

MINUTES

STUDENTS' COUNCIL (SRC) PAISLEY

Thursday 2nd May, 4.30pm, Level 1 Union building

In the Chair, Garry Quigley, President

AGENDA

1. Sederunt

Garry Quigley	President
Alastair Adamson	Sports President
Jack Douglas	Ordinary Trustee Paisley
Jamie Kinloch	Social Science
Heather Armstrong	Social Science
Iain Shepherd	Social Science
Stuart Clark	Computer Games Development
Cameron Stewart	Social Science/Debating Society rep
Stephen Russel	Criminal Justice/LGBTQ Society rep
Amy Dixon	Social Science/LGBTQ Society rep
Alastair Cockburn	Civil Engineering/Film Society rep
Joseph Dempster	Film Society rep
Viktoriya Prielgauskaite	Film Society rep

In attendance

Claire Lumsden	Student Rep Co-ordinator
Jade McCarroll	Social Science (Hamilton)

2. Acceptance of Apologies

Caroline Sharp	General Manager
Stuart McCabe	Ordinary Trustee Paisley
Claire-Bridie Stilwell	Human Resource Management
Stephen Smith	PG Career Guidance and Development
Mark Dunlop	Business Technology
Stephen Kelly	Psychology
John McGrory	Web and Mobile Development

3. Acceptance of Minutes from the previous meeting

(a) Matters arising from those minutes-

- i. Jamie Kinloch states that the ICT dissertation hand in printer was offline for a whole day, there were also keypad issues but the introduction of fobs would be useful, all staff have fobs to ease printing queues. President states that Allan Russell is the Commercial Manager for UWS and would ultimately be responsible for issues relating to Printing Services.

- ii. Ian Shepherd points out he is not on the Sederunt list however had attended
- iii. Heather Armstrong points out she was not in Paisley, but attended via Ayr only.

4. Acceptance of the report of the business of the Association

President passes Chair to Sports President to give report

President states that recently the new Principle has been appointed and they have now appointed the new Depute Principle, the name cannot be divulged at present however will be formally announced by the University in the next couple of days, President adds that he supports the appointment.

The Learning and Teaching Awards has happened and was a great event attended by around 60 staff members from the University, including the Principle. We have also held the first ever SAUWS Student Awards which was well attended and everyone felt the night went very well. Adds that the President elect would like to continue this next year. President extends his congratulations to all who were shortlisted and to those who won awards at both events.

President informs Council that he has attended a Project Board meeting for the Hamilton campus development, suggests the University are looking for a quick turnaround for this development with an opening date for academic session 2015-16, adds that this is a sign that we are passed merger.

President inform Council that the Annual report is being released today and can be found on the Students Association website, adds that we will also be getting printed copies available at the Unions. This is further discussed later in the agenda.

States that the research into student retention at UWS is finishing up, this included researching the effectiveness of the Buddy System and awareness of the Personal Tutor system.

Glasgow Student Forum are currently encouraging students to apply for SAAS awards before the start of next term, applications are open and students are encouraged to complete this at their earliest convenience to prevent delays in payments. Also reminds Council that documentation can now be uploaded to the SAAS website instead of posting it which hopefully will speed up any issues.

President reports that the Halls of Residence prices will increase by 3%, states that he argued strenuously against it as the University's business model is not sustainable, the occupancy rates currently sit at 85% whereas the business plan suggests it would be at 95%. Informs Council of the External halls opening up next to Gilmore Street Train Station and suggest the University are offering incentives to some students who can't afford the current price, Heather Armstrong asks why only some students and not all, President suggests it will be offered to local students, Heather Armstrong ask how the University define local, adds that International and local students stay together meaning the International students would be paying more for the same service. President states that the University have suggested that some international students already receive discounts on the costs of accommodation. The President did accept the point though and has since asked the university how they define 'local'. Heather Armstrong asks if the bursary will be affected by the proposals, President states no.

Ian Shepherd asks if there is a way for the University to reduce their accommodation prices during the Summer as students are not in receipt of SAAS and some could face homelessness, President states this could be an incentive to stay over summer as the occupancy rate is only at 20%. Ian Shepherd further asks if the University are using Halls for Summer School students, President states yes, but it will also be used for the Commonwealth Games next year.

Jamie Kinloch comments that the Student Awards were very inspirational, his friend that was with him for the event took inspiration from what the Association was trying to achieve, adding that the work we do is important for outward looking activities and is a good opportunity for external organisations to come along. President agrees stating that the Student Awards articulates our vision best, adds that the Vice Presidents of Glasgow Caledonian University Students Association found it inspirational and will encourage students to volunteer at their union and externally in general.

