



Papers for Joint Council Meeting

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

6pm - MS Teams

Contents of Papers:

1. Reports from Councilors
2. Draft Minutes from the Joint Councils Meeting on the 26th January 2021
3. Draft Minutes from the SRC Meeting on the 2nd February 2021
4. Draft Minutes from the SSC Meeting on the 9th February 2021
5. J21-06 Motion to reform and update the Laws of the Association.
6. J21-07 Motion to update the Saints LGBT+ Committee Structure.
7. J21-08 Motion to Reform the Debates Board.
8. J21-09 Motion to Add a 'Special Arrangements' Clause to the Societies Committee's Laws.
9. R21-02 Motion to support the MLitt Gender Studies cohort
10. R21-03 Motion to lobby the UK Government to compensate fee-paying students affected by the pandemic
11. R21-04 A motion for the Students' Association to publicly reject the UK Whitehaven Coal Mine Project

JOINT COUNCIL REPORTS

Director of Events and Services – Tom Groves

What have I done since my last report?

Since the previous report of 26th Jan, I have remade yourunion.net/support. Went through all society pages on the website to remove broken links, tidy content, and add intro videos. Started sharing weekly event lists on fb.com/YourUnionEvents. Updated lots of councillor [role descriptions](#). Gave lots of feedback on Morgan's motion to reform Councils. 8,739 votes were cast in [Decorate the Union](#), with the winner receiving 1,246; will be displaying pieces once the Union building reopens.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

[DoESfesto](#) is now 60/170 (35.3%) complete.

What do I hope to achieve by my next report?

To reopen the Union building as soon as it's allowed, to help promote elections, and to look into summer storage.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

If your subcom is hosting an event, please add it to yourunion.net/events using the link at the top of the page.

ASSOCIATION OFFICER REPORTS

Association Alumni Officer – Emily Gilson

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report, I've had a couple meetings with my committee. We've worked on the spotlights and the central page for alumni to see the opportunities for involvement. The page is up and running now on the alumni subcommittee page on YourUnion.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

In the next few weeks, I hope to have a few more posts done and start working on the videos we are going to make and post on our page about how to use SaintConnect. We want to get more students to sign up and know how to use the platform.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

If you have a subcommittee, there is the Alumni Tracking system. It basically gives permissions from the grad when they fill out the form (can have people fill it out when they graduate) to alumni relations to relay communications from the future society or subcommittee. It would be great to have as many people participate as possible so we can maintain a community with our alumni!

Link to alumni communications form:

<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/develop-2/communications/societies/?fbclid=IwARoWE4MUXY1GvQnGEz7 UdynOATczoSzlXoPsUrQM6OnlVKDP4Aswy4PujE>

Association Community Relations Officer – Anna Young

What have I done since my last report?

- We hosted a stall at Fresher's Fayre, with some interest from students to apply for next year's committee.
- I attended February's Community Council Meeting.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- The current planning for Community Action Day has addressed my intention of the Community Relations Sub-Committee to facilitate an inclusive and positive platform of engagement between Town and Gown.

What will I have done by my next report?

- Looking at social media engagement, platforming members of the Community and Community Groups for example the Clean and Green Team on the Community Relations Social Media.

Association Environment Officer – Lea Weinman

What have I done since my last report?

- Spoke on topic of climate justice in the "Critical Conversations: Climate Justice" panel discussion organised by Ananya (BAME Officer) and St Andrews Museums. Also available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Anrjz6FWfvo>
- Launching the CEED "Carbon Management and Curriculum" course to which over 100 students have signed up to and running the first two sessions.
- ESB Sustainable Saints Show on STAR on Wednesdays at 8pm UK time
- Eco-Activist Journeys Show on STAR on Fridays at 4pm UK time
- Radio show on Mental Health & Sustainability with Wellbeing Subcommittee
- Environment Subcommittee Meetings and planning for event schedule of semester, hand-over and legacy.
- Event schedule planning for Environment Subcommittee and Fairtrade Fortnight.
- Meeting with Transition Project Officer Sam Woolhead about StAndreuse, collaboration and the idea of a St Andrews Green Starter Pack for students.
- Climate Activist Luisa Neubauer secured as speaker for the 1st of March and organising as University event.
- University Environmental Sustainability Board meeting on Tuesday 16th of February.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- The new Environmental Sustainability Strategy has been approved by University Court.
- A tree-planting scheme for carbon offsetting on travel emission has been proposed to the ESB and is taken further by the University.
- Collaboration with the Wellbeing Committee: radio show with Emma Walsh, Director of Wellbeing, and Eleanor Clyburn, Mental Health Rep.
- Creating spaces to discuss eco-anxiety and what it means to live in a world of Climate Emergency.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- Host a successful speaker event with climate activist Luisa Neubauer on the topic of the power of the collective on the 1st of March 2021.
- Continue working with my current Subcommittee on event plans and our campaigns for the semester.
- I hope to have a successful hand-over with the next elected Environment Officer and use the rest of the semester to build a legacy with my Subcommittee so that the initiatives we build up can be taken into the future.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- Speaker Event '**The Power of the Collective: Thoughts from Luisa Neubauer**' on **Monday the 1st of March at 4pm UK time:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/226434282554866/>
- This is a really exciting opportunity so please do share it with interested students and on your pages.
- Despite this being the end of my term of office, the Environment Subcommittee will continue holding events, collaborating, and raising awareness so do follow our social media pages and get in touch. It's been a pleasure serving as Environment Officer. Thank you.

Association LGBT+ Officer – Georgina Beeby

What have I done since my last report?

Worked with bame student network and student services to improve lgbt+ support. Worked with trans/nb officer to ensure trans/nb students needs are being met.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

lgbt+ counselling is in the works to soon become available

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

greater advertisement for the current trans/nb support on offer.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?
glitterball art project!!!

Association Lifers Officer – Jenny Menday

No report submitted.

Association BAME Officer – Ananya Jain

What have I done since my last report?

- Organised A weekly schedule for committee Instagram takeovers and conducted my own takeover
- Met with Faculty Heads of EDI to discuss the final suggestions on the BAME Students' Action Plan as well as discuss the module reporting system (along with the Faculty Representatives and the DoEd)
- Wrote a new role description for Association BAME Officer for the Elections
- Met with a team from Admissions to discuss Open Days/Specific Outreach for BAME Students

What do I hope to achieve by my next report?

- Finalise the collaborations with Admissions
- Get the final details for our careers conference sorted

Updates/Events/Opportunities?

- We are going to be hosting an event in collaboration with the Dance Club in the form of a fun Dancehall class as part of promoting the Windrush exhibition in the Quad. I will post the details once they are out!

SSC REPORTS

SSC Broadcasting Officer - Anna Harris

No report submitted.

SSC Charities Officer – Amy Feakes

No report submitted.

SSC Debates Officer - Zaine Mansuralli

No report submitted.

SSC Performing Arts Officer - Martin Caforio

No report submitted.

SSC Postgraduate Officer – Sam Ross

No report submitted.

SSC Societies Officer – Avery Kitchens

What have I done since my last report?

Medical Societies Forum: The Societies Committee Exec met with two members of each medical society through the Medical Societies Forum. We received invaluable information on how Medical Societies operate which led us to construct a Medical Societies Proposal and the creation of the Medical Societies Network. Medical Societies will now be affiliated through the MSN and existing Medical Societies may opt-in to this Network (See Motion for more details). I have also been in contact with the School of Medicine and the Director of Teaching is on board with our proposal.

Online Banking for Societies: Gavin and I have worked with the Cash Office to allow societies to finally access online banking! We have created a guide on how this should be done through Bank of Scotland and it has been sent out to all societies.

Sports Societies: Sophie, Gavin and I have scheduled a meeting with Pool Society and we hope to be able to work with them and affiliate them to either the SA or AU rather than both. We have already completed this process with Dance Club.

Mixer Event: The Societies Committee's mixer event went fantastically! We chose eight societies to give £250 grants to in order to put on their online events.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Completed the Mixer Event!
Streamlined the process for Medical Society affiliation!

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

This is my last report! I wish all the best to the next Socs Officer!

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

Apply for grants!!!

<https://www.yourunion.net/activities/societies/manage/money/>

SSC Student Music Officer – Alistair Addison

No report submitted.

SSC Volunteering Officer – Cara Nicholson

What have I done since my last report?

- Encouraged people to run for SSC Volunteering Officer in council elections
- Planned two careers events

What progress have I made since my last report?

1. Reducing Barriers to Volunteering

2. Increase Publicity around Volunteering
 - Continued recruitment of a new technical officer for website relaunch
 - Worked on a series of videos highlighting some of the projects that SVS work with
 - Wrote a special volunteering edition of Career Matters
3. Improve the Range of Volunteering Opportunities Available
4. Make Volunteering More Social
5. Increase Training and Support for Volunteers
 - Began planning for Gives Back weekend, to encourage and recognise volunteering
 - Completed planning of two upcoming careers events alongside the Careers Centre

SSC Design Team Convener – Edward Spencer

What have I done since my last report?

Been working on resolving issues faced by committee due to email migration

What progress has been made on my manifestos

N/a

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Resolved software issues, migration issues and written a handover document for my position.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

If you want to join design team get in touch via sadt@

SSC ENTS Convener – Ryan Delaney

No report submitted.

SSC Arts Festival Convener - TBA

SSC Member without Portfolio - Toni Valencia

What have I done since my last report?

Mainly been supporting other Councils members and Elections Committee overall! I'm very excited to see how elections will take place virtually and hoping for a fun elections season! I have also been crafting my handover document for whoever takes on the role of SSC Member Without Portfolio next academic year!

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Continued to have some forms of communication to the student body throughout the academic year. The main progress overall was the rebranding of the Councils social media platforms and working alongside the SRC Member Without Portfolio and Association Chair!

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?
Thank you to everyone for a fun year on Councils!

SRC REPORTS

SRC Accommodation Officer – Sophie Bickerton

No report submitted.

SRC Member for First Year – Maitreyi Tusharika

No report submitted.

SRC Member for Gender Equality – Elise Lenzi

- What have I done since my last report?
 - Met with the rectors committee and their SGBV group
 - Met with Student Services to set goals for the upcoming semester
 - Worked on edits to the Report Support Website
 - Worked on a new training for the EDI faculty leads
- What progress has been made on my manifesto?
 - All that stuff above
- What do I hope to achieve next?
 - Hopefully the eradication of sexism and SGBV 😊
 - Mostly I'm just working on updates to ongoing or existing projects so I don't have specific things to say here

SRC Disability Officer – Anna-Ruth Cockerham

What have I done since my last report?

I have been working on pursuing the goals laid out in our report on the Disabled Students' Survey results. I had a meeting with Student Services about the report, and we discussed the training that the Disability Team and other advisors get, disability awareness training for other staff, and ways that we can improve the feedback process for Student Services and awareness of the support on offer. Hopefully, there will be more updates on that later in the semester.

I attended Disabilities Class Rep Forum where we discussed some of the feedback the Class Reps have collected and started working on the webpages for academic schools about disability, welfare, and academic support. The DSN has also been working on putting events and publicity together on invisible disabilities, eating disorders, and mental health conditions.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I'm glad to say I completed almost all of my manifesto points this year. Some of my points (like Disability Awareness Training for staff or work on physical access) were difficult to complete this year as a lot of time was taken up by COVID-related issues, but there will be new projects in the university coming

up that should mean the next Disability Officer will find it easier to make progress there!

A final summary of my progress is available here: <http://tiny.cc/arcmanifestotracker>

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope someone else will write it :(

SRC Member for Student Health – Gabby Kryiakou

What have I done since my last report?

