

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION INC

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

11th Meeting

23 September 2021

11:00AM

Via Zoom



Student Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday 23 September 2021

★ Indicates starred item

📁 Indicates document attached

⊗ Indicates document absent

DUSA Student Council

Thursday 23 September 2021

Commencing at 11:00AM

Via Zoom

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.

Procedural Matters

1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 The Chair, Emily Sagolj formally welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting open at 11:06AM.

Present

Emily Sagolj	President and Chair
Katrina Sullivan	Vice President – Education
Saipraneeth Reddy	Vice President - Welfare
Guleid Abdullahi	General Secretary
Naren Shetty	Assistant General Secretary
Jasmine Qi Xing	Student Council Member
Georgie Brimer	Student Council Member
Madhab Kharel	Student Council Member
Ivanka Dishan Su	Student Council Member

Present for Debate

None

By Invitation

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

Observers

None

Minute Taker

Annette Allen	Executive Officer
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1.2 Apologies

None

1.3 Absent

Brendan Low	Student Council Member
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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.
The Student Engagement Manager queried where the Student Council reports were.
The Executive Officer advised no reports had been received from Student Council for this month.
- 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 26 August 2021
 - 4.2 Actions arising from the Minutes
 - 5.0 Update on DUSA Podcast
 - 6.0 Requests for Leave of Absence
 - 9.0 Strategic Matters of Importance to Members
 - 10.0 Constitution and Regulations
 - 10.1 Proposed amendments to General Regulations
 - 11.0 Policy, Procedures and Systems
 - 11.1 Monthly compliance reporting
 - 12.0 Reports and Operational Matters
 - 12.1 Human Resources
 - 12.2 Finance Report and Profit & Loss
 - 13.0 Minutes of DUSA's Committees Received
 - 13.5 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
 - 14.0 Reports Received
 - 15.0 General / Other Business
 - 15.1 2022 DUSA Budget
 - 15.3 Submissions for Honorary Life Memberships
 - 15.4 Increase in Student Engagement Capital Expense Budget
 - 16.0 Next Meeting
 - 17.0 Meeting Closed

6.0 DUSA Podcast update

The Chair referred to Georgie Brimer to provide a verbal update on the DUSA Podcast.

- 6.1 Georgie advised an in-person episode was filmed some time ago, but she hasn't been able to get in touch with the editor, so this episode hasn't been released yet. The episode filmed digitally also hasn't been released. This episode was filmed just before going into this current lockdown and a lot of the information in it ended up being out of date.

She is looking at having a solid plan in place during T3 for next year. It would be good to have episodes for new students coming in with relevant information about important dates and other things they should know. Will also look at having podcast episodes once a month instead of twice a month. Will reach out to the University TV and film faculty to see if they would be interested in editing instead of just the club.

Further planning to be done in T3 for next year.

The Chair confirmed there needs to be a lot of pre-planning before episodes are filmed and released, and requested that Georgie keep in mind that as she's not continuing in the role next year, for the sake of continuity a detailed handover of this project will need to be provided to your successor.

7.0 Requests for Leave of Absence

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

8.0 Board Grant Applications

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

9.0 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 spoke to the recent discussions with Liz Johnson regarding providing more acknowledgement in academic transcripts, and they advised that they could extend the withdraw late date instead. Students have advised they are very relieved that this is available.

The Chair spoke regarding Deakin Reimagined and advised she has drafted a submission and sent this today to Council to review. We received a lot of solid responses and feedback from students which was good.

The Chair noted that at their recent meeting with the Vice Chancellor it was difficult to get responses from him about Deakin Reimagined.

The General Manager advised that he had spoken extensively about the road map out and only really discussed Deakin Reimagined at the last minute.

The Chair advised she had concerns that the reduction in academic staff will leave those left with a lot more units to look after. The Vice Chancellor had advised that they look at current demand when making these decisions and the cuts to staff are not in proportion to the reduction in student demands.

