



**Flinders University Student Council Meeting  
Agenda of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015.  
Meeting Room, Flinders University Student Association.  
6:00pm**

## Document List

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Document 1/3: Meeting Agenda.....	2
Document 2/3: Minutes 03/06/2015 .....	Awaiting Approval
Document 3/3: SSAF Budget for Consultation .....	Confidential



## Meeting Agenda

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1. Welcome and Meeting Open.....	4
2. Apologies – Ella Keegan, Riana Cermak .....	4
3. Welcome Guests.....	4
4. Accept Minutes from previous meeting .....	4
5. Reports .....	4
5.1. President’s Report .....	4
5.2. General Secretary report.....	5
5.3. Education Officer report .....	7
5.4. Environment Officer Report.....	10
5.6. Women’s Officer Report.....	11
5.7. International Officer Report.....	11
5.8. Welfare Officer Report .....	12
5.11. Post Graduate Officer Report .....	13
5.12. Indigenous Officer Report.....	13
5.13. MSE report.....	14
5.14. Ann Raith .....	23
6. Matters for decision.....	23
6.1. Support for the FUSA Indigenous Officer .....	23
6.2. FUSA stands against racism.....	23
6.3. National Day of Action .....	24
6.4. Super Tuesday .....	24
6.5. NAIDOC event proposal.....	25
6.6. Free wellbeing classes for students .....	26
6.7. NUS National Day of Action .....	27
6.8. Minutes .....	27
6.9. Club Affiliations .....	28
6.10. Environment Officer and Indigenous Officer joint forum.....	28
6.11. Postgrad event proposal.....	28
7. Matters for discussion .....	29
7.1. Student Services and Amenities Fee – Priority Expenditure Areas for 2016 .....	29
8. Matters for noting .....	29



# FUSA

8.1. FUSA: Amendments to the constitution.....	29
9. Meeting Closed.....	30

1. **Welcome and Meeting Open**
2. **Apologies – Ella Keegan, Riana Cermak**
3. **Welcome Guests**
4. **Accept Minutes from previous meeting**
5. **Reports**
  - 5.1. **President's Report**

*Nepali Flinders students.*

We have 68 students from Nepal studying at Flinders. Of these, 64 are full-fee paying international students, whilst a further 4 are on scholarships. The earthquake that devastated Nepal back in April this year continues to dominate the lives for many of our Nepali students, creating ongoing emotional and financial stress and hardship. A number of these Flinders students have lost their family homes or loved ones. Many have parents, partners and children living in tents and it is now Monsoon season in Nepal so this creates further stress.

A number of the affected students have approached me for assistance- of course I was happy to oblige. Student Assist staff have also seen numerous Nepali students needing financial assistance. I have been listening to and taking direction from our Flinders Nepali students. I have had individual discussions with many of them and a meeting was organised where FUSA could consult with a large group of these students about their situation and importantly to gauge their needs.

One of the biggest concerns the Nepali students raised was that they face University fee payment deadlines at the same time as they face additional financial stresses related to the traumatic circumstances in their country. The first deadline was due in early August and many students could not pay.

I have made delegations to the University about this - alongside Student Assist staff and Chris O'Grady – and I have been working very hard within the University to win concessions for Nepali students. So far the university has agreed to *defer* all payments until the end of the year. The deferment of payment will be a moderate relief for most Nepali students, however we are still facing a situation where some may not be able to pay their fees because of the earthquake. Hopefully, if this situation emerges, the university we put students before profit and 'find' a way to excuse fees from those impacted worst by this catastrophe.

A big thank-you to the Student Assist staff, who have done a magnificent job in assisting the Nepali students and are working on a special Nepali student fund from the university to assist with cost-of-living issues.

*New South Wales Trip.*

I recently went on a one-week trip to Sydney and regional NSW to visit campuses and student organisations and attend part of the National Union of Students Education conference at UNSW. It was good catching up with dozens of student activists and office bearers at the conference.

During my time in NSW I visited a wide range of campuses, students associations/SRCs and met with a range of staff and student reps at the following universities in metro Sydney:

- University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
- University of Western Sydney (UWS- Bankstown and Parramatta campuses).
- The University of Sydney (SRC and SUPRA- Postgrad Association)
- Macquarie University
- University of New South Wales (UNSW)

I also visited two regional NSW universities:

- University of Wollongong
- Charles Sturt University -Bathurst

From my visit it is very clear to me that in NSW most student associations are in a very poor state and the impact of VSU has been palpable. It was gut-wrenching to see the former shell of the student association at CSU Bathurst now populated by University staff, who are – although well-meaning-struggling to replicate the dynamism of a previous era.

Macquarie lacks a student association at all, although a number of the more prestigious universities (e.g. USyd and UTS) buck the trend and still have strong student organisations and culture around them – in large part because the University administrations have made substantial revenue streams available for student-run organisations.

A big thankyou to the Wollongong Queer Collective members, who hosted me for a meeting in their queer space. Their commitment and passion reminded me of how important these spaces are (they have fought for decades to maintain it there).

This was a really useful trip, and has really highlighted to me how important are the following things:

- Independent revenue streams
- Student control
- Campaigning and activism
- Clubs and societies and events
- Student advocacy and services for disadvantaged groups.

I have learnt many specific lessons that I will be speaking to relevant FUSA staff and reps about.

## **5.2. General Secretary report**



## Bank Account Position: 30 June 2015

Flinders University Student Association	Opening Balance	17,492.09
National Australia Bank, Bank Account	Total Debits	1,144.00
As at 30/06/2015	Total Credits	0.00
	Closing Balance	18,636.09

### Inflow/Outflow transactions

\*Note: This statement includes outstanding transactions

Transaction Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
1/06/2015	Balance (c/d)			17,492.09
1/06/2015	ET advertisement - Adelaide Symphony Orchestra	375.00		17,867.09
30/06/2015	Paypal Balance (End of Semester Party Sales (694.68) and Job Listings (75.36))*	769.00		18,636.09
30/06/2015	Closing Balance			18,636.09

Please

note that since this statement was created, I have made the payment of the previously approved affiliation of \$15,000 to the National Union of Students. At time of writing, this payment is still pending until it is approved by either Chris or Fay.

### Clubs & Societies

I have been liaising with various clubs and societies which have contacted me for assistance or clarification. I am working closely with Adam Rau, our Clubs and Events Officer, to organize the next Clubs and Societies Subcommittee meeting. Our last meeting was successful, in that we were able to get lots of different suggestions from the club representatives who turned up about what they would like to see at the next meeting, and which parts of their relationships with FUSA they find the most challenging. This has set us up for our next subcommittee meeting to be more successful. The challenge this time will be to try and get more clubs to attend. At this stage the tentative date for the meeting is set for the 7<sup>th</sup> of August. This will enable us to contact clubs via email, Facebook, or phone, and then follow it up with them in person at O'Week. We feel that this strategy is likely to boost attendance.

I have also been in communication with organisers from Students of Sustainability via email and phone, to deal with the issues arising from Student Council's ruling to deny their organizing group affiliation.

