

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

# **STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

8th Meeting

20 July 2023

11:00AM

Burwood Building A Meeting Room and Via Zoom



**Student Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 20 July 2023**

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# Student Council Meeting Minutes

## Thursday 20 July 2023

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### DUSA Student Council

Thursday 20 July 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 11:22AM.

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 - <i>arrived at 11:30am</i>
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
Mairead Foley	Student Council Member - <i>arrived at 11:25am</i>
Ally Petherick	Student Council Member

#### Present for Debate

None

#### By Invitation

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

#### Observers

Paul Ting	Burwood Campus Coordinator
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#### Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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#### 1.2 Apologies

Jorja Sharp	Student Council Member
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#### 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 22 June 2023.
  - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
  - 6.0 Leave of Absence Requests
  - 7.0 Board Grant applications
  - 7.1 Deakin Commerce Board Grant Application
  - 8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
  - 9.0 Constitution and Regulations
  - 9.1 Proposed amendments to Electoral College Regulations
  - 9.2 Proposed amendments to Election 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 Meetings
  - 12.5 Minutes of Executive Committee
  - 13.0 Reports Received
  - 13.15 Campus Coordinators Updates
  - 14.0 General / Other Business
  - 14.1 Electoral Tribunal cost agreement
  - 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.

### SC01/20072023:

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

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Ally Petherick

For: 8

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.

### SC02/20072023:

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: 8

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.

### SC03/20072023:

That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 June 2023 as a true and accurate record of proceedings

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Spencer Perry

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

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.

11:25am Student Councillor, Mairead Foley arrived.

### 6.0 Leave of Absence

- 6.1 The Chair advised no requests for leave had been received and she would move on to the next item.

The General Secretary requested the Chair re-order the agenda to go directly to item 9.  
The Chair agreed.

## 9.0 Regulations and Constitution

The Chair advised there was a proposed further amendment to the Election Regulations and referred to the Executive Officer to speak to this.

11:30am The Vice President - Education arrived.

### 9.1 Proposed amendment to Electoral College Regulations

The Executive Officer advised these amendments are very minor as she had noticed there was an error in the Electoral College Regulations regarding the People of Colour position and the Accessibility and Services position for Burwood and Warrnambool in that these had been swapped around and she has now corrected this.

#### SC04/22062023:

**That the Student Council approves the proposed amendments to the Electoral College Regulations as submitted**

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Jonathan De La Pena</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Guleid Abdullahi</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Carried</b>			

### 9.2 Proposed further amendments to Election Regulations

The General Secretary advised the primary change to these regulations was to prevent non-Deakin students from campaigning and these amendments provide more detail around this.

#### SC05/22062023:

**That the Student Council approves the proposed amendments to the Election Regulations as submitted**

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Jonathan De La Pena</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Georgie Brimer</b>
<b>For:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Carried</b>			

## 7.0 Board Grant Applications

The Chair advised we had received a last-minute board grant application and she referred to the Student Engagement Manager to speak to this application.

The Student Engagement Manager advised the Commerce Club have found themselves in some financial difficulty in being able to cover scheduled payments for their annual ball. They are expecting to receive substantial income from the ticket sales, but don't have sufficient funds in their account at present to cover the payments due to Marvel. This is a loan only and will be repaid to DUSA once the funds from ticket sales are available.

Discussion ensued.

The Chair advised she would move a motion to approve this loan.

**SC06/22062023:**

**That the Student Council approves the Deakin Commerce Board Grant application as submitted for a loan to the amount of \$7,500 to be repaid to DUSA from their ticket sales by the end August 2023**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Jerry Cui**

**For: 8**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain:**

**1**

**Carried**

**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 advised she had attended the campus vibrancy workshops where Deakin has engaged an external consulting company called Village Wealth as to how Burwood and Waurn Ponds campuses can better use their spaces. They presented their data, which was very community focussed which was quite odd. She had a meeting with Karly Lovell and a few other Deakin people regarding her concerns as to where this consultation process was heading and also expressed her concerns about the data collected. Apparently, Village Wealth were told to look at it from a consumer perspective as one of the ideas was to install a mini-market on Campus.

The Chair advised that NUS Edcon was recently held and was very good. One of the items discussed was seeing if we can get automatic extensions, and she has spoken with Gavin and his team have been doing some work around this.

