

Board of Management

Students, Staff & Equalities Committee

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 17 May 2023
Paper No.	SSEC3-C
Agenda Item	4.3
Subject of Paper	2023-2028 Strategic Plan
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Megan McClellan- Student President
Date of production	4 May 2023
Action	For Approval

1. Recommendations

To review the development of the Students' Association's 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, and endorse the Strategic Plan for approval at the Board of Management Meeting on June 21st, 2023.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide the committee with an understanding of how the Students' Association's has developed their new five-year strategic plan alongside their members, and evaluated the progress made in their previous 2019-22 plan. The previous Strategic Plan can be found in Appendix A.

3.1 Evaluation and Feedback From Members

In January, the Students' Association began the process of holding focus groups with engaged members with the aims of determining what students felt the Students' Association did well, what they could improve on, and what new things they should begin working on.

Focus groups were held with:

- Societies
- Student Parliament
- Class Reps

Within these focus groups students were told about the previous strategic plan, and asked if they felt the values accurately reflected what they felt the Students' Association should prioritise. Feedback gathered from these focus groups were collated and themed.

Final member approval of the Strategic Plan took place at the final Student Parliament Meeting on the 4th of May.

3.2 Staff Input

As part of the process for the development of financial objectives, the Students' Association have also met with the Director of Finance to ensure their objectives are viable.

As the Strategic Plan is required to be approved by the Board of Management, the Students' Association met with the College Secretary to identify and discuss any points that might raise concern or might not be addressed in the Strategic Plan.

In April, the Students' Association also delivered a presentation to the Student Academic Experience Committee outlining the development process of the Strategic Plan.

A copy of the presentations given to the Director of Finance, the College Secretary and the Student Academic Experience Committee can be found in Appendix B and C.

3.3 Quality Students' Unions Framework

In the previous 2019-22 Strategic Plan, the Students' Association had used the Framework for the Development of Strong and Effective College Students' Associations to identify key areas that they should target and develop to ensure that

they were creating an inclusive, student-led, and accessible Students' Association for all members.

This year, the Students' Association used the NUS (National Union of Students) Quality Students' Unions Framework as guide throughout the development process, with the hopes of developing a new strategic plan that would allow them to achieve Quality Students' Unions accreditation by the end of their five years.

4. Key Insights

4.1 Feedback from Members

After collating the feedback from the various focus groups held with engaged members, the Students' Association matched each idea and objective to the previous Strategic Plan to identify if previous themes had been met.

Based on feedback from staff teams and students, we felt that some of the previous themes were similar to the areas that members would like us to continue to develop, but that the largest area of focus was on continuing to develop activities, events and Representation systems that met the needs of and were valuable to all student demographics.

4.2 Themes and Objectives for 2023-28

After consultation with staff and students, the following draft Strategic Plan was submitted to and approved by Student Parliament on May 4th.

5. Appendices

[Appendix A – Previous Strategic Plan](#)

[Appendix B – SAEC/College Secretary Presentation](#)

[Appendix C – Director of Finance Presentation](#)



CITY OF GLASGOW COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-28

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INTRODUCTION

In 2019, we developed our first three-year strategic plan, which allowed us to shape the work of the Students' Association and maintain our status as a sector-leading Students' Association. This year, we began reviewing the work we had completed between 2019-22. We felt a five-year plan would allow us to achieve even more and continue to ensure that all college students were able to participate actively in the opportunities provided by their Students' Association.

Our new Strategic Plan incorporates work we felt we still had room to improve on, such as our sustainable services and developing inclusive practices. During the consultation process, students felt that the visions we outlined in our original Strategic Plan were still an accurate reflection of the values that we hold as a Students' Association and have been adapted into our new themes.

Evidence and best practice remain at the heart of our development. We have ensured that the themes and objectives outlined in this plan align with the Quality Students' Unions Framework (NUS), which will allow us to work towards achieving the NUS QUS accreditation.

This five-year plan was developed in consultation with our members and college staff to ensure that our themes and objectives will support us in maintaining representation systems, activities, and support that's student-led and student-centred.

“ We have worked with our partners in NUS Scotland to develop our Mission, Vision and Values that truly reflect who we are and what we have been asked to achieve for our students. ”



MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed to delivering sector-leading representation with students at the heart of decision making.



VISION

We will work with students to influence change and add value to the student experience.



VALUES

- Influence
- Student-led
- Inclusion
- Sustainability
- Impact



BUILDING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

INCLUSIVE

We will ensure that opportunities for students to get involved in the SA are accessible to all.

- Provide inclusive societies and sports for students of all abilities and backgrounds.
- Develop representation systems that are valuable to, and inclusive of, all student demographics.
- Provide volunteer opportunities that meet the current needs and priorities of the wider student community.

STUDENT-LED

The work and activities of our students' association will be student-centred and the way we work will benefit and include students from all backgrounds and modes of study.

- Ensure that student-led events are prioritised and include opportunities for all students to engage.
- Review and evaluate practices to ensure that they're accessible.

CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE



INFLUENCE

We will support the personal and professional development of students that work alongside the SA.

- Create dynamic leadership development opportunities for students who work alongside the Students' Association.
 - Develop a training academy to offer accredited opportunities that accurately reflect the needs of current students.
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We will ensure that staff, students, and stakeholders are aware of the influence of the Students' Association and actively promote student-led democracy.

- Develop and maintain strong staff and student partnerships through formal and informal processes.
 - Ensure students understand and value the various aspects of student-led representation.
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We will ensure that the methods we use to support students are relevant and intersectional.

- Deliver intersectional campaigns that have a noticeable impact.



SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT SERVICES

SUSTAINABILITY

We will ensure that the support and opportunities we provide students are maintainable.

- Diversify income streams that benefit our students.
- Create a cash reserve system to ensure the sustainability of future projects, including the aims of the Strategic Plan.

Our support services will reflect the current needs of the Students' Association and its members.

- Monitor and review staff resources to ensure these meet the current needs of the Students' Association.
 - Develop and maintain a cohesive and adaptable communications, through a marketing strategy that meets the needs of current students.
 - Develop Students' Association Spaces that are identifiable and engaging to students.
-

ENHANCING QUALITY

nus
national union of students
AWARDS 2025



IMPACT

We will continue to develop our services to be sector-leading whilst maintaining the previous work we've done.

- Work towards completing the Quality Students' Union Framework (NUS).
- Annually review charter work and formal accreditations to maintain award status.

Thank you to all the students and staff who contributed to the development of this Strategic Plan.

Follow our progress:



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