- Spoke to the library about adding wellbeing-related books to the community bookshelf
- Campaign planning with Wellbeing Subcommittee for Semester 2

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- Spoke to the Sexual Health Rep, Ellis, about how we can source dental dams. She has reached out to a company who sells them, so looks promising. Will be speaking to Sexpression and committee about training for giving these out.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- Reach out to Careers Centre to potentially run a Wellbeing careers event (incl. alumni in wellbeing related sectors, Student Services staff etc.)
- Before handover I'd like to talk to the Subcommittee about reflections on how the Subcom has run this year, so hopefully the next Member for Student Health will find that useful

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- Our Sexual Health Rep is running a mini–Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance week this semester (week to be confirmed), if you would like to collaborate in any way, email Ellis (@eamw2)
- Wellbeing Week is in Week 8, it's one of our biggest themed weeks run by Eleanor, the Mental Health Rep. Would be great to see people sharing resources and events

SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation – Tooba Shah

No report submitted.

Arts/Divinity Faculty President – Joe Horsnell

No report submitted.

Science/Medicine Faculty President – Chloe Fielding

What have I done since my last report?

- Attended an EDI meeting with Gillian, Anna, Rebecca (CEED) and Joe to discuss mentoring
- Attended a meeting to discuss the BAME Students' Network's Report
- Collected the Disabilities Reps' feedback from each School and put papers together for the Forum
- Worked with Anna-Ruth regarding the webpages we're planning to implement across Schools
- Did a bit of work on the tracking app idea
- Meeting with Amy about wellbeing things
- Met with Akshika and Joe to catch up and figure out a plan for this semester
- Chaired Disabilities Rep Forum
- Met with Jurin to discuss the possibility of an informal BAME student group
- Met with Sean to discuss DiverSTEM
- Did some general DiverSTEM things with the SPs
- Catch up with Amy
- Did a few things regarding the upcoming elections
- Worked with Iona on minutes and updates, etc.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- Have continued work on disabilities, wellbeing and EDI
- Started work on webpages to advertise accessibility of support in Schools

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- Attend the Wellbeing Officers launch and complete my involvement in that piece of work
- Start getting info together for the webpages
- Have another SWAG meeting

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

- Diver-STEM: Celebrating POC in Science – an event designed to promote inclusivity and diversity within science. All the Science School Presidents and lots of Class Reps are involved in organising it.

SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener – Abigail Whitefield

I have reported back feedback from the Provost to the PGT Class Reps, which seems to be positive and reflective of the concerns raised. PGR Class Reps have had their concerns taken to the Provost, and we're slowly working on addressing these. I've been attending a lot of meetings (as always), but have seen positive progress in PG matters over the last few weeks which is exciting.

SRC Postgraduate Development Convener – Jasmine Rodiguez

What have I done since my last report?

I have been working with the careers team and the other postgraduate reps to establish what we can/will be collaborating on and what we would like to

accomplish moving forward. I've also attended a "workshop" designed at trying to improve pg information provided on the university's website

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

I am continuing to work with the careers centre to improve communications with the student body and working with the different committees and teams I'm a part of to better the office student experience.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I will have the first PG Development group meeting next week and I'll hope to have the next Research Lecture Series in the planning stages to begin to receive applications to present.

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?
Not yet, but will announce when time comes

Principal Ambassador – Kate MacLachlan

No report submitted.

Rector's Assessor – Stella Maris

What have I done since my last report?

- Our committee released our first ever annual report last week.
- The creative team in collaboration with our coordinators have continued releasing our spotlight weeks. This week is our LGBTQIA+ spotlight week and last week we highlighted SGBV.
- On a fun note, most of our committee got together for a quiz master social over the weekend.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

- Each coordinator across our Burke and Crenshaw sub teams have set short- and long-term goals for their issue area to be achieved over the course of this term and Leyla's term, respectively.
- Under accountability, our SGBV working group got together for a second meeting.
- Under access, our racial equality coordinators have been sorting through the 50+ responses to their racial equality questionnaire and our working on creating BAME staff and student profiles. Our widening access coordinators are working with Elevation Barn.
- Under action, our creative team has been working alongside myself and Dr. Fiona Hill to create the second episode of our Make It Make Sense podcast. Our environment coordinator is looking into tools for measuring carbon footprints.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

- Circulate, vote on, and approve the third draft of our committee constitution which has been recently completed.
- Continue the progress being carried out on our website. The issue area and home pages are currently being written meanwhile our creative team is designing the layout.
- Continue the successful run of our spotlight weeks. Next week's spotlight is widening access.
- Work with the Student's Association to construct a long term plan for the Rector's Committee to take full advantage of our three year term.

SRC Member Without Portfolio – Annie Smith

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report, I have done the graphic from the SRC meeting for social media, met with Morgan alongside Toni to discuss the changes to the Members Without Portfolio in Councils next year, and doing minutes for the SRC meeting and executive committee meeting.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Continued progress with social media

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Complete the SSC minutes and executive committee minutes from February, make a graphic series with Morgan and Toni on the changes to Councils next year, and make a recap graphic for this Joint Councils meeting (along with the minutes).

Any events, opportunities that you would like other members to know about?

None! Just let me know if you ever have questions or concerns about minutes or social media



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

MINUTES

Tuesday 26 January 2021 – MS Teams – 6pm

Present

Member's Name	Position
Dan Marshall	Association President
Tom Groves	Association Director of Events and Services
Amy Gallacher	Association Director of Education
Emma Walsh	Association Director of Wellbeing
Gavin Sandford	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Sophie Tyler	Association Athletic Union President
Morgan Morris	Association Chair
Emily Gilson	Association Alumni Officer
Anna Young	Association Community Relations Officer
Lea Weimann	Association Environment Officer
Georgina Beeby	Association LGBT+ Officer
Ananya Jain	Association BAME Officer
Stella Ezeh	Rector's Assessor
Sophie Bickerton	SRC Accommodation Officer
Joe Horsnell	Arts & Divinity Faculty President
Chloe Fielding	Science & Medicine Faculty President
Abigail Whitefield	SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
Maitreyi Tusharika	SRC Member for First Years
Jasmine Rodriguez	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
Elise Lenzi	SRC Member for Gender Equality
Annie Smith	SRC Member Without Portfolio
Anna-Ruth Cockerham	SRC Disability Officer
Gabby Kyriakou	SRC Member for Student Health
Tooba Shah	SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation
Kate MacLachlan	Principal Ambassador
Anna Harris	SSC Broadcasting Officer (STAR)
Amy Feakes	SSC Charities Officer (Charities Campaign)
Zaine Mansuralli	SSC Debates Officer (UDS)
Alistair Addison	SSC Music Officer (Music Fund)
Edward Spencer	SSC Design Team Convener

Ryan Delaney SSC Entertainments Convener (ENTS)
Martin Caforio SSC Performing Arts Officer (Mermaids)
Avery Kitchens SSC Societies Officer
Toni Valencia SSC Member Without Portfolio
Cara Nicholson SSC Volunteering Officer (SVS)
Sam Ross SSC Postgraduate Officer (Postgraduate Society)

In Attendance

Andrew Barron
Cate Hanlon Presenting motion J21-04

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Jenny Menday	Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer	Absent	
Ananya Jain	Association BAME Officer	Present until 7pm	Proxy: Maitreyi Tusharika

3. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings

- 3.1. Draft minutes from the SSC Meeting on 27th October 2020
- 3.2. Draft minutes from the SSC Meeting on 10th November 2020
- 3.3. Draft minutes from the SRC Meeting on 3rd November 2020

These were all **approved**.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings

Sophie Tyler (ST) asked if it were possible to get the draft minutes relatively soon after the meeting so councillors will know if important information is missed. Morgan Morris (MM) noted that this procedure was changed from Iain Cupples (IC) writing the minutes to Annie Smith (AS), and this should be improved in the future.

5. Open Forum

Tom Groves (TG) reminded councillors to update their role descriptions on the Union website if they have not done so already.

6. Updates from the Most Recent Board Meeting

- 6.1 SRC Senior Officer
- 6.2 SSC Senior Officer

Avery Kitchens (AK) reported that the Board discussed the space that Blackwell's used to be in and made sure that management is following up with plans there. Joe Horsnell (JH) said the board continued to discuss COVID-19 and what the new restrictions mean, particularly for the furlough scheme, as well as changing the status of the charity. They also discussed the website and who will be in charge of it going forward, whether it is a sabbatical position or a member of staff. AK noted that Amy Gallacher (AG) mentioned teaching space in 601 and how this will not change much in the future.

7. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

7.1. Report of the Athletic Union President

Sophie Tyler (ST) has been working on making plans for next academic year, such as fixing policies and procedures and the insurance department of the University. They have also been working on the reaffiliation process for the Students' Association and Athletic Union.

7.2. Report of the Association President

Dan Marshall (DM) has been doing work on the return to St Andrews and understanding documents from the Scottish Government. He hopes that the University's coronavirus page will have answers to most questions now, and it has now been updated with the latest government advice. DM has been liaising with private landlords and the University for rent rebates on behalf of students, and they noted that some private landlords have been fairly flexible with rent rebates. The Scottish Government also announced £20 million for hardship funds today.

7.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

TG has been working on the Union website and the Help Hub, promotion for society events, and the Decorate the Union event. TG is also considering a takeaway service for Main Bar after recent demand. They noted that the free food service over the winter break saw between 100 to 200 people a day.

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

Gavin Sandford (GS) worked on Can Do events over Christmas and supporting students virtually. They are now working on the University's volunteering service and plans for Careers Week, such as changing the way that the Union partners with the Careers Centre. GS also mentioned that they have been working with Mermaids and the University on the possible closure of the Barron Theatre and the student opposition around this. GS noted that Refreshers Fayre is this Sunday and has been planning for this, as well as working on the Union website with TG, such as society pages and general improvements to the site.

7.5. Report of the Association Director of Education

AG reported on recent academic mitigation measures announced by the University, which were released this afternoon. These were mainly focused on the return of special circumstances S-coding and a reduction to honours entry requirements. AG is also working on extensions with the University, as they noted this was a sore spot last semester for many students. For example, some students tried to ask for an extension under reasonable circumstances and they were not granted one. AG said that the advice to

staff is to grant 48-hour extensions reasonably, and if this does not happen, students should go to their School President. AG's attention is now shifted to digital resources in the library and access to this for students not in St Andrews, which is the majority of student body for at least first 6 weeks of term. They have been communicating with the University regarding planning for in-person teaching this semester and will update students as soon as possible. Additionally, AG is working with the Provost and academic conveners to address PGT and PGR issues. Now, AG is working on the study buddy scheme that rolled out last semester prior to revision period, and they thanked the faculty presidents, JH and Chloe Fielding (CF) for pulling this together in a short period of time. The scheme has already seen 100 signups, but AG asked councillors to continue sharing this on social media and to follow their Instagram page, @yourunioneducationcommittee.

7.6. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Emma Walsh (EW) has been primarily working on planning for the Students' Association elections in March, and they asked councillors to please share that Election Committee applications are still open; two positions need to be filled by executive members of subcommittees. EW noted that they have seen interest in the committee from a wide range of students, but they want to continue to promote applications. EW is also trying to plan a virtual elections mixer. They thanked everyone who has signed up to do videos promoting elections and said that they need two people who will not be running for election to speak on behalf of SSC. However, Martin Caforio (MC) and Anna Harris (AH) volunteered in the Teams chat, so EW no longer needs speakers from the SSC. EW is looking to see if this is the year for the formation of an alcohol support group, as they are unsure if an online support group about a sensitive subject would work right now. In terms of Can Do wellbeing initiatives, EW noted that Peer Support has launched their Can Do Chats and asked councillors to please share the information on these.

8. Questions for Association Officers

- 8.1. Questions for Association Alumni Officer
- 8.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Officer
- 8.3. Questions for Association LGBT+ Officer
- 8.4. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer
- 8.5. Questions for Association Environment Officer
- 8.6. Questions for Association BAME Officer

Ananya Jain (AJ) has worked over holidays to finalise the BAME ambassador scheme with Admissions, which includes revising the prospectus that they will send out next year. They have also been giving feedback on the BAME mentorship scheme and adapting it for next semester, and working with the Head of Diversity to revamp the diversity course for matriculation next year. AJ drew attention to the Windrush Exhibition on Monday 1 February in the Quad, and the BAME Student Network have been working with the curators to set this up. They asked councillors to please share information about this when it is introduced. The BAME Student Network is hoping to plan a virtual BAME Careers Fayre and a BAME Open Day in collaboration with Admissions.

