



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

MINUTES

Tuesday 26 January 2016 – Committee Room – 6pm

Present

Member's Name

Eleanor Mullin
Charlotte Andrew
Zara Evans
Clare Armstrong
Chris MacRae
Joe Tantillo
Kyle Blain
Sigrid Jorgensen
Sarah Thompson
Annie Newman
Louise McCaul
Alexandre Ciric
Omar Ali
Nils Turner
Toby Emerson
Jackie Ashkin
Holly Johnston
Alice Lecointe
Adam Stromme
Aysha Marty
Kate Mayer
Amy Christison
Karla McDougall
Lavin Ge Tian
Annabel Romanos
Ipek Ozsoy
Caroline Christie
Jo Bowman
Aline Heyerick
Robert Dixon

Position

Arts/Divinity Faculty President
Association Alumni Officer
Association Chair
Association Community Relations Officer
Association Director of Events and Services
Association Director of Representation
Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Association LGBT Officer
President of the Athletic Union
Rector's Assessor
Science/Medicine Faculty President
SRC Accommodation Officer
SRC Equal Opportunities Officer
SRC Employability Officer
SRC External Campaigns Officer
SRC Member for Racial Equality
SRC Member for First Years
SRC Member for Gender Equality
SRC Member for International Students
SRC Member for Mature Students
SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
SSC Charities Officer
SSC Design Team Convener
SSC Entertainments Convener
SSC Member without Portfolio
SSC Music Officer
SSC On the Rocks Convener
SSC Performing Arts Officer
SSC Postgraduate Officer
SSC Societies Officer

In Attendance

Iain Cupples
Ilaria Gidoro
Joseph Cassidy

Education Advocate
Education and Representation Coordinator (Minutes)
The Saint

Absent

Nicola Kennedy	Principal Ambassador
VACANT	SRC Postgraduate Convenor
Miriam Chappell	SRC Welfare Officer
Bruce Kerr	SSC Broadcasting Officer
Tierney Riordan	SSC External Funding Officer
Julian Valladares Urruela	SSC Volunteering Officer

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Mr Tantillo proposed to add "Draft elections rules" under AOCB.

The agenda was amended without dissent.

The agenda was adopted, as amended, without dissent.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Member's Name	Position
Alice Pickthall	Association Environment and Ethics Officer
Pat Mathewson	Association President
Melissa Turner	SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
Alyssa Muzyk	SSC Debates Officer

The apologies were accepted without dissent.

3. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

3.1 Report of the Athletic Union President

- The new sports arena has officially opened, with some events already scheduled.
- The alumni festival weekend has been announced.
- There will be an Academic Flexibility review soon.

3.2 Report of the Association President

Mr Mathewson was not present.

3.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

- Working on Refreshers' Week;
- ABBA event tonight;
- RAG week happening in Week 2.

3.4. Report of the Association Director of Representation

- Collecting information on the process for assessment for students with disabilities.
- A survey on the process for extensions and deferrals has been circulated, too.
- Planning the Students' Association's elections.

- Academic flexibility review under way.
- NSS launching soon for final year students.

3.5 Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

- Race 2 happened and was successful.
- Rag Week is happening next week.
- Working on the volunteering portal. It will be hopefully ready before spring break.
- Refreshers Fayre on Saturday.
- Room booking: all officers can book rooms through the online portal—not at reception, unless they have particular requests.
- The Student Project Fund is still open, as well as the Student Activities Fund. The Scott Lang dinner will be launched soon.

4. New General Joint Business

There was no new general joint business.

5. New General SRC Business

There was no new general SRC business.

6. New General SSC Business

There was no new general SSC business.

7. Any Other Competent Business

Mr Tantillo summarised the proposed changes in the elections' rules. The main changes are:

- elections are happening a week later;
- sabbatical candidates' statements will be 350-word long, and those for non-sabbatical candidate will be 250-word long;
- campaigning will start the day after nominations close;
- halls' hustings will be organised by halls and will not be mandatory for sabbs;
- campaigners will be allowed again to give out bakes goods;
- rules breaches will be publicised on the voting portal;
- the budget for sabbs will be £100, and £35 for non-sabbs;
- Sabbatical candidates should collect 25 signatures in order to be able to stand.

Mr Tantillo was arranging for the Sabbs' debate to be live streamed, and he will encourage halls to organise viewing of the debates.

The proposal of asking halls to organise hustings was discussed and received mixed opinions. Ms Mullin proposed that sabbatical candidates should at least be required to attend some of the hustings. Ms Andrew acknowledged the fact that hustings often register a low turnout. However, the alternative of only having a live stream means reducing human contact. She highlighted that it is important for students to attend, especially first year students, to make them interested in the activities of the Students' Association. It is the Students' Association's responsibility to advertise more and to improve the hustings. Mr Ciric agreed. Mr Tantillo replied that halls can reach out to their students better and,

therefore, advertise better. Mr Dixon stated that, if the Students' Association organises the hustings, there is more control. This will ensure that they are organised in a fair manner.

Ms McCaul noticed that there is no PG position in the rules yet. Mr Tantillo replied that they are looking at the PG Convenor's role description.

Ms Newman was against the proposal of asking sabbatical candidates to collect 25 signature in order to stand. Ms Thompson was concerned about this point, too, because it could discourage less confident people. Mr Tantillo said that this was just a proposal and that it aimed to reduce the number of people deciding to run at the last minute. The discussion on the elections rules changes finished.

Ms Evans reminded all to send her their semester 1 reports. She also asked everybody to send Ilaria their role descriptions.

The meeting adjourned.