

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY AT 6.30 p.m.  
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

**Present** : As per sederunt sheets

**Apologies** : O Martin, T Gebbie, T Smitts, A Morgan, U Darragh, E Cottrell, F Taylor

**Attending** : Dr K Fisher

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## **1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### **1.1 Matters Arising**

#### Class Rep Lists

C Davies has chased up the senate office for class rep lists but has not yet had a response. C Davies added that he would chase this up at a forthcoming meeting regarding Student Voice. B O'Connor asked council to get in touch if they wanted any questions asked at this meeting.

#### International Women's Week

L King updated that he had not yet met with U Darragh to discuss International Women's Week but that the meeting would take place the following week.

#### Presentation from J Vlcek

B O'Connor does not yet have the presentation but she advised council that she would circulate when she did.

#### Student Manifesto for General Election

B O'Connor is hoping to be working with Glasgow Caledonian University Union, Strathclyde University Union and University of the West of Scotland Union to produce a Glasgow wide student manifesto for the general election.

## **2. Reports**

### **2.1 B O'Connor - President**

National Student Survey – B O'Connor asked all final year students to

complete the survey and also asked Council in general to help promote the survey and encourage students to complete it.

John McIntyre Building – B O'Connor informed council that it was hoped that work on moving the Subcity and SVSS offices would commence in the next few weeks.

Glass Building refurbishment – B O'Connor informed council that, when at Estates Committee, she had been asked about student feedback on the work at the Glass Building. L Taylor responded that she accepted that the work had to be done but added that the noise associated with the work did make it hard to find a quiet place to study.

LT will ask fellow students for more feedback on this issue.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) – B O'Connor highlighted that Glasgow had improved their position in the Times Higher Education league table moving from 33<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> and from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> in the Russell Group table. B O'Connor asked any council members who would like further information to contact her.

Learning and Teaching Hub Consultation – B O'Connor asked Council members to try and attend.

Enhancement Led Institutional Review update with Quality Assurance - B O'Connor informed council that herself and C Davies had met with QA and that it had been useful. They had been able to raise some issues surrounding internationalisation agenda and difficulties of GUSRC providing representation without receiveing additional funding.

Q K McEwen asked if it would be possible for students in Dumfries to have their relevant roles recognised on HEAR. B O'Connor responded that training was being offered to Dumfries staff members to allow this to happen.

## **2.2 C Davies – VP Education**

Feedback Day – C Davies noted that he had not added this to his report but that he is planning to organise a feedback day which would involve talking to students on campus to get their opinons on feedback which could provide useful information to take to to university meetings. The provisional date is 26<sup>th</sup> January and C Davies asked Council members to get in touch if they are interested in getting involved.

Q – J Vlcek asked if there was any updates on the funding for travelling to the U21 conferences in Singapore and Chile. C Davies responded that there had been no change at present but that it was an issue that they would

continue to press.

### **2.3 L King – VP Student Support**

Patriarchitecture - L King informed council that the idea of Patriarchitecture had been passed by Estates Committee. A committee of four will be established with the aim of naming buildings after some of the many distinguished female graduates. of to redress the current imbalance where University buildings are almost exclusively named after men.

Beehives - L King informed council that he was looking to start a bee husbandary project with ten hives being kept and looked after by staff and students. He noted that there was potential to fund this project externally.

Counselling and Psychological Services - L King informed council that Counselling and Psychological Services had appointed a new head of service in October 2014 – Dr Philip Quinn. P Quinn has been undertaking a review of all aspects of the service. He will attend the next council meeting to deliver a presentation on what is being achieved.

Q - it was asked whether only new buildings would be named after women or whether existing buildings might be re-named. L King responded that both would be likely.

Q – it was asked if the the counselling service provision been changed at this point. L King responded that the changes would take a while to filter through to service users.

### **2.4 G Masiulyte – VP Student Activities**

International Society – G Masiulyte that a new International Society had been established and that they seemed to be very active on campus.

Re Freshers Week – G Masiulyte informed council of a number of events that would be taking place.

- Language Café
- International ceildh which would be a launch for the International Society.
- Debate in the GUU with G Masiulyte and B O'Connor proposing 'This house regrets the rise of hook up apps'
- Clubs and Societies fair

Regarding the fair which takes place on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January G Masiulyte asked council members to help out. G Masiulyte will set up a

doodle poll for Council to note their interest.

Media Week – G Masiulyte reminded council that Media Week would take place in the week of 9-15 February. The programme will be available online soon and she added that one of the guests would be Jackie Bird from the BBC.

