

Flinders University Student Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held on Tuesday 3rd June 2014
FUSA Meeting Room
6pm

Present: Grace Hill, Ira Herbold, Yaddollah Bahrami, James Vigus, Jaka Yusuf, Haidarr Jones, Roxanna Henshaw, Will Menzies, Caleb Pattinson, Michael Bezuidenhout, Rosalie Dow, John Photakis, Justin Shaw, Lauren Brice, Ella Keegan-Treloar, Chris O'Grady (6:10pm), Tut Tut (6:11pm), Paul Harrison (Minutes)

Guest(s): Adam Rau (FUSA Clubs and Events Officer)

Apologies: None

Meeting Opened: 6:03pm.

1. Welcome and Meeting Open

It was acknowledged that the Student Council meeting was being held on the land of the Kaurna people.

2. Apologies:

None received.

4. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Accessibilities Officer: I was not listed as an apology in the minutes but was an apology for the meeting.

Motion: Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Moved: Grace Hill

Seconded: John Photakis

All in favour

Motion carried.

5. Reports

5.1. Student President's Report

Michael Bezuidenhout raised concern about banging on glass door and disorganized crossing of south road during the protest against Tony Abbott.

- 5.2. General Secretary's Report
- 5.3. Education Officer's Report
- 5.4. Environment Officer's Report
- 5.5. Queer Officer's Report
- 5.6. Women's Officer's Report
- 5.7. International Officer's Report
- 5.8. Welfare Officer's Report
- 5.9. Social Activities Officer's Report
- 5.10. Accessibility Officer's Report
- 5.11. Post-Graduate Officer's Report
- 5.12. Indigenous Officer's Report
- 5.13. MSE's Report

Motion: I motion to accept the reports

Moved: Grace Hill

Seconded: Roxanna Henshaw

All in favour

Motion Carried.

Chris O'Grady has entered the room 6:10pm.

6. Matters for Decision

Tut Tut has entered the room 6:12pm.

Motions stared: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9, 6.12, 6.13, 6.16, 6.18.1, 6.18.6, 6.19.1

Motion: Move unstarred motions on block. [Unstarred motions 6.5, 6.10, 6.11, 6.14, 6.15, 6.17, 6.18.2, 6.18.3, 6.18.4, 6.18.5]

Motioned: Grace Hill

Seconded: Roxanna Henshaw

All in favour

Motion carried.

TutTut has entered the room 6:12pm.

3. Welcome Guests: Adam Rau

Adam Rau - Explained his position at FUSA as Clubs and Events Officer.

6.1. FUSA Non- Partisanship – Michael Bezuidenhout

Post-Graduate Officer: Fundamentally disagree with comparing a student association with the institution of parliament is wrong. It's a democratic organisation and its space should respect that. Think that this goes way too far and that people should reject it. In Federal parliament the political parties have whole sections that are dedicated to those parties and electoral

offices are decked out in political party memorabilia. We are a student association and a political space

Michael Bezuidenhout: The comment regarding parliament doesn't actually have an effect on the motion, it was only in the preamble. If student council endorses it the material, it is welcome to be there. We want to engage with students and do not want to scare any away because of the impression we make. FUSA is a political organisation. To be directly partisan would be wrong, for example to say the labor party is FUSA. If a candidate wants to run with a labor party logo, that's fine, go and do it. But when you get in this office I don't think it is right to make it seem that this office is run by a particular group.

Welfare Officer: I have an issue with any attempt to institutionalise a policy which restricts speech or expression. There's a perfectly legitimate concern with the attitudes students will have with political material displayed in the FUSA office. My issue is when you do institutionalize a policy like this you create a threat down the line, grounds to restrict speech in ways which would not be at all reasonable. I appreciate that you have put elements into the motion that attempt to prevent that. But I am very hesitant to institutionalise restrictions.

Tut Tut: It's very ridiculous to think that FUSA, as the student body of the whole Uni, is going to be put up as some kind of political shop-front for a small faction. What we're trying to say here is that we should not run in ignorance of the reality that we have political diversity at University. FUSA should seek to represent the totality of students, not a small far left faction which includes the people who spoke against the motion. We don't seek to censor anyone or shut down the debate, all that we want is equality of speech and to represent all students equally.

Education Office: I feel that we have touched on this issue a fair bit in that FUSA should not be projecting an image of a particular political body I don't think we should be seen to represent a single political organisation.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I don't buy into the slippery slope that may restrict or censor FUSA in the future. This is not an attempt to stifle debate or anything. This is only for FUSA, not anything else at the University. If a party says something good, then it's fine for us to agree to it. It's just for if someone has a problem with something that has already been put up then this is the avenue they can take.

Queer Officer: When you walk into the FUSA office it's quite in your face with the number of political posters there. I think it would be great to have a bit more of a range of posters such as the Step Up posters. IT would be great to have a range of posters on a diverse range of issues.

Student President: I'm definitely for having more of the step up posters. I would love it if FUSA was covered in posters from different backgrounds, clubs etc. But I don't think we need to restrict speech to do that.

Student President: I think students are aware that a variety of posters go up around the university. I don't think that students will think that FUSA is whatever is demonstrated on a poster. I don't think we should be putting up restrictions on the free speech of students.

Adam Rau has left 6:42pm.

Environment Officer: Motion that we go to a vote.

Michael Bezuidenhout: Before we go to a vote, I would like it noted that I have a great problem with being unable to respond to criticism during this discussion.

Motion: I motion that material, publications and positions that are directly partisan, including but not limited to referring directly to a political party or using a political party's logo or symbol of a particular ideology, in either their branding or positions or arguments, are not allowed to be displayed in or on the FUSA office, any FUSA Stalls or any material FUSA publishes.

Moved: Michael Bezuidenhout

Seconded: None

All those in favour

For: Michael Bezuidenhout, Tut Tut

Against: 9

Abstention: Justin Shaw, Lauren Brice, Ella Keegan-Treloar, Haidarr Jones, Jaka Yusuf.

Motion Failed.

6.2. Student Forum – General Secretary

General Secretary: In order to have one in semester 1, we would need to have one in the next two weeks.

Post-Graduate Officer: We had a successful AGM, I think that maybe we should have it third week back or something so that

Education Officer: Echo James' comment. We should not try and rush it when people are focused on exams as we will not get input.

Ella Keegan-Treloar has left the room 6:48pm.

General Secretary: I didn't want to put down any events we've had this year, I just think it's really important to constantly consult with students. So if we're happy to do that next semester, how about near the start?

Manager, Student Engagement: How about we select two random weeks in lieu of advice of clubs and events officer

General Secretary: How about the 5th August, 15th October?

Ella Keegan-Treloar entered the room 6:53pm.

Motion: I motion that we hold student forums on the 5th of August and 15th of October.

Moved: Roxanna Henshaw

Seconded: Grace Hill

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstention: Tut Tut

Motion Carried.

6.3. Student Council Training Day – General Secretary

General Secretary: Do you want it in the semester break, before, after?

Student President: In the semester break there are things like EdCon, Queer Collaborations, NOWSA.

General Secretary: What about the 6th of August

Education Officer: I can't do Wednesdays?

Justin Shaw: Could it be a week after the forum so that we have time to compile the responses and review it?

Education Officer: I think it would be better to come back to this at a later meeting.

General Secretary: Okay, so at the next meeting, the first Tuesday of July.

Motion withdrawn.

6.4. Hub Student Council Report – General Secretary

General Secretary: Thanks to Ella and Yadollah for their proposals.

Motion: I motion that student Council endorse the above requests for Club space, the Women's room and international student space.

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstention: Tut Tut

Motion Carried.

6.6. Screens across campus for advertising – Justin Shaw

Education Officer: This was brought up at council last year and never happened.

Environment Officer: Point of clarification, are you going to chase this up Justin?

Justin Shaw: Yes. I will write out a proper letter and appropriate contact for this.

Environment Officer: Probably Chris can help you out with that

Welfare Officer: Can we specify FUSA promotions in the motion?

Justin Shaw: Yes

Tut Tut: When you say FUSA events, would that mean protests and that sort of thing? Can it be made explicit that

Jaka Yusuf: Is there also a possibility with adding it with an accessibility feature. The blind would not know what it says unless it is also equipped with audio. It would be great if it could be equipped with a button that could read it out.

Motion: I motion that student council recommends the university buy some television screens for FUSA promotions and place them across the university, including at Sturt, the Medical Centre, Victoria Square, Law and several around South Ridge including at Silc and McHughs.

For: 14

Against: Tut Tut

Abstention: Michael Bezuidenhout

Motion Carried.

6.7. Clubs and Societies dealing with conflict – General Secretary

Motion: I motion that student council endorse the following policy:

Could replace equal opportunity with student equal opportunity advisor

Moved: General Secretary

Seconded: James Vigus

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstention: Tut Tut

Motion Carried.

6.8. Senate explanation event – John Photakis

Michael Bezuidenhout: I like the motion in general, but don't like the last bit

John Photakis: I can drop that off if you want.

Motion: I motion that student council endorse this senate explanation event.

Moved: John Photakis

Seconded: Will Menzies

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstention: Tut Tut

Motion Carried.

6.9. Student Council budget Response – Student President

Student President: It's necessary for us to take a very strong stance on this. We should reject the budget and the idea that Australia is in some sort of budget crisis.

Michael Bezuidenhout: Agree with you in terms of condemning the budget. What I would draw exception to is point 3 of the budget. The deregulation of places has nothing to do with the budget. Deregulation of places has allowed more people to access places at University including those from low SES backgrounds. I think it is outrageous that you would condemn that. I don't support the removal of HECS, I don't think a worker on minimum wage should be subsidising a degree of a doctor who will never have to pay it back. A modest contribution from students is important.

Student President: In terms of deregulation of places, I think it is related to deregulation of fees as it is part of a broader neoliberal agenda of giving the private sector control over universities rather than the public sector. The deregulation of places was not accompanied by an increase of university funding resulting in lower education for university students.

General Secretary: Can you amend it to include Austudy in 4?

Amendment agreed upon.

General Secretary: I would prefer if you were to amend it to remove deregulation of places but keep deregulation of fees

Michael Bezuidenhout: I'm a bit confused because you want more people to come to Uni but want to put restrictions on the amount of people who come to university. Are you for or against more people attending university?

Tut Tut: Firstly, I think the motion betrays a very huge it's more akin to a young kid crying because they can't get what they want. it won't dampen the government's resolve to fix the

problem

Student President: I'm for more people coming to University, but I'm against universities enrolling more people to gain more money without increases in funding to allow students to access quality education. Deregulation has meant a lowering of education for many people.

Education Officer: It's just sort of a minor thing, but it's student council's budget response but then in 3 it calls for a fully government funded system where students can access education. This isn't really a response to the budget, it's more a critique of the entire education system.

Environment Officer: It doesn't seem like you are in favour of that amendment of places so we could just vote it down and someone else can move the amended one

Student President: Happy to amend it, removing "places and adding Austudy but note that I'm really cheesed about it.

Motion:

1. The Student Council condemns the Abbott government's 2014 budget, and its attacks on the most vulnerable members of society, while doling out enormous sums of money to corporate Australia.
2. The Student Council refutes the claims Australia is in a budget crisis, and recognises that this argument is being used to undermine the most basic of provisions for welfare and social security.
3. The Student Council opposes the deregulation of places and fees in the higher education system, and calls for a fully government funded system where every student can access free education.
4. The Student Council opposes any moves to convert student welfare into loans, and calls on more government funding to support low-SES students. The Student Council also calls for an increase in the amount of, and accessibility of, Youth Allowance, Newstart and ABSTUDY payments.
5. The Student Council opposes the removal of the equity quotas for the higher education system. The Student Council acknowledges that quotas for low-SES students are crucial for the inclusion of students from working class and other disadvantaged backgrounds, who face innumerable obstacles, into higher education.

I motion that student council endorse the above proposal to be sent to the appropriate authority in the university, via the Manager of Student Engagement.

Moved: Grace Hill

Seconded: Roxanna Henshaw

For: 15

Against: Tut Tut

Abstentions: 0

Motion Carried.

7:17pm meeting adjourned.

7:41pm meeting resumed.

6.12. Assignment Submissions – Education Officer

Education Officer: Just a couple of errors in it. Instead of 12am I wrote 12pm. Though given I've been informed that people can be quite confused I've decided to change it to 11:59pm.

Caleb Pattinson: I don't disagree I'm very strongly for it and I've done very badly on an assignment because it was due at 1:18pm.

