



Report on the SLC Students' Association

August 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"

SLC Students' Association Operational Plan

During the Summer the SA have been working on the Operational Plan for the forthcoming year. We have focused our work around the following themes; SA Management; SA Development; Engagement; Representation; Disseminating Information and Campaigning. From these themes we have identified a number of actions which will direct the SA focus and work for the coming year.

SLC Students' Association 3-year Strategy

We are continuing to work towards developing a 3-year strategy, with a draft document to be available for consultation by the end of August 2017. This will provide a clear vision of where we want to see the SA in the future and help ensure the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the SA.

LGBT events and activities – Glasgow Pride Parade & Expo 19 August 2017

The SA has continued to focus on promoting and supporting the LGBT community. We have submitted our portfolio to be assessed for the LGBT Youth Scotland Charter Mark and hope to receive positive feedback on the Organisational Foundation Award soon. As part of the ongoing Charter work the SA has signed up for the Bronze Level Award.

Once again, college staff and students took part in the Glasgow Pride Parade and Expo on Saturday, 19 August 2017. This was an excellent opportunity to show how inclusive we are as a college and demonstrates the importance we place on standing up for LGBT equality.

No Period Poverty at SLC

As part of the College's health and wellbeing focus for students and staff; we're delighted the College is providing free sanitary products to all women 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, including fully accessible toilet options. The cost of introducing this health and wellbeing initiative is around £800 per annum.

Student feedback has been exceptionally positive, with many students acknowledging that having access to these essential sanitary products makes a real difference to those who struggle financially. With one student saying "it's been amazing getting access to free sanitary products without having to lose my dignity in the process".

We're delighted that the College features in the recently published Government Consultation Bill 'Ending Period Poverty' which proposes free access to sanitary

products, including in schools, colleges and universities. The College was praised as an example of good practice and for leading the way in this positive initiative.

SLC Students' Association Welcome Newsletter

During the Summer we produced a welcome newsletter which was sent to all prospective students. We wanted to share our success stories, highlight what college life would be like, what they can expect to look forward to, whilst raising awareness of the SA and student representation. (see appendix 1)

We continue to aim to produce quarterly high-quality newsletters to help keep students informed about the SA, activities and forthcoming events. We're currently working on the first addition which will be available September 2017. This is crucial in raising the awareness and visibility of the SA and getting the student voice heard across the college campus.

Learner induction process

We're looking forward to meeting as many students as possible and will be once again visiting classes to welcome everyone to the College. In addition to this, we have produced a short video which forms part of the learner induction process to promote student representation through the student association and class representative process.

College Hoodies

We will continue to offer the SLC SA college hoodies, in a selection of colours and sizes. These are hugely popular and are significantly subsidised by the College and only cost students £5, which is widely appreciated. In addition, selling the SLC SA hoodies gives us a great opportunity to engage with our fellow students and find out how they have been enjoying their course.

NUS 'The Gathering' – Glasgow Caledonian University 17 August 2017

We attended the recent NUS event held at Glasgow Caledonian University. The Gathering is NUS Scotland's first event of the academic year where presidents, vice presidents, student leaders and staff from students' associations across Scotland get together to celebrate everything that is great about the student movement. This was an excellent opportunity to network and share experiences with colleagues across the sector.

NUS visit to the College

We were delighted to welcome Luke Humberstone - President of NUS Scotland and Fergus Boden – NUS Press and Influencing Officer to the College. We had a really positive visit and look forward to working with Luke and the rest of the NUS team in the future.

Partnership with UWS

We have been working in partnership with the UWS Student Association to give our students access to the clubs and societies at the UWS. This will be used to provide relief from academic pressure, while also offering SLC students opportunities for alternative learning experiences.

Student Officers for the SA Executive Committee

Plans are underway to commence the election process for Student Officers. We hope to recruit enthusiastic students who want to make a difference and this process will commence as soon as all students are back. In preparation of this, Student Officer Induction Packs have been produced. This will feature the potential rewards available and highlight the importance placed on this role.

Forthcoming events and activities

- **Freshers' - 11 – 15 September 2017**
Capital FM and fun activities i.e. caricaturist, balloon artist, photobooth, giant buzz wire etc.
Wide range of exhibitors to provide support, advice and lots of freebies
Prize draw for sharing what you think...
- **Climate Change Week - 18 – 22 September 2017**
- **HE UCAS event - 8 November 2017**
- **Volunteering event - 30 January – 1 February 2018**
- **Sustainability event - 13 February 2018**
- **LGBT History Month - 23 February 2018**