



## MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Student Representative Committee (SRC) held at 6:00pm on Thursday 28 April 2022 in the VC Boardroom and via Zoom.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Udai Kamath (Alternate Chairperson) (Chair)
* <i>Attended in Person</i>	Jarrold Currey
* <i>Attended via Zoom</i>	Allastasia Carter Amanda O'Neill Claire Wescombe Curtis Micallef Elizabeth Christie Fatima Kham Jayden Whaites Fruitrich Leila Maruca Ziyan Tejani Pavel Pfitzner Sadra Yousefi
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Eryna Azmarin Jaesong Han Kaitlin York Peshala Denagamage Saliha Rehanaz
<b>ABSENT:</b>	N/A
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Professor Mariella Herberstein - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Melinda Chadwick – Head of Engagement, Inclusion and Belonging
* <i>Attended via Zoom</i>	

**SECRETARIAT:** Bella Galea – Incumbent Governance (SRC) and Education Officer  
Kimberly La – Outgoing SRC Secretariat Officer, Student Life

## MINUTES

### 1. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

#### 1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair commenced meeting at 6:08 pm. Allastasia Carter provided the Acknowledgment of Country as per the text provided by the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Strategy):

*“I respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Macquarie University land, the Wallumattagal clan of the Dharug Nation. May we pay respects to the Elders, and knowledge holders who have, and continue to, pass on their knowledge and wisdom for the sustainability of our environments, our cultures, our education and our communities. May the ancestors spirits watch over us today to ensure that we have a successful and productive meeting and*

*may we remember to tread lightly on our countries and to thoughtfully carry on the legacy of those that walked before us on this land.”*

**ACTION:** Jayden to provide the Acknowledgement of Country at the next meeting of the SRC, to be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

### **1.2. Chair’s Welcome, Quorum, and Apologies**

The Chair declared the meeting quorate and opened the meeting at 6:08pm, welcoming all attendees – both those in the room and those joining the meeting remotely.

The Chair issued a reminder to all to attend meetings. The Chair noted that several SRC members have now become ineligible for the positions currently holding and this needs to be rectified.

The Chair noted that apologies were received from Eryna Azmarin, Jaesong Han, Kaitlin York, Peshala Denagamage and Saliha Rehanaz, and acknowledged the University staff in attendance.

### **1.3. Disclosure of conflicts of interest**

No conflicts of interest declared.

## **2. PRESENTATIONS BY INVITED GUESTS**

### **2.1. O-Week Funding by the SRC (Suggested Activities)**

Melinda Chadwick presented the SRC with several options for activities that the SRC could potentially fund for the Session 1, and Session 2 examination periods in 2022. Activities are presented below:

The SRC could partner with U@MQ to provide support for the implementation of a temporary ice-rink on campus, the sale of snow-globe picture holders and a recreational snowboard machine.

The SRC could also support the skills and preparedness for study and engagement for returning students through the sponsoring of welcome bags for students and contributions for the Amazing Race on campus.

The costings for these activations will be in the vicinity of up to \$10,000 for the SRC to contribute to items in the welcome bags that are potentially SRC branded/gifts for students. Jayden Whaites Fruitrich requested costings on these activities for consideration and review by the SRC for approval.

The SRC could support exam activations providing funding for stationary packs, fruit giveaways or V-Energy drink suppliers during the examinations period. Costing estimated at \$2000 for these initiatives.

The SRC also presented with the option to host a dogs on campus initiative in which dogs would visit campus during the examination period. Costing estimated at \$3000 to cover all or part of these de-stress activities.

Jayden: In favour of the dogs on campus sponsored by SRC.

Elizabeth: In favour of the dogs on campus sponsored by SRC.

Jarrod: In favour of the dogs on campus sponsored by SRC.

Melinda to send costings and timeframes to Jayden Whaites-Fruitrich for SRC review.

### **3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

- 3.1.** The Minutes of the previous meeting held 24 March 2022 enclosed  
*(For approval and review)*

The Student Representative Committee resolved to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2022 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### **4. REPORT FROM SRC TREASURER**

#### **4.1. SRC April 2021 Expenditure Report**

The SRC Treasurer noted that 2 grants have been approved, one for the Clinical Science Society for \$2000. Financial Reports for SRC and MUPRA incorrect and require amendment.

Most important part was that we went through the Terms of Reference for the SRC and we weren't able to discuss as much because not enough execs were available. The ToR has been circulated for approval.

