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Flinders University Student Association Student Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2021

Council Room, Registry Building, Flinders University Bedford Park Campus

18:30

Present: Sean Henschke (Student President), Molly Turnbull (General Secretary), Benika Bhoola (Education Officer), Rubayat Sarwar (International Student Officer), Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer), Keenan Smith (First Nations Officer), Ethan Zimmermann (Mature Age Students Officer), Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor), Rachel Hemer (General Councillor), Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor) Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement), David Hopkins (Minutes) and Nikki Esmaeili (Minutes).

Meeting Opened: 6:37pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country

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

2. Apologies & Welcome of Guests

Apologies: Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer), Anu Francis (Disabilities Officer), Ange Nishimwe (Social Activities Officer), Callan Alexander (General Councillor), Emily Williams (Post Graduate Students Officer) and Luca Sardelis (Women's Officer).

Guests: Chris Brebner (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning and Teaching Innovation), Tamzyn Willmott-Daly (Student Representation Support Officer) and Jessica Williams (Observer).

3. Name & Pronoun Round

Those present introduced themselves and their pronouns.

Motion: Sean Henschke (Student President) proposes to suspend standing orders so that item 8.1 *Support for student assessment deadlines* can be discussed first.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

All in favour

Motion carried

8.1 Support for student assessment deadlines - Chris Brebner

Chris Brebner (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning and Teaching Innovation) facilitated a discussion with Student Council and answered questions, particularly concerning Flinders Learning Online (FLO) and online learning.



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Chris Brebner left at 7:20pm

4. Previous Minutes

Discussion: Kennan Smith (First Nations Officer) requested that all references to the Indigenous Students Officer in the minutes for approval be changed to First Nations Officer. Sean Henschke (Student President) and FUSA staff confirmed that this change would be made.

Motion: Student Council accepts the minutes of the March, May, and June 2021 Meetings.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

5. Executive Decisions

Discussion: Kennan Smith (First Nations Officer) raised a concern that The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples would take place on the same day as the release event for the Surviving Poem. Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) confirmed that these events would occur on different dates.

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

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

6. Reports

Discussion: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) clarified that outstanding reports would be sent at a later date.

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

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Ethan Zimmerman (Mature Age Students Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.



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7. Matters for Decision

Motion: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) amended motion 7.2 *Terracycle stationary recycling program, expansion's expansion* moved to motion 7.10 and including as an agenda item, motion 7.11 *Appreciation letters for all Executive Committee Members of the International Students' Club*.

Moved: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

Seconded: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

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

Starred items: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, 7.11

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

No matters were left un-starred.

7. Matters for Decision

7.1 FUSA Annual General Meeting Date – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: FUSA is constitutionally bound to hold an Annual General meeting every year. This is an opportunity to invite all student to a meeting where we can report back on what we have achieved over the last 12 months. The proposed date for the meeting is Tuesday the 24th of August 2021.

Discussion: Keenan Smith (First Nations Officer) raised a concern that the AGM date may be too soon to submit contributions. Sean Henschke (Student President) stated that this date was selected due to consideration of the census date and the upcoming Student Council Election. Sean stated that the 24th of August provides the best chance of ensuring quorum.

Motion: FUSA will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday August 24th, 2021, with expenditure from the relevant budget lines to cover promotion and lunch.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.2 Casual Vacancy Selection Panel – Sean Henschke

Preamble: The Welfare Officer, Jesy Murphy has provided their resignation to the Manager, Student Engagement. As per FUSA regulations, a casual vacancy process must commence.

Student must appoint a Returning Officer and form a Selection Panel responsible for shortlisting, interviewing, and appointing the casual vacancy left by the resignation of the Welfare Officer. As per



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FUSA regulations, the panel will be made of the Student President, General Secretary, Education Officer and two appointed members of Student Council. At least three of these five positions must be filled by councillors who identify as women.

The Student Representation and Development Officer, Fletcher O'Leary has advised the following dates for the process:

13 July – RO appointed

14 July – Notice is sent out and nominations open

28 July – Nominations close

30 July – Selection Panel interviews

4 August – Student Council meets to appoint.

Discussion: Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke to the motion and expressed gratitude for Jesy Murphy's work as Welfare Officer. Keenan Smith (First Nations Officer) enquired as to if a First Nations student would sit on the panel. Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) stated that she would sit on the panel.

Sean Henschke (Student President) moved an amendment to appoint Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor) and Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer) as the two-remaining position of the Casual Vacancy Selection Process.