9. Questions for SSC Members

- 9.1. Questions for SSC Broadcasting Officer (STAR)
- 9.2. Questions for SSC Charities Officer (Charities Campaign)

- 9.3. Questions for SSC Debates Officer (UDS)
- 9.4. Questions for SSC Performing Arts Officer (Mermaids)
- 9.5. Questions for SSC Postgraduate Officer (Postgraduate Society)
- 9.6. Questions for SSC Societies Officer

Anna-Ruth Cockerham (ARC) asked AK about his report where they mentioned the number of medical societies and clarified if disability societies will be included in this, but AK said it is purely medical-based.

- 9.7. Questions for SSC Music Officer (Music Fund)
- 9.8. Questions for SSC Volunteering Officer (SVS)
- 9.9. Questions for SSC Design Officer (Design Team)
- 9.10. Questions for SSC Entertainments Convener (ENTS)
- 9.11. Questions for SSC Arts Festival Convener (On the Rocks)
- 9.12. Questions for SSC Member without Portfolio

10. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers

- 10.1. Questions for SRC Accommodation Officer
- 10.2. Questions for SRC Member for First Years
- 10.3. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality
- 10.4. Questions for SRC Disability Officer
- 10.5. Questions for SRC Member for Student Health
- 10.6. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
- 10.7. Questions for SRC Arts/Divinity Faculty President
- 10.8. Questions for SRC Science/Medicine Faculty President
- 10.9. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
- 10.10. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Convener
- 10.11. Questions for Principal Ambassador
- 10.12. Questions for Rector's Assessor

Stella Ezeh (SE) introduced herself as the new Rector's Assessor. So far, they have been working on setting up a new structure for the Rector's Committee. Currently the committee functions like a network, which means SE has an Assessor's Assistant and Deputy Rector's Assessor. SE described the other sub-teams in the Rector's Committee, which are all named after activist women of colour, and include areas such as policy and reform, activism and outreach, and communications. The issues that they're working on and have coordinators for include racial equality, disability, mental health, SGBV (sex- and gender-based violence), LGBTQIA+, accommodation, and widening access. Anyone can join the Rector's Committee and email SE at see4@ or rector@ for more information, or by messaging SE personally on Facebook. There will also be spotlight weeks for members and issues on the Rector's Committee Instagram in the coming weeks.

- 10.13. Questions for SRC Member Without Portfolio

11. New General Joint Business

11.1. J21-01 Motion to re-establish and update the position of Employability Officer

JH introduced the motion, noting that is re-establishing a position that the Union has seen in the past but has not been elected for at least three years. They are not entirely sure when it was last elected

because IC was not aware, but they think it has a distinct function to play now. The aim would be to have the position of Employability Officer elected in March with the other Association positions. The role would serve as a feedback liaison to the Careers Centre, as there is currently no student link to communicate what students actually think about the Careers Centre, and they want to take this burden off School Presidents so they can focus more on academic representation. The Employability Officer would work alongside the Alumni Officer and some of the work they do already with the Careers Centre, but this would be a wider role and encompass services like appointments instead of just features like Saint Connect, for example.

ARC asked why the role stopped being elected, and JH said from what they can gather from the laws, it seems quite bureaucratic because there was a subcommittee as well. However, JH noted this would not be exactly the same role and he hopes it would not see similar issues.

GS noted the role was last elected in 2017 and they could find out why it stopped being elected, but added that the Careers Centre has also evolved since then and that may have something to do with it.

Toni Valencia (TV) moved to debate and Amy Feakes (AF) seconded.

Gavin Sandford (GS) moved to vote and Anna-Ruth Cockerham (ARC) seconded.

ST asked if the votes are anonymous through the Teams chat and MM confirmed that they are. They clarified that the votes are not normally anonymous in person, but someone can propose to move to an in camera session where the votes are anonymous.

With 28 votes, the motion **passed unanimously**.

11.2. J21-02 Motion to incorporate School Presidents Advisory Group (Careers) and Schools' Wellbeing Advisory Group into the Association Laws

JH introduced the motion, describing it incorporating into the laws something that is already done. The Education Committee is made up of the School Presidents, Director of Education, and Academic Conveners. There are two faculties in this group which members can be co-opted to: Careers, which is chaired by the Employability Officer, and on which the Faculty Presidents and Director of Education sit, and the Wellbeing Advisory Group, which deals with academic wellbeing issues. There are allowances for this in the updated laws' appendix of the motion. JH noted that they also want to tidy up laws, such as changing the chair of the Education Committee..

ARC asked why disability representatives are not written into the laws, and JH explained this is because they have many other academic representatives, such as library forum representatives and others that are ad hoc or at the discretion of the Director of Education. Because these can frequently change, they are not written into the laws.

ST proposed to move to debate and AF seconded.

TV proposed to move to vote and ARC seconded.

With 28 votes, the motion **passed unanimously**.

11.3. J21-03 A proposal to waive the law that previous “Officially Supported Charities” are ineligible for two years to be nominated

AF introduced the motion, and said that the Charities Campaign does not normally support charities that have been supported in the past two years or allow them to be nominated in order to give other charities a chance. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, fundraising totals are lower than normal, so they wish to allow charities which are being supported this year to go immediately to the shortlisting panel for consideration for next year. They will only allow these charities to bypass the process this year so that they may get the chance to fundraise again.

Lea Weimann (LW) asked how this will affect which charities are chosen, and whether it will have an impact on other charities that were not supported this year. AF noted that the shortlisting panel narrows down the choices to five charities and then chooses from that shortlisted group, so it will be their choice whether a charity supported this year is chosen for next year. The student body will also get to vote on the charities for next year in the Students’ Association elections in March. LW clarified that there is a new way this works with three categories (Fife, UK, and International), and AF confirmed this and said the process should still be able to run smoothly. LW informally proposed the idea of having different categories for charities being supported so that the chosen charities do not continually represent the same scope, and questioned how current events can be supported by chosen charities of the Charities Campaign. AF said that the shortlisting panel is now working to choose charities from a variety of categories, whether it be environmental, disability, disease, or another issue, and this was confirmed by their motion last year.

AK asked whether students can still vote out the charities supported this year in the elections deciding the charities for next year, and AF said yes.

ARC motioned to move to debate and LW seconded.

GS motioned to move to vote and LW seconded.

With 28 votes, the motion passed unanimously.

11.4. J21-04 A motion to petition the Students’ Association to oppose the permanent closure of The Barron Theatre

MM noted that this motion was proposed via petition with over 25 signatures from the student body, and the motion is owned by Cate Hanlon (CH).

CH noted that they are the Barron Theatre manager for this year and involved with theatre, but they have been concerned about the potential of a Barron closure for a while. The current plan by the University is to close the Barron Theatre and offer Mermaids a residency in the Byre Studio. While CH noted this offer is generous and students would look forward to a greater partnership with the Byre, they said this is not a replacement for the autonomous student theatre venue which the Barron Theatre is. CH remarked that the Barron’s closure would be a tragedy, especially this year, and it would be hugely detrimental to the student theatre and performing arts communities at St Andrews, as well as the student experience more generally.

ES asked if we have a financial breakdown of the Barron's spending and how much it costs the University each year. CH said they do not, but it is entirely financially independent and mostly run from the revenue it makes from shows and events to fund its upkeep. CH noted that there is also a Barron Endowment Fund, which can be used for physical building changes and upgrades should they be needed, and this fund currently has about £100,000.

LW asked why the University wants to close the Barron, and CH said that they are wanting to redevelop the block of University buildings on North Street for a larger strategic plan, though this was vague to students in the public forum meeting and alluded to study space and space for Student Services. CH also noted that the University was eager for more student involvement with the Byre, which students are happy to do but not at the expense of losing their autonomous space.

ARC asked how we got here and what has happened until this point, as she believed this involved the University Court. MM said this question will be saved for debate.

MC asked CH to explain how the Barron benefits Mermaids as well as all affiliated societies. CH noted that the Barron is currently entirely run by students with student key holders and is open nearly 365 days a year, 7 days a week (this is subject to the Union's hours for insurance purposes). The Barron often hosts Mermaids and its affiliates, but it also sees events and space use from Dance Society, Art Society and their weekly life drawing classes, Blind Mirth every Monday, music groups, and independent student collectives. CH said the Barron has even been used by academic departments in the last few years.

AS asked if the University offered an explanation as to why they are building more in town when many departments are shifting to Eden Campus, as well as if the Byre could handle all the events that the Barron puts on with its current schedule of events and storage. CH explained that the Byre offered students storage space in a town within a short drive away from St Andrews and said they could also store some things in the Byre Studio. CH said this is not ideal because students need to drive to get there, so they would be reliant on Byre staff to drive with vans and store things. CH also said that the Open Forum showed there are many details that still need to be addressed, and the University only said they would look into using other estate space but were not specific. In terms of the access to the space in the Byre, the University said performing arts would have access to the Byre about five days a week, but sometimes less, which would reduce Mermaids' capacity with less access to space.

GS motioned to move to debate and MC seconded.

GS answered an earlier question by ARC about how we arrived at this point and explained that sabbatical officers were approached by the University at the end of last semester. In that communication, the University suggested that the Barron would not remain open and the Students' Association should be looking to alternatives, which is when the Byre was suggested. GS said sabbatical officers were not given the opportunity for debate on the Barron's closure and believes that this petition can strengthen their position that students want this space to remain open. While sabbatical officers have been pushing for this, GS said it has not been the focus of their discussions with the University. DM said that they have made it clear at every stage that the Students' Association do not want to see the Barron closed and they would be happy to operate the Barron. DM explained that the choice they were given at University Court was not about the Barron but rather the Byre, and had to vote on whether or not the Byre would close. DM said had they opposed this, they would have lost the Byre and the Barron. DM said they believe the point for the Barron to be saved was unfortunately a long time ago.

ST responded to the question from AS about Eden Campus and said they believe the campus is for departments that are non-student facing, and the University is redeveloping departments in town to make them more suitable for student use. AG responded that it is also to free up other buildings in the centre of town.

LW asked whether saving the Barron is possible, and MM responded that this petition is to oppose its closure in a formal manner, which mandates the sabbatical officers to take this forward with the University in a more formal capacity. GS said the motion can still prove useful in other regards and that, although it is likely the Barron will close at some point, the passage of this motion could lead to the Barron staying open for longer or strengthen their position of wanting an autonomous space for student performing arts. DM added that whether or not it is likely they can save the Barron, it is important to put on record that the Students' Association opposes this action. On whether the Barron is a lost cause, CH said they hope to prevent the closure of the Barron until the University can open up a similar space.

GS proposed an amendment to focus the motion on the Barron, rather than mentioning the Byre. His amendment would read, "Resolves 1. We ask that the Students' Association oppose the permanent closure of The Barron Theatre." With no objections, the amendment **passed unanimously**.

MC said he is under the impression that a lot of the University's perception of the opposition to their move comes from disgruntled alumni and people that just want to be angry at the University. MC believes that if elected representatives also voice their opposition, it will remove this perception. CH mentioned that one petition online had over 2,200 signatures.

AS asked what the University's justification was for also getting rid of the Byre. GS said the University does not make money on the Byre, but it costs them money. DM added that there is no desire from the senior leadership of the University to close the Byre, but the Byre costs a lot of money and investment from the University, as they rent the building from Fife Council. In the long term, the University wants to own the Byre building and ensure it is acting to benefit staff and students, as well as the community in a way that it has not done historically. DM believes the decision between the Byre and Barron was to ensure the Byre is worth losing the money for and ensure it has clear, demonstrable values to the student experience.