Moved: Tim Mitchell

Seconded: Michael Bezuidenhout

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.13. NAIDOC Event – Indigenous Officer

Manager, Student Engagement: Could we amend it to: Approves 1300 from the event from the office bearer initiative budget?

Amendment is acceptable to the mover.

Motion: I motion that the Student Council:

1. Approves \$1300 from the office bearer initiative budget for the event the council accepts this budget.
2. Accepts the above proposal
3. Approves Haidarr to move forward with the planning and running of the event.

Moved: Haidarr Jones

Seconded: Roxanna Henshaw

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.16. Comp Night Coopers Bar Tuesday Night Proposal – General Secretary

Basically this is coming out of the events budget and is a way to increase

Manage, Student Engagement: These funds go towards an incentive to having students there.

Motions:

I motion that Student Council approves the Tuesday Event Night Proposal.

I motion that Student Council approves the FIFA World Cup Event Proposal

Moved: Haidarr Jones

Seconded: John Photakis

For: 15

Against: 0

Abstention: Tut Tut

Motion Carried

6.18. Clubs Seeking affiliation – General Secretary

6.18.1. Red Cross

General Secretary: Basically it looks like it's a fantastic club but they arguably have a restriction on membership as you have to be over 15 to be a member. I'm pretty happy to financially affiliate them regardless.

Environment Officer: I don't think it's a significant issue

John Photakis: Who at University is under 15?

General Secretary: It's just that their required to have that restriction in there and under our regulations they're required to have no restrictions

Post-Graduate Officer: I think it should also be noted that they also have an outdated discriminatory policy against homosexual men and their donation of blood.

Motion: I motion that the Red Cross Club be financially affiliated with FUSA.

Moved: General Secretary

Seconded: John Photakis

For: 15

Abstention: Tut Tut

Against: 0

Motion Carried

6.18.2. Motorsport

General Secretary: We just want to affiliate them on the proviso that they come under the banner of FUSA and not FlindersOne.

Motion: I motion that the Flinders Motorsport Club be financially affiliated with FUSA on the proviso that they come under the banner of FUSA and not FlindersOne.

Moved: General Secretary

Seconded:

For: 15

Abstention: Tut Tut

Against: 0

Motion Carried

6.19. Executive Committee Recommendations

6.19.1. Honorariums

Motion: Motion to accept Justin Shaw's honorarium.

Moved: Grace Hill

Seconded: Roxanna Henshaw

Motion Carried

Motion: Motion to accept the honorariums of the following people:

- General Secretary
- Education Officer
- Environment Officer
- Queer Officer
- Women's Officer
- Social Activities Officer
- Accessibility Officer
- Post-Graduate Officer
- Indigenous Officer
- Michael Bezuidenhout
- John Photakis

Moved: Roxanna Henshaw

Seconded: Grace Hill

Motion Carried

7. Matters for Discussion:

7.1. AYCC Safe climate future – John Photakis

John Photakis: Last month when we signed on to the roadmap. It has now come to the point in the campaign where they are delivering the signatures of everyone in the area to the local MP. We are in Boothby, the delivery for the event is Saturday 1pm at Southcott's office.

Tut Tut: I'm not clear what it is, what is it? Is it a protest or an ambush?

John Photakis: No, we've contacted him, it's a publicity event to draw attention to the roadmap and gather support.

7.2. Student Council Accountability, appearance Training – General Secretary

General Secretary: I just want to emphasise, not singling anyone out. But when you're on a stall you're there representing FUSA and the student council. Be active when you're on a stall and be engaging with students. It's about having a presence on campus

7.3. Student Council Training – General Secretary

General Secretary: Just letting Student Council know that there is \$5000 available for training, professional development.

International Officer: Which kind of training?

General Secretary: It's really up to student council what training we do.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I just want to mention the most boring possibility. Just want NUS does, bring in the lawyer and explain what responsibilities everyone's legal responsibilities

Student President: If people have ideas, why doesn't everyone write them down and send them to me and Roxy and we'll discuss them next month when we have proposals.

7.4. Possible Left-Over Food Program – Welfare Officer

Welfare Officer: Quite often when there are events on campus there's a lot of leftover food. The suggestion was to come up with a way to reduce wastage and give them to students.

Environment Officer: Rather than giving away to students, maybe setting up something with OzHarvest or something?

9. Meeting Close

Meeting Closed: 8:00pm.