



## **Ethical and Environmental Committee**

**17/3/17, 12pm in NH209 (Students' Association)**

### **Minutes**

**Apologies:** None

**Present:** Kayleigh van Dongen (Ethical and Environmental Officer), Jodie Waite (VP GSBS), Sian Biamping (SB)

**In Attendance:** Aimee Cuthbert (Clerk), Kevin Ward (Student Voice Team Leader)

**Absent:** Raven Hingley (RH), Paulo Cruz (PC)

#### **1. Apologies**

As above.

#### **2. Minutes from last meeting**

With no comments from committee members, the minutes from the previous committee meeting were approved.

#### **3. Updates from last meeting**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
<b>VP GSBS to get update about student involvement in sewing workshops</b>	Two students interested – one with previous experience – and need to ask if these students want to take it further. Will offer support if needed <b>COMPLETED</b>
<b>Clerk to invite Student Voice Team Leader and GCU Sustainability Officer to next meeting</b>	Student Voice Team Leader in attendance and GCU Sustainability Officer invited. Will extend invite every 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of committee <b>COMPLETED</b>
<b>VP GSBS to clarify if SA energy is now produced via the Energy Centre</b>	Still to contact Estates – will look into it <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
<b>Clerk to investigate energy mix on their website</b>	Has been investigated and scheme has been confirmed but not clear on how scheme works. Will investigate further for proof <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
<b>VP GSBS to reach out to Kelvin</b>	Reached out and Kelvin keen to have

College to collaborate with	support as VP role is voluntary and happy to get involved with any ideas in future. Suggested a meeting should take place <b>ACTION – VP GSBS to arrange meeting with Kelvin College VP</b>
Clerk to mention change in catering provider in workbook	Clerk made mention of this in the workbook. <b>COMPLETED</b>
E+E Officer to email participants of survey	E+E Officer emailed all participants <b>COMPLETED</b>
E+E Officer to get more people involved in the campaign and promote it at Student Voice	E+E Officer encouraged survey participants to get involved in campaign and spoke to Student Voice members <b>COMPLETED</b>
VP GSBS to promote campaign to Dean GSBS	VP GSBS promoted campaign to Dean and at School Board <b>COMPLETED</b>
E+E Officer to reach out to other Vice Presidents to promote campaign	Has approached VP SHLS who will invite to school meeting to speak at. Currently awaiting feedback from VP SEBE <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
E+E Officer to meet with SB and GCU Sustainability Officer about potential in this campaign	GCU Sustainability Officer on paternity leave but will use soup kitchen to speak about food donations and will arrange meetings. SB pointed out clothes bin outside SA which could also be used but E+E Officer mentioned this overflows so would still be good to do campaign. <b>IN PROGRESS</b>

#### 4. Green Impact Student Unions Update and Action Plan

The E+E Officer then proceeded to go through each uncompleted action in the plan to get a progress report.

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
Get membership of E+E Committee updated and upload minutes of meeting	4 <sup>th</sup> meeting in place, will get minutes typed up and upload <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Screenshot E+E section of website at various points of the year	November – March completed, April and May will be uploaded soon <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Identify negative impacts through own and GCU's reporting ,publish findings and take measures to decrease detrimental outputs	Clerk has identified impacts from staff survey, business travel and clubs travel. Will compile and upload to website <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Create a mileage rate for cyclists within our Expenses Policy to encourage more cycling	Discussed at Trustee Board in February but requires further work. Will be taken to Trustee Board soon as next meeting is after workbook submission – discussed with Chief Executive <b>IN PROGRESS</b>