ES asked the sabbatical officers if, we can't save the Barron, whether this motion can help get more resources for Mermaids and student groups at the Byre. GS believes there is no need for further motions on this issues as this puts weight behind them for what they are currently requesting.

ARC motioned to move to vote and ST seconded.

RD spoke about the public forum, which had about 120 students attend and lasted for about three hours. They noted that it addressed points that the University has not talked about in its plans so far, including things that are not directly show-related such as workshop space, for which the University has no alternative at the Byre currently. RD noted that the public forum demonstrated the amount of student opposition to the closure of the Barron.

AS spoke about how they disagreed with the University planning ideas for expansion and new buildings in the middle of a pandemic when many things will be interrupted financially post-COVID. ST said that

we should not put things on hold during the pandemic, especially legally, and need to keep planning for the future. DM added that one architect said these spaces like study space will not be ready until 2025, so it is important to have these future plans now, even in a pandemic.

GS motioned to move to vote and ST seconded.

With 28 votes in favour and 2 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

11.5. J21-05 A motion to accept the elections rules as provided by the Elections Committee to allow for the Students' Association Elections in 2021 to take place in a fair and organized manner.

EW introduced the motion, describing it as the annual update to the election rules, as each year the Director of Wellbeing makes changes, minor or major. EW noted the most notable changes include the elections being fully online this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic; no sabbatical hall hustings this year as moving to an online forum for each specific hall would not serve a purpose because they are online, and they normally cause a lot of stress on sabbatical candidates. Rules have also been changed for commenting on election posts, and rules have been clarified for pre-campaigning. Instead of moving the SRC and SSC hustings online, as they have been poorly attended last year and online events are typically less attended than in-person events, these will be held as written hustings, similar to how many School President elections run.

ARC asked if the COVID guidelines attached to the election rules would change if government guidance changed. EW said that even if things were open again in March, the Elections Committee would still be hesitant to allow in-person campaigning because the University has asked students not to return, and they want an equal-playing field for all candidates whether they are in St Andrews or not. However, EW does not think the rules will change regardless.

ES asked if sabbatical officers were previously not allowed to support a campaign publicly and if this rule is now being removed. EW said they took out this policy in case a sabbatical officer is running a campaign, or if there is a reason they cannot be neutral. Additionally, EW said all sabbatical officers who are not running are expected to be on the Elections Committee.

TG asked if people can now comment anything on nominations posts and how the format of the nomination posts has changed. EW said that previously, the format of releasing nomination posts on a rolling basis has been anxiety-inducing for candidates, so instead of this, they will do one collected nominations post at 5pm each day. EW believes this will draw less attention to individual nominations posts and instead allow people to learn about multiple elections. In terms of rules on comments for nomination posts, people can comment anything as long as it is within the guidelines of good campaigning and not pre-campaigning. EW also hopes this will create a more even nominations process.

Zaine Mansuralli (ZM) asked if anything in the elections working group and questionnaire had been integrated into the rules. EW said they had a meeting with the working group and hopes to revive this group with the new Director of Wellbeing so this group can meet sooner after the elections end. Conversations that came out of the working group include the library and in-person campaigning, which will come into play post-pandemic; changes to the time-frame of elections and shortening the nominations period, but EW believes a longer nominations period works to their advantage to increase engagement, especially this year; and the nominations posts, which has changed as a result of the working group's comments.

ST asked about the rule of sabbatical officers opting out of the Elections Committee, as many of the points in the election rules read like guidance instead of rules to them, and said actual rules should be put at the top of the document with guidance following. ST also said that it feels as if the same issues are coming up each year and wonders if Councils can mandate that the working group exists. ARC said the elections motion last semester mandated that this group existed, but it also mandated that the group existed earlier and in a different form than it actually did. ARC added that a similar motion could be passed to mandate the working group each year if they feel that is necessary.

ARC brought up the issue of online campaign ads and that there was a disparity where some candidates could run them and some could not, as only candidates who have previously run political ads do not have permission on Facebook to run campaign ads, and asked why this had not been addressed in the election rules this year. EW said they were not personally aware of that issue and would be interested in hearing more about it.

TG motioned to move to debate and AF seconded.

ARC followed up on her earlier question and said that as the person who ran the survey on elections, they do not feel that the answers were responded to well with the election rules this year. They also noted that the elections working group was not meant to be every sabbatical officer and mostly Councils, and it was meant to start at the beginning of the semester, because the rules are consistently set by sabbatical officers and Councils and others feel this is why problems are recurring. ARC noted that the general feedback of the rules being confusing has not been addressed, and the working group only met once and did not decide anything. They do not feel that Association policy has been implemented and believe they cannot support the motion when Councils is failing to do something they previously said they would do. In regards to the working group being majority Councils members, EW said the working group was publicised on Facebook and all-student emails but there were unfortunately not many sign-ups, which was beyond their control, though EW wished that more non-Councils members were involved. In terms of when the working group met, EW said this was an issue of miscommunication between herself and her predecessor, and EW believed ARC would run it. ARC said this was discussed between them in the summer and ARC was told they could not run the working group because it was a conflict-of-interest, as they could run in these elections and should not be involved in the creation of the rules. ARC said, had the elections working group been advertised earlier, they would not have faced these issues because there was interest expressed when the motion was initially passed, and at the start of the semester. ARC believes there was low interest because the group was promoted during exams, when less people could commit their time. MM ended the debate point as to avoid blame being pointed in a public manner.

AK motioned to move to vote and TV seconded.

With 16 votes in favour, 7 against, and 4 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

11.6. SRC and SSC Carve-Ups to the Election Committee

MM began with SSC carve-ups.

TV nominated their self and ZM seconded.

AK nominated MC, but they declined because they have a conflict-of-interest. EW nominated AF, but they declined. ES nominated AK, but they declined.

EW nominated ZM and they accepted; TV seconded the nomination.

EW nominated AH and they accepted.

TV gave their nomination speech, noting their candidacy in two previous elections and that they are relatively aware of previous election rules. They hope they can help candidates feel more at ease during elections season and prevent negative campaigning. They want to work on everyone having a fun elections process.

ZM gave their nomination speech, saying they could help ensure the elections are fair and impartial. They are familiar with election rules and the process because of their previous candidacy and work on a campaigns team. They have organised elections within the UDS committee and for debating across Scotland, so they could bring this experience to the Elections Committee, particularly with running an election during a pandemic.

AH gave their nomination speech, noting their enthusiasm for being on a team and that they know nothing about elections, so they could provide an alternative perspective and empathise with candidates that are new to the process.

MM relinquished the chair to AK as the SRC Senior Officer, in order to volunteer for the SRC carve-ups.

EW nominated MM and GS seconded; MM accepted.

SB nominated their self and TV seconded.

EW nominated Jasmine Rodriguez (JR), but they declined. EW nominated LW, but they declined. GS nominated Tooba Shah (TS), but they declined.

EW nominated Georgina Beeby and Elise Lenzi (EL) seconded. GB asked what the role entailed, and EW noted that it involves an hour each day monitoring campaign group chats, campaigning, and the email, though anyone could also be a Deputy Elections Officer with more responsibility. GB accepted the nomination.

MM gave their nomination speech and thanked everyone for the nomination. They have been waiting to be on the Election Committee for a few years and believe they could bring a good perspective to the committee as they have run three different campaigns and been on several sabbatical campaign teams. They also believe they could bring a neutral stance as being Association Chair this year, as well as leadership and other relevant skills.

SB gave their nomination speech, noting that elections are important in every year but especially this year because the pandemic may have not shown Councils in the best light and they hope to elect good officers to these roles.

GB gave their nomination speech, noting that they do not know how elections run and did not enjoy the process very much last year, so they hope to enlighten others who are new to elections and make the

process fun for them. GS asked how GB would make it fun, and GB noted it would be with lots of memes.

Councillors voted for SSC and SRC carve-ups to the Election Committee, and the results were as follows:
Toni Valencia, Zaine Mansuralli, and Anna Harris for SSC; Morgan Morris, Sophie Bickerton, and Georgina Beeby for SRC.

12. New General SSC Business

None.

13. New General SRC Business

None.

14. Any Other Competent Business

None.

15. Collaborative Solutions

15.1. Handover Preparations

15.2. COVID-Safe Fundraising

Not minuted.

University of St Andrews
Students' Association
Students' Representative Council

MINUTES

Tuesday 2nd February 2021 – MS Teams – 6pm



Present

Member's Name

Position

Dan Marshall	Association President
Tom Groves	Association Director of Events and Services
Amy Gallacher	Association Director of Education
Emma Walsh	Association Director of Wellbeing
Gavin Sandford	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Sophie Tyler	Association Athletic Union President
Morgan Morris	Association Chair
Emily Gilson	Association Alumni Officer
Anna Young	Association Community Relations Officer
Lea Weimann	Association Environment Officer
Georgina Beeby	Association LGBT+ Officer
Ananya Jain	Association BAME Officer
Sophie Bickerton	SRC Accommodation Officer
Joe Horsnell	Arts & Divinity Faculty President
Chloe Fielding	Science & Medicine Faculty President
Abigail Whitefield	SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
Jasmine Rodriguez	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
Maitreyi Tusharika	SRC Member for First Years
Elise Lenzi	SRC Member for Gender Equality
Anna-Ruth Cockerham	SRC Disability Officer
Gabby Kyriakou	SRC Member for Student Health
Tooba Shah	SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation
Kate MacLachlan	Principal Ambassador
Stella Maris	Rector's Assessor

In Attendance

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Apologies for Absence

Jasmine Rodriguez	SRC Postgraduate Development Officer	Present / Apologies	Proxy to Emma Walsh
Anna-Ruth Cockerham	SRC Disability Officer	Present / Apologies	Proxy to Gabby Kyriakou
Jenny Menday	Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer	Absent	
Annie Smith	SRC Member Without Portfolio	Absent	

3. Open Forum

No business.

4. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

4.1. Report of the Athletic Union President

Sophie Tyler (ST) wrote an article for the alumni newsletter, and they have also been working on policies such as the Health and Safety policies for the Athletic Union. They have also been working on the AU's affiliation and reaffiliation, and they are looking into changing the membership structure for Saint Sport and clubs. ST will also be holding open forums this week, which has been difficult because many employees of Saint Sport are on furlough at the moment.

4.2. Report of the Association President

Dan Marshall (DM) has been dealing with accommodation issues and students trying to get refunds, rent reductions, and out of contacts. They said letting agents have been fairly good at ensuring student requests get to landlords, and the landlords have been on a spectrum of very accommodating to quite unhelpful to students. They are some issues with students getting out of contracts, but it has been broadly successful, and DM has drafted letters that students can send to their landlords which should be released in an email soon. DM has also been writing articles for the alumni newsletter. DM has attended meetings about restructuring hall committees alongside Sophie Bickerton (SB) and Stella Maris (SM), which has been positive. DM attended a course last week about good university governance, which addressed what St Andrews could do better with University Court and governance. Last week, they learned the Students' Association will be receiving £16,000 in funding from the Scottish Government, with some conditions attached. If councillors are working on things that are relevant to these conditions, they should let DM know. The Students' Association has also received £1500 from Santander to spend on 'activities that enable, encourage, and engage diversity and inclusion across the University community,' so if councillors have ideas on how to spend this money, they should contact DM.

4.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Tom Groves (TG) has been working on society pages of the website and said that the Decorate the Union competition is going well, with voting opening soon for about 30 entries. TG has also been arranging Instagram takeovers.

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

Gavin Sandford (GS) has attended meetings about Can Do and CEED, and the Volunteering group. GS wrote a letter about the Barron as a result of the Joint Councils meeting last week, which has been published on the Students' Association Facebook page. Refreshers Fayre was held last Sunday, which has quiet but only lasted one hour, and societies told GS they found it useful. GS has also been working with TG on society pages and membership links for the website.

