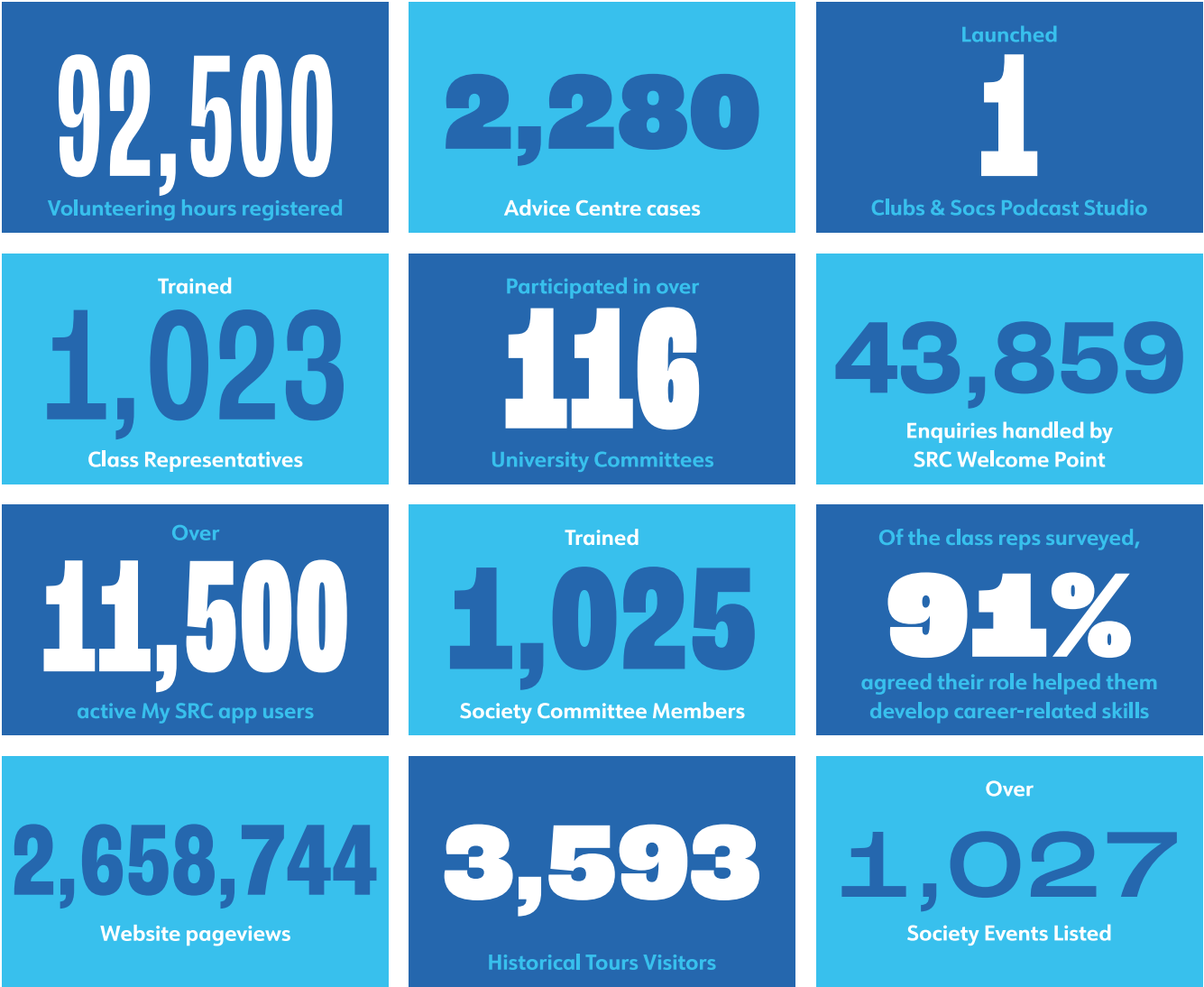




UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Annual Review 2024-25

Year in Numbers



Over
1,300
Class Representatives

2,270
Registered Volunteers

Over
150
Welcome events

352
Affiliated Clubs & Societies

1,657
UofG Volunteering Awards
earned by students

Almost
£417,000
society income processed through
our Clubs & Socs portal

Supported over
25,000
members of affiliated
Clubs & Societies

1,154
Student Teaching Award
Nominations

877
VCS Award Nominations

4,228
Students voted in Spring Elections –
highest turnout since 2017

9,706
Students voted in the Referendum
on UofG Arms Divestment

£121,589
Financial Gains made
for students via Advice Centre

Foreword

Welcome to the Glasgow University Students' Representative Council (GUSRC) Annual Review for 2024-25. This year has been both demanding and fulfilling, and in this report, you'll find an overview of the many initiatives we've undertaken, both independently and in partnership with the University. We've navigated an equally challenging and exciting year, and we're pleased to share the highlights of our efforts and achievements with you.

As the sole representative student organisation at the University of Glasgow, we are uniquely positioned to effect direct and tangible change for and on behalf of the student body. Guided by the key values of our 2022 to 2027 Strategic Plan – **Representation**, **Support and Wellbeing**, and **Student Opportunities and Community Engagement** – we've continued to respond to the evolving needs of our membership. While new initiatives emerge each year, shaped by the vision of elected sabbatical officers and the wider context of student life, these values remain central to all that we do.

This year, we've continued to embed student voice across the University, placing student priorities at the centre of decision-making. We've focused particularly on addressing persistent barriers to student participation, from accessibility to the cost-of-living crisis. Whether through our *World Changers Need Access* campaign or our work on transport and placement costs, we've contributed to developing proactive and supportive mechanisms that reduce structural inequalities.

We've also worked to strengthen cohesion across the University's campuses, ensuring the student voice is represented regardless of location. From Dumfries to Garscube, Chengdu

to Hainan, we've engaged with students and advocated for improved access to services and support. Alongside this, we've encouraged more meaningful student partnership and co-creation, reflected in the development of the new Student Voice Framework.

Beyond this, we've responded to broader structural challenges. We've raised awareness of how growing student numbers affect the quality of experience, particularly around assessment and feedback, and called for greater institutional awareness of the internal and external pressures students face. Our campaigns and events, including Disability History Month and Black History Month, continue to foster inclusive, welcoming communities and broaden engagement across campus.

The student voice remains the foundation of our work. We continue to prioritise embedding student perspectives in University decision-making, whether shaping assessment formats, responding to accessibility issues or informing broader policy development.

Everything we've achieved this year is thanks to the dedication of our student representatives and staff team, whose commitment to improving the student experience is unwavering. We also thank the University and our external partners for their continued collaboration and support. Looking ahead, we remain focused on meeting the evolving challenges and opportunities facing our student community.



Pablo Morán Ruiz
SRC President 2024-25



Bob Hay
Chief Executive



About Us

PURPOSE

GUSRC exists to be the independent student voice at the University of Glasgow.

MISSION

GUSRC's mission, as stated in the 2022-2027 strategic plan is:

“To provide effective representation, wellbeing support and opportunities for participation and development on behalf of students at the University of Glasgow.”

VISION

GUSRC's vision is:

“An independent, democratic, student-led and effective SRC, which engages well with the student population and exhibits a supportive, collaborative, inclusive and sustainable approach to the way it goes about its activities.”

AIMS

GUSRC operates according to three high-level aims which define the key roles of the organisation on campus. These are:

Representation

Being the voice of students within the University and elsewhere.

Support & Wellbeing

Supporting student wellbeing in relation to academic issues and non-academic areas such as finance, housing, and other matters that may directly or indirectly impact on the mental wellbeing of our students.

Student Opportunities and Community Engagement

Enhancing students' experience of university, their personal and professional development, and their opportunity to contribute to wider society.

NEW PROJECT – COMMUNITY & INCLUSION (CI)

In September 2024, the SRC launched a two-year pilot initiative: the **Community and Inclusion (CI) Project**. Funded through the Student Experience Strategy, the project enhances and extends the SRC's longstanding commitment to fostering belonging, equity, and connection across the student community, while working to reduce the systemic, social, and cultural barriers that diminish empathy and degrade belonging.

Rather than simply operating as a standalone programme, the CI Project augments our core work. As such, its contribution is woven throughout the body of this report, reflecting the true synergy between the project's objectives and the SRC's core activities.



The McIntyre Building

Representation

Elections

GUSRC runs two sets of elections annually. The Spring elections include the most senior positions of SRC President, VP Student Support, VP Education and VP Student Activities, all of which are full time salaried (sabbatical) positions. The Autumn elections are for less senior positions on Council, and tend to have a smaller voter turnout as a result.

Our voter turnout in the Autumn 2024 elections was **1,770** (878)¹ students who cast 3,686 votes. Our voter turnout in the Spring 2025 elections was **4,228** (2,747) students who cast 15,501 votes. Engagement with our elections this year was considerably higher than in recent years, returning to pre-pandemic levels both in terms of voter turnout and participation from candidates. We continue to review turnout with a view to deploying new strategies for increased future participation.



L-R: Frank, Duncan, Ayush, Eoghan

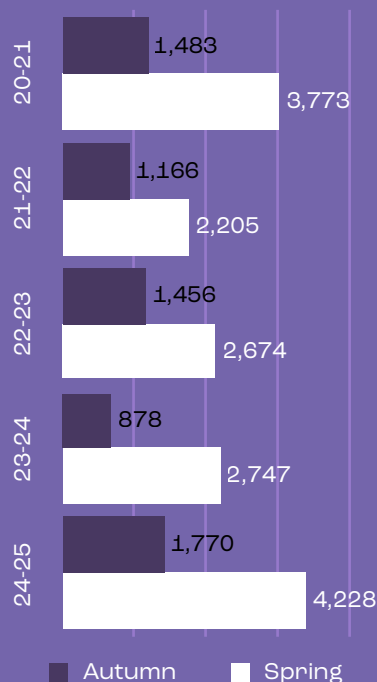
The elected officers for 2025-26 are:

President: Duncan Calvert
VP Student Support: Frank Chen
VP Education: Ayush Garg
VP Student Activities: Eoghan Morris



Batseba, Election Candidate

Voter Turnout



Class Reps

GUSRC's representatives extend well beyond the elected members on our Council. Over **1,300** SRC Reps are active on campus, representing students and contributing to the GUSRC community. These students serve as a crucial part of GUSRC, collaborating with school and college representatives on local issues whilst reporting back through our structures to ensure we reflect the student voice across the University, in Scotland and overseas.



