

# Academic Council

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January  
1.15-2.15pm  
Room 0048

Chair: Stewart Sands – Student President

Secretary: Cecile Guilloteau – Student Representation and Support Co-ordinator

7 Class Reps were in attendance.

## 1. Welcome

Stewart Sands (SS) welcome everyone.

## 2. Student President Update

### Question of the Month

SS reminded CR that January QoM was open until 1<sup>st</sup> February. QoM is to give Class Reps an opportunity to speak with their peers around a specific academic related matter. This is a useful tool to gather feedback.

This month's question is on timetable and The Students' Union went back to paper copies to assess the scope of engagement when the question is run via paper.

CR advised that they preferred when the question was online as it is easier to hand in to other students. Some classes are on placement and cannot access the question.

### NSS

*Please refer to slides 4 and 5.*

### Transformation Project

SS advised students that due to its financial situation the University is reviewing its activities, which might affect staff, and students.

Trades Unions have voted for potential strike action and have advised that staff may enter in strike soon. SS advised students to contact their lecturers with any concerns.

It is not possible now to say who is going to strike and how it will affect classes as the strike will have individual impact. Some lecturers are not in the Trade Unions and within those who are some may decide not to strike.

### Microwave

Many students expressed their dissatisfaction with the lack of microwave facilities on campus. SS forwarded this to QMU Campus Services Senior Staff members. After some investigation, QMU advised SS that there would not be any microwave on campus due to health and safety standards, cleanliness question and cross contamination (allergies). SS said he was disappointed as other Universities in Edinburgh have microwaves and with a library open 24/7 catering facilities outside office hours are not good enough.

QMU advised that they were looking at vending machines with healthy options. CR reported vending machines are not a good option as the university is cashless; it does not return cash and does not suit students with food requirement.

SS informed students that he wants to find out more how it works in other universities and will carry his own research.

### Upcoming Students' Union events

*Please refer to slides 9 to 13.*

#### **3. Students' Union Elections**

SS advised CR that nominations to SU Elections would be open from 4<sup>th</sup> February to 18<sup>th</sup> February. Voting will take place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Anyone interested in running for the elections is welcome to approach SS.

#### **4. STaR Awards**

STaR Awards nominations are now open until 1<sup>st</sup> March. The STaR Awards ceremony is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March from 5.00 pm in Maggie's.

#### **5. Your Voice Your Idea**

A student asked about storage facilities on campaign via Your Voice Your Idea. Students staying in halls would be able to store their belongings on campus over the summer. SS met with the Head of Estate and Facilities but QMU is unable to make it happen.

Some CR advised that some private companies provide storage facilities.

#### **6. Save the date**

Please refer to slide 16

#### **7. Class Reps Feedback**

CR raised concerns over the imbalance of assessments over the year (2 in semester 1 and 7 in semester 2), unfair marking, timetable and general dissatisfaction with the course.

SS advised students to speak with their Programme Leader and Head of Division.

It was asked how CR could access a list of their class mate email address. This is possible through the Hub discussion board or with contacting the School Office and asking to forward an email.

#### **8. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 26th February 2019 1:15-2:15 in Room 3090

### Minutes Written

4<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Cecile Guilloteau

Student Representation and Support Co-ordinator