

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY THE 24th OCTOBER 2019 AT 6 PM
IN THE WILLIAMS ROOM, MCINTYRE BUILDING

Present: As per sederunt

Apologies: Kirstin Mackay, Courtney Hughes

Attending: P Swinton, G McGinn, I Henderson, B Hay

- 1) Welcome, Apologies and Sederunt – as above
- 2) Minute of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising –
Minutes from previous meeting approved by Council.
- 3) Committee Elections
 - SRC Assessor on Court – Theresa Banos elected.

 - Council of Senate (1 elected) – Duncan Henderson elected.

 - Learning and Teaching Committee
 - College of Science and Engineering Representative – Gregory Kokkinidis elected.
 - College of Social Sciences Representative – Patrick Aasen elected.
 - College of Arts Representative – Julia Hegele elected.
 - College of MVLS Representative – Anastasiia Korosteleva elected.

 - Student Experience Committee
 - UG Representative – Lewis O'Connor elected.
 - PG Representative – Stephanie Mason elected.

 - Academic Dress Committee – Weihang Ng elected

 - Military Education Committee – Patrick Aasen elected.

 - Health Safety & Wellbeing Committee – Luke McBlain elected.

- Hunterian Strategic Development Board – Hannah Mylin elected.

- Library Committee

- UG Representative – Rachel Symon elected.
- PG Representative – K.L. McGlone elected.

- Learning Enhancement & Academic Development Development Service

- UG Representative – Emma Hardy elected.
- PG Representative – Jamie Quinn elected.

- Scotland's Rural College Liaison Committee – Hannah Mylin elected.

4) Council Reports:

a) SRC President: Scott Kirby

S Kirby attended the Universities Scotland Mental Health Group with Jane Weir (Student Services) where it was advised the Scottish Funding Council would grant every university and further education institution one FTE to aid CaPs or equivalent services. S Kirby stated that this is not adequate to tackle growing mental health issues on campus so the SRC will be campaigning for further resources.

The Deans of Graduate Studies have successfully lobbied the University to remove the 'Thesis Pending' fee which applied to PGR students unable to submit their thesis on time. This has been replaced by a 'Late Submission' fee which will allow students more time to write up their theses before incurring a charge.

At the first meeting of Senate this semester, S Kirby presented with David Duncan and GUEST on the student view of the University's new sustainability strategy. It was clear from ensuing discussion that Senate agrees with the SRC that current University plans are not as ambitious as they should be. The SRC will continue to push for further developments to the University's sustainability strategy.

The new Reach Out service has now been launched. This is an online portal, augmented by in-person support, to assist students with

enquiries. The intention is to avoid situations where they might be sent from department to department for an answer.

Due to an unforeseen legal issue, the implementation of the Lecture Recording Policy has stalled. It is hoped the issue is temporary and in the meantime School and College Representatives should continue to encourage staff to implement the opt-out policy.

Accommodation Services this year gave 1st year “Home” students the opportunity to live in halls. S Kirby hopes to see more home students utilise this in coming years so as to help address potential isolation issues.

This year a number of new University strategies will be developed and so the SRC will be holding Council Consultation meetings in the last week of every month (the first meeting will take place on 29/10/2019). These meetings will allow Council members to communicate with, and offer input to, key University decision-makers regarding how these strategies should be implemented to best serve students.

The Rector Election will take place this year with nominations opening on 01/11/2019 (voting will take place in March). Council members are encouraged to try and engage their fellow students in this process and to nominate their desired candidates.

The SRC, as part of a broader community/University-wide campaign, successfully lobbied SPT for the return of the No.15 bus which travelled from Garscube to Gilmorehill and was invaluable to many students.

The SRC has effected a significant reduction in the price of Garscube car-parking permits for vet students after it was made aware of the difficulties this fee posed for students. The price has been reduced from £200.00 to £80.00.

The SRC has been working with the Glasgow Student Forum (a conglomeration of Sabbatical Officers from other Glasgow Higher and Further Education institutions) and have agreed an ambitious joint-campaign to lobby SPT for free student travel in Glasgow. Work on this campaign will continue in the coming months.

