

Flinders University Student Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Tuesday 6th May 2014

Location: FUSA Meeting Room.

Present: Michael Bezuidenhout, Lauren Brice, Grace Hill, Ira Herbold, Haidarr Jones, Ella Keegan-Treloar, John Photakis, Justin Shaw, Roxanna Henshaw, Will Menzies, Yadollah Bahrami, Chris O'Grady, Paul Harrison (minutes), Rosalie Grace Dow, Nathan Erdely (member), Brodie (member), Rosalie Grace-Dow (6:32pm).

Guest(s): Felescia Schemmer.

Apologies: Tim Mitchell, Caleb Pattinson, James Vigus.

Opened: 6:04pm.

1. Welcome and Meeting Open

It was acknowledged that the Student Council meeting was taking place on the land of the Kaurna people.

2. Apologies: Education Officer, Post-Graduate Officer and Caleb Pattinson.

There was no dissent in the apologies.

3. Welcome Guests: Felescia Schemmer

Felescia Schemmer was welcomed to the meeting.

4. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Manager, Student Engagement: There were two small issues with the minutes, the motion in 6.8.5 states that FUSA financially affiliates with the club; it should be the other way around.

Manager, Student Engagement: Also, there is a sentence in the discussion of 6.6 which appears to be unfinished.

Motion: I motion that we approve the minutes with amendments

Moved: Student President

Seconded: Welfare Officer

All in favour

Motion Carried

5. Reports

Motion: Motion to accept the reports

Moved: Student President

Seconded: General Secretary

All in favour

Motion Carried

6. Matters for Decision

Motion: I motion that we move all of the un-starred items on block (6.5.1, 6.5.2, 6.5.3, 6.6, 6.10, 6.11, 6.12).

Motions:

6.5.1: I motion that student council financially affiliate with Flinders Enactus.

6.5.2: I motion that student council financially affiliate with Flinders University Marine Biology Association.

6.5.3: I motion that student council financially affiliate with Flinders United Nations Society on the proviso they provide FUSA with evidence of an active bank account.

6.6: I motion that student council re-affiliate with Flinders University Digital Gaming Enthusiasts.

6.10: I motion that as NAIDOC week is held in the mid-year holidays we hold a one or two day student-driven event in August to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

6.11: I motion that I am [Indigenous Officer] approved for leave of absence retrospectively.

6.12: I motion that Student Council call on the Office of Strategic and Financial Resources to make the hiring of a new Sustainability Officer an urgent priority.

Moved: Student President

Second: General Secretary

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.1. Safe Climate Road Map – John Photakis

John Photakis: The focus of the Safe Climate Road Map is on being a role model with respect to climate change, move away from coal and gas and aim to invest in 100% renewable energy production.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I am concerned with how extreme the targets are. Preventing climate change is a great goal, but I am concerned with the impact on the economy if it was done in such a quick period of time.

Environment Officer: I think it's important to set ambitious targets and move towards renewables as soon as possible.

Michael Bezuidenhout: As long as it's shown I'm hesitant to support such extreme measures, I'm happy to support it.

Motion: I motion that the FUSA council endorse the safe climate road map.

Moved: John Photakis

Second: Environment Officer

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.2. IDAHOT Budget – Queer Officer (Continued later)

Student President: We will move to the next item until the Queer Officer is present.

Motion suspended until Queer Officer is present.

6.3. ET Editors – Chris O'Grady

Student President: The most important aspect is student control of the magazine, for this reason I am against appointment.

General Secretary: I think we need to appoint as it is a faster process. What if there was a majority of students on the panel for appointment?

Social Activities Officer: Can we talk to those who were the runners up in the election?

Felescia Schemmer: There were only 4 people who ran in the election, two of them resigned and the other one was elected Women's officer so she conceded

Manager, Student Engagement: Last year's council appointed the other two editors. I think election is good, but I like Roxy's idea of having more student council members on the appointment board.

Student President: I just want to add that I think if we are not going to elect students for ET positions that we should notify people that previous elected people are no longer elected, to make it really clear. I do just want to register that I strongly object to having it any other way than election.

Felescia Schemmer: At the editors conference there were a lot of editors who came together as a party of people for elections. I wanted to propose that either done democratically through application where there is an option to apply as a team.

Welfare Officer: If I'm not mistaken, that's how ET used to run. So I think it's a good idea to have a group of people apply.

General Secretary: I do think that's a good idea, but I think we should sort out whether or not it's election or appointment first.

Student President: I think we can vote on this now and sort out the process for applications in the future. Would it be acceptable if we went directly to the motion with Roxy's amendments?

General Secretary: The amendment would in addition to the three listed committee members, "two other Student Council Members"

Motion: I motion that Student Council support the appointment of a new editorial team for Empire Times as soon as practical, consisting of an Appointment Committee that consists of: FUSA General Secretary (in their capacity as ET Liaison), FUSA Media Officer and a representative from the University's Marketing, Communication Office and two other Student Council members.

Moved: General Secretary

Seconded: Environment Officer

In favour: 11

Against: Grace Hill

Motion Carried

6.4. E-readings – Welfare Officer

Welfare Officer: Whenever there's been a topic where readings are uploaded on a weekly basis it's been a problem. Tim and I put together a proposal to require eReadings be uploaded in advance.

Felescia Schemmer has left the room 6:26pm.

Nathan Erdely has left the room 6:26pm.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I just wanted some clarification. With the readings, are we talking about digitizing them and putting them on FLO?

We're talking about the ones that already have electronic readings - some topics upload them at the start and some upload them as you go. Those are the ones that we are discussing.

International Officer: They should be putting their uploads up before they teach the course.

Welfare Officer: That's where this is coming from; we had discussions with students where they had 60 page readings uploaded the day before they were required to have them read

Environment Officer: I believe the University does have policies as to how and when things need to be uploaded. Maybe a good amendment would be that University administrators enforce uploads policies more stringently.

Student President: I move that we go straight to a vote.

Motion: I motion that Student Council approve the attached proposal regarding e-readings to have all electronic readings uploaded and accessible by students by the first teaching week of semester for a given topic.

Moved: Welfare Officer

Seconded: International Officer

All in favour

Motion Carried

Rosalie has entered the room 6:32pm

Motion 6.2 has been tabled as the Queer Officer is now present.

6.2. IDAHOT Budget – Queer Officer

Queer Officer: For IDAHOT this year, none of us involved in planning it on campus before and none of us have ever been to one so we made up what sounded good.

Manager, Student Engagement: I think the event sounds fantastic, congratulations. I just wanted to know if you could add to the motion that that the funds come from the queer budget?

John Photakis: IDAHOT is on a Saturday I believe?

Queer Officer: Yes, but we are doing it on Tuesday so that there are students on campus.

Queer Officer: My amendment is that the funds come from the Queer events budget.

Motion: I motion that Council accepts this budget [provided in the agenda].

Motioned: Queer Officer

Seconded: Student President

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.5. Clubs Seeking affiliation – General Secretary

6.5.1 Flinders Enactus

6.5.2 Flinders University Marine Biology Association

6.5.3 Flinders United Nations Society

6.7. Commission of Audit – Student President

Michael Bezuidenhout: I don't think that it should just say increase the tax rate for rich. I think it's important that we just condemn the findings. If we're going to talk about tax policy I think that it should be its own motion.

Student President: The percentage of overall GDP going to corporate profits has been rising compared to those going to the people. That is because tax rates for rich people have been stagnant or falling. I believe tax has had a huge impact and is entirely related to the issue.

Michael Bezuidenhout: If you increase income tax rates it just means that people go through loop holes, I don't think it's necessary just tax rich people. There's a whole broader policy of things such as capital gains tax etc. I just don't see why it's tacked onto the end of this motion. I'd be happy to support a motion that has the first half but not with it all combined.

Manager, Student Engagement left room 6:38pm.

Queer Officer: How about we amend it to 'call for revenues to be sourced from those who can afford it'.

Student President: I'm not entirely comfortable with that wording.

Michael Bezuidenhout: Maybe we should come back to the second part with a more established tax policy.

Student President: For the sake of brevity I'll remove the last part of the motion.

Motion: I motion that the student council unreservedly condemn the findings of the Commission of Audit.

Moved: Student President

Seconded: Welfare Officer

All in favour

Motion Carried

Meeting suspended 6:43pm.

Meeting resumed: 7:01pm.

Chris O'Grady has reentered the room 7:01pm.

6.8. Kemp-Norton Enquiry – Student President

The Kemp-Norton enquiry recommended increasing fees, deregulation of fees and scrapping equity targets. The deregulation of places for universities was not accompanied with an increase of government funding.

We should call for an increase of government funding for higher education. Not just to go with inflation, but also to keep pace with increases in student numbers as well.

Manager, Student Engagement: Would this whole event come out of the events budget?

Student President: Just the barbecue because the Forum would have no cost.

General Secretary: No band or anything?

Student President: Table, maybe the PA.

Motion: I motion that the student council:

1. condemn the recommendations of the Kemp-Norton review
2. call for an increase in government funding to universities [to keep pace with increases in student numbers]
3. endorse a BBQ and education forum to be held on campus on the 21st of May, to coincide with the NUS national day of action.

Moved: Student President

Seconded: John Photakis

All in favour carried

Motion Carried

6.9. International Sub-Committee meeting – International Officer

International Officer: The International Sub-Committee meets every 2 weeks, there's about 25 members. The meeting usually takes about 1 hour. We are asking for some light refreshments for the meeting.

Environment Officer: Given that international students are paying tens of thousands of dollars more anyway, I'm sure we can spare a bit for tea and coffee.

Manager, Student Engagement: Which budget is this coming from? I assume office bearer initiative funds?

International Officer: Yes, that's fine.

Motion: I motion that Student Council supports and approves paying \$40 per month for the light refreshment for the International sub-committee meeting.

Moved: Student President

Seconded: General Secretary

All in favour

Motion Carried

6.11. Leave of Absence – Indigenous Officer

I motion that I am approved for leave of absence retrospectively.

6.14. Preserving Equity Spaces.

Environment Officer: It seems pretty clear that women's and queer spaces will be preserved.

Environment Officer: I would like to put a strong argument to have a hub for student activist groups. Environmental activists, social activists etc. This enables networking, learning life-skills and campaigning skills from senior activities

Environment Officer: I think we would be doing a disservice to students by getting rid of the environment space and losing the years of activism on campus. I think it would be a great

legacy for this year's council to be part of preserving this great activists culture on campus.

Student President: Why specifically a space for environment activism and not a broader activist space?

Environment Officer: I think a broader activist space would be fine. This University always has had and always will have a lot of students who wish to change the society in which we live. It's important to share this knowledge and experience

Environment Officer: I wouldn't have any problem with this being a general activist space and space for progressive people and advocates to come together

Student President: Are there any other questions?

Manager, Student Engagement: Just wanted to add that the hub student consultation group - I have requested feedback to be written up by all student reps on the consultation group.

Motion: I motion that Student Council calls on those responsible for the Hub development to ensure that the successful and vibrant equity spaces program, including the Envirospace, be preserved in the new hub.

Moved: Environment Officer

Seconded: International Officer

For: 12

Abstention: Student President

Motion Carried

6.15. Executive Committee Recommendations

6.5.2. Honorariums

General Secretary: Wanted to add Education Officer on to the list of honorariums

Student President: Motion we add that amendment and go directly to a vote

Queer Officer: Did we get a report?

General Secretary: Yes. It's in there now.

Motion: I motion that we approve the following honorariums:

- John Photakis for April
- Ella Keagan-Treloar for April
- Michael Bezuidenhout for March

- Caleb Pattinson for April
- General Secretary for April
- Environment Officer for April
- Queer Officer for April
- International Officer for April
- Welfare Officer for April
- Accessibility Officer for March and April
- Post-Graduate Officer Report for April
- Indigenous Officer for April
- 1. Accessibility Officer
- 2. Education Officer for April

Moved: Student President

Seconded: Welfare Officer

All in favour carried

Motion Carried

7. Matters for Discussion:

7.1. Hub Student Consultation Group – Chris O’Grady

Manager, Student Engagement: Encourage everyone to attend. They will be happening every fortnight from now. It is an important opportunity for student consultation and is the main conduit for student input into the student hub. Each office bearer should do some consultation with students covered by their own portfolios to gather information to feed into the process. Perhaps more specific than the information provided in the Fuller Report. I hope Tuesdays at 2 o’clock are good for most of you.