### Super Tuesday

I have attended Caleb's meeting on Super Tuesday. Obviously it will be challenging to do so much work on the one day, and the project will only succeed if Caleb has the help of as many members of Student Council as possible. I urge all SC members to discuss with Caleb the best way that they can assist.

### Nepali Students



Myself and James, plus Sue from Student Assist met with representatives of the Nepali Students. There are 68 students from Nepal studying at Flinders, and frankly the university's response to these students after the earthquake disaster was appallingly inadequate, offering only to give the students an extra instalment in their fee payment plans. James and Student Assist have continued to pursue this, and I understand have managed to push the university to a better position. In my opinion, the only option here is to completely waive the fees of these students for this semester. Flinders can certainly afford to do so.

### The fight against Racism in Australia

I was elected to this position on an anti-racist, pro-student rights platform. As such, I've been participating in the rallies organized against the community closures, and have been in contact with students concerned with racism on and off campus. A lot of my time over the last month has been dedicated to organizing the counter demonstration to the racist Reclaim Australia rallies. Flinders students are justifiably concerned by the fact that racists and Nazis intend to march through Adelaide. Some of these scumbags have previously made appearances on the main campuses around the Adelaide metropolitan area, including the Flinders main campus and Victoria Square campus. The more they get away with unchallenged, the more they feel confident to push their bullshit, which will directly impact many students at Flinders – especially those already subject to the intense Islamophobia being pushed by the Liberal and Labor parties. I had Student Council endorse the counter-demonstration last meeting, and I am prioritizing making this counter-demonstration wildly successful. I have spoken with thousands of students, plus representatives of the National Union of Students, Adelaide SRC, various workers union representatives, etc. We're meeting on the steps of Parliament House at 10am on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July (This coming Saturday). Student Council members should all endeavour to attend, and to bring as many friends with them as possible to show that FUSA is willing to take a stand against racism and Nazism.

### NSW trip / NUS Edcon

I spent a portion of my holiday break traveling to NSW to attend NUS Edcon, and to meet with student activists from around the country. Going into the trip, I had two main things I was focusing on. First was the NUS Education campaign, second was FUSA's financial independence. I was able to have heaps of discussions with people regarding the NUS Education Campaign, and ensured that the campaign would continue to move forward here in South Australia. I hope that out of the discussions and arguments at Edcon we can move forward with a clear strategy of mobilizing as many students as possible and finding ways to involve these students in the fight for their own education rights. On the second issue, I was able to have discussions with student representatives from unions around the country. While all campuses are in slightly different situations, a common theme is the devastation wreaked by VSU. This situation obviously has impacts on the atmosphere on campuses. The problem is a political one, and so too must be the solution. I put forward strong arguments for engaging, political campaigns like the one we saw last year as the best strategy for investing students in their unions, and eventually reaching a pre-VSU funding arrangement.

### **5.3. Education Officer report**

The project continues to carry forward towards the deadline at the beginning of next year. Throughout the last month I have continued to meet with relevant Deans of the Schools at Flinders University to discuss the proposal and get them on board.

The project has been welcomed with great warmth by the academics, many of whom are encouraged by the culture and networking such associations can bring. Some meetings are still required to be attending in the coming months.

Although I have met with many of the students currently involved in existing associations, there is still a lack of engagement and drive stemming from these student cohorts. I believe this is massively affected by the lack of training providing to those in operation of the association. Many don't realise the enormous responsibility and potential of these structures.

I will be discussing this with Chris over the coming weeks to see what we can do for these dedicated students.

## **Super Tuesday**

Super Tuesday will be a pivotal point in the School Association Project campaign. With the establishment of 5 associations hinging on the success of the day – it is crucial Student Council turn out in strong numbers to support the event(s). The event will consist of 3 separate locations holding a BBQ and an Inaugural General Meeting(s) at each. Where possible I will be encouraging incorporation of FUSA Says Relax and the Welfare Breakfast to boost numbers and awareness of the event.

Endorsement from the relevant School and academics plugging the event in lecture slides and tutorials will also go a long way towards making this a reality. However the event **will not** succeed if Student Council do not turn up to attend the event. Unless student council wish to contribute more funds towards paying casuals we don't have many alternatives. Please let me know ASAP if you can attend on the day. Super Tuesday will take place on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

## #PizzaGate

The NUS Quality Survey finished up a couple of weeks ago with great success for Flinders University. We reached over 500 responses which is a fantastic response. It is clear Flinders University at its core does not support a higher level of student voice and engagement and declined sending the email out to all students. As a result we missed really hearing from external and regional students as well as those that may not necessarily engage with FUSA. This was a missed opportunity.

We received hundreds of physical copies of the survey thanks to Student Council actively engaging with their own network of students and through two quickly organised BBQ's in the Humanities courtyard. This resulted in a large amount of time being required to enter the data in manually. Thanks to the hard work of some Student Council members and NUS Office Bearer Alison Taylor we entered around 300 results into the system, which took the 6 of us around 6 hours of work.

We ordered some pizza to sustain our working efforts long into the night, sourced from my office bearer funds. This was brought into question by the Manager of Student Engagement, about the

precedent it sets Student Council spending student funds for engaging in this sort of activity.

Although the survey was endorsed by Student Council and I firmly believe this was not an issue, I was slightly disappointed I was questioned on this issue at all.

A potential solution to the above issue is to create an online form through the FUSA website where any office bearer can enter reimbursement details for funds out of their portfolio budget. The details entered could include a brief description of what the funds were used for, bank details for reimbursement and which account it is coming out of, as well as a scanned image or photo of the receipt. This also has the potential to leading towards greater transparency for students on what the SSAF is spent on and creates a database of information the money has been spent on for audits and other things.

### Food and Beverage Consultation & 50<sup>th</sup> Rebranding Study Group

I attending two consultative processes not only as a student but as a FUSA representative. The first was discussing the food and beverage options and prices in the new Student Hub. I am incredibly concerned about the preliminary steps taken without the students input – it now seems the food will be pricy and expensive for those already living under the poverty line. The University needs to accommodate for a budget food outlet that may not have the greatest quality food, but will be affordable for all students. The University has had a fantastic opportunity building the new hub and I fear they have already messed up the process. Students will not stay on campus if it is not affordable, no matter what infrastructure you build.

The rebranding study group was a session around the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and how the University should brand the event. It was interesting to see all the issues coming out of the study group surrounding Sturt campus and the general quality of education currently offered. It was quite insightful to hear student's honest views, it may be worth considering conducting FUSA study groups in the future to really nail down students experience – I know we did this with our rebranding, I would invite Steph to discuss with me how successful this was. It was warming to hear some Sturt students talk positively about the FUSA events held on the Sturt campus over the past month or two and that we are slowly breaking through with awareness of our organisation.

### Education Conference

Like many other councillors I attended the National Union of Students Education Conference at the University of New South Wales, based in Sydney. The conference was incredibly enlightening to how poorly FUSA is treated by high level University staff. We are one of the most disadvantaged associations in terms of representing the students we are supposed to. If the University is serious about create a student-centred culture on campus **STOP HANDCUFFING US AT EVERY TURN, LET US DO OUR JOBS**. It is incredibly frustrating they are not open to endorsing incorporation, alternative revenue streams or a better SSAF funding model. I would invite the University administration, if they are bothered to even read the FUSA minutes, to establish a working relationship with Student Council before we are forced to campaign against them to improve the student's quality of life.

