GLASGOW CLYDE
COLLEGE

BOARD MEETING

Date of Meeting	21st Dec 2016
Paper Title	GCCSA Update
Agenda Item	16.134
Responsible Officer	Amparo Soria Fortuny
Status	
Action	

1. Report Purpose

1.1 This paper will highlight the activity of the GCCSA and include targets we are working to reach.

2. Recommendations
For Noting

Background/Objective/Discussion/Proposal/ The following will outline key activities of GCCSA and how we plan to monitor progress and actions of our activities.

2.1 Background. STRUCTURE of the Student Association:

- President (Full Time): Amparo Soria Fortuny
- Vice President Langside (Part Time): Michaela Ditrichova
- Vice President Anniesland (Part Time): David Parada Perez
- Vice President Cardonald (Part Time): Taylor Campbell
- Support Staff (Full Time) : Claire Conachi
- Executive Officers (Volunteering Possitions):

Charities and Fundraising	Caitlin Ritchie
Clubs and Societies	Aranka Szillasy
Esol	Marshall Haydar
Event	Gemma Whyte
Media and Marketing Officer	Artyom Kholkhov
Women's Officer	Karolina Gasioro
LGBT	Murray Rankin

1

Student Parent   Eva Vegh
  ▪ Officers (Volunteering Positions)

Sport Officers:
Zoe Rowe
Blair Bellamy
Thomas Proctor
ESOL Officers:
Nasir Hematy
Mouna Alarchi

2.2 Representation

2.2.1 College representation:

- **Class Rep Meetings**. Since the 2015/16 session, the class rep structure has been expanded, to include two separate types of class rep meetings, per campus. This now means that instead of three class rep meetings per month, there are now six meetings a month. The meetings are split for students who require additional support; whether that be language support or otherwise. This year, there are a total of 500 reps; 114 ESOL class reps, 16 ALS class reps, and 370 in other classes. A total of 220 reps have also received Sparqs class rep training, a 59% increase on last year, and all ALS students have received class rep training.
- **CMT Meetings**
- **Faculties Meeting**

2.2.2 Regional Representation:
- College Student Regional Meeting
- Glasgow Student Forum. Regular meetings with Student Associations Colleges, Universities and Conservatoire in Glasgow.
- GCRB/P&R Committee

2.2.3 National Representation:
- Education Scotland Student Voice Committee. (co-chared by Michaela Ditrichova)
- Post Brexit focused group chaired by Scottish Government's Minister for International Development and Europe Alasdair Allan
- NUS Conference Zone

2.3 Communications

More money has been invested into improving communications resources. GCCSA Development Officer has written new copy, and worked with marketing to create Class Rep handbooks, GCCSA Guides and updated all

old resources to reflect new branding guidelines. GCCSA has also worked with marketing to create a GCCSA promotional video, and intends to work more closely with E-learning to expand these resources, and make best use of the new innovation hub at Langside for Student IT groups. A close partnership with E-learning has been developed which allows direct feedback on learning and teaching issues relating to the online learning environment, which helps to inform areas for development in future.

Posters and Calls shout outs.

Facebook provide updates on GCCSA Activity and also twitter.

Friday Newsletter

Mailing list with college student's email.

Communications improvements in progress:

- Developing SMS system with Systems Development
- GCCSA website: The student association's independent website is one of the criteria used to rate the level of development of the Students Associations in Scotland. Here I list some Scottish Colleges Student Associations Websites that we are taking as example:

  https://www.srucsa.org.uk/us/

  https://ecsa.scot/

  http://www.hisa.uhi.ac.uk/

  https://www.nescolsa.com/

- Development of Student Intranet: GCCSA staff researched the need for the student intranet, and presented ideas to a group of staff in the last session. Still awaiting feedback on whether to move ahead with project proposal, however would like to meet with E-learning to discuss how VLE and Intranet could be redesigned together, and restructured to become more effective for students. More focus on this area is needed in this session.
- GCCSA noticeboards in each classroom, GCCSA letter to students