One Dress One Month – G Masiulyte informed council that this event would be in aid of Glasgow Women’s Aid and that the launch would take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

Q – L Evens asked if stalls were still available at the fair. G Masiulyte responded that they had all been allocated already and demand had been very high.

Q – M Deans asked if they had been allocated on a first come first served basis. G Masiulyte responded that they had tried to ensure that all types of clubs were represented.

K Mcewen asked that the Glasgow International Society contact CUCSA.

## **2.5 R Brown – PGT Convenor**

Coalition for Syrian Refugees - R Brown updated council that events were going to be organised, probably around the end of January (w/c 26<sup>th</sup>) and added that she would promote this on facebook.

## **2.6 C Glendinning – School of Law Representative**

Q B O’Connor asked for clarification on the Extraordinary meetings mentioned in C Glendinning’s report. C Glendinning responded that the meetings were called in response to a looming school specific consultation deadline.

## **2.7 Y Abdel – Race Equality Officer**

Y Abdel asked council about the zero tolerance for cultural appropriation.

Y Abdel informed council about an upcoming African Caribbean / Brazilian ceilidh on the 7<sup>th</sup> February.

## **3. Duplicate Books**

B O’Connor informed council that duplicate books had been purchased for

GM will ask Glasgow International Society to contact CUCSA

YA to speak to LK regarding cultural appropriation

each member to allow them to keep track of requests they receive from students. Council were advised that they could collect these books from the Welcome Point.

#### **4. Learning and Teaching Hub**

Dr Ken Fisher from the University of Melbourne delivered a short talk on the development of the Learning and Teaching Hub.

Disussion followed focussing on the difficulty in engaging students in the process and ensuring that engagement is sustainable and well resourced.

B O'Connor will feedback to council.

#### **5. Education and Technology Conference 6th February**

C Davies informed Council of the Education and Technology Conference, which focuses on technology that improves education/learning. C Davies added that student proposals were still open if any Council members were interested in presenting their ideas and technology they are using.

C Davies also asked council to get involved helping out on the day and will post information on the facebook page.

C Davies will feed relevant information into the resource bank.

Q - S Dallas asked what kind of technology would be involved.

C Davies responded that it would range from popular apps used by the university, to students using technology in less conventional ways to aid their studies, and even the development of teaching games.

Y Abdel commented on how some universities use video conferencing technology to meet with students from around the world. B O'Connor commented that it was being discussed by the university and is something that will likely be available in the next year.

#### **6. Turnitin update**

C Davies informed council that Turnitin had been removed from moodle.

L King informed council that a replacement for Turnitin would likely be Urkin, Swedish software which looks very similar but was much faster and more stable when used in moodle. Trials are currently underway in the university.

#### **7. Dictionaries Update**

B O'Connor informed council that J Briggs had made contact to set up a working group and that a survey was being put together. The survey will be

C Davies to  
post  
information  
on facebook

BOC will  
circulate  
survey to  
council

circulated to council and asked that they would promote it.

## **8. Vagina Monologues**

B O'Connor informed council that the GUSRC's International Women's Week performance of The Vagina Monologues were needing a student to take on the role of director. The performance will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

## **9. Consultation Paper on Higher Education Governance Bill**

B O'Connor outlined key aspects of GUSRC's proposed response to the Higher Education Governance Bill consultation document.

Following discussion B O'Connor asked any council members who would like to add anything further to contact her.

BOC will  
circulate  
response to  
council

## **10. Student Debt Campaign update**

B O'Connor updated council that In response to the letter from trading standards that was sent to the University, a meeting between Trading Standards and David Newall has been arranged. B O'Connor informed council that it was hoped that GUSRC could be part of these conversations .

Q - E Napier asked if they had approached the media with this story. B O'Connor responded that they had not but added that it was something that could be considered.

## **11. Marking Boycott**

B O'Connor updated council that the marking boycott was suspended by UCU pending a ballot on the current proposals, and that no Christmas results would be affected. B O'Connor, L King and C Davies are meeting with D Bennion and D Newall to discuss.

## **12. AOCB**

SVSS Coordinator – B O'Connor informed council that the new SVSS coordinator R Marshall had started at GUSRC.

K McEwen asked if there had been any update on the election of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies representative and funding. B O'Connor responded that she would speak to Vice Principal and Head of College A Anderson regarding this.

**BOC will speak with A Anderson regarding funding**

B O'Connor confirmed to Council that some council members had now left University – Ariel Xu, Moses Igbiosa and Mia Averianova. B O'Connor thanked them for their contribution on SRC Council.