



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

AGENDA

Tuesday, 13th September 2016 – Large Rehearsal Room - 6pm

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers**
 - 3.1. Report of the Athletic Union President
 - 3.2. Report of the Association President
 - 3.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
 - 3.4. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities
 - 3.5. Report of the Association Director of Representation
- 4. New General Joint Business**
- 5. New General SSC Business**
 - 5.1. Co-option of SSC Postgraduate Officer
 - 5.2. Nominee to Association Discipline Committee Elections
 - 5.3. S.16-4 A Motion to Provide for the Co-option of the SSC Member without Portfolio
- 6. New General SRC Business**
 - 6.1. R.16-3 A Motion to Recommend that the University of St Andrews Divests its Endowment Fund from Fossil Fuel Extraction Companies Within Three Years
- 7. Any Other Competent Business**

SRC AND SSC REPORTS

ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER

I investigated mentoring schemes over summer, and created a mentor and mentee application form.

I wrote a proposed budget for approval.

I ordered roller banners and pens for freshers fayre.

I designed a poster and leaflet to publicise the mentor scheme.

I attended a meeting between us, the University, and the Sports Association on the Alumni Festival.

I chaired my first subcommittee meeting of the semester, and organised meeting times and freshers fair schedules.

ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

I've met with Charlotte, Jack, Holly and Sam to discuss our Raisin strategy – this will be a joint campaign this year focussing on the family element and positives of Raisin rather than discouraging certain behaviours.

With my Town Liaison Officer we're looking into publishing a column in one of the local newspapers of student run events suitable for locals to attend.

I'm planning to meet with SSC subcommittee heads over the next few weeks to talk about ways their subcommittees can incorporate more of a community element in their activities.

ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

Fresher's Week:

Green Fair (5th Sept) went well - a total of 15 societies took part in the event and more than 500 people attended. The subcommittee will also be at the Fresher's Fair.

Ongoing projects:

Over the summer I have been working with CAPOD on creating an online workshop called 'Being a green employee' - this is due to launch in time for Green Week (W4). Green Week planning is under way and if any other subcommittee want to organise an event, please email crd5@ or mps5@. There will be 5 themes running throughout the week and the number of societies & organisations agreed to participate currently stands at 14.

Beach cleans will be organised monthly.

Campaigning for Divestment and working on creating an Environmental Policy for the Union are both under way.

Other Semester 1 events and projects:

A book reading is scheduled for W5 in Toppings & Co.

We are planning to run events during the European Week for Waste Reduction (19-27 Nov).

Campaigning for the University to join the World Community Grid is another potential project.

Working alongside the Sustainability Intern in creating a food survey which explores students' consumption habits.

Working with RBS and Oikos to launch a St Andrews branded reusable water bottle which will be sold alongside the Keep Cups.

Semester 2 events and projects:

Fairtrade Fortnight and an environmental debate are the 2 major events we'll be running in late February and early March.

ASSOCIATION LGBT OFFICER

The subcommittee has now been entirely rebranded, with new logos, new anonymous email branding, new merchandise, a new website, and an increased social media presence on snapchat, instgram, Facebook, Twitter. Please check it out and spread the word!

Our first event of the semester, a Freshers Picnic, was an absolute success. We had a huge turn out, and everyone had a thoroughly good time. It appears that our big publicity rebrand and push has been successful in driving up engagement. We've also been witnessing a huge rise in the number of interactions with our social media presence.

I was interviewed by a Pink Saltire documentary maker working with LGBT+ groups in Fife, and who is producing a film which will be released in mid-September; this will bring a nice spot of attention to our operations and the LGBT+ work that the Student's Association does.

Our event plans are secure for the rest of the semester, and we're looking forward to some big new happenings. Please do come along and help to promote events online! If you'd like to know more about our smaller operations, do check out our minutes which are published on our Facebook page, and on our website (www.saintslgbt.com), or ask me and I'll fill you in!

ASSOCIATION EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER

- First Meeting 08/09/16 (today). Second meeting will be on 15th, and then on a fortnightly basis thereafter.

