



University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

AGENDA

Tuesday 4th February 2020 – Large Rehearsal Room -
6.00pm

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Apologies for Absence

- 2.1 Ben McAuley
- 2.2 Emily Muller – Proxy vote given to Emma Walsh
- 2.3 Amy Bretherton
- 2.4 Rowan Wishart

3. Open Forum

4. Reports of Sabbatical Officers

- 4.1. Report of the Association Director of Education (previously circulated)
- 4.2. Report of the Association Director of Wellbeing
- 4.3.** Report of the Athletic Union President
- 4.4. Report of the Association President
- 4.5. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services
- 4.6. Report of the Association Director of Student Development & Activities

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 Environment Officer
- 5.4. Questions for Association LGBT+ Officer
- 5.5. Questions for Association Lifelong and Flexible Learners 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 Member for Racial Equality
- 6.5. Questions for SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
- 6.6. Questions for SRC Member for Student Health
- 6.7. Questions for SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation
- 6.8. Questions for SRC Arts/Divinity Faculty President
- 6.9. Questions for SRC Science/Medicine Faculty President
- 6.10. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener
- 6.11. Questions for SRC Postgraduate Development Convener
- 6.12. Questions for Principal Ambassador
- 6.13. Questions for Rector's Assessor
- 6.14. Questions for SRC Member Without Portfolio

7. Unfinished SRC Business

8. New SRC Business

- 8.1 Co-option of Postgraduate Academic Convener
- 8.2 R. 20-1. Motion on Reforming the structure of the Accommodation Subcommittee
- 8.3 R. 20-2. Motion Opposing Fife Council's Increased HMO charges
- 8.4 R 20-3: Motion to call on the SRC to respond to University of St Andrews staff taking strike action for 14 days between Thursday 20th February and Friday 13th March 2020.

9. Any Other Competent Business

10. Collaborative Solutions

- 10.1 Councils Office

SRC REPORTS

Association Alumni Officer – Olivia Wiggins

What have I done since my last report?

I have spent a lot of time working on the Climate Crisis event which will take place in week 4. We have secured some really great speakers and it is looking like it could be a really insightful discussion. I have been updating the Union's LinkedIn and am trying to work out some ways to increase engagement. I have also been chatting to Morag from the Careers office about Saint Connect and how we can use it to promote internships for students. Met with the IR president to discuss upcoming careers events and am looking forward to working with him over the next few weeks. I have also chatted with a few subcommittees about email lists and record keeping - soon we will hopefully have some more helpful information to pass on to subcoms so that they can keep track of their graduating members.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

Climate event has re-engaged some former students who have been out of touch with the University for some time. The broad range of careers represented shall hopefully provide some guidance for attendees. LinkedIn updates share meaningful news about Union activity and celebrate the achievements of students.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

Confirmed speakers for the 'On The Rocks' creative careers panel and had some GDPR advice from Development. Started planning Saint Connect student re-launch.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

We are trying to open a diverse dialogue about pressing environmental issues. This impacts everyone. Work with Saint Connect and LinkedIn promotes opportunities for students and opens up a useful network of contacts. Come along to our Climate Event (week 4) and click 'going' on Facebook. If you would like to get involved in other ways feel free to message me or email saalumni@

Association Community Relations Officer – Morgan Morris

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report it has been fairly quiet. However, at the end of last semester we had our most successful Community Relation Week and St Andrews Day event to date. I would like to thank everyone who took part and organised things. THANK YOU!

We are still collecting material to spotlight the great work of our student groups in the community. If you would like to be featured please email me.

The collaborative work of Camilla, Jamie, POLIS and myself with regards to Voter Registration in North East Fife, was a success as we had a huge turnout in the

constituency. There was a 75% turnout of voters in this area which is an increase of 5% from the last election.

Jamie and I have community council on Monday so if you would like anything discussed or highlighted such as event etc, please let either of us know.

I am working with Camilla, Jamie, the accommodation subcommittee on the HMO campaign, which you will hear more about at this meeting.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

The above was all in my manifesto, and there are a few points that will come in later this semester.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By next report I am hoping to have a clear plan of what we are going to do this semester up to and over the election.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?"

This matter because it allows students to feel more integrated into the town and shows them there are things they can get involved with outside gown side of their time in St Andrews. As always any ideas, thoughts, questions please get in touch: comrels@st-andrews.ac.uk.

Association Environment Officer – Lauren Davis

What have I done since my last report?

