

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE

Board of Management Meeting of 11 December 2024

Student Association Priorities Update

Report by Student Association President

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to update members on the progress of the Student Association (SA) this session and give an overview of future priorities and plans.



2. Update on Activity

Class Representatives

Class Representatives have had the opportunity to participate in training developed and delivered by Sparqs. More training has been made available in December to catch anyone who had missed the previous sessions. So far 52 class reps have participated in the Sparqs training, but in house training will be developed and delivered by the Learner Engagement Officer after the new year to increase Class Reps knowledge of their role and make them more aware of the activities that take place within the college.

Student Executive Committee

The Student Association have recruited volunteers to take up roles in the Student Executive Committee. Alongside the Student Presidents, the Executive Officers will be responsible for influencing change across the college, ensuring the views of our diverse student community are included and represented in how the college delivers services.

The roles include;

- Vice Presidents
- Campaigns Officer
- Equality and Diversity Officer
- Women's Officers
- LGBTQ+ Officer
- ESOL & International Officer
- Care Experienced Officer
- Media and Communications Officer

Officers will be linked in with key members of college staff and the SA will also organise regular meetings throughout the year to ensure Officers are fully supported in their role.

Halloween raffle

The Halloween raffle was successful during October, with £131.50 raised by students and staff. All funds have been used to purchase flat pack meals for students who are currently

experiencing financial difficulties due to increased living costs, and also items for the student pantry.



Christmas Raffle

Leading on from the success of the Halloween raffle, we are currently selling raffle tickets in order to raise funds for the student pantry. We have two Christmas hampers up for grabs, one containing an Amazon gift voucher and the other with a tour of Rangers football ground. The raffle will be sold throughout December and open to students and staff.



Student Pantry

Due to the cost of living crisis, more students are struggling daily with food insecurity. The Student Association have asked staff and students to donate nonperishable food items, but we have also used money raised through the raffles to purchase food products and also flat pack meals. We have also made a funding application in order to keep stock levels up. The pantry is being well used by students, but stock levels are running low and we will need to keep asking for donations until we can access funding or raise more funds.

Campus Wardrobe

The campus wardrobe has become very successful this year, with multiple students accessing it on a daily basis. Students and staff have been kind with their donations, meaning we are having to create more space within the offices to store all items of clothing and accessories.



Toy Drive

During the week commencing Monday 9th December we will be taking part in a Festive Fayre alongside the fashion department and holistic development team. The Student Association will be promoting the student pantry and campus wardrobe, but we have also asked for toy donations, as in the lead up to Christmas we understand that some parents may be struggling with purchasing presents for their children. Although we will be asking for a small donation for the toys, we will be giving them away to students who cannot afford to donate. The money raised will go towards the student pantry and campus wardrobe. Any leftover toys will be donated to local nurseries and charity shops.

Clubs and Societies

When advertising and organising clubs and societies, the Student Association require it to be led by a college student, this takes some pressure off of the Sabbatical Officer. So far there are three clubs established including: a Gaming Club, an ESOL Speaking Club and a LGBTQIA+ society. Although these are run by students or the Student Executive Officers, they are supported by the Student Association and other staff members.

Priorities/next steps

Volunteering Opportunities

The Student Association have been in talks with Glasgow 850 to help support their recruitment of volunteers for various events taking place in Glasgow in 2025. We will look to target specific areas of the curriculum for events like catering or music venues.

We have students who are participating in community achievement awards who will be working directly with the Students Association to help with things like the student pantry and campus wardrobe.

White Ribbon Scotland

As you are aware the College received White Ribbon status in 2019, for its role in helping to eradicate gender-based violence. The Student Association, alongside college staff members, are looking to reignite the partnership with White Ribbon Scotland (WRS), by arranging training for students and staff with the Campaign Director of WRS, promoting the campaign at various stalls and pop-up shops and attending events. During the 16 days of actions, staff attended Queen Street train station to help promote White Ribbon and gain signatures from the public who pledge “never to, commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women in all its forms”.

Ongoing Student Association Awareness Raising

We continue to raise the profile of the Student Association and to have a presence across all three college campuses. This has been more challenging this academic year due to having one part time sabbatical officer in place, but through various communication methods i.e. Microsoft Teams, social media and class visits, there is engagement with students. Chantell has established a Friday online drop-in session for students needing help and support and she has been meeting students regularly for one to one support.

3. Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

4. Impact on Students

There are no impacts on students arising directly from this report.

5. Risk and Assurance

This report provides assurance that the College is supporting the Student Association to engage with learners and participate in life and work of the College.

6. Equality

There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.

7. Data Protection

There are no data protection implications arising directly from this report.

8. Environmental and Sustainability

There are no environmental and sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

9. Recommendations

Members are recommended to note the contents of the report.

10. Further Information

Members can obtain additional information on the contents of this report from Chantell McCallum, President of Learning & Teaching.

Glasgow Kelvin College

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02 December 2024