- Proposing motion to executive committee to add secretary to committee.

- Each officer redoing strategic aims - deadline: 15th Sept.

- Corresponded with Donald over the summer and restarted the interfaith steering group. Had first meeting yesterday and all sounded very positive. The committee shall organise two events per semester - alongside a major initiative by the chair of divinity; 'year of interfaith dialogue' - running from the 23rd to 25th September. There's a special service on the 23rd September in St Salvators Chapel - ran by a Jesuit Professor from Harvard, Parl Hall, and the 'declaration of shared humanity' will be signed. Unfortunately the Pope couldn't make it (he hurt his leg apparently). Omar designed a lovely website: <http://www.yearofinterfaithdialogue.com/> - unfortunately as Equal Ops officer he ran an inter-faith essay competition, which people worked hard on, and have not been responded to. I'm in the process of chasing this up.

- Had a meeting with Hamila re: Pangea. Logistics haven't been 100% worked out, but the wheel are moving. More details in her report.

- Freshers Fayre on Sunday - we have a stall and I've designed leaflets - we'll also have a sign up capture sheet.
- Set up a google calendar of events.
- Organising two events myself this semester 1) Masculinity & Mental Health 2) Millennial Politics and the state of 'equality' in 2016. Planning on working with Ella, Catriona and Ben Lawrie on 1) and Effective Altruism movement and member's of the Social Anthropology, Phil and IR dept for 2)
- Made correspondence with Verity J Brown - the university court member for enterprise and engagement - she's going to come along to one of our meetings later in the semester.
- And I'm sure I'll have more after the meeting tonight.

SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

Here is the report for the SRC accommodation Officer since starting the role in May 2016 until the beginning of first semester in September 2016.

The motion to change the subcommittee structure has been submitted and a new committee of three other members (a renting, halls and communications representative) should be interviewed and appointed by the end of September 2016. Over the summer a senior students' Facebook group was created with the Dean's Court Senior Student recently joining. This group included the Saabs and the Charities Campaign Halls Officer and has seen consistent activity since its creation. Alongside this I also asked senior students what updates they would like to see on their Halls pages on the university website and updated them accordingly. The first Senior Student Forum is set to take place next week.

The PAVS scheme was publicised over Facebook with a good response however due to a lack of student volunteers with training Iain Cupples had to do a lot of the inspections himself. He and I will be meeting next week to discuss recruitment, training and publicity in preparation for the next round of the PAVS scheme.

I had a meeting with Ben, the Residential Business Services Director, the morning of Thursday 8th September and will be meeting with Catriona Wilson from CAPOD and with Penny Turnbull from Student Services next week to discuss how we can work together over the next year. The meeting of the Hall of Residence Committees working group has also been confirmed for Friday 7th October.

The first steps of the rebrand have been taken with Rachel Kinloch aware of my plans for the year and initial ideas drafted, however this has not been able to progress further without someone in charge of marketing for the subcommittee.

Emails have been sent to the major letting agents in St Andrews asking them about their system and release dates for properties in order to update the How to Rent Guide.

SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

I have been planning for Pangea over the summer and we are in our final phases. We just need to finalize our out of town speakers and then we will be on our way to start publicizing the events for the first week of November. I will be working with printing and design to help change out Pangea logo before we start publicizing. Apart from that, at the end of September I will be holding the first safe space and then in October I will host events to celebrate African history/ black history month. It will only be 1 academic event, a film screening and a safe space during that month as well however

I am yet to hear back from the ACS about a collaboration for one event during the month of October.

SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEAR

During Freshers move in weekend I went into several halls to meet and greet first years and their parents -- this was very successful and enjoyable. During the actual Freshers week I held a "Freshers Question Time" and "Freshers Town Tour". These were both poorly attended (sadly) but this was anticipated as many Freshers assimilate quite well during Freshers. Both events were advertised on Facebook, and the town tour was received well by those who attended. However, I feel that these were still necessary for me to hold during the week just in case there were any questions/anyone needed guidance around town.

