



## Education Committee

11<sup>th</sup> April, 5pm

Students' Association Committee Room

### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
  - a. Chloe (Russian)
  - b. Kay (Medicine)
  - c. Ailsa (Chemistry)
  - d. Rachel (Economics)
3. Questions for School Presidents
  - a. Rikke (Social Anthropology): 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year reps collaborating on a careers event, followed by careers pop up event.
  - b. Louise (German): candidates for German convenor for next year.
  - c. Winnie (psychology): very successful careers event last week.
  - d. Sophia (Philosophy): race in philosophy event organisation and speakers.
  - e. Rebecca (Classics): play at the end of the month (**Facebook event:** [https://www.facebook.com/events/2272059659710473/?action\\_history=%22%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22messaging%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22attachment%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra\\_data%5C%22%3A%7B%7D%7D%22](https://www.facebook.com/events/2272059659710473/?action_history=%22%7B%5C%22surface%5C%22%3A%5C%22messaging%5C%22%2C%5C%22mechanism%5C%22%3A%5C%22attachment%5C%22%2C%5C%22extra_data%5C%22%3A%7B%7D%7D%22) )
  - f. Kat (IR): IR ball – please share (**Facebook event:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/629077760856368/> )
4. Questions for Faculty Presidents
5. Questions for PG Academic Convenor
6. Matters Arising
  - a. Wellbeing Map (Evan)
    - i. Evan to send out generic template from Union design team.

- ii. Might be a good idea to add what to do if your friend is struggling.
  - iii. Peer support can also be added.
  - iv. Posted in bathrooms, IT labs, PG common room, staff offices.
  - v. Could be on school website.
  - vi. Could have extra sections for departments that share buildings.
  - vii. Could be used by Union too.
  - viii. Academic issues: 'stress and pressure' as an option. Imposter syndrome.
  - ix. Add sexual discrimination or violence as a category.
- b. Library print vs digital (Rikke)
- i. Issues in social anthropology getting access to materials and books they need.
  - ii. Digital copies sometimes only available to one person at a time.
  - iii. Can email library to request more copies of a book.
  - iv. Similar issues in Computer Science – responsibility of staff to make sure there are resources available for their courses. DOT solved this problem.
  - v. Not up to students to make sure there are books available for their courses.
- c. Representation Policy update
- i. Convenors spelled differently in same paragraph.

## 7. AOCB

- a. Social (Faculty Presidents)
- i. Pizza social with music and potentially silly awards.
  - ii. Last week before revision?
  - iii. Doodle poll will be sent out to choose date.
- b. Last EduCom on the 25<sup>th</sup> April
- i. Feel free to bring cake – Alice will be bringing some!
- c. Teaching Awards
- i. Tomorrow is the last day to let Alice know if you're coming to the ceremony on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

## Reports from School Presidents

### **Art History - Meredith Loper – arthistorypresident:**

#### Meetings

- Wed, 3 April, Attended Athena SWAN meeting
- Thurs, 4 April, Held last Class Rep Meeting
- Sat, 6 April, Represented School at Offer Holder Day
- Mon, 8 April, Had handover meeting with President-Elect

#### Other

- Cancelled transition to honours peer talk because of lack of enthusiasm from second-year reps and schedule conflict.
- Invited President-elect to next School Council and Athena SWAN meeting
- Continued to work on Athena SWAN report

### **Biology - Roisin Gendall – biologypresident: no report submitted.**

### **Chemistry - Ailsa Edward – chemistrypresident:**

- Met with the next school president to do the handover
- Trying to organise a joint event with ChemSoc as a meet the next school president and ChemSoc AGM.

