

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

# **STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

5th Meeting

23 April 2026

10:30AM

Burwood Bldg A Meeting Room (Lvl. 2)  
and Via Zoom



**Student Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 23 April 2026**

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# Student Council Meeting Minutes

## Thursday 23 April 2026

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### DUSA Student Council

Thursday 23 April 2026

Commencing at 10:30am

Burwood Campus Bldg A Meeting Room (Lvl. 2) and Via Zoom

### Procedural Matters

#### 1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 The Chair, Noah Smith welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting formally open at 10:30am.

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

Noah Smith	President & Chair
Vi Vo	Vice President - Education
Melda Ceylanbas	Vice President - Welfare
Supraja Srinivasan	General Secretary
Emily Mao	Student Council Member
Abhinav Bhuyan	Student Council Member
Vishrut Goswami	Student Council Member

#### Present for Debate

None

#### By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager
Fionna Cooper	Finance Manager
Gerard Turner	Student Engagement Manager
Mikayla Sotiriadis	Geelong Campus Coordinator
Aditi Mishra	Burwood Campus Coordinator

#### Observers

None

#### Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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#### 1.2 Apologies

Alex Gilders	Student Council Member
Kaitlyn Handreck	Asst. General Secretary
Charlotte Cooper	Student Council Member

#### 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. No conflicts were declared.

## **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 meetings held on 26 March 2026.
  - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
  - 5.0 Motions moved by circular resolution
  - 6.0 Leave of Absence requests
  - 6.1 Leave request from Asst. General Secretary
  - 7.0 Board Grant Applications
  - 8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
  - 9.0 Regulations and Constitution
  - 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
  - 11.3 2025 Financial Statements
  - 12.0 Minutes of DUSA's Committees Received
  - 12.2 Burwood Campus Committee Meeting minutes
  - 12.4 Geelong Campus Committee Meeting minutes
  - 12.5 Executive Committee Meeting minutes
  - 13.0 Reports Received
  - 13.15 Campus Coordinators verbal updates
  - 14.0 General / Other Business
  - 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.

**SC01/23042026:**

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

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Noah Smith</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Supraja Srinivasan</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>

**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.

**SC02/23042026:**

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

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Noah Smith</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Supraja Srinivasan</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>

**Carried**

### 4.1 Minutes of the Student Council Meeting

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

**SC03/23042026:**

**That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 March 2026 as a true and accurate records of proceedings**

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Noah Smith</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Supraja Srinivasan</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>

**Carried**

### 4.2 Actions Arising from Minutes

The Chair advised there were no outstanding action items.

### 5.0 Endorse all Motions Approved by Circular Resolution

The Chair advised there were no motions moved by circular resolution since the last meeting.

### 6.0 Leave of Absence

The Chair advised we have received a request for one day's leave from Kaitlyn Handreck as she was tied up with work and unable to attend today's meeting and he would move a motion to approve this.



## 11.0 Reports and Operational Matters

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

### 11.1 *Human Resources*

The General Manager advised we have a preferred candidate for the HR position now. She will do reference checks tomorrow with a view to starting her within the next couple of weeks. They had received over 80 applications for the role, but many were overqualified. Our preferred candidate should be a good fit for the organization.

Jeremy, our new Marketing Supervisor is starting in on 28 April and Abby is starting on 4 May in Geelong.

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

The Chair referred to the Finance Manager to speak to the Finance Report.

The Finance Manager advised she had sent some clubs reports through which have been uploaded to Teams showing clubs member numbers and clubs balances at the end of March. We saw a deficit in March, but ahead of budget. Most of the orientation expenses have been completed now. The DUSA memberships are doing well for the first quarter, favourable to budget. Sponsorships not doing as well, unfavourable to budget. Some sponsors pulled out due to issues with the Linksafe system. A lot of expenses went through relating to O'Fest. The DUSA scholarships also went through in March which are provided to 11 recipients. Our investment was bouncing around a lot in the first quarter but has come back slightly now. No issues with this going forward and we are in a good financial position at the end of March.

### 11.3 *Financial Statements for 2025*

The Chair referred to the Finance Manager to speak to the 2025 Financial statements.

