

STIRLING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting of the Students' Association COUNCIL held on Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 6.15pm in Lecture Theatre 2W1.

1 Attendance

1.1 Members Present

Mark Cullen	-	Vice President (Services & Treasurer)
Catherine Coales	-	Vice President (Welfare & Education)
Laura Mackay	-	Equal Opportunities Officer
Robbie Mackenzie	-	Entertainments Officer
Sean O'Hara	-	Student Activities Officer
David Lewin	-	Black Students' Officer
Mark Charters	-	LGBT Officer
Kim Delaney	-	AirTV Station Manager
Dale McEwan	-	Brig Editor
Kimberley Hutchison	-	Mature Students Officer
David Nicholson	-	Disabled Students Officer
Michael Dunn	-	Ethics & Environment Officer
Ruth Bowler	-	Marketing Representative
Emily Chapman	-	Sports Studies Representative
Christopher McGee	-	Nursing & Midwifery Representative
Vivien Lafferty	-	Accounting & Finance Representative
Katherine Lamb	-	History Representative
James Banks	-	Vice-Chairperson of the Highland Campus Representative Committee/Chair
Catriona Wood	-	Applied Social Science Representative
Chloe Postlethwaite	-	Law Representative
Neelum Raza	-	Law Representative
Ashleigh Sheils	-	Biological & Environmental Sciences Representative
Daniel Boles	-	Biological & Environmental Sciences Representative
Colette Gilhooley	-	Languages, Cultures & Religions Representative
Heather Moonlight	-	Management Representative
Thomas Mazzocco	-	Computing Science & Maths Representative
Garry Paton	-	Philosophy Representative

1.2 In Attendance

Nick Manton	-	Membership Services Manager
-------------	---	-----------------------------

- 1.3 Observers
Rhianna Hughes
- 1.4 Apologies
- | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Tom Spencer | - | President |
| Greg Ure | - | Sports Union President |
| Jodie Hughes | - | Women's Officer |
| Lucy Strachan | - | Campaigns Officer |
| Hannah Pickford | - | Sports Studies Representative |
| Joanne Peek | - | Biological & Environmental Sciences Representative |
| Jacqueline Ashcroft | - | Geddes Court Representative |
- 1.5 Absent Without Apologies
- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Ally McCrae | - | Air3 Station Manager |
| Rebecca Han | - | International Students Officer |
| Raymond Burke | - | English Studies Representative |
| David Campbell | - | Accounting & Finance Representative |
| Richard McPherson | - | Chairperson of the Highland Campus Representative Committee |
| Nikki Holder | - | Psychology Representative |
| Declan Glasgow | - | English Studies Representative |
| Laura Brown | - | English Studies Representative |
| Matt Jessop | - | History Representative |
| Steven Gale | - | History Representative |
| Dean Thomson | - | Politics Representative |
| Kerr Hunter | - | Marketing Representative |
| Deanne Turner | - | Psychology Representative |
| Colin McTaggart | - | Computing Science & Maths Representative |
| Megan King | - | Politics Representative |
| Cat Tippet | - | Murray Hall Representative |
| Iva Stancheva | - | Accounting & Finance Representative |
| Khorum Rehman | - | Economics Representative |
| Mudiwa Mutasa | - | Economics Representative |
| Gemma Greaves | - | Marketing Representative |
| Danny Rafferty | - | Andrew Stewart Hall Representative |
| Onyeka Esiana | - | Biological & Environmental Sciences Representative |
| Ian Neilson | - | Philosophy Representative |
| Gavin Waddell | - | Applied Social Science Representative |
| Billie Jones | - | Film, Media & Journalism Representative |
| Maria Bartlett | - | Film, Media & Journalism Representative |
| Jennifer Mitchell | - | Languages, Cultures & Religions Representative |
| Kara Young | - | Film, Media & Journalism Representative |

Note: Chair informs Council that the meeting is Inquorate.