SRC Council Meeting

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYABILITY

During this academic year GUSRC trained **1,023** (978) class representatives. Through our latest class rep survey, we found:

Recruitment: Nearly half of Class Reps assumed the role as the sole volunteer, highlighting challenges in visibility and engagement. Only 29% (29%) were elected by their class.

Training: The SRC training was highly valued, with 83% of respondents feeling well-prepared for their role.

SSLCs: 77% (79%) of Class Reps found it easy to raise issues at SSLC meetings, but only 67% (69%)

reported that action was taken or agreed upon. There were significant barriers to action being taken including bureaucratic delays, a lack of resources, and unclear follow-up processes.

Employability: An overwhelming 91% of respondents agreed that the role helped them develop career-related skills, with 85% confirming they would recommend it to other students for developing their employability. Nearly 50% felt the experience significantly improved employment readiness.

Skills and Attributes: 78% (79%) of class reps believed that the role enhanced their communication and listening skills and 66% (57%) felt it had developed their confidence.

SRC Support: 61% (65%) of Class Reps had no further contact with the SRC beyond training, though new support options like the SRC Teams Channel showed promise. International Class Reps expressed a stronger need for regular check-ins.

Engagement: WhatsApp was the most effective communication tool at 57% (58%), and 68% of Class Reps participated in other student activities, such as clubs and societies.

Reflections: 60% of Class Reps described their experience as positive and fulfilling, citing skill development, stronger connections, and meaningful contributions. There were challenges associated with low peer engagement, delayed institutional responses, and lack of formal recognition which we will continue to work to address.

Responses to this year's survey included:

"It gave me opportunities to speak in front of staff and fellow students, boosting my confidence and communication."

"I feel more prepared for professional environments and meetings - I learnt how to speak up constructively and represent a team."



NETWORKING & LEARNING

GUSRC organised a series of events throughout the year to encourage networking and sharing of knowledge and information, including our first ever co-organised social event for class representatives on the Dumfries campus. Our annual Class Rep Conference took place in February 2025. Sessions were delivered by our Sabbatical Officers, the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy Unit along with external agencies including sparqs. The event was well-attended with positive feedback from attendees and contributors.

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

In 2022-23, we launched a Microsoft Teams group connecting over 1,000 Class Reps. The group has been a useful platform for sharing

SRC updates, training opportunities, and key deadlines. Engagement has been positive, and this year we improved the process of setting up the group, launching it much earlier than in 2023-24. However, accessing accurate and up-to-date class rep lists, through the University, remains a challenge which will need to be addressed.

PROGRESS & PERSISTENT CHALLENGES

This year, we've continued our efforts to strengthen the student voice and enhance the impact of Class Reps.

Our latest findings show that 77% of Class Representatives found it relatively easy to raise issues at Staff-Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) meetings, consistent with previous years. This suggests a reasonably solid foundation for student representation.

However, the survey also highlighted significant barriers. Many representatives reported staff unreceptiveness and highlighted fears and challenges when raising issues related to specific staff members or courses. Addressing these concerns is crucial to fostering a more open and effective feedback environment.

Despite these obstacles, we are pleased to report that 67% of Class Representatives saw action taken on the issues they raised, a positive increase from 63% last year. While this indicates progress, the survey ultimately underscores considerable obstacles to achieving consistent, university-wide student representation.

We remain committed to collaborating with the University to overcome these challenges and ensure all student voices are heard and acted upon.

Representation

Campaigns & Influence



REFERENDUM ON ARMS DIVESTMENT

This year, we facilitated a referendum on whether the University should divest from companies that derive more than 10% of their revenue from the arms and defence sector, continuing our work to ensure the student voice is heard in key decisions. We ensured that the referendum was accessible and transparent, with an external company receiving and reporting the vote.

The referendum followed years of student campaigning around ethical investment practices and reflected calls for the University to align its financial practices with the expressed views of the University community. This referendum marked the highest participation in an SRC-led vote of this kind in recent memory. The record turnout of **9,706 students** saw **89.3% voting in favour**, clearly signalling massive support for divestment by the University.

Despite this clear and unequivocal call for divestment, delivered through a democratic process, the University appears reluctant to alter its approach. We will continue to lobby in favour of divestment.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

We have continued to engage with the University's ambition to reform practices in Assessment and Feedback. In Semester 1, we welcomed Student and Academic Services (SAS) Staff at our Academic Forum to discuss deadline bottlenecks and the use of flexible submission windows and highlighted challenges in students' experiences of assessment and feedback at the University's Learning and Teaching (LTC) Away Day. In different spaces such as LTC sub-working groups and the Academic Regulations Sub-Committee (ARSC), we have also supported the introduction of changes in practice and policy to allow for academics to explore the adoption of alternative and equivalent assessments under certain conditions. We hope that the University will explore further opportunities in this area in the future.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Throughout the year, we have continued to work closely with the University to advance its *15 by 30* pledge, with a particular focus on expanding Sanctuary scholarship provision and enhancing the broader support available to Sanctuary students. Our efforts have centred on advocating for greater transparency in processes, more targeted resources, and an improved sense of belonging within the University community.

WELLBEING POLICIES REVIEW

Over the past year, we played an active role in shaping the University's new suite of wellbeing policies, including updated Extenuating Circumstances regulations, a new Reasonable Adjustments and Supportive Arrangements Policy, and a revised Support to Study Procedure. The aim is to encourage the University to take a more holistic approach to student wellbeing.

We lobbied intensively to ensure the policies are student-focused, supportive, and accessible. This included calling for greater clarity around evidence requirements, fair assessment outcomes, and transparent timelines. We also championed a centralised, streamlined approach – a longstanding SRC goal.

While we welcomed the University's renewed attention to wellbeing, the consultative process posed challenges. The expedited timeline was prioritised over meaningful engagement, making the policy development process, at times, less than robust.

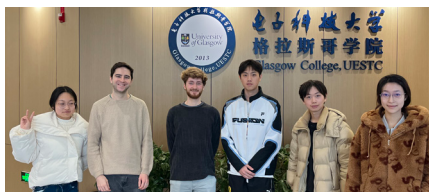
Despite these obstacles, we successfully advocated for broader improvements in practice – recognising the links between wellbeing and academic issues, such as academic progress and appeals. The policies were approved by Senate in June 2025 and will take effect from 2025-26. We will continue working with the University to ensure effective implementation, application, and monitoring, so the intention behind the changes is not lost and the policies meet students' needs in an inclusive, transparent way.

CHINA TNE CAMPUSES

This year, GUSRC representatives visited the University's Transnational Education Partnership (TNE) campuses in Chengdu and Hainan, China, to meet students and discuss their experiences.

Across both sites, we met with students, class representatives, and staff to gather insights into the academic and non-academic experience of students, including academic pressures, English language support, accessibility, and opportunities for non-academic engagement. We also observed developments in campus infrastructure, and explored areas such as feedback mechanisms, mental health support provision, and transitions and inductions support, with the aim of identifying opportunities to support the student experience across both campuses.

We fed our findings into discussions with a diverse range of groups and University staff, aiming to ensure improvements in the TNE student experience. As TNE grows, we remain committed to supporting TNE students, advocating for meaningful opportunities to engage outside the classroom, an excellent academic experience, and a vibrant student life.



President and VP Education visit TNE Campuses

COST OF LIVING ACTION GROUP

The SRC continued to contribute to the Cost of Living Action Group (COLAG), which aims to understand and address the financial pressures facing students. While the group had previously stalled, momentum returned this year with a University-wide survey on student financial pressures. However, since the survey's completion, progress has once again slowed, with limited tangible outcomes to date.

ENGAGING IN THE NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CONVERSATION

Over the year, our representatives actively engaged with a range of stakeholders as part of our contribution to national discussions on the student learning experience. We took part in the Institutional Liaison with QAA Scotland meeting alongside the University and contributed to the Scottish Tertiary Enhancement Programme (STEP), helping to shape a project focused on improving access, progress, and success for diverse student communities. In addition, we hosted sparqs during their institutional meetings round.

We also engaged regularly with the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) through OF+AM meetings and, in September 2024, submitted a response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Post-School Education and Skills Reform. In our response, we strongly advocated for all provision and student support funding to be administered by the SFC to ensure greater consistency, quality of service, and simpler processes for students.

STUDENT VOICE WORKING GROUP

In addition to our class rep work, we co-led the Student Voice Working Group, which allowed us to work with the University on developing and improving student engagement. The group continued to build on previous years' achievements in developing new webpages and promotional material to raise awareness of Student Voice. The group has established a Student Voice Framework, now approved by the University's Learning and Teaching Committee. Of particular note is the addition of a principle to reflect and embed student partnership and co-creation within the framework.

Furthermore, a set of reflective questions has been developed to accompany each principle and make the framework easier to use for staff and students, the key aim being to support enhancement of current Student Voice practices and creation of new ones.

CIVIS

The CIVIS alliance, a community of European Universities fostering multilingualism, multiculturalism, and innovative teaching, research, and cultural exchange, continues to be a valuable platform for collaboration.

Building on our established presence within the CIVIS Global Student Council, our representatives attended the 2024 Global Civis Days in Salzburg, where they contributed to discussions at the Participative Council of CIVIS and were involved in a range of workshops intended to develop and share good practice across the CIVIS network of student representative organisations.

Representation

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) BILL CONSULTATION RESPONSE

In May 2025, the Scottish Government opened a consultation on sections of their forthcoming Housing (Scotland) Bill with a specific focus on rent controls, which properties might be exempt in the bill from rent controls, and the introduction of new powers for a single tenant to end a joint tenancy early. Working closely with the Advice Centre, we drafted a response to the consultation arguing that the Scottish Government should make a number of amendments to the bill, most notably that:

Purpose Built Student Accommodation should not be exempt from rent controls.

Landlords letting a property at substantially lower than the current market rent should be exempt from rent controls.

The process for an individual tenant to bring a joint tenancy to an end should be as administratively straightforward as possible.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE STRATEGY

In our role as co-chair of the Student Experience Committee, we've continued to work in partnership with the University throughout the final year of the Student Experience Strategy. Our focus this year has been on supporting the implementation of key projects, reviewing progress and impact, and ensuring alignment with student priorities.

