



**University of St Andrews
Students' Association
Student Services Council**

MINUTES

Tuesday 5th February 2019, Committee Room, 6 pm

Present

Member's Name

Olivia Sutton
Sneha Nair
Morgan Morris
Adam Powrie
Nick Farrer
Lauren Davis
Zelda Kotyk
Sarah Ramage
Paloma Paige
Fiona Murray
Niamh McGurk
Matthew Singer
Casper Sanderson
Cameron Rice
Kevin Phelan
Adam Lord

Position

Association Alumni Officer
Association Chair
Association Community Relations Officer
Association Director of Events and Services
Association Director of Wellbeing
Association Environment Officer
Association LGBT+ Officer
Association Lifelong Learning Officer
Association President
Athletic Union President
SSC Charities Officer
SSC Debates Officer
SSC Music Officer
SSC Postgraduate Officer
SSC Societies Officer
SSC Volunteering Officer

In Attendance

Iain Cupples

Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Accepted.

2. Apologies for Absence

Alice Foulis	Association Director of Education	Apologies
Jamie Minns	Association Director of Student Development and Activities	Apologies
Chloe Ashley	SSC Arts Festival Convener	Apologies
Laura Mueller	SSC Broadcasting Officer	Apologies
Mika Schmeling	SSC Design Team Convener	Apologies
Paul Lancaster	SSC Entertainments Convener	Apologies
Shaina Sullivan	SSC Member Without Portfolio	Apologies
Rowan Wishart	SSC Performing Arts Officer	Apologies

3. Open Forum

No business

4. Reports of Sabbatical Officers

a. Report of the Association President

Paloma Paige (PP) said she had nothing to add to last week's written report to the joint councils meeting, except that there was a community event tomorrow for the St Leonard's site proposal.

b. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Nick Farrer (NF) said there was a new Nightline director and new 'public faces' for Nightline. NF would be presenting to the University Learning and Teaching Committee on the Students' Association's role in student wellbeing. There had been a Holocaust memorial event last week, which NF had attended, as well as a North-East Fife Health and Social Care Partnership meeting in Newport last Friday. The new Governance, Nominations and Staffing subcommittee of Board had held its first meeting last week and the Elections Committee met this morning.

c. Report of the Association Director of Education

Alice Foulis (AF) was not present but had sent a report noting that the Enterprising Mind of the Year competition was still open, and that she was contributing to an update of the University disabilities policy: there was a survey to gather student input, and members were encouraged to complete this.

d. Report of the Athletic Union President

Fiona Murray (FM) reported that the Sports Ball had been held on Saturday and had gone well: the venue were keen to hold the event again next year. Due to the earlier date, annual awards had not been held at the Ball and so there would be a ceremony in April. The AU would be holding a workshop on how to use skills gained from being on a sports club committee.

e. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Adam Powrie (AP) reported that the Refreshers' went fairly well: tickets and attendance were good. Only one night failed to sell out. This semester would see new Tuesday events, opening two venues as well as the Main Bar. AP was now organising Graduation and Summer Ball: any feedback or ideas on this event were welcome. AP noted that semester 2 was an important semester for many societies and subcommittees because they held large events and encouraged members to share information about these as early as possible, particularly if Ents Team support would be needed.

f. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

Not present.

5. Questions for Association Committees

- a. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
- b. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
- c. Questions for Association Environment Committee
- d. Questions for Association LGBT+ Committee

e. Questions for Association Lifelong Learning Committee

Sarah Ramage (SR) said that the Lifers EGM had been held last night: a secretary had been appointed. The Committee were looking to increase engagement, particularly as some committee members were leaving. SR had spoken to a number of students with caring responsibilities, who were looking for social opportunities to meet others in the same position.

6. Questions for SSC Subcommittees

- a. Questions for SSC Broadcasting Committee
- b. Questions for SSC Charities Committee

Niamh McGurk (NM) highlighted the Dry Island Buffalo Jump concert this weekend.