D Henderson referenced S Kirby's meeting with David Gordon and asked why alternative UofG Sport memberships were only being developed for Home students when other students also have issues paying the £125.00 membership fee up-front.

S Kirby said that the issue has been raised in previous years as primarily affecting Home students who do not wish to access the gym but would like access to UofG sports clubs. Once these memberships have been developed the SRC can continue to work with Sport on developing alternative memberships for other students.

M Daniel said that, as a home student in 1st Year, she found the fee associated with UofG Sport membership to be detrimental to getting involved in sport at University. She asked if she could be included in any future meetings with UofG sport around this issue.

S Kirby said that conversations on the issue were ongoing and that M Daniel would be informed of any future meetings.

E Hardy asked if it was appropriate for Sabbatical Officers to travel by air for short work-trips given the SRC's commitment to environmental sustainability (referencing a University research trip to Munich attended by SRC Sabbatical Officers).

S Kirby acknowledged that air travel is not ideal but said that the trip in question involved the highest level of decision-making regarding the new JMSLH. An SRC presence was crucial to ensuring the student voice was heard on key matters, such as the building's new teaching facilities.

H McLachlan asked if the Smart Campus project would be the most worthwhile investment of University funds given that other 'smart' initiatives have had disappointing results.

S Kirby said that the Smart Campus project will deliver necessary changes to current University systems, some of which are 10 years overdue.

K Summers reiterated the large scope of the Smart Campus project, adding that it would involve a comprehensive overhaul of the University's entire digital environment. Council members are invited to make their views heard at the the 1st Council Consultation meeting where Chris Pearce from the School of Engineering will be coming to discuss the project.

P Aasen asked if the candidates for honorary degrees could be revealed.

S Kirby said these would be revealed in due course as some candidates have not yet been approached.

H Baer said there needs to be a system in place to support PGR students when enrolling, as these students do not receive their stipend if they do not enrol properly.

S Kirby said the University has hired a new team to deal with the transformation of Forecasting & Enrolment. This is a long-term project but there will be the opportunity for the SRC to address pressing issues with the team in order to resolve these more quickly.

E Lindquist asked how enrolment issues could be best tackled by Council.

S Kirby said he plans to bring the team managing the transformation project to a Council Consultation meeting where Council members can voice their concerns and help address issues surrounding enrolment.

T Atsegoh said that as part of Black History Month she had been asked to provide a statistic on how many black students had held positions on SRC Council, but was not sure on how to gather this information.

B Hay said this is difficult to ascertain as, historically such data was not collected by the SRC. He will try to investigate further.

T McFerran added, on the issue of mental health support on campus, that the SRC has proposed a resource-sharing initiative with other universities to help tackle issues surrounding mental health. This initiative is currently in progress.

J Quinn asked if lobbying SPT for free student travel was a realistic goal.

S Kirby said the campaign has considerable cross-University/College support and is designed to produce at least a positive change to student travel pricing as there is currently little financial assistance in place for students who travel regularly.

b) VP Student Activities: Kirsty Summers

Freshers' Week 2019 took place between the 16th and 20th September. Initial student feedback on the event has been very positive, as has feedback on new initiatives such as Freshers' Fair Quiet Hour and the Accessibility Tours. Results from the FW survey will soon be collated and a full report will follow next month. K Summers would like to thank everyone who helped and assisted with the event.

The SRC is currently awaiting data collected during Freshers' Week which reflects students' experiences when enrolling. Once received, this data will be used to help in the ongoing effort to tackle difficulties faced by students during enrolment.

The QMU and a Thurso Street extension have been chosen as locations for C&S storage space, the latter of which is still in its

designing/planning phase. Although this will take time to develop, there is hope that there will be storage space available for societies relatively soon.

This Raising and Giving (RAG) campaign for this year was launched on 21/10/2019. M Daniel will coordinate this with assistance from K Summers. S Kirby and K Summers travelled to Birmingham in July for the NaSFA Conference which was a valuable opportunity to network with fellow Sabbatical Officers and RAG Officers and share ideas. This year Movember is a chosen charity and so participation is highly encouraged.

The SRC will hold several Interclub Forum events this year in order to allow clubs and societies to communicate any ideas/concerns to the SRC and vice versa. These events will also promote cross-club dialogue and encourage collaboration. The first one will take place on the 4th December at 5.30pm in Room 201, McIntyre Building.

If Council Members wish to obtain an SRC Council jumper then please approach K Summers as soon as possible as the order for these will be put in soon.

B O'Hare asked if the plans for storage space for clubs and societies would extend to the storage of musical instruments for students of the School of Culture and Creative Arts.

K Summers said the storage space will specifically be for club and society use and this would primarily be for non-valuable items only.

S Kirby said it is the School's responsibility to ensure adequate storage space for its students' equipment and that, while the SRC could lobby for this to be provided, it could not be expected to provide the space itself.

c) VP Education: Liam Brady

The Class Rep Mixer will take place on the 20th November. Class Representatives and School Representatives are encouraged to attend. More information will be circulated in due course.

Nominations for the Student Teaching Awards will open on the 11th November and will remain open until the 20th February, 2020, with the ceremony taking place on March 26th. Council members are highly encouraged to nominate outstanding members of staff from their schools and colleges.

The Class Representative Conference will take place on February 5th, 2020. More information will follow in due course.

The Class Rep Toolkit is now live. The toolkit is a pool of resources and information on student representation which can be utilised by Class Reps in order to help them fulfil their roles most effectively. The link to the platform will be circulated round Council members.

Pop-Up Study Spaces were discussed in a meeting with Karen Lee on September 5th. The goal is to have these spaces in a fixed, consistent location rather than scattered around campus with changing durations. The Alexander Stone Building has been proposed as the fixed location. This is to be confirmed but will likely go ahead.

Due to its damaging impact on academic achievement, work is underway on an infographic to highlight the importance to students of not bringing mobile phones into exams, and to increase awareness on what dictionaries are permitted in certain exams.

As discussed at the Teaching Innovation Meeting on September 26th, it is unclear at this point whether the Lab Building for Chemistry and Life Sciences will transpire. Discussions are ongoing as to the best way to improve the teaching experience.

At the first meeting of the new Senate, Estates acknowledged the Boyd Orr construction noise issues facing students being taught in the building. They said that although construction noise is unavoidable, they are trying to limit noise near teaching space as much as possible. Due to the building being in a residential area they are unable to work through the night.

Academic Representatives are asked to submit their completed SmartGoals templates to L Brady by 29/10/2019. Meetings to discuss these goals will be set up with College Convenors in the coming weeks.

Any Academic Representatives who are experiencing issues obtaining a list of the Class Representatives they are representing this year should approach their School's admin team. Schools are responsible for updating these lists.

Applications for student representatives to be involved in Periodic Subject Reviews are now open. These are paid positions and applications are highly encouraged. If Council members wish to apply they should send a paragraph of text on their suitability for the position to L Brady by 31/10/2019.

G Kokkinidis said that there has been some confusion among School Representatives on how to attain their up-to-date lists of Class Representatives, as Schools have not always been able to provide these.

L Brady said that it is the responsibility of the School which the Class Representatives are taught within to provide these lists.

B Hay said that the Code of Practice on Student Representation confirms that Schools are responsible for keeping lists of their Class Representatives up-to-date and that any issues with this should be brought to the SRC.

F Shoughari asked if School Representatives could be involved in delivering school inductions.

L Brady said he would welcome the involvement of School Representatives.

H McLachlan said that, regarding Pop-Up Study Spaces, last year the Joseph Black Building had lots of available rooms that could be utilised for this purpose.

S Kirby said that these rooms would need to be assessed for their accessibility but that the SRC would look into this.

J Quinn asked what the legal problem stalling the approval of the Lecture Recording Policy is.

S Kirby advised that the University's legal team had advised that there could potentially be an issue related to staff contracts. However, as several Universities already have an 'opt-out' policy in place this is possibly a non-issue. The legal team are currently working on this.

H McLachlan said that over 4000 individual lectures have now been recorded at the University so regardless of this set-back the policy is being widely implemented. He also asked why lecturers being required to provide their powerpoint presentations was not made part of the policy.

L McDougall said that the policy involved a culture-change to attitudes towards lecture-recording in the University and that it would be easier to have audio recording approved and implemented first, in anticipation of future reviews of the policy making it more progressive and inclusive.

D Ealey asked if lecturers could prohibit their lectures from being uploaded to Moodle.

L McDougall said recorded lectures would be uploaded automatically and that lecturers would have a 24-hour grace period to edit before upload.

A Korosteleva said she had been told by staff in her department that lectures would not be recorded due to budget constraints.

S Kirby said the University will continue to invest in upgrading teaching facilities so the rooms in question will have lecture-recording equipment installed in due course.

G Kokkinidis asked if lecturers could avoid their lectures being recorded by not using a portable microphone.

S Kirby said lecturers are required to use portable microphones if one is available in accordance with accessibility guidelines.

J Quinn asked if lecturers had to provide a reason for opting out.

L McDougall said they are encouraged to but it is not compulsory.

G Kokkinidis asked if there were any updates on changes to the Study Abroad application process since the Student Mobility meeting on July 26th.

L Brady said no further meetings have occurred since July but that work will continue on this in preparation for the influx of applications in November/December.

d) VP Student Support: Tom McFerran

With funding from the SFC, the SRC have successfully brought in free sanitary products across campus. The campaign has been well received and will continue with the availability of standard, sustainable and re-usable products. Hey Girls delivered training sessions on period poverty so that Council members can hold workshops and stalls on the issue. Hey Girls will be coming back within the month to deliver more training so participation is encouraged.

The Quiet Hour event during Freshers' Week was very well received. As such, the SRC will look at holding alternative events of this nature again throughout the year.

In a meeting with Monika Anderson on August 7th, the idea of de-stigmatising carer self-identification was discussed. A video campaign on this is planned and T McFerran will meet with M Anderson again in the coming weeks to plan the campaign.

Good Cause discussions are ongoing. In a meeting with Barclay Medical Centre they confirmed they will not charge students for

providing Good Cause letters. The SRC will continue to lobby for GPs to waive fees for this.

The possibility of creating a community psychiatric nurse position to act as a gatekeeper between CaPs and local psychiatric services was discussed in a meeting with Barclay and CaPs. Discussions on this are ongoing.

Filming for a video promoting mental health awareness has been completed. The video will be widely circulated across campus in due course.

Due to the term's negative connotations, the Content Advice Working Group discussed replacing 'trigger warning' with 'content advice', with regards to students' course materials in order to prevent re-trauma. A draft of guidelines for lecturer implementation has been written up and this will be presented at the next meeting of the SEC.

At the Advisory and Well-Being Workshop for the College of Social Sciences, the furthering of the implementation of Student Support Officers across all University Schools was discussed. These roles provide a point of contact for students experiencing issues with their general wellbeing and have already been introduced in the Dumfries Campus and in the School of Computing Science.

The SRC has been in communication with the Sandyford Clinic and a survey is being devised which should shine a light on what students of Glasgow University want and need with regards to sexual health provisions. On-campus sexual health testing is also being discussed as this is already in place at other Universities.

As part of Black History Month, the SRC will welcome the director of short film *Black and Scottish*, Stewart Kyasimire, to hold a screening and Q&A on the film. The mural project for BHM in the University Library is also ongoing and should hopefully be completed soon.

The Race Equality Group have been discussing how to address the BAME student attainment gap (as well as the attainment gap prevalent in other under-represented student groups). This is a

long-term project designed to enhance the student experience for these students, and includes pushing measures to decolonise the current curriculum.

A very productive training session was had with the SRC Council and T McFerran is excited to work with the newly elected Council Representatives on the year ahead.

L McBlain asked if any of the unions had expressed an interest in promoting sexual health awareness.

T McFerran said that both unions have just held elections so the matter will be addressed with them when their new committees have been announced. The issue will also be addressed at the upcoming Welfare Forum.

J Quinn asked how the SRC can ensure free sanitary products remain available once the SFC funding has run out.

T McFerran said that a full report on the extent of the usage of the products would be submitted to the SFC to pitch for more funding.

J Quinn asked if there was any data on how much money is being saved by users.

T McFerran said this is difficult to ascertain as the scheme is based on a 'buy one, give one' model. However, the extent of the scheme's usage on campus, and the fact that some products are re-usable, indicate that the initiative is benefiting students financially.

A Waite asked if GUSA and/or UofG Sport had been approached about stocking the free sanitary products.

T McFerran said that discussions are underway and the plan is to have dispensaries for these products in the reception area of the Stevenson Building so they are easily accessible to students and staff.

M Serneabat Ungar asked if painting on the BHM Library mural had begun and how long the painting would be kept up.

T McFerran said painting would begin soon and the mural would be painted on a large piece of MDF which would then be fixed to the wall. There is the potential that the painting could become a permanent fixture on campus.

G Kokkinidis asked why some meetings in T McFerran's report are marked 'Confidential.'

T McFerran said these are either Student Conduct cases or Fitness to Study cases which demand confidentiality to protect the privacy of the students involved.

O McLaughlin said the Quiet Hour event during Freshers' Week was very good but that the time of the event was perhaps too early for some students.

T McFerran said 10am – 11am was chosen as the time for this event as that is when campus is most quiet and, as such, most suitable for an event of this type.

S Kirby said feedback on the event was welcome so that this could be taken into account for future event planning.

I Korres asked if the Hey Girls period poverty training would acknowledge the needs of trans and non-binary students as their branding is very female-oriented.

T McFerran said the SRC would approach those delivering the Hey Girls training to see if trans and non-binary students' needs could be acknowledged and addressed.

e) Charities, Clubs and Societies Officer: Morgan Daniel

Work on RAG week has begun. Suggestions for charities tackling period poverty are welcome.

Movember is a chosen charity this year and an email encouraging participation will shortly be sent to all clubs and societies, with the

charity itself offering prizes for fundraising. GUSA are also involved and the money they raise will go to RAG.

Emails to those who applied to be RAG Ambassadors have now been sent out notifying successful applicants.

A GUSA stall has now been confirmed to help with the Bras Against Bombs bra drive.

WheelPower has been chosen as a charity for RAG this year.

Lucy Longman is the newly appointed RAG Ambassador Manager who will oversee the efforts of the ambassadors and provide assistance to M Daniel and K Summers.

D Ealey asked what could be done to help smaller clubs de-incentivised to take part in Movember competitions against bigger clubs.

M Daniel said the hope is that clubs would take part primarily to raise money for charity.

K Summers said the SRC could look into making competition categories for smaller clubs.

f) Race Equality Officer: Moni Serneabat Ungar

Met with Carol Collins from LEADs to discuss decolonising the curriculum. A survey is in the process of being created which seeks to find out what this means to students and staff and how this might be achieved.

In a meeting with Kirsty Scanlan the BAME attainment gap was discussed. The University is looking into ways of collecting statistics based on ethnicity with a view to using this data to help close the BAME attainment gap.

The Race Equality Group discussed ways of making the University more appealing to POC potential students, including development of scholarships and increased advertising.

The BAME experience panel was held during Freshers' Week in conjunction with the BAME society. The event was very well received amongst those who attended.

Discussions are underway with Dr. Peggy Brunache, a lecturer in the University who teaches black feminist history, on how the SRC can work with her to advance racial equality at the University.

D Henderson asked what 'decolonising the curriculum' constituted.

M Serneabat Ungar said it means to present an inclusive and diverse curriculum at the University which includes studying the work of POC academics and authors, as well as BAME history, with the goal that POC students feel engaged to study at the University.

g) LGBTQ+ Officer: Indigo Korres Nte Paoula

A coffee shop gathering for LGBTQ+ BAME students has been created called Queer Bame Coffee. This is a safe space where LGBTQ+ BAME students can socialise.

With the success of the Queer Bame Coffee events, GU South Asian Society contacted I Korres to hold an LGBTQ+ discussion event. This was held on 15/10/2019.

Anti-Transphobia posters are currently being developed with T McFerran. These will go up in the Unions first, then hopefully other University Buildings.

Transgender Day of Remembrance preparations are underway. An art exhibition featuring the work of Glasgow-based trans artists is planned.

M Serneabat Ungar asked how I Korres planned on engaging with BAME students regarding Queer Bame Coffee.

I Korres said both GU BAME Society and GULGBTQ+ were informed of the events and Facebook events were also created which

students could join. Suggestions for furthering engagement with these students are welcome.

- h) UG Arts Convenor: Emma Hardy – n/a
- i) UG MVLS Convenor: Fadel Shoughari – n/a
- j) UG Social Sciences Convenor: Patrick Aasen

Attended the College of Social Sciences LTC on 21/10/2019. Staff in the college are very keen to work with the SRC on campaigns going forward.

- k) PG Social Sciences Convenor: Ketong Zhang – n/a
- l) PGR Convenor: Jamie Quinn

PGR student representation was discussed in a meeting with the GU PhD society. Discussions on how to improve representation are ongoing.

S Kirby said that the SRC would like to improve its representation of PGR students so any PGR Council members are encouraged to approach the SRC with any issues they feel should be addressed.

- m) Critical Studies School Rep: Annabel Bowen Nielsen – n/a
- n) Engineering School Rep: Temisan Atsegoh – n/a
- o) Geographical and Earth Science School Rep: Sam Malis

Discussions on how the National Student Survey could generate valuable student feedback took place at the SSLT meeting. Also discussed was the disparity between the subjects of Earth Science and Geography and how this could be addressed.

- p) Humanities School Rep: Austen Waite – n/a
- q) Law School Rep: Kirstin Mackay – n/a
- r) Life Sciences School Rep: Anna Makova – n/a
- s) Mathematics and Statistics School Rep: Damien Ealey

The large group format for teaching 1st Year Mathematics is posing some issues. D Ealey will investigate this matter further to see what the SRC can do to help.

t) Social and Political Sciences: Duncan Henderson

D Henderson introduced himself to classmates at various lectures within the School of Social and Political Sciences to inform students of his representational role.

In a meeting with Karen Wright, an upcoming School essay deadline was discussed as being an issue for home students due to increasing their travel requirements. The school has recognised this and also said in future years it will provide a mock essay to assist students in completing their essays.

u) Veterinary Medicine School Rep: Hannah Mylin

The SRC stall at the Freshers' Fair was a big success. H Mylin would like to thank everyone involved.

Veterinary Medicine students are very pleased with the reduction in the price of Garscube parking permits but are unsure on how to access them.

S Kirby said the system for purchasing permits is currently being updated but should be operational soon.

Two PSR meetings have been held where students have fed back to staff on both Active Learning Opportunities and the induction process at the Vet School.

The president of GUVMA (Toni Ionnou) has asked for Mind Your Mate and Lets Talk About Sexual Violence sessions to be set up for the Vet School to coincide with their Feel Good February campaign.

The Vet School has been given an Athena SWAN Gender Equality award. The School's Head of Administration Sarah Chiodetto wishes to form a group at the Vet School which works on promoting equality and inclusion through One School, Many Voices events and Unconscious Bias training. H Mylin has put S Chiodetto in contact with the SRC's Race Equality Officer and Gender Equality Officer.

The new Reach Out service is being promoted at the Vet School, as is the online support service Not One More Vet.

Council members with active campaigns are encouraged to pass posters and promotional materials to H Mylin who will disseminate these around the Vet School.

K Summers said, concerning H Mylin's report note on inadequate Tier-4 Visa check-in times for international students at Garscube, she will take this forward at the next Orientation meeting.

K Summers clarified, regarding a query on SRC C&S affiliation of MVLS societies, these societies are welcome to apply for affiliation, however MVLS sports societies must approach GUSA for affiliation.

v) First Year Rep: Emma Lindquist

E Lindquist has signed up for a Mind Your Mate session.

