

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

# **STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

6th Meeting

25 May 2023

11:00AM

Burwood Building A Meeting Room and Via Zoom



**Student Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 25 May 2023**

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# Student Council Meeting Minutes

## Thursday 25 May 2023

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### DUSA Student Council

Thursday 25 May 2023  
Commencing at 11:00am  
Burwood Building A Meeting Room and Via Zoom

### Procedural Matters

#### 1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 The Chair, Georgie Brimer formally welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting open at 11:02AM.

As we gather for this meeting physically dispersed and virtually constructed, let us take a moment to reflect on the meaning of place and in doing so recognise the various traditional lands on which we do our business today.

We acknowledge the Elders past, present and emerging of all the lands we work and live on, and their Ancestral Spirits, with gratitude and respect.

#### Present

Georgie Brimer	President and Chair
Guleid Abdullahi	Vice President - Education
Simar Bedi	Vice President - Welfare
Jonathan De La Pena	General Secretary
Spencer Perry	Assistant General Secretary
Jerry Cui	Student Council Member
Prabhmah Singh	Student Council Member

#### Present for Debate

None

#### By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Lee Emberton	Student Engagement Manager
Fionna Cooper	Finance Manager

#### Observers

Paul Ting	Burwood Campus Coordinator
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#### Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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#### 1.2 Apologies

Ally Petherick	Student Council Member
Jorja Sharp	Student Council Member ( <i>on leave</i> )

#### 1.3 Absent

None

## **2.0 Question Time**

- 2.1 The Chair advised no questions had been received prior to the meeting.
- 2.2 The Chair asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were received.
- 2.3 The Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest to declare. None were received.

## **3.0 Starring**

- 3.1 The following items were starred for further discussion (*including automatic starring as per agenda*):
  - 3.2 To consider a recommendation from the Chair that all remaining unstarred reports be received without further discussion.
  - 3.3 To consider a recommendation from the Chair that all remaining unstarred items on the agenda be received and that all recommendations therein be approved without further discussion.
  - 4.1 Accept the minutes of the previous Student Council meeting held on 20 April 2023.
  - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
  - 6.0 Leave of Absence Requests
    - 6.1 Leave requested by Ally Petherick
  - 8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
  - 9.0 Constitution and Regulations
    - 9.1 Proposed amendments to General Regulations
    - 9.2 Proposed amendments to Election Regulations
    - 9.3 Proposed amendments to Electoral College Regulations
  - 10.0 Policy, Procedures and Systems
    - 10.1 Monthly compliance reporting
  - 11.0 Reports and Operational Matters
    - 11.1 Human Resources
    - 11.2 Finance Report and Profit & Loss
  - 12.0 Minutes of DUSA's Committees Received
    - 12.2 Minutes of Burwood Campus Committee
    - 12.5 Minutes of Executive Committee
    - 12.6 Minutes of Campus Coordinators Meeting
  - 13.0 Reports Received
    - 13.15 Campus Coordinators Updates
  - 14.0 General / Other Business
    - 14.1 Membership Paper
    - 14.2 Co-option of Student Councillor
  - 15.0 Next Meeting
  - 16.0 Meeting Closed

## Items Requiring Resolution

- 3.2 To consider a recommendation from the Chair that all remaining unstarred reports be received without further discussion.

**SC01/25052023:**

**The Student Council agrees that all remaining unstarred reports be received without further discussion**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Simar Bedi**

**For: 7**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

- 3.3 To consider a recommendation from the Chair that all remaining unstarred items on the agenda be received and that all recommendations therein be approved without further discussion.

**SC02/25052023:**

**The Student Council agrees that all remaining unstarred items on the agenda be received and that all recommendations therein be approved without further discussion**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Spencer Perry**

**For: 7**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

### 4.1 Minutes of the Student Council Meeting

The Chair advised that if there were no questions regarding the minutes of the previous meeting, she would move a motion to accept these.

**SC03/25052023:**

**That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 April 2023 as a true and accurate record of proceedings**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Jerry Cui**

**For: 7**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

### 4.2 Actions Arising from Minutes

The Chair advised there were no action items on the list, and she would move on to the next item.

