

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2005 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM**

Present : As per Sederunt Sheets
Apologies : Vikki Jackson (GUSA)
Attending : Bob Hay (Permanent Secretary)

1. ELECTION OF PRESES

It was noted that John Andrew Murray had resigned as Preses. A McDonald invited nominations for his replacement: Henk van Klaveren was nominated. As there were no other nominations Henk van Klaveren was confirmed as Preses and took over chairmanship of the meeting.

**2. MINUTES OF THE FIRST STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL
10 November 2005**

(a) Accuracy
Agreed as a correct record.

(b) Matters Arising
None

**3. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS', CONVENORS' AND ASSESSORS' REPORTS
All executive written reports noted.**

(a) President
D Guy advised that he wished to make a verbal statement:

He apologised for lying to Council and advised he was pleased with the findings of Constitution and Procedures Committee that the nature of the lie did not merit his resignation. However, in view of representations made to him by the Executive he felt that it was in the best interests of the organisation that he resign his position on the date of election of his successor.

Questions

H Spurling enquired as to D Guy's input to the student festival. D Guy replied that it had been a difficult week and had been unable to provide much input in this area.

(b) VP Activities and Development
H Spurling advised she had nothing to add to previously submitted written report.

No questions.

(c) VP Communications

S Morrison advised that she had nothing to add to previously submitted report.

No questions.

(d) VP Education

M Davies apologised for not submitting a written report due to pressures of work. He briefly summarised the key areas of his involvement since the last council meeting:

i Course Rep Training

Currently in the process of preparing a report on this year's course rep training which will incorporate an evaluation and review and be presented to council at the first opportunity.

ii Academic Standards Committee

M Davies attended this meeting. Little to discuss.

iii Inter Board Debating Championship

Won by SRC. M Davies thanked the Dialectic Society for organising the event.

iv Meeting With Faculty Reps And Ordinaries

M Davies advised it was a productive meeting. Useful dialogue and discussion on a number of issues arose from the meeting which will be circulated in due course to those unable to attend. Convener email addresses now fully functional.

v Widening Participation

Request from widening participation for M Davies to hold talks with children attending schools in areas of social deprivation in order to market the university and increase the numbers from such areas attending University of Glasgow. This represents another side to the remit of VP Education M Davies to host these lectures on 19/20/21 December.

vi Glasgow Student Festival

Heavily involved in supporting this event over the current week.

vii Student Absence Policy

M Davies currently drafting a response to this. First draft has been circulated amongst executive, Permanent Secretary and Senior Advice Worker for comment.

viii Meeting with Advice Centre Staff

Some serious issues emerging regarding conduct of Engineering and Medicine faculties with respect to appeals. M Davies currently drafting letter highlighting issues and looking for a resolution and a guarantee that this will not happen again.

ix CommUniversity Launch Event

M Davies attended this on behalf of the SRC.

x QAA/SARQS Higher Education Briefing

Attended this with Bob Hay and Helen Speirs (Senior Advice Worker). Very useful and informative.

xi Operations Committee

Little to report.

xii Executive Committee

Discussed the events of Thursday 10th, 1st Stat Meeting.

xiii Senate

Little to report.

xiv Student Support and Development Committee

Gave oral report regarding course rep training.

xv Miscellaneous

Various Students visited during this period and contacted via email about a range of issues.

(e) VP Welfare and Equal Opportunities

i Student Festival

S Tomlinson thanked helpers.

ii Employment Rights Campaign

Key aims of campaign outlined.

iii Concessionary Travel

Advised that this would be a focus for campaigning over the next few weeks.

iv Traffic Safety on University Avenue

Advised that no letter had been received from Glasgow City Council confirming intentions to implement safety measures as described by S Tomlinson at previous meeting of council. Agreed this should be followed up.

S Tomlinson further explained that she had been advised by Glasgow City Council that there was no prospect of the implementation of a “Twenty’s Plenty” zone on University Avenue unless “there was a fatality”. Council unanimously expressed concern and requested VP Welfare write to the appropriate senior person at Glasgow City Council seeking clarification of this position and expressing concern.

v Rector

S Tomlinson advised that the SRC had been contacted by representatives of the Rector who advised that he was currently in an extremely distressed condition. N Rountree confirmed he had had a similar discussion and felt it extremely important that the student body seek ways of continuing to build links and demonstrate support for Mordechai Vanunu. S Tomlinson agreed that this was an area the SRC should immediately address and advised that she would work with any interested parties on this. She asked any interested council members to contact her.

(f) Arts Convenor

Kat Borrowdale advised she had attended a couple of meetings with students regarding issues around their courses and had also been contacted through her SRC email which was now working and extremely useful.

B Hay suggested that Faculty representatives meet with Advice Centre staff to ensure that appropriate parameters were established in terms of student representative's role in advising individuals on academic issues as well as any implications in terms of the Advice Centre's confidentiality policy.

(g) Charities Officer

P McGlinchey submitted a comprehensive written report of activities to date. He further advised that tomorrow was the last day of student festival and the last chance to help in the collection for the earthquake victims. He also made members aware of the up and coming Oxfam Club Night at the Queen Margaret Union on December 1st.

(h) Veterinary Medicine Faculty Convenor

N Fair advised of an issue which had arisen on the site of the vet school relating to the independent shop which was being threatened with closure by the University, apparently to provide the University with a monopoly on sales. Agreed that VP Education and VP Welfare would liaise with N Fair and agree a plan of action.

4. CONSTITUTION & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(a) Minutes

Those attending agreed minutes as accurate.

(b) Matters Arising From C&P Minutes

(i) Attendance

R Anderson asked why A McDonald didn't attend the meeting?

A McDonald replied he had been out the night before and was hungover.

R Anderson commented that this seemed rather trivial given the demand for places on the C&P Committee and the seriousness of the subject on the agenda.

A McDonald apologised.

(ii) Investigation and Recommendations

Several members raised concerns over the findings of the C&P committee. There was particular concern from some parties that the investigation did not appear to go deep enough. Members of the C&P Committee responded that the remit as agreed at previous council (*Council agreed that the aforementioned matter be referred to the constitution and procedures committee for consideration and recommendations as to potential further action*). It was highlighted that members dissatisfied with the outcome and recommendation could bring forward a complaint with substantiated allegations but the C&P Committee could not reach a negative conclusion on an individual's motivation based on hearsay and gossip alleging personal benefit.

There followed a general discussion which included the following key points:

J McHale argued that Council should not follow the recommendations of the C&P but believed that lying to Council [whether resulting in personal gain or not] merited resignation.

S Tomlinson said that the rest of the executive had asked D Guy to go so he should go now and not put wait until a successor was elected.

D Guy responded that he still had responsibilities to fulfil in the interim.

H Spurling opined that D Guy had forfeited the right to place preconditions on his resignation.

At this point the Preses adjourned the meeting. The meeting was reconvened after 15 minutes.

B Hay announced that D Guy had reached a decision that his date of resignation would be the end of the following week (2nd December 2005). Council confirmed that this was acceptable.

M Davies then gave a short speech advising that this should be the end of the matter. D Guy had made a mistake and paid a price for it. The work of the SRC in many other areas was developing well and it needed a united Council to continue to drive matters forward. The history of the SRC had often been dogged by fragmentation and petty infighting which had detracted from the SRC and this should not be allowed to re-emerge.

Council signalled their assent through unanimous applause.

Meeting Closed