

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

8th Meeting

29 July 2025

10:30AM

Waurn Ponds Campus Meeting Room JB3.302
and Via Zoom



Student Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 29 July 2025

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DUSA Student Council

Tuesday 29 July 2025

Commencing at 10:30am

Waurin Ponds Meeting Room JB3.302 and Via Zoom

Procedural Matters

1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 The Chair, Paul Ting welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting formally open at 10:31AM.

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

Paul Ting	President & Chair
Noah Smith	Vice President - Education
Sharon Jeikishore	Vice President - Welfare
Vivian Liu	General Secretary
April Wright	Assistant General Secretary
Alec Ferguson	Student Council Member
Vi Vo	Student Council Member
Mae Bell	Student Council Member
Melda Ceylanbas	Student Council Member
Esther Fan	Student Council Member <i>(joined mtg at 10:51AM)</i>

Present for Debate

None

By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Gerard Turner	Student Engagement Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Amy Li	Burwood PoC Representative
Andy Neal	Warrnambool Student Engagement Representative <i>(joined mtg at 10:51AM)</i>

Observers

Dimitri Tafidis	Deakin student
Quill Rogers	Deakin student

Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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1.2 Apologies

Fionna Cooper	Finance Manager (on leave)
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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 meetings held on 19 June 2025.
 - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
 - 5.0 Motions moved by circular resolution
 - 6.0 Leave of Absence requests
 - 6.1 Leave Request for Geelong Campus Coordinator
 - 7.0 Board Grant Applications
 - 7.1 Pride Prom Board Grant Application
 - 7.2 Deakin Malaysian Association Board Grant Application
 - 8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
 - 9.0 Regulations and Constitution
 - 9.1 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
 - 11.3 Clubs Reports
 - 12.0 Minutes of DUSA's Committees Received
 - 12.2 Minutes of Burwood Campus Committee Meeting
 - 12.5 Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
 - 13.0 Reports Received
 - 13.15 Campus Coordinators verbal updates
 - 14.0 General / Other Business
 - 14.1 DUSA Survival Guide (for information)
 - 14.2 Warrnambool Campus Nest Boxes Project Proposal
 - 14.3 Student Strike Motion
 - 14.4 Postering Motion
 - 14.5 Multicultural Festival Project Proposal
 - 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.

SC01/29072025:

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

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded: Noah Smith

For: 10

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.

SC02/29072025:

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: Paul Ting

Seconded: Noah Smith

For: 10

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 from the previous meeting, he would move a motion to accept these.

SC03/29072025:

That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 June 2025 as a true and accurate records of proceedings

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded: Noah Smith

For: 10

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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 one request for leave had been received from the Geelong Campus Coordinator and he would move a motion to approve this.

SC04/29072025:

That the Student Council approves a leave of absence for Yiwei Cheng from 25 August to 26 September 2025 inclusive

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Noah Smith

For: 10

Against:

0

Abstain:

0

Carried

7.0 Board Grant Applications

The Chair advised that two board grant applications had been received, the first for the Pride Prom and asked if there were any questions about this.

7.1 Pride Prom Board Grant Application

The General Manager advised the budgeted amount for board grants for this year was \$22,595, and to date we have spent \$4,650.

The Student Engagement Manager advised they are supportive of this grant, it is cross-campus and within the financial capacity of the club plus the club are also using clubs grant funds for this so his team is in support of this application.

The Assistant General Secretary advised she has a conflict of interest as she is on this committee so would abstain from this vote.

SC05/29072025:

That the Student Council approves the Pride Prom Board Grant application as submitted

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Mae Bell

For: 9

Against:

0

Abstain:

1 *AGS

Carried

7.2 Deakin Malaysian Association Board Grant Application

The Chair advised an application had been received from the Deakin Malaysian Association and asked if there were any questions about this application.

The Chair queried the funding of this event asking if we know what the level of funding is that is coming from other clubs. He further noted that the Burwood Clubs Officer had advised this is what board grant funding should be used for and is a good application.

SC06/29072025:

That the Student Council approves the Deakin Malaysian Association Board Grant application as submitted

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Sharon Jeikishore

For: 10

Against:

0

Abstain:

0

Carried

8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members

The Chair advised no items had been received and asked if anyone had anything to raise under strategic matters.

No items were received.