As the University moves towards a new strategic cycle, where Student Experience will become an enabling strategy, we have engaged in discussions around how this transition will need to focus on retaining student priorities at the centre, advocating for meaningful student input across delivery and implementation.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN ASSESSMENTS

Generative AI continues to be a matter of concern for students and the University alike. Last summer, we supported the development of guidance for students and staff which set out three scenarios for using AI in assessment. We participated in a panel discussion in the use of AI in research and teaching at the Lovelace-Hodgkin Symposium on AI Ethics.

Furthermore, we have been an active member of the University's AI Strategy Working Group and AI in Assessment and Feedback in Policy and Practice Sub-Working Group, where we have advocated for clear and accessible guidelines for students and staff around ethical and sustainable use of AI.

In light of the increasing number of students being accused of breaching the Code of Student Conduct due to inappropriate use of Generative AI tools, we published a new advice section on how students can make the most of AI tools whilst ensuring they aren't accused of academic misconduct.



LEARNING & TEACHING COMMITTEE (LTC) AWAY DAY

At the University's Learning and Teaching Committee (LTC) Away Day, our representatives led a workshop focused on two major and growing concerns for students: time poverty and the impact of unsustainable student number growth on an increasingly diverse student population. These issues build on previous work by the SRC and reflect widespread feedback from students about the pressure on their time and the difficulty accessing academic support in an overstretched system.

We explored how rising student numbers are straining core academic services such as assessment, feedback, and student support, particularly for students from underrepresented or disadvantaged backgrounds. Using data showing a rising student-to-staff ratio since 2019 and increases in the number of students working part-time, and the hours they work, we illustrated the real-world pressures students face.

PROGRESS COMMITTEE

Following a recent paper, submitted by the SRC to the University's Education Policy & Strategy Committee, we were pleased when the recommendations therein were unanimously accepted by the Committee. The relevant regulations have now been updated for the 2025-26 academic year. Recommendations in the paper included:

That the University update the Generic Undergraduate Regulations to make it a requirement that students are given full details of the specific courses, grades or regulations for which they have failed to meet the requirements, leading to them being referred to the Progress Committee.

That the University update the Generic Undergraduate Regulations to make it a requirement that all Colleges must publish details on the process, constitution of the Progress Committee and how students can appeal against a Progress Committee outcome.

That the University adopts a standard template form to enable students to make a submission in advance of the Progress Committee within which they can highlight any issues or mitigating circumstances they wish to make the committee aware of.

That the University creates central guidance for students on the Progress Committee process.

Over
£40,000
in travel cost
reimbursements*

STUDENT TEACHING AWARDS

This year marked the 15th year of the Student Teaching Awards. Nominations reached over **1,100**, reflecting students' continued enthusiasm for recognising staff who go above and beyond. The formal awards ceremony, held in Bute Hall, brought together nominees, colleagues, and students to celebrate this special anniversary in style.



TRAVEL EXPENSES

Following advocacy by the SRC, the University has committed to improving support for students undertaking compulsory placements and field trips, addressing longstanding inconsistencies in how travel expenses are reimbursed.

Through joint work with Registry and College representatives, we helped shape a set of key recommendations to simplify policy, introduce a standardised claims process, and ensure students can access funding regardless of placement location. Early changes have already delivered tangible benefits – including **over £40,000*** in travel cost reimbursements to School of Education students since September 2024.

This work marks a step forward in reducing the financial burden of placement-based learning and ensuring a fairer experience for all students.

STA Winners 2024-25:

Best Advisor of Studies

Dr Kevin Bryson

Best College Teacher Arts & Humanities

Dr Nick Mayhew

Best College Teacher MVLS

Dr Sharon Sneddon

Best College Teacher CoSE

Professor Declan Diver

Best College Teacher CoSS

Dr Jeremy Law

Best Dissertation Supervisor

Dr Phil McAleer

Best Research Supervisor

Professor Emily Draper

Best Graduate Teaching Assistant

Mr Aylwyn Napier

Best Student Representative

Ebrahim Rezaei

Best Support Staff

Mrs Kirsti-Ann Kerr

Best Practice in Inclusive Education

Dr Sergiu Gherghina

Best Practice in Student Voice

Dr Ashley Le Vin

Highly Innovative Teaching

Dr Michael Loader

Outstanding Contribution to Teaching

Professor Clare Willisdon



Representation

Community & Belonging

This section focuses specifically on some of the community-facing activities and campaigns delivered with and for key student groups. Our capacity to support a more inclusive and expansive student-led approach to such events and activities, has been significantly enhanced through the introduction of the CI project (page 5).

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October 2024 marked our most successful Black History Month yet, with over 800 students engaging in events run by the SRC and partners. The programme focused on Black Scottish and Black Glasgow histories, highlighting stories from our campus and local community.

We aimed to celebrate the full breadth of the Black experience in the UK—centring not just struggle, but also joy, resilience, and pride. This resonated particularly with postgraduate and international students, helping to build a stronger sense of belonging.

A calendar of diverse events offered multiple ways for students to engage; including an event launch at the Hunterian, African-Caribbean food based celebratory events, arts and crafts, film screenings, and the Andrew Watson Memorial Charity Football Match. We featured a Library poster installation highlighting Black icons from across the University's past and present, alongside social media content exploring Glasgow's colonial legacy.

Over 85% of respondents gave positive feedback, with over half saying they made new social connections. Many also called for more educational content in future years.



Hair Braiding Event with UofG AOS

"We are just a society and to be able to rely on funding, to have these kinds of really important events that are so cultural and so important to a lot of us because hair is just a thing for us to want to be able to do, but we can't really do it because of where we are in the world. So, having this grant to make this event possible [was] very important."

- Amelia Lawrence, President of African Caribbean Society, at Hair Braiding Event



Andrew Watson Memorial Football Match

NEW FOR 2024-25

DISABILITY HISTORY MONTH

In late 2024, we marked Disability History Month with a dedicated campaign focused on awareness, community building, and student-led engagement. The programme featured a range of events, communications, and new resources designed to support and celebrate our disabled student community, while building engagement.

The campaign launched with a well-attended coffee morning which also marked the release of our new *Disabled Students' Guide* – a practical resource to help students navigate available support. Throughout the month, we hosted a varied programme of inclusive activities, including arts and crafts sessions, film screenings, therapy dogs, and a Library exhibition spotlighting the lives and achievements of disabled icons.

A key outcome of the campaign was the formation of the *Disabled Students' Society*, a newly affiliated group providing peer support and advocacy on campus. Their early partnership with the SRC helped ensure events were held in accessible venues and promoted through our channels.

As part of our wider community support, we also worked with other student groups such as the Turner Syndrome Support Society, who hosted an educational panel event during the month with direct support from our staff team. While outreach to disabled students remains challenging, due to the University's legal obligations on data protection, our experience this year has, we hope, established a base for future work in this area.

WORLD CHANGERS NEED ACCESS

To coincide with Disability History Month, we launched *World Changers Need Access* - a campaign amplifying the voices of disabled students and highlighting the persistent barriers they face on campus.

Focusing on physical, digital and social accessibility, the campaign called attention to the slow pace of institutional change and the marginalisation experienced by many disabled students throughout their time at the University. We invited students to share their stories via an anonymous survey, which generated a significant response. The result was a powerful social media campaign using real student quotes, direct visual storytelling, and real-life accounts that resonated widely within and beyond the University community.

World Changers Need Access received extensive media coverage, including features in the Glasgow Times and on STV News sparking campus-wide discussion and increasing momentum for change.

“With services in the Uni it very much feels like they’re just ticking boxes... Nothing feels catered to us.”

– Anonymous survey respondent

Subsequently, as a small starter on what hopefully is the road to greater change, the University committed to doubling the estates accessibility fund to **£500,000**. We hope this is the beginning of a dialogue that will achieve meaningful change and positively impact on the experience of all disabled students at the University who are having their experience blighted.



TOGETHER AGAINST GBV

Now in its second year, our Together Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) campaign grew significantly in both scale and visibility. Centred on the UN's 16 Days of Activism, the 2024-25 campaign focused on tackling GBV within student societies and sports clubs, amplifying LGBTQ+ experiences, and exploring how inclusive design can improve safety and belonging on campus.

Targeted support from the SRC including event planning guidance, promotional support, room bookings, and club grant funding saw the number of campaign events more than quadruple against the previous year, with nine society-led events forming a major part of the programme. Student groups including Fashion Revolution, Amnesty International, the Taylor Swift Society, the Society for Women in Ancient Cultures, and BrightHer each hosted well-attended events that combined creative engagement with clear messaging and signposting to support services.

Alongside a citywide Fight for the Night march, placard-making sessions, and a vigil attended by University leadership, we worked closely with GUSA to deliver White Ribbon training and self-defence classes and supported a growing coalition of feminist societies known as Fem Collab. Several events also featured the SRC's Let's Talk About Sexual Violence workshops, further embedding consent education within campus culture.

Student feedback highlighted the value of this collaborative, society-led approach. As Vi Amara, President of the Fashion Revolution society shared: *“With SRC assistance, the logistics of organising our campaign events felt effortless. We were able to tackle challenging tasks because we knew the SRC was supporting us.”*

The campaign received strong engagement from postgraduate and international students generating a continued rise in awareness of available support. We hope that these outcomes will mark a meaningful step forward in our continued efforts to build a campus community that is informed, inclusive, and proactive in challenging gender-based violence.



Representation

LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

This year's LGBTQ+ History Month campaign focused on Activism and Change, celebrating the legacy of LGBTQ+ activism and recognising the ongoing work needed to secure equality and inclusion. Throughout February, we collaborated with GULGBTQ+ Society and a wide range of student societies to deliver a growing programme of events and activities reflecting this theme.

The number of events doubled compared to last year, with an expanded mix of educational and creative sessions. Highlights included "Pizza and Pride Bracelets," one of the month's best-attended events, and Drag 101, a new session tailored specifically for postgraduate and mature students. This targeted approach helped us reach a broader demographic than in previous years. A key addition was the launch of our LGBTQ+ Timeline exhibition in the JMS Building. The display traced key moments in Scottish and UK LGBTQ+ history from the 1500s to the present and will continue to evolve as more student stories and milestones are added.