A big issue stemming from the conference is how poorly we treat our numerous satellite and regional campuses. A big cause of this is lack of knowledge about what the campuses actually offer and

student numbers that attend. I will endeavour my best to address this issue in some capacity, however given I am only 'meant' to work 3 hours a week and I am already working 15-20 I will be limited in what I can achieve.

The conference was a great leap forward for myself in terms of networking with other Universities to find similar issues or solutions to problems they have experienced. Arguably, due to the fact I am on the outer when it comes to political factions and organisations I have not had the immediate networking opportunities others may have. Constitutionally I, amongst other SC members, are meant to liaison with State and Federal representatives as part of the position.

### FUSA Structure Moving Forward

Currently FUSA is predominantly run by staff for the students opposed to being student centred. If we are truly set of achieving a strong student association this needs to change moving forward. What has made me put this into my report this month is the opening of the Events Assistant Position. I will firstly say that I support the creation of this position as it is a student filled position for the benefit of students. This leaves say, the Social-Coordinator position up in the air. In my view, there is nothing to encourage a student to run for Student Council when the Event Assistant position is clearly more desirable.

The Education Officer and Welfare Officer are going to increase their work-load organically as the role becomes more expansive and inclusive. I think we need to have some serious discussions and debates over the roles of Student Council now and into the future.

## **5.4. Environment Officer Report**

### **Parking and public transport on campus**

After having been contacted by the *Messenger* about the state of public transport and parking at flinders, articles were subsequently published in the *Mitcham & Hills* and *South* versions, as well as in the *Guardian*. The continued gouging of students by the administration is out for all to see. Sadly, I have to report that they chose a terrible photo of me to go with the story, so it's basically a wash.

### **Joint forum with Indigenous officer**

I've continued working with Latoya to secure speakers for the forum. As of now the general plan is to (most likely) have Tauto speaking on his fight against the encroachment of a mining company, a speaker from Friends of the Earth to speak on battles against coal seam gas extraction, as well as myself and Latoya. And of course environment, indigenous and student groups will be invited to attend and contribute to the discussion. Further arrangements for the event (specific room bookings, food, travel expenses etc.) I did not yet want to begin until funding had been secured from student council.

As such, I have written a motion for this meeting that student council approve \$500 from the environment officer's budget for this event. The general breakdown of which is \$150 for posters, leaflets and other advertising. \$100 for food and drinks at the event. Around \$50 for thankyou gifts to the guest speakers. And the remainder for any travel or other expenses required of the guests, which are as yet to be determined.

### **Contact with other environment activists**

While in Sydney for EdCon I used the opportunity to discuss plans for campaigns and materials for the remainder of the year with a number of environmental student activists including the National Environment Officer from NUS, Carl Jackson.

#### **5.6. Women's Officer Report**

- Regularly updated the Women's Collective Facebook and Instagram pages.
- Responded to student emails and queries.
- Held a fortnightly discussion group.
- Met with the Vice President of the Flinders Medical Student Association to plan future project collaboration and share ideas.
- Created a Facebook forum for discussing semester 2 Women's Collective events.
- Contacted numerous people in regards to giving presentations in semester 2 events, with positive feedback.

#### **5.7. International Officer Report**

##### **Post Multicultural Festival**

- Event evaluation's meeting with Adam, Rachel and Steph regarding the good practices and the challenges we had during the festival;
- Assisted the reimbursement process for the clubs and other parties (such as DJ, etc.);
- There some problems arose with the reimbursement process. One of the problem is with the Malaysian student's reimbursement process because the group that participated in the festival is not the official Malaysian Student's Association in Flinders, who is inactive for some period of time. I have tried to contact their executive member via their email address, phone and text, and facebook page, but they never replied. The reason why I invited another Malaysian student's group (not the official club), was to be one way to communicate with the clubs because the new group of Malaysian students is so passionate to take over their club. Until now, the reimbursement process is being postponed because Flinders only want to proceed the money to the club's bank account. The Malaysian student who participated with the festival now having financial. I will try to solve this problem with Chris and Fusa Admin for this matter.



- Communicated with Jane Horgan (ISSU), Chris and James to nominate the festival for Council of International Student Australia (CISA)'s best international student's award 2015. We won the Facebook voting, but unfortunately we lose by just 2 points from this year winner (Malaysian Student's Council of Australia).

## **Disability Awareness Club**

I spoke and met with some of international student with disability (individually), who was willing to form the Disability Awareness Club. Unfortunately, most of them losing their interest due to the heavy load for final assignments and exam period.

## **Council of International Student Australia (CISA)'s Conference, 6-8 July 2015**

I came to the conference in Melbourne with two other international students; Himal Kandel (the president of Nepalese student's association) and Will Zhao (international student with disabilities (amputated leg) from China). CISA is a national peak body of international student in Australia, and Flinders actually was one of the founding member of CISA. We are grateful that FUSA and Flinders sent the three of us to the conference. There were about 300 participants all over the states and we talked about important issues regarding international student's life and welfare, ranging from studying, language, leadership, until employability. It was a three day conference full with interesting and important speakers. I keep the resource (conference's flies), minutes and report separately for the next IO.

## **CISA AGM, 9 July 2015**

It is very unfortunate that none of the universities in South Australia (Flinders Uni, Uni Adelaide and University of SA) has voting power in CISA's AGM because we have not paid the membership affiliation. I was unsure about the fund for the payment (500 AUD) and then just missed the payment's deadline. Later I got information that we actually had the motion for this affiliation carried since last year and supposed to be proceed immediately.

For this matter, I would like to make a motion that SC approved the payment for CISA's affiliation to make sure that FUSA has a voting power on the next CISA's AGM (next year).

## **5.8. Welfare Officer Report**

29/06/15

- Vanessa re EFA
- Replying to student emails

9/06/15

- Wendy re Mindfulness Triathlon, free semester 2 classes, Flinders One gym and fitness Australia eating disorder policy

10/06/15

- Wendy re same
- Wendy, Health and Counseling, Yoga instructor and mindfulness instructor re semester 2 wellbeing classes.

