



University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

AGENDA

Tuesday 22 September 2015- Committee Room- 6.00pm

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
- 5. Open Forum**
- 6. Reports of Sabbatical Officers**
 - 6.1. Report of the Athletic Union President
 - 6.2. Report of the Association President
 - 6.3. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
 - 6.4. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities
 - 6.5. Report of the Association Director of Representation
- 7. Questions for Committees**
 - 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
 - 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
 - 7.3. Questions for Association Environment and Ethics Committee
 - 7.4. Questions for Association LGBT Committee
 - 7.5. Questions for Rector's Committee
 - 7.6. Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee
 - 7.7. Questions for SRC Education Committee
 - 7.8. Questions for SRC Employability Committee
 - 7.9. Questions for SRC Equal Opportunities Committee
 - 7.10. Questions for SRC External Campaigns Committee
 - 7.11. Questions for SRC Wellbeing Committee
 - 7.12. Any Other Competent Questions
- 8. Unfinished General Business**
- 9. New General Business**
 - 9.1. **J.15-17-** A Motion to Introduce a Funding Cap For Societies
 - 9.2. **R.15-3-A** Motion To Provide For The Co-Option Of The Src Member For Widening Access & Participation
- 10. Open Discussion**

11. Any Other Competent Business

SRC REPORTS

ARTS/DIVINITY FACULTY PRESIDENT

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER

The Alumni Committee have had our first meeting of the new year, with several plans now set in motion. We have a brand new logo sorted and clothing will soon be ordered, which is great news. We're currently trying to organise a careers focused event for Green Week and we're arranging the preparations for the Alumni Festival Weekend, which is being held 15th-18th April 2016.

Very soon, we will be sending out emails and releasing invites for subcommittee and society heads to attend a drinks reception where our plans for the Festival will be laid out, and we will ask for your help in arranging events across the weekend. We'd like to be as creative, broad in appeal and ambitious as possible- so please start to think about what alumni would be drawn to and what you can offer.

Equally, if you are holding any large celebrations or anniversary events that alumni may be interested in, or would like to set up your own alumni network programmes, let me know and we will be happy to help out.

ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

Welcome back to St Andrews everyone!

Before we detail our current projects, we would like to continue to encourage any society, subcommittee or individual that interacts with the community for any of its projects to approach us if they would like help promoting said projects, or need help finding appropriate contacts within the community. We want to help!

Over the summer holidays, the Community Relations Committee has been hard at work looking for opportunities to cooperate with other groups to improve town and gown relations. We now have a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/stacomrels) set up to promote community events and student safety, and an email list for those interested in more details about what we do. We are working with Transition, the E-Car club and Fife Council to see if we can get more e-car parking bays in the centre of town, and are also working on producing a database of local contacts for future use. Additionally, our Outreach Officers are putting together a database of volunteering and outreach schemes run by university societies so that we can more effectively promote student interaction with the town. Finally, we are also already looking at awareness materials (including online safety posters and hard copy materials for halls

and student hotspots) for Raising, and for cycle safety as the days start to become shorter.

ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT & ETHICS OFFICER

During Freshers week the E and E subcommittee successfully hosted three events, a Green Fair (with Transition and other Green societies and community groups), beach BBQ and Green Walk. The events were chosen to raise awareness of the subcommittee and also to create a volunteer pool for later events in the year. With Green Week coming up (3-11th October), E and E is hosting and facilitating events and campaigns, as well as focusing on community engagement through the Botany and local schools. During the summer, I was approached by a student and I am currently working on a Divestment proposal of the University endowment fund, alongside External Campaigns. The University currently follows an ethical investment policy, however one company on the portfolio is a natural gas company from Papua New Guinea, which if it were removed would mean that the University would be completely divested of all fossil fuels.

ASSOCIATION LGBT OFFICER

-Fresher's Week went great we had a lot of engagement from new students and during the Fayre we had third and second years signing up for our mailing list for the first time. There was a lot of buzz about Glitterball. Our Bonfire in Week 1 was a huge success and we had a lot of new faces and returning faces.

-Our Event this week is Speed Adoption and it is in collaboration with , on Thursday 7-9 pm in the Foyer of the union, the area right in front of club 601. Please share the event.

-Open Door (renamed from Safe Space) Training is happening in week 3

-Anonymous Email: we have had increased usage since the beginning of Fresher's Week, which means that we are finally getting traction. I would appreciate it if everyone could share the cover photo on their pages or profiles.

PRINCIPAL AMBASSADOR

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

RECTOR'S ASSESSOR

Over the summer I worked on the Save the Rector petition alongside Pat, which went really well (as you've all heard by now). Last Thursday Catherine came in and brought the Ambassador of Luxembourg in to speak on foreign relations in the EU. The Rector's Committee has been working on a few different initiatives regarding widening access schemes and increasing the visibility of the Rector, which I should have more to speak about soon. Congratulations to all of the new SRC members on surviving their first joint councils last week!

SCIENCE/MEDICINE FACULTY PRESIDENT

So far it's been mainly about class reps (nominations Week 1, elections Week 2) and for the FPs especially the ID modules, I suspect we may soon be visiting the 1st year Great Ideas module to persuade someone to take the job.

There's also helping with the School Presidents' training and getting to know everyone with hopefully a social soon.

Completely independent of Eleanor I'm embarking on a small outreach project with a member of staff in Physics, aiming to better inform S1 students at Madras about the Sciences when they have to pick their subjects, with a particular emphasis in encouraging more girls to take Physics & Chemistry.

SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC EMPLOYABILITY OFFICER

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC EXTERNAL CAMPAIGNS OFFICER

External Campaigns has been pretty busy speaking with various societies on their plans for the coming year. These are too numerous to note, and I will be continuing to discuss these with the relevant societies and individuals, whilst continuing to engage with new societies and individuals over the coming two weeks.

More specifically, External Campaigns was at a rally last Saturday at the Edinburgh Parliament with a small number of St Andrews students. This was to show support for allowing further refugees into the UK. This is the kind of event we want St Andrews students to be able to access. We are currently working with the town and gown Refugee Action St Andrews group, giving them access to the Union mainframe and resources to enable their campaign.

Other projects we are actively working on right now are Divestment (largely in a support role to Environment and Ethics who are taking the lead rather successfully on this), Prevent (anti-terrorism legislation related to university activities), and the current consultation on RUK student fee repayment.

SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

The summer has been a whirlwind of activity. I am now a member of a group based in London that is trying to connect all the BME/Black/Anti-racism officers in the country so that they can work together on different issues. The Pangea committee has also been formed, and the team of five have been moving forward with what is shaping up to be an exciting three days of cultural education!

SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEAR

I have been working over the summer to maintain a social media presence amongst the class of 2019, responding to their enquiries and also creating a blog to keep them further updated on everything they need to know, upon arrival and beyond. I have also successfully established the role of a student welfare representative on some hall committees to promote mental health services in the town, and hope to build on this over the next few weeks.

SRC MEMBER FOR GENDER EQUALITY

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC MEMBER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The international student/cultural societies mixer has been moved and reformatted as a result of my request for the according advertising not being finished on time and a mix up regarding location. I am to be hosting it within the next two weeks. I have already contacted the relevant people, and what remains is to contact the cultural societies about a fitting date and time.

I also intend to participate in the Pangea event that will be taking place next month. Our most recent Equal Opps committee also suggested that I find a way to host an opener mixer/social to help encourage turnout to the main event, and so I will also be working on that.

SRC MEMBER FOR MATURE STUDENTS

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

I haven't much to report other than trying to find out what my predecessor has been working on with a student about Employability seminars for students with disabilities last year and I am going to try and bring that back and finish what he had started.

SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

-NO REPORT SUBMITTED-

SRC POSTGRADUATE CONVENER

The first few weeks of the semester have been busy with welcoming the new cohort of postgraduates and advertising class rep elections. The PG Society ran six different events during Freshers' Week that were all very well attended and we are already sold out for our next big events coming up - a bus trip to Glamis Castle and our first formal dinner.

We also have our EGM on Thursday, 24 September at 6pm in the Committee Room if anyone is keen to get involved.

Week 1 saw the nominations of class reps open and we are still looking to fill PGT and PGR rep positions in some Schools. The PG reps will receive training from me in weeks 3-5.

Finally, the first Academic Council is coming up next Wednesday (30th Sept) and there are also several PGR working groups I am a member of that are looking at PGR policy updates.

SRC WELLBEING OFFICER

SHAG Week (Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance Week) is in week 3 - plans all in progress, seven events timetabled in. Please share and like the page at www.facebook.com/shagweek to help us publicise! We are also beginning to look at Raising plans including Raising Packs for parents and children, a speed-families event, and (hopefully) an alternative space for first years on Raising Sunday.

J.15-17

A Motion to Introduce a Funding Cap for Societies

OWNER: Societies Committee

IN EFFECT FROM: Immediately

REVIEW DATE: December 2015

THIS SSC AND SRC NOTE:

- In the preceding four years, a small number of societies have received a majority of the Association's funding allocated for Societies.
- Some societies receive more Association funding than some SSC subcommittees
- The SSC Societies Committee are in the processes of amending its funding process

THIS SSC AND SRC BELIEVE:

- The current funding mechanism encourages larger, wealthier societies to pursue more ambitious events with Association funding, at the expense of resources available to smaller societies.
- The money allocated for affiliated societies would better serve the Association as a whole if it were distributed across a more diverse range of student activities.
- As well as the value of the aforementioned diversity, there is value to some large and ambitious events to the extent that they are worthy of the Association's financial support.

THIS SSC AND SRC RESOLVE:

- To submit the following amendments to the Laws of the Association to the Students' Association Board, with the recommendation that the same do pass:
 - To insert into Chapter Nine a new §5.4 with the following text, and renumber accordingly
4. *The Committee shall not be competent to authorise funding in excess of £2000 to any society in any academic year without the approval of the SSC. Notwithstanding the provision of 5.3, this provision may not be waived at the Committee's discretion.*

Proposed on the Recommendation of the SSC Societies Committee

R. 15-3

A MOTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE CO-OPTION OF THE SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS & PARTICIPATION

THIS SRC AND SSC NOTE:

1. A casual vacancy exists in the office of SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation.

THIS SRC AND SSC RESOLVE:

1. To co-opt a new SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation at a meeting of the SRC on 6 October 2015.
2. To mandate the Director of Representation to advertise the position.
3. To express its gratitude to Maxwell Speirs for his service as SRC Member for Widening Access & Participation.

PROPOSED:

Pat Mathewson- Association President

Sarah Thompson- AU President

Joe Tantillo- Director of Representation

Kyle Blain- Director of Student Development and Activities