



# University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

## AGENDA

Tuesday 24 January 2017 – Large Rehearsal 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 Association President
  - 6.2. Report of the Association Director of Representation
  - 6.3. Report of the Athletic Union President
  - 6.4. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
  - 6.5. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities
- 7. Questions for SRC Committees and Officers**
  - 7.1. Questions for Association Alumni Committee
  - 7.2. Questions for Association Community Relations Committee
  - 7.3. Questions for Association Environment Committee
  - 7.4. Questions for Association LGBT Committee
  - 7.5. Questions for Association Equal Opportunities Committee
  - 7.6. Questions for SRC Member for Racial Equality
  - 7.7. Questions for SRC Member for Gender Equality
  - 7.8. Questions for SRC Member for First Years
  - 7.9. Questions for SRC Member for Age Equality
  - 7.10. Questions for SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
  - 7.11. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
  - 7.12. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Officer
  - 7.13. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Officer
  - 7.14. Questions for Rector's Committee
  - 7.15. Questions for SRC Accommodation Committee
  - 7.16. Questions for SRC Education Committee
  - 7.17. Questions for SRC External Campaigns Committee
  - 7.18. Questions for SRC Wellbeing Committee
  - 7.19. Any Other Competent Questions
- 8. Unfinished General Business**

**9. New General Business**

**9.1.** Co-option of SRC Member for Students with Disabilities

**10. Collaborative Solutions**

**11. Any Other Competent Business**

## **SRC REPORTS**

### **ARTS/DIVINITY FACULTY PRESIDENT & SCIENCE/MEDICINE FACULTY PRESIDENT**

Nothing to report

### **ASSOCIATION ALUMNI OFFICER**

**NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

### **ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER**

**NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

### **ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENT OFFICER**

The food survey meant to go around halls in the beginning of this semester is being delayed because the Sustainability intern and I are still awaiting official approval from RBS. Moreover, the unclarity around the launch date of the University Travel Survey prevents us from setting a date. I will urge the other parties involved to expedite the process so we can collect responses before spring break commences.

Environment Subcommittee merchandise to be used at Refresher's Fayre, Fairtrade Fortnight, and for the use of the upcoming subcommittee has been purchased.

Fairtrade Fortnight will be running between 27th Feb and 12th March and we have a FREE screening of the film The True Cost planned for Mon, 6th March, 6:30pm @Byre Theatre. We will also be in co-organising a fairtrade banana smoothie giveaway in front of the Union - date tbc.

### **ASSOCIATION LGBT OFFICER**

**NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

### **ASSOCIATION EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER**

There are some excellent people on this committee, and overall I'm very happy with the work and progress that has been made so far the year!

Robert has been meeting regularly with the chaplaincy as part of the interfaith steering group – helping organise the establishment of scriptural reasoning groups and the 'Light for Aleppo' event. Liaised with the careers service for widening access events for students with disabilities for investment banking and management consultancy firms. The masculinity and mental health event was held during revision week attracted nearly 100 people.

Lorraine has been excellent in orchestrating the creation of a Forum for Life Long Learners – with the motion passed at councils we will be meeting early next semester with the DoRep to discuss the logistics of everything. This in particular has been a great success – and will be the first formal representation such students will have within the university.

Chris has been active as a member for widening access. He was successful in securing overnight accommodation for commuting students on a pay-per-night basis (when available). He also traveled to Holyrood to give evidence of the experiences of disabled students at the University for the Equalities & Human Rights Committee. He has been attending the re-established forum for widening access – alongside the Robert, the Student President, Principle Ambassador and Rector's Assessor – with the main aim of how to best target disadvantaged schoolchildren. We hope this important line of communication remains open for years to come.

Sam as member for first years has been incredibly busy – hosting tours during freshers week along with a Q&A session. She is now very much devoted to Populus – which undoubtedly has been a great help to many students – especially first years who mainly feel isolated in a new environment. Currently she is in discussions to bring free sanitary towels in halls.

Throughout the year Catriona has been working alongside Ben Peddie in order to improve perceptions and gender relations amongst sports teams. Further, was very helpful in coordinating the Masclunty & Mental Health event. She is currently working on a poster campaign in collaboration with FemSoc + LGBT+ - and working with Charlotte to recruit speakers for the 'Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling Event'.

