In memory of Gordon Aikman

What will we do?
1. Edinburgh University Students’ Association will lobby the University of Edinburgh to rename a lecture theatre after Gordon Aikman

What is the background to this?
1. Motor neurone disease is a rare condition that progressively damages parts of the nervous system. It occurs when specialist nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, called motor neurones, stop working properly. This is known as neurodegeneration.
2. After graduating from the University of Edinburgh and working as the VPSA in EUSA (2007-2008) Gordon Aikman was diagnosed with Motor Neuron Disease (MND) in 2014.
3. Following this, Gordon Aikman set up the charity ‘Gordon’s Fightback’ and raised over £500,000 for MND research.
4. His lobbying led to the Scottish Government doubling the number of MND specialist nurses across Scotland and was instrumental in changing the law so that people at risk of losing their voice as a result of a medical condition could access voice equipment on the NHS.
5. For his tireless campaigning, Gordon received the British Empire Medal and was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Edinburgh in July 2015.

What beliefs motivate the actions you propose?
1. In recognition of Gordon Aikman’s contribution to public life, the University of Edinburgh should name a lecture theatre after him, as a testament to his charity work, his connection with the University of Edinburgh and the Edinburgh University Students’ Association.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures