

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 19 MAY 2005 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM**

ACTION

- Present** : As per Sederunt Sheets
- Apologies** : Richard Anderson, Alistair Cassidy, Duncan Connors,
Stirling Ellison, Nicky Fair, David Harris, Omar Kholeif,
Shah Sazegara
- Attending** : Gordon Cruickshank, G Connor (For Item 3)

In the absence of the Preses, D MacKenzie, J Anderson chaired the meeting.

**1 MINUTES OF THE SIXTH STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL
5 May 2005 – Factual Corrections**

None

2 MATTERS ARISING

None

Minutes adopted by Council.

3 INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT, JULY-DECEMBER 2004

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Treasurer to speak. G
Cruickshank went over the accounts in detail highlighting certain areas.

No questions were asked and Council approved the accounts.

J Anderson thanked the Treasurer and the Senior Office & Finance Administrator for attending.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

4 SRC BUDGET 2005/2005

J Anderson informed Council if anyone had any questions regarding the budget they should e-mail the President and he will pass them on.

5 AGM BUSINESS: ANNUAL REPORTS

President, John Andrew Murray

Questions or Comments - None

VP Activities & Development, Andrew Forsyth

Questions or Comments - None

VP Communications, W Lord

Questions or Comments – None

VP Education, J Anderson
Questions or Comments – None

VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities, Dan Guy
Questions or Comments - None

6 APPOINTMENT OF ‘SOLICITORS’

It was proposed that Biggart Baillie Solicitors of Dalmore House, 310 St Vincent Street, Glasgow be re-appointed as the Council’s solicitors for the financial year beginning on 1st July 2005 and ending on 30th June 2006.

Approved by Council.

7 APPOINTMENT OF ‘AUDITORS’

It was proposed that Alexander Sloan & Co., C.A. of 144 West George Street, Glasgow be re-appointed as the Council’s auditors for the financial year beginning on 1st July 2005 and ending on 30th June 2006.

Approved by Council.

J Anderson left the Chair, A Roberts took the Chair.

8 MOTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RECTOR, MORDECHAI VANUNU

The following motion proposed by John Andrew Murray and seconded by D Guy was submitted which read:

This SRC notes:

1. The election, on 15th December 2004, of Mordechai Vanunu as Rector of the University of Glasgow.
2. That members of the House of Commons and the majority of Members of the Scottish Parliament have urged the British Government to lobby the Israeli authorities for the release of the unjust restrictions imposed on Mr Vanunu’s freedom of movement, association and expression.
3. That such restrictions, in particular being unable to leave Israel or speak to foreign nationals, make it very difficult for him to carry out his official duties as Rector.
4. That humanitarian organisations such as Amnesty International have described the restrictions placed on Mr Vanunu as in breach of both his human rights, and of international law as specified in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, of which Israel is a signatory.

This SRC believes:

1. That when students voted Mr Vanunu as Rector, they were making a clear statement about his individual plight, about the presence of nuclear weapons in our world, and the appalling plight of Palestinians in the Occupied Territories. Mr Vanunu is a man of peace who sacrificed his liberty for the greater good of humankind.
2. That Mr Vanunu should be released from his restrictions and permitted to leave Israel.
3. That the Foreign & Commonwealth Office should exert the maximum pressure to have Mr Vanunu released, and once he is released, grant him residency in the United Kingdom.
4. That, upon his release, Mr Vanunu should be welcomed to Scotland as a hero of our time.

This SRC resolves:

ACTION

1. To lobby the British Government to push strongly for the Rector's release.
2. To mandate the President and his successors, on behalf of the students of the University of Glasgow, to continually lobby the Israeli authorities until such time as the restrictions on Mr Vanunu are lifted.

The following amendments proposed by J Anderson were submitted which read:

In "This SRC believes",

Remove point 1 which reads:

"That when students voted Mr Vanunu as Rector, they were making a clear statement about his individual plight, about the presence of nuclear weapons in our world, and the appalling plight of Palestinians in the Occupied Territories. Mr Vanunu is a man of peace who sacrificed his liberty for the greater good of humankind".

and **replace** with:

"That when students voted for Mordechai Vanunu as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, they did so for a variety of reasons. Many students voted for Mr Vanunu because of their views on nuclear weapons, the Palestinian-Israeli situation, and their views on the treatment of Mr Vanunu by the Israeli government".

Amendment passed.

In "This SRC believes", point 2,

Add after "Israel", "so that he may perform his duties as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow".

Amendment passed.

In "This SRC believes", **Remove** point 4.

Amendment passed.

A further amendment referring to Point 1 in 'This SRC believes', proposed by H Burt, was declared incompetent because the sentence had already been replaced.

