



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

MINUTES

Tuesday 24th September 2019 – Large Rehearsal Room – 6pm

Present

Member's Name	Position
Sophia Rommel	Arts/Divinity Faculty President
Olivia Wiggins	Association Alumni Officer
Jack Rogan	Association Chair
Morgan Morris	Association Community Relations Officer
Amy Bretherton	Association Director of Education
Mika Schmeling	Association Director of Events and Services
Shaina Sullivan	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Flora Smith	Association Director of Wellbeing
Lauren Davis	Association Environment Officer
Parker Hansen	Association LGBT+ Officer
Sandra Mitchell	Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer
Jamie Rodney	Association President
Ben McAuley	Principal Ambassador
Camilla Duke	Rector's Assessor
Dennis Goodztov	Science/Medical Science Faculty President-Elect
Polina Sevastyanova	SRC Member for First Years
Leonor Capelier	SRC Member for Gender Equality
Zoe Nengite	SRC Member for Racial Equality
Emma Walsh	SRC Member for Student Health
Emily Muller	SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Britt McArdle	SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
Rowan Wishart	SRC Member Without Portfolio
Ana Maria Neferu	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
Holly Scrivener	SSC Arts Festival Convener
Tom Groves	SSC Broadcasting Officer
Frankie Borderie	SSC Charities Officer
Toni Valencia	SSC Debates Officer
Paul Lancaster	SSC Entertainments Convener
Gavin Sanford	SSC Member Without Portfolio
Manaal Mahjoub	SSC Performing Arts Officer
Blake Purchase	SSC Postgraduate Officer
Markus Lee	SSC Societies Officer
Lisa-Marie Husby	SSC Volunteering Officer

In Attendance

Iain Cupples
Nevena Tsavena

Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager

1. Adoption of the Agenda

It was **agreed** that the co-option of the SRC Accommodation Officer should be completed after item 4 in order to allow the successful candidate to participate in the remainder of the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Leah Allcock	Athletic Union President	Apologies
Emma Whitefield	SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener	Apologies
Edward Spencer	SSC Design Team Convener	Apologies
Paul Lancaster	SSC Entertainments Convener	Apologies

3. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings

- 3.1. Minutes of Joint Councils meeting on the 4th February 2019
- 3.2. Minutes of SSC meeting on the 9th April 2019
- 3.3. Minutes of the SRC meeting on the 16th April 2019

These were all adopted without dissent.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings

None

(Item 12.1 completed.)

5. Open Forum

No business

6. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

- 6.1. Report of the Athletic Union President

Absent.

- 6.2. Report of the Association President

Jamie Rodney (JR) reported that he had been working on the issues around students receiving universal credit with Sandra Mitchell (SM), Britt McArdle (BMc), and Camilla Duke (CD). JR would attend a meeting on Thursday with the University to discuss international and accommodation bursaries: this would hopefully result in an increase in accommodation bursaries. Students had been in touch with a number of issues over laundry facilities provided by Circuit and Washstation in halls – this reflected national concerns from students and the NUS may be starting a campaign. JR was looking to take action locally: members should contact him if they wanted to get involved. JR was working with Lauren Davis (LD) on a potential amalgamation of environmental societies – details would be provided soon. JR, CD and Morgan Morris (MM) were working on voter registration.

Elections for the Senior Lay Member on University Court would be held soon: students would be able to vote for this post for the first time. Similar elections in Dundee University and Aberdeen University had led to low turnouts (under 4%), so the aim for St Andrews was to do better. A team of 'election advocates' would be appointed with the University to encourage a good turnout.

6.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Mika Schmeling (MS) reported on a successful Freshers' Week and launch of the regular weekly nights including Games Night (Monday), Beats and Bargains (Tuesday), and Vinyl Nights (Thursday). The aim with the weekly nights was to provide a greater diversity of events and listen to students: in line with the latter principle, a Bop theme suggestion page would be used to help decide Bop themes, and an online feedback page and possibly feedback boxes around the building would be created. MS was now planning Halloween – this would be an all-building event.

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

Shaina Sullivan (SS) reported on a successful Freshers' Fair, run with Markus Lee (ML) and the Societies team. SS had also been working on The Book, room bookings for the upcoming semester and running Box Office during Freshers' – thanks to the duty managers and volunteers were minuted. SS was currently involved in attending subcommittee meetings and EGMs – officers were asked to make sure that their sabbaticals were kept informed of EGM dates and times. Councils training was run last Sunday. SS had met with the Careers Centre about Careers Week.

6.5. Report of the Association Director of Education

Amy Bretherton (AB) reported on class rep elections and minuted thanks to those who helped, particularly School Presidents. Results would be announced this evening, and statistics would follow. It had been a struggle to recruit PG reps: AB recognised a need to boost PG engagement.

AB had been participating in School President training and would now be planning class rep training. AB was also working on integrating employability into the curriculum, and establishing links between the Careers Service and class reps.

The University was carrying out a consultation on reviewing the academic year calendar – this would close on Monday and Councils members were encouraged to contribute.

6.6. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Flora Smith (FS) had spend a large amount of the summer working on a mental health agreement with Student Services, including anti-stigma campaigns, and an alcohol awareness branch of STAND. There had also been a 'Pace Yourself' campaign run within the Union, promoting sensible drinking and the 'Fablo' mocktail. The 'Ask for Angela' campaign was also now implemented in the Union building.

FS had been working with CAPOD on more support for academic mentors, telling them when and where to signpost to other services. Over 150 people had attended the 'academic family finding' event. FS was now working on SHAG week and working with the University on 'equally safe' policies. Talks had been held with Citizens' Advice on drop in sessions around employment and other issues. Finally, FS was working with the Design and Marketing Manager on an achievement tracker for Councils members.

7. Questions for Association Committees

- 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
- 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
- 7.3. Questions for Association LGBT+ Committee
- 7.4. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Committee
- 7.5. Questions for Association Environment Committee

LD had launched publicity for Green Week last night. There would be a Climate Emergency meeting in the University tomorrow. LD would be liaising w locals who want to work with students on env issues.

8. Questions for SSC Subcommittees

- 8.1. Questions for SSC Broadcasting Committee
- 8.2. Questions for SSC Charities Committee
- 8.3. Questions for SSC Debates Committee

Toni Valencia (TV) said that there would be a disabilities panel tomorrow, run in conjunction with the SRC Equal Opportunities committee. On Saturday, Debates would be finalising semester 2 motions for debates: suggestions for topics from council members were welcome.

- 8.4. Questions for SSC Performing Arts Committee
- 8.5. Questions for SSC Postgraduate Committee
- 8.6. Questions for SSC Societies Committee

ML told the Councils that there had been 150 applications from societies for reaffiliation. Training events for society office holders had been held, but many societies were having problems with their risk assessments. 5 societies had been disaffiliated as they had not responded to communications from the Societies Committee. ML offered thanks to those who had helped with Freshers' Fair. ML and SS were planning a networking event for societies and subcommittees to encourage collaboration: details would be available soon.

- 8.7. Questions for SSC Music Committee

MS noted that the Music Convener position was vacant and the Music is Love committee was currently not operating. MS was currently considering how to approach this situation and input from Councils members was welcome.

- 8.8. Questions for SSC Volunteering Committee
- 8.9. Questions for SSC Design Committee

Absent.

- 8.10. Questions for SSC ENTS Committee

Absent.

