



University of St Andrews
Students' Association
Executive Committee

MINUTES

Tuesday 21st April 2015 - Meeting Room - 12 pm

Present

Member's Name	Position
Zara Evans	Association Chair
Ondrej Hajda	Association Director of Representation
Fay Morrice	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Pat Matthewson	Association President
Sigrid Jorgensen	SRC Deputy Senior Officer
Annie Newman	SRC Senior Officer
Charlotte Andrew	SSC Senior Officer

In Attendance

Iain Cupples	Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager
Ilaria Gidoro	Education and Representation Co-ordinator/Minutes Secretary

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without dissent.

2. Apologies for Absence

Member's Name	Position	Reason
Leon O'Rourke	Association Director of Events and Services	

The apologies were accepted without dissent.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting of the SAEC would follow.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

5. Unfinished General Business

There was no unfinished general business.

6. New General Business

6.1. J. 15-15- A Motion to Hold NUS Referendum

OWNER: Elections Committee

IN EFFECT FROM: Immediately

REVIEW DATE: N/A

THIS SSC & SRC NOTE:

- That the University of St Andrews Students' Association is not presently affiliated to the National Union of Students (NUS).
- The referendum held in November 2012 on the question of whether the Association should affiliate to the NUS, which resulted in a vote of 75% against to 25% in favour.
- That in an amendment to the motion initiating the above referendum, the SRC resolved to hold another such referendum in three years' time.

THIS SRC & SSC BELIEVE:

- That the question of whether to affiliate to NUS is best decided by the students of St Andrews by means of a referendum.
- That it should respect the decision of the previous SRC on the timing of this referendum.

THIS SRC RESOLVES:

- To hold a referendum on 19-20 November 2015 on the question "Should the University of St Andrews Students' Association join the National Union of Students? Yes or No."
- To request the Students' Association Board (SAB) to commission independent information on the costs of affiliation, to be published as part of the referendum campaign.

- To instruct the Elections Committee to draw up rules for the conduct of the campaign.
- To hold another NUS referendum, regardless of the result, in November 2018.

PROPOSED:

Ondrej Hajda	Director of Representation
Fay Morrice	Director of Student Development and Activities
Sigrid Jorgensen	Association LGBT Officer
Charlotte Potter	Arts/Divinity Faculty President
Katy Rae	Science/Medicine Faculty President
Eleanor Mullin	Arts/Divinity Faculty President-Elect
Louise McCaul	Science/Medicine Faculty President-Elect
Toby Emerson	SRC External Campaigns Officer
Robert Dixon	SSC Societies Officer

Amendments to J.15-15 A Motion to Hold NUS Referendum

Amendment One

The motion was amended to remove point 4 of the Resolves.

“To hold another NUS referendum, regardless the result, in November 2018.”

Passed by 17 to 5.

Proposer: Kyle Blain **Seconder:** Omar Ali

Amendment Two

The motion was amended to remove point 2 of the Believes.

“That it should respect the decision of the previous SRC on the timing of this referendum.”

Amended Unanimously.

Proposer: Omar Ali **Seconder:** Alice Lecointe

The committee discussed Amendment One. Mr Mathewson argued to be in favour of this amendment. Mr Hajda stated that it is important to make sure that future councils and students will not forget about the NUS issue. Mr Cupples reminded that there are two different types of petitions that students can use: 1) the petition is moved by at least 5% of the student body; 2) students move a petition for SRC to call a referendum, which can be accepted or denied by SRC. Ms Morrice proposed to accept Amendment One, but add a sentence in the motion to remind future councils about the issue.

With 4 members in the affirmative and 2 in the negative, the amendment passed.

Amendment Two was then **passed by unanimous consent** because, in light of the result of Amendment One, point two of the believes had no relevance anymore.

Ms Morrice proposed an amendment to add a sentence in the motion to remind future councils and students about the NUS issue. Discussion followed concerning what is the right way to promote awareness of the NUS issue in the present and in the future. It was proposed to work on a communication strategy, carried out by the Association President.

Ms Newman pointed out that perhaps students are not aware of how to make their voice heard and of how to do a petition. Mr Hajda argued that NUS is not an issue extensively discussed among students, as it is not very important for them, whereas it has many implications for the Students' Association. He stressed that it is important to provide information, raise awareness, e.g. through an informative campaign. He advised that a possibility would be that NUS would approach the Students' Association. Ms Newman suggested that it would not be advantageous that an external body with many resources and funding would have an influence on the Students' Association. Ms Morrice suggested that NUS could be asked to remind the Students' Association of this issue in three years. She proposed an amendment.

Amendment to J.15-15 A Motion to Hold NUS Referendum

The motion was amended to add resolving clause 4:

“To task the Executive Committee with raising awareness of the methods of bringing about change in the Students' Association.”

Proposer: Fay Morrice **Seconder:** Annie Newman

This amendment was **adopted without dissent.**

Mr Hajda moved to vote the motion as a whole. Mr Mathewson asked for a secret vote.

The motion passed.

6.2. John Honey Award Nominations (in camera)

The committee decided that the winner of this award is Upile Mtitimila.

The other nominees will be referred to Honorary Life Membership.

7. Any Other Competent Business

Ms Morrice proposed **Motion S.15.2 - A Motion to Propose On The Rocks as an Association Project for 2015/2016.**

The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr Hajda started a discussion about what the prize should be for the John Honey Award. It was eventually decided to purchase a cup for the maximum value of £100.

The meeting adjourned.