



# Papers for SRC Meeting

DATE – MS TEAMS – 18:00

## Contents of Papers:

1. Nomination statements for the Postgraduate Academic Convenor co-option
2. R-22-20 Motion to Stand Against the Violation of Human Rights in Iran

# **Nomination statements for the Postgraduate Academic Convenor co-option**

## **Tanya Bennett**

I am someone naturally drawn towards enabling individuals and leading others towards achieving a shared vision. I have numerous qualities of a servant leader and can effectively bring people together. I believe that the coalition of my expertise in teamwork and leadership is an asset to the students and the University. Throughout my education, I have held various leadership positions, including the post of Head Girl in my school. My most recent role was during my undergraduate, where I was student elected to be the class representative for three years (customary tenure is one semester). I was also appointed as the International Service Director of the Rotaract Club of Women's Christian College. Furthermore, during my internships in the HR and L&D departments of various global organisations, I have led and been a part of diverse teams. I am a clear communicator, an active listener, an exemplary mentor, with an excellent work ethic. Moreover, I am also highly methodical, diligent, diplomatic, innovative, and constantly willing to grow. As the Postgraduate Academic Convenor, I seek to be the unbiased voice of the students, enable others to tap into their potential, and encourage trust among teams. I believe that I can be the catalyst for creating a safe space where everyone is heard, ideas are shared, and well-being is prioritised.

## **Sandro Eich**

I'm a third-year PhD student (School of English), and Graduate Teaching Assistant, passionate about improving overall PG experience in St Andrews. As Postgraduate Academic Convenor, I want to hold the university accountable to creating the world-leading study and research for which PGs are paying. I will use my experiences as a member of the Learning and Teaching Committee at the University of Cologne to lobby with the university about PG concerns, and I'm determined to

- representing PG voices across the university's different (sub-)committees
- increasing transparency and question reasoning regarding decisions about PG matters across different university-wide committees
- working closely with the Sabbs and PG officers to tackle pressing issues such as accommodation shortages, study space provision, improvement of employment arrangements of GTAs, mental health initiatives, and the planning and organisation of designated events for PGs.
- contributing to the development a long-term strategy for postgraduate studies and representation in St Andrews that ensures the same level of attention and respect paid to the PG community as is paid to undergraduate concerns
- fostering involvement opportunities and collaborations of PG reps & officers with the Graduate School and St Leonard's Postgraduate College, including the rolling development of the Old Burgh School as a hub for all PGs.
- conducting my work based on students' experience (data-driven, e.g., using the Postgraduate Representation Internship Report, Feb 2021 and collecting PGs feedback)

- be approachable by officers, reps, and students, practicing an open-door policy during my office hours and being readily available via different communication channels.

### **Jessica John Prabakar**

Being an active member of my university community is what I am looking forward to because I want to play a larger part in establishing and improving student experiences and relations. Hence, I would love to apply for the Postgraduate Academic Convenor position. Having lived in 3 countries where I studied in 5 schools and a university, I've received immense exposure to people from various cultures and I believe that along with my communication skills, it will enable me to deal with all kinds of people. My previous experiences will also let me shape educational policy for the betterment of the students. Being an academic convenor has its benefits for me. It will enable me to improve my own leadership skills and form a large network. With a good balance, I'm sure I'll be able to handle both my academics and my role as an academic convenor. It will be an honor to be a representative of a prestigious university. I want to contribute with all I have and be a larger part of this thriving international community. I did not get this opportunity at my previous university so I would love to be given this chance at St Andrews.

## **R-22-20 Motion to Stand Against the Violation of Human Rights in Iran**

**Owner:** Juan Pablo Rodriguez – Association President

**In Effect From:** Immediately

**Review Date:** N/A

### **It is noted that:**

1. The death of Mahsa Amini while she was detained by Iran's morality police has sparked a series of protests in the Middle Eastern country.
2. The Iranian government's reaction has become a major concern in the field of human rights, with at least 41 individuals having been killed and 20 journalists arrested.
3. Iranians and others directly impacted by the ongoing events in Iran are among the students and staff at the University of St Andrews.
4. Members of the student body have raised concerns over Iran's current state of affairs and their interest in taking action on this matter.

### **It is believed that:**

1. Better understanding of the situation in Iran would allow students and staff to better support friends and colleagues impacted by the ongoing events.
2. The Students' Association stands for human rights and free speech.

### **It is resolved to:**

1. Promote, and encourage affiliated groups to promote, resources providing information on the situation in Iran and ways to help.
2. Organise, promote, and support a rally in St Andrews calling on the British government to take a stance against the violation of human rights in Iran and spread awareness of the country's current situation in our community.
3. Back university action supporting Iranian and other students and staff affected by the ongoing events in Iran.

Proposer

Juan Pablo Rodriguez – Association President

Seconders

Lucy Brook – Director of Events and Services

Sam Gorman – Director of Student Development and Activities

Alasdair Richmond – Association Chair