- 8.11. Questions for SSC On The Rocks Committee
- 8.12. Questions for SSC Member without Portfolio

Gavin Sanford (GS) was working on a Councils calendar and would welcome thoughts on format, etc.

9. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers

- 9.1. Questions for SRC Accommodation Officer
- 9.2. Questions for SRC Member for First Years

Polina Sevastyanova (PS) said that the subcommittee would be holding elections shortly.

- 9.3. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality

Leonor Capelier (LC) said that she was working with FS on a twist on 'equally safe' policies and a festival based around gender equality. LC had contacted Heads of Schools and had received positive feedback from the Heads of School in International Relations and History about giving special talks focused on the topic: LC would also be working with societies with an interest in the area of gender equality on holding events in that week. In addition, LC was working with Got Consent to update materials to reflect the operation of the Ask for Angela scheme in the Union building, and had met with FemSoc to discuss the idea of making sanitary products available in all bathrooms.

- 9.4. Questions for SRC Member for Racial Equality

Zoe Nengite (ZN) reported a meeting with the Principal on an equality initiative. The multicultural week page was now live: Councils members were welcome to host events as part of this week. Committee applications were now open.

- 9.5. Questions for SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
- 9.6. Questions for SRC Member for Student Health
- 9.7. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation

BMc had attended a consultation on the replacement for Albany Park, and would be talking to the Accommodation team about issues with this.

- 9.8. Questions for SRC Arts/Divinity Faculty President
- 9.9. Questions for SRC Science/Medicine Faculty President

Dennis Goodtzov reported that class reps had now been elected for all ID modules, and that there were moves to increase the number of wellbeing reps across the Faculty.

- 9.10. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener

Absent

- 9.11. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Convener
- 9.12. Questions for Principal Ambassador
- 9.13. Questions for Rector's Assessor

CD asked for feedback on the Got Consent leadership presentation. Requests for GC workshops for subcommittees should also be directed to CD. CD encouraged members to post reviews on Marks Out Of Tenancy and for questions about the Senior Lay Member elections JR had discussed in his report.

9.14. Questions for SRC Member Without Portfolio

10. New General Joint Business

J 1-19 Motion on Removing people from Subcommittee Committees

JR introduced the motion, saying it had come in response to concerns from subcommittees. Some subcommittees had existing procedures to remove underperforming members, but some did not. Those that did have existing procedures were not consistent. The aim of the motion was to have consistent procedures for all. JR emphasised that this procedure was intended as a last resort. JR also noted that the procedure was intended purely for people who have been underperforming in their appointed roles, not for allegations of misconduct, which should be referred to the appropriate disciplinary procedures in the Association or University.

CD said that the proposed procedure could be really useful. CD was aware that some subcommittees had struggled with underperforming members. A uniform procedure would make it easier to deal with this situation, and relieve pressure. MS said from personal experience that it was difficult for everyone on a subcommittee when some members were not committed.

TV noted that Debates currently has a vote of 'no confidence' procedure, but that she was aware that other subcommittees didn't. With regard to the proposed appeals mechanism TV felt that currently it was hard to be able to go to the Executive committee because people didn't want to air out everything that had happened. TV said she was basically ok with the motion, but felt it was not great to remove subcommittee members' ability to judge the performance of their peers. PS asked if there were existing procedures, does this motion conflict with those? JR confirmed that the intention was to replace those procedures, to provide consistency of treatment. JR also accepted TV's point about subcommittee members being able to remove each other equally but noted that it can be hard for subcommittee members to be objective about such issues, as they tended to know each other well.

ML expressed concern about overriding existing procedures, noting that some subcommittees might need a different procedure. For example, some subcommittees met more or less often than the norm. ML asked whether other members than the convener could raise concerns? ML also said that while Executive committee members may be able to be more objective, they may not be as familiar with the operation of particular subcommittees. JR said in response that any sort of disciplinary action needed a level of independent appeal in order to be fair. That didn't necessarily have to be the Executive committee, but Councils were too large a body to be effective as such, while the sabbaticals collectively were likely to be too small a group. JR added that he would expect that if a number of other members of subcommittees were raising concerns, he would expect the convener would raise these with sabbaticals. As for the number of meetings, JR felt the phrase 'without adequate reason' enabled those sort of issues to be taken into account.

GS said he agreed with ML: there was a need for someone to decide but the subcommittee might need to be the body for appeals, with recourse of some sort to exec. Where possible, GS felt that these issues should stay within subcommittees. Every subcommittee runs differently, GS believed. He also said he felt the wording of 'adequate explanation' was vague, but had no suggestions on how to improve it.

Rowan Wishart (RW) noted that a vote of 'no confidence' doesn't necessarily allow for extenuating circumstances to be taken into account, as office holders may not want to discuss these with other subcommittee members. MS said that people don't like to call others out: subcommittee members

tended to get close, making it hard to be objective. CD said that it makes sense that if people have existing procedures, there would be a desire to maintain that. She asked which subcommittees did not have these? A show of hands indicated many subcommittees did not. CD said that autonomy was important, but it was also important not to hold subcommittees back by leaving underperforming members in place.

Parker Hansen (PH) felt that votes of 'no confidence' were a measure people were hesitant to use. PH asked what happened if a subcommittee head were missing? ML said he was not opposed to this procedure for subcommittees who have no procedure of their own, but that the procedure in the motion should be regarded as a guide not a hard line.

Frankie Borderie (FB) said that the opportunity for underperforming members to improve needs to be standardised, with perhaps a time constraint, and a clear understanding of what 'improvement' should look like. TV said she would prefer to amend the motion to consider existing procedures. ZN liked the idea of having an appeal and an objective voice, but felt having to go to the Executive committee could change subcommittee dynamics. JR said he respected the autonomy of subcommittees but rules have to apply to everyone, for fairness. Different procedures could lead to different thresholds, making appeals complex. JR also acknowledged the issue of members other than subcommittee heads raising concerns, and would be happy with an amendment to do this. However, he felt votes of 'no confidence' in general were too subjective and placed undue burdens on everyone involved.

CD asked if there was room for flexibility on failing to perform duties 'as codified in the constitution', given the variance between subcommittees about what this might mean? JR said that room for interpretation had deliberately been left.

ML suggested adding an amendment that the procedure apply to subcommittees that currently lacked a procedure, or to make the procedure optional.

MM noted that sabbaticals often sat on subcommittees anyway so members can express concerns to sabs direct. Sophia Rommell (SR) said that procedures didn't need to be same for every single subcommittee: the procedure might be tailored. FS disagreed, saying that it was important that subcommittees follow the same procedure.

JR felt the room was split: there was a general agreement that a procedure was necessary, but some dissent on what to do where procedures were already in place. JR therefore offered to withdraw the motion and resubmit it after further discussion with subcommittee heads.

10.1. Letter on Universal Credit

JR said that 21 Scottish institutions had signed up to this letter so far, and it was hoped that there would be more. NUS Scotland were not signing but were supporting the campaign. 'Warm noises' had been made by certain politicians. JR stressed that the letter did not call for the scrapping of Universal Credit, but focused on aspects of UC that impacted unfairly on students.

The motion was **passed without dissent**.

11. New General SSC Business

11.1. S 1-19 Motion to Include Bursary Scheme to the Union Debating Society (UDS) Constitution

TV introduced the motion, noting that the contents were current practice for Debates but that they wanted to formalise these arrangements.

FB asked where the money came from? TV said it came from the Debates budget, which was passed every year. FB asked if and how awards were means tested? TV said this was done based on SAAS or other hardship qualification, for example University scholarships based on income. BMc asked if there was any way to make exceptions? TV said this was covered in the motion.

