



Arc @ UNSW limited
Approved Minutes SRC MEETING
Tuesday, 23 February 2021
TEAMS
6:00 pm

Present: Tom Kennedy, Nayonika Bhattacharya, Howra Al Timimy, Anna Ho, Luqi Hwang, Natalie Simonovski, Karan Shekhawat, Ava Lagoon-Robinson, Charley Gonzaga, Zane Comarmond, John Economides, George Castillo, Lucy Edwards, Franky Gonzaga, Saskia Wibowo, Nick Palmer, Jack Nethery, Aурpita Saha, Melody Ranger.

Apologies: Rebecca Zhang, Jayden Kitchener, Oliver Vincent.

Absent: Meg Cooke, Fergus Stafford.

1. Meeting Opening

The meeting opened at 6:10pm.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Completed by the Chair.

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received by R. Zhang, J. Kitchener and O. Vincent.

1.3. Conflicts of interest disclosure

G. Castillo declared that he works for UNSW.

1.4. Previous minutes

1.4.1. Confirmation: 29 October 2020

The minutes were noted as there was a change of Office Bearers and Councillors.

1.4.2. Matters arising/action list

The action list was noted.

1.5. Meeting administration

1.5.1. Items flagged for immediate discussion

There were no items flagged for immediate discussion.

1.5.2. Selection of meeting observer

None appointed.

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Abolish Fit-to-sit

The paper was taken as read. It was argued that the fit to sit rule and the special consideration rules have created issues with students, especially those with disabilities. It was mentioned that a case will be presented to the academic Board during their meeting in March. It was also noted that the President has expressed SRC concerns on the above rules to some members of the Academic Board who have found the arguments valid.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the motion of abolishing the fit-to-sit rule and the President will present the case to the Academic Board.

CARRIED

2.2. Purchasing megaphone for the SRC

The motion was tabled. It was mentioned that an SRC megaphone was taken by the police last year during a rally. It was discussed that it is an asset to have a megaphone at rallies, especially for people with hearing disabilities. It was recommended that the megaphone will be shared among the collectives and it can be purchased by a shared line. An amendment on the motion was recommended; to insert that a covid safe protocol needs to be followed (e.g. wear a facemask, gloves and sanitise the megaphone after each use).

ACTION

THAT the SRC president will discuss with the Office Bearers how the cost will be distributed

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the purchase of a megaphone with shared use among the Collectives.

CARRIED

2.3. Mardi Gras statement

The motion was tabled. It was mentioned that the Mardi Gras 2021 will be held on the Sydney Cricket Grounds and there is a minimum fee to attend. This decision creates issues especially for those students with financial issues. It was argued that the Mardi Gras Parade no longer represents the queer student population. It was also noted that there is an event organised by Pride in Protest which is a free event and the Queer Officers invited the rest of the SRC to support the Pride in Protest event..

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC supports the Pride in Protest action and will issue a statement expressing of why the Mardi Gras Parade sadly no longer supports or represents our queer student population.

CARRIED

3. Matters for Discussion

4. Office Bearer Reports

4.1. President

The report was taken as read. A note was made that O-Week ran successfully as the SRC distributed most of their merchandise and talked to students about the existence of the SRC and how the SRC could assist the student population. It was mentioned that the SRC President sits on the Academic Board, which is very convenient as most of the things that SRC raises are related to the Academic Board. Additionally, the President meets with DVCA monthly. In their last meeting, the SRC President raised that the university needs to consider expanding special considerations to cover more categories and offer broader support. It was noted that the SRC President alongside with the PGC President met with Neil Morris the Vice President of campus life where they discussed that the university needs to subsidise university space for storage, as there are a number mostly of international students who are overseas, have graduated, but they still have possessions left in Australia. An issue was raised with internal program transfer where the student did not realise that a change of their degree might raise the courses fees. It was requested that this information is better communicated better to students. Additionally, it was mentioned that there are leftover supplies from O-Week and the Office Bearers are welcome to collect and use them for their collectives.

4.2. General Secretary

The report as read. It was mentioned that the SRC will run weekly Information stalls where the collectives are welcome to attend. The stall will raise awareness of the SRC but also collect views and consult with students on a variety of university issues.

4.3. Education

The report was taken as read.

4.4. Environment

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that on International Women's Day the Bathurst council will start building a go-cart course on the Aboriginal Site Wahluu and the Collectives would like to send solidarity to the Aboriginal group affected. It was recommended that the Environment Officer to speak with the Indigenous Officer and discuss how they can stand in solidarity.

4.5. Ethnocultural

The report was taken as read.

4.6. Indigenous

4.7. International Students

The report was taken as read. It was noted that the university needs to consider offering rebate to those international students who have been abroad and cannot participate in university life to the fullest. The President recommended submitting a motion which can be presented to the Dean.

4.8. Queer

The report was taken read. The Queer Collective had eighty (80) new members sign up during O-Week. Both the Queer Officers worked and tried to resolve the Messenger Group chat issue. They have created a secret messenger chat where the members use their full names/pronouns and the Office Bearers can oversee the type of the conversations. It was noted that the Queer Collective received funding from UNSW EDI to run Mardi Gras. Additionally, a Queer activism panel is organised as an upcoming event.

4.9. Welfare

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that the during the collective's meeting, issues with campus security have been expressed. A form will be created for students to report incidents anonymously.

4.10. Women's

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that the Office Bearer has been in touch with UNSW EDI and Arc for International Women's Day, in order to create and distribute crisis packs. Also, it was noted that the Office Bearer has been working on creating an info pack for reporting portals.

4.11. Students with Disabilities

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that the collective does not have many members and the Office Bearer will run activities to raise more awareness regarding the collective.

5. Matters for Noting [discussed only on exception basis]

5.1. Councillor reports

5.1.1. George Castillo

5.1.2. Lulu Edwards

5.1.3. Rebecca Zhang

5.1.4. Franky Gonzaga

5.1.5. Saskia Wibowo

5.1.6. Oliver Vincent

5.1.7. Nick Palmer

5.1.8. Jack nethery

5.1.9. Fergus Stafford

5.1.10. Melody Ranger

5.1.11. Aурpita Saha

5.1.12. Meg Cooke

The reports were taken as read. J. Nethery mentioned that he wants to run a petition regarding the Village Green restoration regarding the timeline. It was noted that UNSW Estate Management has not been helpful answering any questions regarding the development of the space. The President recommended to organise a meeting with Arc and invite J.Nethery regarding this issue. Additionally, the General Secretary will email J. Nethery with recommendations for petition platforms.

6. Business without notice

It was discussed that more training will be available to SRC upon request. Arc and EDI are willing to provide this training. Some of the topics are bullying and harassment, sexual misconduct, first responder, gender diversity.

It was also mentioned that there is February budget left that can be allocated to buy crisis packs or create vouchers for students to buy textbooks.

ACTION

The General secretary will send a poll to all the SRC members regarding training topic ideas.

7. Meeting Finalisation

7.1. Meeting evaluation

N. Simonovski mentioned that the meeting was kept on time. She suggested that the Office Bearers need to be more punctual on submitting papers communicate better.

7.2. Next meeting date: 6th April 2021

7.3. Meeting close

The meeting closed at 7:37pm.

SRC President *Tom Kennedy*

Date 9/4/21