

**Board of Trustees**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, commencing at 3pm in the Boardroom, Paisley Campus.

Jack Douglas, (President) in the chair.

Meeting Commenced at 3.10pm.

**Sederunt**

Jack Douglas	President	(Pres.)
Ryan Wood	Sports President	(SP)
Lauren Miller	Depute President Education & Welfare	(DPEW)
Iain Shepherd	Ordinary Trustee Paisley	(IS)
Stuart McCabe	Ordinary Trustee Paisley	(SM)
Cal Reid	Campus President Ayr	(CPA)
Isla Todd	Campus President, Hamilton	(CPH)

**Apologies for absence -**

Pearl Willis	Ordinary Trustee, Ayr	(PW)
Connor Smith	Ordinary Trustee, Hamilton	(Con S)
Kelsey Campbell	Ordinary Trustee, Hamilton	(KC)
James Adams	Ordinary Trustee, Hamilton	(JA)
Blane Abercrombie	Ordinary Trustee, Ayr	(BA)

**Absent without apologies -**

**In Attendance**

Caroline Sharp	General Manager	(GM)
Aileen McColl	Admin Assistant	(Admin)

**1. Minutes of previous meeting.**

**a. Acceptance**

Minutes from the previous meeting (06/02/2015) were agreed as an accurate record.

**b. Matters Arising -**

CPH apologised regarding blog site, she had been extremely busy and as yet had not managed to meet and discuss, this is the reason it has so far not been changed.

**2. Reports of the Office Bearers.**

**a. Acceptance -**

i. President -		no report submitted
ii. SP -		no report submitted
	<i>Apologies given from SP as he was at BUCS, no medals were won but Team UWS are improving all the time.</i>	
iii. DPEW -	written report	accepted
iv. IS -	written report	accepted
v. SM -	written report	accepted
vi. CPA -	written report	accepted
vii. PW -		submitted
viii. BA -		no report submitted
ix. CPH -	written report	accepted
x. Con S -	written report	not accepted as absent
xi. KC -		no report submitted
xii. JA -		no report submitted

**CPA** said he felt the "Festival of Fun" run by the University for the NSS survey was patronising to students, a number of students complained to him saying that they were here to learn not to be approached by clowns etc. **GM** commented that the university were trying to raise the percentage of students completing the survey, and if they involved "Moray" then this would cost the university a considerable amount of money.

**CPA** also said that Ayr Campus were doing what they could with the money they had available, and were trying their best to meet their targets. "SAUWS Has Got Talent" unfortunately did not go well at all, and had to be cancelled at the last minute. **CPA** said the Conservative MP for Ayrshire has been helping with the issue of lighting at the riverside, 80% of respondents from the survey said that they altered their route when walking to the train station as they felt the riverside pathway was unsafe and creepy.

**CPH** said there had been a really good response from international students at the "Meet Greet and Eat" event which is going very well, we are getting good feedback and it also led to volleyball sessions, there were 28 at the first session. **CPH** explained that this was not just for international students but that everyone was welcome and it greatly increased student engagement. **SP** asked which budget for the volleyball sessions was being taken from, **CPH** responded that in the first instance this would come from the Citizenship Coordinator's budget and thereafter she would approach the University for the remainder of the funding.

**b. Sabbatical Holidays –**

**CPA:** 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> March

**President:** *may not use some holidays already requested*

**DPEW:** emailed a list to all trustees

**3. Reports from Committees etc. –**

**4. Business Introduced by Office Bearers.**

**a. Diagnostics:**

We have had a round of consultation groups, tinkered with words and rephrased some, now a final document has been produced, this will be put out to src to amend if they see fit, and this will be going to a referendum by the end of March. The Sabbaticals and Trustees should go on campus and talk about this to students. If there are disagreements we can support and fund a no campaign, it is more democratic to have two sides to work against each other, and this will finish and be voted on alongside Sabbatical elections. If the outcome is a "yes" vote the Membership Manager will work on the next round. **GM** said the document applying to change the constitution had been sent to the charities regulator (OSCR).