The motion was **passed without dissent**.

11.2. S 2-19 Motion to Diversify Guest Speakers at Public Debates hosted by the Union Debating Society (UDS)

TV introduced the motion, noting that currently only the gender of speakers was considered.

MM asked if there was a quota system? TV said no. BMc asked what characteristics were looked at in considering potential speakers? TV said that it would normally have relevance to the topic of debate, but that there would be an effort to ensure a demographic spread of speakers.

The motion was **passed without dissent**.

11.3. S 3-19 Motion to Alter Description of Roles of UDS Board of Ten

TV introduced the motion. She discussed positions to be altered. MM said that in point 3, he did not like the use of the word 'quitting': he felt it should be replaced with 'resigning'. TV accepted this amendment.

As amended, the motion was **passed without dissent**.

11.4. Co-Option of two SSC member to the MUSA Advisory board

SS explained that the Board were seeking more student input and had asked for two student representatives. It had been felt that the best option was to open this up to co-options, rather than making this a duty of particular conveners. The time commitment would be a couple of meetings per semester. PH and SM were the only nominees and were duly appointed.

12. New General SRC Business

12.1. Co-Option of new SRC Accommodation Officer

Nevena Tsavena was co-opted as the new SRC Accommodation Officer.

13. Any Other Competent Business

None

14. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted

Councillors Reports

Association Alumni Officer – Olivia Wiggins

Since councils last met, the Alumni Sub-committee have worked with Saint Connect to produce and distribute a questionnaire to collect student feedback about an Alumni mentor scheme. We have identified and shared with the Careers Centre student requests to hear from recent grads about navigating the years immediately after uni. We are also currently helping the St Andrews Africa Summit locate guest speakers for an upcoming event. I have also met with Camilla, the Rector and a representative from the J.M Barrie Society to discuss ways to commemorate the writer's Rectorial centenary. Current ideas include an essay competition and a climate change themed speaker event.

Ideally this will be an event that both alumni and students can participate in, addressing my aim of keeping St Andrews accessible for graduates. Meanwhile our work with Saint Connect should hopefully start to help students realise the utility of the alumni network.

By next week I intend to have improved the Alumni Sub-committee's social media presence by posting member profiles and signposting university and alumni news. This should hopefully make our activity more visible to students and allow us to promote development opportunities.

Association Community Relations Officer – Morgan Morris

Since my last report to the council, the Community Relations committee has done a few things over the summer. We put together our Your St Andrews booklet which went out to all freshers in their hall of residence and we handed it out at the fresher's fayre. We had our first committee meeting where we set out our goals for the coming semester. We have also begun looking at plans for community relations week. For the coming semester we are looking to; organize student involvement in St Andrews day and Hamish foundation events, creating infographics for waste reduction and collection and registering to vote and what you are voting for. We hope to begin plans by our next meeting for Community Relations week (week 11). This matters to students because we are giving them the opportunity to be involved in large events in the town, and also making students more responsible citizens with infographics with some issues we have identified.

Association Environment Officer – Lauren Davis

"What have I done since my last report?"

The Environment Subcommittee has been working since July to sort out Green Week as it's in week 4. We've got a diverse range of events this year, many volunteers, and it's looking to be the most successful event yet with sponsorship from CombiniCo and many donations for a raffle prize at the end of the week.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

Progress on my manifesto is going well, the Environment Subcom have maintained an Open Door policy for students, and our average meeting size ranges from 15-20 people. Work on community engagement involves working with Mr Pres. and the Environment Team to create a "Sustainability Network" to avoid duplicating efforts amongst other groups. Through this we hope to eliminate confusion between and within groups about events and campaigns, and ensure everyone works well together. Also, we are working on a Waste Reduction Plan to account for all waste we have piling up

at the beginning/end of the year in halls when students leave. We hope to translate this into a formatted framework for the university and keep better tabs on how much waste we accumulate and we aim to reduce this significantly in the future.

What do I hope to achieve by next report? (What it says on the tin)

Next, I hope to finalise all Green Week activities and sort out how to get the wider community more involved with the Environment Subcommittee.

Association LGBT+ Officer – Parker Hansen – Report submitted late with reason given and accepted

What have I done since my last report?

*Working on events,
Trans policy changes within various parts of the Uni
Queer Peers
Working on pronoun training for teaching staff
Working with AU on lgbt charter*

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

*More Sober events
better ISMUs,
Queer peer expansion*

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Progress on all above categories

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Students are saying that they feel more welcome and involved in our projects than ever before! they're getting involved via subcom applications right now.

Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer – Sandra Mitchell – Report submitted late, reason given and accepted

"What have I done since my last report?"

Since my last report before summer I have been continuing to do research for the UC campaign with Jamie, Flora and a few others. It is gathering momentum slowly but surely and I'm hopeful we can get more support this year as there are more students on UC starting Uni. Lifers had their fun day at craigtoun park last week as well as the commuter room breakfast and walk which were both well attended, we were even successful in getting a few evening degree students along. Freshers Fayre was also a big success with many students expressing an interest. At Freshers Fayre I also had a chat with the careers service about how they engage with mature students as our situations can be quite different due to having families and I'm hoping to follow up on this conversation soon.

I have also reached out to Paul Gardner in the school of psychology for his assistance with a talk I want to organise and I'll be meeting him this Tuesday to discuss it further. The talk will be centred around the effects of poverty on cognitive abilities and the aim is to raise awareness with staff and students of the difficulties facing those on low incomes as many lifers come from a background like this.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

See above, continuing to increase engagement with students from all pathways and raise the profile of students who are lifelong learners to encourage inclusion.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By my next report I hope to have more concrete plans for the talk being organised with Paul Gardner and also have lined up a meeting with the careers service as to how to engage mature students more.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

All of the above matters to students as it is a great way to show that uni students come from a wide variety of backgrounds and that being older or a parent shouldn't exclude you from having a full and positive uni experience. Students can get involved in any way they wish! Come along to our events, contact us for a chat or even contact us to help organise and share their expertise in areas that lifers might not be very well versed in.

SSC Broadcasting Officer – Tom Groves

What have I done since my last report?

Over summer we redesigned STAR's website, changed website server, and ordered new merch. This week we opened applications for shows and assistant committee positions. We are hosting Sounds of Sandy's every Saturday at 10pm, featuring bands from across Scotland.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Manifesto is now 31% complete. You can check progress at fb.com/tomgroves4star.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

We are currently working on fixing the studio equipment and organising more events, such as a studio decoration social, and a show logo workshop.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

These updates make it easier to host a radio show, and will improve the sense of community within STAR. You can get involved by applying for a show, writing for The Record or Hearing Aid, making videos for starTV, or illustrating content for all of the above!

SSC Charities Officer – Frankie Borderie

What have I done since my last report?

We ran the Charitable & Volunteering Fayre during Freshers' Week. I attended hall events to raise awareness of the Campaign and my role on it. I helped to duty manage during Freshers' Week, in my capacity as a member of the SSC Council. I have been organising a Training Day for all of the Charities Campaign. I have organised our EGM for next Monday 23rd at 7pm in Sandy's. I have done a few other things over the summer, such as working on a website, coming up with ideas for events and to increase engagement.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Improve awareness of the 3 charities - The Yard Fife, CALM, Women for Women - I am organising a training day for the whole of USACC to learn more about the charities so they can better promote them. I have met with all my subcommittee heads to highlight the importance of raising awareness for charities and asked them to ensure they do this in all marketing and where possible, to link them into their events. I have arranged or will arrange meetings with our 3 charities to talk about ways they can be involved and to have specific events for them. I have created a uniform cover photo for RAG Week, Race2 and the Charities Campaign Facebook pages to show which charities we are supporting at all times during the year, when not promoting something else (CATWALK have separate marketing procedures). We have requested and received promotional materials from each of our three charities, some of which we used at the Fresher's Fayre and which we will use throughout the year.

