

Minutes of the meeting held at 5:15pm on 10th of August 2022

Flinders University Clubs Space, Registry Road, Flinders University Bedford Park Campus.

Present: Molly Turnbull (Student President), Emily Williams (General Secretary), Darlyn Tan-Sik (Welfare Officer), Madeline Wood (First Nations Students Officer), Billy Greet (Environment Officer), Riley Jones (General Council Member), Lucas Clayton (General Council Member) Sharleen Kabiri (General Council Member) and Helen Laity (Manager, Student Engagement).

Observers/Visitors: Fletcher O’Leary (Student Representation and Development Officer), Ali Barnes (Student Representation Coordinator), Jessica Rowe (Empire Times Editor), Tahlia Dilberovic (Empire Times Editor) and Nikki Esmaeili (Minutes).

Online: Alivia Vickers (Women’s Officer), Jamie Keegan-Treloar (Activities Officer) and Lachlan White (General Council Member), Jessica Williams (Mature Age Students Officer)

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting opened at 5:16 pm. The Chair began the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.

The meeting held a name and pronoun round. The Chair noted that apologies had been received from Anu Francis (Disability Officer) and Melanie Amarasooriya (Postgraduate Students Officer).

2. Previous Minutes

The Chair took the minutes of the previous meeting as read.

Motion: *That Student Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of July.*

Moved: Billy Greet Second: Darlyn Tan-Sik Carried

3. Executive Decisions

Motion: *That Student Council ratifies the decisions of the Executive Committee made since the 27th of July meeting of Student Council.*

Moved: Lockhart Tynan Second: Riley Jones Carried

4. Old Business

First Nations Voting Process: Madeline Wood (First Nations Student Officer) gave an update on consultation with stakeholders. She stated that everything that could be done, has been done. The next step is to hopefully approve the regulation changes proposed in this meeting. The Chair noted that this item of business is now resolved.

5. New Business

5.1 Matters for Decision

The Chair ruled that the motions would be discussed sequentially but voted en bloc at the conclusion of the discussion. The Chair took moving rights.

a. Election Regulation Amendments

Molly Turnbull (Student President) exercised her rights as mover to make an amendment before presenting the regulations.

The amendment would be to s.5.1.a of the Election Regulations *“Amend to delete the proposed addition ‘the principles of cultural safety’ and substitute with ‘the Association’s commitment to being a culturally safe environment’*

b. Roles and Duties Regulation

Molly Turnbull (Student President) opened the floor for discussion. Fletcher O’Leary (SRDO) spoke to Student Council to ensure everyone has read the position descriptions for their roles in these new regulations.

c. Empire Times Regulation

Billy Greet (Environment Officer), as the Empire Times Liaison Officer, asked for permission for Jessica Rowe and Tahlia Dilberovic (Empire Times) to speak on the Empire Times Regulations. The Chair agreed.

Jessica Rowe spoke to this motion, specifically about how these motions negatively affect Empire Times. She explained that there have been many issues for the Empire Times team this year that have severely impacted their ability to publish. Jess explained that she believes that these regulation changes are performative and rushed and therefore make the above-mentioned issues even worse. She highlighted that the regulation change to having Empire Times only produce ‘up to 8 editions’ does not allow autonomy for the editors. Further, Jessica stated that the regulation which allows the Manager of Student Engagement to have the final say in publication is not appropriate, especially as staff have no media law training.

Sharleen Kabiri (General Council Member) asks what Empire Times’ proposal would be instead as she strongly believes in freedom of the media. Madeline Wood (First Nations Students Officer) stated that while she also believes in freedom of the press, she asks whether there should be a level of training, especially for controversial issues. Lockhart Tynan (General Council Member) explained that as this is an educational magazine for a university, it needs to be respectful and culturally respectful to students. Molly Turnbull (Student President) also added that as Student Council is not incorporated, we are connected to the University. Riley Jones (General Council Member) highlighted that you need to be a Flinders Student to be on Empire Times.