11/06/15

- Andrew Naine re yoga classes
- Organizing the semester 2 wellbeing classes

12/06/15

- Health and Counseling re yoga for semester two
- Wendy and yoga instructor re meeting for semester 2 wellbeing classes
- Rachel re a meeting about the yoga component of the wellbeing program

22/06/15

- Wendy re Flinders One gym and fitness Australia eating disorder policy

25/06/15

- Replying to student emails

30/06/15

- Wendy re Mindfulness Triathlon
- Planning for marketing and recruiting for welfare sub-committee in semester 2 o'week

## **5.11. Post Graduate Officer Report**

Post-Graduate Newsletter Writing/Editing/Emailing **3 hours**

Meetings with Subcommittee Members **2 hours**

Emailed and met with Subcommittee Member (Adam) to Discuss Myanmar Refugee Fundraiser **3 hours**

Emailed and met with Subcommittee Member (Agong) to Discuss Intramural Sports Schedule **1 hour**

Contacted and met with James Kilpatrick to discuss upcoming welcome-back kick-off social event **1 hour**

Met with post-graduate student who contacted me via my post-graduate email address to discuss current personal financial crisis that was affecting her studies **2 hours**

## **5.12. Indigenous Officer Report**

12<sup>th</sup> June – Organised and ran a successful Movie and Pizza night

17<sup>th</sup> June – Met with FUSA about our NAIDOC event on the 5<sup>th</sup> August (see proposal)

17<sup>th</sup> June – Attended a student/ staff soup day at Yunggorendi

17<sup>th</sup> June – Met with First Nations committee and other students to plan NAIDOC

18<sup>th</sup> June – Met with Environmental Officer Brodie about an anti-mining forum

18<sup>th</sup> June – Meeting with Entertainment Club about showcasing their film's/ music at our NAIDOC event

19<sup>th</sup> June – Wrote for Social Work Society newsletter about the closures to Aboriginal communities

23<sup>rd</sup> June – Presented to the Adelaide City Council about the dry-zone's affecting Aboriginal peoples in the city parklands

29<sup>th</sup> June – Interview with Adelaide Radio for the Nanga Wanga program about what recognition means as an Aboriginal person

30<sup>th</sup> June – Meeting with Aboriginal students about NITV documentary they are filming

30<sup>th</sup> June – Follow-up email for the VC about the lack of a TSI Flag (many emails to and fro – how get that at least the Aboriginal flag is now up!)

Lots of NAIDOC planning in general and lots more to come over the next month – also trying to get Yunggorendi on board with the Education Collective, and unfortunately Yunggorendi could not be on the tribunal for FUSA elections.

### **5.13. MSE report**

#### **Manager Student Engagement – Update – JULY 2015**

##### **FUSA Staff**

###### *Student Representation & Development Officer*

As you are aware, Jonathon Louth has resigned from this position and his last day was Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. I have begun the recruitment process for this position and will be working to fill the position as soon as possible. I will be approaching the Student President to discuss student representation on the appointment committee.

###### *Events Assistant*

In consultation with the Events and Projects Officer and Clubs and Events Officer, we have changed the title of the student causal positions, which were formerly known as 'Student Experience Officers (Clubs and Events)' to Events Assistants. This provides a more accurate reflection of their role. The Position Description has also been modified slightly. Due to room in the budget, the hours available for this position(s) have been expanded for the rest of the year to 20 hours per week. Given these changes, we re-advertised for the position(s) and interviews are occurring the week beginning 13 July. The Events and Projects Officer is chairing the appointment committee, which also consists of the Media Officer and the General Council Member, Mitchell Huffa.

The Events Assistant will start in week 2 (depending on availability). Current Events Student Experience Officers Alie and Meaghan will finish up their roles at the end of O'Week (30 July).

##### **Student Radio**

This project continues to be in 'pause mode' whilst we await final approval from the Vice-Chancellor and other Senior Executive of the University. I will continue to keep in contact with Student Council

regarding developments. At this stage, I am unsure if it will be possible to launch the station in time for Semester 1 2015 but we will continue to aim for this.

## **SSAF Consultation**

The Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) has made some changes to the procedures for development and approval of the SSAF budget. The changes are as follows:

### 1. Membership of the SSAF Budget Advisory Committee.

The DVC(A) has decided that the SSAF Budget Advisory Committee will now include the Director, Student Services and the Manager, Student Engagement will remain on the Committee as a non-voting member.

The National Union of Students *Best Practice Guidelines for SSAF Consultation* (2012) recommends an equal number of student representatives on these types of Committee. I proposed the addition of the FUSA General Secretary as a member and this was accepted by the DVC(A).

The membership of the Committee will now comprise:

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (Chair);
- Student President, Student Association;
- General Secretary, Student Association;
- Director, Student Services;
- Manager, Student Engagement (non-voting).

### 2. Student Consultation

I have been working with staff in Student Policy and Projects to bring forward the timing for the process of application, student consultation and confirmation of the SSAF Budget for 2016. We are also working on strategies to seek wider student input through various mechanisms such as a surveys and focus groups.

As part of the consultation process, we would also like to invite Student Council to provide formal feedback on the existing SSAF priority expenditure items to ensure there is input and feedback from elected student representatives on the priorities and other opinions on priority areas. I have included an agenda item to begin this discussion.

## **Events Report, Prepared by the Events & Projects Officer**

Since the last report the events team has been full steam ahead with O'Week and the National Campus Band Competition. We're also working on Textbook Fair, NAIDOC, FUSA Ball, Semester Two Relax Days and Welfare Breakfasts.

## **O'Week**

- O'Week stalls Monday and Tuesday (Clubs, Service providers and commercial stalls)
- Social events confirmed. See <http://flindersoweeek.com.au/social-events/>



- Stage in the laneway
- In the last three weeks before O'Week my focus is WHS, Security, Electrical and casual staffing requirements – as well as finalising the finer details (programs, comms to stalls and stakeholders, run sheets, etc)
- For the last two weeks leading up to O'Week this event will be my prime focus

It would be great to have some Student Council members at the FUSA stall on the Monday and Tuesday (27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July). The stall is open 10am – 3pm and is a great opportunity for SC to meet new students, talk about upcoming events and promote SC/FUSA.

### **National Campus Band Competition**

- Flinders Heat on 13 Aug and Flinders Final on 14 Aug – both at DeCafe (Sturt)
- All student email encouraging bands to register has been sent
- State final (run by FUSA) to be held on Sep 3 at Fowlers Live
- C&EO and I met with our counterparts from the Union and USASA to discuss SA State final logistics
- These events need a lot more work from both C&EO and I so immediately after O'Week has wrapped up I'll switch focus to Band Comp heat, final and State final

### **NAIDOC**

- Supporting the Indigenous Officer with the planning and delivery of NAIDOC celebrations at Flinders on Aug 5, including working with MACO on the flag raising ceremony (afternoon event) – to be held at registry with the VC, Indigenous Elders and many other VIP guests.

### **Communication & Marketing Plan**

- The Media Officer and I have begun conversations about developing a communications and marketing plan (including an event calendar) for 2016.

### **Marketing and Communications Office**

- MACO are working on their Semester 1 2016 Campaign and have invited me and the Media Officer to consult on their planning.

As always, let me know if you're planning any events or activities for later on in the year – I'd be happy to sit down with you to discuss further.

### **Media Report, Prepared by the Media Officer**

#### **a) Logo & Rebranding**

- Thank you to the SC members who have attended the rebranding meetings.
- Initial presentation has been given with 5 options
- In process of cutting options down to 3 concepts
- Presentation on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of July – Please attend!