Increase number of students who nominate charities - This will be more applicable in March/April time - in the meantime, I am trying to highlight that our charities are student-chosen and which charities we are supporting so that students are aware that we have official charities in the first place. I am building a website which among other things, will make the nomination process clearer.

Increase opportunities for students to get involved in charitable giving - I have been heavily promoting my office hours on Tuesdays 3-5pm in Main Bar as a way for individuals to get started in charitable giving and have scheduled posts weekly to continue raising awareness of these - I have already had one external student come and speak to me during these, thanks to Facebook promotion. Our EGM is next Monday (23rd) 7pm in Sandy's, and will provide an opportunity for students to get involved, especially First Years through the creation of a 'Fresher's Rep' position on RAG, and through the 'Halls Coordinator' position now available on our Exec committee. I have decided to create a general 'Volunteer Pool' for students who don't want to commit as much time but still want to get involved. We are aiming for Race2 to reach capacity, which will allow more students exposure to charitable giving and are looking at different dates for CATWALK to similarly increase exposure.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Have spoken to all charities and create specific events for them, or ways they will get involved. More detailed planning of the Training Day and how we can make it an annual event. Have some events set in stone. Continued support of my subcommittees to make sure they reach their full potential.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

I am here to support individual students, groups, sports clubs and societies raise money for the causes they care about. We raise over £100,000 every year for over 40 different charities that

students choose, including our 3 nominated charities and I would love to increase this amount and reach out to anyone who has ever wanted to donate or fundraise for charity in some way, so that everyone's ideas are able to happen, and the causes students care about continue to be represented. Students can get involved in a number of ways: FOR THOSE WITH LOTS OF TIME TO GIVE, Run for a position on one of our committees at our EGM next Monday; FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE INVOLVED EVERY SO OFTEN, Sign-up to be a volunteer for one-off events (such as cloakrooms, bake sales, box office etc.); FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITHIN A GIVEN TIMEFRAME, Apply to be on the UK Safety Team for Race2 when applications open later this semester, or apply to be a dresser for CATWALK when applications open in Semester 2, FOR THE FASHION-FOCUSED, Audition to be a model for CATWALK on Saturday & Sunday 28th/29th (week 2); FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO PUT ON AN EVENT, Email us to find out how our events team can help you put on an event or collaborate with your society/sports club/student group; FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN, Come and chat to us in our office hours 3-5pm on Tuesdays; FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT attend our events, race in our hitchhike, donate money to our collection tins in the Union!

SSC Debates Officer – Toni Valencia

"What have I done since my last report?"

Over the summer, I have been working with the UDS Board of Ten to ensure the smooth running of the society. With the committee, I have been planning to ensure that produce high quality public debates for the academic year and quality debate training. I have written multiple documents to alter the UDS Constitution to ensure that it is up to date to current running process of the society and to make the society overall more accessible to a large population of university students. We are also looking for suggestions for the second semester's public debates and possible collaborations.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

In my manifesto, I promised Access to my 5S Solutions: Access to Speakers, Skills, Socials, Sponsorship and Support. For speakers, we have a great line up of high quality speakers for the term. For example, our first public debate of the semester featured Members of Parliament. With regards to socials, I have implemented non-alcoholic options at the Wine and Cheese reception prior to the debate as well as an non-alcoholic option for the prize of the "Best Floor Speech." Turnouts at our events have been quite high. I am also in the progress of implementing a UDS Bursary Scheme, which has been approved by the UDS Board of Ten and awaiting approval from Council members to implement in the UDS Constitution. As promised in my manifesto, this bursary scheme will subsidise costs for attending both local and international level competitions for students from low-income families. I am also working with the UDS Treasurer to finalise external sponsorship as well as an UDS Alumni crowd-funding scheme. Further, I hope to ensure that a diverse range of speakers are consistently there through a change in our constitution as promised in my manifesto.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

I'm currently working with the UDS Socials Secretary to create more non-alcoholic events throughout the academic year as well as inquire what events active members would like through the Casual St. Andrews Debating Facebook Page.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By the next report, I hope to have at least one non-alcoholic social event as well as implement the bursary scheme. I also hope to have finalised the topics for second semester debates and society collaborations.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

The Union Debating Society is one of the subcommittees of the Union. As such, it is a society which has all of our events free and every matriculated student is automatically a member. Therefore, the changes we are making in the UDS will ensure that we reach out to a large group of students and make our events much more accessible. Anyone can get involved in our events! We have competitive training sessions on Wednesday at 2pm in the Large Rehearsal Room. We also have public debates on Thursdays and sometimes Wednesday evenings at Lower Parliament Hall with doors opening at 7:30 pm. In Week 2, we are hosting a Disabilities Panel Discussion Q&A on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at Booth Lecture Theatre in the Medical Building. On Thursday, September 26, we are hosting a Pub Crawl! More details on these events in our Facebook page!

SSC Design Team Convenor – Edward Spencer

Design Team had its Give it a go session on Thursday, this was very well attended to the point that we ran out of computers and had to rotate people on the computers. The EGM was held on Friday and we filled all of the positions on the committee other than training officer and photography officer and will continue to look for people to fill these roles. During the holidays we concluded 17 projects and we currently have another 17 under management.

During the next week I will be meeting with all of the different sub-groups of Design Team for individual meetings on expectations what they need from us. We will also be discussing plans with the respective teams for the year. I will also be arranging initial systems and basics training for all design volunteers and design focused committee members. We will also be considering due to the large growth in the number of projects that we are completing a change to the Design Team structure to cope with this as well as other changes to the Constitution to ensure the efficient running of the committee.

Design team is continuing to promote creativity and promotion with the student body and beyond, providing training and opportunities for students. Training dates will be sent out very soon via email and Facebook and student are able to join as design volunteers by contacting sadt@st-andrews.ac.uk

SSC Arts Festival Convenor – Holly Scrivener

What have I done since my last report?

We've been working on recruiting new team members – we had 150 people sign up to the mailing list at Fresher's Fair and are currently going through our subcommittee interview process. We hope to have the full committee in place by next Friday, so that we can really start planning the festival properly.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

To have a full committee, to have solid plans for programming timetable, to have arrangements for our semester one event firmly in place.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

This year one of my main aims for the festival is to look at sustainability and creative collaboration – hoping to encourage more scientific societies such as Astrosoc etc to get involved and put on events. Also hoping to have workshops on upcycling and sustainability, such as a clothes upcycling workshop etc – helping students unleash creativity and be more conscious of consumerism.

We're going to be holding an open forum for event applications in Week 3 to give people a chance to learn more about how to put on an event.

SSC Member without Portfolio – Gavin Sandford – Report submitted late, reason given and accepted

Over the summer I have done some work towards creating a weekly calendar to displayed in the Union, altering students to all of the events that are put on by the Association every week. A template has been created, along with a tool to create an image automatically. Everyone was busy over Freshers week, but hopefully this is something that will come to fruition in the coming weeks. I have also started work on a tool to create updates after a councils meeting that can be posted to Facebook (previously this has been done manually, and never looked that great).

