

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting	Trustee Board	
	Management Board	
	Executive Committee	X
	Finance & Commercial Development	
	Appointments & Remuneration	
	Compliance, Governance & Risk	
	Other: Staff Development Day	

Meeting Date	14 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Meeting Time	11.30-12.30
<b>Attendance</b>	
Present	William Campbell (President) Simon Varwell (Student Engagement and Representation) Gary Souter (Vice President Education) Ahren Armstrong (Argyll Depute President) Holly Pearce (Inverness Depute President, Education) Rachel Burn (Chief Executive Officer) Sophie Ann Bain (NWH Depute President) Elizabeth Keeghan (Inverness President)
Apologies	Kian McDonald, Fiona Smith, Rebecca Bond, Shannon MacCallum, PGR observers
Non-Attendance	

Section	Minutes
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Meeting Management</b>
1.1 Apologies	As detailed above.
1.2 Minutes from 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	Minutes from 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024 were approved by the Committee.
1.3 Action Log from 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	<p>Actions were completed and closed or left open as per the action log.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Item on the Student Mental Health Agreement is complete (but work to create a new SMHA ongoing)</li> <li>Item on the NUS is on the agenda below</li> <li>Item on Moray and cuts, we have won a small victory with the Fine Arts provision for 24/25 being continued but will continue to conduct class visits at Moray and feed in student concerns and comments alongside engaging in dialogue with UHI Moray</li> <li>WC will speak to Emma when she returns from leave about clubs and societies and what Executive can do to promote membership further</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender neutral toilets – conversations are underway but with resistance from some APs. Wider issues on space to be placed in the May agenda for discussion.</li> <li>• Networked students on campus – lots of worked done in this space by HP so the item will be close but keen to disseminate support for students via HISA offices and Exec members.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>PGR reps on Executive</b>
2.1 PGR reps on Executive	<p>SV introduced this item and stated that thanks to two engaged PGR students, we were delighted to be able to invite PGR students as observers (non-voting) to Executive going forward to ensure that the PGR voice is heard at Executive. This development came from the PGR conference hosted by Orkney in January 2024 and is part of a wider University conversation about how we can involve PGR students more widely in relevant quality committees and enhancement activities going forward.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> SV to ask the two PGR reps if it would be helpful for them to have separate email addresses to keep their rep work separate from their PGR student emails.</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>NUS</b>
3.1 NUS	<p>WC provided to an update following recent attendance of some Executive members and staff at the NUS Scotland conference. Whilst we were delighted to win an award at the conference, there were issues related to accessibility and dietary requirements, poor handling of policy discussions, a number of derogatory comments about UHI and HISA and incorrect spelling of names in official documentation. Other Student Unions observed the same behaviour and have already made formal complaints. It was proposed that HISA also writes a letter of complaint, a draft of which has been circulated to Executive. A discussion also took place about the Reform policy being proposed by the NUS at this and other conferences and concerns that Executive has about the policy and the lack of detail. This prompted a wider discussion about the lack of support that HISA receives from NUS. RB noted that she had had some contact with the NUS following the recent issues raised about the conference and WC noted good initial conversations with the incoming NUS Scotland President Sai, who is a current officer at Aberdeen.</p> <p><b>ACTIONS:</b> It was agreed that a letter of complaint would be sent about the issues raised in relation to the conference.</p> <p>It was agreed that the President and CEO would keep the dialogue open with the NUS and report back to Executive whilst exploring options in this space.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>ASM themes</b>
4.1 All Student Meeting (ASM) themes	<p>WC noted that the next ASM is being held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. This meeting is acting as our Annual Student Meeting where the annual accounts will be presented, and its main topic for student engagement will focus on clubs and societies, led by Emma Miller.</p>

	<p><b>ACTION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All committee members to send WC or SV any suggestions for future ASM themes</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<b>Networked students</b>
5.1 Networked students	This item was covered in the actions above.
<b>6</b>	<b>Moray and curriculum changes update</b>
6.1 UHI Moray	HISA was delighted to have won a one years reprieve for Fine Arts students at Moray while wider curriculum changes are being considered by UHI. HISA will continue to engage in class visits and feed student views to UHI Moray leadership as we continue the dialogue in this space.
<b>7</b>	<b>Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) update</b>
7.1 SPA	RB updated Executive. An initial SPA action plan has been created but this will need to be revised in line with the new Officer manifestos and HISA strategy over the summer, then disseminated early in the 24/25 academic year to allow for proper engagement with APs in regards to the SPA.
<b>8</b>	<b>AOB</b>
8.1	<p>Spectrum Life</p> <p>AA raised a concern about the service being provided by Spectrum Life in terms of ease of access for students, data privacy and inadequate or non existent reposes to requests for help.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b></p> <p>It was agreed that RB would raise these issues with Iain Morrison's team in EO and that WC would also raise the issues with the Student Mental Health Agreement working group.</p>
8.2	<p>QESR visit 2<sup>nd</sup> May</p> <p>SV reminded Executive of the visit by QESR to UHI on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and the need for more students for the student panel. A number of members put their names forward in the meeting and agreed to approach relevant SVRs to fill the other places. There is a briefing for students on 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 12.00 if you are part of the panel. RB will also attend this to take notes for anyone who cannot attend.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b></p> <p>All to put forward SVRs for the panel</p>
8.3	<p>HISA Awards</p> <p>SV asked members of Executive to volunteer to sit on the HISA Panel awards – shortlisting and judging will take place in May and June. A number of members put themselves forward in the meeting.</p>

