

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JANUARY 2005 AT 6.30 p.m.  
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM**

ACTION

**Present** : As per Sederunt Sheets

**Apologies** : Ross Eaglesham, Sarah Gurney, Srikant Jakilinki,  
Laura Kane, Andrew MacDonald, Daniel McGinley,  
Andy Roxburgh, Jennifer Stott, Nicole Svinos

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**1 MINUTES OF THE THIRD STATUTORY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
2 December 2004 – Factual Corrections**

None.

**2 MATTERS ARISING**

**2.1 Guardian Website (Refer 2.2)**

W Lord informed Council that a previous Guardian Editor, with the help of M Deutsch, had set up 'Student Underground'.

**2.2 Guardian e-mail address (Refer 5.2.1)**

W Lord confirmed this was now working.

**2.3 Minutes of the Clubs & Societies Meeting of 17 November 2004  
(Refer 11)**

J Anderson had given the minutes to the Convenor of the Committee.

Minutes adopted by Council.

**3 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)**

**3.1 Resignations**

J A Murray had received resignations from two Council members, Calum Fisher, Social Sciences Convenor and Dann Lanigan, General Undergraduate representative. J A Murray thanked Calum Fisher for the work he had done in the last couple of years.

**3.2 Meeting with GUSA Safety & Travel Convenors**

A Forsyth and J A Murray had met with the Safety & Travel Convenors to discuss certain matters.

**3.3 Senate Meeting**

J A Murray had attended Senate today.

**3.4 Memorial Service**

A service in memory of the victims of the Tsunami Appeal will take place on Sunday, 23 January in the Bute Hall at 11 a.m. Members of the SRC have been requested to collect donations at the end of the service.

### 3.5 Questions or Comments for the President

#### 3.5.1 Meetings with the Principal

K Jurgens referred to J A Murray's report and asked about the 'Future Shape Initiative' that had been discussed at this meeting. He informed her that very informal discussions about Postgraduate Courses and the relevant evaluation had taken place with the VP Learning & Teaching. He was unable to comment on the special meeting of Court other than inform Council there had been a lot of discussion about where the University should be going and the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) ratings.

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

### 4.1 Clubs & Societies Fair

A Forsyth is working on administration for the Clubs & Societies Fair, which takes place on Wednesday 2 February in Qudos.

### 4.2 Rectorial Installation

A Forsyth has been researching for the Rectorial Installation, which is organised by the SRC.

### 4.3 Meeting of Social Sciences & LAFS

A Forsyth attended a special meeting of the Faculties of Social Sciences and Law & Financial Studies. He was pleased to report that as a result of his comments at the last meeting of Senate, regarding the mechanisms of the Faculty merger, it has been decided there will be a separate ballot for the two Faculties.

### 4.4 Development Committee Meeting

A Forsyth did not convene this meeting because one member of Council had resigned and submitted his apologies and the other member did not turn up. An election will take place to replace the member who has resigned.

### 4.5 GUSA Council Members

A Forsyth & J A Murray had met with members of GUSA Council and discussed their respective policies.

### 4.6 Questions or Comments for VP Activities & Development

#### 4.6.1 Williams Room Bookings

A Roberts asked why the International Society was not allowed to make a block booking for the use of the Williams Room when it had come to his attention that some societies are being allowed to make block bookings. A Forsyth confirmed that no one was allowed to make block bookings and he said he would look into this and make sure this regulation was being adhered to.

AF

#### 4.6.2 Rectorial Installation

K Jurgens asked how A Forsyth would "attempt" to organise the Rectorial

Installation. A Forsyth explained one of the reasons he was trying to organise the event was that Vanunu's supporters want to try and get him to attend the Installation Ceremony and want to use this as an opportunity to do so. The other reason was that the University had a history of holding ceremonies where Rectors' were unable to attend. If this is likely to be the case A Forsyth will come up with another idea but he would like to celebrate Vanunu's election in some way.

## **5 VP COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)**

### **5.1 IT Co-ordinator**

The new IT Co-ordinator, Andy McCready has now started and W Lord has shown him round the building and introduced him to everyone. One of his first tasks will be to sort out the Council e-mail addresses.

