

## Board of Management Students, Staff & Equalities Committee

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Wednesday 29 May 2019</b>
<b>Paper No.</b>	<b>SSEC4-B</b>
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Subject of Paper</b>	<b>CitySA Impact Report 2018-19</b>
<b>FOISA Status</b>	<b>Disclosable</b>
<b>Primary Contact</b>	<b>Student President</b>
<b>Date of production</b>	<b>May 2019</b>
<b>Action</b>	<b>For Approval</b>


### Recommendations

Students, Staff and Equalities Committee is asked to endorse the CitySA Impact Report for approval by the Board of Management.


# City of Glasgow College Students' Association



## Report 2018/19

 0141 375 5322

 [www.citysa.co.uk](http://www.citysa.co.uk)

 [citysa@cogc.ac.uk](mailto:citysa@cogc.ac.uk)

 @cogcsa

 @city\_sa

 @cogcsa

**CITY**<sup>\*</sup>sa  
students' association

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Foreword	3
Executive Committee	4
Shaping the Life and Work of the College	5
Student Representation on the College Board and Committees	5
Regional Representation	5
Academic Representation	6
Governance and Democracy	7
MyVoice	7
AGM	7
Elections	8
NUS	9
SRC	9
Aware and Active Students	10
Freshers	10
Sports	11
Societies	12
Events	13
Campaigns	14
Communications and Marketing	15
Sustainable Resources	16
Finance	16
Value and Impact	17
Student Partnership Agreement	17
External Projects and Awards	18
Acknowledgements	19

# INTRODUCTION

## Foreword



Welcome to CitySA's Impact Report 2018/19. This has been an amazing year for us at City, introducing new ways of engaging our diverse students and making students more aware of their Students' Association and what it has to offer across both campuses.

We have produced our first ever Strategic Plan and continue to work in partnership with College departments to influence change through our Student Partnership Agreement. More students than ever before chose to stand in our elections this year which shows that more students are engaging with the SA.

We have also had a record number of societies and sports clubs, engaging the diversity of the student body. Within student activities we have several firsts for CitySA this year. Our first ever Freshers' evening social events, our first ever active student societies at Riverside Campus and our first ever large scale charity collections.

We have had an amazing Executive team that have worked together to deliver some great events for our students. Our Faculty Reps have made a fantastic contribution to the team and have actively represented the academic interests of students in their Faculties.

I am really honoured to have been part of a team that continuously works hard to provide students with a positive experience at College. I think I speak for all the team when I say that it will be sad to leave the Students' Association. However, I could not be more pleased to be handing over to Team 19/20 who are motivated, passionate and eager to make their mark. As successful as this year has been, I am sure theirs will be even more successful.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Milea Leone".

Milea Leone

Student President 2018/19

## Executive Committee



**Jennifer Gordon**

Vice President Learning & Teaching

"The best thing that happened this year while on the exec was interacting with our wonderful and supportive team who made this a very memorable and fond experience".



**Alex Robertson**

Vice President Diversity & Wellbeing

"Being on the executive committee this year has been an amazing learning opportunity to grow my skills and confidence. I am very grateful to have worked with such an incredible team in the Students' Association, who have supported me throughout this year to achieve my best."



**Rachael Gilchrist**

Vice President Social & Activities

"Being on the Exec this year has been an incredible experience. I have especially loved the growth of societies this year, helping and watching them achieve great things."



**Ananda Bruce**

Sports Officer

"The best thing that has happened this year whilst on the exec is being given opportunities to do things that I never would have thought of doing myself."



**Jason McLachlan**

Riverside Officer

"The best thing that has happened this year while on the exec has got to be becoming friends with the great people I work with. Being part of the SA just feels like being in a fun and great family"



**Liz Mullen**

Charities Officer

"The best thing that has happened this year while on the exec, is working with a team I can trust, make good friends along the way and most importantly helped and supported me when I needed it."



**Dylan Duff**

Education Officer

"The best thing that has happened this year has been the opportunities that it's provided me with from visiting the Scottish Parliament and meeting Ministers to organising events for our students here at City."



**Laura Shaw**

Wellbeing Officer

"The best thing that has happened this year while being on the exec, is being involved in the many opportunities and fundraising events created for the students by the team."

# SHAPING THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE COLLEGE

## Student Representation on the College Board and Committees

Over the course of academic year 2018/19, the representatives within the Students' Association have continued to ensure that the Students' Association is well represented across all Boards and Committees within our College.



\* There is one further meeting yet to take place at the meetings indicated and it is anticipated that there will be student representatives in attendance.

As can be seen from the meeting attendances at each of the committees, the Students' Association has played a full role in the governance structures of the College by making sure the student voice is heard at all of the highest level meetings.

The Students' Association presented at each of the Board Planning Days. In October we shared a film on 'Student Voice- Key Issues for Students' and in February we gave the first insight into the development of the Students' Association Strategic Plan.

## Regional Representation

Student President Milea Leone was elected as Chair of the Glasgow College's Regional Student Executive. This involved working closely with the officers from both Kelvin and Clyde colleges to discuss regional issues with help from NUS Scotland and work collaboratively to improve the student experience across the Glasgow region. All three Student Presidents attend the Glasgow College's Regional Board meetings.

The GCRSE have held an event across all campuses around 'Sustainability' through litter picks and information stalls as well as undertaken surveys regarding mental health across the colleges. The survey was undertaken to raise awareness of the importance of having sufficient help in place to assist with any mental health related issues.

## Academic Representation

### Academic Representation - Our Year in Numbers



**1169**

Class reps



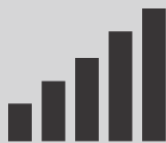
**327**

285 were trained this year  
and 42 of last year's trained  
reps have continued



**10**

Faculty Reps



**95.2%**

of tracked classes  
have reps elected



**94.7%**

were satisfied or very  
satisfied with Class  
Rep Training



**99.3%**

would recommend  
this training to other  
Class Reps

#### Representation by Faculty

Creative Industries	99%
ESOL	89%
Education and Humanities	99%
Hospitality and Leisure	99%
Nautical and STEM	87%

# GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

## MyVoice

This year was the second full year of using our online ideas platform My Voice. This platform is open to all students and can be accessed from MyCity.



While many of the ideas cannot be implemented straight away, they often allow us to explain and signpost students to helpful information or services. This year through our work with My Voice we have been able to secure these tangible outcomes:

- Outdoor furniture to be introduced at Riverside Campus
- All day breakfast trialled by Baxter Storey
- Reusable water bottles replacing disposable water cups
- More information provided to students about industrial action
- Commitment to improve Wi-Fi in halls of residence

## AGM

In November, all students were invited to submit motions to the AGM via the My Voice. In total two motions were submitted:

- Scrap the AGM
- Campaign for the end of open classrooms

Both motions received the approval of the majority of students who took part but did not achieve the quorum of 200 votes. Motions on these topics have previously been approved by the Student Representative Council.



## Elections

Voting took place from the 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 to elect the new Students' Association Presidential Team. A record 25 candidates took part in our elections and we achieved our second highest turnout ever with 2,197 students casting their vote



Our new Presidential Team, from left to right, Dylan Duff, Student President, Robyn Lambert, VP Social & Activities, Eva Curran, VP Diversity & Wellbeing, and, Callum Cross, VP Learning & Teaching.

## Election Stats 2019/20



**25**

Candidates



**407**

voters at Riverside  
Campus



**1790**

voters at City  
Campus



**429**

international  
student voters

## NUS



CitySA has continued to play an important role within the National Union of Students this year with our student representatives participating in a number of important events within NUS. From our Presidential Team attending their summer Lead and Change training through to full delegations attending NUS Scotland's The Gathering event. At both conferences it has been a year of high engagement with our national body and fellow students' associations.

This year has undoubtedly been a challenging year for the National Union of Students as it saw an unexpected financial shortfall lead to restructuring of how it works with students and students' associations and how it will now operate in the future. CitySA has played its part by contributing to the consultation around the future of NUS and voting to approve the changes needed to safeguard its future.