We also supported GULGBTQ+ in delivering Queerfest, their flagship annual event, through an SRC club grant. The celebration included a disability panel, gaming and arts activities, and a karaoke night, raising funds for Evergreen, a trans youth counselling and support charity. Student feedback reinforced the campaign's value in building connection and visibility.

Alex Jacquemot-Krupp, Treasurer of the GULGBTQ+ Society, noted:

"Receiving support from the SRC in this instance was incredibly valuable, and the process has been accessible and supportive."

This year's campaign saw us continue to build and broaden our engagement base to include greater numbers of mature, international, and postgraduate participants – a promising sign as we continue broadening our reach across the whole campus community.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK

In March, we celebrated International Women's Week with diverse events promoting empowerment, equity, and community. Highlights included a self-portrait session, an International Women's Day stall, and a student-led visit to Glasgow Women's Library.

This year saw a fourfold increase in collaborative society events, diversifying themes and broadening engagement. Activities ranged from accessible yoga to "Brewing Connections," a tea mixer for women of colour. Other events included a craft/book swap launching a new feminist library and an International Women's Ceilidh. All events fostered inclusive spaces and meaningful dialogue.

The Endometriosis and PCOS Society also introduced a women's health fair, offering expert insights on menstrual wellbeing, pain management, and healthcare advocacy.

Student feedback consistently praised these events for creating connection and reflection, with one attendee noting *"I feel respected in this environment,"* and another noted: *"In institutions of academia, there's not many places where you can see a lot of women of colour in one place... this was one of the nicest ways to bring people together."*



Ukrainian Baked Goods

STUDENT REFUGEE WEEK NEW FOR 2024-25

This year, we launched our first-ever Student Refugee Week to celebrate the resilience, creativity and contributions of refugee and sanctuary students at the University. Developed in partnership with Student Action for Refugees (STAR), as well as other societies and local organisations, the week featured a range of activities including conversation clubs, a cultural drop-in with Ukrainian baked goods, a film screening, and a letter-writing stall in support of Refugees.

The week aimed to amplify the voices of sanctuary students, raise awareness of available support, and encourage the wider student body to learn, connect and take action. While attendance varied across the programme, the campaign marked a significant step in fostering visibility and inclusion and provided a meaningful opportunity to bring together different communities in solidarity.

TRANSGENDER STUDENT DAYS

To mark Trans Day of Remembrance (TDoR), we collaborated with GULGBTQ+ and the University to hold a flag-raising ceremony on campus. In the evening, we co-hosted a candlelit vigil with GULGBTQ+ to honour the trans lives lost to violence over the past year. The event offered space for collective mourning and reflection, followed by a quiet gathering where students could come together in a supportive environment to process the day's significance.



Alpacas on Campus



Free Hot Beverage Voucher



De-stress Goodie Bags

EXAM DE-STRESS

During both the winter and spring exam and revision periods, we once again delivered large-scale de-stress campaigns, offering students space to unwind, recharge, and feel supported during one of the most challenging times in the academic year.

Activities ranged from popular craft sessions – including crochet, cookie decorating, jewellery making, and pressed flower bookmarks – to therapy dog visits, outdoor film screenings, and trips to St Andrews and Pollok Park. These were complemented by more low-key wellbeing activities, stalls, and free tea and coffee giveaways across campus.

A key development this year was the increased collaboration with clubs and societies, which helped expand the scale and reach of the campaigns. Across winter and spring, we ran 78 events in total – 22 in winter and 56 in spring – including 15 joint events with student groups such as the Neurodiversity Society, Disabled Students' Society, and Latin American Society. Grant funding from the SRC underpinned activities, with significant participation at events hosted by the Christian Union, Gamma 28 Year Club, and the Peking Opera Society.

As the Peking Opera society's President, Han Wu, reflected:

"The grant received by the Peking Opera Society has significantly contributed to community building and cultural exchange... These activities contribute to a vibrant campus culture that values diversity and encourages ongoing cultural dialogue."

Support & Wellbeing

The Advice Centre

GUSRC's Advice Centre provides high-quality, impartial advice and advocacy on a range of welfare and academic issues to students and prospective students at the University. The Advice Centre also plays a key role in informing and legitimising our policy development and campaigning work.

During the year, the Advice Team dealt with **2,280 cases** (for comparison, in the same period for the previous year the Advice Team dealt with 2,259 cases). This is an increase of just under 1% from the previous year. Throughout the year the Advice Team have offered a same day face-to-face drop-in service along with telephone advice whilst continuing to offer advice via email and online video conferencing.



The Advice Centre

CLIENT CONTACT

213,643 minutes were spent in direct contact with clients during the year; which is an increase of just under 24% from the 2023-24 annual figure of 168,586 minutes. This highlights the increasing complexity of cases where the Advice Team are assisting students.

This year's contact time with students included:

93,552 (65,413)² minutes of email correspondence
4,065 (2,595) minutes of telephone calls
5,390 (4,595) minutes of online meetings
19,920 (12,810) minutes of in-person meetings

A further **90,716 (64,458) minutes** were spent on non-contact casework (e.g. researching information for clients, contact with third parties on clients' behalf and so on).

STUDENT ORIGIN

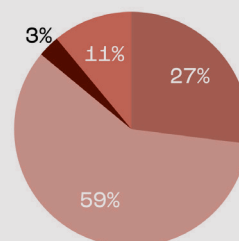
Scottish domiciled students were 27% (17%) of those identified; international students 59% (71%); EU students 3% (5%); rUK students 11% (7%). These figures should be treated with caution as just over half of our clients did not provide information about their origin/fee status, so this is not a complete picture. Nevertheless, they are a useful indicator of trends.

Of clients identified, 36% (42%) were undergraduates, 29% (41%) were postgraduate (taught) students and 7% (11%) were postgraduate (research) students. The remaining 28% (6%) of our client group includes students' parents, staff, former students, prospective students and members of the public.

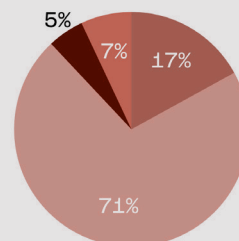
Student Origin

● Scotland ● International ● EU ● rUK

2024-25



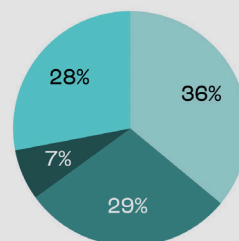
2023-24



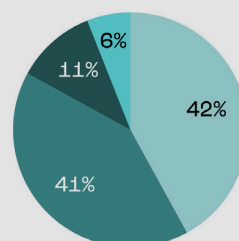
Level of Study

● Undergraduate ● PG (Taught) ● PG (Research) ● Other

2024-25



2023-24



OUTCOMES & GAINS

In many cases, students seek advice and support but do not return to share the final outcome, meaning we are not always able to capture definitive results for every case. The figures below reflect only those cases where the Advice Centre could confirm an outcome or direct gain as a result of our involvement.

Over the year there were:

- 108 (70) appeal outcomes, of which 62 (37) were successful.
- 167 (339) conduct cases of which 98 (107) were successful.
- 65 (31) financial gains, totalling **£121,589** (£120,644).
- 1,403 (761) non-financial gains including 755 (471) cases where the student was provided with information, they needed to make a decision about how to proceed.

Further gains due to our intervention included:

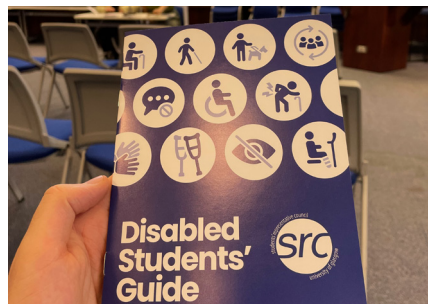
- 40 (43) students permitted to resubmit or resit an exam.
- 14 (12) students whose grades were reviewed or revised.
- 19 (5) students granted an uncapped resit.
- 15 (11) cases where homelessness was prevented.
- 18 (11) students successfully readmitted to their course.

As always, there were potentially many more positive outcomes, but we only record confirmations from students when clients choose to inform us.

GBV COUNSELLOR

Since 2021–22, the SRC has hosted a dedicated Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Counsellor, funded through additional support we helped secure. The service offers confidential, trauma-informed support to students directly or indirectly affected by GBV, with weekly appointments available in the SRC Advice Centre.

In 2024–25, 177 appointment slots were made available, with 71 booked and 61 attended. Attendance among those who booked remained consistently high across both semesters. However, we also noted that 26 students signed up but did not progress to booking an appointment, and a further 11 slots were either cancelled or unattended. Summer demand was lower, with 12 of 49 available slots booked – though all were attended.



PUBLICITY

We continue to promote the Advice Centre's services through a mix of digital content, printed materials, and targeted campaigns aligned with the academic calendar. Throughout the year, web content is reviewed and updated in response to emerging issues, student needs and University developments.

This year saw a rise in web engagement across several key areas. The Academic and Accommodation pages remained the most visited, while Health and Wellbeing and Employment pages also saw notable increases.

New and updated content this year included:

- A new **AI and Plagiarism** advice page, helping students navigate generative AI tools without risking academic misconduct
- A new **Mental Health Support** page, offering clearer signposting to services both within and beyond the University
- A new **Rent Increases** advice page, in response to heightened concern about rising accommodation costs
- A new **Disabled Students' Guide**, developed with the SRC Executive and the University's Disability Service
- A fully overhauled **Student Financial Support** advice page, designed to be easier to navigate and understand

In response to feedback from postgraduates, we also launched new PGR-specific advice, covering areas such as funding, time management, social engagement, and managing supervisory relationships.

Support & Wellbeing

Welcome Events

This year, the SRC significantly expanded its Welcome activity. Thanks to additional capacity through the CI project, we delivered a broader, more inclusive calendar of events that reflected the diversity of the student body and created meaningful entry points for connection and community.

These developments are part of our continued commitment to supporting student wellbeing and building a welcoming campus environment where every student feels seen, supported, and able to thrive.

WELCOME WEEK

Over nine days, the SRC facilitated **107** events, 5 collaborative events with partners such as GUSA, the Confucius Institute and International Student Support, and 32 events run with student-led clubs and societies. From the flagship two-day Welcome Fair - which drew a record-breaking **17,000+** attendees and **275** exhibitors - to smaller events like socials, arts and crafts, and identity-based mixers, the programme offered something for everyone.

