



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

AGENDA

Tuesday, 22 October 2013 - Venue 1 - 7.00pm

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous SRC Meeting**
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous SRC Meeting**
 - 4.1. Correction to the Minutes of the SRC Meeting of 8 October 2013
- 5. Open Forum**
- 6. Reports of Sabbatical Officers**
 - 6.1. Report of the Association President
 - 6.2. Report of the Association Director of Services
 - 6.3. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities
 - 6.4. Report of the Association Director of Representation
- 7. Reports of SRC Officers**
 - 7.1. Report of the Arts/Divinity Senate Representative
 - 7.2. Report of the Association Community Relations Officer
 - 7.3. Report of the Association Environment & Ethics Officer
 - 7.4. Report of the Association LGBT Officer
 - 7.5. Report of the Association Postgraduate President
 - 7.6. Report of the Athletic Union President
 - 7.7. Report of the Science/Medicine Senate Representative
 - 7.8. Report of the SRC Accommodation Officer
 - 7.9. Report of the SRC Education Officer
 - 7.10. Report of the SRC Equal Opportunities Officer
 - 7.11. Report of the SRC Employability Officer
 - 7.12. Report of the SRC External Campaigns Officer
 - 7.13. Report of the SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities
 - 7.14. Report of the SRC Member for First Year
 - 7.15. Report of the SRC Member for Gender Equality
 - 7.16. Report of the SRC Member for International Students
 - 7.17. Report of the SRC Member for Mature Students
 - 7.18. Report of the SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
 - 7.19. Report of the SRC Member for University Accommodation
 - 7.20. Report of the SRC Member for Widening Access
 - 7.21. Report of the SRC Welfare Officer
 - 7.22. Any Other Competent Reports

8. New General SRC Business

- 8.1. R. 12 - A Motion to Reaffirm the SRC's Opposition to Increased RUK Tuition Fees
- 8.2. R. 13 - A Motion to Support the Joint Union Strike (**EMERGENCY MOTION**)

9. New General SSC Business (NOT TO COMMENCE BEFORE 8:00 P.M.)

10. New General Joint Business (NOT TO COMMENCE BEFORE 8:00 P.M.)

- 10.1. Co-Option of the Association Community Relations Officer
- 10.2. J. 13 – A Motion to Amend the Association Councils Absence Policy
- 10.3. J. 14 – A Motion to Reform The SSC Design Team Committee
- 10.4. J. 15 – A Motion to Amend the Structure and Duties of the SSC Societies Committee and its Members
- 10.5. J. 16 – A Motion to Amend the Standing Orders to Provide for the Cancellation of Meetings

11. Any Other Competent Business (NOT TO COMMENCE BEFORE 8:00 P.M.)

R. 12

A MOTION TO REAFFIRM THE SRC'S OPPOSITION TO INCREASED RUK TUITION FEES

THIS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL NOTES:

1. Patrick Hamilton, in his annual speech as Vice Chancellor of Oxford University, has raised the idea of an increase beyond the £9000 ceiling for Rest of UK fees – a move supported by the Russell group.¹
2. Currently, the average student debt for a student on a 3-year course is estimated to be £43,515.² By comparison, the average US graduate debt is £15,700, with much lower rates of interest on the repayments.³
3. RUK students already face the highest fees in Europe, within a system that places the financial burden (perceived or otherwise) upon them.
4. St Andrews, in 2011, stated that education currently costs an average of £11,772, per student, per year.⁴
5. There have been no comprehensive studies on the effects on application numbers of students from different economic backgrounds applying to university, based on their perception of £9000 fees.
6. St Andrews already charges more than any other RUK university, due to the nature of its 4/5-year degree structure.
7. Several of Oxford University's JCRs have passed motions against any potential increases, with the support of their sabbatical officers.⁵

THIS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL BELIEVES:

1. An increase in fees – beyond the current £9000 cap – would have a negative impact on the number of students that would apply to this university from England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
2. A further increase in the limit on fees will simply result in a 'race to the top' from institutions who wish to be perceived as on a competitive footing with Oxbridge, as has been proven by the number of universities who charge £9000.
3. Whilst an increase in fees would inevitably come with an increase in bursaries and aid for the lowest socio-economic groups, it would still increase their debt, and an increase in fees will further disenfranchise a middle bracket that cannot benefit from family, state, or institutional financial aid.
4. Whilst there is an acknowledged shortfall in higher education funding, the burden of meeting this should not fall upon the students.

THIS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL RESOLVES:

1. To affirm the SRC's status against any further fee rises
2. To support Oxford University Students' Union, and any others, in their opposition to any further increase in fees.
3. To campaign against any move from the University to increase tuition fees.
4. To support any further nationwide campaigns against an increase in fees.

