

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 30th October 2014 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

Present : As per sederunt sheets

Apologies : **L Taylor, C Glendinning, Y Abdel, R Kerr, L Astica,
B Reitsma, O Martin, M Averianova, S Dallas,
N McGuire, O Schafer, A Ibrahim, G Davies**

Attending : **G Connor**

1. Annual Accounts

G Connor gave a short presentation on the Annual Accounts that had been circulated to council and asked council members for any questions.

Q – M Karrasch asked about understaffing at the Advice centre.

G Connor clarified that this was due to a senior staff member being on secondment to the University. B Hay added that GUSRC had made efforts to ensure that the impact was minimised.

Cathy Steeghs proposed and James Richardson seconded approval of the annual accounts.

Council approved Alexander Sloan as auditor, and Govan Law Centre as Solicitors for GUSRC for the coming year.

2. Minutes from Previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on the 20th November were approved.

2.1 Matters Arising

Breffni updated council that she has spoken with UnaMarie regarding the issue with moodle and had not found a solution. A Morgan informed council that moodle did not allow for students to start discussion, only threads within a discussion that had been started by a member of staff.

3. Council Reports

President – B O'Connor
Translation Dictionaries –

B O'Connor updated council on the university's proposals to ban translation dictionaries in exams. B O'Connor and R Brown have met with J Briggs, Clerk of Senate and J Aitken, Director of the Senate Office to discuss the counter paper from GUSRC. The result is that a short life working group is going to be established to consider the potential effects of a ban and two students will sit on this group. Council agreed that B O'Connor and F Weber participate as the student representatives.

B O'Connor and students who attended the open discussion with the SRC, are in the process of preparing a survey, to be finalised over the holiday period, with the aim of obtaining feedback from students affected by this issue.

Q H Roberts asked for confirmation that the ban would not be implemented in session 14/15. B O'Connor confirmed that this was the case.

Consent Campaign

B O'Connor has met with Sexpression for input. B O'Connor and L King have also visited the Rape Crisis Centre in Glasgow to gain further information on the issue.

Re-Freshers Week

B O'Connor reminded council members about re-freshers week which is scheduled to take place at the start of next term and that the cross campus events would be posted on the facebook page in due course. B O'Connor requested council members get in touch with ideas for events.

U21 - Singapore and Chile funding

B O'Connor informed council that University funding for the summit in Chile and student leaders network in Singapore had been reduced and it appeared that only one student representative would be funded to attend each event. Council recorded their discontent, particularly in light of the number of staff being sent to these events first class.

Learning and Teaching Hub

B O'Connor advised that the first project board meeting had taken place on Friday. Workshops are planned for the start of next term with an expert from

another institution visiting the university to advise. GUSRC have asked that information regarding the approval and development of a Learning and Teaching Hub be communicated to students. There will be two consultations toward the end of the week, one by arrangement and one drop in.

Reports

B O'Connor asked council members to provide more context on the activities, in particular some details of outcomes.

VP Education – C Davies

GUSRC visibility at Garscube

C Davies informed council that he had met with L Taylor regarding GUSRC engaging more with Garscube. Ideas like leaflets and promotion of services at Garscube were discussed.

Facebook Groups

C Davies confirmed that videos of the training day had been uploaded to the the groups, C Davies asked council members to comment.

Bank of Resources

C Davies is hoping to set up a resource bank with information on useful apps, revision texts and presentations and asked council members to get in touch with any additions.

Q. R Brown asked if there had been any progress in obtaining lists of class representatives from the university. C Davies responded that he was able to provide PGR but was still waiting on PGT.

VP Student Activitise – G Masiulyte

International Women's Week

G Masiulyte informed council that herself and L King are hoping to get clubs and societies involved in International Women's Week. There has not been a great response as yet but G Masiulyte believes that this is likely the result of exams.

**CD will
chase
Senate
Office again
for lists of
reps**

Crafternoon

G Masiultye asked council members to attend Crafternoon on the 15th December in The Gilchrist Seminar Room if they are free.

VP Student Support – L King

Q – Una Marie asked if there were any incentives for speakers to get involved with International Womens' Week. L King responded that it was unclear at present, but suggested that they meet and discuss.

LK to meet with UD re International Womens' Week

UG Arts Convenor – K Powell

Q – B O'Connor asked K Powell to tell council more about the 'Testing out International Summer School' item on her report, asking if it was still based on the existing summer school model. K Powell responded that there was discussion about introducing more subjects

School Representative Geo & Earth Sciences – E Cottrell

Lecture Recording

E Cottrell informed council that lecture recording had been discussed at SSLC meetings and LTC and seemed to be well received.

McGregor Building

Problems are still ongoing although with help from D Featherstone CTT have moved the location of some lectures elsewhere, although due to scheduling difficulties there are still some lectures taking place in the building.

4. Feedback on class representative session – Business School

J Vlcek delivered a short presentation on his meeting with class reps.

B O'Connor encouraged school reps to run similar meetings in semester 2.

Q A Morgan asked where J Vlcek had obtained a list of the class reps. J Vlcek responded that he has some from C Davies and the department. It was discussed that the format the data is supplied is not ideal for easy transfer to an email.

JV will pass presentation to BOC for circulation to council

B Hay commented that he could ask G Reynolds if there was anything that could be done to improve this.

CD will ask GR to advise

5. Consultation Paper on Higher Education Governance Bill

B O'Connor asked council members to read the consultation paper on H E Governance bill. GUSRC are putting together a responses to consultation paper which needs to be in by the end of January and asked council members to read over the circulated paper and feedback at the start of semester 2.

6. Student debt campaign update

B O'Connor updated council on the student debt campaign, informing them that GUSRC have written to trading standards to try and obtain information on how many students were being allowed to progress on payment plans but it seems to be the case that only one payment plan has been accepted this year. B O'Connor will continue to update council on this matter as it develops.

D Bacanskaite suggested involving the media to raise the profile of this problem further.

7. Marking Boycott

B O'Connor updated council that the boycott was due to start in January adding that the Christmas results would not be affected but an impact on summer exams would be more likely.

K Powell pointed out that all grades would be held back, even those from lecturers who did not participate in the Boycott. C Davies commented that this was likely to ensure there was no unfair advantage.

8. AOCB

Hoodies – C Davies informed council that the hoodies were available for collection.

Council Business information screen – J Vlcek asked if there was an update on the proposed information page outlining council meeting business. B O'Connor responded that there were better ways to communicate with the wider student community and that there will be a greater concentration on trying to reach students in semester 2.

**BOC will
contact and
try and
obtain
clarification**

Council Member Blogs – B O'Connor asked council to provide information blogs to go on the website.

Change in voter registration – B O'Connor will arrange for circulate publicity on this in Semester 2

Student Manifesto for general elections - B O'Connor is considering putting this together to help engage students on issues.

Student Loan Restrictions – E Napier informed council that he had heard that a working group would be being held in the New Year and that there would likely be discussions on restricting PG student loans to those under 30.

**BOC will
contact
council on
facebook
with more
information**