A strong emphasis was placed on reaching students from underrepresented groups. Targeted events were delivered for international, postgraduate and home students, as well as for mature students, student parents, LGBTQ+ students, students of colour, disabled students, carers, and those with care experience.



Once again, we commissioned an independent evaluation to ensure a robust understanding of our impact. The survey, which received over 3,000 responses, confirmed overwhelmingly positive feedback.

Key takeaways included:

- 89% of respondents agreed Welcome Week was a welcoming experience
- 83% said it helped them engage with university life
- 93% found SRC Welcome Helpers helpful or very helpful
- 78% highlighted meeting new people as the best part of the experience
- 71% appreciated the free food and merchandise

One student shared:

“The fact that I had the chance to feel how the students’ life is supposed to feel like – in my country these kinds of events do not happen, especially at this high scale.”

While feedback was overwhelmingly positive, minor challenges were noted around event logistics, accessibility and overcrowding - areas we are already reviewing for future improvement.

JANUARY WELCOME

January Welcome 2025 delivered our biggest Semester 2 programme yet – 49 events, including 30 society-led events. The calendar combined returning favourites with new activities designed to better support international, postgraduate, mature, home, and underrepresented student cohorts. Highlights included a ceilidh and Burns Night celebration, a St Andrews trip (with 60% PGT and 97% international students), and a wide range of inclusive events such as teas for students of colour, a care-experienced student social, and a disability-friendly crafts evening.

Collaboration was key: we partnered with 27 societies across three joint events, and society-led activity tripled compared to last year. These efforts created more welcoming spaces and opportunities for students to connect. One student shared:

“It was such a warm welcome – I came to Glasgow not knowing anyone, and these events helped me find my community.”



Trip to St Andrews

CHINESE CULTURE WEEK & NEW YEAR

For a number of years, we have worked closely with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association (GCSSA) on a series of activities to promote Chinese Culture across campus. Through the CI Project, we were able to work more closely with GCSSA by offering event support, promotion, and we also linked in with the Confucius Institute. Events were held over 3 days in the Gilchrist Postgraduate Club with high attendance (180+) and positive feedback from attendees.

BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATIONS REIMAGINED NEW FOR 2024-25

This year's Burns Night was significantly reimagined and upscaled, partnering with The Hunterian and University Catering. Relocating to two iconic venues (Hunterian Museum, Bute Hall) expanded capacity for 200 students (over 60% International and over 50% PG). The £5 inclusive event offered traditional festivities, diverse dietary options, and accessibility support. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, praising its value and cultural engagement in a welcoming setting. Student comments included:

“It was really fun and it was so nice to meet students from all over the world.”

“This was very cheap for what was offered – the whole dinner, the drinks and the ceilidh was great.”

“I have tinnitus so I tend to wear earplugs. It was really good to see them being handed out for free.”



Chinese Culture Week Event



Burns Night: Address to the haggis



Burns Night: Dinner is served

Support & Wellbeing

HALLOWEEN NEW FOR 2024-25

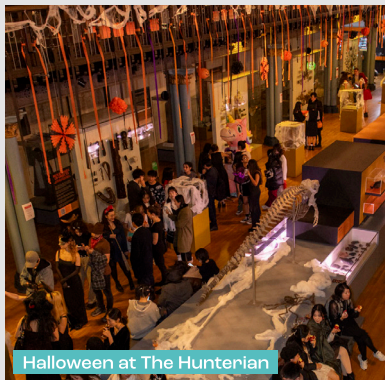
In collaboration with The Hunterian Museum, we delivered a sell-out Halloween celebration that proved to be a highlight of the semester for many. The £5 ticketed event drew over 300 students, with over 80% identifying as PGTs and 70% describing themselves as international students from outside the EU.

Creative student input shaped the event, from music from the Audio Electronic Society to décor by SRC volunteers and the immersive atmosphere, strong praise was received in post-event feedback. The evening featured classic games, free themed snacks and drinks, a costume contest, and a silent disco set within one of the University's most iconic spaces.

One postgraduate student described the night as a chance to *"experience the creativity of student life"* and *"interact with people outside their course in a really fun way."*

OKTOBERFEST

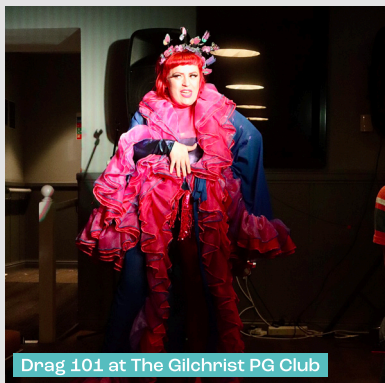
Our German Society's annual Oktoberfest, a key welcome event alongside Karneval, once again fostered cultural sharing and social connection for all students. Attendees enjoyed traditional music, attire, German beer, and pretzels. The SRC provided significant support, including assistance with the venue, supplying equipment and refreshments, and providing promotional and logistical assistance. Feedback highlighted a highly positive experience,



Halloween at The Hunterian



Halloween: Winner of costume competition



Drag 101 at The Gilchrist PG Club

demonstrating the Society's success in creating a warm and welcoming start to the semester, where students could meet new people and engage with German language and culture in a relaxed, festive atmosphere.

POSTGRADUATE EVENTS

This year, we delivered a diverse and vibrant calendar of events tailored specifically for our postgraduate (PG) community, with 57 events hosted across the year. From cultural celebrations to creative expression and inclusive comedy nights, our programme added to and reflected the richness of the PG experience at Glasgow.

We were particularly encouraged by the high turnout at many of these events, especially among taught postgraduate (PG T) students, with full-capacity Welcome Week events and strong engagement throughout the year. Highlights included creative writing open mics in collaboration with University staff, monthly PGR Society coffee socials, live jazz performances, and accessible drag and comedy nights, including a return from The Diversity Quota.

More broadly, postgraduate engagement has been a major feature of our wider events programme this year, and we remain committed to providing inclusive, community-focused opportunities for PG students in the year ahead.

Wellbeing

HOME STUDENT SUPPORT

Supporting 'home' or commuting students remains a key priority within our wider wellbeing and inclusion efforts. In May, we delivered our annual Home Students Day, a dedicated event aimed at recognising the experiences of home students and helping them build connections on campus. This year's event saw a rise in engagement and stronger collaboration than ever before, with all four student bodies coming together to support the day.



HARM REDUCTION

Our harm reduction efforts continue to champion a health-led, student-informed approach to drug and substance use. Building on past work, the SRC remains an active member of the University's Harm Reduction Working Group. This group unites academics, external partners, and student representatives to develop informed, student-centred policy and practice.

While the finalisation of University-specific harm reduction research has been delayed, we're eager to progress this work once the research is complete. We're committed to maintaining momentum throughout the coming year.

WELLBEING WORKSHOPS

We continued this year to deliver a range of student-led wellbeing workshops, designed to build awareness and confidence around mental health and gender-based violence (GBV), and to equip students with tools to support themselves and others.

Our Mind Your Mate and Mind Yourself mental health training programmes saw 38 workshops delivered to a total of 552 students and staff, with sessions run for Welcome Helpers, the Residence Life team, the Dental School, and the School of Education. These workshops are part of our Mental Health Champions programme, which aims to reduce stigma and empower students to take an active role in peer support and self-care.

Our GBV prevention work included 22 in-person Let's Talk About Sexual Violence workshops, attended by 204 students. These sessions engaged students in open discussions around consent, healthy relationships, and how to respond to disclosures. While the uptake of our online Let's Talk GBV module was lower this year, with 192 completions, we remain committed to increasing engagement through future campaign and partnership work.

Our wellbeing workshops are currently under review as we evaluate their content and delivery whilst considering alternative approaches going forward.



Support & Wellbeing

Support Services & Publications

Our Support and Information Services and associated publications continue to be well used by students.

WELCOME POINT ENQUIRIES

The Welcome Point continues to serve as the primary contact point for student and visitor enquiries, making it an ideal introduction to the campus. Our student staff team have a broad knowledge of the University and City providing a much-valued service. In the 2024-25 academic year, our Welcome Point team managed **43,895*** (40,846)³ enquiries.

43,895
enquiries
handled by
the SRC
Welcome
Point
team*

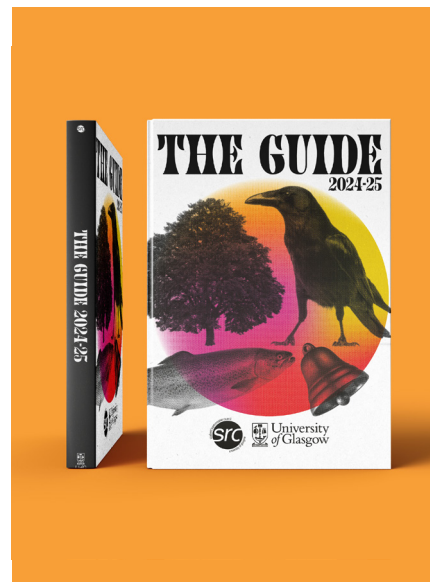
STUDENT-LED HISTORICAL TOURS

This year we had 2,583 (2,368) individuals on our scheduled tours. We also delivered 102 (87) privately booked tours and had a further 1,010 (1,178) visitors attend giving us a total of **3,593** (3,546) visitors over 2024-25. We continue to work with University Conferencing and Events and the Schools and Colleges on running tours in partnership, as well as with International and local school groups. Ahead of the busy summer months, we have recruited a further six new student guides who have completed their training with a 'Historical Blue Badge' trainer. During the months of April to September we will run two tours per day Tuesday to Sunday, to meet demand from visitors to the University. Some feedback:

"Our visitors from Germany really appreciated the tour, and my colleague and I learned loads about our university."
- Catriona, August 2024

"Everyone was raving about the tour and our delightful wee guide, Sarah. She gave us all hope for the future."
- Alistair, October 2024 (Dental School alumni tour)

"The quads were a favourite stop – there's nothing remotely like it in Japan."
- Naoko, January 2025 (Japanese research delegation)



PUBLICATIONS

The Student Guide remains one of our most valued and widely used publications, offering a friendly and informative introduction to life at the University and in Glasgow. For 2024-25, we printed **5,000** high-quality copies for distribution during Welcome Week, ensuring it reached both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

As in previous years, we reviewed the Guide's content, structure, and design to keep it fresh and relevant. Copies were also shared with private accommodation providers to reach even more new students.