- Initial Student Focus group yielded positive results but low on numbers so looking into further focus group.
- b) 2016 Diary
- 70% of 2016 diary is complete. MO thinks probably best design concept to date.
  - Due to hub construction we will need to liaise heavily to ensure new locations are considered.
  - Also need to make sure our new logo is included.
  - Will aim to release Diary at earliest opportunity (read Jan 2016 ideally) for the 100 odd students that come in early asking for the diary.
  - Last 30 % includes external adverts, proofing, SC content, Hub content final typography, design and layout alterations/considerations. Some small illustrative changes.
- c) O'Week Sem 2
- All contents of tote bags have been designed and ordered
  - All flyers and posters have been designed and ordered
  - Banners are the final item for MO to design.
  - O'week website [flindersoweb.com.au](http://flindersoweb.com.au) is now live
  - FUSA is holding all O'Week social events on facebook. **Please invite all relevant peers/students to these events!** It is one of the ways the MO gathers insights and data into improving our efforts.
  - Conversations regarding O'Week 2016 start immediately after semester 2 in August. MO will need to spend a larger portion of time on this in lead up to 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and new stakeholder considerations.
- d) Empire Times
- SC recently passed a motion via ET Liaison Jack Harrison to orchestrate SC content in Empire Times.
  - MO urges SC to ensure they are submitting to Empire Times on time, and within the outlined methods of submission. Visit the ET website or just go straight here please <http://empiretimes.com.au/contribute-2/>
  - When SC agree to put content in Empire Times, if you need help from the MO – do so prior to the deadline and outline what you're trying to achieve. Anything past the deadline will not be worked on out of respect to the editors and simply because the MO won't have time to bring it up to print quality.
- e) Smaller projects
- Initial election artwork and marketing discussed.
  - Second Semester Grants open till mid August – inform the masses.
  - Hub consultation ongoing, MO to aid in development of Student Bar branding and student art instalments.



- Student Art project for Hub in development – to increase in workload over the next 5 months.
- SC events; Textbook fair, NAIDOC, Band Comp, Super Tuesday, Yoga, Mindfulness Triathlon, Welfare Breakfast, Relax Day all coming in for Sem 2.
- MO has completed initial draft of internal report for work at FUSA.

**Student Assist Report**, Prepared by the Acting Team Leader, Student Assist

### *Casework*

- 41 new Student Assist (SA) cases opened in June, compared to 45 in May.
- 16 additional students contacted the Student Assist email address for assistance, the same number as in May.
- Nearly half of new cases that were opened came from either the School of Nursing (8 cases) or the School of Social and Policy Studies (10). Seven of the 10 cases in the School of Social and Policy Studies were Complaints related to the topic SOAD 9226. These cases originally came through Student Assist email from part or full time external students then entered into the ARK database.
- Student Assist is coordinating the FUSA response to the proposed new Student Medical Leave policy.

Assistance for Nepalese students has continued on several levels. Measures include:

- Targeted financial support for these students will be provided via the Second Semester Grants scheme in July/August
- Student Assist attending meeting with Student President and General Secretary and Nepalese students to discuss their concerns and needs
- Emergency Financial Assistance as required
- Liaising with interstate universities re. assistance packages for these students
- Assisting students with applications for paying fees by instalments.

### *Meetings/Communications*

- Service Providers meeting
- Student Assist presentations for new International students (general and financial)
- SSG – meetings regarding proposal for extra money for Nepalese students
- Student Council meeting with Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellor (A)
- Student Assist Support Officer appointment – Elen Shute
- Student Assist staff Planning and Development Review completed
- FUSA rebranding – ongoing involvement in working group
- Met with Steve Parker & Jan Thompson regarding Nursing 3002 & 3005 issues

### *Policy*

- Consultations on Student Medical Leave policy – Collating Student Assist staff and Student President's comments on draft policy; discussions with other stakeholders



- Academic Integrity policy review – Awaiting confirmation of Student Assist involvement in working group
- Assessment Policy and Procedures follow-up – ongoing

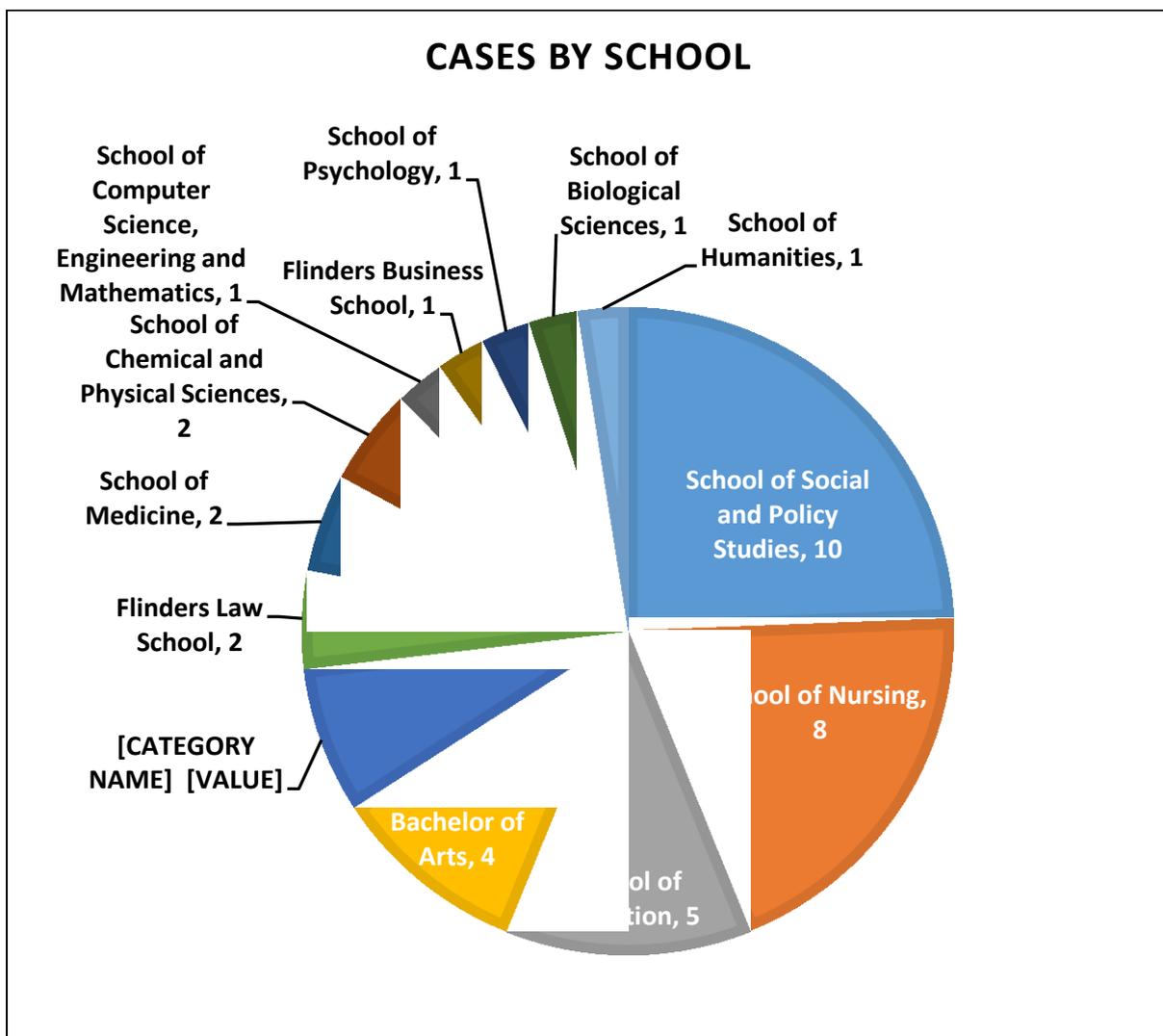
### *Awareness/networking activities*

- Exams campaign – Student Assist provided induction of casuals and development of reference material