- c. Questions for SSC Debates Committee
- d. Questions for SSC Performing Arts Committee
- e. Questions for SSC Postgraduate Committee
- f. Questions for SSC Societies Committee
- g. Questions for SSC Music Committee (Music is Love)

Casper Sanderson (CS) highlighted the concert in the Bell Pettigrew Museum this weekend.

- h. Questions for SSC Volunteering Committee

Adam Lord (AL) noted that applications for volunteering projects were open till Friday.

- i. Questions for SSC Design Committee
- j. Questions for SSC Entertainments Committee
- k. Questions for SSC On The Rocks Committee
- l. Questions for SSC Member without Portfolio

7. Unfinished General Business

7. New General Business

a. S. 19-1 Motion to Address Hate Crimes and Incidents in Student Societies and Events

Zelda Kotyk (ZK) introduced the motion. She highlighted several recent incidents at student events and in the wider community. She said the motion sought to increase awareness among students of the Zero Tolerance policy and make reporting of incidents easier. There was no intention to 'call out' societies or make them do more work, just to encourage reporting.

The Chair opened the motion to questions. NF asked if ZK could talk about particular incidents? ZK related an incident at Queer Question Time where transphobic comments were made by people coming into town for the event apparently to harass a speaker. She also referenced posters for LGBT+ events being taken down, books being defaced, shouted comments in the street, people feeling uncomfortable attending events due to being misgendered, and comments overheard in the bars.

The Chair opened the motion to debate. Kevin Phelan (KP) said that he was fully behind the motion in spirit, but had concerns about logistical issues, particularly regarding compulsory training for

societies. He said that existing feedback suggests societies find it hard to comply with the current compulsory training sessions, and this would make it hard to fit more into the schedule, particularly for societies that were newly affiliating in the course of the academic year. He asked if the LGBT+ Committee would be taking this on? ZK confirmed that they would be looking to do so. FM said that sports clubs did get good turnout for compulsory LGBT+ training in the AU, but felt that engagement in the room at these events was low.

ZK highlighted the importance of the pronoun issue and awareness around this matter. Even if people are not engaged, covering this in training set a precedent that incorrect usage of pronouns was not acceptable.

KP asked if it would be appropriate to establish a new position on Societies Committee to organise informal LGBT+ training events? He felt that a more informal context would offer advantages. He said he would also be happy to include awareness of the Zero Tolerance policy and LGBT+ issues in society presidents' training.

AP brought up a 2016 motion with regard to Association events, noting that it mandated including the Zero Tolerance logo in advertising for those events: he said that this needs to be implemented and monitored. He suggested that Union events should include the text suggested in this motion as well as societies and subcommittees.

ZK wanted to make clear that as the motions stood, it was envisaged that there would be no negative consequences for a failure by societies to comply with training, but training would serve as a reminder of the existing rules. AP noted that the current wording mandates training, but thought it was not necessary to mandate that the text be added to events? ZK said that the thoughts of the LGBT+ committee were that this should be compulsory. Matthew Singer (MS) compared the proposed measures to the existing 'non-alcoholic option' rule for events where drinks were available, in that the rule could exist without automatic consequences being set down. PP said that she felt this situation was different to that rule in that a non-alcoholic option is a good thing, but the absence of this text would imply that events don't follow the Zero Tolerance policy: if this omission was seen as deliberate, it could lead to a perception that event is not compliant with that policy.

MS said that the Association could simply challenge societies who do not comply to explain: there was no need to jump to the idea that the omission was deliberate. If an issue was to arise at an event that had not included this wording, then it may be fair to view it differently, and ask if the society is complying with the policy.

