

## STUDENTS' COUNCIL (SRC) HAMILTON

Thursday 21<sup>th</sup> October 2010, 5pm, A706.

In the Chair, Samantha Phillips, Campus President Hamilton

Introduction to SRC's

### MINUTES

1. Sederunt  
Samantha Phillips      Campus President Hamilton  
Susan Duncan          Depute President Education and Welfare

*In attendance*

Claire Lumsden          Student Representation Coordinator

2. Acceptance of Apologies  
Caroline Sharp          General Manager

***Quorum was not met within 15minutes of the start of SRC, therefore the meeting was cancelled***

3. Acceptance of Minutes from the previous meeting  
(a) Matters arising from those minutes-
4. Acceptance of report of the business of the Association
5. Acceptance of the reports and minutes of committees – none
6. Business Introduced by Officer Bearers-
  - (a) campaigns
  - (b) ELIR – focus group
  - (c) NUS motion – education funding
7. Motions – none
8. Elections-
  - (a) Elections committee
  - (b) Disciplinary committee
8. AOCB-



## **STUDENTS' COUNCIL (SRC) HAMILTON**

Minutes of the Students' Council (SRC) Hamilton held on Monday 26th April 2010, 12.30pm in room A721, Almada Building.

David Devlin, President, in the Chair.

### **1. Sederunt**

David Devlin	President
Susan Duncan	Depute President Education and Welfare
Jimmy Keenan	P/T Spanish
Susan Grace	BSc Health and Lifestyle

### **In Attendance:**

Christine McGeachin	Student Representation Coordinator
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### **2. Acceptance of apologies**

Caroline Sharp	General Manager/ Returning Officer
Arnaud Bastianelli	Sports President
Wendy Logan	Campus President Hamilton

### **3. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting – accepted as accurate**

**(a) Matters arising from those minutes – none**

### **4. Report of the business of the Association – President delivered the following oral report:**

- Two student nights held recently were very successful with a third planned this week.
- Elsewhere, everyone in SAUWS has been busy with budget requests for 2010-11.
- DPEW reported that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching Awards Ceremony (held Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April) was a huge success.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual SAUWS Sports Ball will be held this Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> April at Paisley SU.

### **5. Acceptance of the reports and minutes of committees – none**

### **6. Business introduced by Office bearers –**

**(a) NUS National Conference Report (attached) – a small discussion followed.**

**(b) BA Languages** – President outlined to council that as part of the University's annual Portfolio Review 46 current programmes are to be removed and 22 new programmes are to be introduced. BA Languages is among those to be discontinued although the University has given reassurances that there will be no detrimental effect to learning and teaching for existing students on the programme. Future students will still be able to choose languages as elective modules. A discussion followed where student concerns were raised. Students felt that this was against the University's widening access policy and would reduce opportunities for future students. Concerns were raised over p/t students intending to progress to the BA Languages programme. Students also felt that the lack of communication from the University to existing students was insufficient. President felt that it was too late for BA Languages to be reinstated for academic term 2010-11 but the programme could be reintroduced in the future. Council agreed to oppose any attacks on the student experience.

**7. Motions –**

**(a) Review motion** – President moved the attached motion. After a small discussion the motion was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

**8. Elections – none**

**9. A.O.C.B** – Council was informed this is the last meeting for the SRCoord and the President.

**Acceptance of report of the business of the Association**

**SRC Report for Hamilton**

**Freshers' fortnight at UWS Hamilton Campus**

Fortnight filled with events, in the first week it was general meet and greet. Allowing the new students to see what facilities we have to offer. The Bingo went down a huge success.

The Second week of Freshers was by far our most successful Freshers week that anyone can remember in terms of commercial services. The highlights being the Beach party (Tues) and the Headphone party (Thur). It was the first time a headphone party had occurred on the Hamilton Campus, and something that we look to carry out again in the last semester.

Hamilton Freshers Fayre was held on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of September (2010) in the Sports barn. There was a big turnout of both companies and students on the day. Huge improvement on the number of Students signed up for Sports teams and societies and the national Demo that Andrew will discuss more about. We offered you to tell us what societies you wanted here on Hamilton Campus, Photography was created and is one of the more popular ones that SAUWS does not already have.