A particular highlight of our work with NUS this year was the visit of Richard Lochhead, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science. The Minister visited the Students' Association in October to meet with the Student President, members of the Executive Committee and Liam McCabe, President of NUS Scotland. The purpose of the Minister's visit was to find out more about the work of our Students' Association and discuss what help is needed to support the work of students' associations around mental health.



## SRC

The Students' Association continues to ensure it is accountable our members, the students of City of Glasgow College, by having an active Student Representative Council to hold our Executive Committee to account and ensure that the diversity of student opinion is taken into account. This year our SRC has helped to shape our position on how to support students during periods of industrial action, the provision of academic guidance and supporting the introduction of staggered lunch breaks within timetabling.

# AWARE AND ACTIVE STUDENTS

## Freshers



Our Freshers' Fair 2018 brought in external and internal exhibitors for a fun event at the beginning of the academic year to welcome students to the College. This was the first year that a Freshers' fair was also held at our Riverside campus. We therefore had 3 days of information and activities for our students across both campuses. Over the three days, we welcomed over 35 exhibitors to our 'All the Fun of the Fair' themed event who offered freebies and information to 8,587

students. This year all commercial bookings were handled by the University of Strathclyde Students' Association and a record £3,700 was raised in stall income.

The Executive Committee were present throughout the three days, talking to thousands of students about the work we do and generating interest, suggestions and sign-ups for our various sports clubs and societies. We also provided entertainment for students in the form of a photo booth, VR experience, a pull up challenge from Smashburger and Super Nintendo Mario Kart challenge as well as some free candy floss, popcorn and Domino's Pizza. Student Services and our College Chaplaincy Service were also there to help students find out what support is available to them as a student at City.



During our Freshers' week we also held a "Welcome to College" night and a "White T-Shirt" party at Strathclyde Union. Students were able to buy tickets which gave them entry to the event as well as free pool tokens and a free pizza. We will continue to work with Strathclyde and other external partners to ensure that our student get to experience an outstanding Freshers' experience every year.

## Sports

## Sports Engagement



8

sports clubs



156

sessions



4

competitive sports  
teams participated in  
BUCS

189

was the attendance  
across all of our sports  
clubs

## Our Sports Clubs

Running Club  
VolleyballWomen's Football  
Men's FootballWomen's Basketball  
Men's BasketballNetball  
Futsal

“With myself studying HND Sports Coaching, being able to coach and be involved in the college football team allowed me to put into practice the skills I have learned, as well as meet new friends along the way. Thus, improving my confidence when coaching.”

- Martin Stewart,  
Men's Football Team

“Being part of a sports club was rewarding and it helped me become more sociable as a person”.

- Julianna Martin, Women's  
Basketball Team



## Societies

# Society Engagement



**12**

student-led societies, our highest number ever



**94**

individual society meetings this year



**70**

was the average attendance across all of our societies



**8**

large scale events were planned and run by our societies

### Our Societies

Warhammer  
Drama Society  
African/Caribbean Society

Debate Club  
Perilous Expeditions (D&D)  
Christian Union

Raise It  
BSL Learning Society  
LGBTQ+  
STEM Girls

Film Society  
Music Society  
Board Games  
Culture Club

Being a part of a society brings people together from similar backgrounds, in my case the LGBT society.

It allowed us to become friends and work together as a team to promote equality for LGBTQ+ students.

I was able to build my confidence though the society.

**-Dylan Morrison, LGBTQ+**



I have thoroughly enjoyed this year creating and being part of STEM Girls. Building up both personal and professional confidence, as well as meeting a great amount of inspiring women and friends has made this year at this college a special one that I will remember.

**- Skye Kirwan, Convener of STEM Girls Society**

## Events



### Be Inspired

Our Be Inspired event rewards and shows recognition to our Class & Faculty Reps. The chosen theme for this event was 'Mind Over Matter' to promote Mental Health awareness as well as to encourage students to believe that change can happen. Over one hundred students attended this event with 4 speakers on different topics around this theme.

The speakers were Brian Costello (Headstrong), Emily Yates (Accessibility Consultant), Mollie Hughes (Mountaineer) and Chris Dinwoodie (Magician & Comedian).

