



18 January 2011

Dear Council Member,

Council Meeting

In accordance with the Constitution I hereby give notice that a meeting of Council will take place on **Thursday, 20 January at 6.30 p.m. in the Williams Room.**

I would remind you that you are obliged to attend all meetings of Council. **If you are unable to attend please send your apologies in writing to me, or the PA to the Permanent Secretary, before midday on Thursday 20 January 2011.**

All minutes of committees, reports etc. to be approved at the meeting should be handed to the PA to the Permanent Secretary by **12pm on Tuesday 18 January 2011.**

The Agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

- a) Welcome
- b) Sederunt and apologies
- c) Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising
- d) Sabbatical Officer Reports (included)
- e) Council Member Reports (included)
- f) Media Week
- g) RAG Week
- h) PETs
- i) Learning & Teaching Conference Video
- j) Strategic Plan (information attached)
- k) 125th Anniversary
- l) AOCB

Yours faithfully

Tommy Gore
President

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 2010 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

Present :As per Sederunt Sheets

Apologies :Laura Laws, Dij Davies, Helmi Kreinin, Jenny Court,
Alan Tinning, GUSA, GUU.

Attending :Thomas Killean – **Advice Centre**, Sandy
Macdonald, Gavin Lee – **Student Life Cycle Project**

1. WELCOME

T. Gore thanked all in attendance for attending despite the difficult weather conditions.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING (November 11 2010)

Factual Corrections - None. Minutes agreed and approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1. G12 Theatre (Refer 3.1.)

T. Gore is happy to pass on information regarding this issue to any council member who is interested and invited interested members to contact him.

3.2. Council Hours (Refer 3.4)

T. Gore urged Council members, who had not already done so, to pass details of their availability to L. Winter.

3.3 Guardian Publicity (Refer 3.5)

L. Winter would select two council members after the meeting to photograph and interview for the next edition of Guardian.

3.4. University Fee Policy (Refer 3.6.)

This issue was raised with the Principal (15/11/10). T. Gore reported that there were issues with prospective students not taking up places – the new fees policy was designed to compensate for this. The Principal had assured T. Gore that in certain cases (medical, personal etc.) efforts would be made with the registry to refund fees. B. Hay added that the Advice Centre had been successful in assisting several students in having their

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fees refunded.

3.5. Psychology SSLC (Refer 6.3.)

The issue of HM Goodlad not being allowed to attend the Psychology SSLC (Staff Student Liaison Committee) was raised. T. Gore and T. Eriksson raised this issue with Wendy Muir and were awaiting a response.

T. Gore
T. Eriksson

3.6. Learning and Teaching Conference Submission (Refer 10.)

T. Eriksson explained that ideas would be developed at the next Convenors Meeting (14/12/10).

3.7. Class Rep Feedback Form (Refer 15.1.)

S. Ritchie explained that this would be developed at the next Convenors Meeting.

S. Ritchie

3.8. Minorities' Experience of University Services (Refer 15.2.)

T. Gore explained that this would be considered further in the new year.

3.9. Sunday Herald Interviews (Refer 15.3.)

T. Gore Reported that some good coverage had been obtained through these interviews.

4. Student Life-Cycle Project Update.

Sandy Macdonald and Gavin Lee provided Council with an update on the current status of the SLP. It was estimated that by December 2011, the project would be 90% up and running.

4.1. L. Winter raised a question as to how many administration staff would be cut due to the increased efficiency of the system. S. Macdonald replied that there was no specific number in mind. Although the initial thought was to 'release' staff from such administration work to add greater value and not necessarily to save money, with the current financial climate funding cuts scenario, the emphasis had changed. It is hoped that within two to three months there will be greater clarity available on the financial benefits that can be achieved through SLP.

4.2. In response to a question from HM Goodlad, S. Macdonald explained that SLP would replace Websurf, but MOODLE would be unaffected.

4.3. S. Macdonald explained in response to I. Smith that SLP would update

the current Adviser of Studies system.

4.4. G. Lee explained that within a few months, Council would be asked to test the user interface of SLP.

S. Macdonald and G. Lee left the meeting.

4. SABBATICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS – November – December 2010

Council were invited to ask questions pertaining to each of the Sabbatical Officers' reports.

Tommy Gore, PRESIDENT
(Copy of report circulated)

4.1 Meeting with Frank Coton to discuss Student Voice, 9/11/10.

T. Gore raised this issue and noted that exec members had had a useful meeting with Professor Coton regarding the Student Voice website. K. Law questioned the purpose of this website, and T. Gore explained that it existed for the university to show how it was listening to, and acting on, student concerns. It is hoped that on-going developments will increase usability.

