
Board of management

Date of Meeting	21st June 2017
Paper Title	GCCSA Annual Report
Agenda Item	17.33B
Responsible Officer	Amparo Soria Fortuny
Status	Disclosable
Action	For Noting

1. Report Purpose

This paper will highlight the activity of the GCCSA

2. Recommendations

GCCSA recommend that the committee NOTE the activity of the SA.

3. Background/Objective/Discussion/Proposal/

3.1 INTRODUCTION

GCCSA exists to fully represent the students of Glasgow Clyde College, GCCSA acts as a student voice within the college and is focused on improving the overall student experience. Its goal is to continue to improve the student experience, and become a bigger voice within the college, truly representing students through effective consultation.

GCCSA has fully engaged with the student population of Glasgow Clyde College to ensure it meets the needs of its members. From initial inductions talks for students to Fresher’s Fayre and a host of activities and events, the needs of the members are clearly identified and addressed. A clear infrastructure has engaged students in their learning through specific training, relevant events, volunteering opportunities, clubs and societies, campaigns and through a robust class rep system. This has been supported by strong partnership working with the College to ensure the student voice is heard and acted upon. Full interaction with College management and active participation at College and Regional Board level has seen the development of a robust engagement framework for student associations across the country to follow.

Multiple communication channels are in place to inform, consult and support members and College staff work with GCCSA to promote a proactive advocacy and mediatory role to ensure students are at the centre of activities and decisions.

The GGCSA has led to positive engagement with groups and individuals. The recruitment of over 600 class reps has been the key mechanism for student engagement. Student representation is at the heart of GCCSA activity and whether that takes the form of individual activities or one-to-one access and support, the positive impact upon students has been clearly evidenced. Initiatives including learning

and teaching projects, employment opportunities, LGBT events, OCD support group or ASL activities have had a significant impact upon the students and wider community.

The GCCSA have worked closely with the wider community to promote many opportunities for volunteering. The establishment of a welfare fund has supported students should they encounter short-term financial hardship and encouraged students to stay on programmes where they may have previously been unable to continue.

The system of class representation has been structured and developed to ensure that all student groups have full representation. Student groups where there has traditionally been an underrepresentation or where there are high levels of vulnerable students have been actively targeted for engagement with the new Additional Support Class Rep Meetings. ESOL learners and supported learning students have fully participated in class representation and provided to be the inspiration for projects and activities within the College.

The GCCSA has a positive profile on a local, regional and national level. The work initially focused upon the grass-root development of a robust structure of student representation and has flourished through engagement with College management, active participation at College Board level and Regional Board level to promote the interests of students in Glasgow Clyde College but also the wider Glasgow Region and in National campaigns.

The GCCSA has been fully supported by teaching and academic staff to promote the interests of students and has become an integral part of College life and decision making. Full access to College Senior Management has supported the development and profile of the GCCSA and the willingness to work in partnership has been hugely beneficial to students. The GCCSA has developed a high profile within the FE sector by fully engaging with external stakeholders to the College including community groups, local employers and other College Student Associations, but has pursued student representation at a regional and national level through discussions with the Scottish Funding Council, Scottish Government and senior politicians. Planning is well advanced for session 2017/18 to build on the success and impact of the GCCSA with further engagement tools and a range of development projects already in the pipeline.

3.2 STRUCTURE GCCSA

- Amparo President and Chief Executive
- Taylor Campbell – Vice President Cardonald Campus
- Michaela Ditrichova – Vice President Langside Campus
- David Parada Perez – Vice President Anniesland Campus

- Executive Officers:

Charities and Fundraising Officer

Caitlin Ritchie

Clubs and Societies Officer	Aranka Szillasy
Esol Officer	Marshall Haydari
Even Officer	Gemma Whyte
Media and Marketing Officer	Artyom Kholkhov
Women's Officer	Karolina Gasiorowska
LGBT Officer	Murray Rankin
Student Parent Officer	Eva Vegh

- Sport Officers:

Zoe Rowe

Blair Bellamy

Thomas Proctor

Support Staff: Development Officer

Volunteers Admin Support 5 students.

2017-2018 GCCSA STRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION already approved: The structure of sabbaticals is maintained and the support staff for the next period will be implemented with a part time administrator in addition to full time development officer.

