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## Flinders University Student Association Student Council Meeting

### Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 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), Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor), Rachel Hemer (General Councillor), Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer), Jesy Murphy (Welfare Officer), Luca Sardelis (Women's Officer), Benika Bhoola (Education Officer), Ange Nishimwe (Social Activities Officer), Kaylen Scurrah (General Councillor), Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement) and Nikki Esmaeili (Minutes).

**Meeting Opened: 6:52pm**

#### 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:** Anu Francis (Disabilities Officer) and Thi Minh Hieu Hoang (General Councillor).

**Guests:** Nathan Cheetham (Empire Times), Caitlin Fenwick (Observer), and Jordan Beveridge (Observer).

#### 3. Name & Pronoun Round

Those present introduced themselves and their pronouns.

#### 4. Previous Minutes

**Motion:** Student Council accepts the minutes of the July meeting.

**Moved:** Sean Henschke (Student President)

**Seconded:** Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

*All in favour*

**Motion carried.**

#### 5. Executive Decisions

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

**Moved:** Sean Henschke (Student President)



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**Seconded:** Darlyn Tan-Sik (General Councillor)

*All in favour.*

**Motion carried.**

## 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.**

## 10. In-Camera Item

**Motion:** To suspend standing orders, move in-camera and allow Ben Smith to stay for the in-camera discussion.

**Moved:** Sean Henschke (Student President)

**Seconded:** Luca Sardelis (Women's Officer)

*All in favour.*

Motion carried.

***Rachel Hemer, Nathan Cheetham, Tamzyn Willmott-Daly, Nikki Esmaeili, Jordan Beveridge and Caitlyn Fenwick left the room at 6:54pm.***

**Motion:** To appoint Rachel Hemer as Welfare Officer.

**Moved:** Ethan Zimmerman (Mature Aged Officer)

**Seconded:** Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

*All in favour:*

**Motion carried.**

**Motion:** To appoint Jordan Beveridge and Caitlyn Fenwick as General Council Members.

**Moved:** Luca Sardelis (Women's Officer)

**Seconded:** Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

*All in favour:*

**Motion carried.**

***Nathan Cheetham, Tamzyn Willmott-Daly, Nikki Esmaeili, Jordan Beveridge and Caitlyn Fenwick reentered the room at 7:06pm***



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**Caitlyn Fenwick left the meeting at 7:09pm**

## 7. Matters for Decision

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

**Starred items:** 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4

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

No matters were left un-starred.

## 7. Matters for Decision

### 7.1 Academic Support Covid Plan Semester 2 2021 – Benika Bhoola

**Preamble:** Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Flinders University students have started the beginning of this semester with a lockdown and increased restrictions. These changes have caused many students both financial and academic hardship. We have continued to see over double the pre-covid numbers of students needing support. Students are looking to their university for support now more than ever. While it is important that the University continues their implementation of covid relief grants for students, it is also incredibly important that the University provides academic support for all students. The University currently hasn't put any semester 2 2021 academic support measures in place for students yet. Although the covid restrictions are easing, it is still important to prepare for academic support systems to be implemented in case there is another spike in covid cases.

Student Council acknowledges the increased stress students are studying under considering the recent lockdown and increased restrictions.

Student Council acknowledges that while restrictions are easing now, there is still an ongoing threat of further covid lockdowns and restrictions being enforced throughout the semester.

**Discussion:** Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) spoke to the motion.

**Motion:** Student Council empowers the Education Officer and Student President to conduct meetings with the Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students) and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching Innovation) regarding the Academic Support Covid Plan.

Student Council requests that the Education Officer reports back on the progress at the next Student Council Meeting.

**Moved:** Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

**Seconded:** Ethan Zimmerman (Mature Age Students Officer)

*All in favour.*

**Motion carried.**



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## 7.2 FUSA Recycling Hub – Amy Tschirn

**Preamble:** Many of the unavoidable items we use in our day to day lives on campus are unfortunately not recyclable through standard waste or recycling streams, such as stationery, coffee cups, soft plastics, paper, disposable face masks, batteries, and smart devices (mobile phones, laptops, smart watches etc.) and therefore contribute to the ongoing resource and landfill crisis that is threatening our planet and our futures. Given that we have just passed Earth Overshoot Day for 2021, proving students with the means to contribute to a sustainable circular economy is of critical importance. I would like to set up a FUSA Recycling Station for students in the Hub.