### Festive Cycle

Staff and students participated in our Festive Cycle event in December. 11 teams of 5 competed the challenge of cycling on spin bikes for 5 minutes with the winning team cycling the furthest.

### Charity Work

This year charity work has been a priority for the SA. A total of £704.02 was raised as well as 30 Bags of school supplies and 140 Socks of toiletries collected by our Raise It society.

Events sponsored by the SA have raised £865.08 for their chosen charities.

## Campaigns

### No Smoking Day

We raised awareness around smoking by asking students and staff to swap cigarettes for hot chocolate and cake. Surveys around smoking were also undertaken.

### We Care About Care

This campaign raised awareness of care experienced young people and the impact that care can have on education as well as promoting available services. The Student Advisors also participated in this event to provide any information.

### Greenhouse

Students from different Faculties participated in building a Greenhouse made of recycled Strathmore water bottles. Students and staff were asked to swap their bottle for a reusable CitySA bottle.

Through this campaign a reduced amount of plastic bottles were sold as well as getting rid of water dispense cups.

### LGBTQ+ Society Event

The LGBTQ+ society organized a campaign for Pride Week with a specific focus on mental health and raising awareness of LGBTQ+ related issues.



## Communications and Marketing

### Social Media



#### TWITTER

1357 Followers

Developing a new communications strategy has been a primary focus for the Students' Association this year to ensure we're effectively communicating to over 30,000 students at City of Glasgow College.

#### FACEBOOK

3400 Followers



One of our primary ways to communicate to students is through our social media channels. We continue to be the most followed students' association in Scotland on social media (April 2019).



#### INSTAGRAM

424 Followers  
124 Instagram Stories  
132 average viewing rate

We have tailored our approach to appeal to different students in the college. One tool in particular which we have utilised in 2018/19 was Instagram Stories. Instagram Stories have been used to gather feedback from students, as well as promoting the work of the SA.

#### CITYSA WEBSITE

Average 242 weekly visitors



One of the biggest achievements this year has been the introduction of the new Students' Association website ([www.citysa.co.uk](http://www.citysa.co.uk)). The website launched on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February and acts as a one stop shop for students to view the work of the SA, join clubs and societies, and request advertising or book the Students' Association Space. One of the most important features of the new website is having the ability to host our own elections on the site.



#### SA UPDATE

4 Editions  
5500 Readership



# SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

## Finance

Income Source	Description	Income
Freshers' Fair	Freshers' Stall spaces	£3,700
Freshers' Events	Freshers' Pass sales	£698
NUS	NUS Extra Cards Sales	£1,072.68
<b>Total</b>		<b>£5,470.68</b>

Budget Area	Expenditure	Budget	Variance
Support Staff - Staff Dev Courses/Conferences	£1,992.50	£2,200	-£208
Support Staff - Staff Dev Travel	£1,674.50	£2,000	-£326
Support Staff - Staff Dev Subsistence	£183.42	£200	-£17
Hire of facilities	£350.00	£500	-£150
Protective Clothing & Uniforms	£204.00	£300	-£96
Equipment/Materials (Purchase)	£320.18	£500	-£180
Office Stationary & Materials	£282.71	£700	-£417
Printing & Stationary	£991.00	£1,200	-£209
Tools & Equipment	£1,119.17	£1,300	-£181
Other Equipment & Material Costs	£4,189.15	£4,500	-£311
Transport - Hire Charges	£2,605.00	£3,000	-£395
Membership Fees & Subscriptions	£6,026.95	£6,100	-£73
Events and Activities	£4,635.13	£5,000	-£365
Prizes	£500.78	£900	-£399
Internal Hospitality	£1,564.63	£2,500	-£935
Miscellaneous	£76.49	£100	-£24
Student Association	£4,417.51	£5,000	-£582
<b>Total</b>	<b>£31,133.12</b>	<b>£36,000.00</b>	<b>-£4,866.88</b>

# VALUE AND IMPACT

## Student Partnership Agreement

After the successful launch of our Student Partnership Agreement last year we have continued to use our dynamic approach to engaging students in improving their experience at City. By linking the topics we post on our My Voice ideas platform to the Student Experience Strategy, we ensure that meaningful partnerships can be formed to enact the type of change our students want to see at their college.