KP asked about the 'in effect from' date of April 1st, and if training arranged with input from Police Scotland would really be available from this date? ZK said that such training was not yet available. KP noted that reaffiliation was two weeks after April 1st, and this suggested a tight timetable. NF said that it was clear that everyone agrees the spirit of the motion was incredibly important, but technical and logistical issues were also important and remained to be resolved. He also felt the use of the word 'must' in the motion implies consequences for non-compliance: NF was not necessarily against that but felt uncomfortable not specifying the consequences in that case. AP noted that increasing number of societies hosted events in private spaces that were not publicised as Association events, and in some cases the status of these events as 'official' might be ambiguous. He asked if it was viable to apply this policy to events not recognised as Association events, and if an attempt to do so might imply recognition of these events as official? The Chair noted that it was outwith Councils' competence to pass motions over events the Association did not control. Iain Cupples (IC) advised that there could be jurisdiction questions over misconduct at such events and whether they would be covered by the Zero Tolerance policy.

KP said that the motion needed to hold up, and that he was not sure it did as it stood. He suggested setting up a working group. AL asked if including the suggested text in the constitution of societies might be a way forward? KP said that it could be in the model constitution. MS said that in general, there appeared to be a consensus that LGBT+ should create training for societies, whether that was mandated or voluntary. He noted that the process of reporting was also important but uncontroversial. ZK said she felt the suggestion of including these issues in society president training was a helpful suggestion, and that she would be happy to amend the motion to reflect that. However, she felt that for subcommittees the text in the motion was required and felt strongly that it should be required for societies too.

NF agreed that there are some things in the motion that could happen uncontroversially: however the inclusion of the text for events would be hard to police other than for Association subcommittees. KP asked about options to table the motion: IC explained the options available to the committee. ZK agreed that she would withdraw the motion and bring it back to the joint councils meeting in two weeks' time, and would work with various members including KP and NF on progressing the issues meantime.

8. Any Other Competent Business

None

9. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted.

SSC REPORTS ASSOCIATION OFFICER REPORTS

Association Alumni Officer – Olivia Sutton

Plans are well underway for the Alumni Festival Weekend 2019. Thank you to all of those who have agreed to participate. I have been in touch with the London Alumni Club and we are working out ways to strengthen the relationship between us and work together to promote each others events. They are also very keen for all recent graduates in London to be aware of this group. Lots of alumni also coming up for careers week, which is exciting - try and make the most of these opportunities!

Association Community Relations Officer – Morgan Morris

Not much to report as we begin to wind down. I have community council meeting on Monday, so if anything comes up I will bring it up at the meeting. Im sure Paloma will update you all with regards to the Community Council elections coming up. We have a couple of projects that we are going to work on this semester such as cycle safety, making the local community aware of this position in the SA (along with holding office hours) and then the alumni festival weekend. If anyone has any ideas or would like to collaborate please just let me know.

Association Environment Officer – Lauren Davis

Nothing to report.

Association LGBT+ Officer – Zelda Kotyk

Glitterball tickets went up, and we are finalizing Queerfest

Association Lifers Officer – Sarah Ramage

Our EGM is on Monday 5 February at 6pm in the Meeting Room. All students are welcome and we're looking to elect a secretary and plan some social events for the semester. Lifers are delighted to be going to Glitterball! Seventeen of us have secured tickets for the event including full-time, part-time and post grads students.

SSC REPORTS

SSC Broadcasting Officer- Laura Mueller

We have had show applications open for the past few weeks and are excited to get on air during week 3! As well, we are planning a show host speed dating social around Valentine's day and a Live Lounge the night of this meeting, Tuesday at 7 in Rectors, so please come down for some talented women singer-songwriters.

SSC Charities Officer -Niamh McGurk

Race2Munich happened over the break and was a great success - at time of writing we have raised £41,414 our highest ever total. Thank you to everyone who helped out! CATWALK early bird tickets sold out very quickly so keep an eye out for regular ticket release. RAG week is in week 4 so we have been busy finalising all the events for that. Please come along to our charity gig on Saturday night featuring the lecturers band Dry Island Buffalo Jump and student band Too This For That.

SSC Debates Officer- Matthew Singer

Since last week, we held our Refreshers training which saw a lot of new people come out. We also had our EGM and elected two new people to Board. Finally, we held TH Has No Faith in the University of St Andrews as our Public Debate.

SSC Performing Arts Officer- Rowan Wishart

Nothing much to report - second round of fringe proposals this week!

