

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

## **MINUTES**

Tuesday 3rd November 2020 – MS Teams – 6pm

## **Present**

Member's Name	Position
Dan Marshall	Association President
Tom Groves	Association Director of Events and Services
Emma Walsh	Association Director of Wellbeing
Gavin Sandford	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Sophie Tyler	Association Athletic Union President
Morgan Morris	Association Chair
Emily Gilson	Association Alumni Officer
Anna Young	Association Community Relations Officer
Georgina Beeby	Association LGBT+ Officer
Sophie Bickerton	SRC Accommodation Officer
Joe Horsnell	Arts & Divinity Faculty President
Chloe Fielding	Science & Medicine Faculty President
Abigail Whitefield	SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
Jasmine Rodriguez	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
Elise Lenzi	SRC Member for Gender Equality
Anna-Ruth Cockerham	SRC Disability Officer
Gabby Kyriakou	SRC Member for Student Health
Tooba Shah	SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation

# In Attendance

Iain Cupples HR Manager

# 1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence.

Lea Weimann Association Environment Officer Apologies

Ananya Jain Association BAME Officer Apologies No proxy given

Maitreyi Tusharika SRC Member for First Years Apologies Proxy given to Ananya Jain

(not valid)

Kate MacLachlan Principal Ambassador Apologies No proxy given

Amy Gallacher Association Director of Education Absent
Jenny Menday Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Absent

Officer

Papa ObengRector's AssessorAbsentAnnie SmithSRC Member Without PortfolioAbsent

### 3. Open Forum

No business.

## 4. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

### 4.1. Report of the Athletic Union President

Sophie Tyler (ST) noted that the Sustainability in Sport group had their first meeting today and it should be getting off the ground soon. The Athletic Union has been discussing Christmas plans and ST said it should be easier for other departments because they usually stay open over the winter break. The Athletic Union is also looking to develop their leadership programmes and how they can support their students, which may also be done through committee forums and looking at the future of the Athletic Union generally, particularly with the possibility of it becoming just Saint Sport. ST has been collecting data on the Athletic Union's finances and how they can best support student sport.

#### 4.2. Report of the Association President

Dan Marshall (DM) has been preparing for Christmas and its affect on students who remain in St Andrews, particularly in regards to asymptomatic testing before students return home, housing students who remain in St Andrews, and ensuring the Scottish Government is clear on how the guidelines affect University students who choose to head home. DM reminded councillors to share the survey on students' Christmas plans because the Union is unsure of how many students are planning to remain in town.

#### 4.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Tom Groves (TG) noted that many events are happening in the Can Do Tent, bike tent, and hopefully soon on the field behind the Union, and reminded councillors hosting events to add them to yourunion.net. TG said that Halloween events went well despite COVID-19 restrictions, with a pub quiz and a performance in the Bike Shed from Folk & Traditional Society. As of yesterday, Main Bar is now open indoors until 8pm, and alcohol can be served with food, with a closing time of 10:30pm outdoors. TG is helping Music Fund set up as they now have a committee. Beacon Bar is also being used by commuting students.

### 4.4. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

Gavin Sandford (GS) has been working with other sabbatical officers on the Can Do initiative and what it means for the rest of the semester, Christmas, and second semester. GS attended the BAME Subcommittee meeting on Monday, which was their first committee meeting. GS has also been working on admin for University Challenge and various rounds of trials, and asked councillors to share the link to sign-ups.

4.5. Report of the Association Director of Education

Absent.

4.6. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Emma Walsh (EW) noted that the Student Mental Health Remit is continuing, and they had the first meetings of academic wellbeing groups since the last SRC meeting. Got Limits has applied for a grant to run events, and they are looking to start an Alcohol Support Group through Student Services. EW has also been working with Student Services to facilitate ongoing conversations regarding St Andrews Survivors, which Elise Lenzi (EL) will be joining as well. The Interfaith steering group, which is run by EW and the Chaplain, will have their first meeting on Friday and be discussing religious equality. EW has had conversations regarding the support that can be offered to students at Christmas who stay in St Andrews, as there will be more students in town than normal due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 5. Questions for Association Officers

- 5.1. Questions for Association Alumni Officer
- 5.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Officer
- 5.3. Questions for Association LGBT+ Officer
- 5.4. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer

Absent.

Questions for Association Environment Officer

Absent.

Questions for Association BAME Officer

On behalf of Ananya Jain (AJ), Morgan Morris (MM) noted that AJ is holding a dialogue with academic departments, which is a virtual interview series with faculty members across schools by the Multicultural Week committee. The interview series is now live and AJ encouraged councillors to watch and share.

### 6. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers

- 6.1. Questions for SRC Accommodation Officer
- 6.2. Questions for SRC Member for First Years

Absent.

6.3. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality

#### 6.4. Questions for SRC Disability Officer

Anna-Ruth Cockerham (ARC) has been working on mask exemptions and noted that students can now pick up a lanyard from the Union if the University or Union recognises their mask exemption. ARC noted that many have expressed anxiety about having a mask exemption and doing things like attending events, and asked councillors to keep this in mind and be considerate of these students when hosting or attending events.

- 6.5. Questions for SRC Member for Student Health
- 6.6. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
- 6.7. Questions for SRC Arts/Divinity Faculty President

Joe Horsnell (JH) has worked on EDI (Equality and Diversity Initiative) issues over the last two weeks and assisted with the School Presidents' Forum, where school presidents met with the Dean and Proctor. JH has also been working on online representatives, a new position to help students deal with the changes in learning this semester. JH noted that the School Presidents' Forum and Education Committee are both going well.

- 6.8. Questions for SRC Science/Medicine Faculty President
- 6.9. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener

Abi Whitefield (AW) has been holding PGR and PGT executive forums, where postgraduate representatives can speak to the Proctor, Dean, and Provost, with the first one taking place yesterday.

- 6.10. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Convener
- 6.11. Questions for Principal Ambassador
- 6.12. Questions for Rector's Assessor
- 6.13. Questions for SRC Member Without Portfolio
- 7. Unfinished SRC Business
- 8. New SRC Business
- 9. Any Other Competent Business
- 10. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted.