

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY THE 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025 AT 6.00 PM  
ROOM 201, MCINTYRE BUILDING AND ZOOM

Present: As per sederunt

Apologies: L Alhusaini, A Storer, K Kirkpatrick, M Campbell Gramelius, L Thompson, N Smith, Y Komery

Attending: B Hay, M Card, S Cairns

---

1) Welcome, Apologies and Sederunt

P Morán Ruiz reminded Council members to state their full name and position while speaking, and to be mindful to use the microphone for Council members online.

2) Minute of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

3) Elections Report (verbal) - P Morán Ruiz

P Morán Ruiz congratulated everyone who ran in the Spring Elections. The SRC Spring Elections had the highest voter turnout since 2017 and the second highest in the last 15 years with 4,228 unique voters and 15,101 votes cast. This is a 54% increase compared to the 2024 Spring Elections.

P Morán Ruiz said there will be a by-election for the VP Student Activities (VPSA) position and nominations for that role close on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Voting for VPSA will begin Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 9am and close on the same day at 5pm.

After the Spring Elections and besides the vacant VPSA position, P Morán Ruiz said there are only 15 vacant Council positions to fill. He reminded Council that these positions will be open for individuals to run for in the 2025 Autumn Elections.

4) Class Rep Conference Report - Heri Busquier Cerdán

H Busquier Cerdán offered a brief recap of the Class Rep Conference, an annual event put together by the VP Education. This year's conference was held 21<sup>st</sup> February and included sessions delivered by P Morán Ruiz and H Busquier Cerdán, SRC Volunteer

Coordinator Gemma Wilson, members of the Learning and Teaching Strategy unit, and Student Partnerships in Quality Scotland (sparqs). Over 80 tickets were reserved for the conference, and 25 class reps attended on the day. H Busquier Cerdán said while the content was successful, he was disappointed in turnout, although the weather was poor on the day which may have contributed to smaller attendance. H Busquier Cerdán said he would leave recommendations on how to boost attendance for next year.

## 5) Council Reports

Written Reports submitted -

### a) SRC President: Pablo Morán Ruiz

P Morán Ruiz said he and H Busquier Cerdán had just returned from visiting the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC) campuses in Chengdu and Hainan, China. During their visit, they met with students and staff to learn more about service provision, learning and teaching and student experience, among other topics. P Morán Ruiz said they were able to look at the Hainan undergraduate student handbook and attend some lectures and tutorials. P Morán Ruiz also said the visit allowed them to see the difference in teaching delivery, as well as attend a SSLC meeting and take tours around the campuses.

P Morán Ruiz and H Busquier Cerdán will submit a more comprehensive report about their China visit to Council for the April meeting. P Morán Ruiz summarised that they observed examples of good practice across different areas such as English for academic purposes. P Morán Ruiz said they did see a large gap in the provision of non-academic opportunities, and that students they spoke with wanted the University of Glasgow to take a more leading role in the partnership. P Morán Ruiz said they also observed intense pressure on students with long timetable days and lack of free time for other non-academic activities.

P Morán Ruiz attended the Transnational Education Board for the first time with an opportunity to start a conversation about SRC representation for future panel reviews of different TNE partnerships. P Morán Ruiz said he hopes this leads to stronger communication with, and awareness of, TNE partnerships and respective students, who make up about 10% of the total student population.

P Morán Ruiz said he is in conversation with different members of the University regarding a new strategy in development that is looking to transform 25 thematic strategies into one University strategy over a cycle of 10 years. P Morán Ruiz said he continues to voice concerns over some proposals to create new groups focused on mediating resources for Student Experience, and has maintained a stance that there is a need to review current governance in this area already established. P Morán Ruiz

said the NSS task group has agreed to propose a working group of chairs of Learning and Teaching Committee and Student Experience Committee (SEC) to identify any additional needs to improve connectivity across these groups.

A Chauhan asked if the students from Chinese campuses were counted as fully matriculated students and if these students were able to eligible to vote in things like the SRC elections or a referendum vote.

H Busquier Cerdán said they are fully registered students, but they are not counted in the standard headcount population by the University.

P Morán Ruiz said to his knowledge these students would be able participate in things like voting, being class reps, etc.

b) VP Education: Heri Busquier Cerdán

H Busquier Cerdán said the Student Teaching Awards (STAs) are scheduled for Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March. H Busquier Cerdán thanked the shortlisting committee volunteers and the SRC admin and communications teams for their help in the lead up to the STAs.

H Busquier Cerdán said in his report he provided some strengths for assessment and feedback policy. H Busquier Cerdán highlighted the Course Approval Process Re-Design Working Group, which will be looking into the current course approval process and how it can be streamlined with feedback gathered from students and staff.

