**Student Council Minutes – 30/10/2019 – 2pm - 4pm**

Guests: Sinead Daly

Staff Support: Sabina Lawrie, Jamie McDowall, Claire Lumsden

1. Welcome/intro
2. Minutes from previous meeting: Sabbatical Officers names were spelt wrong but otherwise approved.
3. Deputy Principals Question Time –

*Q: What support is there currently for disabled students?*

*A*: As part of the rebalancing the university are merging departments for student services. Changes to posts means there is currently a lack of clarity on where students should go for support.

*Q: Does this mean that students are left in limbo when working out where to go for support?*

A: The first point of contact for students should always be the Student Hub.

*Q: For ILRs, when are student reps involved in the development of action points from the university?*

A: Meetings are held with students to get feedback on action points. These are then approved by the school board. We want students to be involved in these processes. We want to get more feedback from students but they don’t reply to surveys we have sent out.

Q: Are we getting our communications wrong? How best can we communicate and engage? We know you get overloaded with information and questions already.

*A: Feedback cards used face to face during classes was a better way for students to provide feedback.*

*A: Emails look too official which is why they get ignored.*

*Q: (Sinead Daly) Do you use MyDay for gaining feedback?*

A: No because we’re wary of overusing things.

*Q: There was an ELIR meeting for the Business School which students were not aware of. Why are we not being told about these things?*

A: It’s really hard to find the best way to communicate, especially because there are so many changes across departments in the university. They can’t keep up with the changes.

*Q: Once the review is done can we request it’s shared?*

A: Yes. Do any of you access the Moodle site? You are always welcome to email to get in touch. The email address is [nina.anderson@uws.ac.uk](mailto:nina.anderson@uws.ac.uk).

1. Sabbatical Officers introduced by the Chair then introduced themselves and gave an update on what they are currently working on.

Chair: How could it be made easier for students to check what the Sabbatical Officers are doing?

*A: Updates could be included in a Students’ Union newsletter.*

*A: The screens at the Paisley reception, the Hubs and the Students’ Union screens could be used to show updates to students.*

*A: MyDay and Banner.*

*A: Being able to speak to people face to face.*

Franklin Jacob: We have added a Students’ Union page to Myday.

Ismail Nizami: We do send out Students’ Union Newsletters. We can have Sabbatical Officer updates included in these.

*Q: Do students in Scotland get the opportunity to go down to the London campus?*

A: no

Sabina Lawrie: Someone asked about how Sabbatical Officers can be removed. Students’ Union staff have no say in this. This highlights the role of student reps. The Union is led by students. The only way to hold Sabbatical Officers to account is through students and student reps. This is led by the Union Chair. We look for feedback on how we should run this.

*Q: A question on equality, diversity and inclusivity. Is there a way this can be delivered as a package to student reps each year? Can training on this be included in student rep training?*

Sabina Lawrie: Conversations with university staff are already happening on this, but we are wary of overburdening reps.

1. Policy Debates and Voting: 61 in attendance so 32 votes required to pass. Votes recorded are votes in favour.
   1. Microwaves at Lanarkshire and Microwaves at Paisley – It was suggested and agreed to discuss these two policies as one due to their similarities.   
      Paisley – 33. Lanarkshire – 11. Ayr – 6. London – 1   
      54 votes in favour- Passes
   2. Sell white poppies alongside red poppies  
      Paisley – 27. Ayr – 6. Lanarkshire – 6. London – 0  
      39 votes in favour - Passes
   3. Lobby the university to give students access to more scientific journals through the university library and Access to Bloomberg Terminal and Linked in Learning – It was suggested and agreed to discuss these two policies as one due to their similarities.  
      Paisley – 26. Ayr – 7. Lanarkshire – 11. London – 2  
      46 votes in favour - Passes
   4. More Halal food options  
      Paisley – 26. Ayr – 7. Lanarkshire - 13. London – 1  
      47 votes in favour - Passes
   5. Why is UWS making it so hard to find a room to use?

Paisley – 37. Ayr – 7. Lanarkshire – 13. London – 0  
57 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Mature Student Representation  
     Paisley – 33. Ayr – 6. Lanarkshire – 13. London – 1  
     53 votes in favour - Passes
  2. Mindfulness Pods/Rooms

Paisley – 21. Ayr – 6. Lanarkshire – 9. London - 0  
36 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Stop Advertising High Interest Private Loans  
     Paisley – 20. Ayr – 6. Lanarkshire – 8. London – 0

34 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Policy Lapsing: Keep the song ‘Blurred Lines’ by Robin Thicke banned from our Unions

Paisley – 10. Ayr – 3. Lanarkshire – 10. London – 1

24 votes in favour - Policy Lapses

* 1. Skolstrejk för klimatet (school strike for the climate)  
     Paisley – 16. Ayr – 34. Lanarkshire – 11. London – 0

34 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Stop Penalising Students Attendance  
     Paisley – 34. Ayr – 6. Lanarkshire – 11. London – 0

51 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Policy Lapsing: A union that allows bullying is not a safe space at all

Paisley – 4. Ayr – 0. Lanarkshire – 1. London – 0

5 votes in favour – Policy Lapses

* 1. Policy Lapsing: Zero Tolerance for Zero Hours

Paisley – 3, Ayr – 0, Lanarkshire – 0, London - 0  
3 votes in favour – Policy Lapses

* 1. Tax Exempt purchases available to students  
     Paisley – 0. Ayr – 0. Lanarkshire – 0. London – 0

0 votes in favour – Policy does not pass

* 1. Notifications for distance learning

Paisley – 23. Ayr – 7. Lanarkshire – 13. London – 1

43 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Policy Lapsing: 21st Century Quorums

Paisley – 0. Ayr – 0. Lanarkshire – 0. London - 0

0 votes in favour - Policy Lapses

* 1. Policy Lapsing: Defend the right of students officers to support strike action and Their jobs; Our Education

Paisley – 16. Ayr – 7. Lanarkshire – 10. London – 1

34 votes in favour - Passes

* 1. Why is Paisley Library so Cold?

Paisley – 12. Ayr – 0. Lanarkshire – 12. London – 1

25 votes in favour – Policy does not pass

* 1. Policy Lapsing: Bookshops? What Bookshops?

Paisley – 0. Ayr – 0. Lanarkshire – 0. London – 0

0 votes in favour – Policy does not pass