SSC Postgraduate Officer –Cameron Rice

The PG Society are in the process of finalising their few events, which should take us up to the middle of March. Since the turn of the year we have been working with various university units to attempt to increase the postgraduate experience at the university as well as supporting groups of students with new initiatives that were successful in obtaining financial support from the St Leonard's College Development Fund. Going forward, aside from our event schedule, the committee will be involved in the running of the semester two PGR essentials induction days for new research students.

SSC Societies Officer-Kevin Phelan

Nothing to report

SSC Student Music Officer - Casper Sanderson

This semester we are planning many concerts in quirky venues; the Old Union Café, the Bell Pettigrew and others! We are also planning to set up speed dating for musicians to meet potential bandmates!

SSC Volunteering Officer - Adam Lord

Nothing to report

SSC Design Team Convener –Mika Schmeling

DT has gone over our progress this semester and we completed around 23 project last year and this past semester we've already completed 46. Super excited for next semester

SSC ENTS Convener – Paul Lancaster

Ents are currently in the process of finishing up refreshers week and are well into the planning stages of the upcoming events this semester.

It is a particularly busy time for both Ents and the building staff this semester so please (please) get in contact early if you are planning an event in any of the unions commercial spaces (stage, 601, mainbar, sandy's, beacon, outside).

SSC Arts Festival Convener- Chloe Ashley

On The Rocks had our first committee meeting back after the break and there appear to be no major

problems at the moment. We are finalising aspects of our physical programme that will be sent for printing at the end of next week. We are also still currently recruiting volunteers for the festival and applications will be closing Friday 8th of February.

SSC Member without Portfolio- Shaina Sullivan

Nothing new to report except that I will have met yesterday with Paloma, Sneha, and Robyn to plan out the rest of the socials for this year!

S. 19-1 Motion to Address Hate Crimes and Incidents in Student Societies and Events

Owner: Zelda Tobias-Kotyk In effect from: 01 April 2019 Review Date: 05 February 2019

This SSC

Notes

- Affiliated Societies and Subcommittees are required follow the policies and rules laid out by Students' Association.
- The Students' Association adopted the Zero Tolerance Policy in September of 2013, which "enforces a strict zero tolerance policy to harassment and bullying." Appendix 1.
- There has been an increase in visible discriminatory speech and actions against the LGBT+ community within the University, Union, and town during the last academic year.
- The Affiliation Agreement requires societies "to send a society officer to attend additional training as required by the SSC Societies Committee." Appendix 2.
- Hate crime defined by Police Scotland: "Hate Crime is any criminal offence motivated by a person's hatred of someone because of their perceived race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability." Appendix 3.
- Hate incidents are defined by Police Scotland: "A hate incident is any incident that is not a criminal offence, but something which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hate or prejudice." Appendix 3.

Believes

- That Societies and Subcommittees have an obligation to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all members of their groups and attendees of their events.
- That increased awareness of LGBT+ identities and what classifies a hate crime/incidents as well as how to report a hate crime/incident will help to combat discriminatory speech and action.

Resolves

- To mandate the presidents and secretaries of affiliated societies to attend LGBT+ Awareness training as part of the reaffiliation process.
- For Saints LGBT+ to create an LGBT+ Awareness training that shall encompass LGBT+ terminology, police definitions, and incident reporting procedures.
- That the LGBT+ Awareness training will be designed after consultation with Police Scotland, Stonewall, and the University.
- That Societies and Subcommittees must add the following text to the end of all event descriptions:

"Our event is a fully inclusive space and follows the Students' Association's zero tolerance policy towards discriminatory and hateful speech and actions." To condemn hate crime in all its forms; both publicly and privately. For Association LGBT+ Officer, Sabbatical Officers, and other relevant parties to work towards easing of process of reporting hate crimes/incidents

Proposed Zelda Tobias-Kotyk, Association LGBT+ Officer

Seconded Shaina Sullivan, Member without Portfolio Nick Farrer, Director of Wellbeing Matthew Singer, Debates Officer Morgan Morris, Community Relations