

<b>Committee Title</b>	Student Voice					
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2019					
<b>Item Number and Title/Subject</b>	Student Voice Officers Reports					
<b>Paper Presenter</b>	Student Voice Officers					
<b>Brief Summary of Issues/Topic</b>	Student Voice received a written report from each Student Voice Officers once a Trimester.					
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
	<p><b><i>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</i></b></p> <p>Student Voice is asked to approve the Student Voice Officers Report.</p>					
<b>Who have you consulted when developing the paper?</b>	Executive Committee					
<b>Staff/Student Protocol</b>	Yes		No	X	N/A	
<b>Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?</b>						
<b>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</b>	No					
<b>If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.</b>						

### Economics and Law Department Representative - Trimester A Report

After recently being appointed at the end of trimester A, I have completed my department rep training and made contact with class reps. Initially, I sent out an email to introduce myself and set up a Facebook group to provide ease of communication. However, the response has been rather disappointing with only one class representative replying to my email and just two members in the Facebook group. This trimester I intend to set up either group of individual meetings with the class reps to get their feedback from programs.

One issue that has been brought to my attention is that Economics and Finance students have concerns regarding the module content of their program. In particular, the Fundamentals of Econometrics module which students feel should have been introduced earlier and developed through out the course. I therefore intend to raise this concern at my upcoming meeting with the program leader.

Going forward, I will be meeting with the GSBS School Board on the 30<sup>th</sup> January to discuss learning & teaching quality, research and also the impact of the changes to the January exam diet. I will also try again to connect with class reps in the hope of building a working relationship.

No approved minutes from official meetings to be submitted as I have only attended one SAGE meeting (12/12/18) of which the approved minutes have yet to be circulated.

Lauren MacLean  
Economics & Law Department Rep

### Vision Science Department Representative

I have settled into my role and have made first contacts with class reps and met my head of department to introduce myself. Within the Vision Science department, we have a course related society called OpSoc, which I have also been getting involved with by attending society run events which is another great way to meet people within the department and see their views. So far the feedback is positive.

This term, I plan to contact the class reps further asking how they think the department could be improved and if everything went smoothly with their roles last term. Depending on the outcome of this further follow ups and adjustments maybe required and these will then have to be discussed between myself and the head of department. I am planning to get involved with more society run events in the future as I know there are some exciting events coming up such as Eyeball where I will be able to gather the views of more students.

I will keep supporting the full time officers by attending meetings such as student voice.

Sophie Robinson

Vision Science Department Representative

## Department Representative for Psychology

### **Aims:**

- To introduce myself to the heads of the psychology department and explain my role.
- To introduce myself to the class reps for psychology.
- To introduce myself to other department reps and form a way to communicate student affairs.

### **My work so far:**

- I have been able to introduce myself to the psychology class reps, and have set up a facebook chat for us to communicate. We also plan to meet soon to discuss the current feelings amongst students and lecturers.
- I am still to do further work with other department reps as we have all just recently been appointed! However we have met and attended training together. We were also able to form a group to keep in contact and have attended our first student voice meeting.
- I have had a meeting with the head of the Psychology department. This raised interesting issues of wanting to form a bridge between those doing postgraduate and undergraduate psychology; which I will look into further and set as my goal for this term.
- The issues resulting after the GCU shut down over the two days of Winter break allowed me to try and communicate between student president, staff and students in my department; which I tried to do through Facebook and pass on messages from students to the vice presidents. This was very useful in understanding of what was happening. I found that the Class Representatives were fantastic at keeping our year informed and know that I will be able to play a bigger role in similar communication once I am more involved in my role as department Rep.

I am looking forward to next term!

Jennifer Donnelly

Department Representative for Psychology

Department Representative: for Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)

**1 FROM 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER -> 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

<b>Met with Department Head about Student Satisfaction and SSCG</b>	Alan Nesbit and I were introduced by VP Eilidh Fulton, it was discussed that the focus of the student representation within the department of EEE should be to try to increase awareness of representation and collecting feedback from poorly performing programmes. It was reported that there was a very low attendance of student representatives to SSCG and this should be addressed.
<b>Attended the Rep Gathering</b>	The Representative gathering was an interesting and useful event, especially for meeting other department reps and talking about how to approach things, some EEE class reps did attend to and it was good to interact with them and school staff in a more casual environment.
<b>In contact with Class Reps</b>	To try to co-ordinate, the representatives in the department I have been attempting to keep in contact with them via the dept rep email account, I hope to also attend the next SSCG meeting in the department, so I can get a feel for the current situation.
<b>Attended SCEBE School Board</b>	School board in December was a good chance to see the inner workings of the school, for the most part the meeting went well, and it fed back certain points of interest that can be focused on with further action. There was a slight concern with staff seeking student feedback for changes to programmes, but that was brought up and addressed at the meeting and afterwards.
<b>Received feedback from Students regarding the GCU Learn Downtime and Exam shift</b>	At the end of December 2018 and the start of January I received numerous messages from students and representatives concerned about the GCU Learn downtime and it's effects on the exams I tried my best to aggregate all that information and send it along to VP Eilidh Fulton, after the universities official announcement and change to the exam timetable I continued to receive and compile feedback on the matter.

