

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	I had organised a training day for all FE Students' Association Staff and Officers to learn about how they can be proactive on their campuses to make attendance policies fairer. The idea was to develop Officers to be able to conduct grassroots organising. However, unfortunately the uptake was extremely low, and so it was cancelled. FE Students' Associations will, however, receive tailored feedback from the Fair FE Attendance Survey to give them a better idea of the attendance issues faced by students on their campuses.
NUS Scotland Conference	I am the lead Officer for NUS Scotland Conference as I am not re-standing for my position. Therefore, to encourage Constituent Members to write motions, I filmed and edited a motion writing video that explained how to write a motion for NUS Scotland Conference. I have also been part of discussions to arrange operational tasks, such as speakers and timings of the conference.
Apprentices	I attended the National Society of Apprentices weekend in London to help Scottish apprentices write motions on issues that are important to them. The event lasted for two days, where we also prioritised what issues apprentices would like to work on over the next year.

Other achievements

Presenting at NUS Sustainability in the Curriculum Conference	The purpose of this conference was to devise ways in which colleges and universities across the UK can integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into their curriculums. The conference was held in Windsor Castle and I presented on why it is important for students to learn about sustainability, whilst also engaging in discussions with stakeholders including university principals, the Scottish Funding Council, and members from the UN for two days on how we can move this forward.
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Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed

Event/meeting	Outcomes and/or actions taken or agreed on
Sparqs Trustee Board Meeting	Fulfilled my actions as a trustee, with the meeting including confirming the terms of reference for the Vice President Education (VPE) position. It now states that the VPE will be a member of the Sparqs trustee board until their end of office.
Edinburgh College SA (ECSA) Catch Up	I met with the President of ECSA to discuss how the staff and officers are getting on, with a particular focus on How Good Is Our College (HGIOC). I received feedback on how students' associations could potentially be better engaged with HGIOC moving forward.
University of Strathclyde SA Video	I appeared in a short film explaining why it is important for women to run in elections. This was part of the USSA 'This Strathy Girl Can'.
UK Quality Code Catch Up	I caught up with the Scottish Funding Council and QAA Scotland on the UK Quality Code. The UK Quality Code has a potential to remove the idea of students as partners within it, and the outcome was that NUS should continue to engage in the consultation as much as possible to ensure that this does not happen. As NUS Scotland does not sit on this group, it therefore sits to the VPHE of NUS UK to continue this conversation.
Fife College Budget for Better visit	I visited Fife College for the Budget for Better campaign, and also signed their mural for care experienced students. Those who spoke to us seemed really interested in the campaign, and we got quite a few sign ups.
Universities Scotland Parliamentary Reception	I attended the Universities Scotland Parliamentary Reception on widening access, and this was an opportunity to speak with stakeholders from across the sector and find out what institutions are doing for widening access.

Plans before the next meeting

Action/work area	What I hope to achieve
Fair FE Attendance	I hope to devise a plan B on how to support FE Officers to campaign for fairer attendance policies now that the training is no longer going ahead.

Membership Engagement

Member Union	Purpose and anything to report on
ECSA	I attended ECSA for a catch up.
USSA	I appeared in the USSA video to encourage women to stand in elections.
FCSA	I attended FCSA for the Budget for Better Campaign.

Media engagement and external relations

Member Union	Purpose and anything to report on
Kingdom FM	I was on Kingdom FM news talking about our concern that there was a reduction in widening access students applying to university.
The Herald	I also provided a quote about the above to the Herald.
The Herald	I provided a quote to the Herald stating that NUS Scotland supports the strikes of lecturers to secure better terms and conditions.

Declaration of gifts, hospitality and interests

Declaration	Further comment
N/A	N/A