4.2. Meeting with Gordon McKenzie, Head of Central Services, 1/12/10.

T. Gore believed the meeting had been very useful and explained that it was positive to have a Head of Security showing an interest in the views of the SRC.

5. Tuula Eriksson, VP (LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT)
(Copy of report circulated)

5.1 Feedback Meeting with Mary McCulloch, 11/11/10.

T. Eriksson thanked those who had brought examples of feedback with them and assured Council that they would be returned.

5.2. Convenors Meeting

T. Eriksson reminded all concerned that the next Convenors Meeting would take place on 14/12/10.

5.3. Meeting with Careers Service, 24/11/10.

T. Eriksson explained that the Careers Service was branching out into Colleges in order to promote the University to a broader range of potential candidates for entry.

5.4. LTC Meeting (GTA Inclusion), 17/11/10, raised by K. Law.

T Eriksson explained that GTAs would be included in PETs (Prizes for Excellent Teachers) and that they would also be included in the Staff Award Scheme.

5.5 Turnitin, 17/11/10, raised by K. Law, S. Ritchie.

K. Law felt that the format of some Library surveys could be improved. S. Ritchie raised some concerns regarding Turnitin. T. Gore explained that S. Ritchie's views were precisely the kind of things that would be useful for the upcoming survey.

6. Fraser Sutherland, VP (STUDENT SUPPORT)

(Copy of report circulated)

Report noted.

7. Luke Winter, VP (MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS)

(Copy of report circulated)

7.1. Radio Caley Launch, 16/11/10.

L. Winter noted that it was very useful to see different approaches to Student Media.

8. CONVENORS', OFFICERS' & COURT ASSESSOR'S REPORTS

8.1. A. Cohen, PG Convenor

Report noted.

8.2. S. Milne, Gen Rep

Report noted.

8.3. J. Henfrey, Gen Rep

Report noted.

8.4. G. Masiulyte, Gen Rep First Year

Report noted.

8.5. HM Goodlad, Science Convenor, 17/11/10

HM Goodlad noted that some science students had complained that they were unable to leave labs to take part in sporting activities on Wednesday afternoons. She met with Professor Sventek, Head of Computing Science, who discussed this with the Computing Science SSLC (Staff Student Liaison Committee). From 2011, students in Computing Science choosing their lab times will have the option to leave Wednesday afternoons free for sport. The same point was raised at the Physics SSLC which is considering a similar proposal. It was noted that Chemistry students already have this option.

8.6. Dij Davies, LGBT Officer

Report noted.

8.7. J. Court, Women's Officer

Report noted.

8.8. F. Weber, Arts Convenor

College of Arts Council Meeting, 17/11/10, raised by K. Law

K. Law sought clarification on what the proposals for a College degree fair were. F. Weber explained that other Colleges have degree fairs, and that he had been appointed by the Arts College Council to get in touch with the Careers Service to see what could be achieved.

F. Weber

8.9. K. Law, LBSS Convenor

Report noted.

8.10. Michael Comerford, Gen Rep

Researcher Development Committee, 09/11/10

M. Comerford urged Council to seriously consider how to officially react to the £200 increase in PhD fees. S. Ritchie sought further detail on this matter. M. Comerford explained that PhD student fees were being increased by £200 to make up the difference in the cut in Roberts money.

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This would not affect international students and funded students, and there was nothing to guarantee that any money collected would be reserved specifically for skills training. M. Comerford argued that any increase in PhD fees should be ring-fenced for the use of PhD students. S. Ritchie offered to discuss this with M. Comerford.

PG Society, 24/11/10

M. Comerford explained that the first meeting was a success and that another meeting was being planned for 17/11/10.

9. Appointment of Auditor and Lawyer

In response to a question from S.Ritchie, B. Hay advised that both contracts would be put out to tender next year.

9.1. Alexander Sloan (Auditor). HM Goodlad, proposed. S. Ritchie seconded.

9.2. Govan Law Centre, under the name of Daley and Co. (Lawyer). S. Ritchie proposed. M. Morrison seconded.

10. Movember

L. Winter reported that Movember had raised £2,800 between the four student bodies. The cooperation between the student bodies was particularly highlighted as a positive. T. Gore thanked L. Winter for his organisation, and all Council Members who took part.

11. Student Protests

T. Gore asked for Council's opinions on Student Protests.

11.1F. Weber wished to propose that the SRC does not protest with the NUS in future as, in his opinion, the recent protests reflected badly on the issues that the SRC was attempting to pursue.

11.2. A. Cohen also urged caution when considering joining with the Anti Cuts Action Network, and expressed the importance of being certain that any groups protesting with the SRC had a similar agenda.

