

**University of St Andrews' Student Association
Meeting of the
Student Representative Council
Tuesday 29th April 2008, Committee Room, 7:30pm
Minutes**

Present

Tom d'Ardenne	Association President
Steve Savage	Director of Representation (DoR)
Rich Robinson	Director of Events and Services (DoES)
Tom Cahn	Association Chair
Iain Cupples	Student Advocate/HR
Phil Pass	SRC Accommodation Officer
Andrew MacKenzie	SRC Education Officer
Sarah Lloyd-Thomas	Arts/Divinity Senate Representative Elect
Eddie Walsingham	Science/Medical Senate Representative Elect
Mel Nethercott	SRC Member for Honours Academic Issues
Kyle Mitchell	SRC Member for Sub-Honours Academic Issues
Kat Stevens	SRC Member for University Accommodation
Hatty Sahlsberg	SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Beverly Macklin	SRC Member for Mature Students
Kathryn Garcin	SRC Member for Part Time Students
Christopher Dickie	SRC Member from First Year
Bradshaw Hawkins	SRC Member for International Students
Laura Wilkes	SRC Member for the Faculty of Arts
Benjamin Bridgman	SRC Member for Sexualities and Gender
Molly Uzzell	SRC Member for Women's Issues
Oliver Lauenstein	SRC Member for Library and Learning Resource Users
Terry Fulton	SRC Member for Postgraduate Accommodation
James Pollard	SRC Member for University Accommodation
Amjad Al-Dajani	SRC Member for International Students
Lukas Ross	SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities
Martin Schmierer	SRC Member Without Portfolio
James Shield	DoR Elect

Apologies

Jenny Mackay	Director of Student Development & Activities (DoSDA)
Sarah McCusker	SRC Environment and Ethics Officer
Meredith Wouters	SRC Equal Opportunities and Welfare Officer
Matthew Guest	Association Community Relations Officer
Emma Foley	SRC Member for Private Accommodation
Daniel Fisher	SRC Member for Science Faculty

Absent

Elizabeth Parker	SRC Member for Widening Access
Emma Arenson	SRC Member for Students with Disabilities
Sanni Turunen	SRC Member for JYA/JSA
Marcus Mayo	SRC Member for the School of Divinity
Marc Locherty	SRC Member for Medicine Faculty
Scott Platton	SRC Member for Men's Issues
Ashley Cole	Postgraduate Senate Representative
Laura Wilson	Arts/Divinity Senate Representative
Rob Fett	Science/Medical Senate Representative

1.0 Adoption of Agenda
Agenda adopted

2.0 Chair's Business

2.1 Apologies for Absence
As above

- 2.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting
Accepted
- 2.3 Matters Arising
- 2.3.1 The Chair has had problems with the email list – if anyone has not been receiving emails, please see him afterwards.
- 2.3.2 The President noted that further to the previous discussion about a joint SRC/SSF meeting, this will indeed take place once a semester.

- 3.0 **Presidential Business**
- 3.1 President
- 3.1.1 The President has nearly finished the training guide mentioned previously. This will be distributed to members' houses as this is the last meeting before the summer. The offer remains open if anyone would like to go for coffee to discuss their role on the SRC.

- 4.0 **Representation Business**
- 4.1 Director of Representation
- 4.1.1 The TLA Open Forum will be held tomorrow at 12.30pm in Parliament Hall – email the DoR if you would like to attend.
- 4.1.2 The DoR recently met with MSPs to discuss various issues relating to students – if anyone wants any extra information please email.
- 4.1.3 The access committee met today and discussed hall committees and the management/auditing of hall committee finances.

- 5.0 **Services Business**
- 5.1 Director of Events and Services
- 5.1.1 There are various events coming up this week, the highlight being the Mexican-themed Cinco de Mayo bop this Friday with DJs from the Hispanic Society.
- 5.1.2 More work has been done on this summer's 70s themed graduation ball and silent disco.
- 5.1.3 The DoES checked that members had received the bop duty rota and asked members to sort out date problems amongst themselves.