H Busquier Cerdán said he and P Morán Ruiz attended their first quarterly meeting between the University and the Scottish Funding Council. This is a new reporting meeting which includes the SRC President, VP Education, senior University staff and one member from the Scottish Funding Council.

c) VP Student Activities: Angelica Wilson

A Wilson provided a verbal update about the Volunteering, Clubs and Societies (VCS) Awards, which occurred 13<sup>th</sup> March. A Wilson said the shortlisting committee went through more than 800 nominations and she thanked them for their assistance. A Wilson said the VCS Awards included more than 100 students in attendance.

A Wilson said she also co-led the latest SEC meeting while P Morán Ruiz was in China.

d) VP Student Support: Iris Duane

I Duane provided a verbal report. I Duane said she raised disappointment at the delays of the EmilyTest at the last SEC meeting. I Duane said the reaction was not

positive, but that the EmilyTest paper will still go to the Senior Management Group (SMG), but she is unclear what will happen next.

I Duane thanked Council members who attended the co-design workshop that the Estates team held related to sensory rooms. This information will also be shared with the Information Services teams in the JMS and the University Library to establish sensory rooms in those buildings.

H Busquier Cerdán and I Duane met with the University Chaplaincy about prayer rooms around campus.

I Duane said the Disability Review Implementation Group (DRIG) and the Disability Equality Group (DEG) are going through a restructure, and that the SRC does have a proposal for this. I Duane said it means that disability policy will stop having two oversight boards and will have an implementation board.

I Duane said they continue to push things through the Cost of Living Action Group (COLAG). University communications team is now involved to promote more of these services, which stems from a recent report showing 50% of students say they do not know where support is. I Duane said there is concern that the focus of the University seems to shy away from the financial difficulties experienced by students with an unwillingness to signpost to realistic support needed, like foodbanks.

I Duane congratulated everyone who participated in the Spring Elections and congratulated Frank Chen, who was elected to be the incoming VP Student Support.

- e) PG Arts Convenor: Yuanyi Zhong
- f) UG Social Sciences Convenor: Daniz Alasgarova
- g) Biodiversity, One Health & Veterinary Medicine Rep: Laura Thompson
- h) Business School Rep: Yan Song
- i) Critical Studies School Rep: Una Dale
- j) Infection & Immunity School Rep: Gerardo Guio Archila
- k) Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing School Rep: Ebrahim Rezaei
- l) Molecular Biosciences: Elizabeth Barnett
- m) Home Students Officer: CJ Adebayo Omoaka
- n) LGBTQ+ Officer: Naomi Gillies
- o) Widening Participation Officer: Hannah Watters

B Asmelash said they attended the sensory room workshop, and that there many good ideas discussed, including areas of campus that need a lot of work and what goes into designing a sensory room, such as textures, fabrics and furniture in spaces. B Asmelash said the idea of portable sensory spaces, particularly during Welcome Week, was brought up at the workshop.

I Duane and P Morán Ruiz both said they appreciated the engagement from Council about sensory spaces this academic year.

H Watters said they also attended the sensory workshop and found it useful regarding neurodiverse design. H Watters said she would like to see the SRC incorporate some of these design principles in Welcome Week and other SRC-led events.

I Duane thanked H Watters for the feedback and asked them to let her know if there was any specific person from that workshop that would be worth reaching out to.

6) AOCB

E Morris asked if the SRC would be advertising the upcoming referendum vote on options like campus screens.

P Morán Ruiz said the SRC has been exploring this option, and while it should not be an issue of regulations, it depends on if the University is willing to display the information or not on their own screens. The SRC is looking to seek authorisation and is designing graphics in the case the University does allow promotion on campus screens.

A Chauhan asked if the SRC are using stalls to promote the referendum vote, and if other campuses are being made aware of the vote.

P Morán Ruiz said he is happy to look into the stall suggestion for spaces accessible to the SRC, and that students at other campuses are aware of their eligibility to vote.

K Roberts asked if a quorum is needed for the referendum to be enacted as University policy.

P Morán Ruiz said there is no set quorum for a referendum and results do not dictate any policy being implemented by the University. P Morán Ruiz said results of the referendum could be used by the SRC to guide stances on the topic moving forward.

K Roberts asked what the difference between SRC policy and stance is, and what actions would come from the referendum results.

P Morán Ruiz said it is already SRC policy as the SRC is a pro-divestment organisation, and that the use of the referendum results would be to further demonstrate the stance of the student body and use it for lobbying purposes. P Morán Ruiz said that the SRC cannot force the University to adopt a specific policy based on the referendum results.

7) Date of next meeting – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April