### 5.0 Endorse all Motions Approved by Circular Resolution

The Chair advised there had been no motions moved by circular resolution since the last meeting so she would move on to the next item.

### 6.0 Leave of Absence

- 6.1 The Chair advised a leave request had been received from Ally Petherick and she would move a motion to approve this.

**SC04/25052023:**

**That the Student Council approves a leave of absence for Ally Petherick from 19 June to 15 July 2023 inclusive**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Simar Bedi**

**For: 7**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**0**

**Carried**

## **7.0 Board Grant Applications**

The Chair advised no board grant applications had been received and she would move on to the next item.

## **8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members**

The Chair advised no items had been received under strategic matters and asked if anyone had any items they would like to raise for discussion.

The Chair noted that the DUSA AGM was held last week.

She met recently with the small and regional Officer for NUS who was travelling around various campuses and visited Waurin Ponds. They discussed the Deakin food charter and the major issues facing Geelong campus students.

The Chair advised she had contacted the Deputy Vice Chancellor regarding the issue of students being dead-named. This is apparently a technical issue which they are working on. We are trying to ascertain from them whether students can manually change their names.

Also met with Lisa Hanna yesterday who had advised that Liz Johnston will be going on leave and Lisa will take over from her during this time. We raised a couple of issues with Lisa regarding wait times for students trying to access learning access plans and extensions. This is one item we want to keep pushing as there are very long wait times at present. Also discussed the issue of not all classes being recorded. They were going to raise this with the Director of digital learning. We are asking around different students to ascertain how many classes this is affecting. It seems to be more of an issue for online students.

The General Manager queried whether Deakin will be proceeding with the marking of exams industrial action.

The Vice President - Education advised probably won't come to fruition due to a lack of time to properly organize it. The University is dragging out the negotiations, while staff are still holding out to see if they can get some of the concessions that they want. It will be difficult to plan any industrial action over the next three weeks at this stage with exams coming up very soon. Negotiations seem to be in limbo at present.

## **9.0 Regulations and Constitution**

The Chair advised the proposed amendments to the General Regulations, Election Regulations and Electoral College Regulations need to be approved by Council today. These changes follow on from the changes recently made to the Constitution at the AGM last week and are around the change to the Cloud Campus structure.

The Chair asked if anyone had any questions or whether either of the General Secretary's wanted to speak to these changes.

No questions were received.

**SC05/25052023:**

**That the Student Council approves for the proposed amendments to the General Regulations, Election Regulations and Electoral College Regulations as submitted**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Jerry Cui**

**For: 6**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**1**

**Carried**

**10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems**

**10.1 *Monthly Compliance Reporting – May***

The Chair advised the status of financial and insurance compliance reporting due in May had been provided in the agenda and asked the Finance Manager if she would like to speak further to this.

The Finance Manager advised the FBT return had been lodged. We won't receive confirmation for around 10 weeks as to whether it has been accepted. The BAS which had been extended to May was also now lodged. We don't have an unclaimed monies return this year. The financial statements were signed and approved at last week's AGM and will be lodged with the relevant authority.

**11.0 Reports and Operational Matters**

The Chair asked the General Manager to provide an update on HR.

**11.1 *Human Resources***

The General Manager requested the meeting go in camera.

**SC06/25052023:**

**That the Student Council Meeting moves in camera at 11:24am**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Jonathan De La Pena**

**For: 6**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**1**

**Carried**

**SC07/25052023:**

**That the Student Council Meeting moves out of camera at 11:27am**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Jonathan De La Pena**

**For: 7**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**0**

**Carried**

The Chair advised the finance report and profit and loss report had been provided with the agenda and asked the Finance Manager if she would like to speak further to these.

**11.2 *Finance Report & Profit and Loss***

The Finance Manager advised April showed a good surplus favourable to budget. April is normally a quiet month due to Easter and Anzac Day holidays.

We also saw an approx. \$100,000 improvement in our investment income. DUSA has no borrowings so when interest rates go up, we see a paper return on our investment.