### **5.2 Media Week**

The organisation of this event has been taking up most of W Lord's time and this will run from Monday 21 to Friday 25 February.

### **5.3 Website**

W Lord hopes to relaunch the website at the start of Media Week. Anyone with any suggestions for new features or information should let him know.

### **5.4 Newsletter**

As part of W Lord's project he has decided to start an SRC Newsletter. The first one should be out on Monday 31 January. Any contributions from Council members, Clubs & Societies and Staff would be welcome.

### **5.5 Questions or Comments for VP Communications**

#### **5.5.1 Rectorial Election**

A Roberts asked why there had been no publicity for the Rectorial Election. W Lord explained this has been his fault because he did not get a Design student in time. He agreed it had been unfair other events had been publicised and not the Rectorial Election.

## **6 VP EDUCATION REPORT (Copy of report circulated to Council)**

### **6.1 Staff Student/Liaison Committee**

J Anderson informed Council that after an incident last year, the Senate Office has produced a draft protocol on whether Convenors should be allowed to attend these Committees. He hopes this will be the case.

### **6.2 Senate Meeting**

#### **6.2.1 LAFS/Social Sciences**

This issue came up. R McLaggan will expand on this in his report.

**6.2.2 Academic Shape Initiative**

A document on this was circulated at Senate. J Anderson is happy to give a copy to any member of Council who wants one. He will add this item to the Agenda for the Education Committee to be held in the next couple of weeks.

ACTION

JA

**6.3 Representation Services**

J Anderson drew Council's attention to this item in his report. Due to staff illness the service is now closed for all new cases.

**6.4 Class Rep Training**

Council were asked to note the two dates this would take place –

**Tuesday 15 February 2005, 1-4 p.m.**

**Wednesday 16 February 2005, 6-9 p.m.**

Anyone who can help out as a facilitator should contact J Anderson a.s.a.p.

**6.5 Annual Council Dinner 2005**

This will take place on Friday, 11 March 2005 in the University College Club. He pointed out that the SRC was founded on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1886 and not as printed.

**6.6 Senate Guest Night**

This will take place on Thursday, 10 March. Anyone who does not have a reply slip should let J Anderson know a.s.a.p.

**6.7 Access to the Disabled Students' Allowance**

J Anderson informed Council that the Scottish Executive has agreed to extend this allowance to all Postgraduates from the start of next session.

**6.8 Questions or Comments for VP Education**

**6.8.1 Qmunicate**

A Roberts referred to a recent article in the QM Union's publication about a legal campaign regarding fees by English students. He asked if J Anderson had supplied the quote. J Anderson had not. VP Communications responded and told him he had received a telephone call from the Editor of Qmunicate, Aidan Warner asking if the SRC had a stance on this. W Lord had responded saying he personally would support the campaign but he did not say the SRC supported it. W Lord will speak to A Warner about being misquoted. J Anderson will write a letter to Qmunicate.

WL/JA

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

**7.1 Welfare & Equal Opportunities Committee**

D Guy convened and attended the recent Welfare & Equal Opportunities Committee meeting.

## 7.2 Glasgow Student Festival

This takes place on Monday 31 January – Friday 4 February. Anyone who can help out should contact D Guy a.s.a.p.

ACTION

## 7.3 HMO Licensing

D Guy has been working on this and is hoping to produce a paper into the problems with the HMO licensing system.

## 7.4 Student Safety on Campus

D Guy attended a meeting with N Campbell and L Edgar to discuss student safety on Campus, particularly focussing on Kelvin Way. Communication with the police has been poor because the police do not consider Kelvin Way to be a problem. D Guy will be organising a petition about this very soon.

DG

## 7.5 Pride Week

This takes place from Monday 14 – Friday 18 February.

## 7.6 Senate

D Guy attended Senate today.

## 7.7 Questions or Comments for VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities

### 7.7.1 Accommodation Survey

K Jurgens asked if Council could see this before it is circulated. D Guy will pass the questions in the original survey to anyone who is interested.

### 7.7.2 Welfare & Equal Opportunities Committee

J Anderson pointed out that concern had been raised about the inactivity of the Charities Officer and asked what action D Guy is going to take. D Guy will arrange to meet with the Charities Officer and discuss these concerns with him.