The Guide also continues to support student recruitment, open days, and offer-holder engagement.

Communications

MY SRC APP

Now in its third year, the My SRC app is firmly embedded in campus life. With over **11,500** (6,500) active users - the app is now used by around a third of the University's student population, with a demographic make-up of 40% International/EU, 60% Home/rUK. Students increasingly see the app as a key portal for accessing clubs and societies, finding events, and engaging with core SRC services such as volunteering.

Designed to streamline and personalise the student experience, the app provides a tailored feed of upcoming activities, society news, and opportunities for involvement. In 2024-25, app users made **9,040** transactions across 3,653 individual users, generating over **£22,750** in sales.

WEBSITE

The GUSRC website remains a trusted, independent source of accurate and up-to-date information for students. With rights-based advice and guidance on topics not covered by the University, it continues to play a central role in student engagement.

In 2024-25, the site received **2,658,744** (1,826,118) page views - **a 45% increase*** on the previous year. Key areas of interest included Clubs & Societies, Events, and Representation, with strong traffic also seen across our Volunteering and Advice sections. Notably, the sharp rise in visits to Representation pages reflects the broader range of our campaigning activities over the year. We continue to develop our online content in response to student needs and emerging issues, ensuring the site remains a vital hub for student-centred information.



SOCIAL MEDIA

We maintain four core digital identities: Glasgow Uni SRC, The Gilchrist Postgraduate Club, UofG Welcome, and University of Glasgow Historical Tours. Each plays a distinct role in communicating with different segments of the student and wider university community.

Engagement insights continue to reflect shifting platform preferences. Facebook usage has declined, particularly among younger students, though it remains a key channel for reaching more mature audiences.

X (formerly Twitter) is now primarily used to connect with University staff and sector peers. In response to changing trends, we also established a presence on Bluesky, aligning with wider movement in the higher education community.

Instagram and TikTok continue to perform strongly, particularly with undergraduate students. Our TikTok content reached over **220,000** views and attracted more than 3,500 profile visits. On Instagram, the main SRC account (@glasgowunisrc) saw over 30,000 interactions and a **161%** increase in reach compared to the previous year, with over **260,000** users engaging with our content.

Across all platforms, our focus remains on communicating SRC services and amplifying our campaigns in ways that are relevant, accessible and engaging. As we move into the next academic year, we will continue to evolve our approach in line with emerging trends and student expectations.

EMAIL

Our website enables us to deliver targeted email messaging allowing us to foster greater engagement and meaningful interactions with our student community.

2,658,744
total
webpage
views –
45% increase
on 2023-24*

Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

Clubs and Societies

SUPPORT OVERVIEW

We continued to expand and strengthen our support for affiliated clubs and societies, working with **352** (336)⁴ groups who collectively generated over **25,000** (18,000) memberships this year. From governance and event planning to website development tools and financial management, our tailored training and support services have helped hundreds of committee members run inclusive, well-managed activities across campus. Our focus this year included improving digital systems, launching new resources, and enhancing access to funding and equipment. We processed nearly **£417,000** (£363,000) in club income, introduced a new podcast studio, expanded our Equipment Lending Library, and piloted a secure online expense portal.

HEAR (HIGHER EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT REPORT)

For 2023–24, we processed **912** (855)⁴ HEAR recognition forms. At the time of writing, 820 applications have been processed for 2024–25. This year, we introduced a new process linked to our volunteering portal, which allows a detailed record of the skills gained through club committee volunteering to be stored directly on a student's profile. This new feature is designed to support students in articulating their experience and enhancing future employability.

TRAINING

In 2024–25, we significantly boosted the capabilities of our student clubs and societies through comprehensive training programs. Our website training sessions equipped 393 society office bearers (across 29 sessions) with the digital skills to effectively manage their society pages and online functions. These sessions provide access to essential features like membership management, event and merchandise sales, GDPR-compliant messaging, document storage, and promotional tools. In total, **900** office bearers now have active access to the system, streamlining their digital operations.

Beyond digital skills, we also delivered 25 office bearer induction sessions, training 632 students in core areas such as governance, event planning, and leadership. These sessions ensure clubs and societies are well-supported in running inclusive, well-managed, and sustainable activities throughout the year.

£417,000
received via
Clubs &
Socs Holding
Account*



FINANCES

Growth in online sales for societies continued during 2024–25, with almost £250,000 processed through our website. We offer card machine booking service for taking payments at society events, and we also continue to provide clubs with access to a holding account, into which membership fees and other income can be deposited directly thus overcoming the traditional barriers associated with societies trying to run a traditional bank account. This year almost **£417,000*** was received into this account.

This work was augmented by a new society group payment portal, with a more secure and GDPR-compliant approach to managing club finances.

We also assisted University Sport and GUSA with their membership and event sales via our system, processing almost £375,000 for distribution to their clubs. From next year, University Sport have agreed that GUSA will manage these transactions independently.



STORAGE & SPACE FOR SOCIETIES

Access to suitable space on campus continues to present a major challenge for clubs and societies. Our 2022-23 research underscored the need for accessible, bookable spaces during teaching hours, clearer processes for room bookings, and dedicated storage facilities. Students highlighted that limited space availability directly impacts their ability to plan and deliver regular activities, while inconsistent booking procedures create additional barriers for committee members.

Unfortunately, wider issues around room bookings and space access remain unresolved. Following sustained lobbying over a number of years the new bank of storage lockers installed in the QMU became operational in semester two. A total of 77 lockers have now been allocated to societies, with only 6 remaining available.

A new off-campus storage facility for larger items is also in development and is expected to launch next academic year. This development marks a significant milestone in our ongoing campaign to secure greater recognition for the vital role societies play within the campus community. Providing adequate storage and practice space is crucial to so many, and it is hoped that this facility reflects a more progressive approach from the University.



NEW FOR 2024-25

PODCAST STUDIO

Launched in March 2025, the new Podcast Studio in the McIntyre Building provides affiliated clubs and societies with a dedicated space to record high-quality audio content. Fully equipped with microphones, editing software and soundproofing, the studio supports a range of uses, from club-run podcasts and interviews to one-off creative projects. The space is free to use and available in two-hour slots, Monday to Friday, with a simple booking process and training offered for new users.

Although launched late in the academic year, the studio has received strong early feedback and is already helping clubs explore new ways of reaching and engaging their audiences. We expect usage to increase in 2025-26 as awareness grows and more societies integrate podcasting into their activities.



Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

UPDATING CLUB CONSTITUTIONS

Our team continue to review club constitutions and assisted clubs in updating their complaints and conduct sections in line with the Ross Report recommendations. This has helped educate clubs on which issues can be resolved internally and where to report to for matters that cannot be addressed within the club.



Hot Water Urn, loaned by Gamma 28 Club

LENDING LIBRARY

Now in its first full year of operation, the Clubs & Societies Lending Library has continued to grow in popularity. The service allows clubs to reserve and borrow equipment for up to one week, free of charge. Items available include audio-visual and IT equipment, including a PA system, as well as more basic materials such as hot water urns. Our card machines for in-person sales also remains a highly sought-after item for clubs running ticketed events. Across the year, 107 clubs used the service, with 224 separate loans made. As demand increases, we remain committed to expanding the library's inventory to reflect the evolving needs of societies.

FAITH AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY

This year saw a significant rise in student-led faith and cultural activity on campus, supported by the SRC through grant funding, event planning assistance, and access to resources. These events play a vital role in fostering belonging and community for students of all backgrounds, and are becoming an increasingly valued part of the wider student experience.

Working in partnership with cultural and religious societies, we supported student-led events for Diwali, Ramadan, Holi, Novruz, Holocaust Memorial Day, Ukrainian Unity Day, and more. Diwali was marked with three large-scale celebrations hosted by the Indian Society, Desi Society, and British Asian Society, collectively attracting over 600 attendees.

Other highlights included Iftar events hosted by the Muslim Medics and Azerbaijan Society, Ragam Raya – an Indonesian cultural festival delivered on campus for the first time – and the Christian Union's annual Carol Service. The Jewish Society also hosted a Holocaust Memorial Day gathering, which brought together students for reflection, remembrance, and connection.

Together, these activities highlight the growing role that student-led faith and cultural events play in shaping an inclusive campus environment. We remain committed to supporting this work and to helping societies create meaningful, welcoming experiences for the student community.



British Asian Society - Diwali



Muslim Students Association - Welcome Event



Christian Union - Carol Event



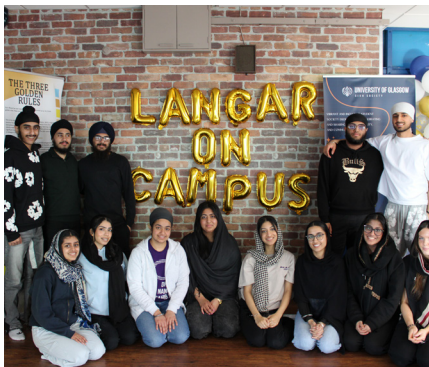
Indonesian Student Association - Ragam Raya

Without the help of the SRC in securing a room booking and always being on hand for help with logistical issues, running events as the local Jewish Society [JSoc] would be much harder!"

- Jack H., JSoc Community Connections Lead

Grant Funding

The *Big Ideas Grant Fund* is an SRC initiative launched in 2022-23 to support clubs and societies in delivering larger-scale events and activities. Initially developed to explore student demand for this type of support, the fund was enabled through the University's Student Experience Strategy. Grants awarded have risen from 5 in 2023-24, to 19 this year. Examples of this year's funded projects include:



SIKH SOCIETY

With a Big Ideas Grant, the Sikh Society hosted its first *Langar on Campus* at the University in March – a Sikh tradition where students from all walks of life came together and enjoy a free, freshly-prepared vegetarian meal. The faith event attracted over 300 participants where over 50% of attendees were international students and 40% postgraduate students.

"The support from the (Big Ideas) grant helped our society spread the word of Sikhi and educate more people on the religion and our beliefs."

