



Item 6.2 LB27/03/17

Report on the SLC Students' Association

March 2017

"We aim to represent all students in an equal, fair and welcoming environment where creativity is praised and everyone has a voice to be heard"

This paper has been tabled and approved by the South Lanarkshire College Board of Management
- Tuesday, 14 March 2017

SLC Students' Association 3-year Strategy Report

We have started the process of developing a 3-year Strategy Report. We want to ensure we have a clear vision of where we see the SA in the future and set key themes to achieve to ensure the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the SA.

LGBT events and activities

The SA have continued to focus on promoting and supporting our LGBT community. We have submitted our portfolio to LGBT Youth Scotland and hope to receive positive feedback in the coming months.

February was LGBT History Month and we held a Purple Friday LGBT event on the 24 February. LGBT History Month is an opportunity for the College to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender lives and culture and also an opportunity for learning, discussion and debate. The College was decorated with purple balloons, purple ribbons and LGBT bunting. We invited a range of organisations in, such as, Terrance Higgins Trust and Police Scotland. June Carr, our Mindfulness Practitioner was on hand to give guidance and advice on mindfulness and Inspire Catering provided us with some delicious rainbow cakes. The SA had a stall, with LGBT badges and purple sunglasses to hand out. We had a fabulous table cloth that students and staff could sign or make comments on to show their support and tell us how they enjoyed the day. The Faculty of Care students painted purple nails and rainbows and Photography students were taking photographs throughout the day. We carried out a survey on the day, with the feedback scheduled to go in the next SA Newsletter. All staff and students were encouraged to wear purple on the day to show their support for equality and diversity.

We have organised a monthly drop-in LGBT Student Focus Group. This started on the 27 February 2017.

We're delighted to show off our new LGBT flag which is situated above the Advice Centre and our LGBT banner which is displayed at the entrance to the College.

All these activities are generating a lot of positive comments and discussion and help demonstrate an inclusive college environment.

Who Cares? Scotland

We are really keen to help students who are looked after or care experienced and help them enjoy college life. Our priority is to ensure all students feel safe and

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valued regardless of their background. To this end we are delighted to be working closely with the Who Cares? Scotland organisation.

We collected gifts, sweets, snacks for the Care Family Christmas parties that took place for care experienced young people in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Faculty of Care students raised £460.

In partnership with staff and Jamie Kinloch from Who Cares? Scotland we hosted a Care-experienced Student Focus Group session on the 27 February. We will be holding these drop-in sessions monthly. Jamie also delivered a training session to staff and the SA.

Period Poverty

As part of our health and wellbeing focus for students and staff; we're delighted the College is providing free sanitary products to all woman and girls. Sanitary products are available from SA office, Student Services, Hairdressing and Beauty reception and the Annex building reception. Free dispensary vending machines are now available in toilets across campus.

SLC Students' Association Newsletter

We continue to aim to produce quarterly high-quality newsletters to help keep our students informed about any initiatives, activities and forthcoming events. We've included a copy of the SA February Newsletter.

Sustainability Event

Sustainability continue to be an important theme to the SA and we want to help promote sustainable behaviours to all our students. The SA invited a variety of organisations to our Sustainability Green Day event on the 21 February, such as, Home Energy Scotland, Inspire Catering, SLC Horticulture students, South Lanarkshire Council and the House of Hope. Cycle Friendly Scotland provided a smoothie bike.

We're working with our Campus Cycling Officer to promote cycling and we're hoping to become a Cycle Friendly Campus. To achieve this, we're planning lots of exciting activities, such as, free bike repair workshops, led-rides to the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome, social rides etc.

Forthcoming Planned Visits

Scottish Parliament Visit

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The SA will be representing the views of young people at the Scottish Parliament on Friday, 24 March 2017.

NUS Scotland Conference – Dundee 24-25 March 2017

We will discuss and vote on motions which will become policy of NUS Scotland when passed and where we choose the leadership of NUS Scotland for 2017-18.

NUS National Conference – Brighton 25-27 April 2017

Where we will be able to choose leadership for the UK NUS.