

**MINUTES OF THE 2nd COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER 2006 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN ROOM 506, BOYD ORR BUILDING**

ACTION

Present : As per Sederunt Sheets

Apologies : Julia Braun, Miriam MacDonald, Sarah Tomlinson

**1 MINUTES OF THE 1st COUNCIL MEETING
9 November 2006 – Factual Corrections**

1.1 Restructure of the Academic Year (Refer 15.2)

This should read: “The points and questions raised will be sent to David Watt,”, and not as printed.

2 MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Academic Writing Skills (Refer 2.7)

The response M Wilson had received from the Effective Learning Unit was that this is what the student learning services provide and they are not aware of any other plans to introduce an academic skills programme across the University. They think it might be in relation to an initiative running in the Arts Faculty where all new Level One Arts students have to complete an on-line writing test and if their performance is not satisfactory they are asked to attend a workshop.

2.2 Part time Students’ Open Meeting (Refer 15.1)

This takes place on Monday, 11 December in Room 433 of the St Andrews Building at 5.30 p.m.

2.3 Restructure of the Academic Year (Refer 15.2)

D Lamb has put this on the Council Forum and the points have been sent to David Watt at Computing Science.

Minutes adopted by Council.

3 SABBATICAL OFFICERS’ REPORTS

SHONA MORRISON, PRESIDENT

(Copy circulated)

Nothing further to add to report.

3.1 Questions or Comments for the President

None.

4 MHAIRI WILSON, VP (LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT)

(Copy circulated)

One further item added.

4.1 Freshers' Week Report

It was noted that M Wilson had submitted a more formal Freshers' Week report to the Student Support Development Committee.

4.2 Questions or Comments for VP (Learning & Development)

None

**5 KAT BORROWDALE, VP (STUDENT SUPPORT)
(Copy circulated)**

One further item added.

5.1 World Aids Day

K Borrowdale expressed her thanks to everyone who had helped. The day had been a great success.

5.2 Questions or Comments for VP (Student Support)

None.

**6 DAVID LAMB, VP (MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS)
(Copy circulated)**

Nothing further to add to report.

6.1 Questions or Comments for VP (Media & Communications)

None.

7 CONVENORS, OFFICERS & COURT ASSESSOR'S REPORTS

S Morrison informed Council a reporting template would be prepared for Convenors, Officers and the Court Assessor to complete and circulate at future meetings. The Court Assessor pointed out that as his first Court meeting would be taking place on the 13 December he would put any urgent issues on the forum for discussion.

SM
AR

8 MOTION: STOP THE WAR COALITION

The following motion proposed by Peter Ramand was submitted which read:

The SRC notes:

1. That the 'Glasgow University Stop the War Society' are set to host a national conference of the 'Stop the War Coalition' in the Sir Charles Wilson Building on the 10th February 2006.
2. That the conference and Scottish anti-war movement is being officially welcomed by Liz Cameron, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, on behalf of Glasgow City Council.
3. That the speakers who have already confirmed their attendance at the conference include –

Kate Hudson -National chair CND
Craig Murray -ex UK ambassador to Uzbekistan
Walter Wolfgang -Labour Party NEC
Yvonne Ridley -campaigning journalist
Jeremy Corbyn -Labour MP

Lindsey German -National Convenor Stop the War Coalition
Moazzam Begg -ex-Guantanamo prisoner
Rose Gentle -Military Families Against War
Pauline McNeil -Labour MSP
Sandra White -SNP MSP
Mike Brider -T&G Regional Secretary
Kenny Ross -FBU Scottish Secretary
Dr Azzam Tamimi -Director of the Institute of Islamic Political Thought
John McDonnell -Labour MP
Chris Balance -Green MSP
Anas Altikriti -British Muslim Initiative

ACTION

The SRC believes:

1. That the conference will be valuable in raising awareness on issues surrounding the war in Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon as well as the attacks on our civil liberties in the United Kingdom.
2. That the credentials of the speakers attending the conference will bring prestige to the University of Glasgow.

The SRC resolves:

1. To provide an official welcome to the conference in a similar capacity to that of the Lord Provost.
2. To raise awareness about and provide publicity for the conference on campus.
3. To support the conference in any way possible.

The Chairperson advised that, as the motion didn't meet with the requirement for "written support" from 15 members, as set out in the Schedules to the Constitution it was incompetent and could not be considered. It was agreed however to have a general discussion around the issue to which the motion related.