There are no further questions or comments, Council accept President report.

Sports President hands Chair back to President to give report

Sports President states that since the last meeting all competitive sports are finished, adding that this was the best year overall for sports, no club finished bottom and he is very proud of all of them.

Looking ahead to next year we are hoping to organise training before we leave and when back after the holidays, for all student clubs and STAR groups, training will cover committee structure, leadership etc. There will be general training so that all can participate together and then specific training being looked at for the different areas of involvement.

Sports President informs Council that the Healthy Body Healthy Mind campaign will be continuing next year and SAUWS will be aiming for a level 3 or 4 Award, we received level 2 this year. We have carried out a lot of work this year to develop and improve this service both within SAUWS and UWS, to develop further we are hoping to set up an outreach programme for schools and hold even more taster sessions. This is seen as a way of giving back to communities and getting more out of clubs and volunteering.

The Sports and Societies Ball was well attended with 190 people, there was a focus on Societies and special recognition for those who put in the extra effort to ensure their Clubs and Societies were successful. To evaluate the evening we have sent out a survey to view satisfaction. Sports President thanks Clubs for the bottle of Whisky received.

Sports President invites questions. There are none directly related to Sports.

Council accept Sports Presidents report.

Cameron Stewart asks if Freshers will be set out the same way as last year with everyone coming in and going round the stalls, President informs Council that Freshers Fayre will be held in Level 1 and there will be a door for entry and a door for exit, it is hoped students will go round the stalls one way.

Jack Douglas asks if there are any thoughts to merging the Learning and Teaching Awards with the SAUWS Students Award next year, President suggests not, states that the SAUWS Student Awards are not as formal and we didn't want to put a price on it as some people wouldn't come. Sports President states that we will do a review of how they have run to inform any future changes. President adds that we invited two GCU officers to the SAUWS Student Awards and they commented that they combined their Learning and Teaching Awards with Student Awards however it didn't work very well.

5. Acceptance of the reports and minutes of committees- None

6 Business Introduced by Officer Bearers-

(a) SAUWS Annual Report 2012-13

President informs Council that the SAUWS Annual Report has been put online and paper copies are available from the Union. The report covers representation, liberation, Sports and Societies and campaigns, it also gives some information on our advice and welfare services.

(b) SAUWS Priorities for 2013-14

President asks members what we should be focusing on next year, keeping in mind the remits.

Heather Armstrong suggests there should be a 'tick box' in the UWS application forms for carers to ensure we have a clear idea of how many there are and how we can best support them with the resources we have. Council agree.

Ian Shepherd suggests that a guide to managing finances while at University would be good, this could include tips from students and credit unions in managing money as well as support provided by SAUWS, it could be given out at freshers, possibly also put it in the handbook. Council agree. Jack Douglas suggests that the discretionary fund provided by the University and hardship funding by SAUWS should be more visible as we don't always publicise what we do. Heather Armstrong agrees, stating that SAUWS should do more to raise awareness as students might feel more comfortable speaking to other students rather than staff at the UWS. Jamie Kinloch agrees with regards to sensitivity of talking about financial matters however states that when students apply for the discretionary fund they are forced to confront bank statement and all income and expenditure activities, this is more practical. Council agree with this. Stuart Clark suggests that in the student newsletter/paper a finance section could be included, Sports President suggests anyone wishing to put an article in the newspaper should contact him and he'll pass on the details.

Sports President comments that last year we held Halls Induction Tours as we received funding from the Government for this, although it was aimed at Halls students, anyone could have attended. We met students at each of the campuses to show them around the local area, there was also a free lunch. The point of the tours was to help avoid alienation among students living away from home and allow them to make friends, we also gave out information on the different departments within UWS. States that the event itself worked well however would like Councils guidance on whether to do it again (or a similar event) for the start of next year. There was no Council member who had attended the session therefore Jack Douglas suggested it might be better to speak to Halls students for this feedback. Council agree.

