

Minutes of the 4th Caledonian Student Voice of the academic year 2017/18

Meeting held on Monday 26th March 2018 in NH208 at 5.00pm.

1. Sign In:

Present:

Jonnie England (JE, Chair); Kevin Campbell (SP); Chris Daisley (VP SEBE); Yetunde Ogendgbe (VP SHLS); Alan Adamson (AA); Neil Alexander (NA); Amy Byrne (AB); Hannah Carmichael (HC); Susan Docherty (SD); Emma Duffy (ED); Tom Jarvis (TJ); Maja Jørgensen (MJ); Charlie Kelly (CK); Fraser Knight (FK); Sennan Mattar (SM); Declan McGallagly (DMcG); Brendan Owen (BO); Alexandra Radoescu (AR); Tamsin Ross (TR); Callum Smith (CS); Robbie Stewart (RS); John Templeton (JT); Keir Thomson (KT);

Absent: Olubunmi Ajayi (OA); Lauren Aitken (LA); Lauren Baigrie (LB); Lynzie Brown (LB); James Chilembwe (JC); Temilove Fakunle (TF); Rachel Hewitt (RH); Raven Hingley (RH); Alena Kovina (AK); Umair Maqsood (UM); Victory Nwabu-ekeoma (VN); Caitlin Reid (CR); Robert Sandlan (RS); Aimee Watson (AW).

Apologies: Kristin Bouma (KB); Jennifer Broadhurst (JB); Maura Daly (MD); Rachel Simpson (RS); Ross Wilson (RW).

In attendance: David Carse (Chief Executive); Caroline Miller (Representation and Advice Manager); Kathryn Collins (Clerk).

Observers: Monica Allen; Paula Hirschganger; Annelysse Jorgenson.

Members who were absent without apologies have received an automatic caution from Student Voice. Any member who receives two cautions will automatically face a Motion of No Confidence at which members of Student Voice may decide to remove them from their position.

1. Welcome

- 1.1 The meeting started at 5.00pm. The Chair (Jonnie England) welcomed all members to the fourth and last meeting of Student Voice for 2017/18. Members were asked to ensure they had signed in and taken a voting card to use when speaking. Observers were informed that they are not eligible to vote. Members were reminded of what conduct is acceptable during the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair informed members that after the meeting all members have been invited to one free drink at the Re:Union Bar & Grill on behalf of the Students' Association.
- 1.3 The Chair introduced a short video about Equality and Diversity and Staff Protocol which was shown to members.

2. Previous Minutes

- 2.1 The Chair invited members to consider the minutes of the previous Student Voice meeting held on 12th February 2018. The Clerk was asked by the Chair to amend the voting count for the approval of the previous Student Voice minutes as the Chair said he had abstained. **Action: Clerk.** The Chair said that only those present at the previous meeting could vote to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Caledonian Student Voice held on Monday 12th February 2018.

Vote: For: 15; Against: 0; Abstention: 4. Subject to the amendment, the Student Voice minutes from 12th February 2018 were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 **Replacement Hand Dryers**

The Student President reported that he had contacted the Director of Estates who is looking into this matter and so at this point there was no further update. This matter is ongoing. **Action: Student President.**

3.2 **Nap Pods Research**

The Student President reported back saying that research had been carried out and the cost of the Nap Pods would be of significant financial cost to the University and this money could be used elsewhere. It also raised issues around health and safety, insurance and where the Nap Pods would be located on campus. This matter is resolved.

3.3 **Nap Pods Trial for Nightline**

In the absence of the VP GSBS, the VP SEBE said that the trial for the Nap Pods will be raised with the University of Strathclyde Students' Association at the next Nightline Committee meeting in April. However, for the reasons outlined previously it was unlikely to proceed. This matter is ongoing. **Action: VP SEBE.**

3.4 **Energy drinks to be sold on campus**

The Student President explained that the University took the view to get rid of energy drinks as supermarkets were doing the same. The Student President has spoken with the Head of Campus Services and BaxterStorey who are happy to discuss bringing the energy drinks back. The Student President is currently waiting for a time to meet with Campus Services and BaxterStorey to discuss this. This matter is ongoing. **Action: VP SEBE.**

3.5 **Reusable Takeout Containers**

The Idea for reusable takeout containers to go in the cafeteria has been put back on the agenda to be discussed. This matter is resolved.

