

Minutes  
Student Parliament 3  
Tuesday 20 January 2026  
Level 8 Open Space, Strathclyde Student Union

---

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

*Democracy Convenor*

- a. Members Present: President, VP Education, VP Inclusion, VP Sport, Faculty Rep Business UG, Faculty Rep Business PGT, Faculty Rep Engineering UG, Faculty Rep HaSS UG, Faculty Rep HaSS PGT, Faculty Rep HaSS PGR, Faculty Rep Science UG, Faculty Rep Science PGR, BAME Rep, Democracy Convenor, LGBT+ Rep, Halls Rep, Interfaith Rep, Part-time Students Rep
- b. Staff: Morna Simpkins, Leo Siebert, Alison McNaughton, Rudela Zaman
- c. Apologies: VP Community, Faculty Rep Business PGR, Disabled Students' Rep, Women's Rep
- d. Absentees: Faculty Rep Engineering PGR, Faculty Rep Science PGT, Mature Students' Rep
- e. Declarations of Interest
  - i. UG Science Faculty Rep: AI now being used in admissions process but not enough information being shared about it.
- f. Minutes and Matters Arising
  - i. Minutes from Student Parliament 2 were approved unanimously.

**2. Reports**

*Exec*

- a. President
  - i. Manifesto Updates
    - Rural Challenges Working Group: work in progress with students being ranked on commute time and distance. Tying in Personal Circumstances and looking to lower entry requirements and increasing grant support from university. Agenda set up but more meetings and progress required.
    - Working on running Strathclyde-centred awareness campaign for 2026 Scottish Election: resource-sharing like voter registration how-to's etc., use of electronic posters and social media, voter registration drives, and Glasgow City Council involvement. Election preparation begins in March.
    - Presidential Drop-Ins continuing on Fridays.
    - Maintaining active presence in student-led events and on social media.
    - Continuing to support Student-Led Campaigning and Fundraising.
  - ii. Union Updates
    - Dominoes, Pepsi, Walkers, and Doritos removed from Union after Strathclyde's Palestine-support group's campaigning – big success in by student-led voices in ensuring Union is BDS-compliant.

- Involvement in outreach to other unions and associations to get them to come to FFTN march and involved in 16 Days of Action
  - President's role going forward as outlined by Democracy Review
  - Looking at Herriott-Watt's Accountability Panel that puts more serious accountability on officers.
  - Article written on Strath Telegraph and more to come on topics of the 2026 Scottish Elections, Gaelic, and AI.
  - Welcome Week - involvement in being visible and attending Burns Night.
- iii. University Updates
- Working with James Blyth Court Redevelopment to ensure student voice is incorporated in design.
  - Met with Bahrain Campus students, working to increase cross-campus support.
  - Meeting with UCU.
  - Iran student activity: wondering whether University should make a statement. Directing students struggling to receive money from home in Iran to relevant resources like Finance Helpdesk and see if University can help with finances.
  - Court and Senate - attending business committees, sharing student voice updates, and attending the Court Residential
- b. Vice-President Community
- Phase 2 of Operation Seasonal Sparkle underway with Burns Night Ceilidh looking for more volunteers and for another holiday spotlight.
  - Employability week happening February 2-7.
- c. Vice-President Education
- Introduced Voice Coordinator Leo Siebert.
  - Representation Conference on 17 February, includes lunch networking during that day.
  - Co-creation of a Campaigns/Active Citizen Day, welcoming more involvement.
  - Representing the students on the Scotland's Tertiary Enhancement Programme.
  - Drafting Student Academic Representation Policy, partnership between University and Union for academic representation roles.
  - Working on supporting management of Programme Reps.
  - Continuing working to reform Personal Circumstances.
  - Working to tighten PGR link into Union's Representation network.
  - Discussing digital budget with university, digital representation for different courses, still in progress.
  - Continuing to support Societies for Education and academic-related endeavours, as well as working with Committees and Court.

- Drop-in sessions still happening every Tuesday 1-2 PM in Voice Room.
- d. Vice-President Inclusion
- LGBT History month next month, meet with VP Inclusion or LGBT Rep for any ideas. Full programme available [here](#).
  - Race Equality Charter: Applying for Bronze award.
  - Received funding for Cultural Week.
  - Working on ensuring international students get visa extensions especially for serious cases, acknowledged limitations of their roles as decision ultimately up to Home Office. Scottish government working to help Scottish universities. Working to put this information on University website.
  - Noted that international students can however opt for Voluntary Suspension of 3 months which is within their study time.
  - One Faculty Rep noted visa expiry issues despite having to resit exams, VP Education reinforced this point especially from Engineering faculty. BAME Rep added that this is a more case-by-case situation and also depends on other factors, this is a UKVI issue.
  - Meeting with investors, library and accommodation people for accessibility needs and points. See if some of them need upgrading, that will be done.
- e. Vice-President Sport
- Wednesday afternoon class campaign, creating survey with Sports executives.
  - Changes made to Wednesday class policy.
  - [Girls' night](#) – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February.
  - Ambassador callout currently up on Instagram.
  - Working with GCU and others on a women's sports event for International Women's Day.
  - Looking into potential coaching network and who our target audience would be, general feedback was something regional.

### 3. Standing Policies

*Democracy Convenor*

- Democracy Convenor can create a small committee traffic light system for Standing Policy for people to better understand it.
- Union CEO will share document outlining the dates and more.
- Faculty rep involvement welcome.
- 4+ signups including President, VP Education for the volunteering.
- Democracy Convenor will send an email out.

### 4. Declarations of Interest

*Democracy Convenor*

- a. UG Science Faculty Rep raised concerns regarding use of AI in admissions process, not enough information made available.
- Noted that University seems to not be open to student feedback about it.

- President raised question of whether the AI models are internal or outsourced.
- Issue delegated to Education Committee.

## **5. AOCB**

*Democracy Convenor*

- a. BAME Rep: Cultural Week potentially in March, working with election timeline, Ramadan, and assessment timings in mind.
- b. LGBT Rep: Movie night, gay-leidh and more events, planning group in place for these.
- c. Next Parliament session on 16 February 2026.