### *Professional Development*

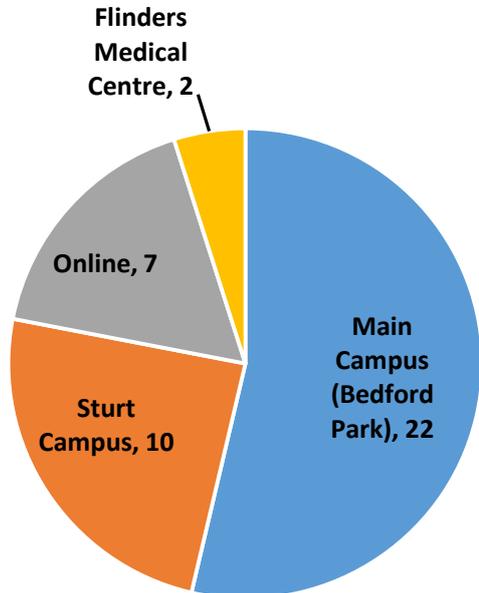
- SASO attended workshop on Excel pivot tables
- SAO attended 2-day training on MS Word

### *Casework summary*

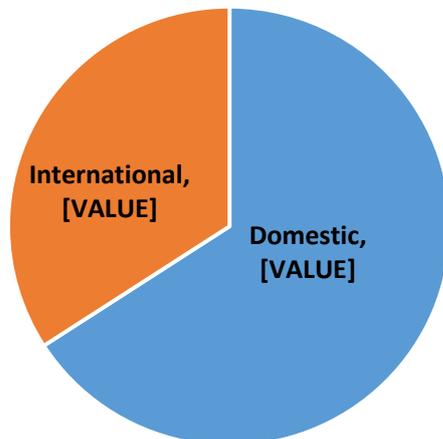




## CASES BY CAMPUS

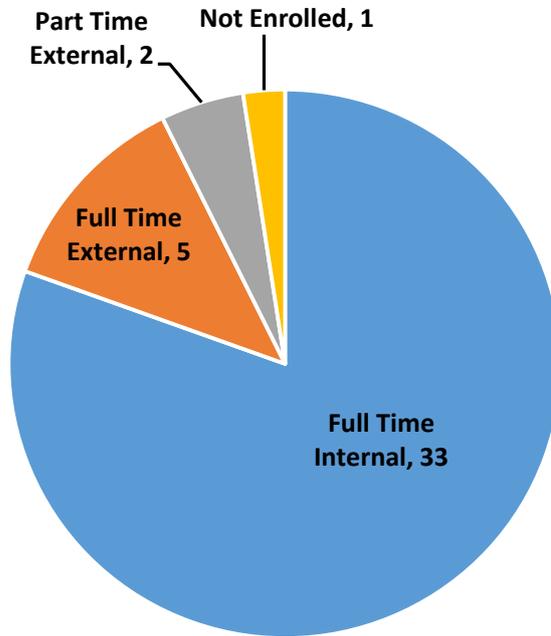


## CASES BY EQUITY GROUP

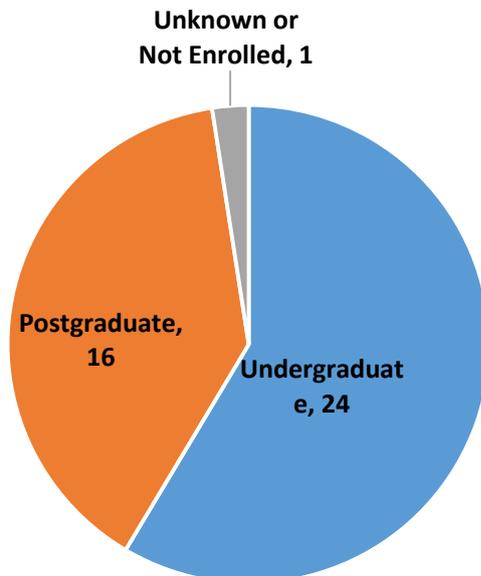


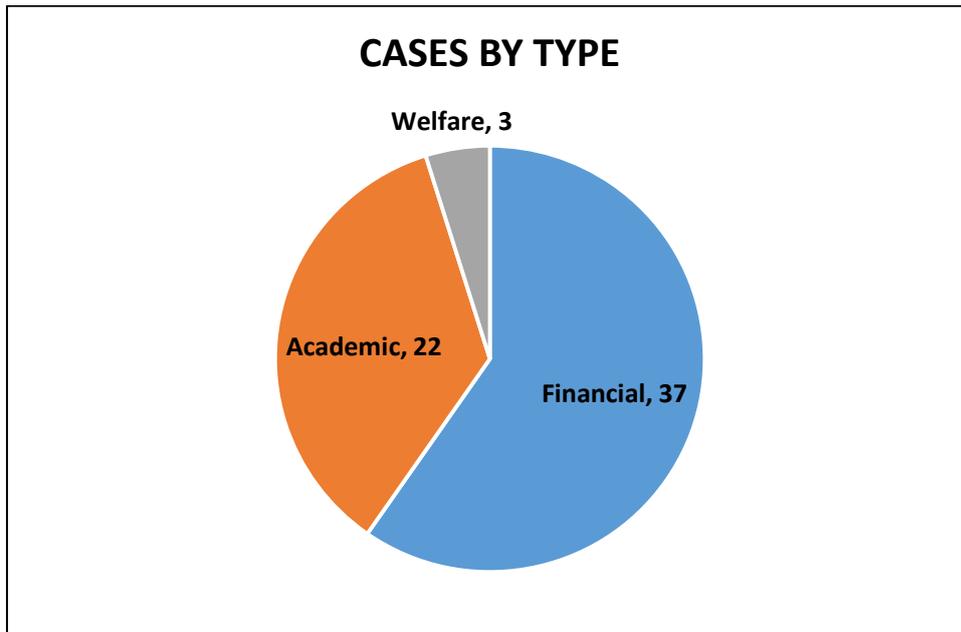


## CASES BY ENROLMENT TYPE



## CASES BY STUDY LEVEL





## **Clubs Report**, Prepared by the Clubs & Events Officer

### 1.0 O'Week, Comedy Quiz Night, NAIDOC, National Campus Band Competition

The Clubs and Events Officer has been collaborating with the Events and Projects Officer on the O'Week, Comedy Quiz Night, NAIDOC, National Campus Band Competition

Flinders Heats and National Campus Band Competition State Final. This report will address current work on Clubs and Societies and events run primarily by the Clubs and Events Officer. Further information on the events above can be found in the Events and Projects Officer report.

### 2.0 Equipment Booking Process

A new equipment booking process is being formulated to ensure both clubs, student groups and university departments are accountable for FUSA equipment use. The process intends to establish a check out and return policy, while ensuring issues of damage and theft are addressed. Please note that this process does not intend to penalise students or clubs for accidental damage they could not have foreseen, and would only apply to reckless or deliberate damage.