2 Matters Arising From Previous Minutes

3 Adoption Of Minutes From Previous Meetings

3.1 Council Minutes: 21st October 2008 PASSED.

3.2 Executive Minutes 3.2 - 3.5: PASSED.

4 Notice Of Adoption Of Any Other Competent Business

4.1 Noted: Vice President (Services & Treasurer) adds item 9.5 Better Elections - Yes We Can!

4.2 Noted: Vice President (Services & Treasurer) adds item 8.6 NUS Extraordinary Conference.

4.3 Noted: Vice President (Welfare & Education) adds item 8.7 NUS Scotland Council.

5 Challenges To The Order Of The Paper

5.1 Noted: Vice President (Services & Treasurer) asks that 9.5 be taken as 9.1 and items renumbered accordingly.

6 Resignations & Elections

6.1 Elections

6.1.1. Noted: Chair offers congratulations to recently elected Reps: Danny Rafferty, ASH Representative; Joanne Peek, Biological & Environmental Science Representative; Onyeka Esiana, Biological & Environmental Science Representative; Daniel Boles, Biological & Environmental Science Representative; Ashleigh Shiels, Biological & Environmental Science Representative; Heather Moonlight, Management Representative; Ian Neilson, Philosophy Representative; Garry Paton, Philosophy; Gavin Waddell, Applied Social Science Representative; Billie Jones, Film, Media & Journalism Representative; Maria Bartlett, Film, Media & Journalism Representative; Jennifer Mitchell, School of Languages, Cultures & Religions Representative; Colette Gilhooley, School of Languages, Cultures & Religions Representative; Kara Young, Film, Media & Journalism Representative.

6.1.2 Noted: Chair offers congratulations to Officers elected in recent election: Kimberley Hutchison, Mature Students Officer; David Nicholson, Disabled Students Officer; Rebecca Han, International Students Officer; Michael Dunn, Ethics & Environment Officer; Sean O'Hara, Student Activities Officer.

6.1.3 Vice President (Welfare & Education): Outlines remit of Student Experience Committee.

6.1.4 Noted: Mark Charters elected to Student Experience Committee.

6.1.5 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Outlines remit of Appeals Committee.

- 6.1.6 Noted: Emily Chapman, David Lewin, Colette Gilhooley elected to Appeals Committee.
- 6.1.7 Vice President (Welfare & Education): Outlines remit of Welfare & Education Committee.
- 6.1.8 Noted: Emily Chapman elected to Welfare & Education Committee.
- 6.1.9 Membership Services Manager: Outlines function of University Departmental Reviews.
- 6.1.10 Noted: David Lewin selected for Film, Media & Journalism and Sean O'Hara for Languages, Cultures & Religions.

7 Dates To Note

- 7.1 20 November NUS Scotland Fairer Funding debate
- 7.2 24 November Get the Most Out of Uni Festival
- 7.3 24-28 November 16 Days of action - Women's Campaign
- 7.4 1 December World Aids Day
- 7.5 1 December Joint SUSA Council/QEC Meeting

8 Reports

8.1 Election report

- 8.1.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Filled most of the positions and turnout was good for a by-election. Well done to everyone who was elected.

8.2 Referenda report

- 8.2.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Referenda issued passed and met quoracy. Now mandated to implement policy and work on Tenants Bill of Rights.
- 8.2.2 Chair: How will this affect students at Highland?
- 8.2.3 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Is a national focus, not just local. Emphasis is on legislation. Want to work with and have it adopted by NUS Scotland.

8.3 Chair of Services Committee

- 8.3.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Last meeting was really good. Spoke about tactics and plans to work on Robbins profits. Developing a strategy. Spoke about new nights in Studio and Catering in Long Bar and Studio. Also looking at ideas for Refreshers and big events towards the end of the year.
- 8.3.2 Chair: What discussion if any was there about out-lying campuses?
- 8.3.3 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): None at the meeting but in the process of looking at provision for a Christmas party. Happy to take forward.

8.4 Sports Union Executive Committee

- 8.4.1 Noted: Sports Union President not present so no report given.

8.5 Student Activities Committee

8.5.1 Student Activities Committee: Have just taken office and meeting was inquorate, so only limited discussions took place. Spoke about Freshers Bazaar and hoping to have meeting again before Christmas. Looking at club grants and membership fees. Will also be working towards Clubs & Socs awards. Want to implement an office hour for clubs to come and see me.

