

Minutes of the 3rd Caledonian Student Voice of session 2017/18

Meeting held on Monday, 12th February 2018, in NH208, at 5.00pm.

1. Sign In:

Present:

Jonnie England (JE, Chair); Kevin Campbell (SP); Chris Daisley (VP SEBE); Rachel Simpson (VP GSBS); Yetunde Ogendgbe (VP SHLS); Alan Adamson (AA); Olubunmi Ajayi (OA); Neil Alexander (NA); Amy Byrne (AB); James Chilembwe (JC); Susan Docherty (SD); Raven Hingley (RH); Tom Jarvis (TJ); Maja Jørgensen (MJ); Charlie Kelly (CK); Declan McGallagly (DMcG); Brendan Owen (BO); Alexandra Radoescu (AR); Tamsin Ross (TS); Callum Smith (CS); John Templeton (JT).

Absent: Lauren Aitken (LA); Lauren Baigrie (LB); Hannah Carmichael (HC); Maura Daly (MD); Temilove Fakunle (TF); Rachel Hewitt (RH); Alena Kovina (AK); Umair Maqsood (UM); Senna Mattar (SM); Victory Nwabu-ekeoma (VN); Robert Sandland (RS); Aimee Watson (AW).

Apologies: Kristin Bouma (KB); Jennifer Broadhurst (JB); Lynzie Brown (LB); Fraser Knight (FK); Caitlin Reid (CR); Robbie Stewart (RS); Keri Thomson (KT); Ross Wilson (RW).

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

Observer: Eilidh Fulton

Members who were absent without apologies have received an automatic caution from Student Voice. Any member who receives two cautions will automatically face a vote 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 third 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.
- 1.4 The Chair explained that Fraser Knight, LGBT+ Officer, and Lauren Aitken, Disabled Students' Officer having received two cautions for not attending two previous meetings of Student Voice without submitting apologies will automatically trigger a vote of no confidence. Both members were not present to speak on their own behalf. The Student President spoke on behalf of the LGBT+ Officer and the Vice President SEBE spoke on behalf of the Disabled Students' Officer and the work they have undertaken out with meetings of Student Voice.

The Chair called for a vote and asked is there a vote of no confidence in Fraser Knight. Vote: For: 0; Against: 15; Abstention: 3. The vote of no confidence against Fraser Knight did not pass.

The Chair called for a vote and asked is there a vote of no confidence in Lauren Aitken. Vote: For: 0; Against: 15; Abstention: 4. The vote of no confidence against Lauren Aitken did not pass.

2. **Previous Minutes**

- 2.1 The Chair invited members to consider the minutes of the previous Student Voice meeting held on 27th November 2017. It was agreed that on page 3 (section 7) that the minutes should be amended to read 'Student Voice Returning Officer (Vice Chair of Student Voice)'. The Chair called for a vote to approve the amended minutes of the meeting of the Caledonian Student Voice held on Monday 27th November 2017. **Vote: For: 12; Against: 0; Abstention: 8.** The previous Student Voice minutes from 27th November 2017 were therefore approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 **GCU Branded Clothing**

The VP SEBE advised that he had spoken to Sports Council who will decide whether they want to purchase ties, which can be sold by the Welcome Desk. This matter has been resolved.

3.2 **Postgraduate Research Students Start Date**

The VP SEBE is still trying to progress the aligning the start date of Postgraduate Research Students in line with the academic calendar. He explained that VISA approvals can have a bearing of start dates. The VP SEBE explained that he will address this in future as part of this report. This matter is resolved.

3.3 **Baxterstorey Meeting**

For the Sports Council Chair and the Societies Council Chair, to attend the meeting, when the Student President meets with the new General Manager of Baxterstorey. The Student President has arranged this meeting and therefore the matter is resolved.

3.4 **SUB TV**

The Student President provided a short summary explaining SUB TV. This matter is now resolved.

3.5 **Playout of Radio Caley**

The Student President explained that he had spoken with the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Strategy), Professor James Miller, and confirmed that the Re:Union Bar & Grill space is included within the building licence for the Students' Association to manage. He confirmed that the playout of the Radio Station was therefore with the Students' Association.

