



The views expressed and statements contained in these documents are those of the Flinders University Student Association (FUSA) or individual named members of the FUSA Student Council, and do not necessarily represent the views of Flinders University. Flinders University makes no warranty as to the accuracy of any statements made in the documents, and disclaims any liability for any statements or comments contained in the documents.

Flinders University Student Association Student Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 August 2020

Alere Function Room, Student Hub, Flinders University Bedford Park Campus

18:30

Present: Josh Rayner (Student President), Sean Henschke (General Secretary), Benika Bhoola (Education Officer), Jesy Murphy (Women's Officer), Nathan Cheetham (Welfare Officer), Hoang Minh Son Le (International Students Officer), Molly Turnbull (Indigenous Officer), Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer), Anu Francis (Disabilities Officer), Lana Tikhomirov (General Councillor), James Glynn-Roe (General Councillor), Ben Smith (Acting Manager, Student Engagement), David Hopkins (Minutes)

Observers: Ethan Zimmermann, Shani Cox

Meeting Opened: 6:38 PM

1. Acknowledgement of Country

All meetings of Student Council take place on stolen land. The land that we meet on belongs to the Kurna people. We begin every meeting by acknowledging that this land was stolen, it was never ceded, and always was and always will be, aboriginal land. We also pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

2. Apologies

Apologies: Ché Cielens (Social Activities Officer), Kane Abraham (General Councillor), Victor Duruji (General Councillor)

3. Name & Pronoun Round

Those present introduced themselves and their pronouns.

4. Previous Minutes

No minutes have been received from Manager, Student Engagement.

5. Executive Decisions

No Executive decisions have been made since the last Student Council Meeting.

6. Reports

Motion: Defer reports until the next Student Council Meeting.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)



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Seconded: Nathan Cheetham (Welfare Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7. Matters for Decision

Student President called for starring of matters.

Starred items: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7

7.0 Starred Matters for Decision

7.1 Graduation Ceremony Carry over – Benika Bhoola

Preamble: Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Universities around the world have been unable to hold large gatherings of people. This includes graduation ceremonies for finishing students. Many students view their graduation ceremony as an important milestone in their educational journey and are understandably saddened that the hard work they have put in over their years of university will not be formally recognised.

Platform: FUSA acknowledges the personal milestone that a graduation ceremony represents to many students and understands that the loss of this formal milestone may be upsetting too many students.

FUSA acknowledges that the ceremonies are unable to take place at this current time, due to the pandemic, but believes that it falls on Flinders University to make alternative arrangements when it is safe to do so.

Discussion: Benika Bhoola spoke to the motion. Molly Turnbull also spoke to the motion.

Motion: FUSA acknowledges the personal milestone that a graduation ceremony represents to many students and understands that the loss of this formal milestone may be upsetting too many students.

FUSA acknowledges that the ceremonies are unable to take place at this current time, due to the pandemic, but believes that it falls on Flinders University to make alternative arrangements when it is safe to do so.

Moved: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

Seconded: Lana Tikhomirov (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.2 Omnibus Amendments to the FUSA Election Regulations – Josh Rayner

Preamble: The recent FUSA Education By-Election showed that even with the constraints of social distancing students are still incredibly passionate about their representatives and are willing to participate in the democratic processes of student unionism.

As currently elected representatives, it is important that we encourage and foster this engagement, and ensure that our own bias does not interfere with democratic process. The regulatory amendments



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proposed here intend to address some concerns raised by previous Returning Officers and members of the FUSA Election Tribunal, to ensure that University interference does not occur, and that students have every capacity to engage in the democratic process whether as a candidate or voter.

FUSA has a proud history of diverse student engagement with elections and representation, and stands well above many other student unions and associations that have attempted to limit student participation.

Discussion: Josh Rayner spoke to the motion. He stated that the only change to the intention of the regulations is the addition of subclause 4.5 (f). This concerns a reduction in powers for the Assistant Returning Officer position, so the Assistant Returning Officer cannot influence the Returning Officer. He stated that this ensures it is an assistant role rather than a deputy role. Josh Rayner also stated that the changes to the regulations rectify language and several typos. Benika Bhoola spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council amend the FUSA Election Regulations as detailed in Appendix 1 with immediate effect.

Student Council direct a member of Association Staff to complete the amendments outlined in Appendix 1 and update the Election Regulations on the FUSA Website accordingly.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)

Seconded: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

[7.3 Student Council Roles and Duties Regulations Amendments – Sean Henschke](#)

Preamble: To ensure that our Roles and Duties Regulations remain aligned with our Election Regulations, the following amendments have been proposed.

Discussion: Sean Henschke spoke to the motion. Jesy Murphy also spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council amend the FUSA Student Council Roles and Duties Regulations as detailed in Appendix 2 with immediate effect.

