



University of St Andrews Students' Association Students' Representative Council

MINUTES

Tuesday 9 April 2013 - Committee Room, 7.30pm

Present

Maxwell Baldi	Association Chair
Jules Findlay	Association Director of Events and Services
Amanda Litherland	Association Director of Representation
Meg Platt	Association Director of Student Development and Activities
Teddy Woodhouse	Association Director-Elect of Representation
Kelsey Gold	Association Director-Elect of Student Development and Activities
Sophie Kelly	Arts/Divinity Senate Representative
Sarah Hotchfield	Association Community Relations Officer
Dominyka Urbonaite	Association Environment and Ethics Officer
David Norris	Association LGBT Officer
Scott Taylor	SRC Accommodation Officer
Ondrej Hajda	SRC Education Officer
Hibak Yusuf Mohamud	SRC Equal Opportunities and Welfare Officer
Callum Bryce	SRC External Campaigns Officer
Soraya Walli	SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities
Joshua Carlton	SRC Member for First Years
Caroline Rhoads	SRC Member for International Students
Ruth Cunningham	SRC Member for Private Accommodation
Anna Kennedy-O'Brien	SRC Member for University Accommodation
Ben Anderson	SRC Member for Widening Access
Iain Cupples	Student Advocate (Education)/HR Manager

In Attendance

Scott Schorr	Association Postgraduate President-Elect
Richard Browne	The Saint

1. Adoption of the Agenda

No objections to the agenda, the agenda was adopted.

2. Apologies for Absence

Faye Morrice	SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Chloe Hill	Association President-Elect (Rector's Assessor)
Soraya Wali	SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities

Daniel Palmer Association Director-Elect of Services (Entertainments
Convenor)

Freddie fforde Association President

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Ms Cunningham suggested the following amendments:

- Page 13: amend 'Mr Hill' to read 'Ms Hill'
- Page 14: remove capital 'A' from 'Asked'
- Page 15: 'which bring up part of the conference', amend to read 'exhibition' instead of 'conference'
- Page 16 'whether they felt that they would be able...' amend to read 'they' instead of 'the.'
- Page 20: ' capitalisation of 'jack Daniels' to read 'Jack Daniels'.

Ms Platt suggested that all references to 'societies' should read 'societies committee'

Changes to minutes accepted.

It was agreed that mistakes to the minutes which do not significantly alter the meaning of the minutes (e.g. minor typos), could be corrected over email, without being presented to the Body.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

No matters arising

5. Open Forum

No one registered for the open forum period

6. Reports of Sabbatical Officers

6.1. Report of the Association President

Not present

6.2. Report of the Association Director of Events & Services

Mr Findlay: Graduation ball plans underway, securing production company, creating a programme of event for the rest of the semester,

Working with the fashion show committee for next year,

Looking at bringing back Starfields next year,

Meetings ongoing with design and marketing officer about rebranding the union

Tickets for graduation ball go on sale tomorrow, 12-4 in the main bar, and Thursday and Friday. Line up will be announced over next few weeks.

No questions

6.3. Report of the Association Director of Representation

Ms Litherland: Preparing School president training tomorrow

Encouraged people to go to shows in On the Rocks this week.

Sexual health clinic on Wednesday in the union, room is being 'done up' during redevelopment, but this will not be for a while. Staffing issues have brought up issues, and the NHS do not like the room because the toilets are a long way away from the room, which presents problems for people taking samples. This will probably be much the same after redevelopment. Worried that NHS will cut if the room is kept as is. Asked the Body whether they thought that students would prefer the service to be kept up at the health centre, or if they would prefer it to be in the town centre, but not necessarily the union.

Mr Anderson suggested the Mansefield building which has rooms in a close vicinity to toilets

Mr Norris argued that difficult if in the hospital, better to have a separate service in the town centre.

Ms Cunningham stated that in her experience as a halls condom distributor, she would suggest using Ninewells rather than St Andrews, as St Andrews hospital doesn't have a separate waiting area, only one which is shared. Stressed that she would support the idea of having the service in the town centre.