4. **Minutes of Student Voice Committees**

The Chair called for a vote to approve the previous minutes of Student Voice Sub Committees. **Vote: For: 21; Against: 0; Abstention: 1.** The previous minutes of all the Student Voice Sub Committees were approved.

At 5.10pm the Chair stepped down and the Vice Chair took over.

5. **Elections**

The Vice Chair gave a brief description for the roles listed below and members were invited to put their name forward. Where there were more candidates than places then an election took place. The following are the results.

| Students' Association | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Chair of Student Voice | Brendan Owen [Clerk's Note: Brendan Owen subsequently become a Student Trustee and resigned as Chair of Student Voice] |
| Student Voice Returning Officer | Charlie Kelly |
| Freshers Committee | Charlie Kelly and Jonnie England |

| | |
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| Equality and Diversity Committee | Fraser Knight and Jonnie England |
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At 5.16pm the Vice Chair stepped down and the Student President took over as Chair

| Glasgow Caledonian University | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Senate Disciplinary Committee | Maja Jorgensen, Emma Duffy and Brendan Owen |

At 5.25pm the Student President stepped down as Chair and the Vice Chair took over.

| Glasgow Caledonian University | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Senate | Maja Jorgensen (international place) Sennan Mattar (PGR place) Declan McGallagly (open place) |
| Learning and Teaching Sub Committee | Susan Docherty |
| Honorary Degrees Committee | Jonnie England |

At 5.33pm the Vice Chair stepped down and the Chair took over.

6. Full Time Officer Reports

The Chair asked the Full Time Officers to provide a brief short verbal summary of their submitted written reports. In relation to the report for the VP SEBE, the VP SEBE was asked to investigate the Teaching Block and the location of people having been moved. The Student President said he had a list from the Director of Estates which has a list of where people are located and he would pass it to the VP SEBE who can send it on to members. **Action: Student President.** The Chair invited members to take a vote to decide whether to approve the Full Time Officer Reports. **Vote: For: 18; Against: 2; Abstentions: 4.** The Full Time Officer Reports were approved.

The Chair was then asked by TJ if the reports could be voted on individually for each Full Time Officer, although the vote has already taken place and approved. This was due to the VP GSBS not being in attendance. The VP GSBS could give an update on her report at the next Student Voice meeting next year. **Action: VP GSBS.** The Chair said that the vote could be repealed. The Chair called for a vote to repeal the vote just taken to approve the four Full Time Officer reports. **Vote: For: 17; Against: 1; Abstentions: 4.** The Full Time Officers reports were repealed.

The Chair then called for an individual vote for each Full Time Officer report starting with the Student President. The Chair called for a vote to approve the Student President report. **Vote: For: 21; Against: 0; Abstentions: 3.** The Student President Full Time Officer Report was approved. The Chair called for a vote to approve the VP SEBE report. **Vote: For: 21; Against: 0; Abstentions: 3.** The VP SEBE Full Time Officer Report was approved. The Chair called for a vote to approve the VP SHLS. **Vote: For: 7; Against: 2; Abstentions: 15.** The VP SHLS Full Time Officer Report was approved.

7. Student Voice Officers Reports

The Student Voice Officers who had not already submitted a written report were invited by the Chair to provide a brief verbal update.

GSBS PGT Student Representative

- No issues raised that the GSBS PGT Student Representative had to deal with and any issues that had arisen were solved within the department.

Nursing and Community Health Officer

- Working with Class Representatives.
- Working with Academic Staff.
- Promoting the Teaching Awards.
- School Board Meeting next week.
- Working on future Mental Health Student Conference.

Social Sciences, Media and Journalism Officer

- Promoting the Teaching Awards.

Sports Council Chair

- Working on Sports Policies.
- New merchandise.
- Sports Ball.
- New sports club – GCU Cricket.

Societies Council Chair

- 4th Dragons Den – 15 applications received
- Working on policy update
- Generic branded society props.

