

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2008 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM**

ACTION

Present : As per Sederunt Sheets

Apologies : Lucille Harvey, Stuart Ritchie, Sabrina Rossi,
Gareth Webb

1 APOLOGIES FROM THE PRESIDENT

G Lee raised the matter of an email forwarded to a member of Council in error. The Council member referred to in the email has received a full apology.

2 WELCOME

G Lee welcomed Nathan Gray to Council who will be attending on behalf of the Hetherington Research Club.

**3 MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING
6 November 2008 – Factual Corrections**

3.1 Carnage Pub Crawl (Refer 4.3)

G Lee asked that the wording in the second line be amended to read that “the SRC had been publicising an anti carnage pub crawl” and not as printed.

Minutes adopted by Council.

4 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Late Submission Paper (Refer 3.1)

A copy of the finalised second draft of the Late Submission Policy Paper written by G Lee was circulated to everyone for information. The following proposal will now be submitted to the Code of Assessment Working Group:

1 point per week day for the first two weeks, and 2 points per week day for the third week for late submission, with a maximum of 3 weeks (20 points penalty).

Council noted that this is more generous than a number of systems in the University.

4.2 Election Website (Refer 3.7)

Ongoing.

4.3 Mahare & Users of E-PDP demo (Refer 5.3)

J Wightwick is arranging to meet with Convenors to discuss this and will update Council at the next meeting.

JW

4.4 Acronyms (Refer 5.4)

Council noted that a glossary had been included in the Council Handbook and at the end of the latest President's report.

ACTION

4.5 Aldwych Meeting – Ethical Investment (Refer 5.6)

Council noted the December Aldwych meeting had been cancelled so the Ethical Investment issue will not be discussed until the next meeting.

4.6 Student Rep Moodle (Refer 5.7)

The technical issues have now been resolved and J Wightwick met with the University's Director of Information Strategy to discuss ways of improving it. J Wightwick would like to pilot the 'Super Moodle' but will discuss this further with Convenors and update Council at the next meeting.

JW

4.7 DPTLA Summary (Refer 13)

The Working Group met and discussed how the DPTLA summary reports could be improved. As a result, J Wightwick sent the suggestions off to the Senate Office who seemed quite happy with them and is meeting next week to discuss it further.

5 SABBATICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS – 3 Nov – 4 Dec 2008

Council were invited to ask questions pertaining to each of the Sabbatical Officers' reports.

**GAVIN LEE, PRESIDENT
(Copy of report circulated)**

5.1 Credit Crunch Conference

The conference, jointly organised by the SRC and Govan Law Centre was opened by the Secretary of State for Scotland, Jim Murphy. It was attended by around 200 representatives from Advice and Support networks across Scotland as well as a variety of high profile Scottish Politicians. G Lee's speech highlighted students' commonality with other disadvantaged communities of interest and outlined a variety of reforms which would benefit students and other disadvantaged groups. The event was a success. B Hay advised that feedback on G Lee's contribution had been extremely positive.

5.2 New Principal Announced

G Lee informed Council that at the University Court meeting held on Wednesday, 10 December it had been announced that Professor Anton Muscatelli had been selected as the new Principal from October 2009. The appointment was warmly welcomed by Council. It was agreed that the SRC send a letter of congratulations to him. Z Grams advised that a statement will soon be on the SRC website welcoming the new Principal.

GL

5.3 University Health Service

G Lee reported that there had been a proposal to close the University Health Service and transfer a lot of its role into the new NHS practice in

The Fraser Building and for some responsibility still to be held with a Health & Wellbeing Service run through the University. In its current form the service was limited by its role; it couldn't give out prescriptions or sick lines and the number of students using it was very small. G Lee and L Laws had been involved in the review process and their view was that if there could be a more rounded service provided through the NHS service that would be favourable, especially mental health, psychology and psychiatry referrals. G Lee received assurances at the Court Meeting that the service level would remain the same. There will now be a three month process of finding out what needs to be put in place to ensure that the standards are maintained and the SRC will be heavily involved in this. Council noted that it looks unlikely there will be a Pharmacy in The Fraser Building but the SRC will continue pushing for one.

5.4 Potential Purchase of Cooperage Place

A Cohen asked about this. G Lee explained that the University is considering purchasing the halls.

5.5 GUSA Meeting

T Gore noted that G Lee had attended two meetings and asked if there was any reason that GUSA had more meetings than the SRC. G Lee advised that there was no particular reason for this; the number of meetings held by any organisation reflected the perceived need in that particular organisation.