Working with Jamie Rodney, an application has been sent in to STAR to get the ball rolling on a weekly radio show where we plan to interview members of the Student's Association and update students about what has been going on.

I've also spent lots of time at Freshers, Sports, and Volunteering Fayres over Freshers Week handing out stickers, bottles, maps, calendars, and leaflets to new students, letting them know more about what the union does. I also got the Facebook page cover photo updated, so that it now shows all (most) of the new councillors for 2019 – 2020!

Way back at the end of last semester I tidied and reshuffled the SSC / SRC Councils office on the top floor of the Union. It got a bit messed up again in Freshers, but hopefully we can get it cleaned up again so that councillors have a place to work and hold meetings. I also want to put a list up in the window with contact information of all the councillors so that students know who to email about with any questions.

By next week I hope to have had a meeting with Design & Marketing and have a target date for rolling out the weekly calendar around the Union screens. Also we should know more about the status of the potential radio show and start planning that.

SSC ENTS Convenor – Paul Lancaster

"What have I done since my last report?"

Organised and ran freshers week, formed a new ents committee, organised weekly ents and DJ training.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

No manifesto as non-elected position - main goals this year are:

- Allow the smooth introduction of the new paid full-time position
- Revive ents publicity to help with recruitment and image (within and without industry)
- Establish and maintain a solid base of Ents to put on the many events we do each year and in future years

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

See above

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Continue to coordinate with union staff as to how the new paid full-time tech position will integrate with our existing work.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Every event: society, sub com, external body or university organised within the union commercial spaces is seen by the ents convener and results in the ents crew organising tech/equipment/logistics requirements for up to 200 events/year. Our work supports all these groups by putting on their events.

We're always really keen for more volunteers, we have crew meetings every Wednesday at 5 pm in the meeting room (where you sign up to help out) followed by training at 5:30 pm in the stage. If you're interested then just come along or email me at ents@st-andrews.ac.uk!

SSC Performing Arts Officer – Manaal Mahjoub

In April, the 2019-2020 Mermaids Committee was decided, with only one position currently empty (Fringe Representative, to be co-opted on Wednesday in our meeting). We then had our proposal meeting where we passed 6 shows for this semester, all of which had their auditions in Week 1. Freshers' Week was a huge success and my committee and I are currently in the process of planning the Freshers Drama Festival, to be held in Week 10. Plans for Christmas Ball have also begun and applications for the Exec Committee close Tuesday night at 10, so everyone interested in applying please do so! I will be reaching out to the presidents of all of our affiliate societies and I am aiming to have the first Presidents Forum by next report, to make sure they are all getting on okay. This is a very important time of year for performing arts in St Andrews, as this is when there are the most opportunities to get involved. Things like the Freshers' Drama Festival and Christmas Ball are fantastic ways for students to unleash their creativity, but also gain experience in planning that they have never had before. Get involved by going to our Facebook page and seeing all our events, and by signing up to our weekly 'Mermail'.

SSC Societies Officer – Markus Lee – No report submitted

SSC Volunteering Officer – Lisa-Marie Husby

"What have I done since my last report?"

SVS have a new and very keen committee in place. We had our first social and 'meet the committee' event during Fresher's Week that was a huge success. Applications to volunteer this semester are now open and is going very well. Applications close this coming Wednesday. We had our first committee meeting this past Monday and at the moment we are just trying to get everything set up and ready for a successful year.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By next report we hope to have finished training all new volunteers and have all projects up and running. We also want to make SVS more visible to students and we have started a process of re-branding. We are going to make a new logo and webpage and we will set up a committee within SVS that will be in charge of the process. We also will focus on promoting SVS more in social media etc. and make it easier for students to understand what we do and how to get involved.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

SVS let students volunteer and help people and projects in and around St Andrews. We have different projects areas ranging from volunteering with animals to the elderly. This is a great way to give back to the community around you and many of our volunteers report that volunteering has been great for their mental health. People can get involved by applying to be a volunteer on our webpage yoursvs.org.uk.

SSC Postgraduate Officer – Blake Purchase – Report Submitted Late without reason

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report I have undergone the transition into my position fully, having been shadowing my predecessor for much of the Spring and early Summer. I have steered the committee's efforts into successfully devising and delivering the postgraduate programme for freshers week, which was well received. As part of devising this semester's calendar, I have been making initial efforts in terms of securing a venue for the Winter Graduation Ball. In the context of the University's renovations, the Old Course hotel is looking like the most likely outcome. Will be recruiting next week at our EGM.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Seeking to ensure we have as many tickets for the ball as possible, whilst avoiding a situation of undersell.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

Progress has been strong, some thinking to be done on how to sort a positive outcome for the ball.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Hoping to have secured a venue for the Ball and had initial conversations with key stakeholders across St Leonard's College and the University more broadly. Hope to have agreed an outcome for a St Leonard's Dinner.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

It matters to students, both past and present, because they will be the prime beneficiaries of these efforts.

SRC Accommodation Officer – N/A

SRC Member for First Years – Polina Sevastyanova

What have I done since my last report?

- introduced myself on class of 2023

- posted some useful things about student life in the run up to fresher's week that people found very helpful
- organised all the subject/interest/places chats, created chats for big clubs/societies that people seemed interested in, and added committee members to them. Everyone seems very nice and excited to be here which is very good
- answered many many many questions (and made helpful posts accordingly)
- filmed hall tours
- volunteered at freshers' week and talked to as many freshers as I could (lots of chaotic energy)

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Hall tours: Filmed

Connecting societies to freshers before term: done

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Not by next report, but I'd like to do some undercover reviews of various society events, help improve the union societies page, and making a complete fresher guide of applying to St Andrews to starting university. I'll have a think about how I'll do this and come up with a plan by next report.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Freshers are less confused, and hopefully feel more welcome and excited to be here, which is great!

SRC Member for Gender Equality – Leonor Capelier – No report submitted

SRC Member for Racial Equality – Zoe Ruki

What have I done since my last report?

I have spoken to the Principal about a diversity initiative to increase the diversity of applications received by the University. Starting with a partnership with my secondary school, I'm hoping this will be open to more students throughout the year.

This year I will be organising the first St Andrews Multicultural Week, it will be held during Week 8 which is the week beginning 4th November. I have starting organising four events for that week in collaboration with cultural societies.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I have made great process on my manifesto by introducing St Andrews Multicultural Week in place of Pangea. The decision to change the name was mostly due to the poor reputation of Pangea.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have a list of cultural societies that are definitely helping with St Andrews Multicultural Week and what they are willing to do.

I will have spoken to the Head of Admissions to establish a relationship between the University and my school.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

What I'm doing matters to students because it helps educate them on other societies and reduces ignorance towards other cultures. It allows students to express and celebrate their cultures as well. I am collaborating with student societies for the events of this week and all students are welcome to attend.

SRC Member for Students with Disabilities – Emily Muller

"What have I done since my last report?"

I have hosted a meet-up for disabled students, worked with Anna-Ruth to produce condensed print-outs of her guide for disabled students (distributed at the freshers' fayre and on the rack of pamphlets), and begun drafting a disabilities subcommittee motion.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I have attempted to engage disabled students and worked with them to achieve and explore measures to help their subgroups best experience union life!

