DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

7th Meeting

25 June 2026

10:30AM

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

DUSA Student Council

Thursday 25 June 2026
Commencing at 10:30am
Burwood 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 10:31am.

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

Noah Smith	President & Chair
Vi Vo	Vice President - Education
Melda Ceylanbas	Vice President - Welfare
Supraja Srinivasan	General Secretary
Kaitlyn Handreck	Assistant General Secretary
Alex Gilders	Student Council Member
Vishrut Goswami	Student Council Member
Charlotte Cooper	Student Council Member

Present for Debate

None

By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager
Fionna Cooper	Finance Manager
Gerard Turner	Student Engagement Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Mikayla Sotiriadis	Geelong Campus Coordinator
Aditi Mishra	Burwood Campus Coordinator
Beau Hesse	Burwood Postgraduate Representative
Maya Bornstein	Geelong Clubs & Societies Representative
Banuka Kumarasinghe	Burwood Clubs & Societies Representative *(joined mtg at 10:40am)*

Observers

None

Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer

1.2 Apologies

Emily Mao	Student Council Member

1.3 Absent

Abhinav Bhuyan — Student Council Member

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 25 May 2026.
- 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
- 5.0 Motions moved by circular resolution
- 6.0 Leave of Absence requests
- 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
- 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
- 14.1 Clubs Celebration Project Proposal
- 14.2 Fundraising for HDR Write-Up Room Project Proposal - Geelong
- 14.3 Revised Calendar of Elections Dates
- 14.4 Approve mode of elections for 2026
- 14.5 Approve Electoral Tribunal
- 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.

SC01/25062026:					
The Student Council agrees that all remaining unstarred reports be received without further discussion					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**			**Seconded:**	**Charlotte Cooper**
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.

SC02/25062026:					
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:	**Noah Smith**			**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**
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 from the previous meeting, he would move a motion to accept these.

SC03/25062026:					
That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 May 2026 as a true and accurate records of proceedings					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**			**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**
For:	**8**	**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 that no requests for leave had been received.

7.0 Board Grant Applications

The Chair advised that no board grant applications had been received.

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.

The General Manager advised she had received a message from Deakin regarding what they've being working on. 28-30 coffee machines will be available on campuses from tomorrow. $5 meals have been rolled out with 250 to 300 meals provided to students on each campus. Automatic extensions are in the final stages of testing.

Discussion ensued.

9.0 Regulations and Constitution

The Chair advised there were no items under regulations and constitution.

10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems

10.1 ***Monthly Compliance Reporting – June***

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

The Finance Manager advised both items had been completed. The PAYG for May was paid last week and the annual return for ACNC was lodged last Monday.

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 that we had now stopped recruitment for the marketing coordinator and are looking to do something internally instead. However, this will limit what the marketing team are able to do.

We are currently recruiting for casuals so that we have a pool of people to use during peak times such as O'Fest etc.

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

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

The Finance Manager advised we saw a deficit for May, but this was favourable to budget.
There were some board grants approved, one of which was a loan which has now been repaid.
Some airfares for the indigenous games were paid plus food expenses for various programs.
For the YTD Jan to May we have a deficit which is slightly favourable to budget.
Our revenue is slightly down due to sponsorship being less than expected, however this has been partially offset by salaries being down due to unfilled positions.
The Perpetual Investment is doing quite well and has bounced back slightly since May and is now back where it was before the downturn. We are on target for an overall deficit for the year.
She is expecting our cash balance to fall, however we will receive SSAF funding shortly which will bring this back up.

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 Geelong Campus Committee and if there were no questions regarding these, he would move a motion to accept them.

SC04/25062026:					
That the Student Council receives the Minutes of the Executive Committee, the Burwood Campus Committee and the Geelong Campus Committee as submitted, and resolutions therein be endorsed as decisions of DUSA					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

Banuka Kumarasinghe joined the meeting at 10:40am

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.

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

SC05/2506026:					
That the Student Council receives all reports as submitted					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

13.15 Campus Coordinator Reports

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

<u>Aditi Mishra, Burwood Campus Coordinator</u>
Aditi advised there was not a lot happening at present. Planning for the upcoming Trimester 2 O'Fest is underway. The $5 meals are being distributed, as well as snacks.
Thanks to everyone involved in the planning for the Trimester 1 events.

<u>Mikayla Sotiriadis, Geelong Campus Coordinator</u>
Mikayla advised they held a FIFA world cup event early this month which went well.
Preparation for O'Fest in Tri 2 is underway.
Continuing with the chill out trolleys.

<u>Andy Neal, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator</u>
Andy was not present.
The Chair advised ticket sales are going well for the winter ball with 139 tickets sold so far.
A welcome lunch for O'Fest will also be held in Warrnambool.

