

## NUS Scotland Vice-President Education

**Author:**

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**Committees:** SEC

**Action:** Approve

### Priorities

| Main priorities           | Progress (what have you achieved since the last Committee meeting)   |
|---------------------------|--|
| Fair FE Attendance Policy | The Further Education Student Support Advisory Group announced in March that they propose the current attendance policies continue to be linked to bursaries. In response, I have written a letter to the Chief Executive of the Scottish Funding Council, expressing my concerns over this recommendation. I urged the SFC to delay issuing guidance to colleges on how the 100% attendance requirement should be implemented until they can identify best practice, to ensure that all colleges are implementing tis guidance in the fairest way possible. |
| NUS Scotland Conference   | I was the lead officer for NUS Scotland Conference, which took place in March. The conference was successful, electing two new people into the roles of NUS Scotland President and Vice President Education, and re-electing the incumbent Vice President Communities.   |

### Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed

| Event/meeting              | Outcomes and/or actions taken or agreed on   |
|----------------------------|--|
| UCU Strikes                | I spoke at the UCU Strikes that were held outside Scottish Parliament and the University of Edinburgh. I expressed the support of NUS Scotland towards the staff on strike who were in dispute over an unfair pension deal. I also attended the student occupation at the University of Edinburgh, and chaired the session at NUS Scotland Conference where the President of UCU Scotland spoke about the strikes. |
| Mental Health Presentation | I delivered a presentation of the mental health work that NUS Scotland carries out to the Cross Parliamentary Group for Universities and Colleges. The aim of the meeting was to discuss practices across the sector, and identifying where student mental health provision can be improved.   |



|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| The Big Student Elections         | I hosted the Big Student Elections at GCU Students' Association, where the election results for the new officers for colleges and universities in Glasgow were announced.   |
| Access and Delivery Group         | I attended the Access and Delivery Group which is chaired by the First Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science. The purpose of the meeting is for stakeholders to update on their strands of work related to the   |
| NUS Scotland Conference           | I opened and presented at NUS Scotland Conference, and the conference was a success.  |
| NUS UK Conference                 | I attended NUS UK Conference as an observer on behalf of SEC.   |
| Sparqs Strategic Planning Day     | As a trustee of Sparqs, I was invited along to their strategic planning day where we discussed where Sparqs has been, and where the organisation should go. This was an all-day event, with stakeholders from around the sector in attendance. The feedback provided on this day will be used to develop the organisation's new strategic plan. |
| Dundee and Angus Student Congress | I attended the Dundee and Angus Student Congress via Skype, to speak to students about the work of NUS Scotland.  |
| National Articulation Forum       | The National Articulation is a new forum that looks at how articulation can be improved between subjects that have traditionally had low numbers of articulation student entrants. This first meeting was largely based on what the group should focus on, setting the scene for the year.  |

## Media engagement and external relations

| Member Union       | Purpose and anything to report on   |
|--------------------|---|
| BBC Radio Scotland | Appeared on BBC Radio Scotland to show support for UCU members and staff on strike.   |
| Global Radio       | I appeared on global radio to discuss graduation fees, voicing concerns over students being required to pay a graduation fee. |