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

While I find I often do not make as much progress as I would like to, I find that I am doing good work given my physical constraints. The best part of the beginning of this year has been hearing all of the ideas my fellow disabled students have and working to implement them! Nothing about us without us...

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I would like to get further on my disabilities subcommittee constitution.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved? (As above)"

It matters because more representation helps all of us! Please get involved by dropping me an email with any ideas or suggestions...particularly things that you believe would help people with your particular disability. The more voices I can hear from and engage with the better.

SRC Member for Student Health – Emma Rose Walsh

What have I done since my last report?

A lot of organizational things and planning with Flora over summer. Attempting again to make contact with Sexual Health Fife. Also helping the Person Safety Rep begin work on Take Care week.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I'm making contact with representatives for Nightline and Peer Support to see how we can heighten their visibility. I'm also e-mailing members of Student Services to see if it's possible to streamline to counseling process and make it more accessible.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Hopefully I will have heard back from Sexual Health Fife about the possibility of a Clinic in the Union.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Increasing their options for support and accessibility to various health related needs.

SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation – Britt McArdle

Over the summer I have been continuing to brainstorm ways that I would like to go about helping students from WAAP backgrounds, and working out what I would like to prioritise. For now, my main focus is on outreach schemes and promoting inclusivity for current students (as I'll discuss further below).

Since returning to St Andrews I have attended Wellbeing and Equal Opportunities meetings, as well as helping with the Wellbeing and TeaSoc Afternoon Tea event. I will also be attending a meeting this coming Sunday regarding the Universal Credit campaign.

I also met with the President of Computer Science about a widening access initiative he would like to work on, and have given him advice, and directed him to the appropriate people within admissions to see whether this is something that could be brought into one of their existing schemes. I will follow up with him shortly and report back on this.

Within the societies I am a part of, I have been continually developing ways to engage with and encourage participation from people who may find it difficult to attend society events for various reasons, as well as to listen to their opinions and concerns about improving their experience overall within the union. The events we've hosted to date have been really well attended - the TeaSoc and Wellbeing collab, for example, was really successful, and I'd like to discuss with the Wellbeing committee about doing a similar event in the near future.

By next week, I'm planning on arranging a meeting with Admissions to discuss various ideas I have about encouraging inclusivity within visiting days for people from WAAP backgrounds, as well as my ideas about increasing support for students who've attended WP summer schools.

I would also like to meet with CAPOD to discuss ways to open up some kind of forum/online group (separate from social media) for WAAP students (if anyone has any techy advice in this respect please let me know!)

One thing I mentioned at the Wellbeing meeting is my intention to run a discussion group kind of event where people who are struggling with certain aspects of St Andrews, or feel that they are out of place, can come and chat, voice their concerns, and meet new people. If anyone is keen to be involved with this please let me know - if possible, I would love to have peer-support, equal opps and wellbeing involved.

I'm always available to contact via email (bs200) or Facebook (Britt McArdle) if anyone has any ideas, would like to collaborate on any events, or can offer any suggestions for things I can do to make their experience at St Andrews better in any way (especially for but not limited to students from WAAP backgrounds).

Arts and Divinity Faculty President – Sophia Rommel

What have I done since my last report?

I have been working on numerous things, including: planning a large, three-day event on veganism, updating tutor pay policy, helping Amy to run the class representative elections portal, running the ID modules' class representative elections with Dennis, and helping the new School Presidents adapt to their leadership roles (and Amy, Dennis, and I have organised a social (dinner) for the new School Presidents).

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Regarding events (especially related to climate change and the environment): Over the summer, I planned a three day lecture series on veganism and ethics (also including an opening talk, discussion panel, and interviews with students) to be held by lecturer, filmmaker, and animal rights activist Ed Winters, alongside Effective Altruism and the Philosophy Society. This event was originally planned for the 26-28th of September, and had received 200 pounds worth of EDF funding. Unfortunately, Ed had to cancel, so we have rescheduled the event for sometime in early 2020.

A new PGR tutor position has been added to the class rep positions for the School of Philosophy. Recently, I met with a (former) Philosophy PGR class representative to discuss creating such a position for all (Arts) Schools. Such a reform would enable more unified work towards updating tutor pay policy (another aspect of my manifesto).

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have run part of the School Presidents' training session (and have completed my own training, too) and helped them start their many exciting new projects. Also, I hope to have met with the aforementioned PGR representative to discuss the new position(s) further and perhaps produce a proposal. I would like to discuss this above matter further with Dennis to gauge the Sci/Med postgraduate situation. Moreover, I will attend the first Academic Council meeting of the academic year on September 25th.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

What I do is primarily a response to my manifesto and - crucially - students' opinions, comments, and suggestions. For example, the event on evganism is something which is (due to the delay) still being planned and students sitting on societies such as VegSoc, PhilSoc, Effective Alturism, and so forth, as well as School Presidents, can easily get involved by messaging me. We would appreciate as many co-hosts as possible, especially to help publicise the event. Moreover, my work on tutor pay is rather important for (especially the Arts') postgraduate students and I encourage keen postgraduates in the Arts to contact me. Lastly, I hope to see many students putting themselves forward in the class rep elections!

Science and Medicine Faculty President – Dennis Goodtzov

Since last report: run elections for ID4001 with Sophia, organised elections for ID1003/2003 for this week. Also discussed possibility of implementing a 'Tutor rep position' which will have more updates by Tuesday hopefully. My abilities have been limited due to having surgery last week so unfortunately that's it for now.

Manifesto: There is now a wellbeing rep in physics thanks to last year's president, over the next few weeks I'll be aiming to do the same for all SciMed schools without a wellbeing rep.

By next report: hopefully regain use of left hand. Also working on what I mentioned above. Make a decision on a 'tutor rep' with Sophia. Also encourage more students to speak with the wellbeing rep.

Why it matters: students should hopefully see some benefit for their academics as well as their mental health.

SRC Postgraduate Academic Convenor – Emma Whitefield – No report submitted

SRC Postgraduate Development Officer – Ana Maria Neferu

What have I done since my last report?

I chaired 2 monthly PG Development Meetings, the next one is the day of this Joint Council. I successfully invited representatives from the Careers Centre and the Library to join the PG Development Group.

I ran a short survey among the postgrad community to see what problems they want me to address. I received 64 responses. Here are some results that stood out to me:

- 57.8% of responders said they hadn't heard of my role prior to the survey and 20.3% responders were not sure. In addition, some responses asked for aspects already available, which is proof to me that postgrads are not always aware of the resources they have access to.
- This free response summarizes some of the recurring themes: "Community building. The PG Society is a very nice idea but does not work for the HUGE group they serve. There needs to be much more frequent and much more targeted events. Do not assume that departments are doing anything at all to build communities or make connections: unfortunately for many it is simply not the case. Community building and social events will vastly improve PG students' mental health, as many students are completely and utterly isolated. I have been campaigning/lobbying for this for four years in various departments/sections of the university; it would be wonderful if you were the person to take the problem seriously."
- Some other recurring themes are a lack of adequate desk/working space, difficulties in finding accommodation in general and affordable options, addressing the needs of mature, commuting, and distance learning postgrads, and many University services having reduced hours or closing over the summer when for postgrads the summer is business as usual.
- At the end of last year, my predecessor collaborated with the Proctor's Office in running a PGR survey and more recently a PGT survey. I asked for the PGR survey results; the PGT results are not ready to my knowledge.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

My pseudo-manifesto centred around improved communication with postgraduates because they have access to many resources at St. Andrews but are often not aware of them. Soon afterwards I set myself the second yearly goal of continuing my predecessor's work on mental health and disability issues, particularly by doing all I can to ensure that the University strategy on mental health and diversity is actually applied in practice where postgraduate matters are concerned.

