

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

10th Meeting

28 September 2023

11:00AM

Burwood Corporate Centre (Lvl 2) and Via Zoom



Student Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday 28 September 2023

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DUSA Student Council

Thursday 28 September 2023

Commencing at 11:00am

Burwood Corporate Centre (Lvl 2) 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 11:06AM.

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
Jerry Cui	Vice President - Education
Simar Bedi	Vice President - Welfare
Jonathan De La Pena	General Secretary
Spencer Perry	Assistant General Secretary
Mairead Foley	Student Council Member
Ally Petherick	Student Council Member

Present for Debate

None

By Invitation

Sue Rolland	General Manager
Gavin Hodgkinson	Advocacy Manager
Fionna Cooper	Finance Manager
Robyn Barnden	Operations Manager

Observers

Paul Ting	Burwood Campus Coordinator
Michael Apostolou	Burwood Accessibility & Services Representative
Dimitrios Tafidis	Deakin student
Jack Gardner	Deakin student
Alec Ferguson	Deakin student
Renee Nayef	Deakin student
Will Hogan	Deakin student
Beth Jackson	Deakin student
Vina Afaj	Deakin student
Tevyn Gov	Deakin student

Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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1.2 Apologies

Jorja Sharp	Student Council Member
Lee Emberton	Student Engagement Manager
Prabmann Singh	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. One question was received from an observer who was advised this would be discussed by Council further on in the agenda.
- 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 29 August 2023.
 - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
 - 5.0 Motions moved by circular resolution
 - 6.0 Leave of Absence Requests
 - 8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
 - 8.1 Report on Ethno conference
 - 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 Executive Committee
 - 12.6 Minutes of Campus Coordinators Meeting
 - 13.0 Reports Received
 - 13.15 Campus Coordinators Updates
 - 14.0 General / Other Business
 - 14.1 Membership 2024 and beyond
 - 14.2 Budget 2024
 - 14.3 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.

SC01/28092023:

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

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Simar Bedi

For: 7

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.

SC02/28092023:

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: 7

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.

SC03/28092023:

That the Student Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 August 2023 as a true and accurate record of proceedings

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Jerry Cui

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

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 a motion moved by circular resolution since the last meeting and she would now endorse this.

SC04/28092023:

That the Student Council endorses the motion moved by circular resolution on 15 September 2023 to endorse and promote Simar Bedi as the DUSA candidate for University Council elections

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Jerry Cui

For: 6

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Carried

6.0 Leave of Absence

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

7.0 Board Grant Applications

The Chair advised no board grant applications had been received and she would move on to the next item.

8.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members

The Chair advised she had some items to discuss under strategic matters.

- 8.1 The Chair advised the assessment period was coming up and she wished everyone good luck with this.

The Chair advised that DUSA had submitted a report on our perspective regarding how students can be better supported by the university.

The Chair noted that as this is the second last Student Council meeting for this term and we are about to move into the handover period, everyone should be getting their handover documents ready for the incoming Council.

The Chair noted that Self-Care week held across all campuses went well.

The Chair advised she had met with Lisa Hanna regarding changes to be made to the extension process and special consideration process to make this as easy a process as possible for students, and mainly focussed on the excessive need for documentation and also a change in criteria for which students can get extensions.

Report on Ethno conference

The Chair advised that she and the General Secretary had this week attended the NUS Ethno conference held in Adelaide and she was still currently in Adelaide. She will circulate some of the presentations to everyone as they were really interesting, and there were some very good discussions on how to support international students and first nations students.

In terms of first nations students, most of discussions centred around the vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament which is coming up very soon. We have discussed this at DUSA for some time now and it would be appropriate for us to move a motion at this meeting in support of the Yes Campaign. We passed a motion very early in the year regarding our stance on Australia Day and the harmful impact this has on first nations peoples. In the leadup to the referendum, and in support of first nations people, we will also be putting up a post in support of the Yes Campaign.

The General Secretary noted that he would like to congratulate the Geelong Campus Coordinator, Sunny on the great work he has done on supporting this in Geelong, with Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles attending a stall on campus. There has been some really great work done in Geelong including door knocking for the Yes Campaign.

SC05/28092023:

That the Student Council in support of First Nations students endorses the Yes Campaign for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament and will post our support on our social media channels

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Jonathan De La Pena

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carried

The Chair asked if anyone had any other items to discuss under strategic matters of importance. Some observers began shouting at Student Council, Managers and staff present disrupting the meeting.

9.0 Regulations and Constitution

The Chair advised there were no items under regulations and constitution, and she would move on to the next item.

10.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems

10.1 *Monthly Compliance Reporting – September*

The Chair advised the status of financial and insurance compliance reporting due in September had been provided in the agenda and if anyone had any questions regarding this please email Fiona after the meeting.

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 we currently have two positions vacant, Front of House and Systems Administrator and are recruiting to fill these. There are no other HR issues.

11.2 *Finance Report & Profit and Loss*

The Finance Manager advised that she would take it that everyone had read the finance report and if there were any questions regarding this, please email them to her.

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

SC06/28092023:

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

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Simar Bedi

For: 7

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.

Vice President - Education, Jerry Cui

Jerry advised that as previously discussed at an Executive meeting, along with the President and General Secretary, he had attended a meeting with HDR Representatives of each faculty. They have just completed their elections and we will be working very closely with the HDR Representatives in the future, and he will provide more information to Council in due course.