Radio Station Manager

- New committee
- Radio Caley playing the Re:Union Bar & Grill 24/7
- Policy change – new role

No questions were raised from the reports. The Chair invited members to take a vote to decide whether to approve the Student Voice Officer Reports **Vote: For: 22; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1.** The Student Voice Officer Reports were approved.

8. Statement on Motion of No Confidence

The Student President read out the statement on the Motion of No Confidence against a current Full Time Officer. He explained that whilst GCU Students' Association is a separate legal organisation to the University, Glasgow Caledonian University have certain powers under the Education Act 1994 for the Students' Association. This includes that the Students' Association 'operates in a fair and democratic manner' and that our 'elections are fairly and properly conducted'. The University concluded that organising an Extraordinary Student Voice to consider a Motion of No Confidence by one candidate against another candidate (who is a sitting Full Time Officer) during an election campaign is not an appropriate use of this process and is prejudicial to the fair conduct of the election. This meant that no Extraordinary Student Voice meeting could be arranged. Additionally, until all complaints including any associated with the election process have been concluded, the University has instructed the Students' Association that it is unable to progress any Motion of No Confidence in the Full Time Officer at a meeting or extraordinary meeting of Student Voice.

The Statement explained the position of the Trustee Board, in that their view is that the Motion of No Confidence should not be accepted, and therefore invalid, due to the timing of its submission, as to ensure that no advantage is provided to any one candidate. The Trustee Board have agreed to review the process for a Motion of No Confidence in Full Time Officers, in particular to ensure that the gap of provision towards Purdah is addressed.

Members discussed at length the processes around the Motion of No Confidence and why the elections complaint process is holding up the date of the Extraordinary Student Voice. The Student President answered questions around the procedures of the Motion of No Confidence and explained that the University view it as one candidate submitting a Motion of No Confidence against another candidate during an election period is unfair. The University complaints investigation process includes all the elections complaints having been dealt with and concluded and no timeline has been given. Members enquired about the powers of the Trustee Board to which the Student President explained that Trustee Board has ultimate responsibility for the charity and responsibility under the Education Act 1994. The Student President reiterated that the Trustee Board have agreed to review the rules and process for a Motion of No Confidence. The Student President assured members that they will be kept updated with the process and once the investigation is complete then members will be informed and can decide how they wish to proceed.

9. Ideas

9.1 Nap Pods (Callum Smith)

As per the Student President's feedback from Matters Arising (point 3.2) it was explained that the Nap Pods were not feasible and Nightline could research this Idea if they wished to. Therefore, the Chair called for a vote to drop the Idea for the Nap Pods. **Vote: For: 22; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.** The Idea for the Nap Pods was removed from any further discussion by Student Voice.

9.2 Petition for GCU to revise recent white to recycled paper changes in all campus printers (Andrew Grey)

The proposer, Andrew Grey, was not present. Members discussed that it is currently recycled paper within the GCU printers. Members also noted that the University's Online Similarity Checking Policy states that all standard academic summative submissions of coursework will be submitted online. Members discussed whether the paper in printers could be bright white recycled paper. The Chair called for a vote to introduce bright white recycled paper to be made available in campus printers and to pass as policy. **Vote: For: 18; Against: 1; Abstentions: 4.**
Action: Vice President GSBS.

At 7pm, RS asked for the Revised Sports Policy Document and the Revised Transport Policy Document to be moved on the agenda to be discussed directly after the Ideas. The Chair called for a vote to move the Revised Sports Policy Document to be moved on the agenda to be discussed after the Ideas. **Vote: For: 20; Against: 0; Abstentions: 3.** The Chair called for a vote to move the Revised Transport Policy Document on the agenda to be discussed after the Revised Sports Policy Document. **Vote: For: 19; Against: 1; Abstentions: 2.**

9.3 Set Exams before Christmas (Emelie Elin Cajsa Alsheim)

The proposer, Emelie Elin Cajsa Alsheim, was not present at the meeting but had forwarded on her views on the Idea to the Chair which the Chair read out. The VP SEBE said that a referendum could be called to ask the question in the next academic year. The Chair called for a vote on whether there should be a referendum on exams before Christmas during 2018/19. **Vote: For: 16; Against: 4; Abstentions: 3.**
Action: Full Time Officers.