The organization as a whole has been very good at reacting to the reduced SSAF, and we are in a fairly healthy position.

The Perpetual Investment was recently extended for a further 2 years.

### 12.0 **Minutes of DUSA Committees**

The Chair advised the Minutes of DUSA's Committees received this month were from the Executive Committee, the Burwood Campus Committee and the Campus Coordinators Committee, and if there were no questions regarding these minutes, she would move a motion to accept them.

#### **SC08/25052023:**

**That the Student Council receives the Minutes of the Executive Committee, the Burwood Campus Committee and the Campus Coordinators Committee as submitted, and resolutions therein be endorsed as decisions of DUSA**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Jerry Cui**

**For: 7**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

### 13.0 **DUSA Reports**

The Chair referred to the reports received and asked if there were any questions regarding these, or if anyone would like to speak further to their reports.

The General Manager advised she is still working on the eSports room with Facilities Management and has a meeting scheduled with them next week and may need some input regarding fit out and we also may need to apply to the Community Bank for a grant.

Student Council Member, Jerry advised he recently visited RMIT's eSports room to view what facilities they provided there, and he will forward some information to the General Manager.

The Student Engagement Manager advised he would like to do a verbal report.

The key items for April were that we were very impressed with the level of Council/DUSA crew and student representative involvement in self-care week. Particularly on the Beats and Eats days at Burwood and Geelong.

Training of student leaders had a poor turnout to the online training. We are reviewing this to determine the reason. However, Tri 2 registrations have doubled so far. We need to keep tweaking our approach as to how we support the student leaders within our organization. We will continue to have on-demand offerings. Finding the time and the resources to wade through questions and reduce the complexity is something we are working on.

Mid-April we worked with the Deakin advancement team to secure a grant to cover the next 3-5 years to provide mental health training to student leaders. 10 students will be trained during the inter-tri break and then another 10 trained later.

Sports – The Indigenous Nationals are being held in July. Deakin are unable to provide a full team so will be connecting with VU for a joint team. The competition will be held at Monash and the dates will be sent to Student Council to garner their support.

The swimming carnival was held in Sydney and the athletics on the Gold Coast.

Our club's team are seeing a pickup in clubs activities across the board and we should start seeing some larger scale events over the next few months, with some clubs organizing their annual Balls.

We are looking at how DUSA maintains its compliance with Deakin for the WWC checks. Currently we are struggling with how to deal with enforcing this with our student volunteers, but we are working through this. This will impact on clubs and societies for events.

There is also a requirement for contractors to go through a Deakin online site induction process, and this can impede on last minute engagement of external contractors coming onto campus.

We have re-allocated some funding particularly with T2 O’Fest and will be joining together with Deakin Residential at Warrnambool to deliver the student Ball held there.

The Student Engagement Manager noted that he will provide a written report for the April/May period for next month’s meeting.

The Chair noted that she will be contacting the Student Council to travel down to Warrnambool for the Ball.

The Chair advised she would now move a motion to accept all reports submitted.

**SC09/25052023:**

**That the Student Council receives all reports as submitted**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Spencer Perry**

**For: 7**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

**13.15 Campus Coordinator Reports**

The Chair referred to the Campus Coordinators to provide their verbal reports.

Paul Ting, Burwood Campus Coordinator

Paul noted that self-care week had been held recently at Burwood, and he had been involved through the entire process including the planning and also tried to include as many clubs as possible. Many of our clubs expressed an interest in attending and many of these also hosted events through the week, with all events throughout self-care week selling out. He also attended the de-brief meeting yesterday for self-care week.

The Burwood Campus Committee and the Neurodivergence Association hosted a para-volleyball day.

The Chair thanked Paul for getting the Deakin Writers Club to attend.

Paul advised they meet each month to assess all submissions for Clubs awards and provided further information on some of the clubs winners noting that they have added some new categories – runners up and honourable mentions. Our clubs awards posts seem to be getting a lot of interest and are always taking out the number 1 or 2 posts.

We met with various people from the library recently and also had a coffee with Jack to discuss how the library could support DUSA. Also talked about the 2 day wait time to connect to the library printers during O’Fest.