Hannah A. Brown

Department Representative: for Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)

**Mechanical Engineering Department Rep**

I attended the previous SAGE meeting, but I was largely unable to do anything before the new year, due to me only getting the post near the end of last year. It wasn't possible for me to meet or contact any of the class reps, as the Student Association was not informed of any being chosen by the department. The SCEBE VP and I have spoken to the Mechanical Engineering Department Head, and we were told that the issue was being addressed. At the time of submission of this report, I am still unaware of any class reps.

I plan on meeting with the class reps this trimester, as soon as I learn who they are, and talk with them about their and other students' experiences, so as to address any concerns that they may have, or bring any issues they have to the next Student Voice meeting. I would also like to try and find a way for it to be easier for students to contact their class/department reps (possibly through Blackboard), although I think that this idea needs more development.

Ramzy Abou-zeid

Mechanical Engineering Department Rep

## **Social Work Department Representative**

### What I've worked on and working on

- Introduced myself to Programme Leader, Head of Department and lecturers in the department.
- Sent e-mails to class representatives (however, none of them responded)
- Introduced myself to Social Work Society board who are going to be able to direct students to me
- Attended the Academic Rep gathering
- Attended previous Student Voice meeting

### What I am working on

- Setting up a meetup with all the class reps and receive their feedback and get information on areas that need improvement

### What I am planning to do

- Setting up a social media channel to effectively communicate with class representatives as many of them do not check e-mails regularly
- Attendin the School Board meeting on 03/04/2019

Maria Nagy

Social Work Department Representative

## Cyber Security and Networks Department Rep Report

- Appointed after the end of Tri A.
- I have introduced myself to all class reps via email and intend to have continuous communication with them throughout the Trimester via a newly created Facebook group.
- I intend to support other officers from my school, including the full-time officers with anything they require of me.
- I also intend to work with class reps on any relevant issues raised by them.
- Plan to work on an initiative with the Department Lead concerning the retention of College-entry students into Year 3, highlighting the importance of the *Research Skills and Professional Issues* module.
- I aim to extend the reach of events organised by the Ethical Hacking Society to students in the department that are not members of the society, as these events stand to benefit all students within the department.
- Aiming to provide an overview of feedback from the class reps back to department staff to identify any key issues which can be tackled.

James Shaw

Cyber Security And Networks Student (Department Rep)



## GSBS Taught Postgraduate Student Representative

### **I plan to:**

- Engage with postgraduate class representatives in my school to know their concerns and grievances and forward them to the appropriate authorities.
- Support the full-time officers in any way possible to help achieve their overall objectives.
- Help promote programs organised by the GCU students association.

### **Have worked on:**

- I have contacted all the postgraduate class representatives in my school and have introduced myself to them by email. I have asked for their concerns to be forwarded to me but have not received any yet since it was almost at the close of last trimester.

### **I intend to work on:**

- Major issues raised by postgraduate class representatives.
- Assisting and supporting other officers in my school.

Catherine Koranchie  
GSBS PostGrad Taught Rep

## EDITOR IN CHIEF- THE EDIT

- We had a very successful Christmas Edition which was well received, there are still copies available and we are still dispersing them throughout campus.
- Plans are well underway for the Student Elections Edition, we will be holding hustings for all candidates on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of February and we are hoping to have the Student Elections Edition ready by then, which we received the Common Good Fund for, we will have to pay for rush printing but the money received allows for us to do so.
- We are considering as a committee whether or not to apply for the Common Good Award.
- Committee Elections will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of February for Head of Social Media and News and Features Editor (verbal report will be given at voice).
- We currently have 77 members (as of 30<sup>th</sup> January), we will hopefully have more by the meeting due to the election that will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February.
- We have yet to decide what events we are going to hold this trimester, apart from the Student Elections Hustings.
- We will start to plan our Spring Edition in the next few weeks and when we have a decided outline it will be posted in our Facebook volunteers group.
- We have plans to reach out to local Glasgow businesses regarding sponsorship, however we will not approach any bars as we have an agreement with the Re:Union Bar here at GCU.
- We are still working with Domino's and Baxter Story. Our deal with Baxter Story is going well, however, their lack of social media presence did cause a few hiccups, already they have posted more than they did last semester so things should run much more smoothly.
- We have included in our website a Right to Reply, and Complaints Procedure under the Contact Us Tab on our website, as covered under the SA's insurance.
- The committee are working well, some better than others, but we have awesome opportunities for our contributors especially at gigs etc.
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Editor-in-Chief  
The EDIT magazine

### Chair of Societies Council Student Voice Report

I was elected as Chair of the Societies Council at the end of last trimester. As a result of this I have not been in the position for very long.

