



Minutes from Education Committee

2nd of April 2018, 5:30pm

Students' Association Committee Room

Present

Member

Zachary Davis
John Weaver
Nicola Simonetti
Erin Phillips
Julian Frink
Cameron Smith
Charlotte Gordon
Alison Quinn
Ellen White
Gaby Levey
Alice Foulis
Sarah Gharib
Philip Caraci
Carissa Jacobs
Antonia Zimmermann
Alisa Danilenko
Gianluca Giammei
Rikke Nedergaard

Position

Director of Education
Science & Medicine FP
Arts & Divinity FP
Biology SP
Classics SP
Divinity SP
Earth Sciences & Geology SP
Economics & Finance SP
English SP
Film Studies & Music SP
History SP
IR SP
Management SP
Medicine SP
Philosophy SP
Physics & Astronomy SP
Psychology & Neuroscience SP
Social Anthropology SP

Absent

Gergely Flamich
Abi Whitefield

Computer Science SP
Geography & SD SP

In Attendance

Jenni Awang

Planning Officer

1 Apologies

| Member | Position |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fanny Empacher | Postgraduate Academic Convener |
| Jacob Pepper | Chemistry SP |
| Lily Ratcliff | Art History SP |
| Caitlin Macdonald | Modern Languages SP |
| Andrew Mitchell | Mathematics & Statistics SP |

2 Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes from the previous Education Committee were approved by the members. They were no action points to follow up on.

3 TEF

Jenni Awang introduced subject level TEF to the members, looking for feedback on the TEF subject groups and their suitability to the various Schools at St Andrews. Members discussed the following points, which refer to the [Department for Education's Consultation Technical Documentation](#):

- The members identified what categories they would assign their School to:
 - Anthropology: Subject 22, however, should be considered separately from sociology and social policy.
 - Psychology & Neuroscience: Subject 4 for psychology and possibly subject 3 or 12 for neuroscience.
 - Medicine: Subject 1, however, should not be grouped with dentistry.
 - IR: Subject 21, however, could also fit into 33.
 - Philosophy: Subject 34, however, should not be with religious studies.
 - English: Subject 30.
 - Classics: Subject 31 and includes 32,
 - Earth & Environmental Sciences: Subject 20, however, should not be with geography. Geology should be in subject 16.
 - Divinity: Subject 34, and includes 31, 32, and 33.
 - Management: Subject 25.
 - Economics & Finance: Subject 25, but should also refer to finance.
 - Physics & Astronomy: Subject 15.

- History: Subject 32.
 - Biology: Subject 12, however, would question where biochemistry falls.
 - Chemistry: Subject 13, however, would question where materials chemistry lies.
 - Film Studies & Music: Subject 27, however, at St Andrews isn't considered a communication study.
- Members stated that they would be okay with both TEF ratings being listed in UCAS for joint-Honours programs.
 - The School President of IR mentioned that it was strange to have a liberal arts category, which doesn't feature in the UK.
 - Members also highlighted that it was strange that the arts category only has one subject, whilst the humanities category is split into eight subjects.
 - Jenni Awang briefly introduced Teaching Intensity to the committee, highlighting the various possible methods for calculating it. Members should get in touch with Jenni Awang on jsa23@ if they have any feedback.
 - Members indicated that they felt a Teaching Intensity metric was confusing and didn't have any real meaning to prospective students. Details on the types of contact would be more beneficial.

The Director of Education thanked Jenni Awang for attending and for giving the School Presidents the opportunity to feedback on the TEF consultation.

ACTION - SPs: Pass on any feedback about TEF subject groupings or Teaching Intensity to Jenni Awang on jsa23@.

ACTION - ALL: Consider points to include in a Students' Association response to the TEL consultation.

4 School Presidents' Forum

The Director of Education stated that the next School Presidents Forum is due to take place next Monday, however, will be postponed due to several members giving apologies. Both the Proctor and Master would like to give a presentation on the University's Space Strategy, and collect feedback from the School Presidents.

ACTION - SPs: Inform the Director of Education of any items to be added to the School Presidents' Forum agenda.

5 Teaching Awards Ceremony

The Director of Education reminded the members that the Teaching Awards Ceremony was due to take place on the 17th of April and that they are all welcome to attend. Members should RSVP to doed@.

6 Staff Strikes

The Director of Education highlighted that the local UCU branch has mandate for another set of strike dates, with the first five occurring on the 16th till the 20th of April. UUK have outlined a proposal and are currently waiting on a response from UCU. Local UCU members are currently balloting on the proposal.

7 AOCB

The School President of Social Anthropology raised concern over evening degree students, who have expressed issue with the strike action. Other Schools stated that they were experiencing similar issues. The Director of Education stated that reviews of the related modules to assess the strike impact will be carried out, and that students will not be unfairly treated.

The School President of IR raised the topic of William and Mary Class Reps and their effectiveness, and asked if they could remove the post next academic year. The School President of English suggested combining the post to cover William and Mary as well as Study Abroad students. The Director of Education asked all members to compile a list of recommended Class Rep positions for the next academic year.

ACTION - SPs: Submit a list of recommend Class Rep positions for the next academic year to the Director of Education.

The School President of Film Studies & Music asked about the mediation of deadlines. the Director of Education responded informing members that it is policy to spread out deadlines throughout the semester and recommended getting in touch with the Comparative Literature Convenor and the Had of Department about possible solutions.

The School President of Social Anthropology asked what to do when a SSCC meeting falls on a strike date. Members recommended rescheduling the meeting to a non strike day.

The meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be on the 9th of April 2018 at 5:30pm in the Students Association Committee Room.