

<b>Committee Title</b>	Student Voice
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> February 2022
<b>Item Number and Title/Subject</b>	Revised Membership Schedule (Schedule 1 to the Constitution)
<b>Paper Presenter</b>	Vincent Waters, Chair of Student Voice
<b>Brief Summary of Issues/Topic</b>	<p>There are three proposed changes to Schedule 1 to the Constitution. The proposed changes are outlined in the tracked changes document.</p> <p><b>Proposed Change 1: Full Time Officers as members</b></p> <p>Whilst the Constitution, Schedules and By-Laws made specific reference to Full Time Officers (otherwise known as Sabbatical Officers) in their roles as employees, officers and trustees it does not make explicit reference to them being members of the Students' Association. Schedule 6 (Full Time Officer Accountability) makes reference to the ability to remove Full Time Officers as members.</p> <p>It is proposed to add Full Time Officers as Ordinary Members (clause 1).</p> <p><b>Proposed Change 2: Ability to suspend membership</b></p> <p>If the University have evidence that a major breach of the GCU Conduct of Student Code may have occurred such that the outcome could be expulsion, an immediate suspension may be imposed for a student until the disciplinary proceedings are completed or the suspension is lifted or modified by the Senate Disciplinary Committee. This may be for the protection of: an individual student or staff member; members of the University community more generally; the public; the University's reputation; or the property or other resources of the University or a third party. Suspension may also be used pending the completion of any criminal investigation or proceedings. Suspension will normally mean the withdrawal of a student's rights of access to all of the University's premises, services or facilities and/or participation in university activities.</p> <p>There could be a student who was under such a suspension but technically remains an Ordinary Member of the Students' Association and as such retains the rights and privileges of membership when that could potentially have a detrimental effect on the Students' Association and the University for the reasons outlined above. Through conversations with the University, the proposed wording in Clause 1 would mean that the student would also be suspended as a member of the Students' Association for that period with the exception that they may attend a pre-arranged appointment(s) with a Student Adviser within the Advice Centre for ongoing support with representation of the alleged misconduct.</p>

	<p>When a student is suspended they are not normally allowed to enter campus and therefore cannot use the Students’ Association Building. This revised clause now means suspended students would not be able to use or participate in online services or activities or participate in activities that take place off campus; both which have become more common as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.</p> <p>At the request of the University the proposed wording of this clause was simplified and updated in this paper on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022. It now reads “For the avoidance of doubt, where a student has been suspended by the University, their membership of the Association and any rights resulting from that membership, will automatically be suspended for the duration of the suspension. Students who are suspended may attend a pre-arranged appointment(s) with a Student Adviser within the Advice Centre for ongoing support with representation of the alleged misconduct.”</p> <p><b>Proposed Change 3: Trustee Board awarding Honorary Life Memberships</b></p> <p>In addition to Student Voice approving Honorary Life Memberships to honour individuals for services to the Association, it is proposed that the Trustee Board have the ability to award Honorary Life Memberships to individuals who make a positive difference to wider society and who aligns to our Mission, Vision and Values. This would be in keeping with the <a href="#">GCU Honorary Degrees</a> award where “the University confers honorary degrees on persons of distinction who have made or are likely to make a major contribution to the work of the University or have earned distinction for activities more widely in the community, i.e. education, the professions, business, trade unions, culture, creative work or public service”. While recognising that service to the Association is still highly valued and will remain a criterion for consideration of Honorary Membership, the Students’ Association is limiting itself from honouring others in wider society who align with our ethos. By broadening our criteria for honorary membership we can recognise individuals that inspire the students of GCU.</p> <p>It is proposed to add this ability to clause 2 (c).</p> <p>The Constitution of the Students’ Association requires that University Court approves any changes to its Schedules. The timeline for submission of approval is to the Student Voice meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022, Trustee Board on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and University Court on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022.</p>						
Recommendation(s)	<table><tr><td>Information</td><td></td><td>Discussion</td><td></td><td>Approval</td><td>X</td></tr></table> <p><b><i>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card or virtual hand and be recognised by the Chair to speak.</i></b></p> <p>Student Voice is asked <b>to approve</b> the revised Schedule 1 to the Constitution.</p>	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
Information		Discussion		Approval	X		