- 6.0 **Activities Business**
- 6.1 DoR on behalf of Director of Student Development and Activities
- 6.1.1 The Charities Campaign has raised in excess of £160,000 for charities this year.

- 7.0 **Officers' Business**
- 7.1 Accommodation Officer
- 7.1.1 The 'Right To Rent' petition has reached around 5500 signatures across Scotland, and has received backing from MSPs who are against HMO licensing.
- 7.1.2 The committee has nearly completed a guide for senior students – send the Accommodation Officer an email if there is anything in particular you think should be included.
- 7.1.3 The committee is about to publish a 'How to Leave' guide, which covers issues affecting students moving out of private accommodation at the end of their lease such as rent, deposits, harassment claims, etc.
- 7.2 Education Officer
- 7.2.1 There will be a discussion group for class representatives this Monday 1-2pm in the Committee Room; email the Education Officer if you would like to attend so that lunch can be booked.
- 7.2.2 The committee has drafted a question and answer sheet on coursework anonymisation for the website and possibly also the library.
- 7.2.3 The committee has drafted an 'off-campus' guide to accessing journals which covers facilities like Athens accounts.
- 7.2.4 The Arts/Divinity Senate Representative is working on an academic misconduct project for Orientation week.
- 7.2.5 A meeting on scholarships and donations is being held this Thursday – email the Officer if you have any comments.
- 7.3 Environment and Ethics Officer
Absent
- 7.4 Equal Opportunities and Welfare Officer
Absent

- 7.5 Association Community Relations Officer
Absent
- 8.0 **Sabbatical Question Time**
- 8.1 The DoR Elect asked if there had been any response from the university regarding the affordable beds petition. The university wants to set up a meeting but there has been no official written response.
- 8.2 Is there a copy of the Student Experience report available? The President has copies in his office.
- 8.3 The Education Officer asked when the Religious Council meeting will be held. An email will be sent by those who organise it.
- 8.4 The Chair noted that he had been asked about minutes of the joint SRC/SSC meeting held in February. The President said he would email them and check that a paper copy had been filed in the General Office.
- 8.5 The DoR Elect asked about the setting up of an external committee mentioned in a meeting a few weeks back. The DoR said that he would look at it, or it would be the responsibility of the incoming DoR and the Education Officer early next year.
- 9.0 **Officers' Question Time**
- 9.1 None
- 10.0 **Notices**
- 10.1 Next Meeting of the SRC:
Tuesday 30th September, 7:30pm, Committee Room
- 10.2 Next Meetings of Sub-Committees:
Accommodation: Tuesday 12.30pm
Education: Monday 1pm
Environment and Ethics: Friday 10am
Equal Opportunities and Welfare: Friday 3pm
Community Relations: TBA
- 11.0 **AOCB**
- 11.1 The SRC Member for Women's Issues asked if the Association would be able to provide the Lower Rents Now Coalition with a small budget to cover the cost of food. The Coalition wishes to make sandwiches for distribution at the demonstration being held this Friday lunchtime. The DoR raised health and safety concerns with food made by Coalition members themselves in that the Association would be responsible for any issues which arose. There was also not enough time to have food ordered through Beatons. It was decided that if the Coalition wished to provide food they should do so through their private funds; it was noted that the allocated Association budget was for publicity only and as such the Association would not be responsible for any matters arising.
- 11.2 The SRC Member for University Accommodation James Pollard asked what the original Lower Rents Now Coalition budget allocation had been – the DoR answered that it had been £15 and it had been spent. The member asked if the budget could be increased slightly – the DoR suggested the Accommodation Committee meet briefly after the meeting to decide.
- 11.3 The SRC Member for University Accommodation James Pollard asked if it would be possible for the Association to send an email to every student informing them of the demonstration. The President replied that he had only sent out one such mass email during his office, and if he were to send out an email about this he would have no reason to turn away any other group (affiliated or not) which wanted him to advertise their event. He suggested advertising the demonstration through Wednesday Memos.
- 12.0 **Close of Meeting**