



Flinders University Student Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 20th, 2021

Council room Registry Building, Bedford

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Appendix

Appendix 1 – Previous Minutes



Appendix 2 – Manager, Student Engagement Report

Appendix 3 – Executive Motions

Appendix 4 – Reports

Appendix 5 – Autonomous voting

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Meetings of Student Council take place on stolen land.

The land that we regularly meet and work on belongs to the Kaurna People. We begin each 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 and present.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Rubayat Sarwar, Hieu Hoang, Benika Bhoola, and Anu Francis.

3. Name and Pronoun Round

Members of Student Council, FUSA Staff, Guests and Observers are invited to introduce themselves and state which pronouns they use.

4. Previous Minutes

Please see Appendix 1 for minutes of the most recent meeting(s) of Student Council.

5. Executive Decisions

See Appendix 3 for Executive decisions

6. Reports

Please see Appendix 4 for the written reports of Council Members and FUSA Staff on their roles and duties undertaken since the last meeting of Student Council. Those who do not submit a report are invited to give a verbal report at this time.

7. Matters for Decision

7.1 Pooling Remaining Student Council Budgets

Preamble:



As we are reaching the end of the year, we have completed a record number of initiatives, there are still some office bearers who have not spent the full amount of their budget or there is small

number of moneys existing in them. Unfortunately, we only have a limited amount of time to spend the remaining Student Council allocated funds (early December) before the remainder is retained by the University. By pooling the remaining funds for expenditure rather than confining them to specific budgets, we will have more flexibility to spend the remaining funds and ensure that it doesn't get absorbed and lost.

Motion:

Student Council approve that all Student Council budget lines be pooled for all members to spend as per regular approval procedures.

Author of motion: Molly Turnbull

7.2 Autonomous voting

Preamble:

At the December 2020 meeting of Student Council, a motion was passed as follows: "FUSA will commit to decolonising itself as an institution by reviewing its constitution and regulations to identify how it actively discriminates against First Nations Peoples. Through this review, FUSA will make appropriate changes to the constitution and regulations. FUSA will also acknowledge that this isn't the sole responsibility of the Indigenous Students Officer, but the responsibility of all FUSA staff and student council members." As part of this process of decolonisation, the term Indigenous Students Officer has since been changed to First Nations Students Officer.

An essential principle of decolonisation is self-determination: the First Nations students voice should be decided by First Nations students ourselves. FUSA can better bring its structures into alignment with this principle of self-determination by requiring that the First Nations Student Officer position be elected solely by the First Nations students' community at Flinders University.

The attached amendments to the Election Regulations would adopt this principle.

The second motion would direct the responsible members of Student Council to consult with First Nations staff and students on the ways in which this should be implemented. With elections nearly twelve months away, there is ample time for FUSA staff and Council to hold consultations and determine how to implement this principle once it has been adopted.

Motion:

Student President and First Nations Student Officer is directed to consult with First Nations students, FISA, Yunggorendi and First Nations staff on the development of an authentic and appropriate decolonised processes for the election of First Nations Students Officer. The Student President will report back to Student Council on the decolonisation process at each meeting.



Author of motion: Keenan Smith

7.3 Hass cuts

Preamble:

On September 28th Flinders announced a plan for further major cuts to Humanities and Social Sciences.

These include cuts to Creative Writing, Geography, Indonesian and Sociology, the merger of the Drama Centre and Drama Critical Studies, and the total removal of Italian language and cultural studies.

It is crucial we fight against these cuts to ensure quality education and opportunities for future students

Motion:

Student Council supports Hass students in fighting for their education.

Student Council Allocates towards the 550 Fearless Campaign video and 150 protest materials.

Author of Motion: Molly Turnbull

7.4 Postgraduate Student welfare

Preamble:

Higher Degree Research (HDR) students have reached out saying they are not experiencing satisfactory, meaningful, and genuine contact from the Office of Graduate Research. In response to the Student President letter, the list of services provided from HDR students question how these can be accessed as many students are not aware of these. They have received little to no communication regarding these so-called services being offered by the HDR. Students are calling for more than 'wellbeing' lunches and vlogs, we want to see educated responses to mental health disclosures, LGBTIQ+ educated and sexual assault disclosures and will continue to demand mandatory training for all supervisors. There is also a call from students, who are ineligible for flexibility in their PhD, to be able to have greater flexibility for in their first year of candidature. Many students need this flexibility as things that are out of their control such as COVID19 happen

The open letter in response was recently sent to DVCS office and was posted via the socials of the Postgraduate Student Collective. The Postgraduate Student Officer is yet to receive a response, this



project can be built into a campaign with badges for students that wish to display on their office desks, and for banners/posters to be displayed in public shared spaces.

Which is why we recommend educating and training the supervisors to be sensitive to mental health issues, such as; how to detect burn out in a student before it becomes a chronic mental health issue and to respond appropriately to culturally, linguistically, gender and personal differences.

Motion:

Student Council endorse the Postgraduate Student Officer to deliver a public campaign and continue to liaise with HDR.

Student Council approves the expender of \$500 dollars from the Fexi Fund to be use for buying materials for this campaign.

Author of Motion: Emily Williams

7.5 ET liaison

Preamble:

Empire Times Liaison Officer means a member of Student Council who is appointed by Student Council to this role is to provide a communication link between the empire times editorial team and student council.