Queer Officer: Is there an opportunity to alternate it on say a Tuesday and Thursday?

Manager, Student Engagement: We could look at doing that. We could do another doodle poll.

Environment Officer: In future we could take minutes of those meetings so that you could see them. And you could pass on any issues you want to raise you could pass on to another office bearer who attends the meeting.

Manager, Student Engagement: Could always meet with others anyway

Student President: Would it be better if we took more comprehensive minutes at these meetings so that everyone is kept up to date?

7.2. The Health Service should see children of students – International Officer

International Officer: Health disabilities and counselling do not see children because they do not have a doctor to see children. I have been following it up with Andrew Wood. They do not have a space for children or doctors who have been trained to see children of students.

International Officer: Most international students have a family and have children and have to pay a lot of money to the gap that insurance does not cover for children.

International Officer: We should do something to try and enable health and counselling to see children.

International Officer: The waiting time is also 2-3 days. So if it is urgent you have to go outside of the University and pay the gap.

Welfare Officer: Want to voice my support and even from the welfare of students, if you're a parent who has a child who is unable to see doctors that is a large amount of stress

International Officer: Adelaide University has a doctor that can see all ages.

Student President: I strongly agree with this. I think this is a massive barrier to study. I think that the doctors we have are excellent but the amount of doctors and the ability to see children is a problem.

Student President: I think we should probably add some kind of action point of FUSA taking an official position on this and perhaps drafting something to them about FUSA's position regarding this.

International Officer: I suggest that we take it to DVC etc. and discuss this. Andrew stated that if they accept children then it'd be longer for students so we should make sure that this does not happen. Vaccination is not covered for children, so they have to pay full fees, it would be good to have vaccinations at the University.

Environment Officer: I would also through my support behind this issue. Health and counselling seems to be understaffed as there is about a 3 week waiting time which is not great considering the nature of the issues that go through there. This is a significant welfare issue on campus.

Student President: I think what we should do, is that someone should take the task of writing a motion about this and someone should start work on a proposal to the University. We

should collate all of the information e.g. the needs of domestic, international, postgraduate students etc.

Environment Officer: This might be a very good opportunity for ordinary council members to take a roll on council.

Queer Officer: A good place to start might be to find out if there are any universities who are doing it really well.

International Officer: Adelaide University does it really well. They provide services for vaccination, appointments for children as well as counselling etc.

Student President: I can go away and do research on other university campuses.

Other business

End of Semester Party

Social Activities Officer: I have a proposal that I've not submitted, but do I need to get a motion to approve the budget for the end of semester party. Do I have to get council permission to start working on it.

Student President: Precedent for exec has been \$1,000. Is that enough?

Social Activities Officer: Event is not long after the next council meeting.

Student President: Considering the money is already allocated in the budget. Is everyone okay if she continues working on it as long as she emails around the details.

Environment Officer: I feel like we should still approve it. Can we vote now to give exec the authority to approve it?

Student President: Are people amenable to that?

Motion: I motion that the Student Council give Executive the authority to approve the end of semester party budget.

Moved: Student President

Seconded: Education Officer

All in favour

Motion Carried

Political Logos

Michael Bezuidenhout: I don't think SAIt logos on posters should be around, just as well as Labor and Greens posters or any other political organisation. I know that FUSA is a political organisation.

General Secretary: Last year we passed a motion that materials weren't allowed to be in the office.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I think it's fine if it's here, as long as it's not on the walls of the FUSA office. I think putting things up on walls as if it represents FUSA is not acceptable.

Queer Officer: I think for some students that might be overwhelming if they think the organisation is going to be super-political. I think it would be more welcoming if there were fun posters up instead of political ones.

Student President: I think it's gross to restrict freedom of speech.

General Secretary: Can we revisit this at the next council meeting?

8. Matters for Noting

8.1. FUSA Student Hub - Requirements – Chris O'Grady

8.2. National Day of Action Feedback – General Secretary

General Secretary: A particular person was quite aggressive in their approach to the NDA, just be aware of that at campaigns.

9. Meeting Close