I did not make specific progress on these yet, except to note from the survey results that these are indeed issues relevant to current postgrads.

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

When I set my yearly goals I hadn't consulted other postgrads, so then I thought about creating the survey above to see what more postgrads find important instead of just me.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Now that I gathered plenty of “raw data” from my survey and the proctors office survey, and having had a more realistic feel about what my position entails, I plan to create a more realistic action plan for the academic year.

Why does what i’m doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

I am trying to improve the experience of postgraduate students. They can get involved by continuing to share their needs with me and giving me feedback of how effectively I am working to address them.

SRC Member without Portfolio – Rowan Wishart

"What have I done since my last report?

Booked Bibi’s for Christmas Dinner. Liased with Jack and Gavin re: freshers week stalls and merchandise.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

N/A

If you’ve made progress, great, if you haven’t, explain why and what you’re doing instead.

Since I had no manifesto I’ve been thinking of ways to get the word about councils out to more people. I’ve also got a good few plans for socials coming up, which Gav and I have yet to discuss.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Get more people engaging with councils via Facebook and have a social or two in the works.

Why does what i’m doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

While they can’t really get involved with my job, it’s important I’m a friendly face for people outwith councils. By keeping the twitter and Facebook updated I’m hoping to keep people informed.

Principal Ambassador

"What have I done since my last report?

Over summer the 6 of us on the Principal Ambassador Team have:

1. Opened Talk & Tour work to Junior Ambassadors
2. Changed the University Hall Visiting day route to include Whitehorn
3. Made clear to all ambassadors that they are able to work outwith their shifts on the rota on a Voluntary basis
4. Implemented a new time sheeting system
5. Recruited and trained 161 new ambassadors in group sessions tours and halls, trained 228 returning ambassadors in group sessions
6. Changed the tour route on Visiting Days to ensure that tours are kept to 30 minutes
7. Created a new webpage for ambassadors
8. Held individual meetings with ambassadors who had concerns about different aspects of the scheme

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

N/A

If you've made progress, great, if you haven't, explain why and what you're doing instead.

N/A

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Survive the first Visiting Day tomorrow!

Continue organising situational training with all ambassadors to take place in week 4

Run WA&P training

Establish a social committee

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

As per the numbers above, the work we are doing is important because:

1. This gives more Ambassadors work opportunities outwith Visiting Days
2. Prospective students can get a better idea of the shared living room environment without having to go to DRA on a Visiting Day
3. This gives better opportunity to those who are keen to work more to progress to Junior/Senior/Principal Team roles
4. This replaces the previous 3 different methods of recording hours, to streamline the process for Ambassadors. It makes it easier for us to track how much work each ambassador has done to make promotion decisions, and ensures that work is fairly distributed across the scheme. Furthermore, Ambassadors can give feedback to the Principal Team on every bit of work they do. This is important to make sure that Ambassadors are happy in their job, and that we can easily deal with any difficult situations they encounter when they are working.
5. We are confident that our new Ambassadors are suitably ready to work on the Visiting Day tomorrow.
6. This keeps the number of guests on every tour to a more manageable number by increasing the number of tours.
7. This provides Ambassadors with a place where they can access all the training documents they need.
8. This has given us the chance to understand what our goals for the year ahead should be.

How can students get involved:

Unfortunately applications for this semester are now closed. If anyone wants to get involved, apply in semester 2!

Rectors Assessor

Hello all! That's right, I'm still here. Last week, the President, DoEd, Rector, and I attended the University Court Away Day, where we discussed implementing the University Strategy for 2018-2023. Since the end of last semester, I've been working with the president on some of our projects from last year, including Marks Out Of Tenancy, Universal Credit, and the implementation of the Motion to Address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence from last councils. I'm continuing to work with the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence working group on the latter, and working with Jamie and others on the former two. As always, if anyone has any particular projects they want to collaborate on or make the Rector aware of, feel free to email me at rector@!

Motions

J 1-19 Motion on Removing People from Subcommittee Committee's

Councils notes

1. Complaints by Councillors about inactive subcommittee committee members have been a long-lasting issue for the students association.
2. Some Subcommittee committees already have mechanisms for removing inactive members, while others do not.
3. Among Subcommittees that do have mechanisms for removing members, there is a wide degree of variance on how these mechanisms work.

Believes

1. That being a committee member of a Subcommittee committee of the Student's Association is a privilege, and comes with responsibilities to perform one's duties adequately.
2. That there need to be clear consequences for those who fail to uphold these responsibilities.
3. Mechanisms for removing subcommittee committee members need to be consistent across all Subcommittees.
4. Any mechanism for removing subcommittee committee members should give them an opportunity to improve before moving to remove them.
5. All members removed from committees should have the right to appeal if they are dissatisfied with the decision to remove them.

Resolves

To report the following amendments to the Laws of the Association to SAB with the recommendation that the same do pass:

1. To add to Chapter Six of the Laws a section on "Removing subcommittee committee members" and update accordingly
2. To grant Councillors the ability to remove members of subcommittee committees if they fail to perform their duties as codified in the constitution, or miss two or more meetings without adequate reason.
3. That Councillors can only remove subcommittee committee members after a warning has been given, and after consultation with their Sabbatical line manager.
4. That any subcommittee committee member removed by shall have the right to appeal to the Student's Association Executive, who will make the final decision regarding their membership

Appendix A

Chapter Six: Regulations Governing Officers and Committees

1. Officers

1.1. All Association, SRC and SSC Officers and Conveners shall present full written reports on their

term of office at the Annual General Meeting and shall give regular interim reports to the appropriate bodies.

1.1.1. Any officer who fails to submit a report to the Annual General Meeting without a reason acceptable to the committee members shall immediately cease to be a member.

1.2. All Officers shall be responsible for coordinating meetings of their subcommittees, including deciding a meeting schedule, and preparing and distributing agendas and motions.

1.3. All Officers shall attend meetings with their sabbatical teams and keep their sabbatical line managers informed of all activities.

1.4. All Officers shall ensure that minutes are taken at their subcommittee meetings, and these minutes are given to the General Office in time to be included in the minutes of the next SRC/SSC meeting.

1.4.1. A copy of the minutes must also be given to the relevant chair within three working days of the meeting taking place.

1.4.2. Minutes must also be filed in the General Office and placed online.

1.5. A copy of the agenda must be given to the Association Chair as soon as it is available. **1.6.** All Officers shall ensure that the committee they convene is fulfilling its remit.

2. Committees

2.1. All committees shall keep and store adequate minutes and shall normally require seven days written notice of meetings.

2.2. The quorum shall be three-fifths of the directly elected membership.

2.3. Committees shall meet on a cycle coordinated by the SAEC.

2.4. Committees shall be called by:

2.4.1. Their Officer (who shall also be their convener)

2.4.2. By the convenor at the request of one-third of the members of the committee.

2.5. All committees shall follow the Association Standing Orders and Policies.

Appendix B

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2.3.Committees shall meet on a cycle coordinated by the SAEC.

2.4.Committees shall be called by:

2.4.1.Their Officer (who shall also be their convener)

2.4.2.By the convenor at the request of one-third of the members of the committee.

2.5.All committees shall follow the Association Standing Orders and Policies.