Motion:

- Student Council commend Jesy Murphy on their work in the Welfare Officer Role and accept their resignation.
- Student Council appoint Fletcher O'Leary to fill the position of returning Officer for the Casual Vacancy Selection Process.
- Student Council appoint Darlyn Tan-Sik and Shanii Sparrow to fill the two remaining positions of the Casual Vacancy Selection Process.

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.3 Dr Worm – Amy Tschirn

Preamble:

Soil is a network of interacting living organisms that supports life above ground, including humans and, arguably, healthy soils are the most under recognised essential components of human life. Not only does soil provide us with food, but it also cleans our air and water, builds us strong immune systems, and can help to mitigate climate change.



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Composting is the easiest way to contribute to soil health and reduce reliance on fertilisers, which have their own environmental issues, into the future. Composting also reduces your greenhouse gas output; food in landfill releases methane, a potent greenhouse gas 22x more noxious than CO₂.

There are currently no bins – of any sort – in the community garden. So, when a student sits there for lunch, there is nowhere to compost their food scraps. Subpod is a company that makes in-ground composting and worm farm systems which would be perfect for the space. The inside of the lid also teaches people how to correctly compost, so it's a great tool for students to learn sustainability tips.

<https://subpod.com.au/collections/subpod-store/products/subpod>

Discussion: Rachel Hemer (General Councillor) spoke to the motion on behalf of Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer) in her absence. Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer) spoke in favour of the motion.

Motion: Student Council approves the allocation of \$390 from the Environment Officer's Initiatives Budget for the purchase of a Subpod compost systems and a box of worms for the establishment of a new and compost system for the student community garden.

Moved: Rachel Hemer (General Councillor)

Seconded: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.4 Mental Health Forum – Thi Minh Hieu Hoang

Preamble: International students studying in Australia are at increased risk of experiencing poor mental health. Their challenges include isolation from families, language barriers, financial stress, and academic pressures. Furthermore, international students have been found to be less likely to seek support for their mental ill-health than domestic students.

Discussion: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor) spoke to the motion. Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor) spoke to the importance of the motion.

Motion: The FUSA General Council member will work with FUSDA, an association of students with disabilities in Flinders University and Flinders University Lions Club to organize a half day-forum to (i) raise awareness about current challenges regarding mental health and physical safety of international students; (ii) introduce good practice/ coping strategies for international students to improve their mental health; (iii) provide information and resources across Flinders Uni and SA; and (iv) build capacity for students to respond to mental health and physical safety challenges for international students.

The expenditure for speakers and logistics is estimated about \$400.

Moved: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor)

Seconded: Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor)

All in favour.



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Motion carried.

7.5 Pink October, Pink Flinders! – Thi Minh Hieu Hoang

Preamble: Breast cancer remains one of the most common cancer diseases of women in over the world. Survival rates will continue to much improve if early diagnosis is made. October is the Breast cancer Awareness month in Australia and other countries. Therefore, it provides a good opportunity for Flinders students to focus on breast cancer and its impacts on those affected by the disease.

Discussion: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor) spoke to the motion. Hieu added she will be collaborating with Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer) and FUSA Clubs on this project. Sean Henschke (Student President) enquired about which events related budget the funding for this motion should come from. Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement) clarified that funding should come from the Student Wellbeing and Welfare Events Budget. Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) spoke to the importance of the motion.

Sean moved an amendment to insert 'from the Student Wellbeing and Welfare Events Budget' following the dollar amount in the motion.

Motion: The FUSA General Council member will work with Flinders Uni associations and clubs and media team to organize some activities in the beginning week of October (i) to raise awareness about prevalence of breast cancer, risk factors, and how to prevent the disease; (ii) to guide female students on how to self-examine their breast and who are some common symptoms of breast cancer that they need to notice; and (iii) to raise funds for the breast cancer network.

The estimated expenditure for the campaign week is about \$600 from the Student Wellbeing and Welfare Events Budget.

Moved: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor)

Seconded: Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.6 Stop the Student Poverty Crisis – Sean Henschke

Preamble: Since the last student council meeting. A further proposal for a campaign has been developed for approval. This campaign is focusing on a call for broader services to tackle poverty on campus, and poverty awareness campaign and a promotion of anti-poverty services as well a fair day.

Discussion: Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke to the motion, stating that the proposal is included in appendix 5. Sean also encouraged the council members to support and join the campaign. Rachel Hemer (General Councillor) spoke to the motion.

Motion: FUSA student council endorses the Stop the Student Poverty Crisis Campaign.