(c) Timetable issues

President informs Council that the University are looking at the way the timetable is set out for attendance at classes, there is a thought that being in University more times in a week could

better support engagement. We are seeking Members opinions on whether they would like to see the block timetable continue or if they'd like to be in more often. Heather Armstrong suggests that for students who live further away, being in more often would be financially disadvantaged, Council agree. Ian Shepherd suggests that if students were in more often it may be possible to allow Wednesday afternoons free for activities, Sports President suggests it's not really about that however adds that we are the only University in the UK who don't have this. States that it would be beneficial for all students who wanted to participate in any kind of volunteer or indeed any other activity for example Personal Tutor meetings, extra lab hours, academic and co-curricular activities, could also assist with Students Council arrangements, society meetings and campaigns. Heather Armstrong asks if we could still have Wednesday afternoons off without a longer week as someone could be involved in more than one activity, Sports President suggests there is nothing stopping it from happening on different days it's just a Wednesday afternoon is a time when everyone knows they can get involved. Jamie Kinloch agrees with Heather Armstrong's point adding that if it is presented to students as an 'either/or' trade-off (i.e. in more days but with a Wednesday afternoon free or continue as is without the Wednesday off), he couldn't support it, our job should be to make sure it is not a trade-off. Council agree with this. Ian Shepherd suggests that financial concerns are the main reasons for people dropping out and although a block timetable doesn't necessarily assist this he would stand against the introduction of a longer week. President suggests he will relay this to the University and the Board of Trustees will follow up for next year. Heather Armstrong adds that there are also childcare issues, during the recent Easter holiday's students coming from different areas of the West of Scotland had to take time off University to look after their child as they couldn't afford the additional cost of childcare, President states he'll look into this.

(d) High School Students' Council

Jamie Kinloch presents this item, states that no motion has been submitted however as this is his final Council meeting he wanted to discuss this. States that we know UWS does Widening Access better than other Universities via our outreach work i.e. going into schools. Informs Council that some Students Associations are now going out to schools to deliver workshops, for example 'Strathguides' organise a day where Secondary School pupils can come to the University and get to know the place, Manchester University also has a dedicated staff member for this. Jamie Kinloch's suggestion is when talking about finance, accommodation etc., in next academic year we try to organise a rep council meeting with delegates from high school in the Renfrew area, looking at different aspects of democracy, campaigns etc., or anything else pupils would like to learn about or know more about. Adds that this could be done in many different ways with different results however aimed at 5th/6th formers from all different schools, it can create a link to SAUWS when doing UCAS or SAAS applications. States that it would be a positive addition to the good work we already do if council could do something like that, it would require some work over summer but would be a good for retention etc.

President thanks Jamie Kinloch for this suggestion, states that the new Citizenship Co-ordinator post would involve some outreach work and this could be included in that, there is also the Renfrewshire Youth Network which could help us set this up.

Cameron Stewart suggests he had something similar at his school and it was very productive and useful, can deal with all things related to the Students Association and academic life. Heather Armstrong comments that this is an excellent idea and would like to be involved in any developments however adding we should also think about College students for those studying for

a National Certificate who are looking at coming to University, adds that she found SAUWS more accessible than the College Students Association.

Stuart Clark comments that he is in first year straight from Secondary School, but while there, there was a lot of speakers regarding University but not so much about the Students Association or students talking about their experience, thinks this would encourage pupils more.

Jack Douglas also thinks this is a great idea and would also like to get involved with this, however feels there is a danger of looking too small.

Jade McCarroll states that we are a cross campus University and will take this item back to Hamilton for discussion, adds that this is a great way of going further than just talking about the academic side of University but include the campaigning and volunteering side as well.

President asks Council if they would like this taken forward next year, Council unanimously agree this would be good. President states it can easily be tied into the Citizenship post and will ensure this is taken forward.

(e) Motorsports Society Constitution ratification

Sports President informs Council that as part of our constitution, any club who wishes to affiliate to an external organisation and its constitution should be ratified by Council. States that there are a few changes to the Motorsports Association as they had a Constitutional review to update their information. Adds that nothing in the Motorsports Constitution contradict anything in ours and is more related to events and activities of the club, informs members that our constitution will always be the hierarchy however.

Heather Armstrong asks if there is an affiliation fee, Sports President suggests not, however adds that if there are any fees, the Club would need to pay for that through its members and budget. Jack Douglas asks who devised the new Constitution, Sports President states that the Motorsports Association own it however the SAUWS Motorsports Club then review it and alter it to be in line with ours, now SAUWS are required to ratify it.

There are no further questions or points, Council are asked to vote for ratification of the Motorsports Association Constitution

Agree: 11

Disagree: 0

Abstain: 1

The Constitution is approved

7. Motions-

(a) Notice in terms of the Education Act 1994

Council members are reminded that as this has constitutional implications, a two-thirds majority is required to pass.

Speech For is taken by the Sports President on behalf of the Board of Trustees. States that each year we are required under the Education Act 1994 to provide this to Council to ask for approval to affiliate to these external bodies – The National Union of Students of the United Kingdom (NUS UK)/ NUS Services Ltd, British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS), Scottish University Sports and British Universities American Football League (BUAFL) – explains that these organisations assist

SAUWS to run our organisation in terms of activities and campaigns etc., the fees stated were from last year, they are not likely to change drastically from this.