9.0 Regulations and Constitution

The Chair advised there was one item under regulations and constitution, which was the proposed amendments to the election regulations.

9.1 Proposed amendments to DUSA Election Regulations

The Chair advised he would speak to this item and noted that the proposed amendments provide more powers to the Returning Officer to ensure non-students do not campaign on-campus during the elections. The Chair asked if there were any questions before he moved the motion. No questions were received.

SC07/29072025:

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

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Noah Smith

For: 10

Against:

0

Abstain:

0

Carried

10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems

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

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

The General Manager advised we are up to date with everything that was listed in the agenda. The Finance Manager is currently on leave, so the finance department are pretty busy at present.

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 our new Advocate Alyssa started last week, and she comes to us from a youth worker role in the school system.

The General Manager advised the relocation project for DUSA has recommenced. The University have made some adjustments as to who is involved in this project, and the Managers met last week with User Experience staff to discuss what is needed from the site. It is looking a lot more positive now, however we still may need to push back on some items. The relocation includes everything, staff, Student Council Office, meeting rooms, Women's Room, Mature Age Room etc. Buildings A and H will no longer be DUSA spaces. The Queer room is staying where it currently is.

11.2 **Finance Report & Profit and Loss**

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

The General Manager advised the results for the month are on budget and include items such as grants to clubs, system expenses and SENPRO software, accommodation, the second deposit for the University Games and a paper gain on our investment. We are currently showing a surplus favourable to budget, as many items have come in under budget. The Perpetual Investment has recovered well. We are still on track for an overall deficit for the year, but significantly lower than expected.

11.3 **Clubs Reports**

The Chair advised that the clubs reports for the quarter had been provided on Teams and asked if anyone had any questions regarding the reports.

No questions were received.

The General Manager advised there are a large number of clubs with big balances, so we are keeping an eye on these.

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, he would move a motion to accept them.

SC08/19062025:

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:	Paul Ting	Seconded:	Noah Smith
For:	10	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.

No questions or further reports were submitted.

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

SC09/29072025:

That the Student Council receives all reports as submitted

Moved:	Paul Ting	Seconded:	Noah Smith
For:	10	Against:	0
Abstain:		0	
Carried			

13.15 Campus Coordinator Reports

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

Muskan Goyal, Burwood Campus Coordinator

Muskan was not present. The Chair advised that there is a week of events coming up during U-Belong Week. The Chill out trolley has been operating as usual. The trial period for the 24/7 convenience store just opened yesterday at Burwood Campus and very good feedback has been received so far.

Yiwei Cheng, Geelong Campus Coordinator

Yiwei was not present. The Assistant General Secretary advised the last meeting didn't go ahead as they did not reach quorum.

The survey for Geelong students is almost ready, around class delivery and actual class offerings, what is in person and what is online. This will be pushed out to as many students as possible.

10:51AM Esther Fan and Andy Neal joined the meeting.

Caleb Smith, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

Caleb was not present. The Warrnambool Student Engagement Representative, Andy advised the Winter Ball was held last Friday and had been a huge success as it was a great night. Congratulations to Gerard and his team for putting on this event which had record numbers attending and was up by around 40 from last year.

Items for Discussion / Decision

14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there were several items on the agenda under General Business and referred to the first item which was the DUSA Survival guide.

14.1 DUSA Survival Guide

The Chair noted that this had been provided by Vi for information only, as the schedule of dates had now been updated and there was no need to re-approve this.

The Chair referred to the Warrnambool Student Engagement Representative to speak to the next item.

14.2 Warrnambool Campus Nest Boxes Project Proposal

Andy spoke to this proposal advising the wildlife in Warrnambool is amazing and environmental science is the lifeblood of their campus. This is a project he has been working on for a while and has done a lot of research on the species present in the area and which species will benefit from the boxes. The boxes will be located on the paths around campus plus in forested areas and they are aiming to get between 20 and 40 boxes. They have been in touch with the grounds people, and with consultants as to where the boxes should be located.

The Chair noted that this is a great initiative.

SC10/29072025:

That the Student Council approves the Warrnambool Campus Nest Boxes Project Proposal as submitted

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Noah Smith

For: 10

Against:

0

Abstain: 0

Carried

14.3 Student Strike Motion

The Chair advised a motion had been submitted by Student Council member Alec and asked Alec if he wanted to speak further to this.

