

SSS Committee positions 17-18 – as at 9<sup>th</sup> June

<b>Exec</b>	<b><a href="#">PETE BURGON</a> (Chair) – UNCONTESTED UNTIL June 2019</b>
<b>Chair, 3 staff, 3 students</b>	
	<a href="#">Jonny Pearson</a> , Edinburgh College
	Vacancy ( <i>staff</i> )
	Vacancy ( <i>staff</i> )
	<a href="#">Jen Wither</a> , Heriot-Watt
	<a href="#">Isi Heath</a> , Glasgow Uni
	<a href="#">Megan Richardson</a> , QMU
	<a href="#">Jonathan Cranstoun</a> , UWS
<b>Comps</b>	<b>Ross Simpson, Edinburgh Uni CHAIR UNTIL JUNE 2018</b>
<b>Chair, 2 staff, 2 students, 1 sport chair</b>	
	<a href="#">Karen McLoughlin</a> , Strathclyde Uni
	<a href="#">Chris Sellar</a> , Heriot-Watt
	Vacancy (Sport Chair)
	Vacancy ( <i>student</i> )
	Vacancy ( <i>student</i> )
	Vacancy ( <i>student</i> )
<b>Member Services</b>	<b>Cathy Gallagher, Stirling Uni CHAIR UNTIL JUNE 2018</b>
<b>Chair, 2 staff, 2 students</b>	
	<a href="#">Ryan Mahoney</a> , Edinburgh College
	Vacancy ( <i>student</i> )
	Vacancy ( <i>student</i> )
<b>South East Region</b>	<b>Chris Purdie, Stirling Uni - CHAIR UNTIL JUNE 2018</b>
<b>Grampian Region</b>	<b><a href="#">Hannah Leslie</a>, RGU - UNCONTESTED UNTIL June 2019</b>
<b>Highlands &amp; Islands Region</b>	<b><a href="#">Emma Robson</a>, UHI – UNCONTESTED UNTIL June 2019</b>
<b>Tayside &amp; Fife Region</b>	<b><a href="#">Paul McPate</a>, Dundee Uni - UNCONTESTED UNTIL June 2019</b>
<b>West Region</b>	<b><a href="#">Jamie Taylor</a>, Glasgow Uni - UNCONTESTED UNTIL June 2019</b>

*Italic font* indicates those positions which are subject to election – please click hyperlinks or see supporting statements for the candidates overleaf.



## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**PETER BURGON** – nomination supported by St Andrews University and University of Dundee

In terms of my suitability for the role I would draw attention to my time within the SSS system; a former Student President, PDC & MemServ Chair and my time on Exec, all of which has afforded me a solid footing in the business and practices of the organisation. By the same token, my experience of working within 3 quite different member institutions and attending Tayside & Fife's regional group grants me some empathy towards all SSS member institutions; college and university. I'm hugely passionate about the role of SSS both within & beyond the sectors of tertiary education and sport. I'm equally no less excited about the opportunities that may and will present themselves in the next few years. As such, for me to be the next SSS Chair, taking on the baton from such respected and trusted colleagues, would be an honour indeed.

**JONNY PEARSON** – nomination supported by Edinburgh College and Glasgow Clyde College

I started my career in FE in Scotland in January 1996 when I was appointed as a Lecturer in Sport and Fitness at Cardonald College, Glasgow. During the past 21 years of my life and career I have continued to play, teach and coach sport and have lost none of my passion and enthusiasm for both sport and physical activity. As Assistant Principal at Edinburgh College I am now privileged to be able to drive the sport and physical activity agenda both within the college and across the FE sector as a whole. I fully support and endorse the excellent work done by SSS staff on a daily basis and would relish the opportunity to assist this work in any way possible.

**CHRIS SELLAR** - nomination supported by Heriot-Watt University and University of Strathclyde

I would like to continue my involvement with the competitions committee, having sat on the committee for the last 12 months. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the committee and I am keen to complete some project work that I have been involved with over the last year, along with contributing again to the other actions assigned to the group. The project work has involved a review of how to support the development of SSS sports, including specific work on support structures. It is aimed that this work will provide a development pathway for SSS sports to follow.

