



Approved Minutes



Arc @ UNSW limited
SRC MEETING
Tuesday, 06 April 2021
TEAMS
6:00 pm

Present: Tom Kennedy, Nayonika Bhattacharya, John Economides, Zane Comarmond, Howra Al Timimy, Saskia Wibowo, Luqi Huang, Lulu Edwards, Melody Ranger, Rebecca Zhang, Francis Gonzaga, Anna Ho, Nick Palmer, Jack Nethery, Natalie Simonovski, Aarpita Saha, Ava Lagoon Robinson, George Castillo.

Apologies: Jayden Kitchener-Waters, Charley Gonzaga, Fergus Stafford, Karan Singh, Meg Cooke.

Absent: Oliver Vincent.

1. Meeting Opening

The meeting opened at 6:05pm.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Completed by the Chair.

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received by J. Kitchener-Waters, C. Gonzaga, F. Stafford and K. Singh.

1.3. Conflicts of interest disclosure

There were no declarations of conflict.

1.4. Previous minutes

1.4.1. Confirmation: 23 February 2021

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes from the SRC meeting held on 23 February 2021 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

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

N. Bhattacharya was appointed as the meeting observer.

The orders were suspended with the leave of the Council. The minutes reflect the meeting order.

2. Matters for Decision

2.2. Electronic Suggestion Box

The motion was taken as read. It was discussed that there is a need for an online platform where students could submit their enquiries. The use of online form has a minimum cost. It was noted that the General Secretary will allocate the enquiries to the relevant Office Bearers after the submission of the form. Additionally, the form would have the option of anonymity from the students.

The following amendment was recommended: The SRC creates an electronic suggestion box and circulates it among the student body. The General Secretary will be responsible for the distribution of the received forms to the relevant Office Bearers Councillors by keeping the privacy requests of the suggestion/comment/complaint.

RESOLVED

THAT the SRC approves the creation of an electronic suggestion box and its circulation among the student body. The General Secretary will be responsible for distributing the received forms to the relevant Office Bearers or Councillors by keeping the privacy requests of the suggestion/comment/complaint.

CARRIED

3. Matters for Discussion

3.1. Creation of an SRC-Faculty Club Dialogue

The paper was taken as read. It was noted that the paper wants to explore ways of opening a dialogue with the Faculty clubs as part of the SRC's representation process to the student body. It was argued that the faculty representatives align better with the SRC's idiosyncrasy and advocacy status, while the Faculty clubs are more related to social and career events. It was also argued that the dialogue would be limited to an academic and welfare perspective without interfering with any political discussion.

ACTION

THAT the SRC will discuss the above matter offline and bring a paper for a decision to the upcoming SRC meeting.

3.2. UNSW Assessment Definitions

The paper was taken as read. It was discussed that the SRC will draft a paper to the Academic Subcommittees in order to propose changes on making the assessment definition clearer from a student perspective. It was argued that any proposed changes on the terms of reference or imply how the lecturer will run their assessments, might create issues. The paper will be brought to Academic Subcommittee for feedback and then presented to the Academic Board.

ACTION

THAT a document will be shared online for all the SRC to add their suggestions and comments for the paper.

A. Lagoon Robinson joined the meeting at 6:40pm.

4. Office Bearer Reports

4.1. President

The report was taken as read. It was noted that the Academic Board refused to stop the Fit to Sit rule. The President is working on a proposal to change the Spec Cons specifications, such as reducing the penalty of students who do not take an exam without Spec Cons and allowing students to apply for Spec Cons up to three days after an exam. There is a general sentiment that the students do not have a safeguard of having at least poor performance instead of zero if they experience health issues.

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Updating the SRC Charter and Safer Spaces Policy

The paper was taken as read. It was noted that the majority of the changes reflect processes that either has already been implemented (eg financial approval) or has been dismissed (eg references to Tharunka). A significant change reflects the SRC Safer Spaces policy, and the SRC Charter needs to be updated to set standards of conduct in collectives.

A question was raised that the update on clause 2.3 (e) could create concerns on increased Office Bearer power. It was argued that an Office Bearer should have the power to delegate to someone else to run the Collective's meeting. If there are delegation issues due to political reasons, this might create more serious issues with the Office Bearer not fulfilling the requirements of their role. It was discussed that the President should not be able to reject, but they could veto. An amendment was recommended.

RESOLVED

THAT the Safe space policy is approved by the SRC.

CARRIED

RESOLVED

THAT THE SRC Charter is recommended to the SDC with the following amendment on the clause 2.3(e)(ii) "Any meeting occurring without the approval of the Officer (or despite having been rejected by the President) shall not be recognised as an official Collective meeting."

CARRIED

ACTION

THAT the SRC Charter will be amended as above and submitted to SDC for recommendation to Board.

4. Office Bearer Report

4.2. General Secretary

The report was taken as read. The following updates were provided: the newsletter is being prepared for going out in term 2; sessions have been planned in term 2 with Tenancy NSW and Arc Legal. Additionally, it was noted that there is the opportunity for SRC to get involved with the Health Advisory committee. Also the SRC would support the appointment of a first nations health officer. It was also mentioned that DVCR International would support SRC's campaign to reduce the fees of those students who are still offshore.

4.3. Education Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. It was noted that the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement negotiations will start soon which means there will be a lot of conversations happening on actions in collaboration with the National Tertiary Education Union, UNSW casuals network, other campuses with their SRCs, specifically the Education Action Groups at usyd and uts and other groups.

4.4. Environment Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that the Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley had extended an emergency declaration to protect the Wahluu site for another 30 years. Additionally, the rally in Bargo was lively, and the decision will be taken by the end of the week. On other updates, the Collective is working on the Climate Strike which will be held during the term holiday. It was recommended to livestream it in order to engage more people and increase accessibility.

4.5. Ethnocultural Office Bearer

No report was submitted.

4.6. Indigenous Office Bearer

No report was submitted.

4.7. International Students Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that complaints have been received by students at Business School regarding the low-engagement and teaching quality issues. The Office Bearer will meet with Tracy Wilcox (Academic Director at Business School) to discuss the course feedback and continue to follow up on the issues.

4.8. Queer Office Bearer

The report was taken as read. It was mentioned that Queer peer mentoring would be launched next term again.

4.9. Welfare Office Bearer

The report was taken as read.

4.10. Women's

The report was taken as read. It was noted that the Crisis packs will be distributed in the upcoming week.

4.11. Students with Disabilities

No report was submitted.

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. Francis Gonzaga

5.1.5. Saskia Wibowo

5.1.6. Oliver Vincent

5.1.7. Nicholas 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

6. Business without notice

7. Meeting Finalisation

7.1. Meeting evaluation

7.2. Next meeting date: 14 June 2021

7.3. Meeting close

The meeting closed at 7:45pm.


SRC President Signature

19 June 2021

Date