Alec advised the context for this was that the situation in Palestine is extremely dire. Two Israeli organizations have labelled what is happening as genocide. The death toll has increased dramatically, and children and their parents are starving. Israel is also stopping baby formula coming into Gaza. The Students for Palestine which is a national group in collaboration with the NUS have called for a National Day of Protest for next Thursday.

A number of universities also have research and development ties to weapons companies which we want to stop. We need to stand up for freedom of speech on campus and to stop the government bringing in Trump style policies which stop freedom of speech. It is important that DUSA endorses the NUS and the Students for Palestine rally and include this in our various channels including DUSA GOS. We need to show that students in Australia are against what is happening in Gaza. The Rally is occurring at the State Library.

The Assistant General Secretary advised they have made some amendments to the proposed motion, plus there were a few statistics that she wasn't able to verify. The edited version of the motion is available on MS Teams.

Alec queried why this cannot be included in the DUSA GOSS.

The Chair responded that Instagram was a better space to put this out.

Further discussion ensued.

The Chair advised he would move a motion to approve the edited version of the motion.

Alec noted his objections to the fact that the amended motion had only been provided an hour before the meeting and he would like the initial motion approved.

SC11/29072025:

That the Student Council approves for DUSA to endorse and promote the NUS National Day of Action for Palestine

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Sharon Jeikishore

For: 10

Against:

0

Abstain:

0

Carried

14.4 Postering Motion

The Chair advised that Council are generally in support of this motion with a minor wording tweak.

The Assistant General Secretary advised she was disappointed to see the phrasing referring to Burwood Campus and Morgans Walk only and not referring to other campuses. We also need to be more specific as to what we are asking the University to allow, and we need to do more research into how other Universities are handling poster policies.

Alec advised the point is that DUSA will make representation to Deakin about their postering policy. The Burwood Campus was only used as an example in the preamble. It is in the interest of DUSA and student life on campus that there is a more visible representation of what's happening on campus that students can see. There should be some negotiation between DUSA and Deakin as to where the posters can be placed, i.e. Deakin would not want them on the glass areas of the bridge, but there is no reason why they could not be placed on bins and in other areas.

Further discussion ensued.

The Assistant General Secretary further stressed that the preamble and motion is Burwood centric and doesn't take into account the other campuses. We need to be much clearer with what we are asking the University to do.

SC12/29072025:

That the Student Council approves to lobby the University to change their poster policy by:

- The DUSA executive will make a representation to university management that the Deakin University posters policy be updated to allow posters to be put up along the main walkways on campus by increasing the areas where posters are allowed to be put up. This would increase the visibility of DUSA and DUSA clubs, allowing more students to get involved and making student life on campus more vibrant;
- The DUSA President will update the Council on the progress of this at the next Student Council meeting.

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded:

Alec Ferguson

For: All

Against:

0

Abstain:

0

Carried

14.5 Multicultural Festival Project Proposal

The Chair advised this project proposal had been submitted by the Burwood Campus Coordinator and referred to Gerard to speak further to this.

The Student Engagement Manager advised that Zam has been working across the clubs to build what this festival will look like. This project sits within the Student Engagement area, so we are working towards the delivery of this, and the project sits within his team's budget.

Amy Li advised they are currently about to move to stage 3 of the proposal. So far it has been going very smoothly.

The Chair asked if there are any specific dates available yet.

Amy advised that on the 19 August there will be a Multicultural festival at Burwood on Morgans Walk, and a comedy night held as well. On August 20 there is a comedy night in Waurin Ponds, and 21 August a Multicultural festival in Waurin Ponds.

Items for Noting

15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Student Council meeting was scheduled to be held at Burwood Campus on Tuesday 26th August commencing at 10:30am.

16.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:20AM.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS ACTION SHEET

Number	Action	Responsibility	Status
	Meeting #8 held 29 July 2025		
A01/29072025	The DUSA executive will make a representation to university management that the Deakin University posters policy be updated to allow posters to be put up along the main walkways on campus by increasing the areas where posters are allowed to be put up. This would increase the visibility of DUSA and DUSA clubs, allowing more students to get involved and making student life on campus more vibrant	Executive Committee	
A02/29072025	The DUSA President will update the Council on the progress of the University poster policy at the next Student Council meeting	Paul Ting	