Following the discussion it was agreed that the SRC would be happy to be involved in the official welcome to the conference and will support the publicity and promotion of the event.

9 COUNCIL TRAINING FEEDBACK

Copies of the documents were circulated for information.

10 MOTION: CLIMATE CHANGE

The following motion proposed by Sophie Ramsay and seconded by Gavin Lee was submitted which read:

This SRC notes:

1. That the issue of climate change is a global concern;
2. That not only this generation of students, but also future generations, will live through the impacts of climate change.

This SRC believes:

1. That urgent steps must be taken to counter this threat;
2. That the aims of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition are viable and achievable, and

that affiliation to it would reflect the growing concerns of students and increase political pressure on government;

3. That the university, as a major institution, has an important responsibility to its students and to society to promote good environmental practice and “to sustain and add value ... to the natural environment,” as mentioned in their mission statement.

This SRC resolves:

1. To endorse the aims and objectives of the Stop Climate Chaos campaign, and to accept affiliation to it, or supporter status, at no cost as soon as possible;
2. To encourage Glasgow University to affiliate to Stop Climate Chaos and endorse its aims;
3. To mandate the SRC President to write on the SRC’s behalf –
 - a) to the Scottish Executive Minister for Environment & Rural Development and the UK Government Secretary of State for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, to express these concerns;
 - b) to the Scottish Funding Council to impress upon them the importance of increasing funding of research into climate change, its effects and means of tackling it;
4. To take reasonable steps to reduce the waste, energy use and carbon emissions of the SRC;
5. To publicise the aims of Stop Climate Chaos and this resolution to the general student population at Glasgow University;
6. To engage with the other student bodies on campus to take the same steps.

ACTION

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18/1/07

D MacKenzie felt some minor amendments could be made. There was a general consensus that, as D MacKenzie was a member of the Sustainability Group (who submitted the motion) and had participated fully in the discussions on the motion before it was submitted, it was a preferable that he didn’t choose to submit amendments at this point. An open period followed and it was agreed the ‘highlighted’ action points above, would be completed by the date of the next Council meeting.

No direct negative. Motion passed.

11 MOTION: TO AMEND THE SUSTAINABILITY GROUP RESOLUTION

The following motion proposed by Kat Borrowdale and seconded by Duncan MacKenzie was submitted which read:

The SRC Sustainability Group agreed on 23 November 2006 to bring the following motion to Council

This SRC resolves to amend the resolution establishing a Sustainability Group, passed at Council on 11 May 2006, as follows –

1. Replace paragraph 9 (*ex officio* members of the Group) with the following:
“9. The SRC Vice-President (Student Support), or whichever executive officer has responsibility for promoting sustainable development, shall be an *ex officio* member of the Group;”
2. Insert a new paragraph 9A between paragraphs 9 and 10, as follows:
“9A. SRC Council shall elect two representatives to the Sustainability Group in

each academic session;”

ACTION

Explanatory note: this note does not form part of the motion.

The first paragraph removes all the *ex officio* members of the Group except the Vice-President (Student Support) from the original resolution. This was thought to be sensible because all those mentioned are free to attend Group meetings anyway – we should only mention them specifically if we want them to be obliged to attend. We decided to retain VP (Student Support) because they have ultimate responsibility for sustainability and the Group.

Paragraph 9 of the original resolution read:

“9. The following shall be *ex officio* members of the Group:

- a) the SRC President;
- b) the SRC Vice-President (Student Support), or whichever Executive Officer has responsibility for promoting sustainable development;
- c) the SRC Charities Officer;
- d) any member of SRC Council whose role, in the opinion of the President after discussion with Council, relates significantly to sustainability;”

The main change in this proposed motion is the second paragraph: it doesn't do anything to the rules about the Convenor (paragraph 11 of the original resolution) but instead lays down a new rule, that SRC Council must elect two reps to the Sustainability Group each year. This would mean that the Group should always have at least that number of Council members attending meetings, but the Convenor could still be a non-Council member. For information, paragraph 11 of the original resolution, unaffected by this proposal, reads:

“11. The Group shall, at least once in each academic session, elect a Convenor, who need not be a member of SRC Council, and who shall be responsible for organising and facilitating the Group's meetings;”

K Borrowdale spoke on the amendments, confirming the Chairperson's view that the amendments related to procedure rather than policy.

An amendment proposed by D Lamb was submitted which read:

Point 2 “Insert a new paragraph 9A between

Change Paragraph 9A to 10 and renumber appropriately. This was acceptable to the Proposer.