J A Murray spoke on the motion. No direct negative. Motion carried.

Motion now reads:

This SRC notes:

1. The election, on 15th December 2004, of Mordechai Vanunu as Rector of the University of Glasgow.
2. That members of the House of Commons and the majority of Members of the Scottish Parliament have urged the British Government to lobby the Israeli authorities for the release of the unjust restrictions imposed on Mr Vanunu's freedom of movement, association and expression.
3. That such restrictions, in particular being unable to leave Israel or speak to foreign nationals, make it very difficult for him to carry out his official duties as Rector.
4. That humanitarian organisations such as Amnesty International have described

the restrictions placed on Mr Vanunu as in breach of both his human rights, and of international law as specified in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, of which Israel is a signatory.

ACTION

This SRC believes:

1. That when students voted for Mordechai Vanunu as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, they did so for a variety of reasons. Many students voted for Mr Vanunu because of their views on nuclear weapons, the Palestinian-Israeli situation, and their views on the treatment of Mr Vanunu by the Israeli government.
2. That Mr Vanunu should be released from his restrictions and permitted to leave Israel so that he may perform his duties as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow.
3. That the Foreign & Commonwealth Office should exert the maximum pressure to have Mr Vanunu released, and once he is released, grant him residency in the United Kingdom.

This SRC resolves:

1. To lobby the British Government to push strongly for the Rector's release.
2. To mandate the President and his successors, on behalf of the students of the University of Glasgow, to continually lobby the Israeli authorities until such time as the restrictions on Mr Vanunu are lifted.

A Roberts left the Chair, J Anderson took the Chair.

9 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Copy of report circulated to Council)

9.1 Court Meeting

J A Murray read an extract from the draft Court Minutes which read: "Court noted the view of the SRC that the cuts to the grants of the two Unions should be restored and noted the view of the President of the SRC that the GUU be afforded a further opportunity to put forward its case before the matter was considered by the Student Finance Sub-Committee. Court also noted the view that the contribution of the two Unions to the student experience was different in nature to that provided by the SRC and it was important that the SRC's work in relation to student welfare was supported by the University".

A discussion had also taken place about whether the Unions should be banned from selling tobacco.

J A Murray felt the GUU's submission did not go down very well. He has offered to speak to both Presidents and hopes to progress on the matter with them.

9.2 SRC Executive Handover Evening

This will take place on Tuesday 21 June in the evening. Council will be invited.

9.3 Education, Planning & Strategy Committee

J A Murray attended this meeting. As recommended by the Academic

Regulations Committee a discussion had taken place on whether Grade 'N' should be replaced by Grade 'H'. This would allow students to progress to Honours or graduate, as 'H' would count as a zero grade rather than 'N' counting as nothing at the moment. This would help students who have done well in most subjects but got an 'N' in one.

9.4 European Diploma Supplement

This is a basic part of the Bologna process, which is standardisation of the European Higher Education across the continent. The recommendation from that is European University to improve international transparency by including information about the institution and national higher education system. University Scotland and the QAA have produced a national description but the University is unhappy with it partly due to the fact it is riddled with grammatical mistakes.

There was also a brief discussion about the international recruitment strategy paper. There is a recommendation in it that staff be given cultural awareness training on how to deal with international students.

9.5 Academic Secretary

J A Murray met with the Academic Secretary and discussed how departmental level pre-arrival literature could be improved to aid recruitment and retention. The University has been trying to involve the SRC in the production of the Prospectus but they want to improve departmental level information as well.

9.6 Fresh Talent Initiative

J A Murray met with VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities to discuss the Fresh Talent Initiative and the University's submission to that. This is a scheme to encourage international students to stay in Scotland once they graduate from University.

9.7 Questions or Comments for the President

9.7.1 Grants to the Unions

B Roberts asked if the two Unions were to receive more funding would it come from the Development Fund. J A Murray believes it would.

10 VP ACTIVITIES & DEVELOPMENT REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)

10.1 Project Management Training

A Forsyth had attended this and found it very interesting. He will speak to H Spurling and pass on some interesting strategies on how to run projects.

10.2 General Council Business Committee

A Forsyth had asked to speak on the Resolution, which is to bring about the merged Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences. He expressed peoples feeling in the SRC and used some of the comments and experiences to give a particular line on that issue.

10.3 Council Badges

These were available from A Forsyth after the meeting.

ACTION

10.4 Questions or Comments for VP Activities & Development

10.4.1 Freshers' Helpers Forms

A Roberts had noticed the forms were now online but was concerned they were quite late and not enough helpers would be recruited in time. A Forsyth did think it was unfortunate at the timing of the e-mail but this was outwith his control. He has received a number of forms back and hopes that when students finish their exams he will receive some more. He will send out an e-mail to last year's helpers and ask if they can let students know too. He will be working with H Spurling until she takes over in July.