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Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Rachel Hemer (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.7 Financial Affiliation Palestinian Students Organisation – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: Palestinian Students Organisation does not meet all the FUSA club constitution requirements. The affiliation application:

- does not meet Executive Composition requirements per FUSA Regulations as the President of the club's executive is not currently enrolled.
- does not provide a club specific email address.

Discussion: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) spoke to the motion and encouraged the club to reapply.

Motion: Student Council reject the Palestinian Students Association for affiliation at the Financial level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Student Council encourages the executive to reapply for affiliation with consideration of the above changes

Moved: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

Seconded: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.8 Financial Affiliation Flinders Media and Comms Club – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: Flinders Media and Comms Club does not meet all the FUSA club constitution requirements. The affiliation application:

- does not meet Bank Account requirements per the FUSA Regulations as only one current student is listed as a signatory on the bank account.
- does not meet AGM requirements as a motion to affiliate with FUSA and details of the election of the Executive Committee was not included. The minimum number of club members (5) were not in attendance.
- the members list does not include the date members joined the club.

Discussion: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) spoke to the motion and encouraged the club to reapply.

Motion: Student Council reject the Flinders Media and Comms Club for affiliation at the Financial level with the Flinders University Student Association.



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Student Council encourages the executive to reapply for affiliation with consideration of the above changes

Moved: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

Seconded: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.9 Non-Financial Affiliation of Saudi Students Club – Molly Turnbull

Preamble: Saudi Students Club meets all FUSA club constitution requirements.

Discussion: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council approve the Saudi Students Club for affiliation at the Non-Financial level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Moved: Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

Seconded: Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.10 Terracycle stationary recycling program expansion's expansion – Amy Tschirn

Preamble: An essential component of studying is notetaking, and there are recall benefits to manual writing as opposed to digital notetaking. Currently, stationery cannot be recycled kerbside. Students shouldn't have to choose between effective studying and waste reduction. Terracycle is an Australian company that operate recycling programs for difficult to recycle products at a nominal fee per collection box. This program is being rolled out across Bedford Park, Sturt Library, Medical Library, and Tonsley campuses, and I would like to add an additional collection point at the Darwin Campus.

Discussion: Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke in favour of Amy Tschirn's (Environment Officer) motion in her absence. Sean clarified that the cost is not for the box itself but for the ethical disposal of the waste. Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) spoke to the motion.

Motion: Student Council approves the expenditure of \$256 from Environment Officer's Initiatives budget to purchase one medium Office Supplies Zero Waste box from Terracycle to be placed at the Flinders University Darwin campus.

https://www.terracycle.com/en-AU/zero_waste_boxes/office-supplies_au

Moved: Sean Henschke (Student President)

Seconded: Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)



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All in favour.

Motion carried.

7.11 Appreciation Letters for all Executive Committee Member's of the International Students' clubs – Rubayat Sarwar

Preamble: Last year, no new international student came from overseas and therefore, in most international students' clubs, existing committee members will need to take responsibilities again for another year. Many international students informed me that they are feeling a bit reluctant to play some sort of role and to have almost same voluntary experience every year. But, to exist clubs, students need to do that. In this circumstance, I think appreciation letter may give them some motivation and good feeling. Besides, such letters may help them recognize their extracurricular activities while applying for any scholarship/award.

I want to arrange appreciation letter for all Executive committee members of the international students' clubs who played role during 2020-2021. There are almost 56 individuals as executive committee members in 16 clubs of international students. I would like to initiate such letters to inspire and recognize international students' contribution. As, many committees are going to reform in the time of the year, I want to go for it immediately, possibly by next week. We can print certificate/appreciation letter and handover those to the Presidents of all 16 clubs.

Discussion: Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer) spoke to the motion. Sean Henschke (Student President) enquired where the funds for this project would come from. It was clarified that funding would come from the FUSA Clubs Budget.

Shanii left the room at 7.53pm.

Shanii returned to the room at 7.54pm.

Motion: FUSA staff to print and send out the International executive certificates.

Moved: Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer)

Seconded: Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor)

All in favour.

Motion carried.

9. Matters for Noting

Tamzyn Willmot-Daly (Student Representation Support Officer) introduced herself to Student Council formally. Tamzyn offered her support to Student Council.

9.1 MSE reports to Student Council for June



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9.2 Empire Times - Courtney Lawrence & Zofia Kolodziej

Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement) outlined the recruitment process for the vacant Empire Times Editor position. Ben stated that one student has been recruited as an Editor and the other as a Specialist Editor in social media. He stated that savings have been found in other areas to ensure these students could be remunerated.

9.3 Next Student Council Meeting – 4th of August

Meeting Closed: 7:59pm