9.4 Reusable Takeout Containers in the cafeteria (Paula Linnea Hirschganger)

The proposer, Paula Linnea Hirschganger talked about her Idea and how to replace the single use takeout containers in the Refectory with reusable containers which will not only help reduce

plastic by a significant amount but also save money in the long run and make the campus a cleaner place. Paula talked about changing attitudes and how in some American universities takeout containers are checked out in a similar way to library books and a discount is given if you bring your own container. The Chair called for a vote to facilitate reusable take out containers in the Refectory. **Vote: For: 20; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.** This Idea was approved.

9.5 **Allow non-native speakers to have a dictionary (Emelie Elin Cajsa Alsheim)**

The proposer, Emelie Elin Cajsa Alsheim, was not present at the meeting but had forwarded on her views on the Idea to the Chair which was read out. The VP SHLS talked about the University listening events that took place and the feedback from students. Members discussed having additional support to help non-native speakers with English and for clarification on whether the dictionary would be for their own language or an English dictionary. A proposal was made to amend the Idea. The Chair called for a vote to allow non-native speakers to have a dictionary made available under extraordinary circumstances as decided by the University, through a written process. **Vote: For: 16; Against: 2; Abstentions: 5.**

At 7.10pm, the Chair called for a motion to extend the guillotine. (F:21 A:1 Ab:1). The meeting was extended until 7.30pm.

10. **Sports Policy Document**

NA presented the revised Sports Policy Document saying that it had been updated with minor changes around the new GCU Wolves brand. It was noted that there formatting issues which would need to be addressed. The Chair called for a vote to approve the Sports Club Policy Document subject to formatting being resolved. **Vote: For: 19; Against: 0; Abstentions: 3.** The Sports Club Policy Document will be taken to Trustee Board for approval.

11. **Transport Policy Document**

NA presented the updated Transport Policy Document which has not been updated since November 2013. The renewed Policy brings it up to date with current operations. It was noted that there formatting issues which would need to be addressed including the removal of a phone number for a Breakdown Recovery Service. The Chair called for a vote to approve the revised Transport Policy Document subject to formatting being resolved. **Vote: For: 19; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.** The Transport Policy Document will be taken to Trustee Board for approval.

12. **Honorary Life Members**

The Executive Committee proposed that Susan Docherty, Rehaan Atif, Fraser Knight, John Templeton, Hazel Brooke MBE and Kevin Ward receive an Honorary Life Membership for GCU Students' Association.

The Chair called for a vote to approve the shortlisted nominations for Honorary Life Members. **Vote: For: 18; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.**

13. **Revised Radio Caley Policy Document**

TJ presented the revised Radio Station Policy Document and said that amendments and corrections had been made to the Radio Station Policy Document. TJ said that the changes to the document were all internal changes and procedural and committee related. The Chair called for a vote to approve the Radio Station Policy Document subject to formatting being resolved including the removal of all references to the Media Development Group, and the removal of the sentence within the Radio Caley Volunteer Agreement referring to the email subject heading. The Chair called for a vote to approve the revised Radio Caley Policy Document subject to

formatting being resolved. **Vote: For: 19; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1.** The Radio Caley Policy Document will be taken to Trustee Board for approval.

14. **Societies Policy Document**

DMcG presented the Societies Policy Document and said that within the Policy there was a name change for the Societies Council position of Head of Culture, Faith and Liberation Groups to Head of Culture and Faith Societies. The change is proposed to reflect the fact that liberation groups come under the Student Voice function of the Students' Association instead of societies. The Chair called for a vote to approve the Societies Policy Document. **Vote: For: 18; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.** The Societies Policy Document will be taken to Trustee Board for approval.

15. **Full Time Officer Model – Salford Evolution**

Due to time constraints the Full Time Officer Model – Salford Evolution was not discussed.

16. **Full Time Officer and School Officer Remuneration**

This paper was noted as for information.

17. **Motion to NUS Conference**

This paper was noted as for information

The Chair thanked all members of Student Voice for their attendance and reminded members that Student Voice members are invited for one free drink in Re:Union Bar & Grill and a chance to network with other members.

The meeting was concluded at 7.30pm.