### **Classics - Rebecca Hachamovitch – classicspresident:**

- Fourth and final SSCC is this Wednesday the 10th
- Had five volunteers for an offer-holder Q&A session on Saturday
- SSCC module feedback collection is now more efficient as a direct result of the introduction of standardised feedback forms, but a number of my reps are just not enthusiastic about the job and need to be handheld with frequent reminders and coaxing. I am not enjoying playing mother to people barely younger than I am just to convince them to do a job they signed up to do.
- Archaeology students approached with concern about unfair allocation of opportunities to work with artefacts. Consulted DoT and Archaeology Professor, sent response to students, am waiting to hear about resolution
- One of the Latin classes, headed by Dr Pezzini and supported by the Centre for the Public Understanding of Greek and Roman Drama (CPUGRD), is putting on an authentic Roman comedy (The Menaechmi) at the end of the month and doing sample scenes at OTR this week. There was minor unrest over the idea that students participating in the

production may have an unfair advantage over students who are not, since they have the choice to write a personal essay for coursework marks to substitute any or all other assessed written coursework.

- With the exception of Ides Ball, we have yet to put on any social events. I have been pestering my social rep about it, who has been telling me for a few months that a movie night is in progress. It is either a product of my own naivete or of my own experience as social rep last year that I am confused about just how difficult a movie night is to put on.
- Teaching Committee meets again next week, but no agenda has been published as of yet.
- I am nearly done writing the handover document for the next president

#### **Computer Science - Martynas Noreika – compscipresident:**

- Industry Engagement Program
  - Got a complaint from a student regarding the interview process
  - Have explained to him the selection criteria that was used and encouraged to meet with me if he has any further questions
  - Apart from that, the projects are going well
- Lecture capture survey
  - Continuing working on the report
- Computer Science ball
  - We have released tickets last Wednesday and sold all of them in the first couple of hours
  - Given the high demand, we did a second release today and sold out in 15 minutes!
- Student feedback
  - Received multiple complaints regarding the marks being late in the school
  - Have raised these concerns with DoT
- Student-Staff barbeque
  - Started organising a barbeque at the end of the semester aimed at students and staff in the school
  - Currently, trying to acquire funding from the school and looking for the most suitable date

#### **Divinity - Rachel Miller – divinitypresident:**

- Just going to the Equality and Diversity meeting tomorrow where we will discuss our Athena SWAN application.

#### **Earth & Environmental Sciences - Evan Margerum – earthscipresident:**

- Mental health posters are done and around all the academic venues that the SEES uses
- Mentoring scheme is up and running – intro event will be April 9th
- Careers event planned for April 12th – Planetary geochemistry

- Geological Life moved to be April 18th
- SSCC planned for April 24th
- Teaching Council Meeting planned for June 5th
- Offer holders day on April 6th went very well
- Honours briefing is April 19th – honours students organized to attend this

**Economics & Finance - Rachel Williams – economicspresident: no report submitted.**

**English - Jessica Armstrong – englishpresident:**

- Helped out on the Academic Representation table on the Offer Holders' day
- Attended Equality and Diversity committee and discussed results of School-wide E&D survey
- Continued to gather responses on the School's Welfare Survey, which I will present to the DoT this week
- Liaised with Lyndsay, and Design and Marketing regarding publicity for our upcoming panel. I also liaised with our speakers, and we launched our event publicity!
- Launched our Honours Module Choices Fayre publicity
- Worked with Honours Advisers to promote the Honours Advising questionnaire
- By Thursday I will have attended our Teaching and Learning committee meeting in the School

**Film Studies - Lyndsay Townsend – filmpresident:**

- Secured six panel speakers for our alumni event, with Jess from the School of English. We have also created a Facebook event, and are revealing the speakers each day, with photographs and biographies of each person.
- I met with my Director of Teaching, for a general catch-up regarding School President matters. I will be going into the Film Studies Honours classes this week, and next week, to promote the NSS and also let students know about our small raffle (to win a £20 Amazon voucher).
- I have also emailed Elisa, who will be taking over as Film Studies School President when I graduate, and told her all of the important events I will be attending this semester – including open days, our last SSCC, etc. Elisa has already started shadowing me, and attended the visiting day with me on 3/4/19, and the Offers Holding Day on 6/4/19.
- We also have an upcoming session within the Department to reveal next year's Honours modules, which I will be attending to speak to students about studying at Honours (2nd year students will be present at the event, who will be transferring to Honours next year).

