

Glasgow Kelvin College
Board of Management Meeting of 11 October
2023 Student Association Priorities Update
Report by Student Association Presidents



1. Introduction

This report is to provide an update on Student Association activity to date.

2. Update on Activity – Student Association

Almost all full-time classes now have Class Representatives in place. The Presidents have created a dedicated Teams channel and have been encouraging Reps to familiarise themselves with their handbook to help them become more comfortable in their new role. Reps have been encouraged to introduce themselves to their class, explaining that they are their representative and checking everyone in their group is settling into college life.

We have also been working closely with SPARQS (student partnerships in quality Scotland) to offer Class Reps introductory training to help develop confidence in their role. This is the recommended package for training reps in Scotland. This training comes in two parts.

- Part one is a self-directed study module hosted on the college's VLE which was made available to all Reps on 19th September.
- Part two is a bookable part of the training and will be delivered by SPARQS online via Zoom. The training is designed for up to 30 delegates per session and lasts 2 hours. Presidents managed to organise three sessions, to be delivered October 3rd, 4th and 5th and are pushing hard to ensure Reps book themselves on to these sessions.

We will also organise regular meetings throughout the year to ensure Reps are fully supported in their role.

The Student Association are now recruiting 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 President
- Campaigns Officer
- Equality and Diversity Officer
- Women's Officer
- LGBTQ+ Officer
- ESOL & International Officer
- Care Experienced Officer
- Sustainability Officer

We are also open to suggestions from students for new roles that could broaden student representation on our Executive Committee.

The Student Association have been preparing visual resources to engage with students during Glasgow Kelvin's 'Green Week' which will take place between 3-5 October. Students and staff will be invited to join in some of the exciting events happening across all three campuses to support sustainable behaviours. These will include Free Dr. Bike Sessions, Sustainable Coffee and Food Pop-ups, stalls and freebies from vendors such as First Bus, Home Energy Scotland, Enva and our new Campus Cycling Officer.



Award 5: Sustainability in the Learning Experience

A Better Tomorrow Competition
~ City of Glasgow College Students' Association

Innovative approach to sustainability
~ Glasgow Kelvin College & Glasgow Kelvin College Students' Association

Foundation Apprentices Business Skills Food Waste Workshop
~ UHI Inverness

Glasgow Kelvin College were recognised as one of the top performers in this year's Planet Earth Games – College's competition. The competition brought together almost 40 UK colleges to organise events and the College finished first in Scotland, and fifth in the overall UK rankings. This has resulted in the college being shortlisted for a SPARQS Student Engagement Award for 'Sustainability in the Learning Experience'. Due to involvement with Planet Earth Games, the Presidents will be attending the awards ceremony at DoubleTree SKYbar in Edinburgh on the evening of Thursday 5th October.

The Presidents attended a Freshers Festival in Glasgow city centre on the 13th and 14th of September. Through networking at this event, Presidents were subsequently invited to attend a Freshers event at Glasgow Caledonian University. This has allowed us to develop new contacts for our Student Association and generate some innovative ideas for our own future Freshers activities.



The Student Association has been working closely with the college's new Active Campus Coordinator, Grant Sutherland and will be encouraging Reps to promote Wellbeing 'daily habits' to their class groups and will continue to support Grant to promote and facilitate the delivery of sport and physical activity on campus.

Presidents are involved with leading on the Student Mental Health Agreement (SMHA) project with NUS Think Positive. This project brings the Student Association and college together in partnership to develop, monitor and evaluate the mental health support on offer. Leading on this project means we will share some responsibilities including reviewing the project resources and arranging and facilitating SMHA working group meetings.

Presidents have been continuing to work hard to raise the profile of the Student Association and will ensure there is a presence at each of our three campuses throughout the session. Promotional videos and information have been posted on social media platforms, which has increased followers of the various social media accounts. Presidents are also planning fundraising activities including Children in Need and college wide tombola to continue with the successful partnership with East End Flat Pack Meals.

3. Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

4. Impact on Students

This report highlights the opportunities for better student engagement and the positive impacts on students by supporting them to improve their experience at college, creating opportunities to further develop and gain new skills and experiences.

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 Sonique Noreiga, President of Learning and Teaching or Emma Leslie, President of Welfare, Community and Sustainability.

Glasgow Kelvin College
EL/SN
September 2023