

Student Radio Association: Regional Officer Elections 2009

Manifestos: Scotland

Richard Vause

Assistant Manager 2008-2010 Fresh Air

Hello Scotland! I'm Richard Vause and I'd like to be your Scottish representative for the SRA. I was the Assistant Manager of Fresh Air this academic year and will continue in this position next academic year, so I already have great connections within Fresh Air and Edinburgh upon which to build.

I think student radio stations in Scotland are sometimes at risk of feeling a bit isolated from the SRA due to most SRA events happening quite a distance from us and, to some extent, this is unavoidable as we are far away from the majority of student radio stations. Therefore, there are probably many members of all the Scottish university radio stations that would have been interested in attending events such as the SRA Conference but were unable to do so due to travel costs (I know there was from Fresh Air, at least). So I think an organised 'Radio Day' Conference for the whole of the Scottish region is very important (potentially even more so than in any other region due to the lack of similar opportunities) and is a great chance to pass on some advice from media personalities to our general memberships. I'd relish the opportunity to organise a great day of talks and activities that are like a mini-version of the recent SRA conference.

It's the same for all the regions really, but an increase in inter-station interaction and conversation is the easiest and simplest way to pass on great ideas. As small-scale radio stations, we all encounter the same problems with broadcasts and there are often simple solutions that other stations have stumbled across that really work and can be implemented by all. For example, it took us at Fresh Air far too long to realise that something as simple as an anonymous comment box in our studio provides us with far superior and honest station-wide views. Little things like this are so easy to pass on and, thanks to an already established Facebook group, could be very simple to pass on through the forums.

In the near past, we at Fresh Air performed regular show swaps with Subcity in Glasgow and this was a great way to promote each of our stations and to have some fun. It's often even easier to chat and pass on advice and share stories face to face. This should be encouraged as it only costs as much as a train ticket but brings a boost to each station's broadcast, passes on experiences, promotes everyone and is a great way to make friends (corny but true)!

I also just wanna organise a super-fun SRA Awards nominations party so that all the great radio minds of Scotland can come together, have some fun, hopefully celebrate some Scottish nominations and then have a wee bit more fun. (I may not be Scottish but I have picked up the use of words like 'wee' - if this isn't suitable to represent Scotland I'm confused as to what is)

I think I have the organisational and personal skills to represent you and after having spoken to Ally McCrae and Kate Pringle (this year and last year's Scottish Reps) at the SRA Conference in Leeds, I believe so even more. So please give me your vote if you believe I deserve it.

Cheers,

Richard Vause

x

Jannik Gieseckam

Name: Jannik Gieseckam

Station: Subcity Radio

Who Am I?

I'm a fourth year civil engineering student at the University of Glasgow, and I've been involved in student radio for four years. I'm currently On Air Manager at Subcity Radio (Glasgow's student station) and have been involved in every aspect of the station over my time here from presenting to producing, reviewing, training, promotion, scheduling and management. I feel that in doing this I've developed a good understanding of how student radio stations work, and I'd like to help you develop your station. If you were at the recent SRA conference in Leeds, or any of the Scottish SRA days in the last few years, you've probably met me already. If you haven't, please come and say hello, or drop me an email – jannik@subcity.org

Why Me?

I'm approachable, experienced, and passionate about student radio. I've attended a number of SRA events in the past and spoken extensively with previous executive members, so I understand what is needed in this role. I'm already in contact with people from stations across Scotland, and would relish the opportunity to help bring them together to improve Scottish student radio.

What Will I Do?

Work tirelessly to create the best opportunities for those involved in student radio to improve their skills and contacts

Encourage sharing of information and skills between stations. Other stations are an invaluable resource that is far too often ignored.

Encourage the growth of a number of Scotland's smaller stations. As you may or may not be aware, there is currently a small crop of well-established stations in Scotland, but also a large group of stations in their infancy that would benefit greatly from any help that the larger stations can provide.

Encourage show exchange programmes between stations, such as the one between Subcity and Fresh Air the year I was Head of Programmes. These give an opportunity for all contributors to see how student radio works elsewhere, not just those involved in management or the SRA.

Ensure that all Scottish stations get the most out of their SRA membership. It is your organisation, and it is your ideas that will take student radio forward.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, if you have any further questions please email me – jannik@subcity.org