4.5. Report of the Association Director of Education

Amy Gallacher (AG) has finished the two postgraduate forums with Abi Whitefield (AW) and has passed the feedback onto the Provost. Both groups highlighted key issues to them, which will allow them to address these issues before the semester progresses. AG attended the LTC Away Day last week, which addressed digital assessment and the future of blended delivery at St Andrews. A project board will look at how exams and classwork will continue in the future, and there should be a new exam platform next year. AG is also working with the Academic Monetary Group on attainment gaps based upon the last exam diet and how that compares to previous years. Based on the data, they will see what changes they should keep post-pandemic. AG is also working through student emails on cancelled courses, dissertation issues, and library access and study space.

4.6. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Emma Walsh (EW) has mainly been devoting her time to elections and discussed the major publicity rebrand. This week, EW is conducting interviews for the Elections Committee, and they should have the finalised committee by Thursday. They are also beginning to plan virtual events for elections week and other admin for elections. In terms of wellbeing, EW has attended meetings with Student Services, including the mediation programme that is now running, and actions on the Student Mental Health Agreement.

5. Questions for Association Officers

- 5.1. Questions for Association Alumni Officer
- 5.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Officer
- 5.3. Questions for Association LGBT+ Officer
- 5.4. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer
- 5.5. Questions for Association Environment Officer
- 5.6. Questions for Association BAME Officer

6. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers

- 6.1. Questions for SRC Accommodation Officer
- 6.2. Questions for SRC Member for First Years
- 6.3. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality

- 6.4. Questions for SRC Disability Officer
- 6.5. Questions for SRC Member for Student Health
- 6.6. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
- 6.7. Questions for SRC Arts/Divinity Faculty President

Joe Horsnell (JH) thanked everyone who has publicised the Study Buddy Scheme. Applications close at 5PM tomorrow (Wednesday 3 February), and they have seen over 350 sign-ups. JH asked councillors to please share the post one last time before applications close.

- 6.8. Questions for SRC Science/Medicine Faculty President
- 6.9. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
- 6.10. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Convener
- 6.11. Questions for Principal Ambassador
- 6.12. Questions for Rector's Assessor
- 6.13. Questions for SRC Member Without Portfolio

7. Unfinished SRC Business

8. New SRC Business

8.1. R21-01 Motion to promote trade union membership and direct students in employment to support

Dan Marshall (DM) introduced the motion, noting that there are a lot of students in St Andrews who work part-time and at the moment, neither the University nor the Students' Association provides formal advice or guidance to these students. DM often receives emails from students in difficult situations with their employer or who are unaware of their rights at work, and currently the Students' Association can only direct them onwards to other pages where they can receive help. In a lot of cases, this includes Citizens Advice if they need information, but if they want to be represented in the workplace, this usually takes the form of trade union membership because the Students' Association cannot do this kind of advocacy work. This motion would not make the Students' Association a trade union or represent students as employees, but rather it would direct students to places where they can receive support, advice, or advocacy help with a webpage where they can find these resources.

AW asked if this will include signposting for students who work for the Students' Association or University and whether this would be a conflict-of-interest. DM said there are issues if the Students' Association begins to act like a trade union, so they will not do this, but they said students should be aware when they become an employee that they can join Unison Unite or the UCU for representation with a trade union. DM hopes that the webpage they put together will recognise this because many students work for the University or the Students' Association, and if they work for an outside organisation, it would let them know what union they can join. DM said this would not complicate the Students' Association's position as an employer because it already tells its employees this.

Anna-Ruth Cockerham (ARC) motioned to move to debate and ST seconded.

ARC motioned to move to a vote and ST seconded.

With 20 votes in favour, the **motion passed unanimously.**

9. Any Other Competent Business

10. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted.



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

MINUTES

Tuesday 9th February 2021 – MS Teams – 6pm

Present

Member's Name	Position
Dan Marshall	Association President
Tom Groves	Association Director of Events and Services
Gavin Sandford	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Emma Walsh	Association Director of Wellbeing
Morgan Morris	Association Chair
Emily Gilson	Association Alumni Officer
Lea Weimann	Association Environment Officer
Georgina Beeby	Association LGBT+ Officer
Anna Harris	SSC Broadcasting Officer (STAR)
Amy Feakes	SSC Charities Officer (Charities Campaign)
Edward Spencer	SSC Design Team Convener
Martin Caforio	SSC Performing Arts Officer (Mermaids)
Toni Valencia	SSC Member Without Portfolio
Avery Kitchens	SSC Societies Officer
Cara Nicholson	SSC Volunteering Officer (SVS)

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Sophie Tyler	Association Athletic Union President	Apologies
Amy Gallacher	Association Director of Education	Apologies
Ananya Jain	Association BAME Officer	Apologies
Zaine Mansuralli	SSC Debates Officer (UDS)	Apologies
Ali Addison	SSC Music Officer (Music Fund)	Apologies
Sam Ross	SSC Postgraduate Officer (Postgraduate Society)	Apologies
Anna Young	Association Community Relations Officer	Absent

Jenny Menday	Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer	Absent
Ali Addison	SSC Music Officer (Music Fund)	Absent

3. Open Forum

No business.

4. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

4.1. Report of the Association President

Dan Marshall (DM) has been dealing with accommodation inquiries this week and working with the University on its plans for semester two, with expectations for an email tomorrow (10th February). DM has also met with the Board and had a meeting about graduation alongside Amy Gallacher (AG), and decisions about graduation should be made by the University within the next few weeks.

4.2. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing

Emma Walsh (EW) has continued to work on elections and hosted the first Elections Committee meeting which went well. The committee now has Deputy Senior Officers, and the first elections workshop will be held tomorrow (10th February) in partnership with CEED, which she asked councillors to please share.

4.3. Report of the Association Director of Education

Absent.

4.4. Report of the Athletic Union President

Absent.

4.5. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Tom Groves (TG) has been updating role descriptions and answered questions for *The Saint* and *In the Loop*. TG will also share the submissions for the Decorate the Union event later today.

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

Gavin Sandford (GS) announced that it is Careers Week and has been working with the University to plan events and the Careers informational webpage. GS has been in touch with IT Services about problems with two-factor authentication and told councillors to email IT services if they had any questions about this. GS has a meeting tomorrow with the administration behind the Volunteer Portal.

5. Questions for Association Officers

5.1. Questions for Association Alumni Officer

5.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Officer

- 5.3. Questions for Association LGBT+ Officer
- 5.4. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer
- 5.5. Questions for Association Environment Officer
- 5.6. Questions for Association BAME Officer

6. Questions for SSC Members

- 6.1. Questions for SSC Broadcasting Officer (STAR)
- 6.2. Questions for SSC Charities Officer (Charities Campaign)
- 6.3. Questions for SSC Debates Officer (UDS)
- 6.4. Questions for SSC Performing Arts Officer (Mermaids)
- 6.5. Questions for SSC Postgraduate Officer (Postgraduate Society)
- 6.6. Questions for SSC Societies Officer

Avery Kitchens (AK) has been discussing the reaffiliation process with societies and changes they can make to facilitate this process. The Societies Committee have also begun planning for the Society Awards, a project which will get handed over to the next Societies Officer. AK has met with every executive committee member and believe they are all on the same page with what is expected for the rest of their terms. The committee is also working on a Medical Societies Forum, and a motion may be coming to Councils about this soon.

- 6.7. Questions for SSC Music Officer (Music Fund)
- 6.8. Questions for SSC Volunteering Officer (SVS)
- 6.9. Questions for SSC Design Officer (Design Team)
- 6.10. Questions for SSC Entertainments Convener (ENTS)
- 6.11. Questions for SSC Arts Festival Convener (On the Rocks) - Vacant
- 6.12. Questions for SSC Member without Portfolio

Toni Valencia (TV) has been working on the elections graphic, which should be uploaded and able to share today, and details how people can join Councils. TV has also been working with Morgan Morris (MM) and Annie Smith (AS) on social media.

7. Any Other Competent Questions

None.

8. Unfinished General Business

None.

9. New General Business

None.

10. Any Other Competent Business

None.

11. Collaborative Solutions

Not minuted.

J21-06 Motion to reform and update the Laws of the Association.

In effect: Immediately after the Association Elections in March 2021

Review Date: January 2022

Owner: Morgan Morris, Association Chair

This Joint Council notes:

1. The current Laws of the Association (Appendix 2) do not reflect current practice of the Association, containing inconsistencies and outdated references.
2. Following interviews with students and Association officers, the University-led review of the Students' Association highlighted that students felt Association Councils was "complicated and limiting" and its complexity led to students being too intimidated to get involved.
3. The inclusion of Association positions has created a sense of hierarchy within Association Councils.
4. A large amount of Association Councils business is procedural motions, such as minor changes to SSC constitutions.
5. The current Laws of the Association cause overlap in remit and membership of certain officers and groups, such as the Wellbeing and Equal Opportunities Subcommittees, and the Postgraduate Development Officer.
6. The Students' Association Executive Committee (SAEC) discussed this plan (Appendix 1) to update the Association Laws at their meeting on 17th November 2020 and gave their preliminary approval to proceed.
7. The Governance, Nominations, and Staffing (GNS) Subcommittee of the Students' Association Board was made aware and discussed this plan (Appendix 1) to update the laws at their meeting on 27th November 2020 and gave their preliminary approval to proceed.

This Joint Council believes:

1. Maintenance of the Association laws needs to be more straightforward, as the current format is unmanageable.
2. The operation and structure of Association Councils needs to be simplified for transparency, and to allow students to meaningfully engage with councils.
3. Association Councils positions and subcommittees need to be streamlined, to allow for Councils to be more accessible to all students.
4. The sense of hierarchy within Association Councils should be removed, particularly Association positions, to ensure all members are equal.
5. The number of procedural motions, such as minor constitutional changes, coming to Association Councils for consideration should be reduced, particularly within the SSC.
6. The two councils should be refocused on their distinct but equally important remits of representation and provision of activities, and away from general governance which should be carried out by SAEC.

7. *Chapter 9: Rectoral Heckling* and *Chapter 11: Association Projects* of the current Association Laws (Appendix 2) should be removed, as they do not reflect current practice of the Association.

This Joint Council resolves:

1. To implement the changes laid out in Appendix 1.
2. To replace the current Laws of the Association (Appendix 2, as of November 2020) with the new Laws of the Association (Appendix 3a) and Association Subcommittee Constitutions (Appendix 3b).
3. To update the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Association in accordance with the new Laws of the Association and Association Subcommittee Constitutions.
4. To mandate the Director of Wellbeing, and other relevant officers, to review and reform the Wellbeing and Equal Opportunities Subcommittees before the end of the current semester, so that they function within the aims of this review, with changes brought to SAEC for approval.
5. To mandate the Director of Education, and other relevant officers, to review and update the three Postgraduate Officer roles before the end of the current semester, so that they function within the aims of this review, with changes brought to SAEC for approval.
6. To mandate that the following chapters of the Laws of the Association are reviewed by the named officers before the end of their term, with changes brought to SAEC for approval:
 - a. *Chapter One: The Students' Association and Sabbatical Officers*, to be reviewed by all Sabbatical Officers.
 - b. *Chapter Six: Elections*, to be reviewed by the Director of Wellbeing (as Senior Elections Officer) and the other Sabbatical Officers.
 - c. *Chapter Seven: Meetings and Referenda*, to be reviewed by the Association President and other relevant officers and members of staff.
 - d. *Chapter Nine: Membership of the Association* and *Chapter Eleven: Rules of the Union*, to be reviewed by the Director of Events and Services and relevant members of staff.
7. To mandate that the following chapters of the Association Subcommittee Constitutions are completed by the named officers and their sabbatical line managers before the end of their term, with changes brought to SAEC for approval:
 - a. *Chapter One: Accommodation Subcommittee*, to be completed by the Accommodation Officer.
 - b. *Chapter Two: Alumni Subcommittee*, to be completed by the Alumni Officer.
 - c. *Chapter Four: Community Relations Subcommittee*, to be completed by the Community Relations Officer.
 - d. *Chapter Seven: Environment Subcommittee*, to be completed by the Environment Officer.
 - e. *Chapter Ten: Lifelong and Flexible Learners Subcommittee*, to be completed by the

Lifelong and Flexible Learners Officer.