No direct negative. Motion passed.

Motion now reads:

Motion to establish a Sustainability Group
and to determine the collective duty of the SRC in relation to sustainability

This SRC notes:

1. That the post of Environmental Officer has not been included in the Constitution which enters into effect on 1 July 2006.

This SRC believes:

Objectives of the SRC (Constitution paragraph 3)

1. That “the general interests of students” referred to in sub-paragraph 3.1 of the Constitution which enters into effect on 1 July 2006 includes their interest in the

protection of the environment;

2. That the state of the local and global environments affects the wealth and health of students referred to in sub-paragraph 3.3 of the said Constitution;
3. That “heritage” referred to in sub-paragraph 3.4 of the said Constitution includes our natural heritage, that is to say, the natural environment; and that advancing this heritage includes advancing students’ knowledge and understanding of it.

This SRC resolves as follows:

Duty and establishment of Sustainability Group

1. It shall therefore be the collective duty of the SRC to promote sustainable development;
2. In order to give effect to this duty and these objectives, a committee shall formally be established, which shall be known as the SRC Sustainability Group (“the Group”);

Aim, function and activities

3. The aim and function of the Group shall be to decide on and organise, on a university-wide basis, and (as appropriate) in co-operation with other interested parties, activities promoting sustainable development, whether their focus is university-based, local, national or international;
4. The Group’s activities may include, but shall not be limited to, campaigns, fundraising and events; and the purpose of the activities may include, but shall not be limited to, education, charity, nature conservation and political campaigning;
5. The Group shall endeavour to engage with interest groups which may have views about the activities which the Group should pursue, or which may share common aims with the Group;
6. The Group shall, in pursuit of its aims, liaise with SRC Council and Executive Officers and, as necessary, decide on motions to be proposed at meetings of the Council or Executive;
7. The Group’s activities shall not be limited to those specified in this resolution;

Membership and Convenor

8. Membership of the Group shall be open to any student of the University, and to any member of SRC Council. The quorum of the Group shall be seven.
9. The SRC Vice-President (Student Support), or whichever executive officer has responsibility for promoting sustainable development, shall be an *ex officio* member of the Group.
10. SRC Council shall elect two representatives to the Sustainability Group in each academic session.
11. Individual students may join the Group as representatives of Unions, clubs, societies and student support groups;
12. The Group shall, at least once in each academic session, elect a Convenor, who need not be a member of SRC Council, and who shall be responsible for organising and facilitating the Group’s meetings;
13. The Convenor shall be permitted to speak and act on the Group’s behalf;

Invitations and publicity

14. The SRC shall, within eight weeks of the start of each academic session, send invitations to join the Group to each member of the SRC Council, to Presidents and/or appropriate committees of each Union, and to each club, society, and student support group (SSG) which is affiliated to the SRC; and the SRC may also send such invitations at any time and to any student or group of students, and shall send such an

invitation to any newly affiliated club, society, or SSG;

ACTION

15. The invitations shall ask their recipients to promote the Group among the constituency, electors or contacts of each SRC Council member, or among the membership of each Union, club, society, or SSG;
16. The SRC shall publicise the Group (including, as appropriate, its achievements and plans) in ways including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a) in the SRC Guide and in material sent to new students before they arrive;
 - b) by establishing a section on its web site in which information shall be posted including, but not limited to, proceedings, decisions, and activities of, and (as appropriate) correspondence sent and received by or on behalf of, the Group;
 - c) by sending bulletins about its work at least once in each semester –
 - ♦ to the Group's members, and
 - ♦ to any affiliated clubs, societies, and SSGs, and any other formal or informal group of students, which, in the Convenor's opinion after consultation with the Group, share sufficient common ground with the Group and have not opted out in the current academic session, and
 - ♦ to any other such group or any student which has requested to receive them;

Meetings

17. It shall be the responsibility of the Convenor, whom failing the Vice-President (Student Support) or President in that order, to call meetings of the Group;
18. Meetings shall be held on a regular basis during each semester, at least four times per academic year;
19. The Group may invite any person to attend its meetings if their attendance would promote its aims;

Responsibility for implementation and entry into force

20. Responsibility for ensuring that this resolution is implemented shall lie ultimately with the Vice-President (Student Support), whom failing the President in that order;
21. This entire resolution shall enter into force immediately.