I have spoken with the Principal's Office about the new Environmental Sustainability board which is coming soon! I'm very excited for the university to be developing a fantastic board to centralise all environmental sustainability work in and around St Andrews, and can't wait to help recruit some students to sit on this board for years to come! I feel this will eliminate a lot of the confusion and help a lot more with transparency on bigger issues. Outside of this, the Environment Subcommittee is in the process of trying to set up a tree planting day and an 'Arts and Activism' event/fundraiser. Moreover, the UDS are having their Climate Change debate this Thursday with some interesting panelists, and great questions to come. Additionally, the Alumni Committee are hosting a discussion with alumni from various different fields who focus their efforts on climate change - this is super exciting and we can't wait to support all of this positive work!!

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

I am in the process of collating information to redo the Sustainability Policy and make it more enforceable for years to come. If anyone has any thoughts or concerns, please reach out!

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By my next report, I hope to have more information from the Principal's Office about the new board and how to get more students involved. Additionally, there will be more events finalised and coming soon.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

We have new Sustainability Reps in 17 schools now! They are being trialled this semester and they act similarly to Class Reps. The Environment Subcom has a few projects we will be introducing soon, and we'll be asking groups of students to get involved very soon.

Association LGBT+ Officer – Parker Hansen

Report not submitted

Association Lifelong and Flexible Learning Officer – Sandra Mitchell

Report not submitted

SRC Accommodation Officer

Position currently not occupied

SRC Member for First Year – Polina Sevastyanova

Nothing to Report

SRC Member for Gender Equality – Leonor Capelier

What have I done since my last report?

The panel discussion on why raising awareness of sexual and gender-based violence in St Andrews was really successful! There was a big turn-out and the speakers provided interesting insights on how best to tackle the issue.

During the lead-up to Reclaim the Night, the gender-related societies held a bake sale to raise money for FRASAC which raised over £100! The Reclaim the Night march itself was very successful too despite the rain and The Saint reported on its importance.

Next week (3rd-7th February) there will be a national week of advocacy across universities in the UK to protest against sexual violence titled Students Against Sexual Violence. During this week, I have organised a photo campaign alongside the other gender-based societies (and the gem Emily!) where students can declare their solidarity and demonstrate what the week means to them with the aim to have the photos spread widely across social media and perhaps even become viral nationally.

As it has been a very small turn-around between the start of university and this week I am in the process of organising another speaker event, commenting on the rise of media representing sexual violence and the impact it has left. As of yet, no speakers have responded but I still think this would be an interesting event and would like to present it regardless of whether it will fall under Students Against Sexual Violence week.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

I am providing more events which highlight ongoing issues of gender inequality and the ways in which we can facilitate a more equal society.

Continuously working with all the gender-based societies through a collaborative group on Facebook.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have facilitated the success of the photo campaign as well as organising a speaker event on the media regarding representations of sexual violence.

A student approached me about students being unhappy with the presentation of sex workers by professors - I want to follow this up and try and resolve this issue so that everyone is content.

I hope to coordinate a multi-societal event for International Women's Day in early March.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Organising events which are part of a national campaign to raise awareness of sexual violence to have not only a local influence but national influence too.
Keeping students informed about the avenues of help and action against GBV.
Ensuring gender-related events reach a large audience.
Facilitating communication between gender-related societies.

SRC Member for Racial Equality – Zoe Nengite

Report not submitted

SRC Member for Students with Disabilities – Emily Muller

What have I done since my last report?

I have reached out to estates re: conducting a survey on the accessibility of buildings and finalised preparations for Access Hour during the Refreshers' Fayre with Markus.

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

I have made student life more accessible with an emphasis on non-academic activities.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have heard more from Estates and to assemble a packet of information for my successor regarding how to form a disabilities subcommittee.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Please get involved by continuing to send me ideas and concerns so that even when my term ends I can gather comprehensive documents for whoever takes over my post! I want to create a solid hand-over.

SRC Member for Widening Access and Participation – Britt Mcardle

What have I done since my last report?

I'm getting on top of resuming all my projects after the long winter break! I've been back in touch with CAPOD to see about meeting to discuss my WAP network plans - they have put me in touch with a member of their staff who should be able to help with this, so there should be more to report very soon!

I've met with Jamie to discuss WAP and accommodation, and will be attending a meeting with him and several others on Wednesday 3rd to discuss this further. I will also be collating my ideas about specific demographics that are important to consider when facilitating affordable accommodation, as well as any student testimonies about affordability issues.