5.6 Estates Committee – John McIntyre Building

J Harrison asked if the SRC would have access to the space in the John McIntyre vacated by John Smiths when they move to The Fraser Building. G Lee advised that discussions are ongoing at the moment regarding this and draft proposals have been developed which will considerably enhance the SRC's services. He advised that there are also other parties interested but there is a powerful argument for the SRC.

5.7 Developing an International Campus - Welcome Programme

Council noted that there had been some operational issues around the Welcome Programme minibus service this year. Any issues arising were outwith the SRC's area of responsibility. It is hoped however to have these problems resolved for September 2009.

5.8 TextMiser

This is a new company supported by Scottish Enterprise which provides discounts via texts. They are in the process of establishing strategic partnerships with different bodies around Glasgow and wish to set one up with the SRC.

5.9 Options Appraisal

It was noted that the final document produced by the Court Office for the sustainability of the student bodies at Glasgow was agreed and the proposal has now gone out to tender. G Lee will keep Council updated on any developments.

6 JAMIE WIGHTWICK, VP (LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT) **(Copy of report circulated)**

6.1 Centralisation of Exam Invigilators

In response to a question by A Cohen J Wightwick explained that the University is investigating whether it would be possible to create a central pool of invigilators. This could prove to be of significant benefit for students, in particular those with a disability. J Wightwick will monitor this closely.

6.2 Conversational English Christmas Party

J Wightwick informed Council that due to the exam structure this event is being postponed until the end of January. If anyone has any ideas about a theme please let J Wightwick know. B Hay suggested a Burns Night.

7 ZOE GRAMS, VP (MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS) **(Copy of report circulated)**

7.1 March Election Preparation

J Harrison asked what preparations are being made. Z Grams informed him she will be working on the publicity for the Spring Elections, i.e. posters, candidates' list, election booklet containing the manifestos. She intends to put the posters up at the end of January for the March elections. The date of the Hustings will be on the website. Z Grams will look at the website and identify a means of delineating the different manifestos more clearly.

zG

7.2 Wednesday Afternoons - meeting with GUSA

This was an item on the Agenda but as it was mentioned in Z Grams report it was discussed at this point. A Munro asked if there was going to be any special drop-in sport sessions that students could attend. Z Grams explained that a wide student focussed campaign is being organised with the intention of encouraging personal development through not only sports but also through clubs and societies and volunteering. The SRC and GUSA are working together with the aim of producing a short booklet to present to the University and City Council bringing together the arguments for making Wednesday afternoons free for extracurricular activity. T Gore, A Munro, J Harrison and T Eriksson volunteered to meet with Z Grams and G Lee to develop the draft document and G Lee and the GUSA President will meet with A Nolan and G Caie to discuss it further. A Cohen suggested Life Science courses would not be able to take part. G Lee will work with the Deans of the Science Faculties in addressing this.

GL

7.3 Council Handbook

Z Grams pointed out that it should have said in her report that Council Handbooks can be found in pigeonholes next week.

7.4 Emails

Z Grams asked members to let her know if they were still experiencing problems with their email.

**8 LAURA LAWS, VP (STUDENT SUPPORT)
(Copy of report circulated)**

ACTION

8.1 Maternity/Paternity Policy

L Laws reported that this policy was presented to the SSDC meeting and everyone agreed the policy should be developed and established. It was also agreed that the remit would be widened to incorporate student carers.

8.2 Part time Students

Council noted that Registry has agreed to put greater effort into publicising the 'ring fenced' funding for part time students.

8.3 Minibus Service Increased

L Laws and SRC Staff met with Residential Services to discuss running a minibus service from student halls to campus in the mornings. Residential Services have agreed to make a contribution towards the funding of a pilot minibus run from Wolfson Halls in the mornings. Further part funding has been agreed for an enhanced morning service for 2009/10 (providing the pilot is a success).

8.4 SHAG Week

L Laws thanked everyone who had been a condom fairy.

8.5 Christian Union

L Laws informed Council that it had been noted that students could only be a member of the Christian Union if they sign up to a statement of faith. L Laws confirmed the issue is not with the faith but the prescriptive and restrictive nature of the statement. L Laws will update Council at the next meeting.

LL

9 CONVENORS, OFFICERS & COURT ASSESSOR'S REPORTS

As some members were unsure what to include in their feedback form it was agreed to review it in time for the next meeting.

BH

9.1 Filippo Trevisan, PG General Rep & Court Assessor

A copy was circulated to everyone for information.

9.2 Ana Cohen, Science Faculty Convenor

A copy was circulated to everyone for information.

