

# Minutes

<b>Meeting of:</b>	Scottish Executive Committee
<b>Location:</b>	NUS Scotland office, 1 Papermill Wynd, McDonald Road, Edinburgh EH7 4QL
<b>Date and time:</b>	Friday 12 October at 13:00
<b>Members present:</b>	Liam McCabe (Chair), Titi Farukuoye, Jamie Grant, Heather Innes, Gemma Jones, Manish Khatri, Sorchia Kirker (Skype), Kai O'Doherty, Zeyad Rashad, Elena Semple (Skype), Ethan Wilson, Tam Wilson
<b>Apologies:</b>	Shuwanna Aaron, Jen Anderson, Matt Crilly
<b>Absent:</b>	Nicoline Kure, Matthew Mackenzie
<b>In attendance:</b>	Karen Brown (Clerk), Anne McDonald, Sean McLaughlan

## 1. Introduction and administration

### 1.1 Welcome and apologies

Liam McCabe (LMCC) welcomed everyone to the second meeting of SEC for 2018-19, in particular Sean McLaughlan, newly appointed NUS Scotland Press and Public Affairs officer. Apologies were noted

### 1.2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 7 August 2018 were approved as an accurate record.

### 1.3 Actions and matters arising

- Item 1.3 - Actions and matters arising: LMCC is still unsure what SERMWS stands for and will continue to look in to it.
- Item 2.4 - Other reports: An email will be sent out to members to ask what activities they are doing around Black History month.
- Item 3.8 - Unite Hospitality Charter: LMCC had organised a preliminary meeting with Bryan Simpson of Unite week beginning 15 October which might now be pushed back. He will keep SEC informed.
- Item 4.3 – Totum: LMCC is still waiting to hear whether SEC members can get a free Totum card. He will share out the link for student associations and unions to give feedback.

#### **Action:**

- **LMCC to keep SEC informed about his meeting with Bryan Simpson of Unite.**
- **LMCC to share with SEC the link for student associations and unions to give feedback on Totum.**

(Titi Farukoye, Manish Khatri and Tam Wilson entered the meeting at this point)



## 2. Accountability

### 2.1 President Report

(The chair was passed to Gemma Jones (GJ) for this item.)

The report was taken as read. LMCC gave the following responses to questions raised:

- He has not had a conversation yet with UCU regarding recording of lectures, but would raise it next time he meets with the them. He would liaise with Kai O'Doherty (KO) and others in advance of this meeting. AMCD thought that NUS does not have a policy in this area
- He would have a conversation off line with Elena Semple (ES) before the next SEC meeting regarding widening access and any mention of college and university involvement in Fair Scotland Duty

The report was approved.

#### Action:

- **LMCC to liaise with KO and others in advance of his conversation with UCU regarding recording of lectures.**
- **LMCC and ES to have a conversation about college/university involvement in Fair Scotland Duty before next SEC meeting.**

(The chair was passed back to LMCC)

### 2.2 Deputy President Report

The report was taken as read. It was confirmed that there would not be a specific item on the Zone Conference agenda to have a sharing success workshop

The report was approved.

### 2.3 Vice President (Communities) report

The report was taken as read. ES advised KO that she was in touch with Carol Hayward and Keith Burns re. student carers and she would link KO into the work referenced in her report. Other institutions suggested for inclusion in the online forum are Forth Valley College and Fife College.

The report was approved.

### 2.4 Other Reports

- The report of Shuwanna Aaron, (NUS Scotland Women's Officer-SA) was taken as read. In her absence, any questions to raise with SA can be done by email.
- In his absence, Matt Crilly (NUS Scotland Postgraduate Students' Officer-MC) provided an update which was circulated to SEC before the meeting.
- Manish Khatri (NUS Scotland International Students' Officer-MK) reported on the ongoing deportation case advising that little progress had been made, particularly in creating interest, and the intention now was to fundraise. In the course of discussion, one avenue suggested to MK was to meet with NUS Scotland campaign staff to discuss potential courses of action. LMCC also suggested that he would initiate a conversation with relative NUS UK officers.

- Ethan Wilson (NUS Scotland Trans Officer-EW) reported that the Trans Committee was still working on its survey and focus groups. The hope was to have Aberdeen Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee as hubs however survey questions will be on line if people can't come to the focus groups in person. EW will be asking SEC to be involved in these focus groups. NUS UK has also said that it will do what it can too to spread the word about the survey
- KO (NUS Scotland LGBT+ Officer) reported that the LGBT+ committee was still working on collating research and getting survey data for its decriminalising sex work campaign.
- Titi Farukouye (NUS Scotland Black Students' Officer-TF) provided an update. Highlighted was the survey she was working on collecting experiences of black students in collaboration with the Women's Committee Campaign

Discussion arose around the funding received from NUS UK for transportation to London for the People's Vote March on 20 October. JW was organising the Scottish delegation and confirmed there would be about 48 spaces available on the coach. Suggestions were made and noted as to how best to disseminate information on this to colleges.

Feedback was also given on the recent Dundee, Inverness and Stornoway Pride events which had all been very successful with a lot of media coverage.

