



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 8th June 2021

Council Room, Registry Building, Flinders University Bedford Park Campus

18:30

Present: Sean Henschke (Student President), Molly Turnbull (General Secretary), Emily Williams (Postgraduate Students Officer), Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer), Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer), Ethan Zimmermann (Mature Age Students Officer), Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor), Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor), Callan Alexander (General Councillor), Rachel Hemer (General Councillor), Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement), and David Hopkins (Minutes).

Meeting Opened: 6:33 PM

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Sean Henschke (Student President) acknowledged that the Student Council meeting was taken place on the land of the Kurna people.

2. Apologies & Welcome of Guests

Apologies: Rubayat Sarwar (International Student Officer), Anu Francis (Disabilities Officer), Jesy Murphy (Welfare Officer), and Luca Sardelis (Women's Officer).

Guests: Jess Nicole (Media Officer), Lockhart Tynan (Observer).

3. Name & Pronoun Round

Those present introduced themselves and their pronouns.

4. Previous Minutes

No minutes have been included in appendices. Deferred until next Student Council meeting.

5. Executive Decisions

Motion: Student Council ratifies the decisions made by the Executive since the last full council meeting.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Rachel Hemer (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.



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6. Reports

Motion: Student Council accepts the submitted reports and will defer outstanding reports to the Executive.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7. Matters for Decision

Sean Henschke (Student President) called for starring of matters.

Starred items: 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.8

7.0 Matters left un-starred to be moved en bloc:

7.1 Binder Grant – Shanii Sparrow

Preamble: A motion was submitted in a previous Student Council meeting called ‘Transgender Health’, which discussed assessing potential financial options to supply free/ cheaper binders to LGBTQIA+ Flinders University students. After researching the potential options available (pre-ordering binders, binding tape vs standard chest binders, brand difference, and price comparisons), the best option was to set up a trial run grant type system. Like financial grants that FUSA has previously used, a student would have to fill out a necessary form to apply for the grant. However, instead of receiving a monetary sum, the student in question would receive the appropriate gender affirming product.

Motion: Student Council approves \$700 of the Queer Officer’s travel budget to be allocated to this project.

7.2 Badge- A- Mint. – Shanii Sparrow

Preamble: An important part of the university experience is the club, collective and academic associations culture. These communities have been especially important at Flinders University, as they have been used as a way of helping students make connections and feel more part of the Flinders community.

One of the services offered to clubs, collectives and academic associations, who are affiliated to FUSA, is the use of badge makers. However, in recent months it’s been noted that several of the parts for the badge makers have either been broken, or lost, and require replacement parts. Such as a 25mm Die Set, from Badge- A- Mint.

Motion: Student Council approves \$275 from the flexi-fund budget, to buy parts for the badge makers.



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7.7 The Worst is yet to come for International Students

Preamble: International Students both on-campus and offshore have approached the International Students Collective asking Flinders University to provide more support amid the COVID-19 pandemic. FUSA International Students Collective has recorded significant experiences from international students struggling with financial issues that result in hunger, accommodation instability, study interruption, and mental health distress. Their family financial hardship in home countries is an obstacle for them to continue studying at their best performance. While we appreciate the support from the University and SA Government in terms of the Emergency payment and Matthew Flinders Scholarship, international students need more in this unstable circumstance.

Platform: FUSA recognises the need to act immediately to support international students.

Motion: FUSA continues calling on Flinders University to expand financial support and the 'Go Beyond Scholarship' for every semester of a student's course.

FUSA Student Council endorses the FUSA Student President and the FUSA International Students Officer to meet with the Flinders University Senior Executive team who facilitates the scholarships, international students and also the group of international students who be arranged immediately.

7.9 Don't be afraid Darlyn's got First Aid!!!! – Darlyn Tan-Sik

Preamble: Student Council are expected to complete Mental Health First Training as a part of their requirements. Darlyn completed First Aid training in 2019 and requires a refresher course to maintain the accreditation as well as acquire First Aid training for development that could be used at future student events and functions.