### 3.0 Club Regulations, Constitution and Grant Processes

The Club Regulations are currently being revised, and the regulations will be submitted to student council in the near future. The template constitution for clubs and societies has been updated to remove inconsistencies. The process for clubs to access funding is under revision, and currently universities across Australia are being reviewed to determine appropriate models. Further consultation with the clubs in sub-committee meetings will be formed before submission to Student Council to determine their needs and difficulties with the present model.

### 4.0 Construction Party

The End of Exams "Construction Party" was held in the Flinders Living Ballroom on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. 191 tickets were sold, with 161 attending the event on the evening. With similar results in the event



held before SWOTVAC in Semester 2 2014, the time of year for these events may need to be reconsidered (mid-Semester, for example). We also feel that the \$5 ticket is too “disposable” as a significant portion of the online sales did not attend. A \$10 ticket (including two free drinks instead of one, for example) may encourage guests not to abandon their ticket.

## 5.0 Club Lockers

The Club Locker project is continuing with revision of the proposal. Both electronic and mechanical lockers are being considered for installation in the Geoff Harrison Room.

## 6.0 Data Collation for Clubs and Societies

A proposal is being developed for appropriate ways to gather data on clubs and societies and the activities and events they run. This process aims to gather data on the ways clubs and societies engage students and determine ways we can assist with this process.

## General Council Member Reports

### 5.14. Ann Raith

This month I have constructed a survey on Survey Monkey regarding the gathering of information to help initiate a Mature Age Student Association on Flinders campus. I will be asking for a meeting with James after the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015.

I also spent time distributing and gathering the NUS surveys at McHugh’s café and within the social work cohort.

I have been advocating for a student this month. I cannot go into details, however, this has taken up a significant amount of my time, and is an ongoing situation.

## 6. Matters for decision

### 6.1. Support for the FUSA Indigenous Officer

At the last Student Council meeting when Flinders VC visited us, FUSA Indigenous Office Latoya Rule confronted the senior management about lack of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag representation on the main Bedford Park campus. Latoya has continued to persevere on the issue and has had a massive victory for student representation and all the Flinders community with 2 new flag poles being erected to fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

#### **Motion:**

Student Council reaffirms its commitment to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at Flinders University and acknowledge we are on stolen land

Student Council congratulates the FUSA Indigenous Officer on the victory for all Flinders University students with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags set to be raised on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

### 6.2. FUSA stands against racism

During the NUS Quality Survey data entry I found it quite upsetting to receive a survey response that claimed burqas have been torn off student's heads at times in a racist attack. The survey contained no personal identifiers so we cannot find more information on this issue. I know Student Council has touched on the issue before, however it is essential to revisit the issue if it is still happening at Flinders.

**Motion:**

Student Council reaffirms its stance that all people are equal and we do not stand for racism.

The FUSA Student President raises the issue of ongoing racism on campus at the next opportunity with the University Board.

### **6.3. National Day of Action**

As Education Officer, it my responsibility to drive FUSA's Educational campaigns and policy, as directed by Student Council. The below motion is put forth given the overwhelming consensus is that deregulation is a terrible policy already twice put forward by Chris Pyne and the Liberal Party more broadly. In the Federal Budget of 2015/16 deregulation reappeared in a copy and paste form of the initial, disastrous proposal.

**Motion:**

Student Council endorses the National Union of Student's National Day of Action (NDA) of August 19<sup>th</sup> at Adelaide University.

All of Student Council make every effort to attend the NDA in a sign of solidarity against the Liberal policy. All Student Council commits to building the NDA in some capacity.

All of Student Council commit to educating the students of Flinders University in what deregulation means for their studies and why it is poor policy for the higher education sector.

Student Council asks that the Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University, Colin Stirling, comes out and publicly states opposition to the deregulation model due to the financial strain it will place on future students and the fact Flinders University students will be **worse** off under the model

Student Council commits to hosting a NDA in the Humanities Courtyard on August 19<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness around the afternoon rally and the issue of reregulation more broadly. Student Council allocates \$250 out of General Council member Jack Harrison's budget to run the event of August 19<sup>th</sup> at Flinders University.

### **6.4. Super Tuesday**

Super Tuesday is coming and much of the School Association Project hinges on the success of the event. Out of the 14 Schools at Flinders University, around 9 already have an association in some capacity at different stages of the project. The idea is to create the final 5 associations simultaneously on what we have branded 'Super Tuesday'. For this event to work it is empirical Student Council wholeheartedly embrace the idea and student representation more broadly. This includes educating

appropriate networks of Flinders University students, where relevant, that Super Tuesday is closing in upon us and encouraging the students to get involved.

### **Motion:**

Student Council supports Super Tuesday and will volunteer to help coordinate various BBQ's and meetings throughout the day

Student Council endorses the attached budget for the event, with General Councillor Kevin Clark pledging \$1000, FUSA Education Officer pledging \$1000 and the rest being sourced from the budget line of the Student Representation and Development Officer, previously held by Jonathon Louth.

Student Council notes the attached running time sheet and communicates with the FUSA Education Officer should they be available to participate in the running of the event.

## **6.5. NAIDOC event proposal**

### Contents

- 1.0 Background
- 2.0 Time/Date/Location
- 3.0 Expect Attendance
- 4.0 Performances
- 5.0 Budget
- 6.0 Queries

#### Background

NAIDOC is an event that celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements, and it is usually celebrated for a week long at the start of July every year. Last year we held a very successful NAIDOC at Flinders Day in the second week of semester (as our students are away during the regular NAIDOC week celebrations). We have been approved this year to host our one day NAIDOC celebration by Humanities and Buildings and Properties.

Our event will comprise of traditional foods & a BBQ (all proceeds will be going to a local Aboriginal organisation/ charity), performances, guest speakers, information stalls and a weaving workshop.

The president of Flinders Indigenous Students Association (FISA) and I will be accessing Clubs and Societies funds to finance half of the events, Yunggorendi are donating the BBQ foods, and I am proposing that we access the remaining half of our intended budget from the Indigenous Officers budget.

#### Time/ Date/ Location

This event will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> August, 10am – 3pm, utilising the Humanities Courtyard & the Flinders Laneway.

## Expected Attendance

Last year we had approximately 300 people attend and the event was held on a Friday. Due to the high-traffic location, and the event being held in the middle of the week, our expected attendance is anywhere between 300 and 500 people.

## Performances

I am requesting to access the Indigenous Officer's budget specifically to finance the performances that will occur at our event. We have confirmed Zaachariaha Fielding (The Voice 2014), along with a guitarist, both from the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) for an hour on the day. We have also confirmed for the Paitya Dance Group to do a traditional smoking ceremony and performance.

## Budget

Performances	Cost
Zaachariaha Fielding	\$600
Guitarist	\$150
Paitya Dance Group (5 people)	\$800
<b>Total needed from budget:</b>	<b>\$1,550</b>

## Queries

Queries can be directed to the Indigenous Students Officer at [indigenous.officer@flinders.edu.au](mailto:indigenous.officer@flinders.edu.au) or 0413 931 441.

**Motion:** Student Council approve the proposal to access the Indigenous Student's Officer's budget for the purpose of the NAIDOC at Flinders event.

