

Agenda Item	
1	<p>Housekeeping and approval of agenda</p> <p>The Chair, Matthew Angel (MA) opened the meeting and briefly explained housekeeping rules regarding voting, procedural motions, order of business, speeches, and other matters.</p>
2	<p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>Robbie Uriarte (RU) moved that the announcements of the election results should be brought forward to the beginning of the meeting.</p> <p>A procedural motion to change the order of the paper passed with 98 votes for, 58 votes against, and 36 abstentions.</p> <p>The agenda in its new form passed with 132 votes for, 20 against and 10 abstentions.</p>
3	<p>Announcements of Sabbatical election Results</p> <p>Cecilia Wallback (CW) announced the results for the 2021 Sabbatical Officer Elections as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VP Communities: Camilo Torres Barragan was elected. • VP Education: Ondrej Kucerak was elected. • VP Welfare: Ivana Drdakova was elected. • VP Sports: Adam Lambert was elected. • Student President: Alisa Koester was elected.
4	<p>Approval of last year's minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the 2020 AGM passed with 145 votes for, 4 votes against, and 31 abstentions.</p>
5	<p>Annual Reports and Financial Statements</p> <p>The Chair invited Cecilia Wallback (CW), Student President and Chair of the Trustee Board, to present the accounts.</p> <p>CW introduced the reason the accounts are presented, and highlighted that these were the accounts for the period of 1st August 2019 to July 30th 2020. These were approved by the Trustee Board already.</p> <p>CW presented the highlights of the financial year including stating that this year was not typical due to the lockdown and having to close Union Brew for part of the year. CW further explained what grants AUSA had been awarded and what has been used and what has been carried over as surplus.</p> <p>CW gave an update on the grants awarded by AUSA to sports clubs and societies as well as the cost of staff for the year.</p> <p>CW ended the update by going over the reserves that were held by AUSA.</p>

6	<p>Appointment of Auditors Update</p> <p>CW informed AGM that the current auditor is MHA Henderson Loggie and there had been no updates regarding this matter. There were no questions.</p>
7	<p>Affiliations</p> <p>CW gave the list of current bodies AUSA is affiliated with. There were no questions.</p>
8	<p>Policy update</p> <p>CW explained that current active policies are available on the Policy Hub page on the AUSA website where each policy is listed by the Sabbatical Officer who is responsible for the policy. There were 23 active policies at the time of AGM.</p>
9	<p>Open Questions to the Trustee Board</p> <p>Question from the chat: Why did you hold the Sabbatical elections and the NUS referendum at the same time?</p> <p>CW: We held them at the same time to get the biggest turn out possible as we needed a 10% turn out for the nus referendum to be valid.</p> <p>Question from the chat: Why aren't we getting graduation before the summer?</p> <p>CW: We are working to convince the University to hold graduations however we cannot comment on why this decision has been made.</p> <p>Question from the chat: Will there be another referendum next year if this one fails to make the required turn out?</p> <p>CW: We do not have any obligation to hold another one however students can call for one by following the byelaw procedures.</p> <p>Question: Is there an update on the lobbying for sports clubs to access Butchart? The VP sports has been off. Currently Butchart is being used as a testing centre so no.</p> <p>Question from the chat: Why did AUSA defend the SMT and criticise of staff in the aftermath of initial No detriment policy vote at senate?</p> <p>CW: We defended the SMT staff as they did not vote against, and we worked with them in the hopes of getting it passed. It was the academic staff who needed to be held to account.</p> <p>Questions from the chat: If the NUS referendum fails to meet the number needed can you confirm that that means that AUSA will be leaving NUS?</p> <p>CW: If it fails to meet the 10%, we take no action on the referendum, so we remain in NUS.</p>

Question from the chat: Remote learning students aren't included in student activities. Are you planning to reach out and have them more involved?

Ondrej Kucerak (OK): We are still exploring how we can reach out distance and online students and include them in more activities.

Question for the chat: What was the vote turn out for the Sabbatical elections?

CW: The turnout was 1081 voters. We don't have the % yet.

Question from the chat: Most events seem to be centred on pubs and clubs what changes can you make?

OK: We can't make clubs and societies change their events however we do try to offer alternatives as AUSA and want to work with clubs and societies to offer a wider range of events.

Question from Chat: Given recent events what will AUSA do to ensure that their commitment to equality is more than performative?

With regards to equality we have been doing a lot of work on strategies with the university e.g. race specific counselling. This is something that cannot be solved in one sabbatical term and needs to be a university wide issue.

Question from the chat: How will you help clubs and societies to increase turn out at events?

Question from Chat: This year participation in clubs and societies was very low. What procedures would you recommend the new trustee board use to increase turn out again?