S Kirby encouraged wide student participation in MYM and LTASV sessions, as well as the student consultations being held by the University's Transformation team on topics such as MyCampus and sustainability at University.

w) General Rep: Anastasiia Korosteleva – n/a

x) General Rep: Avantika Bhardwaj – n/a

y) Disability Equality Officer – Rachel Symon

Work is underway for an event for International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd. Alternatives to a panel discussion are currently being discussed, with disabled students providing ideas for the event.

z) Mental Health Equality Officer – Teresa Baños

T Baños has created a new Look After Yourself guide for students which aims to raise awareness of, and encourage, good mental health. Council members are strongly encouraged to disseminate this guide as widely as possible. The guide is currently on the SRC

website and will be circulated around Council, with printed copies also in development.

Peer Support is being implemented in significantly more schools. Peer supporters will soon undergo their training and, once this is complete, School Representatives are encouraged to publicise the Peer Support that is available to students.

T Atsegh asked if the School of Engineering would receive Peer Support.

T Baños said it would and that a full list of the schools receiving Peer Support would be circulated in due course.

M Wilson asked if there were plans to disseminate the Look After Yourself Guide on a wider scale.

T Baños said the guide has been heavily promoted on social media but any suggestions for ways of promoting it further are welcome.

aa) UG Science and Engineering Convenor – H McLachlan

Peer Support was discussed at the College LTC. 2nd and 3rd year students have not been informed of the Peer Support system so H McLachlan will forward on the relevant information.

At the first Senate meeting H McLachlan made detailed notes on the facts and figures relating to the University's new agenda on sustainability. Any Council members who are interested are encouraged to approach him to discuss further.

The amount of good cause claims have risen year-on-year and lecturers feel overwhelmed and ill-equipped to deal with these claims.

L McDougall said the University began a wholesale review of the good cause system last year and that T McFerran will be taking this forward this year.

bb) PG MVLS Convenor – Hannah Baer

Work on PGT-PGR conversion is underway and any suggestions for approaches on how to advance this are welcome.

The 'student' tag which appears next to each student's email address is hindering PGR vet students' ability to be taken seriously by external organisations when sending correspondence.

S Kirby said this will be addressed at the next meeting of the Library Committee.

Work has begun to establish groups within MVLS which look at promoting awareness on environmental and sustainability issues. Student participation is encouraged to push these messages as widely as possible.

cc) School of Chemistry Representative – Jenny Newton – n/a

dd) School of Culture and Creative Arts Representative – Beth O'Hare – n/a

ee) School of Medicine Representative – Lewis O'Connor

GUSA are continuing to refuse affiliation to medic sports clubs despite having previously been allocated additional grant funding to enable them to affiliate all sports-related clubs and societies

S Kirby said discussions with GUSA on the subject are ongoing.

ff) School of Psychology Representative – Gregory Kokkinidis – n/a

gg) First Year Representative – Angela Weihan Ng – n/a

hh) General Representative – Luke McBlain

A sustainability-focused initiative called The Green Deal is enjoying support from staff and students across the University. A meeting is scheduled with SRC VP-Activites to discuss whether this is something the SRC can become involved in promoting.

5) AOCB

S Mason said she is looking forward to working with the SRC Council this year and asked that any suggestions for improving the international student experience or ideas for collaboration be brought to her.

S Kirby said that international student engagement is a priority for the University and that Council members are encouraged to build it into their plans for the year ahead.

L O'Connor asked if the SRC were taking any action on the 'Racism in Higher Education' report released by the Equality and Human Rights Commission recently.

T McFerran said the report has already been raised at a meeting of the Race Equality Group and will be discussed again in future meetings.

S Kirby said Council members are asked to participate as much as possible in the organisation and delivery of planned SRC events throughout the year, such as the Student Teaching Awards and Volunteering, Clubs and Societies Awards.

S Kirby encouraged all Council members to attend the upcoming Council Consultation session on 29/10/2019.

S Kirby said each Council Member will have a poster made to raise awareness of their role to the student body. Council members should send 3-4 lines of their manifestos to the SRC President by 01/11/2019 at the latest.

6) Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 14th November 2019