In the coming months we aim to be hosting various fundraising nights for sports team and societies here on the Hamilton Campus also Pink night and Children in need please show your support. Again any charities that you would like us to see us fundraising for we will try our best to accommodate you. If anyone has anything they would like the Union to host please get in touch with me, my email address is [CPH@sauws.org.uk](mailto:CPH@sauws.org.uk)

A big thank you to everyone who helped with everything for the Freshers fortnight – Students/ Staff/ University staff/ Sabb/ everyone as it would not have been a success without your input.

One final note is that the President Tommy Reid has resigned and his resignation was accepted by the Board of Trustees (BOT), in addition a motion was brought to the BOT (attached) which asked not to conduct a bye-election for the position of President. This motion was passed unanimously as there is a steep learning curve for the position, any student running would have missed training which is essential to the role and they would have to leave their course half way through.

### **Report from Sports President**

**Taster sessions** for the following fortnight at the Sports Barn -

Monday - 16.00 to 17.00 > **Netball**

Wednesday - 16.00 to 17.00 > **Men's Basketball**

Thursday - 18.00 to 19.00 > **Badminton Mixed**

Friday - 16.00 to 17.00 > **Women's Football**

All of these teams need to be developed as we did not have any of these teams before – So, we are looking to get coaches for the teams and recruit players – do not hesitate to spread the word - More information email [sp@sauws.org.uk](mailto:sp@sauws.org.uk)

**Cricket** will be entering the SUS Indoor Cricket Competition - This season's champs will take place in two stages (30th Oct and 19th Feb)

**Cricket** trainings will be on Tuesdays – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October from 20.00 to 21.00

Then Tuesdays from 19.00 to 21.00 at the Sports Barn (On Campus) – more information email [cricket@sauws.org.uk](mailto:cricket@sauws.org.uk)

Looking at setting up a **Hockey** team – More information will follow during the month – more information email: [hockey@sauws.org.uk](mailto:hockey@sauws.org.uk)

**Rugby (Men's and Women)** will have its first training/get together session at the Robertson Sport Centre – Paisley (where it has more interest, and we have the facilities to accommodate the training) – It is a cross campus team, even if you are not able to make it at the training session you can still join the team to play or train at a later date – further information will follow – Same as above any coach and new students wishing to join please email [sp@sauws.org.uk](mailto:sp@sauws.org.uk)

**“Show Racism the Red Card” 5 a side Football tournament** – Host at Paisley, Robertson Sports centre, on the 6<sup>th</sup> November – free, anyone can join, food provided, will have an educational part – reason for being in Paisley related to facilities to host such a tournament – More information email [sp@sauws.org.uk](mailto:sp@sauws.org.uk)

### **Volunteer positions available within the Sports Union**

- Sport coach
- Sports Events and Communication Manager
- Sports Photograph or Film Maker
- Sports Journalist

For more information, please check [www.sauws.org.uk](http://www.sauws.org.uk)

## **BOT Motion**

### **President Bye Election session 2010-2011**

#### **The Board Notes:**

1. The resignation of the SAUWS President of session 2010/2011 during trimester 1.
2. That any student who may be elected through a bye election for President would not have the option to attend the usual summer residential trainings available to new sabbaticals.
3. That any student who may be elected through a bye election would have to drop out half way through their year of study if they wished to take up the role of President full time.

#### **The Board Believes:**

1. That there is a significant learning curve with any sabbatical role.
2. That the role of President is not one which can be carried out effectively on a part time basis.

#### **The Board Resolves:**

1. To not open a bye election for the position of President for session 2010-2011.
2. To divide the remit of President between the rest of the Board of Trustees, with the Depute President, Education and Welfare deputising in anything which must be carried out by the President.
3. To use the money from the honorarium for President to provide extra staff support for the work of the remaining Board of Trustees for the year.

