Statement on Extraordinary Student Voice and Motion of No Confidence in a Full Time Officer

Kevin Campbell, Student President and Chair of Trustee Board 19th March 2018

This statement is to provide members of Student Voice an update on the call for an Extraordinary student Voice to hear a Motion of No Confidence in a current Full Time Officer.

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 Yetunde Ogedengbe at a meeting or extraordinary meeting of Student Voice.

The Trustee Board of the Students' Association met on Tuesday 13th March 2018 to discuss the submitted Motion of No Confidence. Their view is that the Motion of No Confidence should not be accepted, and therefore invalid, due to the timing of its submission. They discussed Purdah, the time between the announcement of a central or local government election and the final election results, to ensure that no advantage is provided to any candidate. Their decision not to accept the Motion is solely based on the timing of its submission and that the Motion would otherwise have been accepted.

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.