8.6 NUS Extraordinary Conference

8.6.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): At the last Council held election for this event. Took place in Wolverhampton and discussed big reforms to NUS. This passed but before being implemented has to be ratified. Well done to all delegates who attended.

8.7 NUS Scotland Council

8.7.1 Vice President (Welfare & Education): This is one of the smaller democracy events which took place last weekend. SUSA submitted two motions, one of Local Income Tax which was passed, and one on sexually degrading pub crawls (like Carnage) and this passed unanimously. Also discussed issues such as a living wage for students and International Students having to carry ID cards. Held elections to their Student Executive Committee and Tom Spencer was one of the members elected to this.

9 Discussion & Decision Topics

9.1 Better Elections - Yes We Can!

9.1.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): As the meeting is inquorate we will need to look at this and how we take it forward. Since elected in March, have wanted to change the way in which elections are run. Have spoken to a lot of people about this, and have come up with some recommendations to consider. Will e-mail around the proposals for everyone to look at.

9.1.2 Noted: Vice President (Services & Treasurer) runs over some of the key points contained within the proposals.

9.1.3 Emily Chapman: First years in particular should be a focus as they often don't know how to run in elections.

9.1.4 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Also looking to liberalise internet use so people can use social networking sites. It's hoped that this will help.

9.1.5 Mature Students Officer: Disagree. I often hear from Mature students who have difficulty with technology.

9.1.6 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Want to make sure it's accessible for everyone.

9.1.7 Entertainments Officer: If there's wi-fi in the Long Bar, why not set up a Polling station there?

- 9.1.8 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Not necessarily but we are looking to move to online voting only. Would offer online plus at booths in the Atrium. Would make counting a lot quicker.
- 9.1.9 LGBT Officer: How will allowing publicity online affect an election in terms of it simply being a popularity contest?
- 9.1.10 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): An election is a popularity contest. You need to find votes. Should be able to use this medium for promotion.
- 9.1.11 Student Activities Officer: See the point the Mature Students Officer is making. This would disadvantage her.
- 9.1.12 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): It's looking at using this medium as an addition.
- 9.1.13 Mature Students Officer: Will you be doing away with restrictions on printing budgets then?
- 9.1.14 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): In looking at this, what I've proposed is that if you are standing in an uncontested position, the printing budget would be halved.
- 9.1.15 Mature Students Officer: How then will you be able to control spamming?
- 9.1.16 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): At the moment it's banned. This would legalise it. People don't respond or act in response to spam and University will also do what they can to stop it. Have retained block on using clubs and societies supporting candidates.
- 9.1.17 Noted: Vice President (Services & Treasurer) will circulate proposals. Will consider possibility of calling an emergency meeting before Christmas in an effort to have it discussed with a view to implementing before March elections.

9.2 GM Interview Panel

- 9.2.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): In the process of electing a new General Manager. Adverts have been in the Guardian and online. Had a lot of interest and applications in. Interview panel is likely to be made up of 4 Sabbaticals, 1 External (likely NUS) and 1 from the University. We want to have student involvement at some level and want to know what you want from a General Manager.

9.3 In the Red

- 9.3.1 Noted: Discussion dropped.

9.4 UCU vs UCEA thoughts

- 9.4.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): This is as an introduction as more detail will be brought to the next Council meeting. This is a very important issue. Pay negotiations are currently on-going between your lecturers and the University's representatives. Centres around pay. The way it is going suggests there is going to be conflict which could be looking at a strike. Was previously a strike in 2006. Student Unions become very important in such

disputes as both sides will look towards the view and opinion of students. Council will need to make a decision and we will look to invite representatives from both sides along to talk.

9.5 Sports Union

9.5.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): This has been discussed at Sports Union Exec so thought we should make Council aware of it. Any future discussion needs to involve Sports Union President. Sports Union President is looking at option of separating Sports Union from SUSA and feels it is worth looking at. Believes they would be able to secure more funding, particularly for elite sport. If this were to happen, it would take a huge amount of time and requires student involvement.

10 **Date of Next Meeting**

10.1 Tuesday 24th February 2009 at 6.15pm in 2W1.

Nick Manton
Membership Services Manager

19 November 2008