One thing I would add is the way in which certain halls interacted with me -- because I didn't wear a jacket/merchandise stating I was the first year rep (which was sort of a blessing in disguise) I was able to see first hand how I was approached by a prospective hall committee. In some instances I thought the approach could have been less intimidating and more friendly -- I feel that Agnes Blackadder excelled in their organisation of move in day, but of course it depends entirely on the space and resources they have. Andrew Melville must also be appraised for the organisation of their events, as well as their advertising tactics.

Looking to the future, I would like to get the Careers Centre involved with advertising various opportunities directly to freshers, as well as getting societies to hold events directed by not exclusively for Freshers.

Overall, Freshers has been a very successful week for both Freshers and myself. I feel that this year has provided a good quality Freshers week, which has catered for every interest -- e.g. the swing band, Ceilidh etc were nice alternatives to heavier club nights.

SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Holding a coffee session on the 9/9/16 for students with disabilities to meet me and one of the advisors from careers. I have a meeting next week with a disabilities advisor from student services to talk about what kind of support she feels could be offered and how to reach students. I have done the logos and began branding and publicity for Introspect, taking place next semester week 3 and have already had a couple of submissions -- am finalising dates and budgets. Looking into doing a couple of workshops on things like relationships, that disabled students find particularly hard and are an issue in terms of safeguarding. Email correspondence with careers and guide dogs society about the possibility of therapy sessions for students.

SSC CHARITIES OFFICER

National Fundraising Awards: The University was short listed for two National Fundraising Awards—the RAG Team of the Year (Medium) and Local Impact and Community Awards. We won the Local Impact and Community Awards!

Charitable & Volunteering Fayre: Today (Thursday), was the Charitable Volunteering Fayre, and it was an utter success! There were around 50 different charities and societies involved.

Freshers Week Cloakroom: Our Exec Team has been pulling 10PM-3AM shifts every night during Freshers this week in order to endorse the Campaign! What's amazing is that Tony has agreed to give us 50-100% of the profits, and if it goes well, we may be able to be more involved with the Union Cloakroom in the future.

Inter-halls capture the flag: It was an absolute success! There were so many first years there, and it was absolutely amazing! Everyone left with smiles on their faces.

Hall Visits: We've visited most of the halls in St Andrews! We've had representatives of all of our subcommittees there, and we are hoping to gain interest.

First Exec Meeting of the Semester: We've had our first Exec meeting on Monday, and we went through all of our summer updates and Freshers Week Plans.

Masquerade Ball: Our Masquerade Carnival themed Ball is going to be in November—keep an eye out for it!

Race2: We are going to Prague! Our committee applications have also opened.

USACC EGM: Our EGM is in 2 weeks. We have a Meet the Committee Pub Crawl (that you should all come to!) to help recruit.

SSC EMPLOYABILITY OFFICER

Recently the Employability Committee has been working on several projects, and we look forward to more in the near future.

We are working with CAPOD and the Careers centre to put together an 'Employathon' event during the independent learning week this semester. Details are yet to be finalised, but it will involve student teams working over a period of several days to tackle various important issues or projects.

I have joined the newly formed Employability Strategy Working Group, headed by the Dean of Arts, to try to bring a student perspective to the university's strategy in this area.

We have begun working with the Careers Centre to plan the Employability Reps training that will take place in week 4.

We have also been discussing possible changes to the roles within our committee and will shortly be planning specific constitutional changes as a result.

SSC DESIGN TEAM CONVENER

Design Team attended the Fresher Fayre and collected names to add to the mailing list as well as to recruit new designers. We're currently looking at growing our base of expertise from not only design but also photography, in order to encompass a wider variety of marketing strategies for societies.

We will be hosting an AGM in the coming weeks in order to elect a new "Special Projects Coordinator" and will be filing a motion to expand our committee structure to include a "Photography Officer" in order to stick with our goal of expansion, as previously stated.

Finally, we will be planning a workshop specifically aimed at Publicity Officers of Union Societies so that they can learn more basic skills in Photoshop, as well as get comfortable asking the Design Team for help.