- f. *Chapter Eleven: Wellbeing Subcommittee*, to be completed by the Student Health Officer.

Proposed by Morgan Morris, Association Chair

Seconded by:

- Dan Marshall, Association President
- Tom Groves, Director of Events and Services
- Gavin Sandford, Director of Student Development and Activities
- Emma Walsh, Director of Wellbeing
- Sophie Tyler, Athletic Union President
- Amy Gallacher, Director of Education
- Unanimous Approval from the Students' Association Executive Committee

Appendices:

The following appendices will be attached to this motion:

1. Appendix 1: Plan to update Laws of the Association, as approved by SAEC and GNS.
2. Appendix 2: Current Laws of the Association (as of November 2020).
3. Appendix 3a: Proposed Laws of the Association.
4. Appendix 3b: Proposed Association Subcommittee Constitutions

*Appendix 2, 3a, and 3b have been sent in separate documents in order to view tracked changes.

Appendix 1: Plan to update Laws of the Association, as approved by SAEC and GNS.

Association Councils Review 2020/21

Aims of this review, Principals of what we are trying to achieve:

- Make the maintenance of the laws more straightforward
- Simplifying operation of Association Councils for students to understand to enable increased engagement and transparency
- Making it more efficient/streamlined for Councillors to make councils positions more accessible and focused
- Reduce number of procedural motions (such as minor constitutional changes) coming to councils for consideration, particularly SSC.
- Determine what needs to be in the laws
- Remove sense of hierarchy around Association positions and other positions

Ideas:

- Change the SSC to the less formal Students Services Forum (SSF), chaired by the Association Chair. SSF would have no decision-making power beyond carve ups to exec, discipline etc but would be a forum for collaboration and discussion between heads of SSC subcommittees.
- Constitutions held by services subcommittees independently with oversight from the SAEC. Constitutions must fulfil certain basic criteria and if councillors wanted to change their constitution, these constitutional changes would approve by SAEC in the form of a motion.

- Association Positions would be changed to SRC positions with some role descriptions requiring some adjustment to refocus on representation. Along with the change of some position titles.
- Change the number of meetings per semester, to one per month for SRC meeting and twice a semester for SSF.
- Open forum meetings 1 per year/semester for all members with required attendance from SRC and SSF for updates and open discussion (would serve as AGM)
- Remove Chapter 9: Rectoral Heckling. This has become irrelevant as the University Court sets the election rules.
- Update the SA Standing Orders and SA Constitution in accordance with the changes that have been made in the laws

Road Map:

- Bring to the SAEC for the first time on the 17th November 2020, with a wider discussion.
- Dec-Feb: Association Chair and Association President to work on the chapters that would need updated to reflect these changes.
- Bring to SAEC for approval on 16th February 2021
- Bring it to Joint Councils on the 23rd February 2021
- Take it for approval by SA Board on the 17th March 2021

J21-07 Motion to update the Saints LGBT+ Committee Structure.

Owner: Georgine Beeby, LGBT+ Officer

In effect: Immediately

Review: n/a

Notes

1. The roles Marketing Officer, Glitterball Coordinator, and Gay Saint Head Editor are all necessary, important, and influential positions on the LGBT+ subcommittee.
2. These positions have previously been more successful when interviewed for rather than elected.
3. Gay Saint Head Editor is not currently mentioned in the laws, and previously it has been left to the discretion of the Association LGBT+ Officer to decide whether to interview or elect these positions.

Believes

1. We need to ensure that the candidates for these roles have the necessary qualifications to do the job well.
2. Past experiences have proved that an election is not a sufficient vetting process, while interviews have yielded successful candidates.
3. Whoever has these positions will have a great influence over the image and strategy of Saints LGBT+, either through our marketing, our annual ball, or our newspaper.

Resolves

1. To replace the current Chapter 18 of the Laws (Appendix 1) with the updated version (Appendix 2).

Proposed

Georgina Beeby, Association LGBT+ Officer

Seconded

Gavin Sandford, Director of Student Development and Activities

Emma Walsh, Director of Wellbeing

Elise Lenzi, Member for Gender Equality

Appendix 1: Current Chapter of the laws as it is with highlighted areas to change:

5.Non-Executive Officers

5.1 Non-Executive Officers may include:

- Marketing Officer
- Design Officer
- Campaigns Officer
- Glitterball Coordinator
- Queerfest Coordinator
- Volunteer and Outreach Officer
- First Year Officer
- Postgraduate Officer
- Trans and Non-binary Officer

5.2.The Executive can approve a creation of other non-executive officers and/or the discontinuation of non-executive officer roles at their discretion, given sufficient notice.

5.3.Non-executive Officers can be invited to the regular meetings of the Executive at the discretion of the Executive.

5.4.All non-executive positions shall be advertised to the student body and elected at a General Meeting.

6.Membership

6.1.The membership of the Group shall consist of all the matriculated students of the University except those who have exercised their right to opt out under the terms of the Education Act 1994.

7.Elections and General Meetings

7.1.The Annual General Meeting of the Group shall be held between weeks eight and ten of the Candlemas semester.

7.2.An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held between weeks two and four of the Martinmas Semester.

7.3.Additional Extraordinary General Meetings can be called by the Association LGBT+ Officer, or three or more members of the LGBT+ Executive.

7.4.Two weeks' notice must be given to all members of a General Meeting, with details of the business to be discussed agreed to date. Any proposed business must be submitted at least three working days in advance.

8.LGBT+ Selection Committee

8.1.The LGBT+ Selection Committee shall have the following members:

8.1.1.Current Association LGBT+ Officer (Convenor and Chair)

8.1.2.Outgoing Association LGBT+ Officer

8.1.3.Director of Wellbeing

8.1.4.Director-elect of Wellbeing

8.1.5. Any outgoing LGBT+ officers or Association Sabbatical Officers that the Convenor deems appropriate.

8.2. The LGBT+ Selection Committee shall select the following positions to the LGBT+ Executive after an open advertisement of vacancies and an interview with all candidates:

8.2.1. Social Officer

8.2.2. Wellbeing Officer

8.2.3. Design Officer

8.2.3. Non-Executive positions as deemed appropriate for interview selection by the Association LGBT+ Officer together with their Sabbatical line-managers.

8.3. The LGBT+ Selection Committee will select positions listed in §8.2. after the Students' Association Elections and before the Annual General Meeting of the Group.

Appendix 2: Proposed changes to the laws:

5.Non-Executive Officers

5.1 Non-Executive Officers may include:

- Marketing Officer
- Design Officer
- Campaigns Officer
- Glitterball Coordinator
- Queerfest Coordinator
- Volunteer and Outreach Officer
- First Year Officer
- Postgraduate Officer
- Gay Saint Head Editor**
- Trans and Non-binary Officer

5.2.The Executive can approve a creation of other non-executive officers and/or the discontinuation of non-executive officer roles at their discretion, given sufficient notice.

5.3.Non-executive Officers can be invited to the regular meetings of the Executive at the discretion of the Executive.

~~5.4.All non-executive positions shall be advertised to the student body and elected at a General Meeting.-~~

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8.2. The LGBT+ Selection Committee shall select the following positions to the LGBT+ Executive after an open advertisement of vacancies and an interview with all candidates:

8.2.1. Social Officer

8.2.2. Wellbeing Officer

8.2.3. Design Officers

8.2.4 Glitterball Coordinator

8.2.5 Marketing Officer

8.2.6 Gay Saint Head Editor

~~8.2.3. Non-Executive positions as deemed appropriate for interview selection by the Association LGBT+ Officer together with their Sabbatical line-managers.~~

8.3. The LGBT+ Selection Committee will select positions listed in §8.2. after the Students' Association Elections and before the Annual General Meeting of the Group.

8.4 All other positions shall be advertised to the student body and elected at a General Meeting.

J21-08 Motion to Reform the Debates Board.

Owner: Zaine Mansuralli

In Effect From: 5th March 2021

Review Date: September 2021

It is noted that:

1. The Union Debating Society board has increased in size significantly over the past two years.
2. The majority of association subcommittees are organised into an executive committee and specialised committees.
3. Several positions have been reformed significantly in recent years, both de facto and through amendments to the Laws of the Association.
4. The Laws of the Association do not currently recognise the Union Debating Society's affiliation with the Scottish Students' Debating Council (SSDC).

It is believed that:

1. The Union Debating Society would be more efficiently run in smaller committees as the current Debates Board, numbering 18, is difficult to assemble and too large to allow all members to discuss competent business arising from their portfolios during weekly hour long meetings.
2. The current structure of the Debates Board discourages student participation as it requires members to attend meetings, discuss issues and participate in events irrelevant to their portfolios.
3. A number of positions have changed to the point where their current titles and descriptions are no longer fit for purpose, and the Laws should be updated to reflect positions more accurately.
4. The Laws of the Association should reflect the Union Debating Society's affiliation with and obligations towards the Scottish Students' Debating Council (SSDC).

It is resolved to:

1. Replace the existing Chapter 14 Sections 2 and 3 of the Laws of the Association (Appendix 1) with an updated version (Appendix 2).
2. Replace the existing Chapter 14 Section 5.6 of the Laws of the Association (Appendix 3) with an updated version (Appendix 4).
3. Add a new section to the Chapter 14 of the Laws of the Association, Section 12 (Appendix 5), to recognise and govern the Union Debating Society's affiliation with the Scottish Students' Debating Council.

Proposer

Zaine Mansuralli – SSC Debates Officer

Seconders

Union Debating Society

Gavin Sandford – Director of Events and Services

Anna-Ruth Cockerham - SRC Disability Officer

Toni Valencia - SSC Member Without Portfolio

Appendix 1

2. The Debates Board

2.1. Membership: The Officers of the Society shall be:

- 2.1.1.** The SSC Debates Officer (Convenor and Chair)
- 2.1.2.** The Treasurer of the Society
- 2.1.3.** The Clerk to the House (Secretary)
- 2.1.4.** Inter-Varsity Secretary
- 2.1.5.** Schools Secretary
- 2.1.6.** The Two Communications Secretary
- 2.1.7.** Steward to the House (Social Secretary)
- 2.1.8.** Speakers Secretary
- 2.1.9.** The Two Chief Whips
- 2.1.10.** The Sergeant-at-Arms
- 2.1.11.** The Freshers' Representative
- 2.1.12.** Schools Outreach Officer
- 2.1.13.** Equity Officer.
- 2.1.14.** The Parents (Mother/Father) of the House
- 2.1.15.** Director of Student Development and Activities

2.2. Remit

- 2.2.1.** The responsibility of the Board is the organisation of all matters concerning the Society.

2.3. Quorum

- 2.3.1.** The quorum shall be three-fifths of the members of the Board.

2.4. Meetings

- 2.4.1.** Meetings of the House and of the Board must occur at least once a fortnight, during term-time, excepting exams.
- 2.4.2.** All members of the Board must attend all meetings of the House and Board, or send apologies in writing (electronically or hand written) to the Clerk of the House at least 24 hours in advance.
- 2.4.3.** All meetings of the House and Board must be clearly advertised at least five days before the meeting.
- 2.4.4.** All members of the Board must report to meetings of the Board on their actions and planned activities.