<p><b>Who have you consulted when developing the paper?</b></p>	<p>Chair of Student Voice          Executive Committee          Chief Executive          Student Voice Team Leader          University Secretary &amp; Vice-Principal Governance, GCU          Director of Governance and Legal, GCU          Acting Head of Governance, GCU</p>					
<p><b>Staff/Student Protocol</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>No</p>		<p>N/A</p>	
<p><b>Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?</b></p>	<p>The Chief Executive has been involved in the proposed changes to the Schedule.</p>					
<p><b>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</b></p> <p><b>If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.</b></p>	<p>Trustee Board          University Court</p>					

## SCHEDULE 1: MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

### 1. Ordinary Membership

All registered students as determined by ~~Glasgow Caledonian the University (GCU) and current Full Time Officers~~ are Ordinary Members.

For the avoidance of doubt, where a student has been suspended by the University, their membership of the Association and any rights resulting from that membership, will automatically be suspended for the duration of the suspension. Students who are suspended may attend a pre-arranged appointment(s) with a Student Adviser within the Advice Centre for ongoing support with representation of the alleged misconduct.

### 2. Other Membership

Members of the following categories of membership may take part in the social, sporting and cultural activities of the Association but shall not hold office nor take part in any democratic activities nor vote in any election.

#### a) Associate Membership

- i. All members of University Staff are Associate Members
- ii. Students registered but not in attendance may become Associate Members on payment of the current fee on condition that no disciplinary decision exists concerning such a student. The fee shall be waived on production of proof of unemployment.
- iii. Students who have opted out under The Education Act 1994 will automatically have the rights of Associate members.

#### b) Life Membership

- i. A student who has completed a course for at least one trimester may apply to the Executive Committee to become a Life Member on payment of a fee set by the Executive Committee. The fee shall be temporarily waived on production of proof of unemployment.
- ii. No student may become a Life Member while they are a registered student.

#### c) Honorary Membership

The Association may admit to Honorary Life Membership any person whom it wishes to honour for services to the Association. Nominations, accompanied by a list of reasons, must be submitted for consideration by the Student Voice.

The Association may admit to Honorary Life Membership any person whom it wishes to recognise for making a positive difference to wider society and who aligns to our Mission, Vision and Values. Nominations, accompanied by a list of reasons, must be submitted for consideration by the Trustee Board.

#### d) Reciprocal Membership

The Trustee Board may enter into a Reciprocal Agreement which allows entry into each party's premises, with other ~~like-minded~~ educational groups such as students' associations or unions. All agreements will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Trustee Board. The agreements must contain a clear statement on the operation of agreed disciplinary procedures.

**Commented [CD1]:** GCU Code of Conduct says:

"8.1 If there is prima facie evidence that a major breach of the Code may have occurred such that the outcome could be expulsion, an immediate suspension may be imposed until the disciplinary proceedings are completed or the suspension is lifted or modified by the Senate Disciplinary Committee.

8.2 The criteria for determining when suspension will be appropriate include, but are not limited to, the protection of: an individual student or staff member; members of the University community more generally; the public; the University's reputation; or the property or other resources of the University or a third party. Suspension may also be used pending the completion of any criminal investigation or proceedings. The University appreciates the significant impact this may have on a student's progression or, in the case of international students, on their visa status, but the protection of the University or individuals will take priority."

Rationale is there could be a student who was under such a suspension but technically remains an Ordinary Member of the Students' Association and as such retains the rights and privileges of membership when that could potentially have a detrimental effect on the Students' Association and the University as outlined above.

**e) Temporary Ordinary Membership**

- i. Temporary Ordinary Membership can be granted by the Executive Committee for periods not exceeding twenty-four hours.
- ii. All Temporary Ordinary Memberships are subject to the rules and conditions of the Students' Association
- iii. All Temporary Ordinary Memberships will be regulated and accounted for by the Temporary Membership Cards issued by the Executive Committee.