

Students’ Representative Council

Minutes

20 February Dalhousie 1f06

Attendance

Elise Coubrough (Disabilities), Funmilayo Owa (Womens), Nicole Bryon (Environment & Sustainability), Esther Ajayi-Akinsulire (First Year), Hamish Fraser (SRC Chairperson), Marcus Flucker (Learning & Teaching), Ian Buerger (IMC), Seemab Zafar (General).

School Presidents

Dominic Lee (Medicine), Dani McFawns (HSSL), Marlon D'Ambrosio (Science and Engineering), Joanna Walke (DJCAD).

Executive

Ash Mutembwa (President), Nicole Okoro (VP Representation), Mubarak Babalola (VP Academia), Manaswi Budhathoki (VP Community), Bernard Aihevba (VP Student Wellbeing), Parissa Robinson (VP Student Activities).

Observers

Blair Grubb (VP Education), Keith Winters (Rectors Assessor), Chris Gourley (Student Experience), Kellie Ioannou (Business Support Manager).

Apologies

Saga Hamdan (International), Matthew Fancourt (Dentistry), Dani McFawns (HSSL), Ridvan Kucuk (Life Sciences), Yaa Agyei-Akwa (VP Fundraising), Keith Harris (Rector), Alice Saville (SU President).

Absent

Zainab Adeleye (BME), Paul Eluwa (EDW), Cynthia Christopher (Housing), Rafat Ahmed Imitiaz (Facilities), Kolev Oggy (Student Parent), Aniekeme Uwah (Mature), Prashant Kumar (Employability), Samuel Lincoln-Bassey (Taught Postgraduate), Rajat Mittal (General), Tosan Akpituren (General), Conor Heward (Business).

Minute Taker

Loukia Morari (Representation Officer)

1. **Chair’s Welcome**

1.1 Hamish welcomed the council to the fifth council of the academic year.

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

2.1 Proposer: Marcus

2.2 Seconder: Dominic

1. **Action Tracker**

3.1 Proposer: Parissa

3.2 Seconder: Ian

1. **Bye - Law 1 amendments**

4.1 Kellie updated on this paper filling the additional trustee positions. There were no questions from the council, so the council went straight to a vote.

4.2 Loukia announced that the amendment was passed; 17 votes, 16 in agreement and 1 abstention.

1. **Additional Trustee**

5.1 Ian introduced the motion of support for the appointment of additional trustees committee. He noted that both candidates were suitable for the role. The council then went on to a vote.

5.2 Loukia announced that the motion was passed; 18 votes, 18 in agreement.

1. **Pronouns motion**

6.1 Erin introduced the motion for the launch of default pronouns in student and staff signatures on the University systems (Teams and Blackboard). Marcus commended the Erins work on the proposed motion.

6.2 Erin noted there would be a mechanism in place to raise awareness of the feature as well as how to opt out and she also raised the importance of the right to choose. The council went to a vote.

6.3 Loukia announced the motion passed; 18 votes, 18 in agreement.

1. **Inter-School Competition**

7.1 Ian introduced the associated paper which aims to build belonging and community across academic schools. Erin asked if there was room for collaboration given it is like varsity which is ran by the sports union. Ash referenced GOGA (Go Out Get Active) ran by DUSA which also aligns with the values of the suggestion. Parissa suggested collaboration and inclusion of the sports union, societies and school faculty.

7.2 Ian noted that it was just an idea at this point, was open to suggestion and collaboration for how the event could operate. Dominic raised that it should not be left to school presidents given it is an interdisciplinary school event. Ash suggested that it could be supported by the DUSA volunteers. The motion then went to a vote.

7.3 Loukia announced the motion passed; 16 votes, 15 in agreement and 1 abstention.

1. **Vote of no confidence**

8.1 Hamish presented this discussion point reminding councillors that they must submit formal apologies to the chair, vpr and representation officer if they cannot attend meetings. He continued to remind councillors that they will be at risk of a vote of no confidence as outlined in Bye Law 2 section 5 and the standing orders if they fail to do so.

8.2 Nicole highlighted that some councillors fail to send their apologies, are almost inactive in their roles and are at risk. Marcus asked if votes of no confidence have ever been submitted before and Nicole confirmed that they had.

8.3 Marcus noted that it is also the council's responsibility to understand why some councillors are inactive. Kellie asked, *'does the SRC require an annual review?’.* Chris then stated that the representation structure has remained virtually unchanged for the past 40-50 years.

1. **Sub-committee update**

9.1 Engagement: Esther updated; the committee wanted to improve the SRC branding and raising awareness of the council. The team are also working on an engagement stall planned for the 6th of March and introduce anonymous feedback boxes across campus. They also want to plan an SRC social board games night in the global room.

9.2 EDI: Ash updated; the team were working on a motion to be submitted in coming months, they raised awareness of a disabilities sports event and are starting a working group for further research into creating a more inclusive campus.

9.3 Education: Mubarak updated; he had been liaising with the doctoral academy and want to invite PGR reps from the academy to join and fill the PGR rep position on the council. He then updated that the academic steering group had been meeting.

9.4 On Campus: Bernard update; Nicole was spearheading the sustainability campaign, climate change conference and the team were updated on finance literacy week.