3.3 REPRESENTATION

3.3.1 Class Representatives Meetings. With the new Special Support Class Rep Meeting (orientated to ESOL, ASL and students who opted to come to this format of meeting) organised periodically in addition to the General Class Rep Meeting, the GCCSA has reach groups of students who were traditionally underrepresented, engaging with high levels of vulnerable students. We have had 13 ESOL+ ASL Class Rep meetings cross campus and 13 Class Rep Meetings for All Students (included training) cross campus. Having in addition drop in class rep sessions till the end of the course. In total during the course we have had 26 class rep meetings

Certain departments are invited to the Class Rep Meetings to answer student queries with regards to resources and campus services and facilities.

The E - Learning department play a key role in the meetings as we book a slot in every meeting to ensure the focus on learning processes.

The Class Representatives are able to be awarded with a GCCSA Open Badge delivered through VLE that recognises their work as Class Rep.

Key data:

- Over 600 Class Rep
- 26 Class Rep Meetings Cross Campus during the course: 13 Supported Meetings, 13 General Meetings.
- 10 departments involved in the meetings.
- Around 300 Class Rep trained by SPARQS
- Certificates and rewards:
 - New Open Badges System implemented for Class Rep by e-learning.
 - SPARQS diploma for all trained students.
 - Student Engagement Award: The class Rep Sylvain Schaeffer have been nominated and shortlisted for a sparqs Student Engagement Award in the category of Course Rep of the Year. Sylvain received 5 nominations that recognise his good work as a rep.

3.3.2 Faculty Meetings. Along the course the GCCSA have implemented their representation participating in Faculty Meetings along all the faculties, having the opportunity represent the students and target all the Heads of Faculty, Heads of Curriculum and Senior Lecturers to improve the visibility and discuss how to engage better with the students of different disciplines.

3.3.3 Executive Officers Meetings. This meetings are the foundation of the governance of the Student Association and take place monthly. In this meetings decisions are taken on the direction of the GCCSA and the liberation officers update for the different events, activities and representation that they carry on during the course trying to work together ensuring that we cover the intersectionality of protected characteristics.

3.3.4 Strategic Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Action Group. Meeting Chaired by Brian Hughs) acting principal) periodically.

3.3.5 IDEAS 6 meeting cross campus chaired by Diveristy and Equallity Department

3.3.6 Board of Management Glasgow Clyde College Student President Amparo and Student Vice president Michaela Ditrichova are members of the Board Of Management, responsible of the management of the college as well as different Committees of Management.

3.3.7 Glasgow Colleges Regional Board of Management Amparo, the president of the Student Association is elected Board Member of this the regional strategic body responsible for securing the coherent provision of high quality fundable higher and further education in Glasgow's colleges. Also member of Performance and Resources Committee.

3.3.8 Regional Strategy Working Group The president of GCCSA, has been the student representative in this meetings to ensure the student voice in the Regional College's Strategy.

3.3.8 Glasgow Student Forum The sabbaticals of Glasgow Clyde College are members of this platform for the voice of students in Glasgow. Members of the Glasgow Student Forum include – Glasgow University; Strathclyde University; University of the West of Scotland; Glasgow Clyde College; City College of Glasgow; Glasgow School of Art; Glasgow Kelvin College; and the Royal Conservatoire.

3.3.9 Student Voice Working Group Education Scotland Vice President Michaela Ditrichova co-chair this group with Carol Butters (Head of Curriculum in Edinburgh College), the President Amparo is member.

3.3.10 National Representation: NUS UK and NUS Scotland Conference + Liberation Conferences. GCCSA sabbaticals have been participating actively as delegates and taking part in the decisions of the National Students Agreements.

3.3.11 Democratic procedures.

3.3.11.1 Executive Officers Elections. This course we had the first democratic elections for the Executive Officers positions, where all the students could participate. The process was e-voting through College intranet. We received 39 Expressions of interests of students to be candidates to cover 8 positions.

3.3.11.2 Sabbaticals Elections. 11 students were candidates to the elections, 3 for president and 8 for vice president. This year 674 students voted in total: 514 votes for president and 582 votes for vice presidents.

Participation 2017: 674 students participated; 514 votes for president, 582 votes for vice president.

Election turnout difference between this year and last year (%): -8% in student participation, -30% votes for president, -21% votes for vice president . (Decrease)

2.4% students voted (considering in the college there are 27.000 students). Election turnout difference between this year and last year (%): **-0.3% (decrease)**

Participation 2016: 733 students participated: 733 votes for president, 733 votes for vice president (the e-vote system that year required the students to vote for both to cast the vote.)

