

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 20th November 2014 AT 6.30 p.m.
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM.**

Present : As per sederunt sheets

Apologies : T Gebbie, O Martin, S Dallas, H Curley, B Garry, K McEwen, C Steeghs, Y Abdel, K Leslie, S Long

Attending : **F Coton, K Sharp**

1 - Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2- Report

SRC President – B O'Connor

B O'Connor informed council that Nightline would be starting that week and asked council to help publicise.

B O'Connor asked council members to get involved in running events during Re-Freshers week and highlighted that there would be a significant number of new overseas and postgraduate students starting at that time.

Q E Napier asked B O'Connor to give some further information on the proposed changes to the adviser of studies model in the College of Arts.

B O'Connor outlined key elements of the proposals. Which included a triage system operated by a frontline team and the creation of full time advisers.

B O'Connor introduced GUSRC's new PG Development Officer, K Sharp.

VP Student Support – L King

L King informed council that the problem with students' inboxes being filled with university messages should hopefully begin to be addressed by the University

L King informed council that himself and G Masiulyte would be working on plans for International Women's Week in the coming weeks. Council were asked to get in touch with any ideas or if they want to get involved.

L King reminded council that if they want to participate in 3rd party reporting training that they should contact him asap.

L King thanked K Powell For the St Andrews Day decorations.

VP Education – C Davies

C Davies thanked council members for their help at the STA stall, adding that they already have half the total number of nominations compared to 2013/14.

VP Student Activities – G Masiulyte

G Masiulyte informed council that it looked like a new International Society was on its way to being established

G Masiulyte informed council that there would be puppies in the John McIntyre Building on the 12th December to aid stress relief during exam time.

Charities, Clubs and Societies Officer – D Bacanskaite

D Bacanskaite informed council that there would be a Movember stall 12-3 tomorrow and asked council members to get involved if they were free.

Students with Disabilities Officer – U Darragh

In response to a request for clarification from B O'Connor on a problem regarding the moodle forum. U Darragh responded that students had been unable to post feedback.

PG MVLS Convenor – Amelia Mordas

Q - B O'Connor asked how the PG Forum had been. A Mordas responded that while turnout had been low, there were some useful discussions.

3 - Council of Senate Elections

B O'Connor informed council that Ariel Xu, PG Social Sciences Convenor, has returned to China and consequently there was a vacancy on the Council of Senate.

R Brown was elected unopposed.

BOC will look into problem with moodle forum

4 - Learning and Teaching Hub

F Coton delivered a presentation on the planned Learning and Teaching Hub. The Hub will be located in what is currently the carpark for the Boyd Orr Building.

Q – R Brown asked if there would be dedicated study spaces for postgraduate students.

F Coton responded that they planned to consult with both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Q – O Schafer asked if they loss of parking would be problematic.

F Coton responded that a significant area of the carpark is already unavailable so the loss of space would not be that great and would be offset by freeing up of around 80 spaces when some services move to the city centre.

Q – A Morgan asked how much noise would be generated by this development.

F Coton responded that although there would be disruption, they would have mitigation plans to keep disruption to a minimum.

Q – M Karrasch asked how allowing student input into the design of the hub would work.

F Coton responded that it would be important to get students engaged with the project at an early stage and keep them involved throughout the project. In addition consultation would continue after the project is complete to ensure it is delivering as planned.

Q – E Cotterell asked when construction would begin.

F Coton responded that the best scenario would be the end of 2015.

Q – K Powell asked about the relationship between study and social space.

F Coton responded that the consultation would inform this issue.

Q – A Ibrahim asked if any academic departments would be within the hub.

F Coton responded that no departments would be located in the building and added that the aim was to keep the building very flexible.

Q – L King asked when the decision on whether the Maths Building would be demolished or not would be taken.

F Coton responded that the project board would undertake studies at a very early stage that would decide on whether the Maths Building be demolished or not. The decision should be known by March/April 2015.

Q – Where would the maths students be relocated to?

F Coton responded that it is likely that temporary measures would have to be put in place to accommodate departments during the university developments.

Q – R Kerr asked how the hub links into the Western Infirmary Site.

F Coton responded that it was an opportunity to build a campus fit for a modern day university and the hub itself would fit in as part of that. The creation of this hub at the early stages of the programme means students will be the first to benefit from the campus development.

F Coton asked council members to send any comments to B O'Connor to feedback to him. He added that the consultations would start in January.

5 - Freshers Week Report

G Masiulye circulated and delivered a report on Freshers' Week 2014 highlighting positives and suggesting areas where improvements might be made next year and thanked everyone who had been involved.

B O'Connor thanked G Masiulye for all her hard work.

Q U Darragh asked if she could have the contact details for whoever ran the alcohol awareness workshop?

GM will pass
contact to UD

6 - Potential Dictionary Ban

B O'Connor updated council on proposals from SSDC to ban all translation dictionaries being used in exams due to a perception that they encourage cheating GUSRC have argued strongly against this.

GUSRC have submitted a counter paper to Council of Senate however, this was not included in the papers that were circulated. B O'Connor and R Brown will meet with J Briggs and J Aitken early next week to discuss.

B O'Connor asked all GUSRC Council of Senate members to attend a session the following Thursday, 12-2 in the Williams Room.

L King asked Council of Senate members to ensure they attend the Council of Senate meeting on the 11th December.

Discussion followed.

7 - Marking Boycott

B O'Connor circulated the statement from UCU that suspends the marking boycott until after a meeting scheduled for 15th January 2015.

BOC will
define
GUSRC's
expectations

8 - Council Training Feedback

B O'Connor responded to feedback regarding definition of expectation of council roles.

Discussion followed.

B O'Connor asked council members to get in touch with any project ideas.

9 - AOCB

London Demo – B O'Connor thanked council members who attended.

Facebook Groups - C Davies informed council that two new facebook groups had been set up, one for coursework feedback and the other for class representatives. C Davies will upload videos from School Rep training day to both groups.