11.3. M. Comerford explained that certain groups would take control of issues which they are able to, and suggested that in order to assure control of protests and agendas the SRC must take the lead in any Glasgow-based protests.

11.4. S. Ritchie explained that he had no issue with the SRC being involved in legitimate protests, but was not impressed with the way recent protests had been handled by the NUS and other bodies. The protest outside the GUU was noted specifically as it had made the national news and did not show the university in a good light. He also requested that public correspondence to MSPs on behalf of the SRC be copied in to Council Members.

T. Gore

11.5. K. Law made clear that he did not support violent protest, but emphasised the major impact that the current rise in tuition fees in England would have across the UK, and supported the SRC's involvement in protests.

11.6. M. Comerford suggested that if members were unhappy with the way protests were being run, then they should be prepared to propose alternatives, as the protests will continue.

12. Health Week (report circulated)

12.1. T. Gore praised a successful Health Week, in particular highlighting excellent publicity.

12.2. I. Smith questioned whether the Laughter Class represented good value for money. AL Winter explained that events such as this provide excellent publicity and therefore considerable additional benefits in getting students involved in other aspects of health week. F Sutherland agreed, explaining that there were many benefits that Health Week offered, and any subsidy for a flagship laughter class was small in comparison.

12.3. S. Milne suggested that the John McIntyre Building should be highlighted more obviously in future as, given its central position on campus, there were still many students unaware of its location.

12.4. T. Gore led council in thanking F. Sutherland for organising an excellent Health Week.

13. Media Week

L. Winter is currently in the planning stages for Media Week 2011 and welcomed suggestions for events/speakers.

L. Winter

13.1. A. Cohen suggested that workshops could be arranged to help clubs learn more about publicity. Targeting clubs and societies could also help boost attendance figures for events.

14. 125th Anniversary

T. Gore reported that Lesley Richmond from Archive Services had passed on a link to all the archived Guardian articles. He hoped that any available Council members would contact him, or come to the Lower Exec to use the computers there to begin researching different periods and people.

T. Gore

14.1. A. Cohen suggested that an 'SRC Awareness Day', discussed at Council last year, could be used to promote the 125th Anniversary.

14.2. K. Law suggested that a 'satellite' exhibition be displayed in Level 3 of the Library. T. Gore agreed that spreading the exhibition across campus was a good idea. L. Winter sought ideas for an event to close off celebrations.

L. Winter

15. John McIntyre Building

T. Gore reported that the latest plans for the downstairs area of the John McIntyre Building were included in the University applying to become a Confucius Centre for Chinese Studies, with the aim of attracting Chinese Students to Glasgow. As a result, the downstairs area of the John McIntyre Building would become a learning and teaching space.

T. Gore

15.1. K. Law asked about the specifications in the bequest left for the use of the building. T. Gore agreed that this matter would be looked into and reported back to Council in due course.

T. Gore

16. Any Other Competent Business

16.1. J. Henfrey noted that the board in the hallway still had last year's Council photographs up. L. Winter announced that photographs would be taken at this evening's Christmas party.

16.2. HM Goodlad asked if it would be possible to introduce a universal print credit scheme for use across the university. T. Gore reported that this was under review and that it was a short-scale development.

16.3. F. Weber reminded T. Gore that it would be very useful for Council Members to be issued with t-shirts for official duties. F. Sutherland suggested that anything produced should be reusable.

16.4. S. Ritchie raised the issue of catering services available on campus during the week of 22 November, which he considered to be appalling given that the University did not shut or reduce its hours this week due to adverse weather.

16.5. A Cohen wished to publicise the fact that new Masters students are eligible for 10% discounts in fees, but that not all are aware of this.

16.6. G. Masiulyte reported that some students had complained that the SRC bus services were not running in the poor weather conditions. L. Winter advised that there were serious health and safety implications for both students and drivers to risk continuing to run the bus service during this period when the roads presented serious hazards and that it would have been completely irresponsible to continue to attempt to run this service through the worst of the weather.

16.7. N. Tomaszek thanked all those who accepted the LGBT Ceilidh invitations and would update council with the full amount raised.

16.8. F. Sutherland raised the issue of thefts in the Library. He sought volunteers to patrol the Library with him and issue small notification cards to students who had left their items unattended. He would issue an email with available times. Certain impracticalities with the scheme were identified by HM Goodlad, and T. Gore noted that these would be

L. Winter

addressed.

17. Thanks

T. Gore noted that New Year's Day marked the halfway point for this Council and thanked all for their hard work so far. All were invited to attend the Christmas party following the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 20:00.