Ms Hochfield stated that if possible, it would be good to have a larger room

Mr Woodhouse reiterated the need to have the service closer to town, rather than at the health centre.

Mr Norris stressed that it would be good to develop the sexual health service in general. The current service is lacking in terms of being limited, especially for gay men's health

Ms Cunningham stressed the importance of advertising of the room change and that if the new location was to be in town, then it would need to be in a room which is easy to found.

Ms Litherland thanked everyone for their feedback.

Teaching awards are open now until the 19th April, nominations can be found online. 7 different categories. The award ceremony will be on the 7th May. Ms Litherland encouraged all to vote and encourage others to do so. Nominations will be judged on the basis of quality, not quantity. Stressed that the university do listen to these awards, and that voting is would help move the focus towards teaching.

No questions

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

Ms Platt- On the Rocks ongoing, encouraged all to go to the events throughout the week across town.

Working on training, training for officers was last weekend. Will be rescheduling an alternative date for those who couldn't make it to this. Happy to email handbooks to those who couldn't make it.

AGMs for lots of sub committees ongoing.

Honorary life memberships- email sent out on Monday, encouraged the Body to get nominations in by last Friday of teaching. Can nominate as many people as you want as long as they are final year students, who the nominator believes has made significant contributions to student life.

Rebranding- within redevelopment, have been thinking about our image as an association, and looking to communicate what we do better. Looking to communicate each of the three strands- representation, events and activities, been working with the design and marketing officer to come up with a new image for the association, to be launched with the website. Been working with sabbaticals, officers and focus groups on this. Feeding this information to an external branding agency- 422, working with them until June.

No questions

7. Reports of Officers

8.1. Report of the Arts/Divinity Senate Representative

Not much to report, meetings don't start until next year. School presidents train this week. Informal meeting with the officers from last year, in order to get any info from them.

7.2. Report of the Association Community Relations Officer

Nothing to report as of yet, in the process of handing over.

7.3. Report of the Association Environment & Ethics Officer

Planning to have a meeting on Friday to review the inter-hall competition. Meeting about Green Week with transition, to try to work out who's responsible for Green Week, and what funding will be available for this.

7.4. Report of the Association LGBT Officer

Nothing to report, largely subcommittee business this week. Looking at constitution, want to get rid of 3 officers as feel that they are superfluous, and adding in two new positions. Hoping to have a more dynamic team which is better representative of the LGBT community

7.5. Report of the Association Postgraduate President

The Postgraduate President-Elect reported that he hosted an event last Friday evening. If anyone has any ideas for collaborating with the postgraduate society, they are encouraged to contact Mr Schorr.

7.6. Report of the Athletic Union President

Not present

7.7. Report of the Science/Medicine Senate Representative

Not present

7.8. Report of the SRC Accommodation Officer

Met with Mr fforde and Rachel from design. There will be a much larger page on the new union website for accommodation. Hall training ongoing.

7.9. Report of the SRC Education Officer

Meeting with someone from library, possibility of opening library earlier on weekends.

7.10. Report of the SRC Equal Opportunities & Welfare Officer

First meeting as a committee next week, will go through plans for next year, overall overview of things each member wants to do and how they will proceed as a committee as a whole. Hoping to have a few training sessions specific for the committee. Want to take the committee forward so that people know who each team member is. Want to establish links between the committee and other committees.

7.11. Report of the SRC External Campaigns Officer

Group of students trying to set up a campaign regarding ethical procurement in students associations, looking to do some more research on this first.

7.12. Report of the SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities

Not present

7.13. Report of the SRC Member for First Year

Have spoken with Mr fforde about union website to get an area dedicated to freshers. Looking for possibility of holding a London meet-up with London alumni club.

Ms Gold- told Mr Carlton that the sabbatical elects and the sabbaticals will be having a meeting about fresher's week, to which he would be invited.