Student Council direct a member of Association Staff to complete the amendments outlined in Appendix 2 and update the Student Council Roles and Duties Regulations on the FUSA Website accordingly.

Moved: Sean Henschke (General Secretary)

Seconded: Jesy Murphy (Women's Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.



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7.4 Mental Health Awareness Campaign Funding – Lana Tikhomirov

Preamble:

- FUSA as having students' best interests at heart naturally has a great responsibility for student mental health and wellbeing
- The SSAF funded 2020 Mental Health Awareness campaign has been fronted by mental health professionals, students and student council members.
- The campaign is now headed in a direction which could shape campus culture and student wellbeing. Campaigns like these need all the funding they can get to reach the entire student cohort.

Discussion: Lana Tikhomirov spoke to the motion, discussing the importance of the 2020 Mental Health Awareness campaign and hopes that it has wide reach. She stressed the importance that students are seen from a mental health perspective, especially in the digital age. Nathan Cheetham spoke to the motion, emphasising the importance of the campaign. Josh Rayner spoke to the motion and congratulated the bipartisan work that has been accomplished. He asked for clarification regarding the campaign's SSAF funded budget. Nathan Cheetham stated that the budget is approximately \$30,000. Lana Tikhomirov confirmed that \$1000 would be added to the campaign budget.

Amendment: Lana made an amendment to the text of the motion. The motion previously read, 'To pool Lana Tikhomirov's 1x General Councillor Councillor (\$1000) budget into the funding for this campaign.' The amended motion reads, 'FUSA Student Council approves \$1000 of Lana Tikhomirov's General Councillor initiatives budget to be allocated to the Mental Health Awareness campaign.'

Motion: FUSA Student Council approves \$1000 of Lana Tikhomirov's General Councillor initiatives budget to be allocated to the Mental Health Awareness campaign.

Moved: Lana Tikhomirov (General Councillor)

Seconded: Nathan Cheetham (Welfare Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.5 Mature Aged Students Officer Vacancy – Josh Rayner

Preamble: As of the recent resignation of our previous Mature Aged Students Officer the position is now vacant. Sub-clause 15.4(a) determines that 'Student Council may elect a student who would be eligible to stand for the position in accordance with the Constitution and the Regulations' should the position become vacant on or after 'July 1st'.

Discussion: Josh Rayner spoke to the motion and to Ethan Zimmermann's character. Molly Turnbull also spoke to the motion. Ethan Zimmermann introduced himself. He discussed the importance of the mature age portfolio and hopes that he can open gateways to further assist mature age students.

Amendment: Josh Rayner amended the motion to add Ethan Zimmermann's name.



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Motion: Student Council elect Ethan Zimmermann to be fulfil the role of Mature Age Students Officer immediately following administrative processes.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)

Seconded: Molly Turnbull (Indigenous Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.6 General Council Member Vacancy – Josh Rayner

Preamble: As of the recent election of Benika Bhoola to Education Officer, we currently have a vacancy for one General Council Member. Sub-clause 15.4(a) determines that ‘Student Council may elect a student who would be eligible to stand for the position in accordance with the Constitution and the Regulations’ should the position become vacant on or after ‘July 1st’.

Discussion: Josh Rayner spoke to the motion, emphasising Shani Cox’s support for Student Council initiatives and campaigns this year. Benika Bhoola spoke to the motion and to Shani Cox’s character. Shani Cox introduced herself.

Amendment: Josh Rayner amended the motion to add Shani Cox’s name.

Motion: Student Council elect Shani Cox to be fulfil the role of General Council Member immediately following administrative processes.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)

Seconded: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

FUSA AGM (Motion from the Floor) – Sean Henschke

Preamble: FUSA is constitutionally bound to hold an annual general meeting every year. This is our opportunity to invite students to a meeting where we can report back on our activity over the last twelve months. The proposed meeting date is Tuesday 8th September, which falls at a similar time to our AGM last year.

Discussion: Sean Henschke spoke to the motion. Josh Rayner also spoke to the motion and encouraged Student Council members to attend the AGM.

Motion: FUSA will hold its annual general meeting on the 8th September 2020 with the expenditure from the designated event budget going to cover promotion and merchandise.

Moved: Sean Henschke (General Secretary)

Seconded: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.



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Procedural Motion – Josh Rayner

Discussion: Josh Rayner spoke to the motion. He stated that the reason the motion would be discussed in-camera is because it concerns the strategy and the salary of university staff. He stated that this process is normal and occurs every year.

Motion: To move in-camera.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)

Seconded: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

Procedural Motion – Josh Rayner

Motion: To allow Ben Smith, Ethan Zimmermann and Shani Cox to remain for the in-camera discussion.

Moved: Josh Rayner (Student President)

Seconded: Sean Henschke (General Secretary)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

David Hopkins (Minutes) left the room at 7:08 PM

7.7 In-Camera Item – Josh Rayner

Meeting Closed: 8:22 PM