PROPOSED:

Ben Anderson
SRC Member for Widening Access

SECONDED:

Chloe Hill
Association President

¹ <http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/we-need-tuition-fees-of-up-to-16000-says-oxford-vicechancellor-professor-andrew-hamilton-8867323.html>

² <http://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/cardsloans/article-2326560/Debt-timebomb-85-cent-students-pay-loans.html>

³ <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/oct/13/england-leave-funding-universities-students>

⁴ <http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/st-andrews-university-to-charge-maximum-1081402>

⁵ twitter.com/tomrutland

J. 13

A MOTION TO AMEND THE ASSOCIATION COUNCILS ABSENCE POLICY

THIS SRC AND SSC NOTE:

1. The Laws currently provide that “If a member is absent from three meetings of SRC/SSC without adequate apologies or five in total, they shall cease to be a member”.

THIS SRC AND SSC BELIEVE:

1. Attending meetings of the Association Councils is an important component of serving as an officer of the Association.
2. The policy regarding absences from meetings of the Association Councils should be clarified, particularly with respect to the disposition of officers who have missed three meetings with adequate apologies or five meetings in total.
3. The policy regarding absences of Association officers from meetings of the Association Councils should be clarified.

THIS SRC AND SSC RESOLVE:

1. To strike the text of § 3.1 of Chapter Four of the Laws, insert the following new text, and redesignate accordingly:

3.1. If a member except a Senate Representative, the Rector’s Assessor, and Athletic Union President, is absent from three meetings of SRC and/or SSC without adequate apologies or five in total, they shall be removed from office, unless the SAEC reinstates the member, conditionally or unconditionally, within 7 days of the approval of minutes of the meeting triggering this section.

3.2. If a Senate Representative, the Rector’s Assessor, and Athletic Union President is absent from three meetings of SRC and/or SSC without adequate apologies or five in total, they shall be removed from the SRC/SSC unless the SAEC reinstates the member, conditionally or unconditionally, within 7 days of the approval of minutes of the meeting triggering this section.

3.2.1. If a Senate Representative, the Rector’s Assessor, or Athletic Union President is removed from the SRC or SSC pursuant to this section, the Association President shall inform the relevant University officials of the same.

PROPOSED:

Teddy Woodhouse
Association Director of Representation

SECONDED:

Kelsey Gold
Association Director of Student Development & Activities

J. 14

A MOTION TO REFORM THE SSC DESIGN TEAM COMMITTEE

THE STUDENT SERVICES COUNCIL NOTES

1. The SSC Design Team has created a PR Team under the direction of the Director of Events & Services.
2. That this team have been operated on a trial basis and has proved successful.
3. That the current SSC Design Team constitution is no longer fit for purposes.

THIS STUDENT SERVICES COUNCIL RESOLVES:

1. To recommend to SAB the adoption of the constitution attached hereto.

PROPOSED:

Stephanie Ekakayaka
SSC Design Team Convenor

SECONDED:

Daniel Palmer
Association Director of Events & Services

Chapter Fourteen: SSC Design & PR Team

1. Aims

The SSC Design & PR Team aims to advertise or assist in advertising and promotional activity for the events, services and representational functions of the Association and its affiliated societies.

2. Committee

2.1. Design Team Membership

The Design Team Committee shall have the following members:

2.1.1. SSC Design & PR Convener (Convener & Chair)

2.1.2. Vice-President

2.1.3. Secretary

2.1.4. Web Coordinator

2.1.5. Marketing Officer

2.1.6. Director of Student Development & Activities

2.1.7. Director of Events & Services

2.2. PR Team Membership

The PR Team Committee will be a sub-committee to the Design Team Committee. The PR Team will focus on publicising the Association's events, and as directed by either the SSC Design Team or Director of Events and Services. Its actions and spending shall be monitored by the SSC Design Team Committee. Its membership shall be:

2.2.1. SSC Design & PR Convener (Convener & Chair)

2.2.2. Online Head

2.2.3. Offline Head

2.2.4. Director of Events & Services

2.2.5. SSC Design Team Marketing Officer

2.2.6. SSC Entertainments Committee Events Officer (non-voting)

2.2.7 Other appointed committee members as deemed necessary to fulfil the workload, as appointed by the SSC Design Team Committee.

2.3. Meetings

2.2.1 The committee shall meet fortnightly throughout the year, and at other times as necessary.

2.2.2 The SSC Design & PR Convener will take the chair.

2.2.3 In the absence of the SSC Design & PR Convener, the Vice-President will chair.

2.4. Quorum

The quorum shall be three-fifths of the voting membership of the committee.

2.5. Notice

All members of the Committee must be given at least 24 hours notice of any committee meeting.

