

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2014 AT 6.30 p.m.  
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

**Present** : As per sederunt sheets

**Apologies** : C McInnes, K McEwen, G Tulloch, C Meehan, M Bhebhe,  
C Mackay, R Vaughan, N Llamas-Gomez

**Attending** : G Reynolds

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**1. Website Update**

G Reynolds delivered a short presentation to council, showing the progress that had been made in developing the new website. Council were asked to contact G Reynolds by email with any comments and suggestions.

**2. Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2.1 Matters Arising

1.2 Fossil fuel free motion. J McGrellis updated council that the motion has now been submitted to the Secretary of Court to petition that the university divest from fossil fuel companies. This will be discussed at the next meeting of court and it is likely that an advisory group will be established. J McGrellis advised that she would update on any progress at the March meeting of council

3.1.2 Hunterian Development Board - J McGrellis advised that the meeting with Hunterian Development Board had taken place and that the Hunterian were keen to have consultation with Council and students more widely regarding the development of the Kelvin Hall.

3.1.3 Textbook availability. J McGrellis updated council that the issue has now been raised with the Business School but no response has been received as yet.

3.1.5 Council News Bulletins. J McGrellis asked council how they thought this might best be achieved.

Discussion followed and it was decided that a designer would be commissioned to create a poster template that could be used each month.

**JM to  
commissio  
n designer**

### **3. Council Reports**

#### **3.1 J McGrellis SRC President**

Q L King asked JM about the 12<sup>th</sup> December senate meeting and the proposed reduction of Senate Assessors on court from 7 to 5, asking if there were any other changes. J McGrellis responded that there were some other proposed changes; a reduction in the number of general council members, an increase in co-opted members and the abolition of the position of chancellors assessor.

D Mackay pointed out that since last year GUSRC have a position on the nominations committee that appoints co-opted members.

Q - O Mooney asked how those being considered for co-opted membership are selected. J McGrellis responded that the role was open to applications.

J McGrellis updated council that a new Vice Principal J Conroy had been appointed but that the position of Head of Science and Engineering was still vacant and that in February interviews would be taking place for the position of Head of College of Arts. She added that she believed that the student panel member could exert considerable influence on selection of the successful candidate

#### **3.2 L Graham VP Student Support**

L Graham highlighted that February is LGBT History month and that the flag raising would take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February, at the south front flagpole, probably at 12pm

**LG will  
promote on  
facebook**

#### **3.3 B O'Connor VP Student Activities**

B O'Connor was asked to give more details on the meeting regarding general and first year rep email accounts. B O'Connor responded that while it had been agreed that there would be joint email accounts, the details of how this would work best had not yet been decided.

I Mitev asked for an update regarding RAG design. B O'Connor responded that the design has now been finalised and will be launched on the 10<sup>th</sup> March

**BO to  
produce  
regulations  
for joint  
email  
accounts**

B O'Connor also highlighted upcoming events 'One dress one month' and International Womens Week.

B O'Connor invited council members to get involved with these events and note their interest on the facebook page and to contact her by email if they have any ideas for RAG.

**BO will promote on Facebook**

B O'Connor highlighted the 33fifty leadership scheme which is open to students from commonwealth countries.

B O'Connor reminded council that Media Week would be taking place next week – 27<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> January

B O'Connor asked council members to help with the set up of re-freshers fair on the 29<sup>th</sup> January.

B O'Connor informed council that a Chinese New Year event is being held in the Bute Hall at 6pm 27<sup>th</sup> January.

N Duffy-Welsh highlighted an event for English Literature students that she is organising on the 13<sup>th</sup> February and asked council to help with promotion of the event on social media at the start of February.

### **3.4 Freshers Week independent report**

Q – M Karrasch asked what the cost of the report was. B Hay responded that the costs were around £1200.

B O'Connor commented that there had been very positive feedback on the freshers' helpers with 600 students showing interest in being a freshers' helper next year.

Q – H T Chan asked why ibp Strategy and Research had been chosen to produce this report. B Hay responded that they had recent experience in producing reports for the university and GUSRC and consequently had a good sense of the local operating environment in addition to being competitively priced.