I am extremely passionate about student sport, having now been involved in the sector in a professional capacity since 2011. I have a great deal of knowledge and understanding on the strategic direction and operational workings of SSS having previously been a staff member as well as picking up some voluntary experience through coordinating the representative men's football college programme for three years. Finally, in my current role as Sport Development Manager, I am now responsible for student and community sport at Oriam, which lends itself well to the remit of the competitions committee.



**MEGAN RICHARDSON** – nomination supported by University of Edinburgh and Edinburgh Napier University

I am putting myself forward for a position on the Executive Council because I believe that I can bring a positive and unique outlook. Having been in post at Queen Margaret University for the past year, my experience as Vice President has allowed me to grow and develop as a sabbatical officer. A small union environment has provided me the opportunity to get involved in lots of aspects of the business including budgeting, strategic planning and implementation as well as decision making to ensure the best for our SU.

My hope is to bring a fresh dynamic onto Exec with a point of view from a small institution which I believe Exec can benefit from. Coming in with a year of experience under my belt will allow me to offer suggestions from a wider student body towards the strategic plan as well as ensure that I'll be a passionate voice from an institution who hasn't previously been involved. I am an enthusiastic and dedicated character who loves to support and promote the importance of a memorable student experience. To be given the opportunity to be involved in something bigger and learn from Exec would be fantastic.

**ISI HEATH** – nomination supported by University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh

I am the incoming President of Glasgow University Sports Association (GUSA). During my time at university I have been an active member of 4 clubs and have held various positions both on a club committee and GUSA Council. I have represented over 11,000 students involved in sport at Glasgow as the Welfare Convenor and then Vice President for GUSA.

From working in a variety of areas on GUSA Council, involvement in the SSS PSP leadership programme and my own interest in the benefits of sport for both physical and mental health I have gained a strong knowledge and understanding of student sport and the impact it can have on the student experience. I have also gained valuable experience in the development and implementation of strategies and management of group objectives. From my previous roles I therefore believe I have the capabilities to be a significant asset to the Executive Council. As an elected student it is my role to represent the views of students to work towards providing the best opportunities possible for student sport. It is essential that these opinions are also present within SSS Executive Council and I am confident I can fulfil this role.

**JEN WITHER** – nomination supported by Heriot-Watt University, University of Dundee

I am running for a position on SSS Exec Committee as I feel I have the experience and skill set to do so. While this may be my first year as Heriot Watt Sports President, I have spent two years as an elected representative on the HW Sports Union Exec. This was a natural progression as I spent a year previously as a Sports Union ambassador, and the year before that on the Youth Sports Panel, as well as having key involvement in a number of club committees.

In my years as an ambassador, and on the exec I have learnt how to be an effective leader, and how to efficiently manage my time. In particular, being on the executive taught me the tricky skill of not just thinking of your club, but the institution as a whole, and how much more beneficial that can be. Outside of uni I am the head coach of a gymnastics club, which quickly taught me the importance of delegation, and concise, accurate communication. I'd be delighted to use my skills and experience to help SSS achieve their key aims in line with their strategy, with the ultimate goal of improving student experience.



**KAREN MCLOUGHLIN** – nomination supported by University of Glasgow and University of Strathclyde

I am someone with a year's worth of experience coordinating competitive sport at Strathclyde for our 53 BUCS teams, all SSS teams and individual athletes within the university. I also sit on the West of Scotland regional group which seeks to improve the provision of sport across the whole region, working in partnership with other institutions and governing bodies. Furthermore, I have recently got involved with the Scottish Gymnastics advisory board, with a view of increasing their presence within higher education across Scotland. As someone with ample experience volunteering at a multitude of events over the years ranging from National Championships for numerous sports to large scale events such as the Great North Run I believe I can bring knowledge and innovation to the competition group to improve the student experience further.

**EMMA ROBSON** – nomination supported by UHI and Perth College

The Highlands and Islands being the hub of sporting passion amongst students is not something you hear often. However, in the past 6 months in post as an activities coordinator for the student association has revealed the statement is in fact true. Regionally coordinating students from 13 different partners has been incredible, and the amount of interest in establishing clubs and societies and developing a solid sporting structure has been truly fantastic. Organisation has been key but I am thoroughly enjoying coordinating the partners throughout the UHI. I have successfully set up a number of sporting teams, supported teams in competing at regional levels and set up an annual sports day event in which accommodated 8 of the 13 partners, something in which will grow each year. Being a regional chair for Highlands and Islands would enable me to continue this development, enrich present teams, create more teams and help to increase participation in student Scottish sport both locally and regionally. My passion is to watch the UHI Empire grow and progress and with my commitment, motivation and enthusiasm, I would be ideal candidate for the Highlands and Islands.