3. Annual General Meeting

3.1. Procedure

The AGM shall be held during Semester Two and shall:

3.1.1. Require 14 days notice.

3.1.2. Be publicised widely in such places and by such methods as the committee shall determine from time to time.

3.1.3. Shall elect all Design Team Committee positions

3.1.4. Shall not elect PR Team Committee positions

3.1.5. Be open to all matriculated students of the University of St Andrews, except those who have exercised their right to opt out of the Students' Association under the provisions of the Education Act 1994.

3.2. Business

The order of business shall be:

3.2.1. Report of the SSC Design & PR Convener.

3.2.2. Report of the Vice-President

3.2.3. Report of the Online Head of PR Team

3.2.4. Report of the Offline Head of PR Team

3.2.5. Elections

3.2.6. AOCB.

3.3. Elections

3.3.1. Elections shall be conducted by a secret ballot using the STV system

3.3.2. No person shall hold more than one position on the Committee at any one time.

4. Interviewed positions

4.1. The SSC Design & PR Convenor will be appointed by the SSC Convenor Selection Committee as described in Chapter Three of the Laws.

4.2. The following committee members will be appointed by the SSC Design Team Selection Committee, which will be composed of the SSC Design & PR Convenor, the Vice-President, the Director of Event & Services and the outgoing office holder:

4.2.1. Online Head of PR Team

4.2.2. Offline Head of PR Team

5. Committee Vacancies

Committee posts that shall, from time to time, fall vacant for whatever reason shall be filled by co-option from the SSC Design Team Selection Committee.

6. Committee Decisions

Should a consensus be unobtainable at a Committee meeting, a vote should be taken. Those members of the Design Team Committee shall be eligible to vote and in the event of a tie, the casting vote will be held by the Chair of the meeting.

J. 15

A MOTION TO AMEND THE STRUCTURE AND DUTIES OF THE SSC SOCIETIES COMMITTEE AND ITS MEMBERS

THIS SSC AND SRC NOTE:

1. The SSC Societies Committee has restructured and created additional officerships.
2. The SSC Societies Committee has enacted a policy of deregulation to reduce the administrative burden upon affiliated societies.
3. This policy has made some of the duties of the SSC Societies Committee and its members obsolete.

THIS SSC AND SRC RESOLVE:

To report amendments to effect the following changes to the Laws to SAB with the recommendation that the same do pass:

1. To strike §3.3.14 in Chapter One, and renumber accordingly;
2. To strike §5.1.1 in Chapter Three, and renumber accordingly;
3. To strike the existing text of §5.1.4 in Chapter Three, and insert: “*5.1.4 Ensure that affiliated societies meet the requirements of their Affiliation Agreements.*”
4. To strike §5.2.1 in Chapter Three, and renumber accordingly;
6. To strike §5.3.1 in Chapter Three, and renumber accordingly;
7. To strike the existing text of §5.3.3 in Chapter Three, and insert:
5.3.3 Attend, or send a nominee to attend, society general meetings and invigilate for compliance with the requirements of the Affiliation Agreement.
8. To strike all text in Chapter Nine, and insert the following:
 1. *Association Committees*
There shall be a SSC Societies Committee, which shall have powers, duties and responsibilities as laid out in Chapter 23 of the Laws.
 2. *Affiliation to the Association*
 - 2.1. *There shall be an Affiliation Agreement, proposed by the SSC Societies Committee and ratified by the Students’ Association Board, defining the terms of Affiliation between Societies and the Association.*
 - 2.2. *A student society shall be affiliated to the Association on:*
 - 2.2.1. *The receipt of a copy of the Affiliation Agreement signed by an agent of the society;*
 - 2.2.2. *The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that the society’s constitution meets all requirements laid out in the Standing Orders for Affiliated Societies;*
 - 2.2.3. *The receipt of the the names of not less than twenty-five matriculated students who are ordinary members of the society; and*
 - 2.2.4. *The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that all terms of the Affiliation Agreement have been met; and,*
 - 2.2.5. *The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that the society’s aims do not duplicate the aims of any other society.*

2.3. A student-run project without a defined membership shall be affiliated to the Association on:

2.3.1. The receipt of a copy of the Affiliation Agreement signed by an agent of the organisation;

2.3.2. The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that the organisation's constitution meets all requirements laid out in the Standing Orders for Affiliated Societies;

2.3.3. The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that all terms of the Affiliation Agreement have been met; and

2.3.5. The satisfaction of the SSC Societies Committee that the project's aims do not duplicate the aims of any other society or project.

2.3.6. Clear demonstration by the project managers that the inclusion of a defined membership would be unworkable, or else detrimental to the stability of the project, as agreed by the Societies Committee.