The Chair further noted there is some concern that when international students do come back, Deakin will be behind and students will then go to other universities.

The Chair spoke regarding course flexibility noting that students don't want to risk the units currently on offer in T3 as a lot of students have reduced their load and this could impact on the availability of units in T3.

The General Manager advised they are not expecting to see international students back until at least T2 next year, and the Government will also want them to be vaccinated with one of the vaccinations used in Australia before they can come which may exclude a lot of international students.

The General Secretary requested we press the Vice Chancellor further on staff cuts at the next meeting and the effect this will have on students. Reducing the number of staff will lead to a decline in student services.

10.0 Regulations and Constitution

The Chair advised there was one item for discussion which is the proposed changes to the General Regulations and referred to the General Secretary to speak to this item.

10.1 Proposed amendments to General Regulations

The Asst. General Secretary spoke to this item advising they are proposing to increase the honorarium payments for Campus Coordinators from \$10,400 to \$11,700. This increase is based on their workload and deserves a higher honorarium.

The General Manager raised concerns regarding the budget and the large rise in honorariums which is not covered and requested this item be held over to the next meeting. She will talk more to the budget later in the agenda.

The General Secretary advised we may need to call a special Council meeting to approve these changes as they don't want to wait until the October meeting to have them approved.

11.0 Policy, Procedure & Systems

11.1 *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 she asked the Finance Manager if she would like to speak further to this.

The Finance Manager advised we provided results for the first half of the year to Deakin for FBAC. We have also paid and lodged the PAYG for August and the General Manager has completed all of our insurance disclosure forms.

12.0 Reports and Operational Matters

The Chair referred to the General Manager to speak to human resources.

12.1 *Human Resources*

The General Manager spoke to this item and advised staff are going along well. A staff survey was conducted recently, and the results were fairly positive. She will send this out to Student Council to look at. Understandably staff are a little fatigued from the ongoing lockdowns and working from home, so we provided all staff with a Wellness Day recently and staff posted photos of what they had done on their day off on MS Teams.

Our new student intern Stephanie started recently in the Comms team and replaces Seov. Stephanie has recently graduated and you can see some of her great work on our UTube channel.

Sheridan is feeling much better and we have seen her join in the social chats recently.



SC07/23092021:

That the Student Council approves a DUSA honorary life membership for Amogh Chakravathy effective from today

Moved: Emily Sagolj

Seconded: Naren Shetty

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

Carried

SC08/23092021:

That the Student Council approves a DUSA honorary life membership for Kristen Warren effective from today

Moved: Emily Sagolj

Seconded: Katrina Sullivan

For: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Carried

15.4 Increase in Student Engagement Capital Expense Budget

The Student Engagement Manager spoke to this item advising that the capital budget expense previously approved by Council was \$7,500 for the purchase of three marquees. Several quotes have been obtained and the cost has come in at \$9,300 to pay for these marquees and he is requesting an increase of around \$1,500 for this capital expense.

The General Manager confirmed this is a capital purchase which when depreciated will come out of SSAF funding.

The Student Engagement Manager spoke to what the marquees will look like at each campus. The General Manager noted that we need to ensure the look is in line with our branding.

SC09/23092021:

That the Student Council approves an increase of up to a maximum of \$2,500 to the Student Engagement Capital Expenditure budget for the purchase of three marquees

Moved: Emily Sagolj

Seconded: Katrina Sullivan

For: 9

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Carried

The Chair advised that Wellness Week is on this week and encouraged everyone to come along to an event. The Drag Queen bingo is on tonight and looks like a lot of fun.

The Chair reminded everyone that if handover documents are not submitted, their final honorarium payments will not be paid.

Items for Noting

16.0 Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next Student Council Meeting would be held on Thursday 21st October 2021 via zoom.

17.0 Close of Business

There being no further business to discuss, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 12:01PM.



STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS ACTION SHEET

Number	Action	Responsibility	Status