The feedback that I have from the council is that the societies have 2,369 members of the societies and over 60 active societies, the majority of these are academic societies. The council are trying to promote go green week and have managed to get funding for the societies that take part in go green week and host events that promote sustainability in some way.

We have also voted to have a new award at the STAR awards. This award is the 'Best overall contribution from a society member' and will be open for society and committee members. It will not be self-nominated and the person putting forward the candidate will have to provide the justification and evidence for the nomination.

We currently have money left from last trimester's Dragon's Den Fund which we will use to open another Dragon's Den this trimester for societies to get extra funding for events they plan to host. The head of academics has also launched a survey that looks at the correlations between being in an academic society and the impact it has on your course. They wanted to know if being part of an academic society had an impact on performance and if this impact was negative or positive. These are the main things that the Societies Council has been focusing on for the last few months.

Rachael Brown  
Chair of Societies Council

## **MATURE AND PART TIME STUDENT GROUP**

- We have had new members join us at Re-Freshers this term and have a few events coming up in February beginning with a movie, pizza and popcorn night followed by a get-together at the end of the month.
- We offered a quiet space for mature students to study during the exam period which was successful.
- We are also running an age awareness campaign to create recognition of the fact that age discrimination, whether young or old, is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. The aim is to tackle unconscious bias against older students, especially considering more than 40% of GCU's students are mature students.
- We are repeating our successful Easter egg drive we ran last year, where students and staff donated chocolate eggs which were then distributed amongst disadvantaged adults; those suffering from poverty, the elderly as well as homeless adults.
- We will be finishing off the year with an end of year party in the Re:union Bar.

Susan Docherty  
Mature & Part-Time Students' Officer

### **Department Rep report- Physiotherapy and Paramedic Science**

- Liaised with class reps across both courses for all year groups via email. WhatsApp groups have been set up with those who responded to the email. Continuing to encourage the other class reps to get on board with this communication forum.

- General query was asked to class reps regarding how their department rep could assist them this term and response across all groups were as follows:

1. Clear communication and frequent updates from meetings.
2. Progress reports; as department rep I will liaise with students the progress of any action points they have relayed during their SSCG and ensure if any action points follow onwards to the SA or SHLS department, I will inform them of any updates in progress with those action points.
3. One student mentioned they would like to be kept more informed if there were actions that they could drive forwards amongst their peers as they would like an active role in securing any student questions or concerns are dealt with in a timely and appropriate manner; I will work with the students to ensure they have active participation in their roles this term.

Finally, I am looking to attend each course and level groups SSCG this term; will liaise with degree and year heads to confirm dates of meetings.

Emma Dunnett  
Physiotherapy & Paramedicine Department Representative

## **GSBS Research Student Lead**

Michael Marshall

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### **Activities**

- Commenced mapping exercise of GSBS research students to establish communication channels and research communities;
  - Database of GSBS students to be finalised in the coming weeks.
- Started requirement drive through student network to fill vacant department posts;
  - One post vacant with a potential candidate currently identified and in the interview process.
- Established GSBS Student Research Lead Group that will meet monthly ( first meeting on January 30, 2019);

### **Student Body Meeting**

- Attended student Voice Committee meeting;
- Attended SAGE meeting;
- Attended Research Student Lead Network;
- Attended PGR Student Workshop.

### **School Meetings**

- Attended monthly meeting with Senior PG Tutor (acting);
- Attended RDC Committee meeting;
- Attended GSBS Research Committee;
- GSBS School Board meeting.

## **Aliisa Pulkkinen – Applied Computer Games Department Officer Report**

In this report I will provide an overview of my actions during the semester A (2018)

- I have taken part in department officer introduction on 27.9.18
- I have taken part in two listening events on October - one for Computer Games Development program and one for Computer Games Design program.
- I have taken part in Student Voice meeting on 22.10.18
- I have gained access to the department officer emails.
- I have attempted to contact my department's student representatives to make introductions, and to identify pressing issues, but this is still currently on-going progress as contacting the student reps hasn't been very effective.
- Currently I am also working on having the closing time of Charles' Oakley computer labs lengthen to midnight (C110, C117, C116) as they are crucial for many students in the department and contain software that is unaccusable in other parts of the campus. At the moment I am planning on having student representatives in my department to gather feedback from the students and teacher about this topic and its relevance- ongoing
- I have been to the Department rep and PGT rep introduction training to meet the new department reps 26.11.18, and we have formed a group chat in Whatsapp to keep in touch with each other and to discuss about possible issues in our departments.
- I have brought the issue of high temperatures in classrooms in Hamish wood building, George Moore building and Charles Oakley labs to Sara McLean with other department reps.
- I have had two meetings with the head of my department, Bruce Woods, and Eilidh Fulton concerning the earlier listening events.
- I took part in the second student voice meeting as well as the Student rep gathering event.
- I attended the SAGE meeting on December.