## **NUS Motion**

### **Education: Not Free, Not Fair**

#### **Council Notes:**

- 1) The NUS Scotland report into student finance, Still in the Red, found that:
  - a. 36% have considered dropping out with 89% saying this is because of financial strain
  - b. 62% believe that lack of money was impacting on their studies
  - c. One in three know someone who has dropped out due to finances
  - d. Non-traditional, mature students and student parents had higher levels of financial concern and were more likely to consider dropping out.
  - e. Scotland has the worst widening access record in the UK with 86.7% coming from state schools (88.5% nationally) and 28.2% coming from the poorest socio economic backgrounds (33.2% nationally).
- 2) Student support for further education courses is discretionary and cash limited. Colleges across Scotland have decreased the amount or accessibility of bursaries due to increased demand.
- 3) Postgraduate and part-time students still pay tuition fees and have little access to any student support.

- 4) Mature students cannot access as much grants as young students.
- 5) 68% of full-time students are working part-time over the recommended maximum of 10 hours per week.

### **Council Believes;**

- 1) Education in Scotland is not free and is certainly not fair. Inadequate student support means that students take on damaging levels of commercial debt, work long hours that impact on studies or consider dropping out. Postgraduate and part-time students still pay tuition fees and have little access to financial support.
- 2) Graduates benefit society as a whole and Government must continue to fund education and student support to current levels.
- 3) Business sees a huge benefit from education and yet takes none of the responsibility for funding it. There should be a structured business contribution to fund education and student support.
- 4) The current learner journey is inflexible and does not recognise the huge demographic of students Scotland now has. NUS Scotland should be able to make recommendations to change the structure and funding of the curriculum so that it is accessible to more, and reflects a culture of lifelong learning
- 5) It is not fair that the current system means that some graduates see genuine financial benefit while others cannot access, progress or graduate at all due to insufficient financial support.
- 6) There should be a compact between the graduate who sees a genuine financial benefit from their degree and the student who, without better student support, would not have accessed, progressed and graduated from tertiary education at all.
- 7) Tertiary education must be based on the ability to learn not on the ability to pay. This is as much for economic reasons, as for social justice reasons. The aim of the student support system is to remove the financial barriers which prevent people with the ability to study tertiary education from reaching their full potential.

### **Council Resolves:**

- 1) NUS Scotland will fight for improved student support and protection of student places through public funding, a structured business contribution and a graduate contribution based on the following principles:
  - a. Contributions are used to ensure students receive better financial support and to protect places.
  - b. Graduates contribute only if and when they see a genuine financial benefit.
  - c. Contributions are progressive, reflecting the amount of genuine financial benefit received.
  - d. Contributions are connected only to financial benefit, and not to the cost of study. There will be no market based on course or institution, nor a price tag attached to entering education.
  - e. Contributions are hypothecated and a method of front loading is found so that current students see a benefit, and current potential students have their places protected.
- 2) Student support should be reformed to be more effective based on the following principals:

- a. A system based on lifelong learning; seamless to the learner, accessible at all times in life and flexible to an individuals changing circumstances.
  - b. Based on entitlement, to an adequate level regardless of location, and ensuring students have certainty as to the amount of support they will receive and security that it will last until the end of their course.
  - c. Recognises that access to adequate support while studying takes priority over limiting state graduate debt.
  - d. Targets support to those who need it most, not diluting resources to fund all to the same level, and recognises additional barriers such as disabilities, childcare and travel.
  - e. Reduces dependence on parental contributions, recognising the learner as an individual.
  - f. Abolishes the barrier of fees for all modes of study, not just full time undergraduates.
  - g. Simplicity in application, understanding and management.
- 3) NUS Scotland should develop proposals to reform the current learner journey, based on the following principals:
- a. Enshrines widening access and social mobility as the corner stone of how tertiary education is designed in Scotland.
  - b. Reflects the wide demographic of students who will have different aspirations in terms of when, where and for how long they study.
  - c. Based on multiple choices, not multiple tiers of educational routes. It is not acceptable that the traditional full time on campus undergraduate Russell Group experience becomes the preserve of the privileged and alternative modes of study is left to everyone else.