The SP asked members if they wished Radio Caley to play in the bar area or to have SUB TV. **The Chair then called for a vote to have Radio Caley played in the Re:Union Bar & Grill. Vote: For: 19; Against: 0; Abstention: 2.** Radio Caley to be played out in the Re:Union Bar & Grill (excluding during events) would therefore become the policy of the Students' Association. This matter is now resolved.

3.6 **Music License in Re:Union Bar & Grill**

The Student President was asked to confirm the music licence in place for the Re:Union Bar & Grill. The Student President explained that the Students' Association holds a Performing Right Society (PRS) for Music Limited license and a Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL) license which covers the Re:Union Bar and Grill. This matter is therefore resolved.

3.7 Five Day Working Notice (for room and equipment)

To reduce the 5 Working Day Notice for room and equipment, this was an Idea to be explored further. The Student President explained that the Trustee Board takes the position that the policy remains the same. The matter is therefore resolved.

3.8 Ticketed Events in Re:Union Bar and Grill

To establish whether ticketed events are allowed in the Re:Union Bar and Grill and to establish any protocols. The Student President clarified that the alcohol license does not prevent ticketed events in a sectioned area within the Re:Union Bar and Grill. This matter is therefore resolved.

3.9 Replacement Hand Dryers

The Student President has arranged a meeting with the Director of Estates. This matter is ongoing. **Action: Student President.**

3.10 Deadline Date for Student Voice Paper Due

The Editor asked that in the future could the Clerk send out an early notification of the deadline date for when papers/reports are due from for Student Voice. It was confirmed that an email reminder will be sent in addition to the dates on the website. 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: 17; Against: 0; Abstention: 3. The previous minutes of all the Student Voice Sub Committees were approved.

5. Affiliations

The Chair informed members of the following new societies that have affiliated with the Students' Association:

- Cricket Club
- Korean Culture Society
- Music Society
- Yoga Society
- Social Scientists Society

The Chair called for a vote to approve all the affiliations via one vote. Vote: For: 20; Against: 0; Abstention: 1. The sports club and societies were therefore approved to be affiliated with the Students' Association.

6. Full Time Officer Start Date

The Student President introduced the paper on the proposal to change the start date of the Full Time Officers Start Date. He explained that this would continue to be preceded with a two week Handover. The proposal was endorsed by the Executive Committee on 21st November 2017. Currently the By-Laws outline the start date for the Full Time Officers, Section 2.1, says "The term of office for the Executive Committee is the first Monday in the third week in June until the last Friday in the second week in June annually". The Student President outlined the arguments for the proposal, including better aligning to the GCU academic calendar. To answer a question raised by TJ it was confirmed that the Full Time Officers 2017/18 would finish their term of Office two weeks earlier. The Chair called for a vote to change the By-Laws and to read "The term of office for the Executive Committee is the first Monday in the first week in June until the last Friday in the last week in May annually". **Vote: For: 20; Against: 0; Abstention: 0.** The proposed changed to the By-Laws as outlined within the paper were therefore approved.

At 5.30pm the Chair stepped down and the Vice Chair took over.

7. **Elections Committee**

The Student Voice Returning Officer discussed the responsibilities of the Elections Committee and that no member of the Elections Committee can take part in the Full Time Officers elections as a candidate, agent or campaigner. No members put themselves forward for the two available places.

8. **NUS Scotland Conference Delegate**

The Student Voice Returning Officer explained the purpose the NUS Scotland Conference and that there is two women places. The NUS Scotland Conference will be held on 15th and 16th March 2018 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Dunblane and that expenses are provided. MJ and OA put their names forward. MJ added that she be happy to attend the conference but would need to double check the dates before confirming her attendance. Members congratulated MJ and OA on their NUS Scotland delegation places.

At 5.35pm the Vice Chair stepped down and the Chair took over.

9. **Full Time Officer Reports**

The Chair asked the Full Time Officers to provide a brief two minute verbal summary of their submitted written reports. **The Chair invited members to take a vote to decide whether to approve the Full Time Officer Reports. Vote: For: 16; Against: 0; Abstentions: 5.** The Full Time Officer Reports were therefore approved.

10. **Student Voice Officers Reports**

The Student Voice Officers were invited by the Chair to provide a brief verbal update.

Business Management (BM) Officer

- No issues of concern raised and chatting through Facebook groups set up.

