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University of St Andrews Students' Association Joint Councils Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday 19th September 2017 – Large Rehearsal Room – 5:30 pm

Present

Member's Name

Position

Nicola Simonetti	Arts and Divinity Faculty President
Sam Ross	Association Alumni Officer
Ru MacIver	Association Chair
Hannah Raleigh	Association Community Relations Officer
Zachary Davis	Association Director of Education
Hannah Jacobs	Association Director of Events and Services
Charlotte Flatley	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Claire Shirey	Association Director of Wellbeing
Clare Grist	Association Environment Officer
Ryan Hay	Association LGBT+ Officer
Lewis Wood	Association President
Tom Abbott	Athletic Union President
Charlie Maguire	Principal Ambassador
John Weaver	Science/Medical Science Faculty President
Jonathan Davis	SRC Accommodation Officer
Lorraine Callaghan	SRC Member for Age Equality
Hyewon Han	SRC Member for First Years
Brianna Chu	SRC Member for Gender Equality
Anna Lloyd	SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Ciara McCumiskey	SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
Olivia Budde	SRC Member Without Portfolio
Fanny Empacher	SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
Mizuki Morisaki	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
Sneha Nair	SSC Arts Festival Convener
Flora Rowe	SSC Broadcasting Officer
Jamie Minns	SSC Charities Officer
Ru Ferguson	SSC Debates Officer
Paloma Paige	SSC Design Convener
Pat Shareefy	SSC Employability Officer
Antonia Wade	SSEC Entertainments Convener
Kevin Phelan	SSC Member Without Portfolio
Marcell Kovacs	SSC Music Officer
Matthew Lansdell	SSC Performing Arts Officer
Jennifer Bre	SSC Postgraduate Officer
Pia Szabo	SSC Societies Officer

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Natasha Bateman

SSC Volunteering Officer

In Attendance

Tom Williams

The Saint

Iain Cupples

Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Adopted without dissent.

2. Apologies for Absence

Member's Name Position

Sarah Bourial SRC Member for Racial Equality

Absent

The apologies were accepted without dissent.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Previously circulated, accepted without dissent,

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

5.1 Report of the Association President

Lewis discussed a meeting he had attended at the UK Parliament as part of a series of meetings with MPs about Brexit. Discussions with NUS on the topic had also been held, though it was felt these had been unproductive, and there would be a Scottish sabbaticals forum on the topic also.

On accommodation, University accommodation fees would rise only in line with inflation this year. There would be a reorganisation of accommodation bursaries.

5.2 Report of the Association Director of Education

Zach reported that he was working with the Proctor's Office towards a collaboration statement which would define the focus for the academic year. This would touch on issues like improving the postgraduate experience, with a focus on taught PG students; and technology-enhanced learning. In relation to the latter, trials of lecture capture would begin this semester – Zach encouraged members to give positive feedback if they found this useful, to encourage the universal adoption of the system.

Class rep elections were about to begin – Zach encouraged members to promote these.

5.2 Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

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Claire reported that the Wellbeing Portal was to go live in a week or two. She was also working with Zach on an academic mentoring scheme, on academic family matching events and on the Rectorial elections.

5.4 Report of the Association Director of Events and Services

Hannah thanked Antonia and all of the Entertainments volunteers for their work on Freshers' Week. A new cocktail menu would be introduced next week, and sabbs would be attending a coffee tasting event.

5.5 Report of the Association Director of Student Development and Activities

Charlotte was working on the Volunteer Recognition Scheme, which had been approved by the Proctor, and was now in a pilot phase. She and the other sabbs had attended a Board planning day over the summer to agree objectives for the year, and on approving student budgets for the year. Freshers' Fayre had been a success. CAPOD training for societies office holders and other office holders was ongoing.

5.6 Report of the Athletic Union President

Tom reported that for sport, St Andrews was now ranked 25th in the UK and 4th in Scotland. He also discussed results of a recent survey of St Andrews students on sport. 700 responses had been received: most valued sport for the experiences and wellbeing it brought, which tied in well with the 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' campaign.