**Dion Maroulis**  
**Department Rep for Biological and Biomedical Sciences**

Actions I have taken:

- Attended the School Officer Induction Training on Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended and participated at the SHLS School Board on Friday October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Offered apologies for absence from School Officer meeting with Full Time Officers due to clashes with my timetable on Friday September 28<sup>th</sup>. Received update from VP SHLS on my role as Department Rep for Biological and Biomedical Sciences.
- Offered apologies for absence from Student Voice due to clashes with my timetable on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Offered apologies for absence from SAGE meeting due to clashes with my timetable on October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Gained access to Department Rep email account and contact information of Class Reps within the Department.
- Contacted each Class Rep individually to gather feedback on their university experience so far.
- Set up a Facebook group for the 2018/19 Class Reps of the Department, in order to communicate and exchange feedback more efficiently.
- The feedback that was gathered was managed in different ways. For issues regarding the facilities of the university, the IT and Estates Department were contacted directly, while for comments regarding the teaching of the courses, academic staff were contacted directly and/or records have been kept for further discussion at the next School Board meeting.
- The Head of the Department was contacted for the arrangement of a meeting in the coming days to discuss what I have been working on.
- Attended a SHLS Program Approval and Review Board as student representative panel member on Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Remained in contact with students within the Department during the GCULearn outage and passed their concerns and feedback on to the VP SHLS.
- Informed the VP SHLS on my availability to attend the upcoming School Board meeting in April.

Things I plan on doing:

- Arrange to meet with Class Reps in person in the coming weeks.
- Meet with the Head of the Department.



## **Radio Caley Student Voice Report February 2019**

Radio Caley welcomed new committee members through by-elections with myself Adam Fraser joining as Station Manager as well as Sian McCluskey and Kathinka Mumma as Head of Multimedia and Head of Programming respectively.

In regards to new volunteers we can happily report that we have seen a 20% rise in the number of volunteers attached to Radio Caley between Nov 2017 and Nov 2018. On top of that we conducted successful events such as Radio Caley Summer Hangover and a joint quiz in collaboration with The EDIT and the Journalism Society which was also sponsored by Vapiano. The biggest event we held however was a 24 Hour Live Broadcast in support of the charity Radio Lollipop raising over £265.

Despite recent setback such as a recent departure of our Head of Fundraising and the cancellation of our annual Getaway due to exam timetable changes we are pushing ahead with upcoming events such as Radio Caleyoke and the Radio Caley Birthday Awards as well as for the first time ever a Radio Caley Summer Getaway.

We recently also received funding from the Common Good Award which we used to purchase a new Pre-Amplifier to improve our broadcast quality and a personal recorder all volunteers can use to conduct high quality interviews, previously only media and journalism students had access to recorders through the university so with this funding we have further widened students access to reporting news and interviewing musicians. On the topic of interviewing musicians, we recently conducted interviews with high profile artists such as You Me At Six and Gavin James. The News Team has also been hard at work with numerous news articles being released as well as a weekly News Show with a rotating panel of volunteers featuring on air to discuss the latest Glasgow based news.

Our goals for Trimester B are to:

- Continue to hold successful events and use the funds from these to better improve the station
- Continue with consistent news and music releases
- Implement a watershed to improve the variety and quality of music played on the station
- Further expand our online presence through social media
- Successfully plan and hold a Summer Getaway for Radio Caley volunteers

## **Nursing and Community Health (NCH) Department Representative**

Craig Davidson

### **Engagement with Class Reps**

- Have been in continued contact with class reps to try and help them facilitate ways to garner student engagement.
- Emailed reps over the Christmas break to see if they are wishing to continue as there was a poor turnout at the last SSGC meeting.
- Attended the last SSCG meeting to help with proceedings and to encourage the election of Chair and Vice Chair.
- Have emailed class reps about coming on board as student reps on the new Programme Development subgroups, both for 'Student Engagement' and 'Learning, Teaching and Development'.

### **Engagement with Department and School**

- Was unable to attend the last Board meeting and Student Voice Committee meeting due to placement, however, was able to attend the last SAGE meeting.
- Have had meetings with the Programme lead about how we can recruit further class reps for the year groups and fields of nursing in which we are under-represented.
- Have a meeting coming up with the assistant head of department with regards the NSS survey.
- Now sit on the Programme Development Board for the new 2020 undergraduate nursing programme. Sit on both the Student Engagement, and Teaching, Learning and Assessment subgroups. So far have attended two Board meetings.