2.6 Officers and convenors shall have the right, following a warning and consultation with their Sabbatical line manager, to remove committee members who miss two meetings without adequate explanation, or who fail to fulfil their constitutional duties.

2.6.1 Any subcommittee committee member removed from a subcommittee will have the right to appeal to the students association executive, who will make the final decision over their committee membership.

Proposed: Jamie Rodney, President of the Student's Association

Seconded: Mika Schmeling, Association Director of Events and Services

S. Motion to Include Bursary Scheme to the Union Debating Society (UDS) Constitution

Owner: Toni Valencia

In Effect From: Immediately

Review Date: September 24, 2019

Proposer

Toni Valencia – SSC Debates Officer

Seconders

Tom Groves - SSC Broadcasting Officer

Gavin Sandford - SSC Member Without Portfolio

Markus Lee - SSC Societies Officer

It is noted that:

1. The Union Debating Society currently has no bursary scheme to support transportation costs around the UK and international competitions.
2. The University of St. Andrews has a wide diversity of students, even in socio-economic backgrounds.
3. Transportation to competitions across the UK almost every weekend is quite expensive.
4. Worlds University Debating Championships (WUDC) and European University Debating Championships (EUDC) in the next coming years will be in very far locations, making flight costs expensive. For example, WUDC will be in Thailand in 2020 and South Korea in 2021. EUDC will be in Kazakhstan in 2020.
5. The Union Debating Society already covers registration fees and accommodation for all debaters in a competition. Therefore, we will only need a bursary scheme to cover transportation costs.

It is believed that:

1. The Union Debating Society is a subcommittee of the Union and therefore should cater to as many students in the university as possible.
2. Some students may not be willing to even trial because of the unavailability of a bursary scheme for transportation costs. This is especially true as it is a requirement that anyone who trials to represent the university at WUDC and EUDC must be willing and able to pay for their transportation costs.

It is resolved to:

1. Include the following as Section 11 to Chapter 14 of the Laws of the Association:

11. Bursary Scheme and Financial Support

11.1 The Union Debating Society is dedicated to ensuring that all students interested, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, will be able to participate in at least one debate competition in the coming year. As such, the President and the Treasurer should ensure that a bursary scheme is accessible to students coming from low-income backgrounds so that they may be given the opportunity to participate in debate competitions. The process should be made entirely confidential.

11.2 There will be two forms of bursary schemes: the local competition schemes and the international competition scheme. The requirements, application process and other details

of the bursary scheme should be followed as outlined in “The Union Debating Society (UDS) Bursary Scheme” document.

11.3 Trials process and selection of representatives to participate in a debate competition are made entirely separately from the bursary scheme application process. As such, a student may be able to trial for a speaker or judge spot without prior knowledge of their acceptance to the bursary scheme.

Note: This is the UDS Bursary Scheme Document
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OT0Afq28R-VxOq-FIYVmJ67Rn3f63mgKuyuSKf1rZLk/edit?usp=sharing>

S. Motion to Diversify Guest Speakers at Public Debates hosted by the Union Debating Society (UDS)

Owner: Toni Valencia

In Effect From: Immediately

Review Date: September 24, 2019

Proposer

Toni Valencia – SSC Debates Officer

Seconders

Tom Groves - SSC Broadcasting Officer

Gavin Sandford - SSC Member Without Portfolio

Markus Lee - SSC Societies Officer

It is noted that:

1. The Union Debating Society (UDS) has currently been facing issues regarding ensuring that a wide array of speakers are represented in each public debate
2. The current constitution only ensures that a diversity of genders should be represented.

It is believed that:

1. A diverse set of speakers regarding experience and background is ideal to ensure as many viewpoints are considered in every public debate.
2. The UDS should strive to ensure as many viewpoints are represented in each event.

It is resolved to:

1. Update Chapter 14, Section 10 of the Laws to the following:

10. Representation in Public Debates

10.1. Throughout the course of the academic year, there must be an extensive attempt to have a diverse spread of **representation** of **minority groups** as official guest speakers. This applies unless the Convenor and **Internal Secretary(ies)** have both exhaustively invited a

varied range of speakers without success, and if there has been no success in exhaustively seeking out a variety of willing university students or debaters.

S. Motion to Alter Description of Roles of UDS Board of Ten

Owner: Toni Valencia

In Effect From: Immediately

Review Date: September 24, 2019

Proposer

Toni Valencia – SSC Debates Officer

Seconders

Tom Groves - SSC Broadcasting Officer

Gavin Sandford - SSC Member Without Portfolio

Markus Lee - SSC Societies Officer

It is noted that:

1. The Union Debating Society appoints their Treasurer through an interview process with currently a four-person panel: the outgoing president, the incoming president, the outgoing treasurer and the outgoing DoSDA.
2. The Fresher's Representative is co-opted by the current Board of Ten Members.
3. The past two years of co-opting a Fresher's Representative resulted in the Fresher's Representative quitting before the end of their term.
4. The "Internal Secretary" is the current title of committee members tasked with finding speakers.
5. Job-sharing positions on the UDS Board of Ten are becoming more common. However, each position that is shared between two people are only given one vote.

It is believed that:

1. In the event that the outgoing Treasurer is re-applying for the position, then they should not be on the panel. Instead, the incoming DoSDA should be added to the panel.
2. Logistically, it would be easier to remain with only four people on the panel to appoint the Treasurer to ensure everyone can attend. Further, it would reduce any intimidation as it would be a panel of four instead of five.
3. Co-opting a Fresher's Representative is unrepresentative of the views of the cohort of first year debaters.
4. The Fresher's Representative should be representative of the first year debaters at the UDS and therefore should be elected by first year debaters.
5. Internal Secretary is a confusing title and does not encompass the meaning of the role. "Speakers Secretary" is a title that represents the position much more clearly.

6. Every member of the Board of Ten should be entitled to their own respective vote as people sharing the same position may not come to an agreement on a certain issue.

It is resolved to:

1. Update Chapter 14, Section 3.2.10 of the Laws to the following:

3.2.10. The Fresher's Representative (non-voting member) shall be responsible for the representation of all first year debaters which includes any person who has not actively competed or participated within the society for more than a year. They will also co-head a Freshers' subcommittee alongside the Treasurer, responsible for fund-raising and organising social activities explicitly for first year debaters, refreshers and other activities. Moreover, they shall assist the Convenor and Deputy Convenor in the smooth-running of the society. The election will take place during the first semester of each academic year and not during the Annual General LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION 64 Meeting (AGM). **Only first year debaters and Board of Ten members of that academic year will be allowed to vote in this election which will take the same process as an Emergency General Meeting (EGM) as outlined in Section 5 of the LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION. This election should be advertised at least 5 days in advance to all members of the society. First year university debaters are those that are involved in debating for less than a calendar year since their first training session.**

5.7. The Treasurer will be appointed one week prior to the AGM based on an application and interview, with the panel consisting of the outgoing president, the incoming president, the outgoing treasurer and the outgoing DoSDA. **In the event that the outgoing treasurer is re-applying for the position, the outgoing treasurer's panel spot will be replaced by the incoming DoSDA.**

2. Update all "Internal Secretary" titles in Chapter 14 of the Laws of the Association to "Speakers Secretary"

3. Update Section 3 of Chapter 14 N.B. to the following:

N.B. All officers must read and sign a copy of the Constitution on being elected to their position.

N.B. Officers elected at the AGM may be elected as a job-share. **All members elected during the AGM into the Board of Ten will be allocated one vote.**