The Finance Manager advised the auditors had now confirmed we can present the audit report and financial statements for approval. As a registered charity we have to submit the financial report to our regulatory bodies, the ACNC and MyCav. DUSA finished the 2025 year with a deficit as expected. The auditors didn't identify any internal control issues, only some minor re-classification of items. Once the motion has been moved to approve the financial report, Noah and Supraja need to sign it prior to going to the AGM.

The Chair advised he would move two motions, the first to approve the date of the 2026 Annual General Meeting and the second to approve the 2025 Financial statements to be tabled at the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

#### **SC05/23042026:**

**That the Student Council approves the date for the 2026 DUSA Annual General Meeting to be held on 25 May 2026**

<b>Moved:</b> Noah Smith	<b>Seconded:</b> Supraja Srinivasan
<b>For:</b> 7	<b>Against:</b> 0
<b>Abstain:</b> 0	
<b>Carried</b>	

#### **SC06/23042026:**

**That the Student Council approves the 2025 Financial Statements to be submitted to the Annual General Meeting being held on 25 May 2026**

<b>Moved:</b> Noah Smith	<b>Seconded:</b> Supraja Srinivasan
<b>For:</b> 7	<b>Against:</b> 0
<b>Abstain:</b> 0	
<b>Carried</b>	

12.0 **Minutes of DUSA Committees**

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

**SC07/23042026:**

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

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Noah Smith</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Supraja Srinivasan</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Carried</b>		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>

13.0 **DUSA Reports**

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

No questions or further verbal reports were received.

The Chair advised he would move a motion to accept all reports received.

**SC08/23042026:**

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

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Noah Smith</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Supraja Srinivasan</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Carried</b>		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>

13.15 **Campus Coordinator Reports**

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

Aditi Mishra, Burwood Campus Coordinator

Aditi advised they just finished U-belong week, and students had a wonderful time, and they had received positive feedback. Now gearing up to self-care week. The chill-out trolleys and food pantry are both going very well. Supporting around 300 students at the food pantry. She met with Faculty of Health recently and have begun working on HIV testing on campus. The Club networking night held recently was fantastic, with the clubs' executives giving positive feedback that they found it very helpful to be able to network

They are now working on the feedback received from the Market Days to try and group similar clubs together.

Mikayla Sotiriadis, Geelong Campus Coordinator

Mikayla advised U-Belong week went very well in Geelong, especially Beats and Eats. A higher intake than anticipated. The wheelchair basketball event held there went very well. Festival was also well received by students, and the online events were done really well. Chill out trolleys are going well and they have seen an uptake of DUSA crew in Geelong. The food pantries are also going well with a good uptake from students. She has spoken to Karen about getting some sponsorship items to use in the chill-out trolleys. The Club Executives networking night held there was very good, with great communication and lots of clubs joining in. They are now planning for self-care week, and her reps are also working on their own projects too, such as revamping of the women's room etc.

Andy Neal, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

Andy was not present.

The Chair advised they are preparing for events in May.

The Student Engagement Manager advised that self-care week has been moved back a week to avoid overlapping with the racing carnival. Andy and his team are organizing a games night with a DJ. The Warrnambool winter ball will be held earlier in week 1, and they are organizing this with the same venue as last year and locking in entertainment now, so this is progressing well. Ticket sales for both will go on sale soon.

## Items for Discussion / Decision

### 14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there were no items submitted under general business however he had been advised there was a late item from the Burwood Campus Committee and he referred to Aditi to speak to this.

#### 14.1 Sewing Workshop project proposal

Aditi advised Isabelle has done a proposal for a sewing workshop, sewing up teddy bears and other items to be held during self-care week.

The Chair advised he would move a motion to approve this proposal.

**SC09/23042026:**

**That the Student Council approves the Sewing Workshop project proposal as submitted**

**Moved: Noah Smith**

**Seconded:**

**Supraja Srinivasan**

**For: 7**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**0**

**Carried**

## Items for Noting

### 15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Student Council Meeting was scheduled to be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May commencing at 10:30am at Burwood Building A meeting room and via zoom, however there may be a change to this date and everyone will be advised in due course.

### 16.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:15am.



### STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS ACTION SHEET

Number	Action	Responsibility	Status