Points of Clarification. Jack Douglas asks if we get any money back from NUSSL, Sports President states yes we do but don't have the exact figures to hand. Ian Shepherd asks if membership to NUS UK includes Scotland, Sports President states yes it does.

There is no speech against. Council move to vote

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 4

The motion passes

(b) Right 2 Education Campaign affiliation

Speech For is taken by Jade McCarroll. States that not a lot of people understand the issues of the situation or how SAUWS can assist with the campaign. To give background the situation in the Palestinian Territories is fairly unique in that it is the Israeli military occupation that regularly and systematically prevents thousands of people and entire generations from being educated, despite the existence of an international agreement to which both the UK and Israel are signatories, this compels occupying powers to guarantee the right of the occupied population to a functioning educational infrastructure. Both countries have signed up to the 'Right 2 Education' (R2E) campaign via the human rights act as well as other agreements within the UN. Education is a fundamental right with students in Palestine struggling to get an education due to the occupation. There are walls built around Universities to stop students attending and some University Buildings have also been blown up. We need to raise awareness of this as it is a basic right and should be supported. This motion seeks to affiliate SAUWS with the R2E campaigns and asks for SAUWS to raise awareness and carry out events in support of our Palestinian students.

Points of Clarification. Sports President suggests this could run as a society and not necessarily as a SAUWS campaign. Jade McCarroll states this is true however it would be more effective if SAUWS could lead on this and garner interest.

Speech Against is taken by Ian Shepherd. States that he has no problem with joining the campaign itself however feels that we could be entering into a position that we have to fight all the worlds wrongs where education is not received, adds that the motion and in particular the resolution looks like it is negatively portraying Israel and positively portraying Palestine.

Another round of speeches is granted

Speech For is taken by Jamie Kinloch. States that we don't need to get involved in all international campaigns, however was in Palestine and unions don't exist there, the computers used were only there as they were donated by Dundee University as Palestinian students can't do work at home. Adds that he taught students who went to University there and some had been shot on route but still attended. As a union, we should support this we are not trying to save the world just supporting students in Palestine.

There is no speech against. Council move to vote

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstain: 3
The motion passes

(c) Armed Forces Recruitment Policy

Speech For is taken by Sports President. States that this motion is submitted to Council each year and is asking for the Armed Forces to be allowed to recruit in the unions, for example at Freshers events. Although we might disagree with certain conflicts it is not up to us to agree or disagree with anyone wishing to join the Armed Forces. The motion also wouldn't impact them recruiting on campus.

Point of Clarification. Heather Armstrong asks if Freshers is an example of when they could recruit. Sports President suggests yes as they could do it at any point of the year.

Speech Against is taken by Ian Shepherd. States that the university can be a point where students are struggling financially or in their life, the Army could feed upon this and try to recruit people at a vulnerable point in their life.

Jack Douglas proposes Procedural Motion 5. 1.(e), that Parts be taken to remove Council Resolves 2 and 3. Procedural motion is accepted. Jack Douglas states that for Council Resolves 2, if the motion passes, it would result in each campus not being able to make its own decision on what happens in its own Union, it should not be up to Ayr and Hamilton to decide if Paisley allow or not the Armed Forces. This is also true for Ayr and Hamilton. With regards to Council Resolves 3, the fact that the motion is being automatically resubmitted at the end of each year would mean the policy would never lapse.

Speech Against Parts being removed is taken by the Sports President. States that although he agrees generally with the points raised relating to Council Resolves 2, Council Resolves 3 says that it should be resubmitted each year meaning members have the option to refuse the motion each year.

Second round of speeches for Removing Parts is granted.

Speech For removal is taken by Jack Douglas. States that if members don't want the policy it can be removed anyway and we have a democratic right to refuse it.

Speech Against removal is not taken.

Council move to vote on removal of Parts.

For: 10
Against: 0
Abstain: 2
The parts are removed

Council move to vote on motion with Parts removed.

For: 2
Against: 8
Abstain: 2
The motion falls

8. Elections-

(a) Elections Committee (x1 Ordinary Member)

There is no uptake. As this is the last Council meeting of this Session, a new Committee will be elected at the first meeting of next session.

9. AOCB-

Heather Armstrong states that as this is a few members last SRC, she has brought Cup Cakes for everyone.

President pays special thanks to Jamie Kinloch for his contributions to Council over the years, he will be missed.

Special thanks from members to the President and Sports President for all their contributions and support over the last 2 years.

Start: 4.35pm

Finish: 6pm