Invite senior management in SA and relevant staff in GCU to meetings so they can contribute to the outcomes of the committee	Invited to this meeting. Need to prove impact <b>COMPLETED</b>
Define what adequately means and get proof on staff resource	Looking into staff time and will need to ensure budget next year takes into account fee for Green Impact. VP GSBS raised the question if the next FTO team should do Green Impact as the criteria is challenging. Will pose to new team. <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Liaise with clubs and societies on sustainability activities	Still to catch up with Activities Manager after January meeting. No applicants for pot of funding made available. Sports and societies new recording miles for carbon emissions <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Prove clothing is Fairtrade	Not achievable with current provider. May be only achievable if move to Epona <b>NOT ACTIONED</b>
Evidence meetings of positive outputs with Paulo/Therese/other instit. Officials	Still to be actioned
Working in partnership to attain external sustainability accreditation	Fairtrade Working Group going well but due to new vendors may need to not have status for 1+ months. Another meeting may be scheduled <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Get information from estates (utilities) to find this out then develop action plan	Have utility information but hard to prove this reduction is due to efficiency. SVTL suggested looking at working practices and also the new printing system to demonstrate efficiency <b>ACTION – Clerk to explore</b>
Work with the institution to increase the amount of renewables in its energy mix (if not already in place)	VP GSBS to look into <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Evaluate positive outcomes for students at the end of the workbook	To be actioned. Meeting will be held before workbook submitted to identify <b>ACTION – meeting to take place</b>
Look into collaborative working with other SA on sustainability	To be actioned. Will look into in meeting but may be too late to action this year, would be good to set groundwork for next year's group.
Prove food waste bin and what happens to it	Photo from Bistro bin to be taken <b>IN PROGRESS</b>
Evaluate this near the end of the workbook and identify outputs for natural environment	To be actioned. Will explore in meeting
Evaluate this near the end of the workbook and identify outputs for students' union	To be actioned. Will explore in meeting

<b>Campaign Section</b>	Update to be provided at next agenda point. Will be updated on workbook by E+E Officer <b>IN PROGRESS</b>

## 5. Click It to Submit It Campaign

E+E Officer updated the committee that the campaign has run for the past 3 weeks and that the target of 200 signatures has been smashed. The petition is still available online but will close today. A meeting has also taken place with DVC Academic who has since forwarded her official endorsement of the campaign. The next stage of the campaign would be to get teaching staff to make a proper commitment to move to online submissions. The E+E Officer felt School Board would be a good avenue to explore this but was looking for suggestions in how to get this commitment across.

SB mentioned that her programme board had recently met so programme boards would not be a good place to go. VP GSBS mentioned that GSBS are continuously updated by her so this was easy to do for her school.

E+E Officer asked how this change would reach students to show impact for the campaign. VP GSBS mentioned that policy was underway to move assessments and feedback online so that she didn't want to overstep the university on this. It was suggested that the campaign could link to the policy once created.

E+E Officer was keen to reach out to as many staff as possible. SVTL suggested speaking to the other VPs and asking them to speak to staff.

### **ACTION – VP GSBS to speak to other Vice Presidents about speaking to teaching staff about online submissions**

He also mentioned that to his knowledge SEBE were open to this idea already. E+E Officer also mentioned that SHLS were ahead of the curve with a lot of programmes already offering online feedback so they could be easy to speak to. The Clerk mentioned that to her knowledge that nursing students were wanting part of their workload to move online. SB stated that should be easy to do as trainee doctors had an e-portfolio. E+E Officer added that a lot of courses were now available online fully or partly so that the objectives of the campaign would be achievable.

## 6. Ethical and Environmental Committee 2017-18

E+E Officer mentioned to the committee that as she was due to graduate this year a new officer would need to be sought and asked the committee for ideas on how to get a new officer soon so they could be trained over the summer. Suggestions made included social media, an information session, contacting Programme Leads, using FTO communications, private appointment with E+E Officer and targeting specific groups of students – mainly 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> years and business/fashion students.

### **ACTION – E+E Officer with support from Clerk to being promoting E+E Officer role.**

## 7. AOCB

E+E Officer informed the committee that she had received an email from a student complaining about recycling at Caledonian Court, with cleaners mixing up recycling and with no recycling facilities in individual flats, despite food and recycling carriers being available from the local council – who service Caledonian Court.

SVTL suggested contacting the GCU Sustainability Officer and the Clerk suggested including the Head of Estates in this email

**ACTION – E+E Officer to forward email to GCU Sustainability Officer and Head of Estates**

SB stated that cleaners were responsible for the waste and placing recycling in the correct bins so this should be easy to remedy. VP GSBS felt it could be as simple as adding relevant bins into each flat as this would make it easier to manage. SB agreed mentioned that if students want to recycle this would put the onus on them. E+E Officer felt this could be a new campaign for the new E+E Officer to run.

**8. Date of next meeting**

The extra meeting would be arranged in due course but this was the last official meeting of the committee for academic year 2016/17.