



# **Papers for Students' Services Council**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - 6pm - MS Teams**

## **Contents of Papers:**

1. Reports from Councilors

# **SRC REPORTS**

## **ASSOCIATION OFFICER REPORTS**

### **Association Alumni Officer – Emily Gilson**

Since starting my role a little over a week ago, I have chaired my first meeting with the alumni subcommittee. I've been gaining access to the different social media platforms and website for the job. With this, I updated the Facebook description and created and posted a form to recruit a couple more members after losing two in the change over. I have also contacted a potential speaker and gotten a positive response, probably planning the event for February. Also, I called with Dan and the Alumni Relations office about Alumni Weekend ideas and starting to plan/ think about possibilities around potential COVID guidelines. By next report, I'll have another committee meeting and I hope to finalize the social media so we can use it smoothly and give a put together image out. I hope to have worked more on outreach to societies about an upcoming form Alumni Relations created to keep track of alumni specific to societies. It's a great tool for societies to be able to improve connections past graduation and keep in touch or bring back people who came before!

No events yet to report but I would like other members to know they can easily sign up for SaintConnect which is the University's connection platform! I'm going to be working on its promotion this year as a great tool for students and alumni to connect.

### **Association Community Relations Officer – Anna Young**

What have I done since my last report?

I have been working on our events series 'Community Conversations, filming interview with the Hamish Foundation. I am also discussing plans with my committee for events around St Andrews Day, despite the official celebrations not going ahead. I have also been in contact with the charity officer for Kingdom FM about a November charity fundraiser to help vulnerable families over the Christmas period.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

As ever the collaborative webinars and events we are planning address the intention of the Community Relations Sub-Committee to facilitate an inclusive and positive platform of engagement between Town and Gown.

What will I have done by my next report?

I will have attended the November Community Council Meeting. I will have aided the environment sub-committee in publicising Green Week to community based platforms as well as co-hosting some of the Green Week events on the Community Relations Facebook Page to enhance involvement amongst local residents.

## **Association Environment Officer – Lea Weinman**

*What have I done since my last report?*

- Various planning and coordinating meetings for Green Week.
- Community Action Day in collaboration with ComRels during Independent Learning Week.
- Full Environment Subcommittee Meeting on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October
- Council Instagram take-over on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October
- Launch of Green Week events on Facebook and promotion on Instagram, In the Loop and various other platforms.
- Our four Subcommittee volunteer campaigns are up and running with volunteer meetings.

*What progress has been made on my manifesto?*

- Mostly run-up to making sure Green Week will run successfully.
- Collaborating with Community Relations Subcommittee on events and the Community Action Day

*What do I hope to achieve by next report?*

- Green Week!

*Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?*

- A whole calendar of events for Green Week 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2020: <https://www.facebook.com/events/704933973445717>
- Like and follow the Green Week page and check out which events interests you because we have many speakers joining us from all around the world and lots of opportunities: <https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsGreenWeek>
- Please come and support so much work, time and love from my Environment Subcommittee has flown into it and we have some really exciting speakers, discussions and events happening so don't miss out!

## **Association LGBT+ Officer – Georgina Beeby**

What have I done since my last report?

- Held events in the can do tent – egms completed (new postgrad and first year rep) interviewed and chose marketing officer

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- worked w peer support for closeted/questioning group. Did student services meetings and form research (?) with BAME student network. Will be working w uni/student services to achieve better lgbt support.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- more events. Continue work w peer support, bame student network, and student services. Work on making university websites better for LGBT+ support

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- n/a

### **Association Lifelong and Flexible Learning Officer – Jenny Menday**

No report submitted.

### **Association BAME Officer – Ananya Jain**

No report submitted.

## **SRC REPORTS**

### **SRC Accommodation Officer – Sophie Bickerton**

What have I done since my last report?

I have continued working on the How to Rent Guide, updating it and putting it in its final form. This has included working with the local letting agents to ensure that the guide contains the most up to date information. We have also been planning Accommodation Week and plans around halls and town to make it a success. We will hopefully have some events taking place in person and online to inform students about accommodation options for next year.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Filling out the How to Rent Guide and making it as up to date and useful as possible was one of my key manifesto pledges so something that I have spent the most of my time as accommodation officer, in the last couple of weeks. I hope it will be informative to all those looking for accommodation next year.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By the next report I hope all plans for accommodation week will be finalised both on the How to Rent Guide and events side of things. We will hopefully also be able to help those who reach out with any questions about renting.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

Please pick up a How to Rent Guide in accommodation week and let all your friends know about it!

### **SRC Member for First Year – Maitreyi Tusharika**

No report submitted.

### **SRC Member for Gender Equality – Elise Lenzi**

What have I done since my last report?

- Support and report is live!
- Long term planning for events collaborating with FemSoc, FS, and the AU

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- Lots of good progress with student services
- Surveys being put out to inform policy updates across the university
- Updating websites and social media for student services

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- Launching social media campaigns with student services

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- Nope

### **SRC Disability Officer – Anna-Ruth Cockerham**

No report submitted.

### **SRC Member for Student Health – Gabby Kryiakou**

What have I done since my last report?

Collaborated with STAR on another Wellbeing Q&A

We put out applications for an 'Events and Outreach Rep' who will focus on collaborations - this means we can host weekly events and branch out to more societies

We also added a 'Deputy Design Officer' to the Subcommittee

Met with the library about how to reach out to students and there are plans to run a takeover surrounding healthy practices for remote revision

Since my last report, the Wellbeing Subcommittee have: organised a body positivity crafting event in collaboration with Sexpression and CoppaFeel; ran a week-long COVID safety campaign on the University Instagram and Wellbeing pages; ran an Imposter Syndrome event; given feedback to Student Services; begun planning for revision time.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

There is now a tab on the Union Help Hub called 'getting around St Andrews' for university/union buildings. More University buildings will be added to this as soon as I get access to them.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Need to focus more on Wellbeing Officers and seeing how many Schools have the 'wellbeing flow charts'

Plan takeover for library

## **SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation – Tooba Shah**

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report, I have been collating information to be made into posts about the different funds and Widening Access initiatives available for students for my position's page.