Halima has been exemplary! Her event 'Black Hair – Why the Revolution Matters' was topical and very well attended. From freshers week she held cultural diagnoses in the Mansfield building – and in week 3 hosted the International Students Reception. Pangea was well done – notably the panel discussion regarding culture and religion; we had 5 wonderful and insightful speakers from across a wide spectrum of faiths. We hope to improve next year with the establishment of a cultural societies forum – so the societies themselves will be more involved. She is currently meeting with the English department to discuss expanding the cultural remit of the curriculum.

Ella unfortunately left us as member for students with disabilities – however she is continuing to run introspect – an art exhibition exploring issues regarding mental health. We have a new member lined up, Gracie Wilson, although she will need to be democratically co-opted at the next councils meeting.

In terms of LGBT we have so much to talk about, thankfully they have their own association report due. Lewis has been nothing short of wonderful! Honorable mentions for Transfest, and Queer Question Time. The Committee are very much looking forward to helping with the Pride Parade – and for dancing the night away at Glitter Ball.

**PRINCIPAL AMBASSADOR  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

**RECTOR'S ASSESSOR  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

**SRC ACCOMMODATION OFFICER**

We held a successful Flat-Mate matchmaking scheme. We updated the union website. We have ordered subcommittee clothing and a banner. We have everything prepared for refreshers fayre. Over the break we have been posting updates from the letting agencies. We have also been working on the handover pack for hall committees.

**SRC MEMBER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO**

Jamie and I are going to arrange a few more socials and are taking suggestions!

**SRC MEMBER FOR RACIAL EQUALITY  
VACANT**

**SRC MEMBER FOR FIRST YEAR**

Have established times to be in-hall during the first two weeks of term as an opportunity for old and new students to come and have a chat. Will hopefully be meeting with the halls respective first year reps to test out the idea of a first year rep forum in halls - to be organised with wardens and brought into action for the next SRC First Year Rep.

**SRC MEMBER FOR GENDER EQUALITY**

Hoping to get my definitions campaign running within the first couple of weeks of the semester. Arranging meetings with managers of bars in St Andrews in order to try and expand the zero tolerance policy to include bars and clubs as well as university buildings.

**SRC MEMBER FOR AGE EQUALITY  
NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

**SRC MEMBER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

## **VACANT**

### **SRC MEMBER FOR WIDENING ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION NO REPORT SUBMITTED**

#### **SRC POSTGRADUATE DEVELOPMENT CONVENER**

Since the last SRC meeting representatives from careers and registry have joined the Postgraduate development meetings. I have taken the time to look forward to this semester and to the elections of the next development officer and handing over to them.

#### **SRC POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC CONVENER**

There has been very little to do over the vacation, but I have planned a new schedule of meetings with the body of postgraduate reps which I hope will improve the connections between central and School reputation for the remainder of my term, and for future Academic Conveners. Holding regular consultative meetings in order to plan for work in university committees should strengthen the representative power of the role. In addition, I have identified some particular concerns from the previous term, particularly vacation provision of library services for postgraduate research students, which I will continue to work on until the end of term in the summer.

#### **SRC WELLBEING OFFICER**

I've had a certain amount of success since the selection a few months ago, in planning for Mental Health Awareness week in February, in meeting with the committee, identifying issues, and putting together plans to avoid the same issues coming up in subsequent years.

In terms of the issues that came up last year, it seems the primary issues orbited around infrequent meetings, committee absences, difficulties finding volunteers to do grunt work, and a poor framing of meetings that didn't encourage affiliated societies and groups to attend and participate as much as would be desirable. At the Refreshers Fayre this week we're launching a mailing list with the hope of attaining a volunteer base who can help out on an infrequent basis when work needs doing. It's also hoped that the volunteering list will better inform the DoWell staffing the committee next year, as they'll hopefully have a list of people who will have already shown themselves to be committed and keen to help for a prolonged period of time - we imagine this will mitigate issues of committee members infrequently appearing. We'll be finishing off our terms with weekly meetings, as we recommend the next committee act, and I'll be including a fuller documentation of the problems and proposed solutions for the past year in the handover.

Planning for Mental Health Awareness Week in February is well underway. We're getting two speakers booked - Johnny Benjamin and Dave Chawner, an author and vlogger, and a comedian - both of them being Mental Health campaigners in addition. We're looking into a few reduced cost fitness and fitness induction classes to get running. We've reached out to a few student societies about the possibility of collaborating during the week - in particular those I've spoken to at STAR radio are enthusiastic about the idea of trying to get stakeholders in the university and union's mental health support to appear on radio so we can humanise some services a little and advertise the full extent of support that is offered in town. This all will be happening between the 13th and 17th of February, so please watch our Facebook page and social media as we start putting events up in early February!