SSC MUSIC OFFICER

We have held one very successful freshers event so far – an open mic at Agnes Blackadder Hall. This was a great opportunity to reach out to new students. We will also be holding a music café on Sunday evening.

We are currently taking stock, and trying to decide what the best direction to take will be following some bureaucratic and funding changes. I was finally able to hold a meeting today to begin working on venue negotiations.

SSC ARTS FESTIVAL CONVENER

Subcommittee applications are open online and will close 18th September. We're looking for subcommittees for press, events, community & outreach, and marketing.

Corporate sponsorship packs have been created and sent out over the summer.

We are in the process of organising our first semester event which will be held at MUSA in November.

Tote bags, postcards, flyers, and sticks of rock have been ordered and have arrived ready for Freshers fayre.

Currently talking to the Byre about On The Rocks in their spring brochure.

S.16-4: A MOTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE CO-OPTION OF THE SSC MEMBER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

THIS SSC NOTES:

1. A casual vacancy exists in the office of the SSC Member Without Portfolio.

THIS SSC RESOLVES:

1. To co-opt a new SSC Member Without Portfolio at a meeting of the SSC on 13th of September 2016.
2. To mandate the Director of Representation to advertise the position.

PROPOSED:

Jack Carr, Director of Representation

SECONDED:

Charlotte Andrew, Association President

Caroline Christie, Director of Student Development & Activities

Pia Szabo, SSC Societies Officer

R.16-3 A Motion to Recommend that the University of St Andrews Divests its Endowment Fund from Fossil Fuel Extraction Companies Within Three Years

THIS SRC NOTES:

1. Carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide emissions contribute greatly to global warming. This incurs consequential impacts such as rising sea levels, flooding and severe weather patterns. These Greenhouse Gases are primarily produced from the burning of fossil fuels including oil, coal, gas and peat. These fossil fuels are sourced and sold by extractive companies who control global supply.
2. The University is invested in two such companies totalling a value of £1,120,784.19 (sum correct as of July 2015).
3. The University has had a Sustainable Investment Policy (SIP) since 2006. A central aim of the SIP is the protection of the global environment, its climate and its biodiversity”.
4. The endowment fund generates financing for student scholarships, bursaries, CAPOD support and University developments. It is inherently linked to research and participation here at St Andrews.
5. The University was one of the first in Britain to create a Sustainable Investment Policy and leads the country in its endeavour to become carbon neutral for energy production by 2016.
6. Over five hundred and fifty students, alumni and academics have signed a petition to divest the University’s endowment fund from fossil fuel extraction companies.

THIS SRC BELIEVES

1. How the University invests reflects its ethics, principles and worldview. It must strictly adhere to and strengthen its SIP to include an abolishment of investing in fossil fuel extraction companies.
2. Current investment practices contravene the University’s SIP. The entire student body must stand alongside the students, alumni and academics who have signed the petition to divest the University’s endowment fund from fossil fuel extraction companies. This will safeguard their futures and the futures of later generations.
3. This is not a radical step. It builds upon previous efforts dating back to 2006, ongoing efforts at both Guardbridge (the biomass facility) and Kenly (the windfarm) and the experiences of St. Andrews Sustainability Institute, Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling, Centre of Earth Resources at St. Andrews and the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Thus this motion leans on the historical precedent that Universities are centres of transition.

THIS SRC RESOLVES

1. To state support for the proposal to divest the University’s endowment fund from fossil fuel extraction companies in favour of ones that do not harm the environment.
2. For the Association Environment Officer and the SU President to aid the divestment campaign in informing and encouraging the entire University community to support the idea.
3. To recommend University Court members vote to divest the University’s endowment fund from fossil fuel extraction companies within three years.
4. To support the transition to renewable energy sources of power for the University and in its investments.

Proposed:

Charlotte Andrew, President
Mariya Simeonova, Association Environment Officer,

Seconded:

Jack Carr, Director of Representation
Aine Bennett, Association Community Relations Officer