



STUDENT VOICE MINUTES

Wednesday 25th November 2015, 2pm.

Venues:

Ayr - LT1

Dumfries - R217

Hamilton A216

Paisley P118

In the Chair – Ann Mitchell, Union Chair

1. Members Present

Ayr:

John Black	Depute President Education and Welfare (DPEW)
Simon Taylor	Executive Officer Ayr
Eva Murray	Executive Officer Ayr
Jesko Pszenny	Filmmaking
Iain MacKenzie	Technical Theatre
Ryan Bogan	Computer Science
Leona MacDonald	Education
Dennis Dignall	Commercial Music

Dumfries:

Sam Glendinning	Executive Officer Dumfries
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Hamilton:

Douglas McWhirter	Campus President Hamilton (CPH)
Dot Watson	Executive Officer Hamilton
Stephen Russell	Executive Officer Hamilton
Laura McGeehan	Business
Eleanor Ross	Business
Karen Fallon	Networking and Multitimedia
Chris Sangster	Social Science
Mailin De Tong	Social Science
Nicole Stevens	Social Science
Jo Hughes	Social Science
Weronika Puchala	Social Science
Laura Murray	Nursing
Jeanette Ross	Science
Kamil Czuchrowski	PG Biotechnology

Paisley:

Jack Douglas	President
Connor Smith	Executive Officer Paisley
Emma Shotter	Disabled Students Officer
Euan Stobbs	Chemistry
Tim Burrow	Chemistry
Megan Miller	Social Policy and Politics
Nicola McLaughlin	Social Policy and Politics
Ryan Dukes	Civil Engineering
Lauren O'Donnell	Social Science
Cameron Stewart	Social Science
Elie Bizimana	Marketing
Matteo Paviza	Computing
Bren McNeil	Information Technology
Alison McGinty	PG Information Technology
Amira Haque	Midwifery

In attendance

David Devlin	Membership Development Manager (in Paisley) (MDM)
Claire Lumsden	Student Representation Co-ordinator (in Hamilton) (SRCo-ord)

2. Apologies

Margo MacMillan	Executive Officer Paisley
Anthony Stevenson	Sports Vice President Finance
Sara Kanwal	PG Advanced Computer Systems Dev.
Ian Dowling	Physics
Aleena Rafi	Science
Regan Ward	Science
Christine Gerrard	Social Science
Heather Armstrong	Social Science
Lesley Farman	Social Science
Arlene Bunton	Social Work
Radaslaw Dychalski	Accounting
Callum Brown	Business
Judy Crooks	Business
Julia Foley	Business
Monica Reid	Business
Lee Guthrie	Design and Engineering
Laura Wilson	PG Education
Sean Murray	Education
Kerry Nixon	Education
Elizabeth Griffin	Nursing
Tracy Cambell	Nursing
Brian Wield	Nursing
Kirsty McKie	Nursing
Beth Muirhead	Nursing
Kayla Kerr	Nursing

Victoria Price	Nursing
Niall Shearn	Nursing
Aron Stewart	Nursing
Jennifer Docherty	Nursing
Helen Thomson	PG Midwifery

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

Matters of accuracy noted and accepted. No further matters arising.

4. Items of Business

a) Motions

i. Sabbatical Review

President speaks to the motion. States that the motion presents 4 options for the future structure of the Sabbatical Officers and Executive Committee. States that the Executive Committee have recommend that option Thor is accepted by Voice however talks through each option and asks members to consider pro's and con's of each. An outline of each for the purposes of minutes is given below.

Black Widow Option - This structure is a Campus system which is a flat structure with no overarching President Role. Campus Officers will act as the spokesperson for their campus and run campaigns/activities affecting students at the campus. They will also liaise with the Volunteer Officers to run campaigns at the appropriate campuses. The Sabbatical Officers would work together on matters which affect the entire student body and Student Voice would be required to select the Sabbatical Officers who should sit on University Court and the sabbatical officer who should be the Chair of the Trustee Board and the Executive Committee.

Hawkeye Option – This is also a Campus system which holds a hierarchy with a traditional president role. This option retains a President overall and has campus specific presidents for Ayr, Dumfries, Hamilton and Paisley. The President would retain their current remit and the Campus Presidents would have a remit which include Welfare, Student Representation, Sports, Societies and Volunteering.

Iron Man option – This structure is a remit system with a hierarchy and a traditional president role. Campus responsibility is moved to Volunteer officers, along with further expansion of the volunteer officers to include the distance learning and London campus.