**JAMIE TAYLOR** – nomination supported by University of Glasgow and University of Strathclyde

I would like to stand for election as the West Regional Chair. Since taking up my role as Sport Development Coordinator at Glasgow University in December 2015 I have attended every West Region meeting and my involvement in the meetings have increased markedly as I grew to understand the workings and requirements of the group and how I could contribute effectively and positively.

I have previous experience of chairing groups both in my current role, for example, Glasgow Taxis Cup Organising Committee and also the Scottish Boat Race Festival Organising Committee both of which have 8 plus members at every meeting. As well as this I have experience from my old job where I would chair the meetings of the Scottish Schools Badminton Union from time to time.

Although I have only been in post a relatively short time, I believe I have built up a very positive and successful relationship with other members of not only the West Region but the wider student sport sector and this is something that I would strive to continue to do and improved further, if elected.

Thank you.



**JONATHAN CRANSTOUN** – nomination supported by UWS and University of Aberdeen

As a second year Sabbatical Officer, former staff member, Member Services Student Member and Project Management Student, I have been the lead on the change management process which will see our Sports Union move away from SAUWS to be professionally supported by the University.

Within my time as a Board Member at SAUWS I have led on groups on areas which include Strategic Planning, Financial Review and Risk and Resilience which I feel would be highly beneficial should I be successful on my nominations.

**RYAN MAHONEY** – nomination supported by Edinburgh College and West Lothian College

I would like to be considered for the staff role in the member services committee for 2017-18. I have been a member of the 2016/17 committee and would like to further progress on what we have achieved as a committee this year. I have worked in FE for 3 years now and supported the growth of student sport and physical activity at West Lothian and Edinburgh College, over that time the development has been fantastic and every year I have witnessed more stakeholders buying into it.

I feel FE institutions are often underrepresented at committee level, and as many of you are active members I would like to represent and be a voice for all FE institutions in Scotland. I want to provide an opportunity so that you are getting the most out of your membership and ensure student sport in FE stays a high priority. Being part of the member services committee will provide me with an excellent opportunity to work together and share best practice between both FE and HE institutions. This year we focussed best practice across the member institutions, collating information from around Scotland, this work was presented yesterday (13<sup>th</sup>) in the Best Practice Speed Dating workshops.

**HANNAH LESLIE** - nomination supported by University of Aberdeen and North East Scotland College

As Head of Sport at Robert Gordon University, I recognise the importance of encouraging the development of new opportunities for students. I am passionate about continuing to build a community of students who are aware of and participate in SSS activity.

Over the past year I have worked with SSS & Grampian institutions to improve the regional opportunities available to students and as a result of this the region has put on a programme of activities which has seen increased participation in badminton & netball. I look forward to working with the new SSS resource being placed in the region to improve the offering further.

I am well aware of the challenges that regional activity can face and have the relevant knowledge and experience to support the region in tackling these, ensuring Grampian institutions have opportunities which are accessible and inclusive for their students.

The Grampian region has traditionally been focussed on increasing participation through SSS regional activity and although I believe it is important this stays on the agenda I believe we should investigate new competitive sporting opportunities. I believe that the knowledge I have gained by sitting on the SSS competitions committee will allow me to guide discussion and drive action to improve the student sporting experience in the Grampian region.



**PAUL McPATE** – nomination supported by University of Abertay, Dundee and St Andrews University

I would like to continue in the role of Chair of the SSS Tayside and Fife Regional Group following my initial term of office.

I continue to be enthused by the ongoing work of SSS in developing its sporting offer to institutions at a regional level, as well as engaging with institutions to better provide sport and physical activity opportunities for all levels.

The professional engagement and discussion which takes place at Tayside and Fife Regional meetings is refreshing, as is the group's willingness to address challenges and look for solutions.

I hope that my extensive time serving on both the SSS Competitions and Executive Committees, along with my passion for the place and development of student sport, will allow me to continue to make a positive contribution to the SSS activity at regional level through the role of Regional Chair.