2.4. All subsequent references to societies shall include student-run projects, unless otherwise stated.

2.5. The new or continued affiliation to the Association of a society shall be conditional upon:

2.5.1. The adherence to the society's constitution and policies;

2.5.2. The responsible management of the society and its accounts as recommended in the publications of the Societies Committee, in particular audits; and

2.5.3. The adherence to the terms of the Affiliation Agreement.

3. Membership

3.1. Any society wishing to affiliate must make ordinary membership open to all matriculated students of the University of St Andrews. Only matriculated students shall be eligible for ordinary membership. Other persons may be eligible for other classes of membership, as defined in the society's constitution.

3.3. The SSC Performing Arts Officer shall be an honorary member of all affiliated performing arts-related societies. The SSC Music Officer shall be an honorary member of all music-related societies.

3.3.1. Definitions of such societies shall be determined by the Societies Committee.

4. Constitutions

4.1. The aims of a society, as declared in its constitution, must not be incompatible with those of the Students' Association.

4.2. A society, in its constitution, must declare all outside affiliations and their aims will be subject to the same scrutiny as the society itself.

4.3. The SSC Member for Societies Elections shall be notified of any amendment to the constitution of a society.

5. Grants and Loans

5.1. *Grants may be made to affiliated societies by the Societies Committee in accordance with such limitations and conditions as the Societies Committee may from time to time adopt.*

5.2. *Student-run projects shall not be eligible for Grants from the Societies Committee, unless the Committee explicitly agrees to exempt the project from this restriction.*

5.3. *Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 2 of this section, grants shall be made at the discretion of the Societies Committee.*

5.4. *Loans may be made to affiliated societies at the discretion of the Societies Committee.*

5.4.1. *All loans will be under the terms of the Societies Loan Contract.*

6. *Arbitration.*

6.1. *The Societies Committee shall be competent to arbitrate disputes amongst a society and its members, officers, and/or another society with the consent of the parties to arbitration.*

6.2. *The decision of the Societies Committee in arbitration shall be subject to appeal to SAEC, provided that an appeal is lodged within 72 hours of the transmission of notice of the decision and right to appeal, and only on the following grounds:*

6.2.1 *Information not known at the time of the original decision.*

6.2.2 *Procedural irregularity that could make a material difference to the original decision (including inaccurate information, etc.)*

6.2.3 *Bias or prejudice.*

7. *Disaffiliation.*

7.1. *The Societies Committee may disaffiliate a society in accordance with the terms of the Affiliation Agreement.*

7.2. *The decision of the Societies Committee to disaffiliate a society shall be subject to appeal to SAEC, provided that an appeal is lodged within 72 hours of the transmission of notice of the decision and right to appeal, and only on the following grounds:*

7.2.1 *Information not known at the time of the original decision.*

7.2.2 *Procedural irregularity that could make a material difference to the original decision (including inaccurate information, etc.)*

7.2.3 *Bias or prejudice.*

7.3. *Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, if the Societies Committee declines to renew a society's Affiliation Agreement or declines to otherwise offer a society a new Affiliation Agreement, such decision shall not be subject to appeal.*

9. To insert a new §1.1.12 in Chapter Twenty-Three, and renumber accordingly, to read “1.2.12. *Marketing Officer*”.

9. To strike §1.2.3 of Chapter Twenty-Three.

10. To strike from §1.2.5 of Chapter Twenty-Three “ensure that societies abide by their constitutions and Association policy” and insert “*ensure that affiliated societies meet the requirements of their Affiliation Agreements*”.

PROPOSED:

Robert Dixon

SSC Member for Societies Elections

SECONDED:

Courtney Lewis

SSC Societies Officer

J. 16

A MOTION TO AMEND THE STANDING ORDERS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CANCELATION OF MEETINGS

THIS SRC AND SSC NOTE:

1. That no provision currently allows for the cancelation of a meeting of a Council or the Executive Committee.

THIS SRC AND SSC BELIEVE:

1. That the Association Chair should have the authority, in a limited set of circumstances, to cancel a meeting of a Council or the Executive Committee.

THIS SRC AND SSC RESOLVE:

1. To add a new § 1.7 to the Standing Orders of the Association as follows:

1.7. Cancelation

1.7.1. The Chair may cancel a meeting and provide notice of the same if any of the following conditions are met:

1.7.1.1. A sufficient number of members submit apologies to the Chair to preclude a quorum from assembling.

1.7.1.2. There is no business (including reports required by these Standing Orders) for the agenda.

1.7.1.3. The cancelation is issued concurrently with notice of a joint meeting of the Council that was scheduled to meet and the other Council.

PROPOSED:

Maxwell Baldi
Association Chair

SECONDED:

Teddy Woodhouse
Association Director of Representation