Election turnout difference between this year and last year (%): 2.7% of students voted (considering in the college there are 27.000 students) **1%-1.4% (increase)**

Participation 2015: **Not possible to know how many individuals voted - 93 voted just for vice president but the number of those who voted just for president was not recorded.** In terms of votes, there were 418 valid votes for VP which is 1.7% of the membership, and 354 valid votes for President which is 1.3% of the membership.

The result of the elections:

Karolina Gasiorowska President

David Parada Vice President

Taylor Campbell Vice President

Michaela Ditrichova Vice President

3.4 EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, CLUBS AND SOCIETIES. Focused on improve CV, gain skills, network, mental health, integration, equality and diversity, wider support, gender gap, promote sport and cultural life.

3.4.1 Language Exchange (weekly in all three campus)

3.4.2 Monthly Free Cinema in the best Cultural hubs of the city.

- Cineworld
- CCA
- Andalus Cultural Centre
- Glasgow Woman Library
- LGBT Film Night with Student Union
- Cinemaattic MISFITS session.

3.4.3 IT Mentoring

3.4.5 Dance Class

3.4.6 ASL Dance Class

3.4.7 ASL Art Therapy

3.4.8 Spanish Classes

3.4.9 Yoga Class

3.4.10 Debate Club

3.4.11 Young person OCD Society

3.4.12 Socialist Society

3.4.13 Multiple Sclerosis Society

3.4.14 Student Parent Group

3.4.15 Homework Group

3.4.16 LGBT Coffee Group

3.4.17 CV Excellence Workshop

3.4.18 Dance Class

3.4.19 Workshop Mental Health AID delivered by NHS Scotland

3.4.20 Workshop Computers Literacy

3.4.21 Workshop Computers Coding

3.4.22 Sports

- **Anniesland: Spinning, Volleyball, Football**
- **Langside: wide range of sports.**
- **Erasmus + NOMAD Opportunity. International opportunity**
- **External teams offering free participation and training for our students**

3.4.23 Events:

- **Apprenticeship**
- **Enterprise. Regular Events**
- **3 Inspirational Speech from James Aspey**
- **Black Inspirational Speech NUS + CRER**
- **Women's action plan NUS**
- **Women in STEM**
- **Student's kids event**
- **Charity Events: Glasgow City Mission, Beatson Cancer Trust, Amnesty International, New York Fundraiser and Glasgow Children Hospital Charity, British Heart Foundation, Guide dogs, Cancer Support Scotland, Kiltwalk...**

3.4.24 ERASMUS + International opportunities

3.4.25 Volunteering external and internal opportunities

All Volunteers, Exec Officers and Class Rep will be awarded with Open Badge System

3.5 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

3.6.1 New TXT Messages system

3.6.2 New Student Association Website (Foundation founded)

3.6.3 Twitter, Facebook, Friday Newsletter:

Twitter @OfficialGGCSA Facebook.com/Clydestudentassociation

3.6.7 Leaflets: Class Rep and Student Association

3.6.8 Drop In in our office (we have a sabbatical based in each campus)

3.6.9 Regular visits to classes to update on upcoming GCCSA activity / Intranet and VLE

3.6 CAMPAIGNS:

- #Support Us from NUS
 - MSP lobby
 - Letters
 - Free bus to go to London to the National Demonstration
- LGBT History Month
- Black History Month
- Fairtrade
- Int. Women's Day

3.7 SPONSORS

- Welfare Fund

GCCSA has ring-fenced, £1000 for the Student Welfare fund. £700 of this has been spent on travel vouchers and passes for students who have not received bursary or funding and are struggling to get to and from college.
- GB Swans AFL Women Football Team
- Scottish Student Journalism Awards
- Fraser's Glasgow-Edinburgh Ultra Marathon for Cancer Support Scotland
- Christmas party for Skills for Life and Work Year1
- Panto at the Kings Theatre for ASL students
- Football Team GCC
- Euan McLaughlin ITTF Para Spanish Open

4. Risk Analysis

5. Legal Implications

6. Financial Implications

7. Regional Outcome Agreement Implications. All the activity of the student association is aligned with the strategic objectives of the college and the ROA.

8. Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out In process, GCCSA have attended to the in-person training and online training