

Mr Ciric stated that there would be a *How to Rent* talk the following Tuesday in Sandy's Bar and encouraged all to spread the word, especially among first-year students.

#### 7.7 Questions for SRC Education Committee

Ms Mullin was looking for students across the University to join a Joint Honours focus group.

#### 7.8. Questions for SRC Employability Committee

Mr Turner said he had met with the Proctor to finalise the matching funding model for employability reps. It was discussed whether each School should contribute a sum (plus £750 from the EDF and £750 from the Careers' Centre). They were planning to establish a calendar with all the events organised by employability reps. Lastly, he was collaborating with the Careers' Centre on a student employability survey.

#### 7.9. Questions for SRC Equal Opportunities Committee

Mr Ali asked all to advertise Pangea.

#### 7.10. Questions for SRC External Campaigns Committee

Mr Emerson discussed funding with Tony for the sanitary products motion. They were also in conversation with Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities regarding how they had implemented their schemes. They were working with the SAVE Enactus group, also regarding their social mission, and supporting their aims. He reported that the Conservative & Unionist society had gotten in touch on the back of Pints & Protest regarding opposition to the HE Gov Bill.

#### 7.11. Questions for SRC Wellbeing Committee

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#### 7.12. Any Other Competent Questions

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#### 8. Unfinished General Business

There was no unfinished general business.

#### 9. New General Business

## 9.1 J.15-25-A Motion To Change Of The Name Of The Association Environment And Ethics Officer And Subcommittee To Association Environment Officer And Subcommittee

Owner: Environment and Ethics Subcommittee

In effect from: From the Start of Semester 2

#### This SRC & SSC Notes:

- 1. The position is currently called Association Environment and Ethics Officer.
- 2. The current remit is:
- a. 3.8 The Association Environment & Ethics Officer shall:
  - i. 3.8.1. Have special responsibility for those areas concerning Environment & Ethics, environmental and ethical issues.
  - ii. 3.8.2.Convene and chair meetings of the Association Environment & Ethics Committee.
  - iii. 3.8.3.Coordinate his/her activities with the Association President.
  - iv. 3.8.4. Work in cooperation with relevant members of staff
  - v. 3.8.5.Liaise with the University on matters relating to Environment & Ethics issues
  - vi. 3.8.6.Implement Association policy on Environment & Ethics issues.
- 3. Have spoken to other members of staff in different bodies (Transition, Environment Team) across the university who support a change in name.

#### This SRC & SSC Believes:

1. The current usage of the term 'ethics' in the laws is not well defined, which poses challenges when determining the practice of the Association Environment and Ethics Officer.

2. Removing 'ethics' from the position would not affect the current practice of the Association Environment and Ethics Officer or Subcommittee, the presence or lack thereof does not impact

whether or not the association continues to be ethical.

This SRC & SSC Resolves:

1. To change all references of Association Environment and Ethics Officer and Association

Environment and Ethics Subcommittee in the laws to Association Environment Officer and

Association Environment Subcommittee.

2. To remove all references to 'Ethics' concerning the Association Environment and Ethics officer

in the Association Laws.

**Proposed: Environment and Ethics Committee** 

Ms Pickthall introduced the motion and explained that their job is mainly focused on the environment, so they would continue doing the same job even after the name change.

With no debate and no objection, the motion was adopted.

10. Open discussion

11. Any Other Competent Business

There was no other competent business.

The meeting adjourned.