3. Responsibilities of the Officers

3.1. The Convenor shall:

- 3.1.1.** Chair meetings of the Board, or appoint a nominee to do so. The Convenor shall have a deliberative and casting vote on the Board.
- 3.1.2.** Be responsible for the smooth running of the Society and the setting of the calendar of events.
- 3.1.3.** Represent the Society on such external bodies as shall from time to time be determined.
- 3.1.4.** Have the power to make such decisions as the Convenor deems necessary in the absence of the Board; or where it is inappropriate to call its members together. All decisions taken by the Convenor will be reported to the Board at the earliest possible occasion.
- 3.1.5.** Arrange the carving up of a Deputy Convenor Convener, who shall fulfil the duties of the Convenor in the event that the Convenor is unable to fulfil their position, by the end of the session in which they were elected.
- 3.1.6.** The Convenor shall appoint a Father or Mother Parents of the House.

3.2. Other Officers

- 3.2.1.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the Society's finances and the sound maintenance thereof (which shall be in line with all Association regulations, and include a monthly update of the Society's finances), and be responsible for co-ordinating the raising of all sponsorship for the Society. They will also co-head a Freshers' subcommittee with the Freshers' representative, responsible for fundraising and organising other activities.
- 3.2.2.** The Clerk to the House shall have secretarial duties, including the recording of all events and decisions in the House and of the Board. The Clerk shall advise the Convenor in constitutional matters. Furthermore, the Clerk shall be charged with the protection and preservation of the Society's minutes in conjunction with the University Library. Finally, the Clerk is charged, at the beginning of every meeting of the House, to read the minutes of the previous debate in a humorous and topical fashion until motioned to cease. The clerk must also take attendance at every meeting of the Board and House.

- 3.2.3.** The Inter–Varsity Secretary shall have duties including the co-ordination of the selection of debaters for Inter–Varsity and other competitions and convening Inter-Varsity debating competitions in St Andrews.
- 3.2.4.** ‘The Schools Competition Convenor shall be responsible for overseeing and organising the Society’s participation in the organisation of schools debating competitions and shall assist the Schools Outreach Officer as needed.
- 3.2.5.** The Schools Outreach Officer shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the Society’s outreach and development of debating at local schools and shall assist the Schools Competition Convenor as needed.
- 3.2.6.** The two Communications Secretaries shall have duties including all aspects of publicity for the Society, including the production of the Freshers’ Guide, the Society’s internet presence, the website, and the mailing list. They shall be expected to split their opportunities as they see fit.
- 3.2.7.** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall have duties including the enforcement of order within the House, the production of Order Papers, organising clothing orders and all aspects of the Society’s alumni relations.
- 3.2.8.** There shall be two Chief Whips. They will be elected at the AGM as a team and shall both have a vote on the Board of Ten. They shall be jointly responsible for all aspects of debating and public speaking training within the Society.
- 3.2.9.** The Speakers Secretary will be responsible for the organisation of all internal competitions, and shall also assist the Convenor in finding and confirming guest speakers for formal public debates, single speaker events and panels.
- 3.2.10.** The Steward to the House shall be responsible for all aspects of the Society’s hospitality and shall be responsible for the planning of all social events, including the annual Gaudeamus Party to follow the Magstrand Debate at the end of the second semester.
- 3.2.11.** 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 Meeting (AGM). Only first year debaters and Board of Ten Fifteen 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.

- 3.2.12.** The Deputy Convenor will be charged with the duty of assisting the Convenor in the smooth running of the society.
- 3.2.13.** The Parents (Father/Mother) of the House (non-voting member). This role is honorary and should be appointed to a non-Board member who has shown continued dedication to the society. While honorary, the Father or Mother of the House shall do their best to assist the society in any way that is fitting. The holder of this position is not subject to the rules regarding attendance.
- 3.2.14.** The Equity Officer shall serve as the internal Equity Officer for debating competitions organised by the Society, shall assist the Chief Whips on to providing training on equity in debating and discussing sensitive issues respectfully, and shall work to promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in Society activities.
- 3.2.15.** Every member of the Board of Ten Fifteen (voting or non-voting) shall be required to speak or judge at at least one competition a semester. Some exceptions may be made for exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Intervarsity Secretary.

Appendix 2

2. *The Debates Board*

2.1. Membership

2.1.1. The UDS Board of Ten

- 2.1.1.1.** The President & Convenor (Chair)
- 2.1.1.2.** The Treasurer of the Society
- 2.1.1.3.** The Clerk to the House (Secretary)
- 2.1.1.4.** The Two Media Officer(s)
- 2.1.1.5.** The Chief Whip
- 2.1.1.6.** The Equity Officer
- 2.1.1.7.** The Freshers Representative
- 2.1.1.8.** The Chairman of Ways and Means (Chair)
- 2.1.1.9.** Director of Student Development and Activities

2.1.2. The Competitive Debates Board

- 2.1.2.1.** The Chief Whip (Chair)
- 2.1.2.2.** The Training Officer
- 2.1.2.3.** The Competitions Secretary
- 2.1.2.4.** The Schools Outreach Officer
- 2.1.2.5.** The Schools Competition Convenor

2.1.3. The Public Events Board

- 2.1.3.1.** The Chairman of Ways and Means (Chair)
- 2.1.3.2.** The Serjeant-at-arms
- 2.1.3.3.** The Steward to the House
- 2.1.3.4.** The Public Debates Secretary

2.1.4. The Parent(s) of the House (Honorary)

2.2. Remit

- 2.2.1.** The Debates Board is responsible for the organisation of all matters concerning the Society.

2.3. Meetings

- 2.3.1.** Meetings of the Board of Ten, the Competitive Debating Board and the Public Debates Board must occur at least once a fortnight, during term-time, exempting exams.
- 2.3.2.** All members of The Debates Board must attend all meetings of Boards they participate in and send apologies in writing (electronically or hand written) if they are unable to attend to the Clerk of the House at least 24 hours in advance.

- 2.3.3. At the discretion of the Convenor meetings of the entire Debates Board can be held, and must be clearly advertised at least five days before the meeting.
- 2.3.4. All members of *The Debates Board* must report to meetings of their respective Board their actions and planned activities. *The Competitive Debates Board* and *The Public Debates Board* chairs must update the Board of Ten on the activities of their respective Boards .

3. *Responsibilities of the Officers*

N.B. All positions elected at the AGM may be elected as a job-share.

3.1. The President & Convenor (Chair of the The Debates Board & Board of Ten) shall chair meetings of *The UDS Board of Ten* and the collective *Debates Board* or appoint a nominee to do so in their absence. The Convenor shall have the deciding vote on the Board and be responsible for the smooth running of the Society. The Convenor shall appoint the honorary Parents of the House who may provide support and advice to the Society at their discretion.

3.2. *Other Officers of The Board of Ten*

- 3.2.1. **The Chief Whip (Chair of The Competitive Debates Board)** shall oversee the competitive and schools-orientated business of the society including hosting training sessions for both casual and competitive purposes.
- 3.2.2. **The Equity Officer** shall serve as the internal Equity Officer for debating competitions organised by the Society. They shall work in coordination with the Chief-Whip(s) to provide training on equity in debating and discussing sensitive issues respectfully. They shall also work to promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups in Society activities.
- 3.2.3. **The Clerk (Secretary)** shall be responsible for secretarial duties, including the recording of all events and decisions in the House and of the Debates Board. The Clerk shall submit the minutes to the University Library.
- 3.2.4. **The Treasurer** shall be responsible for the Society's finances. They will coordinate sponsorship for the Society.
- 3.2.5. **The Chairman of Ways & Means (Chair of The Public Events Board)** shall be responsible for organising the public events. They are

specifically charged with recruitment of speakers and shall be assisted by the Public Events Board in this task.

3.2.6. The Two Media Officers shall have duties including all aspects of media and advertising for the Society.

3.2.7. The Freshers Representative shall be responsible for the representation and social activities of all first year debaters which includes any person who has not actively competed or participated within the society for more than a year. This role will be elected at an EGM of first year debaters and members of the Debates Board.

3.2.8. DoSDA (Director of Student Development and Activities) shall represent the Students' Association on the Board of Ten.

3.3. *The Competitive Debating Board*

3.3.1. Chief Whip (Chair)

3.3.2. The Training Officer shall be responsible for the organisation and smooth running of weekly debate training sessions.

3.3.3. The Competitions Secretary shall be responsible for arranging the UDS's representation and participation in external competitions.

3.3.4. The Schools Outreach Officer shall be responsible for outreach and development of debating at local schools.

3.3.5. The Schools Competition Convenor shall be responsible for organising schools debating competitions.

3.4. *The Public Events Board*

3.4.1. Chairman of Ways and Means (Chair)

3.4.2. The Serjeant – at – arms shall be responsible for duties including the enforcement of order and producing order papers. In addition, they are responsible for organising clothing orders and maintaining alumni relations.

3.4.3. The Steward shall be responsible for the planning of all social events, including the annual Gaudeamus Party.

3.4.4. The Public-Debates Secretary shall be responsible for the organisation of public debates and recruiting speakers.

Appendix 3

5.6 The positions to be elected at the Annual General Meeting include: The Clerk to the House, Inter-Varsity Secretary, Schools Secretary, Steward to the House, Internal Secretary, Chief Whip and Sergeant-at-Arms.

Appendix 4

5.6 All elected positions, other than the Freshers' Representative and Debates Officer, will be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Appendix 5

12.1 The Union Debating Society (UDS) shall be affiliated to the Scottish Students' Debating Council (SSDC) and abide by its policies except insofar as they conflict with Association policy and procedure.

12.2 The Chief Whip shall be responsible for representing the interests of the UDS on the SSDC or nominating a representative to do so.

12.3 Members of the SSDC Executive who are members of the UDS shall be considered non-voting members of *The Debates Board* and may participate in *The Competitive Debating Board*, though they shall not be subject to attendance requirements.

J21-09 Motion to Add a ‘Special Arrangements’ Clause to the Societies Committee’s Laws.

Owner: Avery Kitchens

In effect: Immediately

Review Date: N/A

This Council Notes:

1. Appendix C has been written in conjunction with the School of Medicine President, the Director of Student Development and Activities, and the Societies Committee as a result of a Forum conducted on 10 February 2020 with two members of each Medical Society present.
 - a. The School of Medicine Director of Teaching has also voiced support for this proposal in Appendix B.
2. The SSC Societies Committee has implemented the proposal attached as Appendix B.
3. Currently the Students’ Association has 14 affiliated Medical Societies (Bute Medical Society, BMA St Andrews, Mackenzie General Practice Society, St Andrews Oncology Society, Psychiatry Society, PreMedical Society, St Andrews Sport and Exercise Medicine Society, Students for Global Health, Surgical Society, Wilderness Medics, Medical Ethics Society, Womens Health Society, Drug Science Society, Nutritank Society).
4. The School of Medicine has more affiliated societies than any other school, the next highest is the School of Biology with 4 affiliated societies.
5. The minimum membership fee for joining a society is £3.
6. Society subcommittees are not bound to the £3 membership requirement.
7. If a student wished to purchase membership for each Medical Society individually, they would pay £83.50 for one year of membership.
8. The majority of medical students are members of at least two Medical societies.
9. Every society must annually submit a General Risk Assessment, List of 25 Paid Members, Constitution and Affiliation Agreement, along with completing three training sessions and holding an AGM.

This Council Believes:

1. There exists a severe risk of future Societies Committees assuming how best to group or decrease the number of societies in an academic discipline
2. It is possible that a future Societies Officer may attempt to place an arbitrary cap on the number of societies in an academic discipline in the future (against the wishes of affiliated societies).
3. Allowing a way in which societies within academic disciplines can effectively merge as subcommittees would:
 - a. Decrease the likelihood of a future Societies Committee taking drastic action to combine societies without consultation of the societies affected.
 - b. Widen access for students by waiving the £3 membership fee requirement for each society.
 - c. Increase society member engagement.

- d. Decrease the amount of administration required for societies that possess similar aims and activities.