The Vice President – Education advised the NUS preliminary review had come out and there is an action that he would like us to do. They are proposing greater distribution of SSAF to student organizations, and he read out some excerpts from the review. As a result, Deakin have called a snap Academic Board meeting which will be held in camera.

Also, the proposed international student levy is under discussion and the University are not happy about this as it will affect their campus in India. The NUS have been actively engaging in this space and are getting results.

From our perspective, we need to prepare a report on how SSAF is negotiated and how we feel about the negotiation process, and also show what we deliver across multiple campuses.

They also want to re-structure University Councils and who actually sits on these boards.

We need to push for more than 50% SSAF, and not be told how we should spend it.

The General Manager noted that this would require a change of legislation for that to happen.

The General Secretary thanked the Vice President - Education for travelling to meet with Jason Clare to discuss these matters.

The Chair noted that she was pleased about some of the other proposed changes as well. We need to submit a paper to the accords process about how student unions utilize SSAF.

## **10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems**

### **10.1 *Monthly Compliance Reporting – July***

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

The Finance Manager advised compliance reporting for July is up to date. The single touch payroll was completed at the end of June and should be showing as tax ready on the MyGov website.

The BAS for the June quarter has been lodged with around \$50K liability due to be paid in August.

The Super contributions for the June quarter were paid last week and should be showing in everyone's superannuation accounts.

## **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 advised that our new Front of House person in Geelong starts next Tuesday, Andrea and she will work 2 days per week.

Jess from Advocacy leaves at the end of July, as she has obtained a position with the Melbourne Magistrates Court as a case worker. We won't be replacing this position at present.

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 this month is similar to last month. We saw a small surplus in June, better than budgeted for. Some sponsorship from corporate partnerships and a community bank grant for sport came in, with around \$7,000 in costs for accommodation in sports. There are some timing differences with budgeted expenditure and invoices being received.

Membership sales are a little bit down, but sponsorship is doing very well. A couple of employees who have left have not been replaced which has kept salaries lower. A few other budgeted expenditures haven't been charged to us as yet. We should be in surplus at the end of 2023.

The General Manager advised she has approved an increase in the budget for this year's Christmas party as costs have gone up significantly and we will now spend up to \$7,000 on the party. We usually alternate between Geelong and Melbourne each year for the Christmas party; however, the last two years were held in Geelong and costs for a Melbourne venue have risen in the last couple of years.

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

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



**SC07/22062023:**

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

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Spencer Perry**

**For: 9**

**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 Vice President – Welfare advised they had held the first meeting of the Welfare and Education Committee which had also included the Advocacy Manager. Some of the issues discussed was Deakin counselling service, which has now reduced waiting times to 6 to 7 days which is much better.

Also discussed Hybrid learning, as it was identified during COVID that students with accessibility and learning difficulties performed very well in a hybrid environment.

The Welfare Centre was discussed as while we need to be careful of misuse, the students that really need this aren't accessing it, so we need to ensure that they know about it.

Attended a workshop regarding a People of Colour room, where the Ethno-cultural officer mentioned that many universities have a PoC Room. It is important that we have something like this going forward.

Free Food events – we had discussed this with the Advocacy Manager last year and we didn't have sufficient funds for any additional free food events, however this year we may be able to do a trial run.

The committee will meet every month and he thanked everyone who had attended the meeting.

An issue raised by a Geelong Representative was around the fact that international students are forced to move out of their accommodation in Resi in Trimester 3 as they don't provide on-campus accommodation during that trimester.

The General Manager advised she had sent an email to the General Manager of Geelong Residential about this issue and will follow this up.

Discussion ensued.

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

**SC08/22062023:**

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

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded: Ally Petherick**

**For: 9**

**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 advised that Trimester 2 saw a huge influx of students and we ran out of food early on at the events days. He enjoyed the market days, and he also attended the games days which were a bit more chilled but also very enjoyable.

The Burwood Campus Committee ran an online games night on the Monday, where they experienced some technical issues with the website and the advised event start times. The majority of attendees were cloud students.

He has been heading up the Clubs Celebration working group and sent out 8 new working group meeting invites yesterday.

The Student Engagement Manager advised he is supportive of having a Clubs Awards night however is mindful of the number of meetings his staff have been invited to and the impact of this on their time.

Discussion ensued.

Paul described the type of event they are thinking of holding for the Clubs Celebration.

The General Manager queried the budget and where the funds are coming from for this.