Motion:

FUSA Student Council appoint ____ to be the Empire Time Liaison Officer

Author of Motion: Sean Henschke

7.6 Rep Hub

Preamble:

Our reps have grown exponentially over recent years and it is crucial they are able to communicate and share resources. The pop-up disability space will be vacant after the new disability space is open. This is an opportunity to connect our reps to the broad FUSA Office and provide a location for students to meet their representatives

Motion:

The Student President and General Secretary and incoming education officer will explore opportunities to create a rep hub.



Author of Motion: Ange Nishimwe

7.7 Queer History Month

Preamble:

This October Flinders is Celebrating Queer History Month. As Queer Officer I presented the University with this statement “I grew up with a deaf parent and learned the power and importance of community and visibility at a young age. Visibility is important as it shines a light on marginalised communities and provides them with the opportunity to be seen and heard. It also allows them to create representation for both current and future generations,

Throughout history, stories have been passed down that share the details of different cultures, histories, and events, but LGBTQIA+ people are often left out of these stories, so for lack of a better word, we’ve always been ‘invisible’.

“This is why Queer visibility is so important. It serves as a reminder not just to us and our peers, but to the rest of the world that we’re here, we’re queer and we’re not going anywhere.

In addition to this statement, student council and the university worked to install a pride instillation that will become a permanent part of the university infrastructure. The instillation will be complete with a statement, and language within the middle of the steps.

Motion:

FUSA media team to share the form for the submission of language to be installed on the steps. FUSA supports further visibility for Queer and, otherwise LGBT+ identifying students on campus.

Author of motion: Shanii Sparrow

7.8 Dual Signage at FUSA

Preamble

I have recently reached out to Kurna Warra Karrpanthi (KWK) who was formed by Kurna Elders Dr Alitya Wallara Rigney and Dr Lewis Yerloburka O’Brien in collaboration with Assoc. Prof. Rob Amery to promote the Kurna language and provide oversight of and direction for the Kurna language movement. KWK emailed back with a questionnaire form and an estimate price range - \$100 to approximately \$200.

Having both the Kurna word and the English word on a sign would support the plan to decolonise FUSA. The reason for just starting at FUSA is that when the rest of the university see how it works and that Aboriginal and Torres Staiter Islander language is an important part of supporting the decolonisation. The rest of the university might be more willing to look in to applying it to the rest of the university not just here at Bedford but the rest of the Flinders University campuses.



Motion

Student Council approve the expediter of \$3000 from the Student Council Flexi Fund for the Fees that come with the translation from KWK.

Author of Motion: Molly Turnbull

7.9 Financial Affiliation of the Saudi Students Club in Flinders

Preamble:

Saudi Students Club in Flinders meets all the FUSA club constitution requirements for Financial Affiliation.

Motion:

Student Council approve the Saudi Students Club in Flinders for affiliation at the Financial level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Author of Motion: Molly Turnbull

7.10 Academic Association of the Flinders University Computer Society

Preamble

Flinders University Computer Society meets almost all the requirements the FUSA club constitution requirements for Financial Affiliation. There is only one they do not meet is the membership list.

Motion

Student Council conditionally approve the Flinders University Computer Society for affiliation at the Academic Association level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Affiliation is approved under the condition that the Flinders University Computer Society amends its membership list to includes members' date of application.

Author of motion: Molly Turnbull



7.11 Financial Affiliation of the Flinders International Research Students Club

Preamble

Flinders International Research Students Club meets all of the FUSA club constitution requirements for Financial Affiliation.

Motion

Student Council approve the Flinders International Research Students Club for affiliation at the Financial level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Author of motion: Molly Turnbull

7.12 Affiliation of the Mature Age Collective

Preamble

Mature Age Collective meets all the FUSA club constitution requirements for Collective Affiliation.

Motion

Student Council approve the Flinders Mature Age Collective for affiliation at the Collective level with the Flinders University Student Association.

Author of motion: Molly Turnbull

7.13 Sex work is real work

Preamble

The Student President and General Secretary have met with SIN (Sex worker Industry Network) about ways we can combat discrimination and accessibility challenges against sex workers. They suggested the importance of confidentiality within service and making Flinders University safe for sex workers to study at.

It is crucial this work is done with sex workers' input and are used to amplify their voices.

The General Secretary as president elect will continue to work with SIN and welcome 2021 incoming Council Members to support the initiative.

Motion

- That FUSA commits to being a sex worker friendly organisation



- That Student Council will push for Sex worker awareness training to be offered to Health and Counselling and FUSA
- Explore establishing a student sex worker group of those who have lived experience or are currently sex workers at Flinders to direct future campaigns on the issue.
- Work with the FUSA media team and SIN to draft a post supporting decriminalisation of sex work and provide visibility of FUSA's commitment to supporting sex work

8 Matters for Discussion

9 Matters for Noting

9.1 MSE reports to Student Council for October

9.2 "The Secretary of University Council has contacted FUSA to advise that Council approved the amendment to the Flinders University Student Association Constitution on the 14th of October 2021, to change the title of the Indigenous Students Officer to First Nations Students Officer, as passed at the FUSA AGM. Staff will proceed to amend Copy(s) on-line and in our records as appropriate."