12 MOTION: ASYLUM-SEEKERS' ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

The following motion proposed by Siobhan Foulner and seconded by Iain Jarvie was submitted which read:

SRC notes:

1. That the Scottish Funding Council's "Aim 1" on Access to Learning states that "Scotland's colleges and universities [should] offer ... fair access to a diverse range of learning programmes suited to individual learners' circumstances" and that asylum-seekers are eligible for a fee waiver for part-time non-advanced courses at further education institutions;
2. That asylum-seekers are not eligible for any public funding for part-time or full-time courses at higher education institutions due to the provisions of the Student Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (as amended) which set down the residence requirements that must be fulfilled to receive support from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS);
3. That Glasgow University has discretion to vary or waive asylum-seekers' tuition fees, but its usual policy is to follow the SAAS' decisions about students' fee status; that SAAS bases its decision fee status on an applicant's possession of "settled status" in

immigration law; and further, that in least one case Glasgow University has agreed to waive the fees of such an asylum-seeker and has provided a bursary;

ACTION

4. That Glasgow University Student Action for Refugees Society (STAR) has recently launched a campaign to persuade Glasgow University to charge 'home' fees to asylum-seekers;
5. That other universities have exercised their discretionary right to charge home fees to asylum-seekers and/or have bursary schemes, which have been of benefit to the universities as they have gained talented and highly motivated students.

This SRC believes:

1. That asylum-seekers should not be charged higher tuition fees than others who have lived in the UK for three or more years, purely because they are asylum-seekers;
2. That Glasgow University's fundamental aim of "[making] a major contribution to local, regional, national and international communities through widening access," as mentioned in its mission statement, is to be applauded;
3. That Glasgow University's decision, referred to above, to waive one asylum-seeker's fees and provide a bursary is to be applauded, and that in order to further the fundamental aim in its mission statement the current unfair financial barriers to all asylum-seeking students from local schools should be removed.

This SRC resolves:

1. To endorse STAR's campaign;
2. To encourage Glasgow University to revise its policy on asylum-seekers' fee status to charge them at the 'home' rate;
3. To mandate the SRC President to write on the SRC's behalf —
 - a) to —
 - each Minister and Deputy Minister within the Scottish Executive Department of Education & Training.
 - the Scottish Funding Council,
 - the Student Awards Agency for Scotland, and
 - appropriate office-bearers and committees within Glasgow University, including the Rector, Principal, and Secretary of Court,
 - b) to any person or body whom the SRC Executive deems appropriate, to further the goals of this resolution;
4. To publicise the goals of this resolution to the general student population at Glasgow University;
5. To engage with the other student bodies on campus to achieve the goals of this resolution;
6. To take any other measures which would further the goals of this resolution.

S Foulner spoke on the motion.

S Skinner proposed the following amendment which read: –

Under ‘This SRC resolves, Point 3’ add The Home Office and the Education Minister

This was acceptable to the Proposer.

G Lee proposed the following amendment which read:-

Under ‘This SRC believes, Point 3’ delete last part of sentence “from local schools.....”.

This was acceptable to the Proposer.

J Wightwick proposed the following amendment which read:-

Under ‘This SRC resolves’, delete Point 6.

This was acceptable to the Proposer.

No direct negative. Motion passed.

Motion now reads:

SRC notes:

1. That the Scottish Funding Council’s “Aim 1” on Access to Learning states that “Scotland’s colleges and universities [should] offer ... fair access to a diverse range of learning programmes suited to individual learners’ circumstances” and that asylum-seekers are eligible for a fee waiver for part-time non- advanced courses at further education institutions;
2. That asylum-seekers are not eligible for any public funding for part-time or full-time courses at higher education institutions due to the provisions of the Student Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (as amended) which set down the residence requirements that must be fulfilled to receive support from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS);
3. That Glasgow University has discretion to vary or waive asylum-seekers’ tuition fees, but its usual policy is to follow the SAAS’ decisions about students’ fee status; that SAAS bases its decision fee status on an applicant’s possession of “settled status” in immigration law; and further, that in least one case Glasgow University has agreed to waive the fees of such an asylum-seeker and has provided a bursary;
4. That Glasgow University Student Action for Refugees Society (STAR) has recently launched a campaign to persuade Glasgow University to charge ‘home’ fees to asylum-seekers;
5. That other universities have exercised their discretionary right to charge home fees to asylum- seekers and/or have bursary schemes, which have been of benefit to the universities as they have gained talented and highly motivated students.