Paul advised he is finalizing the budget now and will also submit an application to the community bank for some funding from them and will also discuss with the campus committees about utilizing some of their campus budgets. i.e. there is approx. \$4,000 currently remaining in Burwood Campus Committee budget that could be accessed. Further discussion ensued.

The Chill out trolley is running again, starting slowly but has gained traction now. Some sponsorships have been received for this to offset costs. We had a good response from DUSA crew with this as well.

The U-Belong Week meeting is being held today, and he is reaching out to clubs who are interested in committing to this week.

We have co-opted two new members to the Burwood Campus Committee, and they are currently going through their paperwork, and we are inducting them.

We usually invite a library staff member to attend the Burwood Campus meetings and at the last meeting we raised the issue of there still being no IT support in the library. Library staff advised that 33% of questions being asked of them are IT related questions which is taking up the time of library staff.

The Chair noted she will raise this with the Vice Chancellor.

#### Sunny Singh, Geelong Campus Coordinator

The Chair read out an update provided by the Geelong Campus Coordinator:

The food pantry in Geelong was held yesterday.

A very successful O'Fest was held in Trimester 2, and it was great seeing Council and Reps helping.

Bean bags have been purchased for the Waurin Ponds Queer Room which had been approved through campus the committee budget.

The Geelong Campus Committee are working on trialling a networking event to promote cross-collaboration between clubs.

The Chair advised one of the things that worked well at the Waurm Ponds market day last week was clubs socialising and collaborating with each other, entering competitions etc.

The Chill out trolley a success at both campuses.

The Geelong Campus Committee will be collaborating with the Burwood Campus Committee on the Clubs Celebration night.

The Chair noted she was impressed that they are managing to successfully run the chill out trolley on both campuses.

Kayla Stuchbree, Cloud Campus Coordinator

No update.

The Chair advised a Harry Potter trivia night was held for cloud students and everyone had a great time. Some technical issues were experienced with wrong link being sent out. However, they still had around 30 people attending which was pretty good.

Gurrattan Gaahlay, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

The Chair advised the Warrnambool ball went very well last week. 100 tickets were sold with around 90 attending, and the majority of attendees were Warrnambool students. The current number of students at Warrnambool campus is about 400, so this was 25% of the campus attending the ball which is a very good turnout.

Lee and Jorja did a great job with setting up decorations etc. It was a really good event which worked well, especially considering it was the first time it had been held.

## Items for Discussion / Decision

### 14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there was one item under general business and referred to the Executive Officer to speak to this.

#### 14.1 Electoral Tribunal Cost Agreement

The Executive Officer advised she had obtained a cost agreement from Clive Madder who we have used in several previous elections to act in the capacity of Electoral Tribunal. He is always very fair and does not overly charge us if little work is carried out.

The Chair advised she would now move a motion to approve the Electoral Tribunal for the 2023 elections.

**SC09/22062023:**

**That the Student Council approves Clive Madder to act as Electoral Tribunal for the 2023 DUSA elections**

**Moved: Georgie Brimer**

**Seconded:**

**Spencer Perry**

**For: 9**

**Against:**

**0**

**Abstain: 0**

**Carried**

The Chair asked if there was anything else anyone wanted to raise under general business.

The Operations Manager discussed the memberships and pricing structure. As we are going to be offering only a crew top for next year's gold membership, she suggests we charge \$45 for the gold membership instead of the current \$55. There was also some talk about having the bronze membership a lot cheaper at around \$5 which would allow students to still be a member but get the benefits of participating in elections and using DUSA facilities etc.

Discussion ensued.

The Chair advised she wouldn't want to drop the bronze membership below \$10 as she feels this would devalue it.

Any changes to membership prices would require regulation changes and changes to the website to implement this.

The General Manager advised they would put together a paper for a decision at a later meeting.

The Student Engagement Manager advised that the Open Days had been incorrectly put onto DUSA Ops. He will change this so it can only be accessed by Reps and Council and will send an email to Council and Reps confirming when this is available.

The Chair asked to move a motion for Council to approve for her suspended honorarium to be back-paid and explained why.

**SC10/22062023:**

**That the Student Council approves Georgie Brimer's honorarium payments to recommence in the next payroll run and be back-paid to the date this was suspended**

**Moved:** Guleid Abdullahi

**Seconded:** Jonathan De La Pena

**For:** 8

**Against:** 0

**Abstain:** 1

**Carried**

## Items for Noting

### 15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Student Council was scheduled for Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August at Burwood Campus.

### 17.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:50PM.