9.2.1 FBLS UG Education Committee

S Hall asked about the restructuring of some L3 and L4 courses. A Cohen confirmed options are available once students are accepted on the course.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING

J Harrison informed Council that he had attended a meeting recently concerning the environment in the University's local area. The meetings are open and given the large number of students living locally, the group would welcome more representation and involvement from students. They are going to contact the University but are keen for the SRC to publicise

future meetings. Council noted that L Laws attends Hillhead Community Council meetings once a month and J Harwood volunteered to attend future meetings with her.

ACTION

11 RAG WEEK (19-23 January 2009)

L Laws highlighted her plans for Rag Week. The SRC is going to organise some events and encourage Clubs & Societies to run some, as well as the studies bodies and individuals. She asked Council to come along and support it, get as many people involved as possible and raise as much money as they can. A Cohen offered to put on a dance show and lesson. C Hall, T Gore and A Munro volunteered to assist with the arrangements. L Laws intends to produce an information booklet with all the details.

12 FRESHERS' WEEK REPORT

A copy of J Wightwick's report had been circulated to everyone for information. He thanked everyone who had been involved and asked if anyone had any ideas about events for 2009 to let him know and he will pass the information on to his successor.

The following points were raised:

- Should Freshers' Fair be over 3 days? Not many students attended the third day;
- Masters students didn't receive a Freshers' Week pack – J Wightwick will check in case this a wider problem;
- Organise a specific event next year for postgraduate so they are aware of the SRC's existence;
- Toddlers in the tent - nursery places problem - the Secretary of Court is looking for a new nursery building.

JW

G Lee thanked J Wightwick for a very successful Freshers' Week.

13 MINUTES OF POSTGRADUATE WORKING GROUP

19 November 2008

Minutes circulated for information.

14 MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

10 June 2008

Minutes circulated for information.

15 AOCB

15.1 Annual Monitoring Reports

A Cohen advised that at a recent meeting it was suggested that the SRC is arguing for the Annual Monitoring Reports to become public and some staff in the department questioned the value of this. J Wightwick pointed out that these reports are already available publicly but quite difficult to find.

15.2 December Exam Timetabling

J Wightwick reported there is going to be an emphasis on making sure this

does not happen again and will be monitored closely. G Lee confirmed that a guarantee has been given to the SRC that exams will not be scheduled on the two revision days next year.

ACTION

15.3 Education Faculty

A Munro raised an issue she had encountered relating to the application process and information available when applying for a postgraduate place in secondary teaching. It was agreed this should be passed on to the Education Faculty Convenor to investigate.

KH

15.4 NSS

As F Trevisan is co-ordinating the publicity team for the National Student Survey 2009 on behalf of the SRC he asked members who had offered to help, but were unable to attend last week's meeting, to meet with him for five minutes at the end of Council.

15.5 Action Against Violence Against Women

J Harwood informed members that Saturday marks the end of the 16 days of Action Against Violence Against Women and Glasgow Feminist Network will be out in Glasgow City Centre. She urged members, if they were in town, to show their support.

15.6 BNP on Campus

Council noted there had been no further mention of the White History Month Campaign on campus.

15.7 Fair Trade Steering Group

L Durnan pointed out that a meeting of the Group will take place on Friday, 16 January 2009. The group deals with all fair trade products on campus. If anyone would like to attend please advise L Laws.

15.8 International Service/International Society

Council noted that as the International Service has now moved into the Fraser Building the SRC is helping the International Society by offering them some space in the John McIntyre Building. G Lee pointed out that space for International students is in the future plans for the John McIntyre Building. He added that one of the strategic objectives is to look at how the SRC better supports and integrates with international/postgraduate/mature students and other communities of interest. B Hay advised that members should conduct any discussions with the University through the SRC rather than entering separate discussions.

15.9 Media Week

Z Grams outlined her plans for Media Week. At the moment she has 16 speakers from a diverse range of media backgrounds. There will be interactive events in the evenings and talks throughout the day. A brochure will be given out with all the events. Z Grams would welcome suggestions for events particularly from Science or Engineering students as she would like some of them to get involved.

C Hall asked if the talks could be recorded. Z Grams advised it might be possible and she will investigate further. She may arrange for some of it to be broadcast but she would rather students' attended events.

ACTION

ZG

A Cohen felt having web and graphic design training would be really useful especially for Clubs & Societies and should be highly publicised. Z Grams intends to target different departments and different groups.

15.10 Thanks

G Lee thanked everyone for Semester One and invited members to stay for some food and refreshments and wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.