I have also attended the first Equal Opportunities Subcommittee meeting where we updated each other on our reports and were introduced to the new initiatives being introduced by the Students Union.

In our Wellbeing Subcommittee meeting we discussed ways for Men's mental health and the ways we can participate in outreach, possibly by inviting a male member for collaborations to highlight (in particular) men's wellbeing struggles.

I also had a meeting with the Museum's Student Advisory Panel where we were introduced to the Museums purpose and strategic future plans. It was great to see how each member on the panel will be able to bring their ideas forward to make the Museums more accessible, especially for each of the respective groups of people we represent.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I am working on gathering more information on the opportunities of financial accessibility available for students. I am trying to condense information regarding funds, e.g. discretionary fund, SAAS bursaries.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Again, I think my main priority for now is improving my position page by making the information on funds more condensed and available. I also look forward to discussing the collabs in our Wellbeing Subcommittee, especially for the upcoming Men's mental health week.

## **Arts/Divinity Faculty President – Joe Horsnell**

No report submitted.

## **Science/Medicine Faculty President – Chloe Fielding**

*What have I done since my last report?*

- We had our first Disabilities Forum, and the Reps brought up some great feedback
- We also had our first SWAG meeting and came up with some actionable items for that meeting, which are in progress at the moment
- Spent a lot of time making agendas, sorting out minutes, and following up actionable items from the Disabilities Rep Forum and SWAG
- Me and Joe met with the BAME Education Officer
- I went to Wellbeing in Halls to bring forward some of the wellbeing concerns that had been raised in EduCom
- Met with the EDI Faculty Leads and members of the BAME subcommittee to discuss their action plan
- Attended, chaired and minuted the usual meetings
- Spent lots of time emailing and doing admin
- Attended Joint Councils

*What progress has been made on my manifesto?*

- Have started to help students with disabilities have their voices heard from an educational viewpoint
- Continuing work on EDI matters
- Worked on making things more open and accessible to students

*What do I hope to achieve by next report?*

- Keep working on education wellbeing by following up on the actionable items from SWAG and Disabilities Rep Forum
- Meet groups of SPs to work on their EDI goals
- Attend the Race, Equality and Belief working group
- Keep working with the BAME subcommittee

### **SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener – Abigail Whitefield**

No report submitted.

### **SRC Postgraduate Development Convener – Jasmine Rodriguez**

What have I done since my last report?

This is my first report that I have been able to put together since I was co-opted into my role, but I have spent this time completing the handover and training for my role. My main focus these past couple of weeks has been organizing the PGdevo email account, attending meetings and catching-up with the committees that I have now been invited to, getting my section together for the SRC members on the Union webpage, and developing ideas for what I will try to accomplish during my time in this role. I have been consulting previous people who have been in this role about what they accomplished and also what they weren't able to achieve while they were in this role. I also have been speaking with PG students from other unis to see what these other unis did well or poorly for their students while they attended their courses there.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

As I wasn't able to develop a manifesto before I came into this role, I will use my nomination as my basis and try to create a more detailed and organized manifesto as I continue on in my role. This will focus on helping to improve wellbeing, communication, and academic/career skills for the PG students here.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By the next report, I hope to have reorganized the meetings and members of the PG Development group, be able to manage the Research Lecture Series on my own, and to have a detailed and concrete plan for what I hope to achieve whilst I'm in this role. I have a few ideas for events I'd like to run in the next couple of months and I want to have a clear idea of how I will implement these events, who I will collaborate/consult on these, and when it would be feasible to do these.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

In the near future, the Research Lecture Series will be back on, so do keep an eye out for those events when they run again!

### **Principal Ambassador – Kate MacLachlan**

No report submitted.

### **Rector's Assessor – Papa Obeng**

What have I done since my last report?

- Daniel Marshall, Amy Gallacher and myself presented the Rector's Report to University Court on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.
- We discussed issues surrounding students' mental health in relation to COVID, results from the in-person teaching survey, sexual assault and some issues pertaining to Student Services.
- I proposed the 'Know Your Court' scheme where individual students can be paired with Court members.
- I successfully negotiated with the University to have a BLM Mural at multiple locations in St Andrews.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- Steps are beginning to be put in place to increase communication and the level of transparency between University leaders and the student body.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- To have more information on the progress of 'Know Your Court' and a detailed plan for the Rector's Committee objectives for the remainder of the academic year.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- If you're interested in being paired with a member of University Court, please email me at [rector@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:rector@st-andrews.ac.uk)

### **SRC Member Without Portfolio – Annie Smith**

What have I done since my last report? Since my last report, I have been continuing the @stacouncils Instagram Takeover series with councillors. We've had 8 great takeovers so far (shoutouts to Avery, Elise, Emma, Maitreyi, Anna Harris, Anna Young, Anna-Ruth, and Lea for participating so far!) If you are interested in taking over, fill out this form (<https://forms.gle/Hcwza9XFTbMZVf9n6>) or email me at av64@.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? I have been publicising the faces behind Councils and boosting our Instagram!

What do I hope to achieve by next report? More Instagram followers, and work on guide to proposing motions with Toni and Morgan.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about? If you want extra promotion for something, message me and I can post it on our Insta!