DG

## 8 CONVENORS, OFFICERS' & ASSESSOR'S REPORTS

### 8.1 Robert McLaggan, Court Assessor

#### 8.1.1 Merger of LAFS and Social Sciences

The main concern was with regard to the Faculty that will be created by the merger. It will become one of the largest Faculties on campus. On the voting issue the decision was made to hold separate voting. The attitude of many members of staff, particularly in Accountancy & Finance, is that they wanted to have voting shown on a departmental basis also. It was pointed out by Y Feng that the Law & Accountancy Degree has been suspended as a result of poor performance of students. R McLaggan did not think this was actually the case. He believes it was the lack of personal accreditation for those students, as a lot of students had been coming into the course thinking they would get accreditation in either Accountancy or Law then they could go and practice in that field and that is not the case. It has been suspended, pending review, and the possibility of a new course being set up is being looked at too.

## 8.2 Douglas MacKenzie, Medicine Faculty Convenor

ACTION

### 8.2.1 Charges for English Students

D MacKenzie met with the Dean and they discussed the plans to charge fees for Medical students from England who are studying in Scotland. There is also a possibility a policy will be introduced where Scottish students will have to pay extra for studying in Scotland and also medical students will be forced to do one year in Scotland after graduating in Scotland.

J A Murray stated he had a copy of the latest draft of the University's response to the proposals and would pass it to D MacKenzie.

JAM

### 8.2.2 Paper Published

D MacKenzie was pleased to inform Council that the Faculty have agreed to publish a past paper for the final year examinations.

### 8.2.3 Faculty Meeting

D MacKenzie attended this meeting and met the new Dean who has changed the format for the final professional examination for the Dentists to bring them more in line with the General Dental Council.

## 8.3 Sarah Tomlinson, Women's Interests Officer

### 8.3.1 Informal Drop-In Sessions

S Tomlinson has been holding some informal drop-in sessions so that women can come along and discuss their problems. As the sessions have been very successful she informed Council she intends to advertise them more widely on campus.

J Anderson asked what procedures she had in place to address women's problems. He also suggested she could start up an Agony Aunt column in the new SRC Newsletter. Although S Tomlinson felt she was good at sorting out some of the problems she was definitely not thinking about becoming an Agony Aunt. At the moment she refers the women to the appropriate person/organisation.

### 8.3.2 Glasgow Student Festival

As part of this Festival, S Tomlinson will be holding a Women's Interests Forum Event (WIFE). There will be female representatives from different parts of the University community talking about what they do and how they represent women. This will be a general discussion event and will take place on Monday 31 January. She hopes everyone will be able to attend.

### 8.3.3 International Women's Day

This takes place on Friday 4 March. S Tomlinson has lots of ideas but would appreciate some input from Council.

### 8.3.4 Development Committee

S Tomlinson had not attended these meetings due to illness. She had submitted her apologies but had not been aware they had not been

received in time for the meetings.

ACTION

#### **8.4 Anders Roberts, International Students' Officer**

##### **8.4.1 Campaign Against the Visa Renewal Fee Increases for International Students**

This had been very successful and A Roberts thanked members of Council who had helped out. He had collected 376 signatures. Following the petition he wrote a lengthy consultation document and sent it to the Home Office. He thanked Hong Hong Chen for her contribution to the document. He also wrote to the Prime Minister and George Galloway but has not received any formal response.

##### **8.4.2 Clubs & Societies**

At the last meeting A Roberts spoke about helping to bring some of the international Clubs & Societies together. He has since met with members from other Societies and have discussed getting them together, with the intention of keeping them going year after year.

##### **8.4.3 Various Societies**

A Roberts has been helping get students together from the Nordic Nation, a new Society aimed at students from Scandinavia.

He has been talking to people who want to revive the Canadian Society and his aim is to have Clubs & Societies available for all major international groups by next year.

##### **8.4.4 International Office Request**

A Roberts has been asked by the International Office to meet with high-level international students who are here on a six-month course. His job is to ensure they have a good time and enjoy the course.

