

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014 AT 6.30 p.m.  
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

**Present** : As per sederunt sheets

**Apologies** : D Mackay, T Hokkanen, O Mooney

**Attending** : C Lowther

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**1. Student Services Consultation**

C Lowther, Director of Student Services delivered a presentation on a new framework strategy for Student Services. Council then split into groups to discuss. Ideas from each group were then fed back to C Lowther.

**2. Motion – Conflict Free Minerals**

GU Amnesty presented their motion calling for GUSRC to support the Conflict Free Campus Initiative (appendix 1).

Discussion followed.

A vote was taken and a motion was passed with 29 in favour and 1 abstention.

**3. Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved

J McGrellis informed council that the Council Bulletin had still not been returned.

J McGrellis informed council that the University were granting an extra £20,000 towards the purchase of a minibus.

**4. Council Reports**

J McGrellis – SRC President

J McGrellis informed council that they were assisting in setting up a charity for medical students in Rwanda.

H Gower asked J McGrellis about her discussion with The Principal

regarding gender balance on senior management groups. J McGrellis responded that it was recognised as an issue, but added that recent appointments, where Jess was involved in the selection panel, were offered to the best candidates for the role.

O Martin asked if there had been any developments on the space available for Freshers' Fair 2014. J McGrellis responded that nothing was confirmed but it did look likely that Bute Hall would be ready in time for Freshers' Address and Freshers Fair.

B O'Connor – VP Student Activities

B O'Connor informed council that she was still having difficulty getting any response about the cost of hot water from hospitality services.

H Roberts – School of Humanities Representative

H Roberts asked council members to forward any complaints regarding the study abroad programme and grade transfers to him.

## **5. Sabbatical Action Plans**

The Sabbatical Officers gave short presentations on their action plans.

J McGrellis

- Student Leaders Network - complete
- Campus Development consultation – survey online – J McGrellis asked council members to promote.
- Intellectual Property still on agenda
- John McIntyre Building development still ongoing
- Sabb restructure review will be circulated to council

B O'Connor

- Green Agenda – B O'Connor has been attending all meetings for ecohub. Short term and long term plans are being created for submission to Estates and Buildings.
- Will create a document on how clubs and societies are spending their money.
- Blogs – suggested this as something for next year.
- Freshers week helper applications available. B O'Connor asked council to take part and promote.
- Review of Clubs and Socs forms ongoing because of the new website.

JM to  
circulate  
Sabb  
restructure  
review to  
council

O Coombs

- STAs finished, and the evening was a success. The report is available if any council members are interested.
- Ensure Student Voice is well used– work ongoing.
- Development of class rep system, more to do, will pass on what has been learned to C Davies to take forward.
- Lecture recording policy – much opposition remaining.
- Exam timetable policy – report to be written by start of May for the last meeting of SSDC.
- Exam feedback policy passed by LTC, still to be passed by EdPSC and Senate.

## **6. Schedule Amendments**

### **a) SRC Mental Health Officer**

H Gower presented a motion to amend the constitution creating a new welfare officer position – Mental Health Equality Officer.

Following discussion a vote was taken on the motion with the agreement that the remit would reflect that the role would be about raising awareness of issues rather than helping students individually. The motion was passed with 15 in favour, 13 against, and 8 abstaining.

### **b) Dumfries Representative**

C Davies presented a motion to amend the constitution to make the Crichton University Campus Students Association representative an ex officio voting member of council.

Following discussion it was decided that the motion would be withdrawn at present and a vote on creating a new Dumfries Representative, possibly as a School Representative for Interdisciplinary Studies, would be taken to the first council meeting of 2014-15.

## **7. Handover Document**

J McGrellis asked council to feedback on the proposed handover document that would be completed and passed on to the incoming officers.

## **8. Marking Boycott**

J McGrellis informed council that a planned marking boycott had been postponed to the 6<sup>th</sup> May and that UCU were still undecided as to whether it would go ahead.

J McGrellis suggested that if the boycott were to go ahead that GUSRC would put out a statement. O Coombs suggested that the following main points should be the basis for the statement –

- that GUSRC cannot support marking boycott
- it would be unfair on students
- GUSRC also cannot support unfair pay conditions
- call for both sides to get together again and resolve.

Discussion followed

A statement along those lines was approved by a show of hands.

## **9. Council Dinner**

J McGrellis reminded council members to respond to their council dinner invitations.

## **10. AOCB**

F O'Donnell informed council of Senior Honours students being moved on from Hetherington computer clusters where there is essential software.

O Coombs  
will  
investigate

C Mackay highlighted a problem with staff missing marking deadlines.

J Harrison informed council of a part time summer position that council member might be interested in.

B O'Connor informed council about Action Hillhead and cleaning up the West End and asked council to get involved if they can.

B O'Connor hopes in the coming year to produce written advice for students leaving their flats to minimize waste and promote recycling.

O Coombs thanked Jess for her hard work as President.

J McGrellis thanked council for all their hard work through the year.

Meeting concluded at 9.30pm