

Board of Management

Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 December 2023
Paper No.	BoM3-G
Agenda Item	4.1
Subject of Paper	Students' Association Semester One Update
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Leo Subido / Josh Taylor
Date of production	
Action	For Discussion

1. Recommendations

The Board is asked to discuss the Students' Association's (SA) updates on Semester One.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide a brief overview and facilitate discussion on the progress that the Students' Association has made towards engaging with our wider student body and raising awareness of the campaign work we do in Semester One.

3. Context

Every year the Students' Association outlines their programme of work after consultations with student reps, during their induction and through the Annual General Meetings (AGM). We identify Presidential team manifesto aims that fit in the with Students' Association's Strategic Plan.

4. Key Insights

4.1 Representation: Class Reps

The Students' Association supports elected Class Reps through induction, training and providing them with in-person and digital spaces to provide feedback from their peers on the Learning and Teaching experience. The fair election of Class Reps is the responsibility of lecturing teams, although guidance on this is provided by the Students' Association.

The Class Rep statistics reported by the SA excludes part-time, leisure, evening, and ESOL beginner classes, as these courses are not expected to elect representatives.

It is also important to note that this year, the Student Engagement team have designed a bespoke representation system for Cadet Programmes that better accommodates their schedules, and therefore cadets are discounted from our calculations. Twelve cadet cohorts have engaged this academic year resulting in 184 students being trained in representation. Cadet training is ongoing, and it is up to CHs and lecturers to book this in for their students.

4.1.1. Recruitment

Faculty	Number of Classes with an elected Rep	% of Classes with an elected Rep
Creative Industries	101/127	78%
Education & Humanities	89/129	69%
Hospitality & Leisure	97/111	87%
Nautical & STEM	20/55	36%
TOTAL	306/419	73%

4.1.2 Induction and Training

- Total number of classes who have an inducted rep – 90 / 182 (59%)
- Total number of classes who have a trained rep – 132 (43%)
- 97 students have attended meetings in October and November, covering the topics of College Induction and Canvas.

4.2 Representation: Student Parliament

The membership of our Student Parliament for this academic year was completed following the Parliament Elections held in October. Faculty Reps and Executive Officers join the Presidential Team to make up the membership of the Student Parliament.

- 6 Faculty Reps elected
- 3 Exec Officers elected (Accessibility Officer, BIPOC Officer, New to Glasgow Officer)
- 100% membership attendance for first Parliament Meeting
- 70% membership attendance for extraordinary meeting

As well as holding the Students' Association to account and representing the views of their respective students' cohorts, the Student Parliament members will be supporting the National Union of Students [Turn Up Campaign](#) supporting students with registering to vote.

4.3 Student Pantry

The development of our [Student Pantry](#) continues following its soft launch in September, and all-student launch in November. We are now open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10.30-11.30 providing hot water access and snacks to students.

- 1503 items have been given to students (as of end Nov)
- 5 regular student volunteers
- 20 taster volunteer sessions with School Partnership Students
- Referrals available for students to take food cupboard items home (pasta, rice, sauces etc.)
- More students back on-site have led to a drastic increase in pantry traffic in the last few weeks

4.4 Sports and Societies

Since the start of the academic year, we have supported 83 student-led society meetings, with 378 attendees. We have responded to student need and have set up 5 new societies this year.

Sports have continued to be well attended with 769 attendees since the start of term across all our recreational sports offerings. Volleyball, our most popular club, averaging 30 students at each weekly session.

4.5 Volunteering

The Students' Association has seen continued development and increasing engagement with our Volunteer HUB and other volunteering projects.

- 125 students registered on the HUB this academic year
- 42 opportunities applied for
- 9 volunteering workshops delivered with 117 students attending
- 7 successful applications to our [Festive Fund](#) project, with a projected 48 volunteers involved in the delivery of these projects
- Following the launch and pilot of the College City Attributes, these have been embedded into the skills recording features of the Volunteer Hub

4.5 Gender Affirming Grant

We launched our Gender Affirming Grant at the end of September and within one week of applications opening we received 28 applications. Of these, the Students' Association were able to approve and support 23 students with accessing gender-affirming gear. Initial feedback from these students reported that 89% now feel a lot more comfortable coming onto campus after receiving their gender affirming product and 79% have seen a drastic improvement on their mental health.

Following this success, the Students' Association are looking into how our additional income resources could support a second round of the grant this academic year.

4.6 Communications

The Students' Association continues to grow its online presence. Since July, our website has seen 75,259 viewers, with 15,801 unique users. Our most popular videos on our social media platforms have been "walk-throughs" showing student areas and services on campus. Since the start of this academic year, we have seen 601 new followers across our platforms.

5. Impact and Implication

While many operational pieces within the SA are continuous, failure to meet or progress with the operational objectives outlined each year could result in the reduction of positive student engagement and/or meaningful student representation. By supporting and engaging with our students that are disproportionately affected by economic and social barriers, we aim to engage with students most at risk of course withdrawal.

Our student members have also indicated that the work undertaken this year has been valuable, engaging, and inclusive, which has led to an increase in engagement across all SA groups.