CCIS Officer

- Complaints made about the virtual machines for SEBE.
- Working with the Engineering Officer and looking into potentially moving trimester 1 exam dates. A poll has been sent out within SEBE with wide interest received.

Engineering Officer

- Lynda.com rolled out to all engineers, in SEBE, within the three departments.
- Working with the Humanitarian Engineers and Engineers without Borders to get students involved in volunteering.

NCH Officer

- Continuing engagement.
- Had first meeting with new Vice Head of Programme.
- Piloting NES surveys.
- Engaging with Class Representatives.
- Attending first School Board meeting next week.

LS Officer

- Catching up with the Class Representatives after the Christmas break.
- Issue with the Facebook group set up disappearing online.
- Workshops running – LDC passed to Class Representatives to disseminate.

- General meeting for staff in new trimester.

Women's' Officer

- Members meeting to discuss group for the year ahead.
- Focus is on Women's Month and a campaign for Women's Day.
- Campaign on Sexual Health.

Mature and Part-Time Students' Officer

- Age Awareness event in March – involving a blog, video, stall and leaflets.
- West Highland Way Walk event.
- Facebook Group – a lot of students have joined.
- Working on an Easter Egg Hunt in Murdoch Park to help homeless children.

GSBS PGT Student Representative

- Postgraduate students seem happy. Any issues raised have been sorted out by staff straight away.

Sports Council Chair (update by Neil Alexander on behalf of Sports Council Chair)

- 750 members have joined sports clubs! This is the highest number of sports members ever logged.
- Sports Ball will be biggest event yet.
- Teams all doing well.
- New Cricket club.

Magazine Editor

- 50 members have joined the EDIT so far. 66 members are needed to break the record for the number of members!
- For the print edition the deadline is on Friday.

Societies Council Chair

- Had a stall at Refreshers.
- First round of Dragons Den – 6 applications. £300 to societies.
- 700 members for societies and increasing.

Radio Station Manager

- Working on getting Radio Caley played in the Re:Union Bar and Grill.
- Number of members down from last year but solvent and strong.

Ethical & Environmental Officer (VP GSBS on behalf of Ethical & Environmental Officer)

- There is a lot of work taking place around the Green Impact.
- Championing Green Week.
- Environmental Issue Newsletter about reducing and recycling.

No questions were raised from the reports or an item from the reports discussed. **The Chair invited members to take a vote to decide whether to approve the Student Voice Officer Reports. Vote: For: 19; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1.** The Student Voice Officer Reports were therefore approved.

11. Ideas

The Chair explained that there are 3 Ideas which are eligible for discussion at Student Voice, as outlined within the paper.

11.1 Idea: Nap Pods (by Callum Smith)

With deadlines fast approaching and more and more students practically living on campus, nap pods would be an ideal place for a quick nap and recuperation period. With “self-care” becoming more and more important with students balancing heavy workloads be it university or paid work, nap pods would provide an ideal opportunity for the Students’ Association to promote and actually facilitate such policies. Members agreed the nap pods was a good idea but discussed at length the security, health and safety, the nap pods location, the cost of nap pods and the possible inappropriate use of nap pods. CS suggested for a Full Time Officer to do research into the nap pods and any issues of concern. **Action: Executive Committee.** The VP GSBS suggested having a trial first for the Nightline members to use the nap pods to see if they are feasible or not. **The Chair called for a vote for the VP GSBS to discuss with the Nightline partners to see if a nap pod pilot is feasible or not and to bring back to the next Student Voice for discussion.** **Vote: For: 14; Against: 0; Abstentions: 6. Action: VP GSBS.**

11.2 Idea: Re-asses the uni wide ban on energy drinks (Thomas Patrick Jarvis)

The Re:Union Bar & Grill recently stopped stocking energy drinks when it came to light that the university didn’t provide them anywhere else on campus. Let’s get the energy drinks back. Extra points if it is only the sugar free variants because sugar intake is a concern, and perhaps even a shift to a diet version of the popular soft drinks, but his is secondary to my main point. The VP GSBS said she was not aware of any ban on campus and that the Student President could look into this and to check with catering and the university policies about energy drinks. **The Chair called for a vote on the Idea in that the University should re-assess the uni wide ban on energy drinks.** **Vote: For: 16; Against: 1; Abstentions: 3. Action: Student President.**