### 6.6. Free wellbeing classes for students

I am working with Health and Counselling and Flinders One Fitness to provide students with another series of free wellbeing classes. This semester the classes will be yoga with a large mindfulness and meditation component. The poses will be targeted at opening up the body and countering all the sitting and staring at computers that students and staff do. Andrew Wood has agreed to release Maureen, a counsellor who is also an experienced yoga instructor, and cover her time. Maureen has asked that I purchase some props to be used in the classes.

**Motion:** that Student Council approves \$200 from the Welfare Officer's initiative budget for purchasing props.

I would like to spend my professional development and conference attendance allowance on food for my subcommittees, healthy give aways at the Mindfulness Triathlon, and potentially some extra mindfulness classes in semester two.

**Motion:** that Student Council allows the money in the Welfare Officer's professional development and conference attendance allowance to be spent on extra welfare initiatives.

### **6.7. NUS National Day of Action**

The next NUS National Day of Action is going to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August. The cross-campus demonstration will be held at Adelaide University, at 1:30pm outside the Hub. There is a proposal in this agenda submitted by Caleb to have a Flinders event earlier in the day, which some of us talked about at Edcon. This is all great, however this year there have been issues with the campaign which must be resolved if we are to move forward with successful demonstrations. It's the demonstrations which have kept this issue in the news, and which have been supported by the majority of people polled. However, the last demos had poor turnouts. Contrast this with the recent rally around various student rights issues in Adelaide which had over 250 attendees. One difference was in the building work. It's fine to put out media releases, set up a facebook page, and talk to politicians, but none of that actually translates to high student attendance. Putting up posters is a start, but the most important aspect of the work to get a rally to be successful is the face to face conversations. The recent Adelaide rally had this – with a core of student activists having hundreds of face to face conversations with students on campus in the lead up to the rally. At the more successful NDA demos in Adelaide in the past, the same thing has resulted in a good turnout. I try to speak to every student who goes to these rallies – I am usually not 100% successful, but I can confidently say that the majority of students who attend do so because they have had a face to face conversation with a student activist on their campus, and have been convinced to come along. If student council commits to carrying out this work, and convinces friends and other students to join us, we have the best chance for this NDA to be successful, and the only chance for this campaign to be successful.

**Motion:** I move that the FUSA Student Council prioritizes leafleting students in person in the lead up to the NDA on August 19<sup>th</sup>. This means having leaflets on them at O'Week, making sure their clubs distribute leaflets, and distributing leaflets from the FUSA stall.

### **6.8. Minutes**

At the last council meeting, the minutes from one of our previous meeting were deemed to be not truly representative. I have modified them as best I can, with what I remember saying and hearing at the meeting. Obviously I can't recall the whole content of the discussion, which is why at the last meeting, and then via email afterward, I requested that Student Council members who felt that the minutes were not a true and accurate representation of our discussion send me their proposed modifications, which I would then collate, distribute for feedback, and present at this meeting. A grand total of zero council members sent me feedback. At this point there is nothing further I can do with the minutes. I have already spent a long time getting them to the stage they are at now. Student Council members have had weeks to respond.

**Motion:** I move that the Student Council accepts the minutes as they stand.



## **6.9. Club Affiliations**

### Plant Biotech Society of Flinders University

Club Description: A Club for students interested in and studying in the area of plant biotechnology

Proposed Activities: Meetings, guest speakers, social events, plant lab work.

Motion: I move that the Plant Biotech Society of Flinders University be approved for financial affiliation to FUSA.

### Indonesian Students Association

Club Description: The association for Indonesian students in Flinders University

Proposed Activities: Strengthen the relationship among members, help Indonesian students in Flinders to adapt and settle into a new environment, contribute actively in events involving the club and university student association.

Motion: I move that the Indonesian Students Association be approved for financial affiliation to FUSA.

## **6.10. Environment Officer and Indigenous Officer joint forum**

I've continued working with Latoya to secure speakers for the forum. As of now the general plan is to (most likely) have Tauto speaking on his fight against the encroachment of a mining company, a speaker from Friends of the Earth to speak on battles against coal seam gas extraction, as well as myself and Latoya. And of course environment, indigenous and student groups will be invited to attend and contribute to the discussion. Further arrangements for the event (specific room bookings, food, travel expenses etc.) I did not yet want to begin until funding had been secured from student council.

I move that student council approve \$500 from the environment officer's budget for this event. The general breakdown of which is \$150 for posters, leaflets and other advertising. \$100 for food and drinks at the event. Around \$50 for thankyou gifts to the guest speakers. And the remainder for any travel or other expenses required of the guests, which are as yet to be determined.

## **6.11. Postgrad event proposal**

Date: last week of July (Time and Date To Be Determined)

Purpose: social event to welcome back post-graduate students to semester 2

Location: Oasis Function Room

Theme: Latin Dance Night. I would like to hire a dance teacher to teach a beginner's salsa and rueda class for the post-graduate students for two hours total followed by social dancing.

Budget: I would like to use some of my budget to pay the dance teacher. I have not negotiated the price yet, but I will follow up on this. Since I am hiring a dance teacher for the class we won't do an actual dinner, but I would like to order snacks and drinks (nachos and soda). I will keep the entire budget under 600 dollars and if possible under 500 dollars. If cost and approval of this event is an issue, we will not offer food and just have the class for as little money as possible.

Advertising: I will ask the FUSA staff to create a facebook and posters for me when this event gets approved.

I move that Student Council approves funding for the postgrad event proposal.

## **7. Matters for discussion**

### **7.1. Student Services and Amenities Fee – Priority Expenditure Areas for 2016**

I have been working with staff in Student Policy and Projects to bring forward the timing for the process of application, student consultation and confirmation of the SSAF Budget for 2016. We are also working on strategies to seek wider student input through various mechanisms such as a surveys and focus groups.

As part of the consultation process, we would also like to invite Student Council to provide formal feedback on the existing SSAF priority expenditure items to ensure there is input and feedback from elected student representatives on the priorities and other opinions on other priority areas.

*Please see the attached document outlining the 2015 SSAF Budget Allocation (in detailed and condensed form) and the allowable expenditure items.*

It would be very helpful for the SSAF Budget Advisory Committee to receive a formal response from the Student Council outlining their views on the 2015 SSAF Budget Allocation and any other ideas for other priority areas that are not included currently in the 2015 SSAF Budget Allocation. It should be kept in mind however that the majority of the expenditure items are ongoing and therefore there is limited funding for new projects to be considered.

The formal response from the Student Council should be submitted to me or Robert Houghton (Manager, Student Policy and Projects) by mid-August to ensure that the SSAF Budget Advisory Committee has time to consider this before they meet to finalise the Draft SSAF Budget for 2016.

## **8. Matters for noting**

### **8.1. FUSA: Amendments to the constitution**

At its meeting on the 14 May 2015, University Council received proposed amendments to the Flinders University Student Association Constitution and a report from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) which noted that the proposed changes were not substantive and are intended to facilitate the smoother operation of the Association.



University Council approved the proposed amendments to the constitution of the Flinders University Student Association.

The updates FUSA Constitution can be found on the FUSA website.

## **9. Meeting Closed**