7.14. Report of the SRC Member for Gender Equality

Not present

7.15. Report of the SRC Member for International Students

Nothing to report

7.16. Report of the SRC Member for Mature Students

The position is vacant

7.17. Report of the SRC Member for Private Accommodation

Concentrating on ensuring that she fulfils campaign promises

7.18. Report of the SRC Member for Students with Disabilities

Not present

7.19. Report of the SRC Member for University Accommodation

Meeting on Friday.

Application forms have been moved online, looking to get access to these forms.

7.20. Report of the SRC Member for Widening Access

Drew the Body's attention to The Stand's coverage of widening access initiative.

7.21. Any Other Competent Reports

Mr Woodhouse told the Body to expect an email from him before revision week, which will attempt to get an idea about where everyone wants to go with their positions for the year.

9. Unfinished General Business

None

10. New General Business

10.1. Election of the SRC Senior Officer

Mr Baldi- This position was discussed briefly at training. The senior officer sits on the association board, deals with finances, legal issues, staffing, health and safety and risk, long term strategic planning. The senior officer assumes the role of deputy chair when necessary. One cannot stand if you are an un-discharged bankrupt, have an unspent conviction for an offence involving dishonesty, or have previously been disqualified as the trustee of a charity or the director of a company.

Mr Cupples- the senior officer for SSC and SRC sit on the board as a carve up. There is a student majority on the board, which includes all sabbaticals, the chair and 2 senior officers. The board are governors of the charity, and are responsible for the overall direction of the charity. The elected member will receive guidance on this role. The senior officer will sit on exec, in addition to mediating disputes, and awarding honorary membership. Any questions invited.

Ms Cunningham asked how often the board meets.

Mr Cupples- Twice per term, otherwise as required, and for exec, as required. Last year, 5 things were put before. If people would like, this position can be used for more things, it is a flexible role.

Mr Baldi- as a former senior officer, this is a rewarding position, gives a good overview and is an interesting opportunity. The role is what you make of it, and you can be involved as you wish, to a point.

The question of the difference between deputy and senior officer was raised.

Mr Baldi explained that the deputy doesn't sit on board, only on exec.

No other questions

Floor open to nominations.

Ms Gold nominated **Ms Hochfield**, this was seconded by Mr Woodhouse. Ms Hochfield rejected nomination.

Mr Findlay encouraged as many people as possible to come forward.

Mr Anderson nominated **Mr Bryce** nominated Mr Woodhouse seconded. Mr Bryce accepted

Ms Cunningham nominated **Mr Taylor**, Ms Litherland seconded. Mr Taylor accepted

Mr Taylor nominated **Ms Cunningham**, Ms Hochfield seconded. Ms Cunningham accepted.

Ms Platt nominated **Ms Yusuf Mohamud**, Mr Findlay seconded. Ms Yusuf Mohamud accepted.

All candidates apart from Mr Bryce left the room.

Mr Bryce stated that he enjoys health and safety, was hoping to become a lawyer in the next few years, had sat on a few committees previously and would be interested in the job.

Mr Anderson asked about Mr Bryce's other time commitments.

Mr Bryce stated that he did not have many other time commitments except that he had recently started watching the television show 'Girls'.

Ms Platt- 'how would you go about representing the SRC?'

Mr Cupples pointed out that this role does not require the officer to represent the SRC.

Mr Baldi confirmed this, stating that the member has to represent the interests of the board as a charity not the interests of the SRC.

Mr Bryce left the room, Ms Cunningham entered

Ms Cunningham stated that her role as member for private accommodation works as part of the accommodation team, who work as a team. The remit for this role isn't that huge, with most work is being done as a team, meaning that she would have time for this role. Stated that she shouldn't be too stressed with work for next year, and that her only other position will be as president of Veg Soc, which only involves cooking. Has experience of risk assessment and bureaucracy. Was on SSCC for about a year and a half. At school founded societies, giving her experience of risk assessment forms etc. Enjoys forms and bureaucracy. Would love to give something back to the association. Would love to be part of guiding the association through redevelopment. Would like association to have a relationship with the community.

Ms Hochfield asked 'if you could be any Pokémon what would you be?'

Ms Cunningham stated that she would be Charizard or Squirtle.