Motion: Student Council approves \$220 from Darlyn's Initiatives budget towards The Mental Health First Aid Australia Refresher Standard MHFA course and First Aid Pro's First Aid and CPR course.

7.10 It is in stock – Luca Sardelis

Preamble: Following the Motion Period Care is health care passed at our last meeting, we are awaiting the procurement process of period product dispensers.

Meanwhile, many students require urgent access to period products whilst on campus. Currently the restocking of period products is not happening. Until the dispensers are installed it is crucial that students have access to urgent support.

Motion: FUSA Student Council approves of \$1000 from the Women's Officer's Initiatives budget to be allocated towards funding student casuals weekly to replenish the available period products for the remainder of the year.

FUSA Student Council will work with the FUSA Admin team to ensure that a Covid Safe process can be established to allow distribution to continue.



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7.11 Affiliation of College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Postgraduate Association. – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Postgraduate Association, meets constitution, AGM minutes, Bank account detail requirements, needs to provide a dated membership list.

Motion: Student Council provide conditional approval of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Postgraduate Association for Financial Affiliation; on the condition that it send an updated membership list with dates of application to FUSA's Clubs Officer.

7.12 Affiliation Flinders University Society of Creative Anachronism – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: Flinders University Society for Creative Anachronism meets all FUSA club constitution requirements.

Motion: Student Council approve the Flinders University Society for Creative Anachronism for Financial Affiliation.

Motion: Matters left un-starred (above) to be moved en bloc.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Second: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7. Matters for Decision

7.3 Library in the Queer Space – Shanii Sparrow

Preamble: With the recent renovations to make the Queer Space more accessible, several furniture items had to be removed, including an old bookshelf and books. Many of the books were outdated and contained slurs or problematic language. Since this renovation has happened, the Queer Space has been left without a library for some time. For most students buying books is considered a luxury and are often forced to rely on local libraries to supply LGBTQIA+ literature. By reinstating the queer library in the Queer Space, Flinders University can ensure that all queer students have equal and fair access to LGBTQIA+ literature.

Discussion: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer) spoke to the motion and emphasised that Flinders' queer community should have access to appropriate literature. Ethan Zimmerman (Mature Age Students Officer) also spoke to the motion.

Motion: FUSA Student Council approves \$600 of the flexi fund to be used to buy new books for the Queer Space.



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Moved: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

Seconded: Ethan Zimmermann (Mature Age Students Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.4 Queer Visibility Zine - Shanii Sparrow

Preamble: In 2020, the Flinders University Queer Collective launched an online art initiative for Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV), to support artists during the global pandemic and provide Flinders University students with art that represented the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community. While this Zine was intended as a once off, it highlighted the very real need for diverse art, and authentic representation for Queer community.

Discussion: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer) spoke to the motion. Shanii discussed the importance of diversity and there being visible non-binary imagery around campus. Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor) also spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council approves \$2000 of the Queer Officer's budget to be allocated to the Queer Visibility Zine.

Moved: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

Seconded: Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.5 Trigger Warning Please – Shanii Sparrow

Preamble: Flinders University offers a range of comprehensive courses and is making great strides towards providing a diverse inclusive education for students, however, there has been a degree of oversight and lack of consideration when looking at content shared, and how these courses are delivered by lecturers and tutors. Trigger/ content warnings are currently optional and ultimately left up to the discretion of the tutor and or lecturer. Many students have commented on, and reported the lack of trigger warnings, and how it has negatively impacted their mental health, even going as far to make them consider dropping the class all together. Trigger/ content warnings are especially important when discussing sensitive materials.

Discussion: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer) spoke to the motion. Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) also spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council endorses the Queer Officer & Education Officer to explore the options for mandatory content warnings

Moved: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)



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Seconded: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.6 Give me Space – Emily Williams & Sean Henschke

Preamble: Currently the Cove is available for selected postgraduate coursework, Honours or Higher Degree by Research students; however, it is controlled and limited in its use to a specific group of postgraduate students. Following the reappointment of the current leadership overseeing the Cove, it is recommended that this space is appointed as a postgraduate student space regardless of their discipline of study. It will offer a space for study, to relax and meet other students and offers a space for the Flinders Postgraduate Student Association to use for gatherings and events.

This is a link outlining the Cove:

https://students.flinders.edu.au/bgl?fbclid=IwAR2SFPHP1kXgtX_KGwFskLVxAhG9dUBFFeE_GRcqKEZzAOmArqnZkswV6Q

Discussion: Emily Williams (Postgraduate Students Officer) spoke to the motion, emphasising the benefits of additional dedicated spaces for all postgraduate students. Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer) also spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council endorses the FUSA Student President and FUSA Postgraduate Student Officer to advocate for this space to be for ALL postgraduate students within Flinders University. FUSA media team to advertise the space when appointed to an open and inclusive Postgraduate Student Space.

Student Council to approve the expenditure of \$1000 from the Postgraduate Student Officer's initiative budget for the purposes of advertisement and decorating the space.

Moved: Emily Williams (Postgraduate Students Officer)

Seconded: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.8 Inclusive sport; breaking down barriers to bring students together – Anu Francis

Preamble: Sport is a fantastic medium for breaking down barriers and bringing people together. Just this month, six Flinders University students (two with disabilities, four without) represented the university in the UniSport SA Challenge Wheelchair Basketball Competition against students from the University of Adelaide (UofA) and the University of South Australia (UniSA). The team defeated UofA to place second against UniSA, whose team included a former national wheelchair basketball team representative. This event highlighted the power of inclusive sports such as wheelchair basketball to connect students with and without disabilities, who would typically be unable to play sport together and compete against one another on a level playing field. This competition currently only runs once per year and requires the hire of five basketball wheelchairs per team, with the cost and logistics of this prohibiting more frequent competitions and both social and competitive practices to increase the number of students playing and to improve the quality of play. If FUSA were to purchase a minimum of five basketball wheelchairs:



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1. The team of students seeking to represent Flinders University at the 2022 UniSport SA Challenge Wheelchair Basketball Competition will have the resources required to train for this event and to compete in wheelchairs that are safer and of higher quality than the hire chairs currently used for this competition.
2. These wheelchairs can be used by Flinders University sporting clubs to get students with disabilities involved in their sports and to learn about how to make their sports as inclusive as possible. They could be used as teaching tools to educate clubs about inclusion within sport.
3. Can be loaned to students and staff for use around Flinders campuses for teaching and learning purposes e.g., for topics surrounding inclusive education, physical education and sport, disability and developmental education, occupational therapy etc.
4. Can be used by students and staff to identify accessibility issues around campuses and gain understanding of and empathy for those who use wheelchairs.

Discussion: Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke to the motion on behalf of Anu Francis (Disabilities Officer) who was an apology. Sean stated that supporting accessible sports teams at Flinders University is a passion of Anu's. Rachel Hemer (General Councillor) also spoke to the motion, emphasising the need to provide sports options for those university students with disabilities. Rachel also stated that the wheelchairs referenced in the motion are multipurpose and can be used for other sports as well as basketball.

Motion: Student Council approves the spending of \$5000 (\$2000 from the Flexi Fund, \$2000 from the Initiatives Budget and \$1000 from the Development/Travel Fund) for the purchase of five basketball wheelchairs for ongoing use by the Flinders University Disabilities Collective, Sporting Clubs, students and staff for both social and competitive athletic pursuits, teaching and learning purposes, and to ultimately increase the overall physical and social inclusion of students with disabilities at Flinders University.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Rachel Hemer (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

8. Matters for Discussion

No matters for decision.

9. Matters for Noting



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9.1 MSE reports to Student Council for April and May

Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement) decided not to speak to the report.

9.2 Notification of Proposed Nominations and Elections Dates.

The proposed 2021 election dates:

Nominations open: Monday Sept 6

Nominations close: Monday Sept 20

Election: Tuesday October 5, Wednesday October 6 and Thursday October 7, 2021.

These dates fit within the election regulation stipulations and avoid the last two weeks of September which is mid-Semester break.

Meeting Closed: 6.50PM