

# General Meeting

6th February  
5-7pm

Online

## Stirling Students' Union General Meeting February 6<sup>th</sup> 2025

### General Meeting Agenda (5pm onwards)

- Welcome and Attendance
- Minutes Ratification
- Challenges to Order Paper
- Reports ([Paper A](#))
  - Union President
  - Sports Union President
  - Vice President Communities
  - Vice President Education
- Democracy Review
- Dates to Note
- Any Other Business
- Date of Next Meeting: 5-7pm, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025
  - Motion Deadline: 10am, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025
  - Motion Amendment Deadline: 10am, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Paper A: Reports

### Union President Report

Here are some key highlights from the past couple of months:

- The VP Communities and I have been attending Rent Review Group meetings, where we discuss University Student Accommodation rent with the University.
- We attended the NUS Campaigns Day in Dundee, where we had the opportunity to present our main campaign priorities, as well as learn more about other key issues.
- I took part in the UCU rally against the Scottish Government's education funding and budget cuts.
- The VP Education and I have been attending the Retention Working Group, Personal Tutor Review, and Student Progression Board meetings, ensuring that the student voice is effectively represented.
- I facilitated in the Advance HE **Top Management Programme** where we discussed relationship-building between unions and Universities
- The **Connecting Cultures** event is coming up on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of February, it's a fantastic event primarily aimed at students who are new to Scotland.
- I supported the Chair of the University Court candidate recruitment process. Voting is currently open and closes this Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, at noon—please check out the link in our bio to cast your vote!
- I have been involved in meetings regarding the recruitment of the new Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- Our **community food initiatives** have received an overwhelming number of donations, for which we are incredibly grateful. This has helped keep supplies well-stocked during this period. If you require support, we have a **food bank referral system**—please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

To find out more about what I have been up to please reach out to me through my email which is [President.union@stir.ac.uk](mailto:President.union@stir.ac.uk) or through my Instagram @stir\_president

## **Sports President Report**

As Sports President, I look after all of our sports clubs. We currently have 55 clubs and 2490 members.

Clubs have now entered a new year for the club mark system (StirScale). There are 25 clubs currently ranked on the StirScale, with 9 clubs ranked as gold. A huge well done to all. Feedback was received from club presidents and changes have been highlighted to the system ready for its second year.

For the next stages of kit, we have 13 additional clubs wearing the new Adidas kit. The majority of the match kit ordered is club owned, continuing the move to greater sustainability for the clubs.

This semester, we are continuing to work with our OddBalls ambassador, Scott, to continue to help raise awareness for testicular cancer and Team Alexis Rose raising awareness for the signs and symptoms of meningitis and septicaemia.

From one of the projects on the executive committee, we have launched a 'Club of the Month' social media campaign, a new initiative to showcase our clubs for the great work that they do.

The Sports Union Disability Sport Working Group met for the first time this month. This committee is made up of a selected committee across clubs, the students' union and university sport. Its objective is to create more inclusive spaces and to run more disability friendly activity.

Ahead of the Sports Union Awards Ball on the 28th March, I have also introduced a club development award this year. This will be presented to the club who has displayed success in developing over the season taking into account membership growth and improvement in member experience. This award is sponsored by Team Alexis Rose.

You can contact me at [sports.union@stir.ac.uk](mailto:sports.union@stir.ac.uk). Please also follow us on Instagram, @stirlingsportsunion, to keep up to date with the Sports Union!

## **VP Communities Report**

### **Housing:**

- National Housing Campaign stage 2 is about amending the Housing Bill 2025 to ensure better rights for students – meeting with MSPs
- Currently meetings scheduled with 5 MSPs, one of whom chairs the cross-party group on student homelessness - Monica Lennon's staff member on 31st of January at 11am (MSP Central Scotland); Michael Matheson, MSP Falkirk West; Graham Simpson, MSP Central Scotland and chair of housing cross party group; Annabelle Ewing, MSP Cowdenbeath; Evelyn Tweed, MSP Stirling; Jamie Hepburn, MSP Cumbernauld and Kilsyth

### **Sustainability:**

- The University has implemented a new ethical investment policy à The policy now also prevents indirect investments in the fossil fuel and arms industry
- Now focusing on Zero Waste Campaign – focused on getting

### **Societies:**

- Went to as many societies as possible to get feedback and to see how things are going – had some great feedback which I'm now implementing within Communities Zone
- Society Showcase
- December was AirTV who have been producing some really great stuff
- January is Global Justice Stirling for organising free breakfasts and for their win on divestment with the new policy

### **Other:**

- Helped organise 16 Days of Activism in December which included an Open Letter from the Feminist Society
- Organising a Campaign Training Day for the 10<sup>th</sup> of February at 7pm
- opportunity for societies/groups/individuals that want to learn about planning a campaign to come along
- opportunity to plan out your campaign and to get help/ideas from others in the room

Contact me with questions at [communities.union@stir.ac.uk](mailto:communities.union@stir.ac.uk) or via my Instagram @stir\_communities

## **VP Education Report**

Hello, I am Adelayo, your Vice President for Education and I oversee everything academics and education.

### **Representation**

- I have been involved in the Academic rep conference planning and execution and delivered training to over 100 Academic reps at the just concluded training in person.
- There is a new process for the minuting of the SSFC meetings across all faculties and have been involved in the whole process alongside faculty and senior staff members for transparency and engagement and will take effect as soon as everything is running.
- I am now posting videos of the meetings I attend on @stir\_education Instagram page to inform students ahead so they can contribute, recommend, or even ask questions that can presented at these meetings.
- As part of the STEP TOPIC LEAD and Network, I've been involved with the project planning that is aligned with diverse learners' journeys in higher education and have

attended two discovery days. This project is jointly owned by QAA Scotland and CDN (college development network).

### **Welcome Week**

- I've had the opportunity to participate in the January Welcome Week events to support new students in integrating, providing them with information, attending fun events, and assisting with their transition in a new environment.

### **Personal Tutor**

- Task and finish group is currently ongoing, and we have 3 students' representatives as members of the committee alongside faculty staff members, the union president and vp Education.

### **Students Progression**

- progress board task and finish group has been created to look into student progression to ensure, establish clear communication and engagement channels for students, improve student experience and retention. The VP Education and Union President are part of the committee alongside academic and professional staff members.

If you have any questions, please send an email to [education.union@stir.ac.uk](mailto:education.union@stir.ac.uk) and you can also get in touch on Instagram @stir\_education.