- Kirtanjot Kaur, Treasurer, Sikh Society

FILMMAKING SOCIETY

Support from the Big Ideas Grant enabled the Filmmaking Society to host the University of Glasgow's first-ever *Intersociety 48-hour Film Challenge* in February and March. Collaborating with the Screenwriting Society, GUST, Jazz Society, Stand-up and Sketch, and Fashion Revolution, due to grant funding, the event was free and open to any student to participate. The event fostered the development of creative skills surrounding writing, filming, music, acting and editing. 70 students participated in the challenge, around half of whom were home students with slightly more attending the premiere.

"As the SRC covered the budget of the films, we could create a level playing field, with no worries of people having more monetary resources than others. It also allowed us to host a large-scale premiere, allowing friends of the filmmakers to join and celebrate with us, in an accessible and fun space."

- Ellen Stone, President, Filmmaking Society



FASHION REVOLUTION

Fashion Revolution hosted a 5-part *UpSkilling Workshop Series* with the assistance of a Big Ideas Grant. The workshops focused on various aspects of sustainability and textiles, such as hemming, lino-printing and how to use a sewing machine. Grant funding was used for materials and trainer fees so the workshops could be free for students. 130 students participated in the workshops, which were all held in the Eco-Hub.

"Creative outlets should not be behind a cost barrier, hence we allow both workshop hosts to continue following their passion with a stable income, and those with an interest in exploring new hobbies to do so in a stress-free environment. The Big Ideas Grant has greatly help us achieve this goal by covering the costs for those who cannot, and removing the cost barrier."

- Vi Amara, President, Fashion Revolution

This initiative complements our existing grant scheme, which offers up to £500 to clubs and societies in need, further strengthening our overall support for the University's student community. Grants awarded from our smaller grant scheme rose from 43 in 2023-2024 to 75 this year.

Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

AZERBAIJAN SOCIETY

The newly affiliated Azerbaijan Society received a SRC Club Grant to celebrate *Novruz* (Persian New Year) and to share a special Iftar meal during Ramadan. The March evening attracted 50 students, more than 85% international and 75% postgraduate, who received a free halal meal to break their fast and participated in engaging Azerbaijani games and activities. The Novruz-Iftar event brought together students from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds and promoted intercultural dialogue.

"This grant significantly strengthened our society's visibility and impact ... It raised awareness of Azerbaijani traditions and contributed to increased membership and engagement from both Azerbaijani and non-Azerbaijani students. In the long term, it has laid the foundation for future collaborative events and encouraged students to explore and celebrate cultural diversity."

- Samira Hasanazade, President, Azerbaijan Society



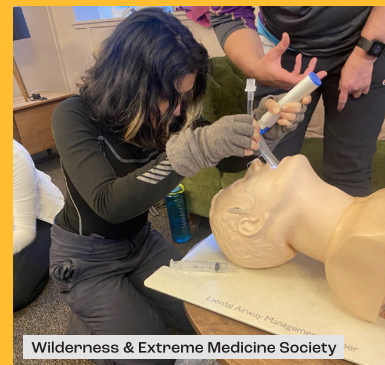
SAVMA

The Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) utilised a SRC Clubs Grant to not only host a social event in February, but they also triple their membership. SAVMA received funding to support a *Super Bowl and BBQ* event on the Garscube campus. The event attracted 90 students, predominantly international, and provided a free BBQ dinner along with a large Super Bowl watch party. In the long-term, the society was able to increase their membership from 20 to 60 members through the visibility of this grant-funded event.

"This grant allowed us to increase our visibility on campus to drive membership growth for us. Additionally, this contributed to the Feel-Good February initiative that the vet school has in creating a relaxing community space to promote student wellbeing. In the long-term, increased membership and club visibility increases our ability to put on larger events to benefit more students."

- Siena Mandy, President, SAVMA

More Grant-funded Clubs



Wilderness & Extreme Medicine Society



Peking Opera Society



African Caribbean Society

⁵ Previous year's numbers in brackets throughout section.

Volunteering

This year has seen a significant expansion of our volunteering programme, driven by sustained outreach to clubs, societies, and University colleagues. Our efforts to raise awareness, simplify processes, and promote the benefits of tracking volunteering activity have led to a substantial increase in both participation and engagement.

Altogether, **over 92,500** (20,000)⁵ volunteering hours were logged by 2,270 registered volunteers. These hours span a wide range of activities, including campus initiatives, student leadership, and community projects provided through 71 different community and student-led providers. This growth not only highlights the generosity and commitment of our students but also the impact of embedding recognition and accessible tracking tools into the wider student experience.

However, we still recognise that many students choose not to register as volunteers or are unaware of the opportunity to do so. We hope, as the profile of our offer increases and new partnerships are agreed across the university and beyond, that the number of student volunteers and recorded hours will show a steady year on year increase.



UOFG VOLUNTEERING AWARDS

Now in its third year, the UofG Volunteering Awards are firmly embedded in campus life and widely recognised as the University's principal platform for acknowledging and celebrating student volunteers. Launched by SRC Volunteering in 2022, the scheme recognises diverse contributions – from community outreach and SRC initiatives to peer support, sports coaching, and leadership roles.

Spanning five levels from **Bronze** to **Diamond**, the awards help students reflect on their skills using the University's Graduate Attributes Framework. Submissions are verified by staff, with students receiving signed digital certificates to share on LinkedIn, CVs, and with employers. Achievements – including hours logged, skills gained, and award level – are also added to their digital skills record, positioning the platform as the hub for tracking extracurricular volunteering.

Since its launch, the scheme has grown rapidly. Initially offering limited HEAR recognition, all volunteering opportunities are now eligible, with reflective submissions rising nearly **700%** – from 209 in year one to **1,657** this year.

Volunteering awards issued this year:

Bronze: 884 (122)

Silver: 337 (54)

Gold: 175 (23)

Platinum: 70 (8)

Diamond: 24 (2)

Volunteer Feedback:

"[Using my SRC Volunteering profile] really helped through its reflection orientated approach to the awards. Through its useful categories, I was able to remember and assign moments to skills, which I hadn't done before ... I would 100% recommend [SRC Volunteering]."

- Ellen Stone, Film & TV/Philosophy UG student, President of GU Filmmaking Society, UofG Diamond Volunteering Award winner

"Volunteering has had a huge impact on my future goals and career path. The skills and experience I gained through these roles not only helped me secure an internship and graduate job, but also taught me how to make the most of those opportunities once I got them ... I would recommend SRC Volunteering to anyone who wants their university experience to be more than just lectures and deadlines."

- Rohail Jahanzeb, Accountancy UG student, UofG Diamond Award winner

"Just wanted to say thanks for running [the UofG Volunteering Awards] - it's such a lovely way to recognise the time and energy students put into volunteering. It's made me stop and appreciate how much I've grown through these roles, which I probably wouldn't have done otherwise. Really grateful for the experience!"

- Miza Nasuha Mohamed Tamizi (Economics UG Student), Internal President of Glasgow University Malaysian Society and Student Mentor for UofG Campus Life Advice Network for Students (CLANS)

Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

STUDENT VOLUNTEERING WEEK

This year's Student Volunteering Week (17–21 February) introduced daily themes – from *Micro-Volunteering Monday* to *Community Friday* – to showcase the breadth of opportunities and highlight key benefits like wellbeing, employability, and campus involvement.

In partnership with local charities and University teams, we ran hands-on activities including letter writing for RefuWeegee, candle painting with BrightHer, and a skills workshop with CoSS Employability. We also shared student testimonials and promoted elected roles. The new format boosted awareness of both short-term and ongoing opportunities, while supporting wider goals around reflection, peer sharing, and personal development.

VOLUNTEERING & SOCIAL JUSTICE FAIR

This year, we ran the Volunteering & Social Justice Fair earlier in the semester, focusing on introducing new students to volunteering from the very start of their university journey. The event saw over 1,000 attendees and featured 27 community partner organisations. The response from students and participating partners was overwhelmingly positive, and the increased engagement highlights the value of embedding volunteering into welcome experiences. We hope to continue this in future to build awareness and long-term involvement in volunteering.



Conversation Café



Volunteering Fair, Bute Hall



BrightHer Candle Painting

CONVERSATION CAFÉ

We refreshed our approach to our Conversation Cafés by partnering with clubs and societies and incorporating them into our campaigns and annual events. Our cafés are run by a dedicated team of volunteers and give students the chance to enjoy a free hot drink, connect with peers, and explore new clubs and societies and activities they might not have discovered otherwise.

"Through [this role] I've honed my ability to communicate clearly and empathetically across language and cultural barriers... It doesn't matter if you only have an hour a week—what you bring matters ... It's a chance to step outside your comfort zone, to feel like you're part of something bigger, and to know that your actions are making a real difference."

- Stergianna Vekiloglou, PGT student, volunteer for Conversation Café, GUEST, Glasgow Science Festival, GUSH and GOW Community

GLASGOW STUDENTS' NIGHTLINE

Now in its fourth year as a merged, cross city, service, Glasgow Students' Nightline continues to offer a confidential, student-run listening service for students across the Universities of Glasgow, Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian.

In 2024–25, a total of 76 student volunteers contributed to operation of the service responding across a range of topics and signposting to specialist services as

appropriate. The most common topics raised included academic stress, anxiety, mental health, loneliness, and relationship or family concerns.

Nightline remains an important out-of-hours resource for students seeking peer support, and we will continue to work with our partners to ensure it is promoted and accessible across all three institutions.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY SERVICE FOR THE HOMELESS (GUSH)

This year, 102 students volunteered with GUSH, partnering with local charities Help 4 The Homeless and Emmaus, to offer vital support to people experiencing homelessness or hardship. Twice a week, they visit the city centre to offer hot drinks and food to those who need it.

"What I've enjoyed most is the human connection—being able to share small, meaningful interactions with people who are so often excluded from daily life. These conversations, even brief ones, often carry a warmth and honesty that's hard to find elsewhere. I've also found a real sense of community within the GUSH team."

"Volunteering is not about 'saving' anyone; it's about showing up, listening, and being present in someone else's reality, however different it is from your own. You will learn so much, not just about others, but about your own assumptions and values. It's one of the most grounding and educational experiences you can have at university."