I have also been in touch with some students who are doing an EPRG study into students undertaking part time work alongside their degree. They would like me to help them select participants for a focus group, so I have asked them some follow up questions about what demographic(s) they're hoping to include and what factors alongside part time work they're looking in to, to ensure the study is as useful as possible, and I'm waiting to hear back.

I'm also continuing my work on creating a financial guide for St Andrews students. As well as including the information I have already planned, I would like to reach out to the student community to see what their questions/concerns relating to finance are so that I can make the guide as useful as possible. I'll ask Jamie and Flora what they think might be the best way to do this (in the weekly union newsletter and over Facebook were my initial thoughts).

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have met with CAPOD and to have made progress on the WAP online network plans!

I'll also be continuing to work on lots of accommodation stuff.

When I hear back from the EPRG study people, I'll be working on selecting/helping them select participants for their focus group.

I'll be continuing to work on my financial guide and hopefully will have some student questions and concerns to research further that I can include.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

It matters because people from WAP backgrounds deserve the best from their university experience, and there's still a lot of work to be done to make St Andrews an inclusive, affordable (or at least more affordable) place! Things like promoting wellbeing, providing information on helpful resources such as bursaries, and advocating for affordable accommodation, are important for everyone, irrespective of their background.

Anyone can get involved with as much or as little commitment as suits them just by getting in touch with me about anything I'm working on, or anything they'd like me to work on! I really want to hear as many opinions as possible about what can be done to make St Andrews a more accessible place to study. Drop me an email on bs200@st-andrews.ac.uk

SRC Member for Student Health – Emma Walsh

Report not submitted

Arts/Divinity Faculty President – Sophia Rommel

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report, I have written my Semester One Report for the Education Committee (EduComm), reviewed and edited the English School President's Statistical Analysis Report on student feedback, sent out a call for reports for the first EduComm of the semester, met with some prospective Arts and Divinity Faculty President candidates, held my first office hours of the semester (Thursday, 4-5pm), scheduled a meeting with the Director of Education (next week), attended the first School Presidents' Forum and took the Minutes for it, replied to a handful of questions from different School Presidents, and scheduled a meeting with the new Pro-Dean Curriculum - Arts and Divinity to discuss a host of topics, including worries about William & Mary students' (re-)integration in certain Schools, careers, and so forth (next week).

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

The upcoming events I am involved in (mentioned below) all pertain to equality, diversity, and inclusion, which is a central focus of my manifesto. Relatedly, I will attend the Race Equality Working Group's first meeting in late February.

Moreover, I am supporting and helping to manage the School Presidents alongside Dennis. As discussed last semester, Dennis and I are also chairing EduComm this semester, which is a nice addition. This role also relates to my manifesto insofar as I strive to support the Director of Education in every way possible, such as taking over chairing and running EduComm.

Further, I am hosting weekly office hours again, which all students can attend. The School Presidents circulated my office hours to their Schools and Departments last semester, so all students are aware of where they can find me and that I am more than happy to talk to anyone.

Lastly, I am continuing to work on improving School Presidents' wellbeing and workload alongside Amy (for example, redrafting the role descriptions).

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I hope to have successfully created the Agenda for and chaired the first EduComm of the semester, attended the first Race Equality Working Group meeting and work on the action points that will arise, met with the Pro-Dean Curriculum - Arts and Divinity and set up a meeting between her and several School Presidents, participated in next week's ELIR meeting, attended all meetings I am required to, and - as always - supported the School Presidents and Director of Education to the very best of my abilities.

Furthermore, I hope to have heard back regarding funding (EDF) for two events I am involved in: i) the Intersectional International Relations Conference (I am collaborating with the Feminist Society and School of International Relations) and ii) 'Why did I choose to stay in Philosophy?: A Q&A Session' (I am collaborating with the St Andrews and Stirling Minorities and Philosophy Chapter). On that note, I hope to have met with the head of the Minorities and Philosophy Chapter here to discuss a collaborative discussion panel we would like to host on gender and sexuality in academia (name and specific topic TBD).

Moreover, I intend to have a meeting with Dennis regarding how we want to structure and approach this semester, and I will continue to check in with all School Presidents and the lovely ID class reps.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Most of what Amy, Dennis, and I do is focused on education and University policy, which directly impacts the students. So, as always, anyone who has an interest in any of the aforementioned initiatives and events is welcome to contact me at artdivfp@.