Ms Cunningham left the room, Mr Taylor entered.

Mr Taylor: introduced 3 topics for his speech- personal traits, interest in governance, chairing. Stated that he is balanced and objective, as well as non judgemental. Able to give a fresh perspective which is unbiased. Responsible, sees importance of committees and boards. Would have positive approach, not just about CV building. Finds governance interesting, in terms of how people come together in structures. Senior student for his hall, and has dealt well with finance in this role. Background in health and safety from halls. Find governance interesting. Has chaired lots of meetings before including those in halls. Respects role of procedure and facilitation of debate.

Ms Gold asked about Mr Taylor's other time commitments

Mr Taylor stated that he did not have many other than that of accommodation officer. 45th anniversary celebrations for halls being planned for next year. Would rather concentrate on doing a few things well rather than spreading thinly.

Mr Taylor left the room, Ms Yusuf Mohamud was sent in.

Ms Yusuf Mohamud- Second year IR student, member for equal ops and welfare. Was member for ethnic minorities last year. No experience of board this year, but was part of the board at secondary school and so has a good understanding of these work and how to work with other board members. Committed in every role undertaken. Hopes to make the most of the role and do a good job.

Mr Hajda asked how Ms Yusuf Mohamud would feel about chairing meetings.

Ms Yusuf Mohamud stated that she would prepare, and would see it as a challenge and a learning experience.

Ballots handed out, all standing against RON. Mr Woodhouse and Ms Gold were appointed as Tellers.

Voting closed 20.29.

Results:

	1st Distribution	2nd Distribution	3rd Distribution	4th Distribution
Bryce	6	7	8	8
Cunningham	1	0	0	0
Taylor	1	1	0	0
Yusuf- Mohamud	8	8	8	9 (Casting)
RON	0	0	0	0
Spoiled/Expired	0	0	0	0
Total Votes	16	16	16	17
Total Valid Votes	16	16	16	17
Quota	9	9	9	9

Ms Yusuf Mohamud was elected as SRC Senior Officer.

10.2. Election of the SRC Deputy Senior Officer

No questions about the role.

Mr Bryce was nominated by Mr Anderson, this was seconded by Ms Kennedy O'Brien. Mr Bryce accepted.

Ms Cunningham was nominated by Mr Taylor, Mr Carlton seconded, Ms Cunningham accepted.

Mr Carlton was nominated by Ms Cunningham, Mr Taylor seconded. Mr Carlton accepted.

Mr Hajda was nominated by Ms Cunningham, Ms Kelly seconded. Mr Hajda accepted.

Ms Cunningham withdrew her candidacy.

All candidates apart from Mr Bryce left the room

Mr Bryce echoed speech from before.

Mr Bryce left the room, Mr Carlton entered.

Mr Carlton- member for first years, new to SSC, has an interest in workings of union and committee. From being in John Burnett and CU events, have experience of health and safety etc. Work with sponsorship on riding club. Polo tournament organisation.

Ms Hochfield asked about Mr Carlton's time commitments

Mr Carlton- SRC, debating, riding club, Christian Union.

Mr Carlton left the room, Mr Hajda entered.

Mr Hajda – the roles requires the member to sit on exec, which resolves problems between councils, Mr Hajda stated that he has experience of resolving conflicts from high school. Would be committed, and could provide unbiased views on issues.

Ms Cunningham asked about Mr Hajda's time commitments

Mr Hajda- SRC, will be also running for charities position.

Gold and Woodhouse appointed as tellers

Voting closed 20.41.

Results:

	1st Distribution
Bryce	8
Carlton	1
Hajda	6
RON	0
Spoiled/Expired	0
Total Votes	15
Total Valid Votes	15
Quota	8

Mr Bryce was elected SRC Deputy Senior Officer

10.3. Election of Nominees to the SSC Societies Committee

Mr Baldi- 2 members are sent to the societies committee from the SRC. The committee is composed of societies officer, SSC member for elections and grants, and others including DoSDA. Meet on Tuesdays at 5.15 in committee room. Responsible for allocating budget and an opportunity to get involved in something outside of your remit. Carve-ups for SRC and Association subcommittees have not been put on agenda, as plans to extend membership are being planned. No restrictions of presidents of societies. You will also have a vote on the subcommittee.