### **Geography & SD - Rhiannon Potts – geosdpresident:**

- SGSD Careers Committee – 13 Geography and SD students have signed up to be members. A Facebook group has been established through which members are already suggesting and discussing ideas for careers events. I am in the process of organising a meeting with Dr Jo Hale (SGSD Careers Adviser) and Pamela Andrew (SGSD Careers Link).
- Geog Soc Open Committee Meeting – I attended this on Monday 8 April. Many students turned up and expressed an interest in joining the Geog Soc Committee next year. The AGM will be held next Monday 15 April.
- Geog Soc Coffee Morning with Operation Smile St Andrews – I attended this on Tuesday 9 April. Lots of students and staff came and the event raised over £60 for the charity.
- Feedback Collection for Final SSCC – The School's final (fourth) SSCC is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 17 April (Week 10), so I have asked the class reps to collect feedback from students this week. We will meet on Monday 15 April for a Pre-SSCC to write the agenda for the SSCC.
- Athena SWAN Application – I am in the process of reviewing two sections relating to UG issues from the latest draft of the application. This will be completed by the end of the week and I have also enlisted the PG class reps to review the required sections relating to PG issues.
- SD Visiting Day Talks – We have struggled to find student volunteers to speak at the Visiting Days this semester, but so far we have managed to fill all the 2:00pm and 3:00pm slots. However, at present we do not have any volunteers for the next two dates (Wednesdays 10 and 17 April).

### **Graduate School - Jemima Williamson – gspres:**

- Nothing to report.

### **History - Sahil Ali – historypresident:**

Over Spring Break

- Liaised with my successor and gave her an outline of when the handover would be taking place, what would be provided and discussed the possibility of her coming along to an Education Committee meeting
- Liaised with the Classics President to tie up loose ends relating to the Ides Ball. This involved contacting her about items still to be reimbursed and ensuring that the bands had been paid by their agreed dates.

- Forwarded information about the SLUG meeting taking place in Week 8 to my Library Rep, who confirmed her attendance
- Engaged in discussions with the History Society about a possible joint event before the end of the Semester

Week 8

- Weekly email sent out as per usual
- Reminder of the election results sent out just in case students had not seen it, as well as a promotion about the Women in Academic event organised by the Women in Work Society
- Discussions with my Social Officer about a possible Dissertation event for the end of the semester, as well as further talks about a Postgraduate Symposium which I wish to put on before the end of my Presidency
- Handover document sent to my successor
- Photographs from the Humanities Careers Fayre finally received, thereby making my report on this possible as per the criteria set out by the Employability Fund.

**International Relations - Kat Lawlor – irpresident:**

- Honours SSCC meeting
- PhD SSCC meeting
- Marketing for the Ambassador's Ball
- Equality and Diversity Committee meeting
- Wrote Careers Day questionnaire, gave presentation to general EDC committee

**Management - Philip Caraci – managementpresident: no report submitted.**

**Mathematics & Statistics - Kamilla Rekvenyi – mathspresident:**

- Attended the School's Teaching Committee Meeting
- Met with two class reps and due to lack of interest cancelled the Equality and Diversity Forum and agreed on sending out a survey instead. This still needs to be approved by the School's Equality and Diversity Committee

**Medicine - Kay McGillivray – medicinepresident: no report submitted.**

**Modern Languages - Amy Bretherton – modlangpresident:**

- Held final committee meeting of the Modern Languages Events Committee, the Ball was held on Friday 5th April and went very well
- Met with Director of Teaching and Spanish Convener to discuss MEQ results

- Met with DoT, Spanish Convener, Head of Spanish and one of the Spanish tutors to discuss how to improve the Second Year Spanish module which received negative feedback in the MEQ
- Attended Education Committee
- Attended Russian SSCC
- Met with Director of Teaching
- Assisted at Spanish Department Open Day