2.4 Activity

2.4.1GCCSA offer training opportunities and activities for students. Namely in 4 main areas:

- Access employment: IT, digital skills, skills for work etc.
- Enhancing learning experience: Homework Club, Clubs and Societies (Fade to Black, weekly cinema in Cardonald).
- Mental Health: Mental Health Group, Yoga and mindfulness class, dance class
- Integration and equality: Language Exchange, free cinema in Glasgow cultural hubs, LGBT Society, parents activities in association with the nursery, Equate Scotland Session, NUS Woman Meeting
- Sport: Badminton, Regional Tournament, football, dance class

2.4.2Volunteering continuing with last course system of open badge and Community Achievement Awards from Newbattle Abbey College SCQF Level 6, will be offered to the volunteers in the next semester.

- **Volunteering for GCC Student Association**
- **European Volunteering** funded by Erasmus + in collaboration with XChange Scotland.
- **Sports European Camps:** The 3 sports officers are working in partnership with Xchange Scotland to offer the project to Glasgow Clyde Students

2.4.3 Projects in Partnership with colleges in the region:

- **Clyde Conecting with Cultural Hubs.** Monthly cinema and presentation of the most interesting cultural hubs of the city. Promoted by Glasgow Clyde College
- **Regional Tournament** Promoted by City of Glasgow College

2.4.4 Action and Gender Action Planning

GCCSA would like student input to be considered in discussions around the Gender Action Plan action for Glasgow Clyde College. GCCSA was invited to the Ministerial launch of the Action Plan, and is interested in ensuring a student voice is considered in these discussions. GCCSA plans to run White Ribbon Campaign in the New Year, to raise awareness of violence against women, which we believe ties into the further development areas of the SFC Gender Action Plan. GCCSA has also implemented a Women's Officer post onto the Student Executive this year, and Student Parent Officer, who are working to gather feedback on our Student Parent Survey, on issues relating to gender, access and support across the college. Student parents project crèche covering the extended hours of the library in exams is one of the improvements planned

2.5 GCCSA is committed to reduce the **Carbon footprint** and expenses using the electric car of the college and public transport.

2.6 Requirements

Equipment / Resource Requirement
Describe any new resource or equipment that represents a significant cost and could not be absorbed by your own budget. (attached spreadsheet)   • Student Space: updating resources. Create Student Space in Anniesland   • Student Association website and updated intranet   • Additional Staffing allocation

3   Risk Analysis
Potential Risks

More staff capacity should be built into future plans if Student Association is to develop. One staff member to support four student officers is not enough, especially when considering the ongoing need for training and support of these officers, as well as the need to develop the student association, and the overall effectiveness of work undertaken. GCCSA's current staff member is not a manager, therefore has no management responsibility over sabbatical officers, which is limiting in terms of how the organisation is being driven forward. To make the Student Association strong and effective, an investment into staffing the Association must be made, as with any other college department. Or SA remit built into remit of different areas of the college, to ensure staff recognise the SA as a priority.

- **Poor Feedback**
  Students and staff may provide poor feedback, it is the responsibility of GCCSA to ensure we obtain as much student feedback as possible, and work to improve our services following feedback form students. Having lost one full time administrator we think this is the highest risk.
- **Poor Governance**
  None of the Executive Meetings have been minuted, and only 2 of the 9 Class Rep Meetings have been minuted.
- **Poor Administrative Service**
  Eg. GCCSA haven't delivered yet the diplomas for the last course volunteers.

4 Legal Implications
None Foreseen

5 Financial Implications

None Foreseen.

6 Regional Outcome Agreement Implications
Engagement activity will contribute toward the attainment of the regional outcomes and this will be reflected in GCCSA planning and evaluation.

7 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out (Y/N/NA)

EIAs will be carried out on individual projects and pieces of work GCCSA will have a monthly meeting with Equality and Diversity department to