Ms Gold stated that she had sat on the societies committee for the last couple of weeks. This is a fascinating committee and great way of seeing the way the association works on a wider level.

Mr Baldi- Meets once a week, meetings tend to be 1.5-2+ hours. First two meetings have been especially short, but they generally are quite long. Count towards quorum of subcommittee, so there is an expectation that if you are elected you will be able to attend.

The chair declared vacant. Mr Bryce took on the position of chair temporarily.

Mr Baldi was nominated by Ms Cunningham, Mr Anderson seconded

Ms Kennedy O'Brein was nominated by Ms Roads, this was seconded by Ms Litherland.

Mr Hajda was nominated by Ms Hochfield, this was seconded by Ms Gold.

Ms Cunningham was nominated by Mr Taylor, this was seconded by Ms Litherland.

Mr Baldi withdrew his nomination and reassumed the position of Chair.

Nominations closed

All candidates left the room except Ms Cunningham

Ms Cunningham- will be assuming the position of president of Veg Soc next year, wishes to learn about how to run a society, especially in terms of budgeting/finance. Working on new constitution for Albany park community garden. Societies are the backbone of St Andrews student life. Active in a number of societies, keen to know what constitutions should look like etc. Aware of redevelopment and related issues.

Ms Urbonaite- would your involvement in a lot of societies make it difficult ?

Ms Cunningham stated that she would only have to step out for some of the societies she's a member of. No conflict with other societies.

Ms Cunningham left the room, Mr Hajda entered.

Mr Hajda: Would be interesting to sit on the committee. Didn't interact with many committees this year. Would be a good opportunity to interact and learn more about societies. Won't be on a societies committee next year so would be able to provide unbiased view.

Ms Platt asked what societies Mr Hajda is a member of

Mr Hajda- Fine chocolate society and history society.

Ms Litherland- on a scale of 1-11 how much do you love bureaucracy?

Mr Hajda- 4

Ms Urbonaite- will you be a member of a society committee next year

Mr Hajda- no.

Mr Hajda left, Ms Kennedy O'Brien entered.

Ms Kennedy O'Brien- this role is similar to a role she had performed at school, which dealt with funding etc. Experience of dealing with different societies. Experience of dealing with redevelopment. Experience of dealing with committees as TV and games rep in halls. Good to get an overview of what's happening across the societies in St Andrews.

Ms Platt asked if Ms Kennedy O'Brien was a member of any societies.

Ms Kennedy O'Brien- Mary's meals. Hoping to become treasurer next year. Only other commitment.

Mr Woodhouse and Ms Gold appointed as tellers.

Two candidates will be elected.

Voting closed 21.00

Results:

	1st Distribution	2nd Distribution	3rd Distribution
Cunningham	5	5	
Hajda	6	6	8
Kennedy-O'Brien	5	6 (Casting)	8
RON	0	0	
Spoiled/Expired	0	0	0
Total Votes	16	17	16
Total Valid Votes	16	17	16
Quota	7	7	7

Mr Hajda and Ms Kennedy O Brien were elected

10.4. R. 2 – A Motion to Provide the Co-option of the SRC Member for Mature Students

THIS SRC NOTES:

1. A casual vacancy in the office of SRC Member for Mature Students.

THIS SRC RESOLVES:

- 1. To co-opt a new SRC Member for Mature Students at its regular meeting of 23 April 2013.*
- 2. To mandate the Association President to advertise the same.*

PROPOSED: Ms Litherland

SECONDED: Ms Platt

Ms Litherland proposed that the SRC Member for Mature Students be elected by co-option rather than by-election. There is no current member for mature students.

No further discussion of this motion.

No objection to the motion, motion adopted.

Mr fforde was directed to advertise the cooption at next regular meeting of SRC.

11. Any Other Competent Business

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 21:05.