Marketing – he and Sunny have continued to contribute to marketing for events and shared with the library a new poster about the chill out trolley.

Chill out trolley – We have noticed an increase in the number of students coming to the chill out trolley, with numbers now up around 150 to 170 which is amazing. DUSA crew have also been helping with this and it is a great way of us interacting with them.

Study Victoria – Ruben the Burwood Postgrad representative has been working on a booklet to inform new postgrad students arriving in Australia and he is looking forward to updating everyone about this.

The Mezz – he has noticed greater traffic in The Mezz recently. They have been running weekly table tennis in the Mezz and he spoke with Sophie about the times at night that this area could be used by them. This space is now open until 9pm each night. They would also like to look at including more vending machines in the Mezz as well.

Paul noted that Karen recently found 7,000 coke zero cans and these will be slowly distributed via the chill out trolley.

The General Manager advised that Deakin manage the vending machines on campus, and we would need to talk to them about this, especially considering the Deakin food charter.

Sunny Singh, Geelong Campus Coordinator

The Chair read out a report provided by the Geelong Campus Coordinator, Sunny. Geelong Campus Committee also held self-care week which met with a lot of enthusiasm and engagement. Most of our reps were there to support this along with some Student Council members. The collaboration with clubs was also very successful.

There has been an overwhelming response to the food pantries, and this is greatly benefiting our student community.

The Chill out trolleys continue to run smoothly, and the libraries are receiving a lot of engagement due to the trolleys being there. We will be increasing the frequency of trolleys during exam periods.

The General Secretary advised that they had reduced spending on the chill out trolleys during previous periods so will now utilize the additional funds during the busier times to roll out more frequent trolleys.

The Geelong Queer representative, Mikayla is working on the ongoing project of improving the Queer Room at Waurin Ponds.

The Geelong Committee have had a couple of vacancies recently for the PoC and Clubs representatives. A new PoC representative has been co-opted now and a new Clubs representative will also be co-opted at the Geelong Campus Committee meeting tomorrow.

The Chair noted that she appreciated the extensive update from Sunny.

Kayla Stuchbree, Cloud Campus Coordinator

No update.

The Chair advised there were some online events held during self-care week, however these did not attract a lot of engagement which could have been due to the times and days they were held.

Gurrattan Gaahlay, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

No update.

The Chair spoke to Jorja last night who is currently on leave. The only event we are aware of is the upcoming Ball.

## Items for Discussion / Decision

### 14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there was two items received under general business and referred to the General Manager to speak to the first item.

#### 14.1 Membership 2024 and beyond

The General Manager spoke to this item advising she would take the paper as read and asked if anyone had any questions about this. The General Manager referred to the Operations Manager to talk to this and show some examples to Council.

The General Manager ran through the questions in the paper, such as only having a hoodie in gold member pack and whether environmentally friendly hoodies are important to students.

The Operations Manager spoke to the differences between the hoodie samples our supplier has provided and some of the issues we face with stock remaining.

Discussion ensued regarding the options, with the majority of Council in favour of embroidered wording on the hoodie but were happy to trial the crew neck style. The re-cycled bottle fabric option was preferred, with a request to see some colour samples on the embroidery. The light marled crew neck was a favourite with an option to see a dark green sample as well.

Questions ensued around whether it was possible for students to purchase the bag separately.

Further discussion ensued regarding the bronze memberships and whether to consider having no merchandise with this level and reducing the price.

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation in the membership discussion.

#### 14.2 Co-option to Student Council

The Chair advised we have received an application from current Burwood student representative Mairead Foley to take up the vacant position on Student Council and asked if there were any questions about this co-option. The Chair further spoke of the great work Mairead has been doing this year in her student representative position.

Paul noted that Mairead has been amazing with what she has been doing this year and would be a very positive addition to Council.

#### SC10/25052023:

**That the Student Council approves the co-option of Mairead Foley to the position of Student Councillor #1**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Jerry Cui**

**For: 7**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

## Items for Noting

### 15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Student Council was scheduled for Thursday 22nd June at Burwood Campus.

### 17.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 1:09PM.