Lachlan White (General Council Member) asked for clarification on why the new regulations restrict Empire Times to 8 editions per year. Fletcher explained that this is the number of editions that FUSA has the resources available for. Billy added that this capping was done in consultation with the media team, resources, availability and how many magazines can be produced. Jess stated that the cap should be the choice of the editors. Tahlia Dilberovic (Empire Times) added that resources, costs, and staff change every year. Helen Laity (Manager, Student Engagement) suggested that the regulation could be amended to allow more room for change each year.

Fletcher clarified that it has been capped at 10 editions in the previous regulations. He suggested that maybe the Manager of Student Engagement can create work plans at the beginning of each year to set out expectations that mirror the resources FUSA will have. Jess stated that while this is a good idea, she is concerned that if something like this is written in the regulations, the Manager of Student Engagement could interpret this in different ways. Tahlia also added that the regulations state the 'start of the term' for the editors is in January when it should be November.

In response to the concerns of the ET Editors, two amendments were made to the Regulations before being presented:

s.5.1.a to replace the proposed "Ensure that up to (8) printed copies of Empire Times are produced." With "Provide the Manager, Student Engagement with a work plan for their term including expected number of printed editions, website and social media content and other Empire Times productions. For example, up to 8 printed copies and regular updates to the ET website."

s5.1.e. to replace "With the Media Officer, negotiate the publication schedule for their term of office at the beginning of each year. However, it may be updated throughout the year." with "With the Manager, Student Engagement (or their nominee), negotiate the publication schedule within one month of the start of their term. However, it may be updated throughout the year."

Fletcher explained that he appreciates the honesty from Empire Times and acknowledges that scrutiny of Student Council actions is important. He suggests that a motion be added that recognises that the Empire Times regulations are not adequate. Molly Turnbull, as mover of motions, agreed to add a motion to the bloc:

That Student Council Recognises that the Empire Times Regulations are not adequate.

Motions to be moved en bloc:

Motion: That, per s22 of the Constitution, Student Council approves the amendments to the Election Regulations as presented.

Motion: For the avoidance of doubt, it is Student Council's intention for the amended Election Regulations to apply to the 2022 elections. However, Student Council recognises that the Association has entered the election period and, as such, that interpretation of the Regulations is at the discretion of the Returning Officer.

Motion: For the avoidance of doubt, it is expected that the amendment to the Constitution passed at the FUSA Annual General Meeting held 25 May, to create the People of Colour Officer, will be approved at the August meeting of University Council. If the approval to the Constitution is not finalised in time for the 2022 elections, the People of Colour Officer shall be considered a portfolio created through

Regulation, per s10.6 of the Constitution, until approval is finalised and will still be included in the 2022 elections.

Motion: That Student Council approves the following additional polling places per s11.10 of the amended Election Regulations:

- a) A polling place of 1 polling booth on Tonsley Campus for three hours between 10am – 3pm on one day during the voting period, subject to any approvals and staff capacity.*
- b) A polling place of 1 polling booth on Sturt Campus for three hours between 10am – 3pm on one day during the voting period, subject to any approvals and staff capacity.*
- c) A polling place of 1 polling booth at an appropriate place near Yungkurinthe Trukku for two hours on one day during the voting period between 10am – 4pm, if there is a contested poll for First Nations Students Officer, subject to any approvals and staff capacity.*

Motion: That, per s22 of the Constitution, Student Council approves the amendments to the Regulations on Roles and Duties as presented.

Motion: That, per s22 of the Constitution, Student Council approves the amendments to the Empire Times Regulations as presented.

Motion: That Student Council recognises that the Empire Times Regulations are not adequate.

Moved: Molly Turnbull

Second: Sharleen Kabiri

Carried

5.2 Matters for Discussion

No Matters of Discussion.

5.3 Matters for Noting

No matters for noting.

6. Any Other Business / Good and Welfare

Emily Williams (General Secretary) highlighted the invitation for the next Student Council meeting on the 7th of September has been released. Emily stated that motions should be submitted to Molly Turnbull (Student President) as she is going on a leave of absence. Darlyn Tan-Sik also mentioned if anyone would like to attend the upcoming masterclass mentioned in the last meeting, to contact them as a space has opened up.

7. Meeting Closed – Next Meeting

The meeting was closed at 6:05pm.

The next meeting has been scheduled for the 7th of September at 6pm.