AF

11 VP COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (Copy of report tabled at the meeting)

11.1 Jobs in the SRC

There has been a good response for all the different positions available in the SRC over the next few months.

11.2 Website Tender

This has now been finalised. A company has now been chosen and the website should be going live in July. If anyone has any ideas about additional features they should contact W Lord as soon as possible so it can be included.

11.3 Millie the Dinosaur

W Lord reported that A Vaz, Acting Director of Publicity Services, had confirmed that Millie is being taken down soon. There is an online petition that can be linked from across campus.

11.4 Questions or Comments for VP Communications

11.4.1 Millie the Dinosaur

A Ritchie suggested the University donate Millie to the SRC. The SRC could then auction it and give the money to the Welfare Service.

12 VP EDUCATION REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)

12.1 Convenors & VP Education Elect

J Anderson thanked the Convenors for the work they have put in this year and wished his successor the very best of luck.

12.2 Questions or Comments for VP Education

None

13 VP i/c WELFARE & EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)

13.1 Executive Meeting

D Guy attended the Exec meeting and met with the new Exec afterwards and discussed a few issues.

13.2 Handover & Training Issues

D Guy met with B Hay and S Bertolotti to discuss some handover and training issues for the new Exec.

13.3 Guardian Good University Guide

D Guy has been looking over this and found out some interesting facts.

13.4 Widening Participation Committee

D Guy attended this meeting and discussed various issues.

13.5 Fresh Talent Initiative

D Guy met with J A Murray to discuss the Fresh Talent Initiative.

13.6 Questions or Comments for VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities

13.6.1 Library Lift

A Ritchie pointed out that it would not be possible for wheelchair users to reach the emergency button in the lift if they had too. D Guy was not aware of this and confirmed he would investigate it.

DG

13.6.2 Widening Participation Committee

B Roberts asked about this Committee. D Guy explained the Committee's remit is to look into initiatives about getting non-traditional background students into University and also retention and drop out rates. D Guy was attending on behalf of K Jurgens.

14 CONVENORS, OFFICERS' & ASSESSOR'S REPORTS

**14.1 Sarah Tomlinson, Women's Interests Officers
(Copy of report circulated to Council)**

No Questions.

J Anderson left the Chair, A Forsyth took the Chair.

15 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYE-LAWS

The Constitution & Procedures Committee proposed and seconded the following amendments which read:

5.2.1

Delete all. Replace with:

"During 2005, there shall be eight Statutory Meetings of the Council. At all other times there shall be ten Statutory Meetings of the Council in a calendar year, the first of which shall be held no later than fourteen days after the annual SRC Autumn Elections have taken place."

D Guy spoke on the amendment. An open period followed. No direct negative. Amendment passed.

5.2.2

Add, at the beginning of the first sentence:

“With the exception of those meetings held during 2005...”

An open period followed. No direct negative. Amendment passed.

3.5

Delete all, replace with:

“At the Seventh Statutory Meeting of Council in 2005, or at the Ninth Statutory Meeting at all other times, the Council shall elect a Depute President from the Vice-Presidents-elect, the duties of whom are described in Chapter 1 of the Bye-Laws.”

An open period followed. No direct negative. Amendment passed.

Amendment to the Bye Laws

1.5.3.6

Delete the second sentence. Replace with:

“At its Seventh Statutory Meeting during 2005, or at the Ninth Statutory Meeting at all other times, the Council shall elect a Depute President from the Vice-Presidents-elect.”

An open period followed. No direct negative. Amendment passed.

Amendment to the Constitution & Bye Laws

The following amendment proposed by John Andrew Murray and seconded by D Guy was submitted which read:

Bye-Laws Chapter 3

Replace: “The quorum for meetings of the Committee will be five Council members ...”

With: “The quorum for meetings of the Committee will be four Council members ...”

J A Murray spoke on the amendment. An open period followed. No direct negative. Amendment passed.

A Forsyth left the Chair, J Anderson took the Chair.

16 ELECTION OF DEPUTE PRESIDENT

S Tomlinson elected

17 ELECTION TO FRESHERS' WEEK COMMITTEE

The following were elected:

John Andrew Murray
Anders Roberts
Alan Gardner
Neil Armstrong
Matthew Davies

18 MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

27 April 2005 and 10 May 2005 - Factual Corrections and Matters Arising

None. Minutes adopted by Council.

19 AOCB

None

Meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.

ACTION