Radeen Moncrieffe (RM): In regard to helping societies with events we are hoping to get students back to face to face activities as things change with restrictions. Also we have learnt over the past year to help facilitate online activities.

Questions from the Chat: What are the future plans to fund student media groups?

Radeen Moncrieff (RM): With regards to student media group funding will be a future sab issue. We are working with them to change the byelaw to allow for more sustainable funding for the groups from not just AUSA but also the University.

Questions from the chat: Are any steps being taken against the staff members who disregarded the race equality presentation in the February senate?

OK: The situation was that the staff members are aware of their actions, and we are trying to ensure that no one speaks on presentations going forward.

	<p>Question from the chat: Regarding the NUS referendum would it make more sense for the yes vote not be the default response.</p> <p>CW: It is standard for all referendum votes in the sector.</p> <p>Question: how is AUSA ensuring free speech is protected on campus?</p> <p>RM: We believe it already is being protected. People are free to say what they want to say but should also be willing to accept the consequences of what they say.</p> <p>Question from the chat: how will you ensure that protected free speech doesn't lead to sanctioned hate speech?</p> <p>RM: It's something we are aware of. Part of free speech is that there are consequences for what you say.</p> <p>Question form chat: how will you help societies who have had their numbers affected by the pandemic?</p> <p>RM: it is dependent on how the ongoing pandemic plays out. We are hoping to develop support and resources on how to hold online events for societies to use and help them. As well as hoping to get back to face to face activities.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Motions</p> <p>10.1 – Student Activities Exception of Deadlines Due to Pandemic: Submitted by Radeen Moncrieffe, VP Communities</p> <p>RM introduced the motion to the AGM. Because of the pandemic student activities are under more pressure than usual. This motion would extend the current deadlines for re-affiliation to ease the pressure that they may have faced.</p> <p>Daniel O’Conner (DO): Asked if the societies needed to submit in writing that they wanted the extension, and would it not be better to have it be an automatic extension?</p> <p>RM: While that is a good point, AUSA staff will be very diligent and will be aware of if someone misses the deadline, they will check with them. There is also a mass message going to club and societies to make them aware if this motion passes.</p> <p>A vote was held, and the motion passed with 148 votes for, 3 votes against, and 11 abstentions.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Byelaw Amendments</p> <p>11.1 – Sabbatical Officer Remits: Submitted by Cecilia Wallbäck, Student President</p> <p>CW explained that the change of the byelaw will change the VP Sport to the VP for Activities so that it allows for more balanced work distribution for sabbatical officers. This change will allow for a paid sabbatical officer</p>

to support the societies rather than a part time officer. The other change is that the RAG committee will now be chaired by the VP communities.

Jack Boag (JB): What future would the societies union have with the new role?

CW: The societies union will have more influence as they will have a sabbatical officer will be dedicated to bettering societies.

Alanna [surname]: Asked for clarification on how RAG will be affected in the future.

CW: With a paid officer in charge of RAG this will mean that there is someone to hold to account for any issues that RAG as we currently don't have this with a part time role.

Harnam Mann (HM): The VP Sport is a large role; would this not be too much work for one position to do?

CW: The support needs for sport and societies a lot of the issues they have are operational. And we have dedicated staff for that. The hope for the role is to add the political aspect to the role.

RM: a large part is to rebalance the roles as a lot of the sports role is operational and also to take the societies away from the community's role as it is a very varied role that societies doesn't fit under already.

OK: in terms of representation the sports sabb has much less workload than other staff at present.

HM: Would it not be because the sports VP was absent that the sports have suffered in terms of political representation?

CW: explained that it was more they hadn't been lacking as there was no political decisions to be made even with VP Sport being absent.

DO: I agree we need a sabb level officer could we keep an open discussion on what is operational and what is being moved to the sabb?

CW: absolutely.

A vote was held on the proposal and with 102 votes for, 26 against, and 34 abstentions, the proposal passed.

11.2: Student Council and Student Policy: Submitted by Ondrej Kucerák, VP Education

OK presented the byelaw changes to the AGM. The changes would open student council to more students and not just the committees. This change would mirror the system that Edinburgh university have.

DO: Asked how do we ensure that we have a relevant quorum if this change is made?

OK: We would expect the standing committees to be there so the attendance shouldn't go lower than what we have now. This would allow for more people to engage with student council. It was encouraged by AGM two years ago to have this open AGM.

JB: Would there be a minimum turn out for a campus wide vote?

OK: The byelaw states that there would need to be a larger number than attended council.

Emily Strickland: called for a quorum check.

The Chair confirmed that quorum was lost and closed the meeting. The final proposal would be submitted to Student Council to consider.

CW announced the results of the NUS referendum.

With the referendum not meeting the 10% minimum needed, AUSA would remain within the NUS.