This SRC believes:

1. That asylum-seekers should not be charged higher tuition fees than others who have lived in the UK for three or more years, purely because they are asylum-seekers;
2. That Glasgow University’s fundamental aim of “[making] a major contribution to local,

regional, national and international communities through widening access," as mentioned in its mission statement, is to be applauded;

ACTION

3. That Glasgow University's decision, referred to above, to waive one asylum-seeker's fees and provide a bursary is to be applauded, and that in order to further the fundamental aim in its mission statement the current unfair financial barriers to all asylum-seeking students should be removed.

This SRC resolves:

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2. To encourage Glasgow University to revise its policy on asylum-seekers' fee status to charge them at the 'home' rate;
3. To mandate the SRC President to write on the SRC's behalf —
 - a) to —
 - each Minister and Deputy Minister within the Scottish Executive Department of Education & Training.
 - The Home Office and the Education Minister,
 - the Scottish Funding Council,
 - the Student Awards Agency for Scotland, and
 - appropriate office-bearers and committees within Glasgow University, including the Rector, Principal, and Secretary of Court,
 - b) to any person or body whom the SRC Executive deems appropriate, to further the goals of this resolution;
4. To publicise the goals of this resolution to the general student population at Glasgow University;
5. To engage with the other student bodies on campus to achieve the goals of this resolution.

S Morrison will meet with members of the GUSTAR Group after the new year and before the next Council meeting. S Campbell suggested raising this issue at Senate, SSDC and the Recruitment, Admissions & Participation Committee.

SM

13 PDP WORKING GROUP

Struan Campbell
Nicola Chan
Gavin Lee
Abs Mannan
Shona Morrison
Anders Roberts
Jamie Wightwick
Mhairi Wilson

M Wilson will arrange a meeting date in the new year.

MW

14 WEBSITE & E-MAIL ADDRESSES

D Lamb proposed Council members have a page on the website, along the same lines as the Sabbatical Officers one. The information would include name, photo, council e-mail address and manifesto. Council were asked to write a short blurb in time for the next Council meeting and D Lamb will include this on the website. D Lamb will e-mail everyone with details of the information he will require.

ACTION

COUNCIL/
DL

D Lamb will circulate log on details for Officers and Convenors e-mail addresses. He will also set up an address for General Rep positions which will go to their personal e-mail address. S Morrison also asked members to give their user name details to D Lamb so he can arrange access to the Forum.

DL/
COUNCIL

15 PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Howard Dickson
Chris Hall
Seumas Skinner
Filippo Trevisan
Jamie Wightwick

D Lamb will arrange a meeting and contact everyone.

DL

**16 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
27 October 2006 - Factual Corrections and Matters Arising**

16.1 Keys for Executive Office (Refer 3.3)

It was noted that the Senior Office & Finance Administrator had organised keys for non-Sabb members for the lower Executive office. A £10 refundable deposit will be required. Other Council members names will be given to Security and a key can be signed out, on production of a current matriculation card.

Minutes adopted by Council.

17 AOCB

17.1 Advice, Policy & Training Officer

S Morrison introduced Gus Ironside, one of the APTOs to Council. It is hoped that a representative from the Advice Team will be able to attend each Council meeting.

17.2 LGBT Winter Event

S Morrison informed everyone 4 tickets are available for this event which takes place in Qudos on the evening of Wednesday, 13 December. She is unable to go along as she is attending the Court Dinner.

17.3 No Platform Policy Working Group

S Morrison will arrange a meeting with the following members of the Working Group -

SM

Kat Borrowdale
Struan Campbell
Duncan MacKenzie
Anders Roberts
Sarah Tomlinson
Mhairi Wilson

ACTION

17.4 Strategic Planning Day

This will be arranged one Friday next year. The idea of the day is to enhance Council members' involvement in shaping the future direction of the SRC. A separate day for staff and Exec members will also take place and it is hoped that by the middle of March a document setting out key aims for the next 3-5 years will be produced. B Hay will circulate an e-mail to everyone with details.

BH

17.5 Clubs & Societies Committee

M Wilson has been having great difficulty arranging a time to suit everyone. She will be going through the affiliation forms on Wednesday, 13 December from 2.30 p.m. onwards in the SRC Meeting Room and would greatly appreciate some assistance from committee members.

17.6 Student Festival Planning Meeting

This will take place on Tuesday, 12 December at 3 p.m. in the Curlers.

17.7 NUS Referendum

C Hall felt members deserved a lot of credit for this and congratulated Council for putting so much effort into the campaign.

17.8 Christmas Drinks

S Morrison invited everyone for drinks and a buffet in Bar Bola.

S Morrison wished everyone a lovely Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.