There was also discussion of the move of Sports Fayre to Monday this year, and the desire to improve taster sessions for new students. Finally, Varsity matches would be played this weekend.

6. Questions for SRC Subcommittees

6.1 Association Alumni Committee

Sam noted that the Alumni committee were recruiting for vacancies. The committee's current projects included working with the Careers Centre on a mentoring scheme, Alumni Festival on the 14th and 15th of April, and an alumni opinions project featuring reflections by alumni on their time at St Andrews.

6.2 Association Community Relations Committee

The St Andrews' Day festival would be on December 2nd: the Community Relations committee would be working on this with BID St Andrews and the Fellowship.

6.3 Association Environment Committee

Green Week would be week 7 of this semester.

6.4 Association LGBT+ Committee

There would be a National Coming Out Day this semester, date to be confirmed.

6.6 SRC Member for Gender Equality

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Brianna asked for assistance with the Glass Ceiling event in November – any ideas would be welcomed.

6.8 SRC Member for Age Equality

Lorraine noted the creation of the Lifelong Flexible Learning Forum, for which profile-raising events would be organised. Lifelong learning students had participated in the Pier Walk and would be participating in a University Challenge Night on October 9th.

6.10 SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation

Ciara noted that she was figuring out a role for open days, and working on issue around scholarships.

6.11 SRC PG Academic Convener

Fanny noted that she was keeping in close contact with PG class reps.

6.12 SRC PG Development Convener

Mizuki said that she was looking for ways to promote her presence to PGs.

6.14 SRC Education Committee

School Presidents' training was completed. Lecture capture was discussed again.

6.15 Principal Ambassador

There had been over 240 applications for ambassador positions to date.

7. Questions for SSC Subcommittees

7.1 SSC PG Committee

The EGM was scheduled for 2nd October.

7.2 SSC Broadcasting Committee

Freshers' Week had been very successful. Applications for shows were now open: Flora encouraged subcommittees and societies with ideas for shows to apply.

7.3 SSC Charities Committee

Jamie reported on his attendance at the National RAG Week conference in the summer. He announced that this years' Race2 event would go to Barcelona. The Charities' EGM would be on 9th October.

7.4 SSC Entertainments Committee

Antonia encouraged members to attend Wednesday Users' Groups meetings if they had an event scheduled in the building.

7.5 SSC Employability Committee

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Pat had been working with the Careers Centre and trying to reconstruct a framework for employability activities.

7.6 SSC Debates Committee

250 students had attended the first debate of the year. There would be a Rectors debate as part of the Rectorial election.

7.7 SSC Design and PR Committee

Paloma said that workshops would be run on Adobe, photography, and a new creative workshop. The AGM would be held on Friday.

7.9 SSC Performing Arts Committee

Christmas Ball committee applications were open. Auditions were ongoing.

7.10 SSC Societies Committee

Friday would be training for societies Presidents and Treasurers.

(Zach and Lewis now left the meeting)

7.11 SSC Volunteering Committee

Applications for volunteering projects were now open. Planning was under way for Give Back Weekend.

7.12 SSC On The Rocks Committee

Applications were now open.

8. New General SSC Business

8.1 Nominee to SSC Discipline Committee Elections

A vacancy had arisen as the previous nominee was no longer an office holder.

Nominations were received for:

	Proposer	Seconder
Tom Abbott	Tom Abbott	Jamie Minns
Ryan Hay	Ryan Hay	Flora Rowe
Sneha Nair	Charlotte Flatley	Hannah Jacobs
Pia Szabo	Pia Szabo	Ru Ferguson

After speeches and questions, SSC members voted for **Tom Abbott** as SSC Discipline Committee nominee.

9. New General SRC Business

None

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10. AOCB

None

11. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted.

Meeting adjourned.