

## SSC Minutes 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Present:

Association President	Andrew Keenan
Director of Student Development and Activities	Matthew Guest
Association Chair	Emma Foley
Association Sustainability Officer	Benjamin Bridgman
Association Community Relations Officer	Holly West
SSC Charities Officer	Alexander Dixon
SSC Performing Arts Officer	Sam Fowles
SSC Music Officer	Luke Hodgman
SSC Volunteering Officer	Rachel Fullerton
SSC Debates Officer	Owen Wilton
Ents Convenor	Matthew Robertson
SSC Member for Societies Grants	Carley Hollis
SSC Member for Society Elections	Clare McDonnell
SSC Member Without Portfolio	James McWalter

### 1. Adoption of Agenda

### 2. Chair's Business

- 2.1 Apologies for Absence: Director of Representation -Georgina Rannard, Director of Events and Services - Phil Pass, Broadcasting Officer - Phil Tortoroli, Societies Officer - Becca Ladley
- 2.2 Minutes of the previous meeting
- 2.3 Matters arising

### 3. Presidential business

There is a rolling review of the Association's charity status by OSCR, they are deciding whether student unions are allowed to be charities. The Association needs to pass "charity test" (laws, finances, constitutions etc.). They will produce a report saying whether the Union is fine, or make recommendations, or there may be a bad report suggesting lots of changes which will need to be implemented. We are one of the Unions which are being examined. We are to send them documents. The University is helping us. The President thinks everything should be ok. 6 months from now all our queries should be answered and we will know whether we are doing things right or not.

The postgraduate elections: There were 5 positions, and much cheating was involved despite the rule booklets being explained to everyone. 2 candidates were fined before the votes were counted. The presidential candidate lost by 1 vote, and the VP won by one vote so both losers have appealed. They won't have meeting for a while and the committee won't be able to meet for some time anyway. There was a good turn out - over 10% of the PG population - but a lot of rule breaking was involved. "They fucked it up".

Charities Officer asked the President if he was attending a meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. The President was unsure what meeting was being talked about, but he is attending Graduation dinners on that day so probably not. No one was sure which meeting this is so this is essentially a pointless sentence. The President threw a pen at the Charities Officer, who caught it.

#### 4. Representation Business

The DoSDA spoke in the DoR's absence and informed the SSC of the Raisin Weekend plans.

#### 5. Events and Services Business

The DoSDA again spoke in the absence of the DoES, who is beginning to answer his emails.

There is a free event with Aled Jones on Raisin Saturday. The DoSDA is looking for volunteers on Saturday to wristband. The Debates Officer and the Member for Societies Grants volunteered for this. The DoSDA will contact them. Next weekend, (the 28th), there will be a live music gig on Saturday and a comedy night on Sunday.

#### 6. Student Development and Activities Business

OSCR things are going on. The DoSDA will be meeting with charitable societies to ensure that everyone knows what's going on. The DoSDA has been mandated to go to Paris and is looking forward to being sponsored by all of the SSC.

Raisin Monday: volunteers are needed to clean up the Foam Fight. Unless anyone tells Matthew otherwise, then all of the SSC will be expected to help.

The Member for Societies Grants said that she was told that societies must send two reps to help.

The Member without Portfolio said that he had also been told about this, someone was told that major societies had to send two people.

The President told them that this was not true.

The SSC was told that there would be a general cleanup of the Quad.

The President said that a time will be circulated and that bacon sandwiches will be available to volunteers.

#### 7. Sabbatical Question Time

##### 8. 8.1 Broadcasting Officer

##### 8.2 Charities Officer

Race To Paris opened up today! Advertising has been a nightmare due to halls, which are being "supremely truculent" with student societies in terms of putting posters up. They have been restricting where they are allowed to be put up, they are reluctant to allow dinner talks and they weren't good for Freshers' Week either. They are generally unhelpful. They don't see themselves as part of the student community and are not as helpful as other universities in terms of RAG week. Charity reps are not the problem but the wardens are. The Hall Committees are good but the warden can veto them. Would it be possible to do something about this?

The President said that before anything formal happens, he can send an email round about it.

The Charities Officer said he would like to begin a relationship with them, maybe hold a wardens' reception and get to know them and explain why they need to do talks at dinners etc.

There is a Rodeo Night on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. *The Nightmare before Christmas* will be on in the cinema on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.

The Officer met with Cannongate School, which went well. They are making a quilt for the Charities Fayre.

##### 8.3 Design Team Convenor

#### 8.4 Debates Officer

They are having a schools' competition next week. Lots of rooms have been booked - Debates is like a "malevolent octopus" (quote of the day?). They need to speak to ENTS about Venue 2. They need to use the SACs office a week on Wednesday, the Officer asked the SSC would this be ok. The general consensus was that this was fine if it gets cleaned of the pumpkin mess and various bits of rubbish.

They are sending people to Newcastle for a competition for Freshers which is good.

The DoSDA asked the Officer if he had done a risk assessment for travelling.

The Officer said he would do one.

The Charities Officer asked if anyone had approached Debates about a RAG Week debate.

The Officer said no-one had, but if Charities email him (ogw4) then hopefully he can organise one.

#### 8.5 Entertainments Officer

There are events as usual - tonight is Golf Pros and Tennis Hoes. Friday night's event is in association with Nightline, for its awareness week.

#### 8.6 Music Officer

There was a committee meeting today.

The Performing Arts Officer asked if that was all.

The Chair asked the Performing Arts Officer to apologise to the birthday boy for his bad manners. The Performing Arts Officer did so.

The Music Officer said he had got some good ideas from people today and is trying to get some events done.