### *French*

- Sending SSCC minutes and review out to department this week
- GloBall happened last week and it seemed to be a great success
- Discussing the AGM with the French Society
- Organising department representation at upcoming French play event

**Music - Aileen Walsh – musicpresident: no report submitted.**

### **Philosophy - Sophia Rommel – philosophypresident**

- Regarding the 'Race and Philosophy' Event: all speakers have been confirmed for the dinner, sent out an email to the keynote speaker regarding her talk's title (so that we can have a more exact event title and begin promoting the event online and in person), met with Kirsty and Jimena (from PhilSoc and MAP) to discuss deadlines, advertising, and other technicalities to deal with which we have split up amongst ourselves.
- Also, sent out an invitation to all Philosophy students to apply for spaces to have dinner with the speakers – 6 spaces overall and have 2 applicants so far (yay!). Preference will be given to students who define themselves as coming from an underrepresented background/group in academia. Very excited for this event!
- Attended the Burn weekend (Honours Reading Party), which was great fun and all students and staff whom I have talked to thoroughly enjoyed the event. The event organizer (Dr. Pedriali) labelled this trip the "best one ever."
- Updating my Twitter and the FB group, as usual.
- Sent out weekly email; many items within it this week, notably including our Athena Swan Survey (School-wide – been circulating this through numerous emails to hopefully get over 50% participation), promoting St Andrews Pride (the procession), Philosophy alumni contacts, and so forth.
- As revision and exam season is coming up soon, I'll start including more mental health information and links in my weekly emails again.



- Currently selecting a date for the class rep pizza dinner via an online poll.
- Working on the handover document for Kyle; will suggest a 'Queer and Philosophy' Panel (again, no exact title yet but just getting the topic across in this way) for next year (to hopefully secure the legacy of these events, as they began last year with Antonia's and Rufaida's 'Women in Philosophy' event), which was another idea we (Kirsty and I) had for this year (but we decided upon race after a vote).
- Regularly promoting and attending MAP's bimonthly lunches (every Friday in the Edgecliffe Common Room) – very nice way to connect with MLitts and research postgrads.
- Working on the tutor pay issue with my PGR (he has drafted a letter – we are meeting soon to discuss this).
- Our library is probably going to be cut in size to create an office for a new staff member. I've been in contact with the Head of Department to ensure that the number of actual study spaces within the library remain the same (even if the space will become a bit more cramped). This change is not a secret but we haven't gone out of our way to inform students about it yet.
- The modules for next academic year have been confirmed – Honours talk will occur in about 2 weeks' time.
- Planning to meet with DoT in the next two weeks.

**Physics & Astronomy - Amy Suddards – physicspresident: no report submitted.**

**Psychology & Neuroscience - Winnie Li – psychpresident: no report submitted.**

**Social Anthropology - Rikke Nedergaard – socanthpresident**

- Continued working on the careers event and started advertising speakers
- Communicated with PG reps over gathering SSCC feedback and set up meeting with them
- Attended Election Committee evaluation meeting
- Attended my department's 50th anniversary reception
- Helped out at offer holder day by the Social Anthropology Booth
- Held weekly office hour and sent out weekly newsletter
- Set up an Amazon voucher draw to encourage students to fill out the NSS

**Reports from Faculty Presidents**

**Arts and Divinity - Gianluca Giammei – artdivfp**

- Nothing to report.

**Science and Medicine - Alisa Danilenko – scimedfp:**

- I had a hand-over meeting with my successor, and he has since attended his first couple of Councils meeting, so all seems to be going well on the handover front.
- Last week, I met up with Alice and Ashley (and Gianluca remotely) to decide the teaching award nominations shortlist, so we're excited to see the outcomes of those soon.
- Finally, Gianluca and I are working on a final social for EduCom to round up the year.

**Report from Postgraduate Academic Convenor – Ashley Clayton – pgconven: no report submitted.**