**Discussion:** Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer) spoke to the motion. Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) spoke in support of the motion.

**Motion:** Student Council approves the expenditure of \$1016.16 from Environment Officer's Travel budget and \$260 from the Education Officer's Initiatives Budget to establish a FUSA Recycling Hub for campus-relevant alternative waste streams.

**Moved:** Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

**Seconded:** Rubayat Sarwar (International Students Officer)

*All in favour.*

**Motion carried.**

**Amendment:** For \$916.16 to be from Environment Officer's Travel Budget and \$350 from the Education Officer's Initiatives Budget.

**Moved:** Amy Tschirn (Environment Officer)

**Seconded:** Benika Bhoola (Education Officer)

*All in favour:*

**Motion carried.**

## 7.3 Appointment of FUSA Election Tribunal Member – Ben Smith

**Preamble:** The FUSA Election Tribunal is the body responsible for hearing appeals and determining disputes under the Election Regulations and the Constitution of the Association. It is composed of three members, one of whom must have a legal qualification at a minimum of Bachelor level. The membership of the Election Tribunal is approved by Student Council on the suggestion of the Manager, Student Engagement.

Dr. Christopher Kee has resigned his position on the FUSA Election Tribunal due to his appointment as Chair of Academic Senate. After a request for expressions of interest from Flinders University Law Faculty, Dr. Rhain Buth has been suggested for Student Council approval.

Dr Rhain Buth, PhD, JD, has practiced criminal law specialising in fraud and money laundering for over 25 years. During his practice he cultivated an interest in dispute resolution stemming from his involvement in the Northern Ireland Parades Commission and the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Currently, he is a Lecturer at Flinders University in Law and runs a Conflict Group for interested students.



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On top of fulfilling the legal qualification requirements as outlined in the Election Regulations, Dr. Buth's in-depth experience in procedural matters and dispute management will be of significant benefit to the Election Tribunal's deliberations.

**Discussion:** Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke to the motion on behalf of Ben Smith (Manager, Student Engagement).

**Motion:** Student Council, on the suggestion of the Manager, Student Engagement, approves the appointment of Dr. Rhain Buth to the FUSA Election Tribunal.

**Moved:** Sean Henschke (Student President)

**Seconded:** Shanii Sparrow (Queer Officer)

*All in favour.*

**Motion carried.**

#### 7.4 Minutes please – Sean Henschke

**Preamble:** All minutes and agendas that have been approved by Student Council need to be post on to the FUSA Page as soon as possible. We as an organization that is for the student voice need to continue to be as transparent with the Flinders community.

According to section 7.4 of the FUSA constitution all financial records, policies, procedures, regulation, constitution and minutes of meeting of the association are meant to be published on the approval and request of anyone's reasonable request.

**Discussion:** Sean Henschke (Student President) spoke to the motion. Molly Turnbull (General Secretary) spoke to the importance of the motion.

**Motion:** FUSA to post all minutes that have been approved by Student Council as required by section 7.4 of FUSA constitution.

**Moved:** Sean Henschke (Student President)

**Seconded:** Molly Turnbull (General Secretary)

*All in favour.*

**Motion carried.**

## 8. Matters for Discussion

### 8.1 Student led Teaching Awards – Benika Bhoola

Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) explained how Student Led Teaching Awards may work at Flinders University and facilitated a discussion on these awards with Student Council.



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## 8.2 Assessment Support Covid Plan Semester 2 2021 – Benika Bhoola

Benika Bhoola (Education Officer) explained the Draft Assessment Support Covid Plan for Semester 2 (Appendix 4) and asked for comments and recommendations from Student Council. Benika added that previous COVID assessment support changes will be standardised across all Colleges, the roll out is just ongoing.

## 9. Matters for Noting

### 9.1 MSE reports to Student Council for July

## 10. In Camera Item

**Meeting Closed: 7:38pm**