The General Secretary advised that the HDR representatives network has been able to bring these faculties together into the network and essentially overhaul how the HDR network runs.

11:35am Some observers again began disrupting the meeting proceedings to the extent that Security had to be called in to assist to bring the meeting back to order.

11:40am Student observer - Beth Jackson was removed from the meeting by Security for continually disrupting the meeting.

Student Council member, Mairead Foley advised she was part of an ADHD support group which is undergoing re-structuring and are looking to make this more accessible to students, and asked whether Student Council have any insight as to how the process could be improved. She has been talking to Deakin Active who are currently using the spare DUSA office in Building LC, with a view to negotiate with them for the support group to use that room as a safe space and to date they have been open to this.

The VRC did a cross-collaboration and she had attended this representing DUSA. They advised they would continue with this program and it would be bigger and better in future.

Mairead advised that she and the President had attended a meeting with Lisa Hanna regarding students' access to university support services, and she would like Student Council to reach out to their respective clubs about this as well, especially around international students being able to access support services. They had also discussed what the university deems valid reasons to obtain extensions, and at this point a statutory declaration is not considered valid documentation. They feel that a statutory declaration should be considered to be applicable for mental health or other medical reasons.

The Chair discussed the room in LC advising that she is onboard with the plan that Mairead outlined. The room was originally requested for use as a radio station around five years ago, however, is not used for this purpose now. There had been discussion about moving the Women's room there as the current Women's room was too small. However, the LC room is quite out of the way and not suitable for use as a Women's room, so this may be a good use of this room as a 'sensory space'.

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

SC07/28092023:

That the Student Council receives all reports as submitted

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded:

Mairead Foley

For: 7

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:

- Self-care Week was successful in Burwood. I attended the Beats and Eats which saw a lot of students interact with the various offerings, from Deakin Visual Arts Society, Tabletop Society, the Toastie Truck, Silent Disco, Deakin Talent and other art based activations;
- The Deakin Enviro events held on this week were also successful and included a documentary night, and the Deakin Enviro Ball;
- For clubs celebration evening, we visited the venue yesterday and the venue is well equipped. I encouraged the council to spread the word about the event to ensure it can be financially viable.

Sunny Singh, Geelong Campus Coordinator

The Geelong Campus Coordinator was not in attendance.

The Assistant General Secretary advised she had attended the beats and eats for selfcare week in Geelong, and it seemed to go very well.

Student Council member, Jerry Cui advised he had attended the last Geelong Campus Committee meeting in person where the chill out trolley had been discussed, and they had provided feedback that as more students are coming onto campus and studying in the library they will need more chill out trolleys and they will probably need to take some funds out of their campus budget to fund the increase in chill out trolleys.

Kayla Stuchbree, Cloud Campus Coordinator

The Cloud Campus Coordinator was not present at the meeting – No update provided.

Gurrattan Gaahlay, Warrnambool Campus Coordinator

The Warrnambool Campus Coordinator was not present at the meeting.

The Chair advised that during election week they had met with the incoming Warrnambool committee which was really good and she hopes they have a great committee next year.

Items for Discussion / Decision

14.0 General / Other Business

The Chair advised there were two items received under general business and referred to the General Manager to speak to the first item.

14.1 Membership 2024 and beyond

The General Manager advised she would take the paper as having been read by everyone and asked if there were any questions.

The General Secretary noted that this has been discussed at a number of meetings and he feels everyone would be happy for this to now move to a motion.

The Chair advised she would assume everyone was on board with this paper and she would move a motion to approve it.

SC08/28092023:

That the Student Council approves the membership prices for 2024 as outlined in the paper submitted

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded: Simar Bedi

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carried

14.2 Budget 2024

The Chair advised that she would take it that everyone had read through the 2024 budget and thanked the Executive Officer for circulating this again yesterday. The Chair re-iterated that any questions can be referred to the Finance Manager.

The Chair advised that if everyone was happy with the budget paper, she would now move a motion to approve this.

Vice President - Education, Jerry Cui advised he had read through the budget comprehensively and was happy with the budget as submitted.

SC09/28092023:

That the Student Council approves the 2024 Budget as submitted

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded:

Jerry Cui

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carried

The Chair asked if there were any other items to raise for discussion under general business.

14.3 Project Proposal and budget – International Students Support group

The Chair advised this project is already running and we need to approve the funding for this now. At the next Student Council meeting she will submit for the agenda a document with step-by-step instructions on how project proposals are approved.

SC10/28092023:

That the Student Council approves the T2 project proposal for the International Students Support Group and budget for the amount of up to \$210

Moved: Georgie Brimer

Seconded:

Jerry Cui

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carried

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

Student Council member, Mairead Foley advised she would like to show a presentation on disability and higher education in Australia. Mairead advised that the Disability Royal Commission is currently being held and a big part of this is the educational aspect, as disabled students do not have an equitable experience at university.

Mairead read through the notes on the presentation and the United Nations documentation regarding disability and human rights.

Mairead advised the Royal Commission report will be released tomorrow and noted that some former Deakin students provided evidence at the Royal Commission, especially around the special extensions process.

12:30pm All remaining observers left the meeting, apart from Michael Apostolou.

Questions and discussion ensued.

Items for Noting

15.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Student Council was a scheduled training session with the incoming Student Council in attendance and further details will be provided in due course.

17.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:33PM.