Thor option – This structure is also remit based however is a flat structure with no overarching President Role. The President's duties—such as attending the University Court, Chairing the Trustee Board and Executive Committee would be divided amongst the sabbatical officers. Student Voice would decide which sabbatical officers attend University Court (2 places), and which sabbatical officer would chair the Executive Committee and Trustee Board (One to do both). In this option we have reduced the number of Sabbatical Officers from five to four with the remaining sabbatical salary being used to pay the four liberation officers on a part-time basis.

Chair opens the floor to questions and clarifications. There is a lengthy discussion on each of the options. Following this, Chair asks members to consider each of the options again and invites MDM to clarify the vote for this motion.

MDM states that the Executive Committee have recommended that the Thor option is accepted by Voice. As such Voice will be asked to vote in agreement of the recommendation made by the Executive Committee and should Voice decide this is not the best option, Voice will move to a ballot.

MDM states that in order for the recommendation to be accepted and passed, there must be a 2/3s majority of those present in favour which means that there needs to be 24 or more votes for the recommendation as there are 35 present.

Chair invites members to vote,

- For: 28
- Against: 5
- Abstain: 2

The recommendation is accepted, the Thor option will form the future of the Sabbatical and Executive Committee structure.

2.55pm Megan Millar and Nicola McLaughlin left the meeting

ii. Caring for Carers

Speech for: DPEW states the he is speaking on behalf of a student who couldn't attend Voice today. States that students who have caring responsibilities have their Carers Allowance removed upon entering full-time education as it is seen as a benefit and there is very little alternative or additional financial support other than those such as the discretionary fund and SAUWS hardship fund. In addition, by removing the carers allowance it's similar to having the carer status removed and students being penalised for returning to full-time education which would be to provide a more secure future for them and their families. Taking away carers benefit for wanting to improve their lives is fundamentally wrong both morally and ethically. Students with caring responsibilities have lots of extra pressure as well as their education and this should be recognised and commended. As a community and as a modern institution offering people the opportunity to improve their lives, it is essentially our moral duty to support our student carers. Please pass this motion.

There is no speech against.

Chair moves to vote,

- For: 33 – Unanimous

The motion passes

b) Disciplinary Committee Election

SRCo-ord outlines the duties of the Disciplinary Committee, states that positions available include the Chair, Deputy Chair and 4 ordinary members.

MDM opens nominations for Chair. Jo Hughes and Christopher Sangster stand. A speech is given by each for the role and Voice was asked to vote on their preferred candidate by show of hands. The vote is:

- Jo Hughes – 8
- Christopher Sangster – 23

Christopher Sangster is duly elected

MDM opens nominations for Depute Chair. Matteo Paviza stands unopposed.

Matteo Paviza is duly elected

MDM opens nominations for Ordinary Members. Laura Murray, Jeanette Ross and Amira Haque stand unopposed

Laura Murray, Jeanette Ross and Amira Haque are duly elected.

There is one further Ordinary Member position which will be taken to the next meeting of Student Voice.

5. Any Other Competent Business

Water on Campus - President informs members that he received an email from a student asking for more access to free water on Campus, asks members to share their experiences of accessing water on campus. At Hamilton, it was suggested that there is water on each floor of the Almada building and at Ayr there is lots of places to get free water, at Dumfries there is access to water in Browne and Dudgeon house (main UWS buildings). In Paisley there is free water in some parts of the campus but not in each building and it could be more convenient, perhaps closer to the main access points. President and Depute President suggest that they can take this forward with the University.

Paws against stress sessions – DPEW states that there are still spaces left at the Paisley Paws against stress sessions on 26th November, if anyone would like to join in please email him.

International Mens Day – Cameron Stewart asks what the Association did for International Mens days. President states that there is no policy to celebrate this day so we haven't done anything. States that if members want us to do something for this day in the future, a motion should be submitted to make it policy.

Library and ITDS issues – Alison McGinty states that with the Library café make over there is not as much seating space and there are less computers in the area. There is also an issue with noise in the Library. President states that the association can look into this further via committee structures.

Society Constitution – Cameron Stewart asks what stage the Societies Constitution is at. President states that it is in draft format currently, an update will be provided to Voice at the next meeting.

Chair thanks members for attendance and participation, states that the next meeting is at the end of February and looks forward to seeing members there.

Chair declares the meeting closed.

Start: 2.05pm

Finish: 3.30pm

NB: The next meeting of Student Voice will take place on Wednesday 24th February, venues TBC. Further information can be found at:

<http://www.sauws.org.uk/getinvolved/sauwsstudentsvoice/feb/>