Science/Medicine Faculty President - Dennis Goodtzov

Nothing to Report

SRC Postgraduate Academic Convener

Position currently not occupied

SRC Postgraduate Development Convener – Ana-Maria Neferu

What have I done since my last report?

I am still in discussions with the School of Chemistry about a postgrad wellbeing event in the School following the success of the Physics event. Things are going slower than I would like.

Together with Blake and Amy (and others), we have been advertising for a new PG Academic Convener. Hopefully we will co-opt at this meeting someone to carry on Emma's great work!

There have been two PG Development Meetings since the last Council meeting. A new PGR Registry Officer has been hired and I invited her to these meetings to have Registry represented again.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Not much, in part because I am seeing the University starting to make progress on communication and mental health without my intervention, which is a good thing!

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I will give the Student Representation talk at this semester's PGR Induction on 11 February.

I hope to have a date and a concrete plan for a PG Wellbeing event in Chemistry. With the 1-year anniversary of the BMS fire approaching, it would be really nice for this to happen soon. I am also considering approaching the School of Biology, but I want to wait for Chemistry plans to be finalized.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Same reply as always: all I am doing boils down to improving the postgraduate student experience. They can get involved by continuing to share their needs with me and giving me feedback on how effectively I am working to address them.

What have I done since my last report?

I am still in discussions with the School of Chemistry about a postgrad wellbeing event in the School following the success of the Physics event. Things are going slower than I would like.

Together with Blake and Amy (and others), we have been advertising for a new PG Academic Convener. Hopefully we will co-opt at this meeting someone to carry on Emma's great work!

There have been two PG Development Meetings since the last Council meeting. A new PGR Registry Officer has been hired and I invited her to these meetings to have Registry represented again.

What progress has been made on my manifesto?

Not much, in part because I am seeing the University starting to make progress on communication and mental health without my intervention, which is a good thing!

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

I will give the Student Representation talk at this semester's PGR Induction on 11 February.

I hope to have a date and a concrete plan for a PG Wellbeing event in Chemistry. With the 1-year anniversary of the BMS fire approaching, it would be really nice for this to happen soon. I am also considering approaching the School of Biology but I want to wait for Chemistry plans to be finalized first.

Why does what i'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

Same reply as always: all I am doing boils down to improving the postgraduate student experience. They can get involved by continuing to share their needs with me and giving me feedback on how effectively I am working to address them.

Principal Ambassador – Ben McAuley

What have I done since my last report?

1. Started updating the Ambassador Website
2. Coordinated Associate Ambassador Applications
3. Updated timesheeting procedures for Ambassadors to minimise work for the Principal Team
4. Assisted with the application process for the new Principal Team

What progress has been made on my manifesto? (if applicable)

N/A

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

1. I'll be spending a lot of time over the next few weeks writing up handovers for the new team!
2. We should our new Associate Ambassadors recruited and trained
3. Preparations for Offer Holder day will also be well underway

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

1. Applications are still open to join the Ambassador Scheme. Visit our website to find out more!

Rector's Assessor – Camilla Duke

What have I done since my last report?

Since my last report, Jamie, Amy, and I attended University Court in January. Additionally, the Senior Lay Member elections happened, and the student body elected Catherine Stihler as our next Senior Lay Member on University Court. Turnout was 19.1%, surpassing our informal target and almost six times the national average. We also had very high turnout in North East Fife for the General Election on 12 December, thanks in part to the efforts of some of us here on councils to turn out the vote and register students in NE Fife. I'm continuing to work on the issues and campaigns that we worked on last semester, including Universal Credit, affordable accommodation, and various other issues. The Rector's Committee has finalized the details for our next speaker series event on 11 February, which will be a documentary screening and Q&A with Leyla

Hussein, a prominent anti-FGM activist. We are also in the process of re-launching the Rector's Fund for 2020.

What do I hope to achieve by next report?

By my next report, I hope to have launched the Rector's Fund application for 2020. I also hope to have had a successful event with Leyla Hussein on 11 February (please come!). I plan on identifying the next steps for the Rector's Committee and myself regarding the campaigns mentioned above.

Why does what I'm doing matter to students, and how can they get involved?

If any of the campaigns we are working on are of interest, please do reach out! We would love you all to come to the Leyla Hussein event as well.

SRC Member Without Portfolio – Rowan Wishart

Nothing to Report