This Council Resolves:

1. Amends Chapter 9 to add Section 9 (Appendix A).

Proposed:

Avery Kitchens (SSC Societies Officer; SSC Senior Officer)

Seconded:

Amy Feakes (SSC Charities Officer)

Joe Horsnell (SRC Arts & Divinity Faculty President; SRC Senior Officer)

Toni Valencia (SSC Member Without Portfolio)

Annie Smith (SRC Member Without Portfolio)

Gavin Sandford (Director of Student Development and Activities)

SSC Societies Committee

APPENDIX A: Chapter Nine: Affiliated Societies

1. Association Committees

1.1. There shall be a Societies Committee, which shall have powers, duties and responsibilities as laid out in Chapter 14 of the Laws governing Association Subcommittee.

2. Affiliation to the Association

2.1. There shall be an Affiliation Agreement, proposed by the Societies Committee and ratified by the Students' Association Board, defining the terms of Affiliation between Societies and the Association.

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

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

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

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

2.2.4. Any other conditions that the Societies Committee may adopt.

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.

3.2. The Performing Arts Officer shall be an honorary member of all affiliated performing arts-related societies.

3.2.1. 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 Societies Elections Officer 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.

8. Re-affiliation

8.1. Any Affiliated Society meeting the requirements for re-affiliation set out by the Societies Committee on the date that its Affiliation Agreement expires shall be offered a new Affiliation Agreement.

8.1.1. The terms of new Affiliation Agreements may differ from the terms of any previous ones.

8.2. Any Society not offered a new Affiliation Agreement may appeal the decision to by petition.

9. Special Arrangements

9.1 The formation of like-society Networks may be arranged at the discretion of the Societies Committee.

9.2 Consultation between the relevant parties involved must be executed before a Special Arrangement is undertaken.

9.3 A formal proposition must be transcribed and approved by the Societies Committee and each body wishing to become involved.

APPENDIX B: Medical Societies Proposal

Proposers:

Avery Kitchens (SSC Societies Officer)

Gavin Sandford (Director of Student Development and Activities)

Orrin McAleer (School of Medicine President)

Students' Association Societies Committee

This proposal is a result of the Medical Societies Forum (10 February 2021) and is set to re-organise the way that Medical Societies affiliate to the Students' Association on an annual basis.

This is an opt-in system for existing medical societies. Your society does not have to affiliate through the Medical Societies Network (especially if your society is fundamentally unable to). New societies will be required to join the Medical Societies Network if their aims are not classified as charitable. This reorganisation is purely administrative and will help the continued success and affiliation of medical societies.

What will change?

a. The Creation of the Medical Societies Network

- i. This would serve as an 'ecosystem' for Medical Societies and would maintain the freedoms they currently have.
- ii. Each Medical Society will be affiliated to the Students Association through the Medical Societies Network
 1. This makes the organisation of our medical societies more in line with other Universities and Students' Associations
 2. Your societies would no longer be tied to the £3 membership requirement
- iii. The elected School of Medicine School President would serve as the ex-officio president of the Medical Societies Network, responsible for the administrative upkeep of the network.
 1. This is the most fair solution, as the Medicine President is an elected official, normally neutral and outwith a specific society
 2. There is an opportunity to elect the Medicine President every March
- iv. There would also be a Secretary (a Class Rep) to support the President with the Network's admin.
 1. Their jobs would be to minute meetings between members of the MSN and collate constitution
 2. The Class Rep would be Co-Opted into the role of MSN Secretary
- v. Each Individual Medical Society would have less paperwork to submit on an annual basis.

b. Bank Accounts

- i. The Network itself will not have its own bank account

c. Emails

- i. The MSN's email account would be registered as medicinepresident@st-andrews.ac.uk

d. Affiliation to the Students Association

- i. The MSN will be responsible for signing the annual Affiliation Agreement, maintaining the Constitution and submitting a General Risk Assessment
- ii. Affiliation Agreement - the MSN will complete this on behalf of each affiliated Medical Society. Each Medical Society will sign a MSN Agreement.
- iii. Constitution - The MSN will have its own constitution, based on our Constitution template. This constitution will refer to each Medical Society's already written Constitution.
- iv. This would include different membership payments, affiliations, committee positions etc.
- v. General Risk Assessment - The MSN will submit a GRA covering speaker events, Balls and other annual events which the current medical societies perform. Each medical society will be responsible for submitting Supplemental Risk Assessments for their own one-off events, like any other year

e. Semesterly Catch-Up

- i. The Societies Committee would have a Semesterly Catch Up with the School of Medicine President to make sure everything is going smoothly.

What will remain the same?

a. Bank Accounts

- i. Societies will not be required to merge bank accounts
- ii. Each society that is a member of the MSN will retain their own individual bank account

b. Emails

- i. Societies will not be required to merge or give up email addresses
- ii. Each society that is a member of the Network will retain their own email address

c. Union Website

- i. Medical Societies will continue to have their own webpages on the Union Website

d. Affiliation to the Students Association

- i. While Medical Societies will have a collective group known as the Medical Societies Network, each society will continue to be affiliated to the Students' Association
- ii. Medical Societies will still have access to Societies Committee Grants, room bookings, Society Fayres, the Students' Association's Public Liability Insurance and general support by Union staff

e. Elections

- i. The election process will continue as it did before. Societies are responsible for their own elections and the Societies Committee would continue to reserve the right to attend any AGMs or EGMs if they do see fit.
- ii. The Societies Committee's Elections Officer would continue to be the first point of contact for these events.

f. Grants

- i. Societies affiliated to the MSN would still be able to apply to Societies Committee Grants
- ii. Each Medical Society would be responsible for applying for grants themselves

g. Semesterly Catch-Up

- i. The Societies Committee would have a Semesterly Catch Up with the School of Medicine President to make sure everything is going smoothly.

R21-02 Motion to support the MLitt Gender Studies cohort

Owner: Joe Horsnell, SRC Arts & Divinity Faculty President; SRC Senior Officer

In effect: Immediately

Review date: n/a

Notes

1. There are current issues with staffing and leadership regarding the MLitt Gender Studies programme and the wider Institute for Gender Studies at St Andrews.
2. Over 2000 people have signed an open letter in support of Dr Allison Kerr and raising concerns about the future of the MLitt Gender Studies programme.
3. The students on the programme have made appeals to the University on this issue already and are in touch with the Director of Education, Arts & Divinity Faculty President, Philosophy School President and Graduate School President.
4. Due to the nature of staffing contracts and an ongoing complaint, the University has been unable to provide full information to students and to the Students' Association on the situation.

Believes

1. The Institute for Gender Studies is an incredibly important entity and teaches an incredibly valuable academic discipline.
2. Students on the MLitt Gender Studies course have been extremely negatively affected by the situation regarding their programme and this is unacceptable.
3. The reputation of the University of St Andrews could be damaged by the students on this programme not being properly supported and continued staffing problems with the Institute.

Resolves

1. To mandate the Director of Education, Arts & Divinity Faculty President, School President of Philosophy, School President of the Graduate School and the relevant class representative to ensure the students in the MLitt Gender Studies cohort are fully supported and are able to raise concerns with staff.
2. To mandate the Director of Education to engage with the Graduate School regarding its internal structures and with University senior staff regarding fixed-term contract employment practices in general and the way they impact on students.
3. To endorse the long-term longevity of the Institute for Gender Studies, especially for students who opt to take a leave of absence following these staffing issues to continue with their programme upon their return.

Proposed:

Joe Horsnell, SRC Arts & Divinity Faculty President; SRC Senior Officer

Amy Gallacher, Director of Education

Seconded:

Education Committee unanimously supported this motion on 18.02.2021

Dan Marshall, Association President

Abi Whitefield, PG Academic Convener

Chloe Fielding, SRC Science & Medicine Faculty President

R21-03 Motion to lobby the UK Government to compensate fee-paying students affected by the pandemic

Owner: Dan Marshall

In effect from: Immediately

Review Date: N/A

It is noted that:

1. In the 2020/21 academic year, students have faced an incredible amount of disruption to their studies as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.
2. RUK and International students have continued to pay full tuition fees throughout the pandemic.
3. The Students' Association has worked with the University to mitigate the impacts on students as far as possible, through measures such as the provision of dual-mode learning, accommodation refunds, academic mitigation policies, and the Can Do initiative.
4. Delivering dual-mode learning has not been significantly cheaper to deliver for the University than traditional on-campus learning.
5. Many students feel that whilst staff have gone above and beyond this year, their overall student experience has not delivered value for money as a result of the pandemic.

It is believed that:

1. Fee-paying students do not deserve to be burdened with the usual costs of a University education given the impact the pandemic has had on their lives and student experience.
2. Fee-paying students deserve compensation from the UK Government.
3. Any compensation should include all fee-paying students, including international students.
4. Any effort to compensate students must not undermine the financial solvency of universities or lead to redundancies.
5. University staff have shown incredible dedication to students throughout the pandemic, and have in many cases gone far beyond the call of duty to support students and deliver the best possible educational experience.

It is resolved that:

1. The Students' Association should join and promote the UK-wide Students United Against Fees (SUAF) campaign [1] with other students' unions, to seek compensation for students from the UK Government.
2. The Association President be mandated to join the SUAF advisory group.

Proposer

Dan Marshall – Association President

Seconder(s)

Amy Gallacher – Director of Education

Tom Groves – Director of Events and Services

Emma Walsh – Director of Wellbeing

References

[1] [About the Campaign \(Isesu.com\)](#)

R21-04 A motion for the Students' Association to publicly reject the UK Whitehaven Coal Mine Project

Owner: Léa Weimann, Association Environment Officer

State in effect from: Immediately

Review Date: n/a

Note:

1. This motion notes that we are in a Climate Emergency and that according to the International Panel on Climate Change everything possible should be done to limit global warming to 1.5°C.
2. The UK government has set the target and commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050.
3. The Whitehaven Coal Mine is a new project that is proposed in Cumbria and was approved by Cumbria County Council in October 2020.
4. The Whitehaven Coal Mine would be the first UK deep coal mine in 30 years.
5. Despite its declared commitments to address Climate Change, the UK government has not decided to call on the decision of the Whitehaven coal mine and has not cancelled the project yet.
6. It is noted that a public petition has been started asking the UK government to revoke the permission to mine on British soil:
<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/568475?ref=theprepping-com>
7. This motion notes that public pressure and recent developments have led to plans for the Whitehaven Coal mine to be suspended by Cumbria County Council and that councillors will reconsider the planning application for the coal mines on the grounds of Climate Change.

Believes:

1. We believe that despite the coal mine project being temporarily suspended this does not mean that the project is cancelled yet, which is why it is important to maintain public pressure against the project from around the country.
2. We believe that the decision to build a new coal mine in the UK goes against the UK's commitments to address Climate Change and threatens our future by locking us in to a high-carbon economy.
3. We believe that fossil fuels should be kept in the ground where possible and new projects like the Whitehaven Coal Mine rejected.
4. We believe that it necessary to speak up against the Whitehaven Coal Mine and share petitions that call on the UK government and Council of Cumbria to cancel the project.
5. We believe it is the duty of the Students Association to inform students about this national project that has far-reaching effects into the future and encourage students to speak up against it.

Resolves:

1. This motion resolves to publicly reject the Whitehaven Coal Mine.
2. It resolves that the Environment Subcommittee as well as any other subcommittee of the Students' Association can publicly share and speak up against the Whitehaven Coal Mine on their official social media pages should they wish to.

3. To recommend to the Association Councils and its members to speak up about the Coal Mine and share the petitions against the petition that asks the UK government to stop the coal mine in Cumbria:
 - <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/568475?ref=theprepping-com>
 - https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-the-cumbria-coal-mine?fbclid=IwARoDqb09r2hFUoCwCANDgH6bsF_Zc1EmmYvujuuLCRhPhHKUMQGCGva4irc

Proposed by: Léa Weimann, Association Environment Officer

Seconded by:

Abi Whitefield (Postgraduate Academic Convenor)

Dan Marshall (Association President)

Emma Walsh (Director of Wellbeing)

Amy Gallacher (Director of Education)

Noah Herfort (Environment Sustainability Board Student Representative and Environment Subcommittee Member)