- Isla Wallace, English Lit/Philosophy UG student, GUSH Volunteer

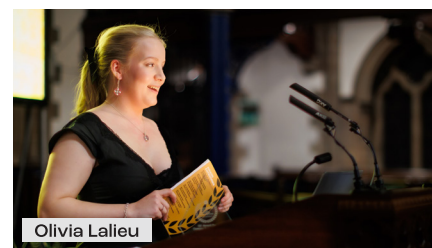


VOLUNTEERING, CLUBS AND SOCIETIES (VCS) AWARDS

Our annual Volunteering, Clubs and Societies (VCS) Awards, celebrates the achievements of our student clubs, societies, and volunteers. This year saw 877 nominations – a 32% increase on last year – received across our ten award categories, including two new award categories recognising community, inclusion and campaign engagement.

VCS Award Winners

GU Club or Society of the Year
Muslim Students' Association
GU New Club or Society of the Year
Pop Girlie Society
GU Club or Society Event of the Year
Filmmaking Society: Biannual Film Premiere
GU Club or Society Fundraising Award Challenge for Change
GU Academic Club or Society of the Year
Earth Sciences Society
GU Club or Society Collaboration of the Year
Nerd Collab (Anime and Manga, Chess, Cosplay, Comic Creators Cubing, Doctor Who, Fantasy, Gaming, Minecraft, Nintendo, Shrek, & Worldbuilding societies)
GU Club or Society SRC Campaign Engagement Award African Caribbean Society
GU Club or Society Community & Inclusion Award Pole Dancing Club
GU Award for Campus Volunteering Olivia Lallieu
GU Award for Community Volunteering Hayley McIntyre (Amina MWRC)
GU Principal's Volunteering Award for Civic Engagement BrightHer



Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

Civic Engagement & Community Support

Our civic engagement work continues to grow in reach and impact, with SRC Volunteering acting as a bridge between students and meaningful extra curricular opportunities.

Whether through one-off activities or long-term roles, these initiatives give students the chance to develop confidence, build skills, and contribute to communities across Glasgow and beyond.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERING INFO SESSION

In March, we partnered with Glasgow's Improvement Challenge team to host an information session on *Scotland Reads* and *Glasgow Counts* – literacy and numeracy support programmes in high-SIMD primary schools. The event gave students a chance to explore the impact of school-based volunteering and the positive outcomes it delivers for young learners across the city.

The university students have brought energy, empathy, and encouragement to their learners—boosting confidence, inspiring curiosity, and making each child feel valued and supported. We look forward to continuing our valuable partnership."

- Archie Montgomery, Teacher & GIC Leader of Learning at Dunard Primary

CHEST HEART & STROKE SCOTLAND

Our students continue to support Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland through a variety of meaningful volunteering roles. Alongside their contributions in charity shops, they also serve as Advice Line Volunteers, often acting as the first point of contact by providing information and signposting to key services. As Kindness Volunteers, they offer weekly phone calls to help reduce loneliness and isolation for people living with chest, heart, and stroke conditions. Additionally, as Communication Support Volunteers, they provide one-to-one assistance to individuals with aphasia or communication difficulties following a stroke, helping them build confidence, develop their communication skills, and work towards their goals.

"Glasgow University has been an excellent volunteering partner. Student volunteers recruited via the Students' Representative Council have made a meaningful contribution to the success of our local volunteering programmes, especially in our shops ... Student volunteering is vital to the delivery of our services, from raising funds in our shops, to spreading our message on social media, to directly supporting people in the community who are affected by our conditions."
- Laura Scotland, Volunteering Development Lead, CHSS



AMINA MWRC

Our students volunteered with Amina – The Muslim Women's Resource Centre (Amina MWRC), a Scotland-based organisation committed to empowering and supporting Muslim and Black & Minority Ethnic women. Amina MWRC plays a crucial role in helping to break down barriers and promoting social inclusion and independence. One of their key services is a helpline that offers emotional support, practical guidance, and a listening ear. As Helpline & Befriending Volunteers, our students answered calls, handled enquiries, researched information to assist clients, and provided regular weekly check-ins to offer emotional support to women experiencing loneliness and social isolation.

OVER THE WALL

Over The Wall are a UK charity that organises holiday camps for children and young people with health challenges and disabilities, and their families. Their camps provide a safe and supportive space where children can step out of their comfort zones, build confidence, and form friendships through a range of exciting games and activities. Volunteers help in creating a fun and inclusive atmosphere and supporting campers and their families to ensure the experience is engaging, enjoyable, and welcoming for all.

SCOTTISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Our students volunteer with Scottish Refugee Council, supporting Family Rights Case Managers and Destitution Advisors in assisting people seeking asylum. Their responsibilities included identifying needs, ensuring access to essential services, helping with GP registrations, and carrying out welfare checks to help reduce isolation and improve wellbeing. They also supported the Refugee Integration Service by providing advice on benefits, housing, and local services, and gathering data to inform policy improvements.

"It's so important for [us] to engage with your students, as they will be future professionals with a complex understanding of forced migration, the rights/entitlements of and the barriers faced by refugees. Because they come to us with a high level of articulacy and the ability to understand and explain complex issues they are able to support clients very quickly after their training in the role."

- Cat Cruickshank, Scottish Refugee Council

PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

We strengthened links with colleagues across the University to promote volunteering and embed the UofG Volunteering Awards into new areas of student life. This included closer working with the School of Education and the School of Psychology & Neuroscience, where we presented at events such as the Class Rep Meet and Greet and Professional Skills lectures. Outside the main campus, we worked with the Student Experience team at Dumfries to co-deliver a session with Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway, introducing students to local volunteering opportunities and the wider benefits of community engagement.

Recognising Student Listener Volunteers

We collaborated with the University's Student Support team to run a workshop for the University's Student Listener volunteers, helping them log hours and understand how to gain recognition through the UofG Volunteering Awards. Together, these volunteers have recorded over 2,000 hours on the portal.

Student Listeners play a vital role in creating a caring and compassionate campus environment. More than 30 of them have received a Bronze award, with thirteen achieving Silver or higher. Two students reached the Platinum level, logging over 500 hours of volunteering each – a remarkable contribution to student wellbeing.

"The SRC awards have been a fantastic way for our Student Listeners to gain formal recognition for the hard work and effort they put into supporting their peers. This

year over thirty of our volunteers have so far achieved at least a Bronze level award. It's the world-changing ethos in action."

- Anne Margaret Thompson, Student Listeners Trainer, Resident Life and Peer Wellbeing Services)

Volunteering Outreach at Dumfries Campus

We collaborated with the Student Experience team in Dumfries and Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway to highlight the benefits of volunteering. The session introduced students to local opportunities, emphasising how they can make a meaningful difference in their communities and gain valuable experience alongside their studies.

Sport Volunteering and Youth Coaching

Our support for GUSA Volunteering also continued this year. We processed 142 PVG applications for youth sport coaches – a notable increase due to new legislation in Scotland. We also promoted relevant opportunities, including assisting with recruitment for the Rising Stars after school basketball coaching programme. GUSA-affiliated volunteers logged over 4,000 volunteer hours this year, a threefold rise.



Rising Stars

Student Opportunities & Community Engagement

Student Media

GUSRC continues to support various student media. This initiative offers numerous personal development opportunities, promotes student engagement, and fosters discourse and debate.

THE GLASGOW GUARDIAN

The Glasgow Guardian had a strong 2024-25, delivering high-quality journalism, increasing contributor numbers, and boosting digital engagement. With 30 editors and many student writers, the paper provided trusted coverage of student issues, campus developments, and broader social topics.

Digital growth was particularly strong, with Instagram becoming a key platform and TikTok content reaching record engagement. The Guardian also secured £4,800 from the Chancellor's Fund to support its editorial and multimedia goals.

The team received national recognition at events like the Herald Student Press Awards and the Student Publication Association Awards. Kate Bailey Tonkin's feature on abortion access was particularly praised for its thoughtful, student-focused reporting.

Beyond awards, students valued the experience gained, the academic and professional connections made, and the friendships forged through the paper. The Glasgow Guardian remains a trusted and meaningful part of the campus community.



The Glasgow Guardian



GUST filming



GUM Fundraiser

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY STUDENT TELEVISION (GUST)

GUST, now in its 60th year, significantly expanded its output and boosted student engagement. Around 35 students, including a core committee of 15, participated throughout the year.

The team provided five days of Welcome Week coverage, including a live stream of the University's Welcome Address. To mark their anniversary, GUST hosted alumni visits and were featured in The Herald, reflecting on six decades of student-led broadcasting.

Weekly productions varied widely, from debates and dating shows to music events and a murder mystery. Regular tech workshops helped members develop editing, camera, and lighting skills. A major highlight was a BBC Traitors-inspired video, filmed and edited in a single day, followed by a dedicated screening.



GUST in the Studio

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE (GUM)

GUM continued to grow its creative community in 2024-25, producing three print editions that were distributed across campus and the wider Glasgow area. Each issue brought together around 30 editors, writers, and artists, supported by over 100 contributors throughout the year.

The editorial team of more than 20 volunteers also organised three successful launch events, helping to build a stronger connection between contributors and readers. GUM expanded its reach further by launching a community-driven radio show on Subcity Radio, inviting contributors to share and discuss their work on air.

This year, GUM was recognised at the Student Publication Association Awards, receiving shortlistings for Best Overall Digital Media and Best Website, and a runner-up award for Best Creative Writing Piece. The team also introduced a new website, praised for its accessibility, and grew their Instagram following to over 4,000, reflecting a steadily increasing digital presence.



SUBCITY RADIO

Subcity Radio remains vital to Glasgow’s independent music scene, broadcasting online 24/7 with diverse, genre-spanning content. **Now in its 30th year**, it’s one of the UK’s largest student-run radio stations.

In 2024-25, Subcity aired over 140 regular shows, hosted successful events, and featured live guest artists. Around 200 contributors maintained the station’s community-driven ethos. Listener engagement hit record highs, with its listen-back system averaging nearly 300 daily listening hours. Subcity continues to build its legacy on and off campus.

Student Media Awards

The Glasgow Guardian

The Herald Student Press Awards 2025
Shortlisted for Design of the Year (Newspaper or Magazine)
Shortlisted for Features Writer of the Year – Nina Miller
Shortlisted for Student News Brand of the Year

Student Publication Awards 2025:
National: Winner of Rising Star (Best Newcomer) – Kate Bailey Tonkin
Regional: Highly Commended for Best Newspaper

Glasgow University Magazine

Student Publication Awards 2025
National: Shortlisted for Best Overall Digital Media
National: Shortlisted for Best Website
National: Highly Commended for Best Creative Piece – Isaac Quirke





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