D Mackay noted the large drop in the number of students using the night bus to 30%. J McGrellis responded that it could be checked what percentage of that number was from students living in halls. O Coombs commented that there had already been significant investment and that it was unlikely that the nightbuses could accommodate more students than it does at present.

S Law asked, if it would be possible to access table 2.12 ;suggestions for additional events.J McGrellis said this information could be passed on.

**JM will pass on suggestions to SL**

C Davies commented on the high number of students wanting better communication of information, suggesting this be something that could be considered for next year.

O Mooney asked if some of the information could be provided when first letter goes out from the university. J McGrellis responded that as this letter is sent in May which means that it is difficult to include more information about Freshers' Week at this time. The main acts at the Unions are usually unable to be released that far in advance.

I Mitev commented that mature student satisfaction in terms of the pass being value for money, had reduced. He asked how this might be addressed

L Graham responded that there had been specific events aimed at mature students with children such as 'Wee Ones in the Williams Room' which was always well attended.

H Roberts commented that the main club events at the Unions that the pass was required for may not be as appealing to mature students.

L King commented that it was important to steer away from the idea that all mature students have children and don't want to go out at night.

J McGrellis responded that this was something that would be worth looking into and suggested a meeting with I Mitev to discuss.

N Mosson asked if there was an option to issue passes for one day, two days etc. J McGrellis responded that implementing this would be very difficult and it was unlikely that the unions would approve and L Graham added that would raise admin costs significantly if there were multiple pass types.

I Mitev suggested that passes might be better value if they also included the weekends events. O Coombs responded that this would be unfair on returning students who may want to go out before the first day of term. J McGrellis added that this would be a decision that could only be taken by the Unions.

### **3.5 Welfare Week Report**

L Graham commented that participation in events was less than anticipated and suggested that this was probably due to the timetable of events not being promoted as well as it could have been due to a variety of factors. The stress packs were a success.

JM to meet  
with IM re  
engaging  
mature  
students  
more

L Graham thanked clubs and societies and council for helping out.

J McGrellis thanked L Graham for putting on a great week of events.

#### **4. CHP Video**

J McGrellis showed council a short video outlining the project to replace the university's steam powered heating system with a new combined heat and power district heating system (CHP).

Discussion followed

#### **5. Motion – Zero Hour Contracts (appendix)**

O Mooney presented a motion to council to end the use of zero hour and atypical contracts in the University.

J McGrellis read out a statement from N Llamas-Gomez in support of zero hour contracts and the flexibility they provide to students.

Discussion followed

It was agreed by the proposer that 'sections headed; 'The SRC Notes' and 'The SRC Believes' would not be considered on as there was information that was inconsistent and incorrect therein.

Following further discussion the proposer accepted the following as the substantive motion

'The SRC resolves to campaign for the replacement, as soon as practicably possible, of zero-hours and atypical contracts for staff that offer greater stability and financial security, unless staff choose to remain on zero hour and atypical contracts'

Council approved the motion with 12 in support, 10 against and 10 abstentions.

#### **6. AOCB**

NSS - J McGrellis highlighted the National Student Survey and encouraged those in their final year to complete the survey and asked council in general to help with promotion by circulating publicity.

Rectorial Elections - J McGrellis informed council that GUSRC are neutral

when it comes to the elections but added that individuals were free to support whomever they wished.

SRC Elections – J McGrellis reminded council that the nominations for the spring elections would be opening on the 10<sup>th</sup> February and encouraged council to stand again and encourage others to run. J McGrellis added that herself and the other sabbatical officers would be available to discuss roles if anyone had any questions.

Exam Results - T Hokkanen asked for when the exam results deadline was. J McGrellis responded that the deadline was the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

International Womens' Week - H Gower highlighted International Womens Week and asked council to get involved.

Student Teaching Awards - O Coombs Hightlighted STAs and asked council to help promote and added that the date of the ceremony had been changed to the 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Meeting concluded at 20.55pm