On the platform this year our two topics have been:

- What can the college do to help you stay motivated and support your own wellbeing?
  - Think of the services the college already provides, do you think these could be promoted differently? Consider what you already do yourself to stay focused on your studies, could this be shared with other students?
- How can the College improve the way academic guidance works for students?
  - Students in the College have a one hour guidance slot on their timetable each block and this is used in different ways depending on which course students study on.
  - We are looking for your ideas on how the way in which you receive academic guidance could be improved. Consider what information you need from the College, how you would like to speak with your guidance lecturer and when is best for guidance to take place.

From this engagement and other ongoing work within the Student Partnership Agreement, the following positive changes have been achieved for students in 2018/19:

- Promotion of affordable parking to improve access to City Campus
- Agreement to stagger lunch breaks to reduce congestion and improve student access to services and catering at lunchtime
- Continuation of the expansion of library opening hours with more additional early and Saturday opening times
- Commitment to take on board student opinions around academic guidance to improve this part of the student experience

The approach we take to running our Student Partnership Agreement has been recognised with awards from both the National Union of Students and sparqs.

## External Projects and Awards

To ensure that we make use of best practice, CitySA engages in a number of external initiatives and networks. Building on the success of achieving five stars in the Healthy Body, Healthy Mind programme, we have worked this year to support the Student Engagement Team's bid to secure the first ever five star plus award. The results will be announced in June. We have also engaged in another project run by Think Positive and this year we have created the first ever Student Mental Health Agreement for the College.

The Students' Association maintains links across our sector by sending representatives to sparqs' Academic Representation Co-ordinators Network and NUS Scotland's Campaigns & Representation Network. We are also represented on sparqs' Colleges Advisory Group.

The work done by the Students' Association, both student-led and in partnership with the Student Engagement Team, has been recognized several times this year.

### National Union of Students UK Awards 2018

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| • People Award                      | Awarded for the Make a Difference Project     |
| • Relationships & Partnership Award | Awarded for the Student Partnership Agreement |
| • Officer Team of the Year Award    | Awarded for the 2017/18 Executive Committee   |

### National Union of Students Scotland Awards 2019

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| • Diversity Award | Awarded for the All-Together-Different Project |
|-------------------|--|

### sparqs Awards 2019

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| • College Impact     | Awarded for the Student Partnership Agreement |
| • Engaging Diversely | Awarded for the Make a Difference Project     |



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Students' Association have had an amazing year with lots of great achievements. These achievements were possible with the help of different departments and staff members as well as our students therefore CitySA would like to take the opportunity to thank those who have worked closely with us.

Firstly we'd like to thank Kevin Ward, Janice Kennedy and Madeline Jean who have supported each member of the team with any help that they have needed. Without Janice's attention to detail, Kevin's mentoring and guidance and Madeline's creativity the SA would not be the success that it has become.

We'd also like to thank Sandra Cook who works hard every day to support and motivate each member of the team as well as providing opportunities to enhance their skills and build on their experience.

Thanks must also go to the Student Engagement team who work closely alongside the SA to create a variety of initiatives to not only improve the student experience but also create opportunities for students to work closely with other faculties.

A massive thanks to Gillian Plunkett, Joanna Campbell, Scott Harrison, Paul Clark and Douglas Dickson who continuously work closely with the Students' Association to continue to improve the student experience in a variety of ways as well as strengthening an effective partnership.

Huge thanks to our principal, Paul Little, who continues to invest in the SA, and shows an ongoing interest and belief in the value that a strong and effective Students' Association brings to the College.

Finally the Students' Association would like to share a massive thanks to all the students who have engaged in the SA throughout the year, volunteered at events and participated in elections. You are how and why we work and our purpose will never change - putting students at the heart of all we do.

City Campus  
Students' Association  
City of Glasgow College  
Second Floor  
190 Cathedral Street  
Glasgow  
G4 0RF  
t: 0141 375 5322



Riverside Campus  
Students' Association  
City of Glasgow College  
Ground Floor  
21 Thistle Street  
Glasgow  
G5 9XB  
t: 0141 375 5600