Items for Discussion / Decision

14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there were several items submitted under general business and would refer to the first item which was a project proposal submitted by Maya and Barney.

14.1 <u>Clubs Celebration Evening</u>
Maya advised they have been working on the clubs' celebration evening proposal. They have organized meetings with staff and have also been able to obtain sponsorship so the budget has

reduced as a result of this. They held the first working group for this yesterday, and the venue has also been confirmed.

The General Secretary advised they have a budget of around $15,000 and based off discussions she has had with the team she recommends this be approved. Anything over $6,300 would need to be funded via sponsorships, and they have secured sponsorships so far to cover the venue and some other items, so planning is going very well.

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

SC06/25062026:

That the Student Council approves the Clubs Celebration Evening project proposal as submitted

Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

14.2 Postgrad Proposal – HDR Write-Up Room Project Proposal
The Vice President - Education spoke to the proposal received from Zenio advising this will be a really good dedicated 24/7 write up space for Postgrad students. These students work very irregular hours, and this will be a good space for them to focus on their studies. The room is currently very sparse and would like to add some furniture, fruit bowls, snacks etc. to make this a more welcoming space. They are seeking 50% of the costs from DUSA.

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

SC07/25062026:

That the Student Council approves the HDR Write-Up Room project proposal as submitted

Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Charlotte Cooper**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

14.3 Revised 2026 Election dates calendar
The Executive Officer advised the calendar of election dates had been moved by one week at the request of Council and we therefore need to approve the new dates. Also at this meeting, Council needs to approve the mode of elections which is normally via cross campus in person polling for the main elections and then online for the electoral college phase of the elections.

The Chair advised he would move a motion to approve the election dates.

SC08/25062026:

That the Student Council approves the revised 2026 Elections dates as submitted to replace the previous election dates approved at the last meeting

Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

SC09/25062026:					
That the Student Council approves the polling for the 2026 DUSA student elections to be held via in person voting across all campuses with the electoral college voting to be held online					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**			**Seconded:**	**Supraja Srinivasan**
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

14.4 Electoral Tribunal

The Executive Officer advised she had hoped to obtain the costing agreement from the Barrister we normally use who acts as electoral tribunal, however he has not submitted this yet. She will follow up with a phone call to him today to ascertain whether he is able to do this for us this year. If not, we will have to source an alternative lawyer/barrister to act as electoral tribunal.

The Chair referred to the General Secretary who wanted to table two further items for discussion.

14.5 DUSA Visibility

The General Secretary advised this is a social media campaign that they would like to put through. She noted that they are aware that the marketing team are under a lot of pressure at present, so she feels Student Council would be able to do a lot of the work, such as videoing etc. This campaign will talk about some of our achievements this year, and the reason for this is that feedback from students has been that they don't know what student representatives do as it is not that visible and this campaign will allow us to showcase what we are doing. It will be able to show that student representatives are very passionate, and we are constantly working on behalf of students.

The first video will be a recap of Trimester 1. She would like to set up a meeting with the marketing team to go over some aspects as they may need them to tweak some things.

14.6 DUSA Explains

The General Secretary advised this is also a short campaign to get little postcards out to students. Some students still think that Deakin provides the chill our trolleys and food pantries and don't realize it is DUSA doing these things. We've compiled small postcards advising what DUSA does for students and these will be handed out at chill out trolleys, food pantries etc. They also would like to have a QR code which when scanned will then take students to an info graphic of DUSAs services. They would like to upload this to the DUSA website so they can link the QR code.

The Operations Manager confirmed she would set up a meeting with the marketing team and also look into whether it is possible to have this on the website.

Discussion and questions ensued.

The General Secretary advised they would need to set aside around $1,000 for the printing of the cards and noted that the representatives have been very active on making this happen which has been great.

The Operations Manager advised she would review the marketing budget to see if they can make this happen.

The General Manager requested that the meeting be moved in camera for the next discussion.

SC10/25062026:					
That the Student Council Meeting moves in camera at 11:02am					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Vi Vo**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

SC11/25062026:					
That the Student Council Meeting moves out of camera at 11:04am					
Moved:	**Noah Smith**		**Seconded:**	**Charlotte Cooper**	
For:	**8**	**Against:**	**0**	**Abstain:**	**0**
Carried					

The Chair asked whether anyone had anything further to discuss under general business.

Student Council Member, Charlotte Cooper advised that for the upcoming market days they have decided to pre-allocate some of the clubs' spaces, i.e. for culture, sports, religion etc. They will also create a map so that students can go directly to the club stall that they are interested in.

Items for Noting

15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Student Council Meeting will be scheduled to be held on Thursday 23rd July commencing at 10:30am.

16.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:06am.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS ACTION SHEET

Number	Action	Responsibility	Status