**SP** asked to be involved in this as members of Societies in particular were concerned, they don't really know what the constitution involves and have a fear that they will not gain anything. **President** said Sports and Societies will be mostly left untouched, but should we be starting to consult with Societies so they can start working on what they want, and what they would like to see from a Societies Convener. **SP** is to lead on this, with support from the Membership Manager.

**CPH** asked where the money for the "no" campaign would be coming from; **President** informed everyone this would come from the Membership budget. **SM** said he had been talking to students about this when he could while on campus. It was asked if the question had been written yet, should it be "Do you agree SAUWS should have this constitution?" We should have a balance for "yes" and "no" on the website. Regarding publishing the referendum, could we do what they do with NSS survey and put it on the Moodle page? Since we launched the mass membership survey, we have received 1106 responses so far in two days. We have already met our target on this and we decide when it closes, this is at the discretion of the President, and we are getting really useful comments from it.

**Commercial review:**

Martin and Michelle visited SAUWS on 18th & 19<sup>th</sup> February and reviewed all campuses; they were really open and honest with staff and in return staff and sabbaticals with them. It was said that staffing structures required to be sorted out, and to consider that it may not actually be viable for us to have commercial services.

An alternative could be that the University fund or subsidise our commercial services. **IS** said this would be a big step back for SAUWS regarding our autonomy and if commercial services was under University control they could pull the plug at any time.

It was suggested we should slice back on commercial outgoings as much as possible, our demographics need to change, we could lose less money without losing all our commercial services.

**CPH** said she did not feel they were as aggressive as she had anticipated, and they had lots of experience of cross campus Universities, but she had been honest with them to the point of brutality. **CPH** asked how management wages, security costs, sky tv etc. impacted on commercial income.

**IS** asked what the outlook was for an outside company to take over these services, any outside company would need to be made aware of the accounts, and as we are not making a profit there would not be much interest in buying into this service. We need to demonstrate that we can run commercial services looking at all possible options.

**GM** said she wondered if the University had considered how valuable and important this part of student life is when recruiting students. **CPA** said he would not consider going to a University that did not have a Students' Union.

**IS** asked would it be feasible to look into being in some sort of partnership similar to Caledonian has with "Walkabout" in Glasgow. Also, Glasgow has nightlife that we cannot possibly compete with.

**CS. entered meeting at 4.05pm****a. Finance**

**CPH** asked for an up to date and accurate figure remaining in the budget for campaigns, this would allow her to judge if she could plan any campaigns and how much money she could allocate to them, she also asked for communication on this issue to be increased. **CPH** said Hamilton Campus Union will look into an alternative to Sky TV and will consult with Josh and **CPA** to get details regarding a company they use.

**I.S.** Voiced his concern, particularly regarding the Paisley Campus Union and said he felt that Paisley spent a considerable amount of money on trivial items and that a closer check should be kept on outgoings for such things, and we should carefully consider if these are actually value for money.

**DPEW.** Said she felt the Paisley bar was very overstaffed on numerous occasions and that charge hands were on duty more often than required, frequently working up to 16 hours per day.

**The Board asks that:**

1. The Commercial Manager reviews staffing.
2. Reviews prices for products.
3. Reviews opportunities to reduce events spending, and if events are providing value for money.
4. Opening hours should be set in stone not left to discretion of charge hands.
5. Provide training events for staff so they have their eyes on the prize for SAUWS.

**5. Motions - none**

**6. Elections – none**

**7. AOCB –**

**CPA** referred to an item he had requested to be on the agenda regarding social media, **President** said that there was a review meeting organised, and that this is an operational matter and not a board item. Social Media fell under the remit of the Website, Digital and Communications Co-ordinator and this was discussed and agreed when we hired a full time member of staff.

**8. Staffing –** staffing minutes are recorded separately.

**Date of the next meeting:** the date of the next meeting will be determined by a doodle sent out by President.

Meeting closed at 4.55pm