

MINUTES OF SRC COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 20TH MARCH AT 6:30 PM
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM, MCINTYRE BUILDING

Present: As per sederunt

Apologies: P Kariappa, F O'Weirtz, B Rooney, S Luan

Attending: B Hay, K Fraser, D Borland.

1: Welcome and Apologies

2: Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Q: L King asked if MaRIO had forwarded their report as mentioned in the previous meeting? A Ibrahim responded that the sabbatical officers have not yet received anything, but it was anticipated this would be the end of March.

3: Council Reports

3.1 A Ibrahim - President

Q: L King asked what the purpose of the meeting with Dorothy Welch was regarding collaboration and the Sub-Student finance committee as well as the status of collaboration between the student bodies at this time? A Ibrahim answered that the purpose of the meeting was to regularly give updates on the current working relationship between the student bodies to D Welch as well as to demonstrate the strong partnership working.

3.2 Student Activities - M Harris

3.2.1: RAG week had been a big success with an impressive fundraising effort from students. M Harris thanked council members and RAG committee members who had volunteered and helped raise awareness of the varied events that had comprised this year's RAG week.

3.3. Education - K Powell

3.3.1 Residential services.

University Accommodation- K Powell had met Director of Estates, Ann Allen along with A Ibrahim and B Hay. Anne was positive about creating a new mechanism for students to feedback on matters regarding University accommodation. A follow up meeting with Karen Morton was due to be held to further explore the format. Ann Allen had also agreed that some kind of annual evaluation of University student accommodation should be conducted.

Q: L King asked if there was the possibility of using a third party to oversee the evaluation process? K Powell responded that using a third party would be her preference to ensure students had confidence in the credibility of any evaluation results.

3.4 Student Support - E Ross

3.4.1 SALT

Regular meeting with the advice team, Douglas, Bob and Erin to examine issues that are appearing regularly with students.

3.4.2 Faith and Religious Equality

E Ross advised council that she was attempting to create something more official to represent these issues rather than periodically at Welfare forum and SRC Council. The previous university committee that focused on faith equality had been disbanded and this had left a vacuum regarding religious equality on campus.

3.4.3 Student Parents

The University had agreed to run pilot 'child friendly' study spaces in the Library as prior testing for the Learning & Teaching Hub. This followed representations from E Ross to VP Coton.

3.4.4 Suicide Prevention training

Would take place on the 10th and the 11th April and E Ross would circulate information to Council members once details were finalised.

3.4.5 Exam distress

E Ross updated Council that preparation for the upcoming Exam Diet was underway and there would be a range of events taking place across the exam diet. There would also be new Stress Packs available to students.

3.5 - Disability Equality Officer- L McDougall

Written report noted.

3.6 - College Convener: Arts- J Benson

Written report noted.

3.7 - Humanities Representative - H Todd

Written report noted.

3.8 - Gender Equality officer - T Ramdani

Gender Action Plan Working Group – Aim of the group is to achieve better gender balance on certain subjects.

Q: J Mac Sweeney asked if there is duplication between students and the university on their efforts to address gender equality? Aim should be to support existing student efforts. E Ross responded that it was a fairly informal group that is looking to involve students and avoid duplication. There would also be opportunities for the SRC to get more involved.

T Ramdani added that the Uni tries to widen participating from students at an early stage starting in secondary school to encourage more participation from a wider range of backgrounds. For example, encouraging more men to go into nursing and women into engineering and so on.

D Borland suggested contacting the organisation STEM Connect and offered to pass the contact details on to the SRC Gender Equality Officer.

3.9 A Brown - Physics and Astronomy Representative

Written report noted.

3.10 J Brown - General Representative

Written report noted.

4: SRC Gender Balance for elected officers on University Court.

The SRC holds two student representative positions on University Court- usually the SRC president and the position of Court Assessor. Due to recent

D Borland would forward STEM Connect details to T Ramdani, SRC Gender Quality Officer.

A Ibrahim would oversee the writing of the recommendations and would

legislation, the University is now required to take steps to address gender equality on its committees, including the university's governing body. In light of this, the SRC has been asked to consider taking the gender composition of Court when making its selection for Court Assessor.

also
collaborate
with T
Ramdani.

T Ramdani noted concerns that the current wording could be alienating to non-binary students and any recommendation should take care to avoid this. A Ibrahim noted this concern and offered to collaborate with the SRC Gender Equality officer to ensure that the wording of any recommendation was inclusive of all students.

Council agreed that the SRC should attempt to send gender balanced representatives to Court where it was possible. There would be no overall restriction, but it would be a non-binding to future SRC Councils in the coming years.

5: AOCB

5.1 Safe space guidelines

E Ross advised council that she was looking at guidelines for SRC affiliated Clubs and societies and encouraging them to create safe spaces when it comes to communications, meetings etc. Aim is to have this in the C&S handbook for the next academic year.

6: Date of next meeting

13th April, 6:30pm, Williams Room.