11.3 Idea: Reusable takeout containers in the cafeteria (Paula Linnea Hirschganger)

Replace the single use takeout containers in the cafeteria with reusable ones, as shown in the video (starting 3.27). As the proposer was not able to attend the meeting the Chair opened up the Idea to any member to speak about it. The VP GSBS said it was a good idea to replace the takeout containers and to use biodegradable and reusable containers instead. Members were then shown the video from the Proposer. Discussions took place around having incentives for using the containers or your own Tupperware and having some sort of points system or credit given to you that is similar to the print credit. **The Chair called for a vote to delay the outcome of the Idea until the 4th Student Voice meeting seeing as the proposer was not in attendance.** **Vote: For: 10; Against: 8; Abstentions: 2. Action: Clerk.**

*At this point (6.45pm) the Chair called a motion to extend the guillotine by a further 30 minutes and for the meeting to finish at 7.30pm. **The Chair called for a vote and asked members if they wished to vote against extending the meeting.** **Vote: For: 8; Against: 9; Abstentions: 1. An extension of the time of the meeting was therefore not approved.***

12. Ethical and Environmental Committee Remit

The VP GSBS presented the Ethical and Environmental Committee Remit paper and explained that the Ethical and Environmental Committee have never had a remit outlined within the By-Laws. The VP GSBS explained that it is proposed to add the remit outlined in the paper to section 3.6.7 of the By-Laws. **The Chair called for a vote to approve the Ethical and Environmental Committee remit and for the By-Laws to be updated.** **Vote: For: 17; Against: 0; Abstentions: 2.** The remit was therefore passed and the By-Laws would be amended.

13. **Scottish Government Student Support Review**

The independent Student Support Review, "A New Social Contract for Students in Scotland" has now been published. The Student President presented the NUS Scotland briefing on the Scottish Government Student Support Review and discussed the NUS Scotland Budget for Better campaign and how members can get involved. The recommendations were discussed and it was explained that NUS Scotland will continue to campaign for its implementation.

14. **Mental Health Partnership Agreement**

The VP GSBS presented the Mental Health Partnership Agreement paper and explained that in November 2017 work commenced to establish the first partnership agreement at GCU between the Students' Association and University in regards to student mental health. The agreement is part of a wider NUS and Think Positive initiative which aims to bring students' associations and universities together to work holistically and in collaboration for student mental wellbeing. Although the draft has received student feedback and consultation, Student Voice is asked to read through the proposed agreement in the first draft, and feedback at this stage. The VP GSBS asked Student Voice to consider and feedback on the Draft Student Mental Health Partnership Agreement and no questions were raised. The VP GSBS explained that a paper with the final draft will be brought to a future meeting of Student Voice for approval.

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

Due to time constraints this paper was postponed until the next Student Voice meeting.

16. **Trustee Board Minutes**

Student Voice noted the Trustee Board Minutes.

18. **Full Time Officer Elections 2018**

Student Voice noted the Full Time Officer Elections 2018 nominations close on Friday 16th February 2018 at 12 noon.

19. **Chair Performance Review**

Student Voice noted the Chair Performance Review for the Chair of Student Voice. The Chair thanked members for their feedback and said he will take on board the comments made.

20. **Honorary Life Members**

Student Voice noted that the nominations for Honorary Life Members close on Friday 2nd March 2018 at 12 noon.

21. **Honorary Degrees Committee**

The Student President informed members that the closing date for receipt of nominations for the Honorary Degrees Committee is Thursday 15 February 2018. However, the Student President asked for any nominations to be forwarded to the Student President and to Jonnie England, Honorary Degrees Committee Representative, by Wednesday 14th February 2018, by 5pm.

22. **Motion to NUS Scotland**

The VP SEBE provided the submitted motion for the NUS Scotland Conference titled 'You can take our Code but you can NEVER take our Quality'.

23. **Radio Station Policy Document**

The Radio Station Manager presented the revised Radio Station Policy Document. The Radio Caley Committee proposed including the role of Deputy Manager. **The Chair called for a vote to**

approve the revised Radio Station Policy Document. Vote: For: 18; Against: 0; Abstentions: 1.
The Radio Station Policy Document was therefore approved.

24. **Any Other Business**

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 7.02pm.

DRAFT