

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

11th Meeting

27 October 2025

1:30PM

Burwood Corporate Centre (Lvl. 2) Meeting Room
and Via Zoom



Student Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 27 October 2025

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DUSA Student Council

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Commencing at 1:30pm

Burwood Corporate Centre (Lvl. 2) Meeting Room 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 1:38PM.

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

Present for Debate

None

By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Gerard Turner	Student Engagement Manager
Penny Pitt	Snr. Advocate & Researcher
Kaitlyn Handreck	Incoming Asst. General Secretary
Aditi Mishra	Incoming Burwood Campus Coordinator
Mikayla Sotiriadis	Incoming Geelong Campus Coordinator
Abhinav Jyoti	Incoming Student Council
Supraja Srini	Incoming General Secretary
Emily Mao	Incoming Student Council
Charlotte Cooper	Incoming Student Council

Observers

None

Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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1.2 Apologies

Esther Fan
Fionna Cooper
Muskan Goyal

Student Council Member
Finance Manager
Burwood Campus Coordinator

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 30 September 2025.
 - 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
 - 12.5 Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
 - 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.

SC01/27102025:

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

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded: Noah Smith

For: 9

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.

SC02/27102025:

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: 9

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.

SC03/27102025:

That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 September 2025 as a true and accurate records of proceedings

Moved: Paul Ting

Seconded: Noah Smith

For: 9

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 no requests for leave had been received.

Presentation of DUSA Student Survey

The Chair advised that Dr Penny Pitt has attended the meeting today to provide the findings of the annual student survey to Council and welcomed Penny to the meeting.

Penny advised she had provided a full report to the President and Vice President - Education a few months ago and would focus today on some of the key findings for the incoming Student Council.

Penny advised DUSA has administered a student survey for the past 3 years now and she talked through her presentation slides noting the statistics of the respondents.

Penny asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were received.

The Chair thanked Penny for attending the meeting today and providing the report.

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 Chair advised that he and the General Manager had attended the Deakin FBAC meeting this morning (Finance and Business Affairs Committee) and presented our final report for the year to them. We also advised them of the new programs we wanted to roll-out next year and noted this would leave us with a \$1M deficit. The University Council have been adamant in the past about us spending some of our reserves before any further funding would be provided to us.

We researched other Universities SSAF funding, and it appears most Universities are providing more SSAF funding to their student associations compared to what we receive. This appears to come from international students, and we raised this again with the University.

9.0 Regulations and Constitution

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

10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems

10.1 *Monthly Compliance Reporting – October*

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

The General Manager advised that as noted by the President, we provided our report to FBAC. She advised that the University doesn't calculate the SSAF funding provided to us until March next year, but we are required to provide our report now, so the timing is quite skewed. The Workers Compensation, BAS and Superannuation payments for the last quarter were also completed.

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 have started recruiting for the new positions that were in the budget. There are no HR issues at present.

We have received a number of applications for our advertised positions which is very good.

11.2 **Finance Report & Profit and Loss**

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

The General Manager advised that we saw a deficit for the month of September, some of this being payments for the University Games.

The final payment for the elections provider was also paid.

Our predicted loss for the year to date has been offset by investment income, however this probably won't continue.

We also had some systems costs for SENPRO and our website.

The Perpetual Investment has seen \$113,000 in income for 2025.

A deficit is estimated for the 2026 budget. The University are adamant that they won't provide us with any further funding until we spend some of our reserves, which is why we have produced a budget for next year with a larger deficit so we can show the additional student programs that we are rolling out and that we are spending our own funds on these programs. We anticipate some of this budgeted loss will be offset by corporate partnerships and in-kind items received through our partnerships. Next year will be an exciting year as we will be working on some new programs.

12.0 **Minutes of DUSA Committees**

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

SC04/27102025:

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

Moved:	Paul Ting	Seconded:	Sharon Jeikishore
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 the reports or if anyone would like to speak further to their reports.

No questions or further verbal reports were submitted.

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

SC05/27102025:

That the Student Council receives all reports as submitted

Moved:	Paul Ting	Seconded:	Noah Smith
For:	9	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.

Student Council Member, Melda Ceylabas advised the Clubs Celebration evening took place, plus T3 O'Fest and the chill-out trolleys have also been great.

Incoming Student Council Member, Charlotte Cooper advised there had been some good engagement with the student representatives this year and she has received good feedback from students in her role as Women's Representative this year. She does not think many of the clubs will be doing anything for T3.

Student Council Member, Vi Vo advised she had been involved in running the Get to Know DUSA session last week, and they had received a lot of interest from students to form online and mature age student clubs which is great.

Incoming Burwood Campus Coordinator, Aditi Mishra advised there are some applications being submitted now for new clubs at Burwood.

Yiwei Cheng, Geelong Campus Coordinator

Yiwei was not present.

Incoming Geelong Campus Coordinator, Mikayla Sotiriadis advised this month in Geelong they got the Mini-Mart which has been well received by students. The committee have been busy doing handovers and the incoming representatives already have a lot of ideas for next year. There are also some new clubs in Geelong as well, such as the Enviro club.

Incoming Asst. General Secretary, Kaitlyn Handreck advised they have all been busy doing handovers, with some further handovers still to come in November. She re-iterated that the Clubs Celebration Evening had been really good this year.

Student Council Member, Mae Bell noted that it would be good to push the sanitary products currently in Deakin library out to all levels.

The Assistant General Secretary advised she will be doing a disability handover later today, and the Disability Committee are doing a re-brand and changing their name and doing some additional work in this space for next year.

Caleb Smith, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

Caleb was not present.

The Student Engagement Manager advised the trivia night was held as part of self-care week and had been well attended. He has been speaking with Andy regarding events for next year and planning for T1.

Items for Discussion / Decision

14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there were no items submitted under general business and asked if anyone had any items they would like to raise for discussion.

The Vice President - Education advised that the automatic extensions have now been passed at Academic Board and the policy around this should come in either Trimester 1 or Trimester 2 next year, and he is pushing for Trimester 1. This will be an automatic extension with no documentation required and one extension per assignment. This is a great achievement.

The General Manager spoke regarding the DUSA relocation advising that to date we have had many meetings and workshops regarding this and the Architects have now shown us some options, and they will now take our feedback back to Deakin and come up with a plan. It is estimated that we will move in September/October next year.

Items for Noting

15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Student Council meeting which will be the incoming Student Council is tentatively scheduled to be held on Thursday 20th November commencing at 10:30am.

16.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2:34PM.