##### **8.4.5 Scholarships Committee**

This Committee has not met for over two years. A Roberts intends to organise more fundraising events and contact other organisations to try and secure some funding. He hopes to have more scholars coming to Glasgow to study, especially those from developing countries. He promised to have a meeting of the Scholarships Committee before the end of term.

##### **8.4.6 Internationalisation of Campus**

A Roberts has been helping J A Murray and D Guy write a paper on future provision of support services for international students.

##### **8.4.7 Representatives for the Rector**

A Roberts has been in touch with representatives for the Rector, following their campaign.

##### **8.4.8 International Day/Week**

This is high on A Roberts agenda and he hopes to arrange this event this term.

**8.4.9 Glasgow Student Festival**

A Roberts spoke at the Welfare & Equal Opportunities Committee about this event. He intends to organise members from Clubs & Societies to collect for funds for Scholarships. D Guy pointed out there will be a three-legged pub crawl to raise funds too.

**8.4.10 Exchange Conversation Practice**

Depending on his workload, A Roberts hopes to set up a free service through the SRC, which enables international students to exchange conversation practice with language students. This was one of his manifesto pledges.

**8.4.11 Apologies**

A Roberts apologised to any members he had not been in touch with about various matters. He is addressing this.

**8.5 Douglas Cain, Environmental Officer  
(Copy of report circulated to Council)****8.5.1 Basketball Festival**

D Cain is looking for 6 teams to take part in the competition in February and asked Council if any of them would be interested in participating. The venue has still to be confirmed. No one volunteered.

**8.5.2 Wildlife Garden Committee**

This Committee will meet on Wednesday 26 January in the Rankine Building.

**9 MOTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION**

The following motion proposed by A Forsyth and seconded by D Guy was submitted which read:

**Chapter 6: Bye-Laws regarding the regulation of Council Elections***Replace*

5.8 In all constituencies, where the number of nominations is equal to or less than the number of vacancies, the Returning Officer shall declare the candidates so nominated to be duly elected.

*With*

5.8 In the Ordinary and General Undergraduate constituencies, where the number of nominations is equal to or less than the number of vacancies, the Returning Officer shall declare the candidates so nominated to be duly elected.

*Insert*

5.9 Where in any seat in the Executive, Academic Convener or Welfare and Equal Opportunity Constituencies there is only one nomination, an election shall be held, where the voters have the option of voting for the nominated candidate or to re-open nominations.

5.9.1 If the number of votes cast to re-open nominations is greater than the number of votes cast for the nominated candidate, nominations shall be re-opened and a by-election held at the earliest suitable occasion, as decided by the Executive Committee.



A Forsyth spoke on the motion.

No amendments were submitted, no direct negative. Motion passed.

This will come into effect immediately. Regulations for the forthcoming by-election will be amended accordingly.

ACTION

WL

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## **10 DISCUSSION – CHESS AND REPRESENTATION AT A NATIONAL LEVEL**

As J A Murray and J Anderson would be attending the CHESS Executive Meeting on Monday, 25 January 2005 they thought it was important to get Council's opinion on how they felt about remaining part of CHESS. A discussion took place and the outcome was to take a cautious line just now, come back in a few months time and thrash it out when we know a bit more and also push for CHESS to develop as an organisation. Everyone agreed this was the best course of action for the time being.

## **11 ELECTION FOR SRC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER**

R McLaggan

## **12 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**23/9/04, 7/10/04, 21/10/04, 28/10/04, 5/11/04, 18/11/04**

**and 25/11/04 – Factual Corrections and Matters Arising**

None. Minutes adopted by Council.

## **13 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**16 November 2004 – Factual Corrections and Matters Arising**

None. Minutes adopted by Council.

## **14 AOCB**

### **14.1 Resigned Council Members**

J Anderson asked if Council could be provided with the names of members who have deemed to resign. He was informed that for the moment there was only one, Ahmed Kweir.

### **14.2 Elections**

D MacKenzie pointed out that no one in the Faculty of Medicine is aware that the by-elections are coming up. He informed Council he would not be able to continue as Medicine Convenor if he did not have any ordinary representatives to assist him. W Lord will arrange some publicity.

WL

Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m. and everyone went to the QM Union for a drink.