#### 8.7 Performing Arts Officer

The new show is Springtime for Hitler.

The DoSDA asked if the Officer had a productions list.

The Performing Arts Officer said he got sent an email but nothing was attached. He will get one. He is looking into getting a sketch comedy show organised to send to Cambridge.

#### 8.8 Postgraduate Officer

##### 8.9 Societies Officer

Societies are picking up their cheques. They are meeting with charitable societies on Friday to ascertain what they are up to. There are 12 which have charitable intentions which will be quasi-affiliated, but the union won't be able to give them money.

The DoSDA said that this depends how each society has its constitution defined, they need to clear this up as we can't give them money to directly raise money for another charity (or so the Committee thinks).

The Charities Officer advised them to do it through Charities as well.

The Member Without Portfolio said that Societies cannot guarantee that charitable societies don't spend money given to them on their charities.

The Charities Officer asked if Societies could not get them to change their constitution and say they are involved with Charities campaign.

The Member without Portfolio said that they could not do this unless they are involved with Charities and the ones they support. Societies needs to establish their own position.

The Member for Societies Grants said that this issue has really has split the Societies Committee and caused real problems. They are unsure if they can be societies affiliated to Union and Charities. She would like them to be able to raise money and give it to Charities

and ask them to give it to a certain charity.

The Charities Officer said that that would be great and that Charities could regulate them like Mermaids does their production companies.

The Member for Societies Grants said that on a cheerier note, she was sent to the Careers Centre to do a talk to people here to get a better grasp of English, so she talked about all of the societies. This may get some more interest in them.

She also asked if the SSC thought that there should be a cap on societies.

The Debates Officer said that it should be left to the Societies Committee to decide.

The Member Without Portfolio said that the problem is the budget. The number of societies needs to be ratified in SSC.

The Member for Societies Grants said that there were so many of them but it is hard to not give them money if they have done everything correctly. They need ideas to sort this problem out.

The Member Without Portfolio said that they could make super societies which combine and have different bits in them, but this also creates problems.

The Debates Officer noted that Europe Soc is different from French Soc for example.

The Member Without Portfolio said that this was best discussed in the Societies meeting.

The Charities Officer suggested giving rooms and so on to some societies but not money.

The Member for Societies Grants said that they tried to have deadlines for affiliations this year but this needs working on.

Charities Convenor said he would go to a Societies- Charities meeting in Committee Room at 4pm on Friday.

#### 8.10 Volunteering Officer

They are looking into international volunteering things and working with an organisation who can give information about these if they don't cost anything. This will affect their constitution at some point. They are having a tea and coffee meeting in Gorgeous tomorrow at 2pm so that volunteers can meet the committee. On the 12<sup>th</sup> December they are having a Christmas cabaret around old people's homes (2-3pm) and a social in Venue 2 afterwards at about 4pm. They are organising a ball for the 5th March in Younger Hall. Tickets will be discounted for any volunteers. They are working closely with the Union on this.

The Member for Societies Grants said she is putting together a model events proposal which will be in the General Office if anyone needs it.

#### 8.11 Community Relations Officer

The Community Council decision has been delayed on fly-postering again. They also want representatives from the University on it. She is working with Gillian from STAR on the Christmas lights workshops. She is also working on having regular committee meetings. She met with the police about the bike light campaign, tagging bikes and about safety laws etc.

The DoSDA asked how the bike lights project is going.

The Community Relations Officer said she was seeing the police officer tomorrow.

#### 8.12 Sustainability Officer

He is starting to organise Green Week which will be in February with many events with an environmental focus. He has a small committee so if anyone in the SSC wants to be involved, let him know. There are no exact dates yet for Green Week but he is looking into it and needs to look into space in the Union. He doesn't want it to clash with RAG week or the elections.

The Debates Officer suggested that he might be able to have a debate about energy.

The Member without Portfolio said he was involved with an event for Madras last year which was for Green Week – it was a fashion show – he could get in touch with them.

The Volunteering Officer suggested they could do something such as having environmental events, and told the Sustainability Officer to talk to their environmental rep (Abby: aoc3).

The Music Officer said he could also help out.

The Sustainability Officer said that two years ago there was a ceilidh event which was a success.

The Music Officer said he would ask it.

The Charities Officer said that they could do something with People and Planet.

Upcoming events: 27<sup>th</sup> November - there is a film broadcast by the BBC about the ecosystem and preservation and he suggested having a screening. He is not convinced but this is possible. Also, the official launch of the Transition: St Andrews campaign is on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, Venue 2, 7pm.

#### 10. Any other business:

Member without Portfolio told the SSC that the social has been unfortunately delayed, there will possibly be a Christmas theme. There are still ahead of the SRC in terms of party planning. H will send an email round to see if people are free after the next meeting.

The Member for Societies Grants asked if the SSC was doing a Secret Santa?

The Member without Portfolio said he would look into it. Also if anyone wants to be involved in the SSC band get in touch with him.

The Member for Societies Grants suggested having a battle of the bands between the SRC and SSC.

#### 11. Notices

11.1 Next meeting of the SSC - 1<sup>st</sup> December

11.2 Meetings of subcommittees:

Debates - Wednesday 5pm, Committee Room

Charities – Monday, 6pm

Mermaids – Thursday, Committee Room, 1pm

Musfund – Tuesday, 6pm, venue uncertain

Societies - 4pm, Wednesday, Committee Room

SVS - 7pm, Wednesday, Committee Room

Sustainability – Tuesday, Committee Room, 4.10pm

ENTS – Tuesday, 4pm Venue 2

STAR - 6pm, Wednesday, Committee Room