## **Business**

### **3.1 Interim policy between conferences**

#### **Proposal 1**

##### **Fair deal for hospitality workers**

Speech in favour: Tam Wilson  
 Speech against: There was none.  
 This motion was passed.

(Chair was passed to GJ at this point)

#### **Proposal 2**

##### **Support for new LGBT+ training during initial teacher education**

Speech in favour: Liam McCabe  
 Speech against: There was none.  
 This motion was passed.

(Chair was passed back to LMCC at this point)

### **3.2 Zone conference**

LMCC provided an update including a summary of the agenda for the conference. Registration has been opened and will close on 8 November 2018. SEC will receive an email with details on how to sign up and members should let NUS Scotland know if they are unable to attend. Members were encouraged to share information about the conference via emails, social media and their own student associations and there is no limit in numbers.

AMCD advised that when registering, SEC members should register as 'NUS colleague' so that their institutions do not get billed. A reduced rate has been

advertised to encourage more members to attend and the agenda is on the NUS Scotland page on Connect.

LMCC advised that Shakira Martin, NUS UK president, has confirmed she will be there and the expectation is that she will take questions from the floor.

The item was noted.

### 3.3 Gathering Feedback

LMCC reported that feedback from attendees was very positive and invited thoughts from SEC. The following points were raised:

- The panel in the middle of the day was a good way of bridging the gap between students' studies and their activities outside of that (e.g. Living Rent) There should be more such sessions.
- Filmed speeches could be posted on You Tube for those members unable to attend or who had had to leave early.
- GJ and LMCC should follow up on feedback from Napier University and Ayrshire College delegates who had left the event early.
- Catering at the venue was good with lots of options such as vegan and dairy free.
- The evening activities had gone well.

#### **Action:**

**LMCC and GJ to follow up on feedback from Napier University and Ayrshire College delegates who had left the Gathering early.**

### 3.4 Brexit: People's Vote

LMCC spoke to the item, reminding everyone that NUS UK's policy is to support a people's vote on Brexit, however as NUS Scotland is autonomous, it can decide whether to similarly endorse or take a different stance. He has therefore brought this item to the meeting to see how SEC members feel on the issue before a policy is developed. In the course of discussion, a range of personal and institutional stances towards the People's Vote were reported with some members feeling that NUS Scotland should take a stance in support of it and another opinion that the focus should be on demanding another general election.

GJ advised that Brexit is one of the main areas of work in NUS Scotland's Plan of Work, but there is not an explicitly defined policy regarding the People's Vote. A stance cannot be taken formally as a result of the meeting but LMCC can take it as being advisory until an interim policy is brought to SEC.

As a result of discussion and in light of tight timescales before the next meeting of SEC on 3 December, the following actions were agreed:

#### **Actions:**

##### **SEC to:**

- **Send correspondence to student associations outlining NUS Scotland's current position – i.e. the positive aspects of the EU and what stands to be lost from leaving;**
- **Request in this correspondence feedback from student associations on their own student body opinion;**
- **Pull together this feedback and discuss online with a view to tailoring an interim policy in light of this feedback.**

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(ES left the meeting at this point.)

### 3.5 Reclaim the Night - Dundee

HI spoke to the item. This event has been organised jointly by the Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC) and the Equally Safe co-ordinator at Abertay. The event is taking place in the afternoon of Saturday 1 December, which will tie in with World Aids Day, and SEC members are invited to come along.

It was agreed that NUS Scotland should post an official congratulatory message to Abertay for the appointment of its Equally Safe co-ordinator post. TW to send a photo in advance of the event and to keep LMCC updated. LMCC will make the NUS Scotland Campaigns and Press teams aware.

TF advised that one is being organised in Glasgow for 23 November and she will post information on this on Facebook. An event is also happening in Aberdeen and perhaps Inverness and Orkney.

#### Actions:

- **NUS Scotland to post an official congratulatory message to Abertay University for the appointment of its Equally Safe co-ordinator post.**
- **TW to send a photo in advance of this and to keep LMCC updated**
- **LMCC to make the NUS Scotland Campaigns and Press Teams aware of the event.**

## 4 NUS UK

### 4.1 NUS UK Events

NUS UK Zone conference will take place on 24 October 2018 in Leeds. Registration has now closed. LMCC will be attending. GJ and SA are unable to, due to a clash with the Scottish Funding Council Gender conference.

### 4.2 NUS UK Policy

LMCC provided an update of the recent NEC meeting including motions passed.

### 4.3 NUS UK officers update

LMCC provided an update on the work currently being undertaken by the NUS UK officers.

GJ added that she had had good recent conversations with the NUS Wales VP (Welfare) and they would be working on mental health together. GJ has also been invited to NUS USI in Belfast. Its president is intending to visit NUS Scotland, maybe at Zone Conference.

LMCC advised that there was no news yet on a new CEO for NUS.

## 5 AOB

### 5.1 University of Abertay portfolio review

TW spoke of the portfolio review just announced by the University of Abertay, advising that there had been no consultation with students. Eight courses would be cut with a review of 4 constitution in all 30% of its courses. Students are now concerned about their degrees. TW asked SEC to have a look at the statement from the university and share it.