#### **4.2. Postgraduate Fund (MUPRA) April 2021 Expenditure Report**

Financial Reports for SRC and MUPRA incorrect and require amendment.

### **5. REPORT FROM SRC SPOKESPERSON/S**

Multiple new grant applications received from student clubs and societies. A number of questions fielded about the process of submitting a grant request, and the status of the grant requests that have been lodged.

Multiple requests to promote items on the SRC social media channels. General complaints and queries about how the SRC works, how do students get enrolled in the GLP etc.

### **6. REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCIL**

Council has been focused on preparing the university for the return of international students, recovering the budget and reviewing international rankings as we recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The Council has been focused on reformulating strategic approaches to facilitate return to campus and looking at targeting new international markets. The University is in a better financial position than forecast.

### **7. REPORT FROM STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE**

No meetings/updates since the previous meeting in which the Terms of Reference were discussed.

### **8. REPORT FROM THE STUDENT JOURNEY & EXPERIENCE TASKFORCE**

No meetings/updates since the previous meeting in which the Terms of Reference were discussed.

### **9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**9.1. Indigenous Nationals  
(for discussion)**

Allastassia Carter: Walanga Muru will be attending the 2022 Indigenous National games, a weeklong sport competition in which indigenous students compete in multiple sports against other universities. Walanga Muru is requesting \$4000 in support from the SRC which will go towards the preparation of uniforms (printing of logos including the SRC) as they did in 2021.

Questions raised:

Jarrold Currey: Does the \$4000 cover travel expenses or has it been requested for uniforms only?

Response: The \$4000 covers the uniform only.

Motion: Passed

**9.2. Lifeblood National Tertiary Challenge  
(for discussion)**

Lifeblood has reached out to see if SRC would be comfortable with SRC sharing tertiary information in relation to blood donations at MQ. Lifeblood is looking to create a relationship with a member of the SRC to publish information related to the initiative. Information and promotional materials could be shared on the SRC social media channels.

Questions raised:

Jayden Whaites-Fruitrich: Is there any change of an on-campus blood collection van.

Response: Mel confirms there will be a collection van in the local vicinity, and we may be able to use that collection point. Mel to discuss with Lifeblood (Red Cross) when the van will be on-campus for donations. It may be possible to have a central courtyard activation and the SRC will be notified if this is a possibility and appropriate to support the cause.

**9.3. Student Behaviour on Campus (Be a Good Human Campaign)  
(for discussion)**

The “Be a Good Human Campaign” or similar have been run at several universities throughout Australia. The campaign promotes a culture of support and report in relation to student and staff behaviour on campus to contribute to students’ sense of wellbeing and promote a safe campus. There are both individual and collective roles to play in creating a safe and respectful campus for all students. It would be beneficial for the SRC to review feedback related to their impact on positive on-campus behaviours or to consider the mitigation of negative behaviour on campus. It would be great to see the SRC champion a campaign like this, or to be involved in the construction of a similar initiative for MQ and once fleshed out support the campaign. The campaign would need to include things like, support and report, consent matters etc.

The purpose of this update is to make the SRC aware that the university will be building this initiative and request SRC input in providing information, ideas, infographics, and collaboration where appropriate as it is an important part of the SRC representing their constituents.

No need to vote on this issue.

Questions welcome:

Jarrold: What does the campaign mean? How do we define a good human? (Mel to send Jarrold the Good Human campaign information).

## **10. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**

### **10.1. Marketing and Communications Subcommittee**

No update, members absent.

### **10.2. Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), Budget and Finance Subcommittee**

No current chair, and no updates from that subcommittee. Chair requiring election.

Grants in the approval queue, will have more grants for next meeting. Reminder that grants below \$2000 are discretionary. These grants are ready for the SSAF committee to approve.

### **10.3. Mental Health Subcommittee**

No updates from that subcommittee.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **11.1 Professor Mariella Herberstein addressed the SRC:**

The National Student Safety Survey (NSSS) 2021 results have been communicated to students via email and will be recirculated to the SRC. At Macquarie, there have been a significant number of cases in which students have reported sexual harassment or sexual assault either on or off campus by students, staff in some cases and others outside of the university. A significant number of students are not aware of the support systems available at the university and how to seek support when they have experience sexual harm or report experiences of assault. The statistics for Macquarie have not improved significantly since the previous survey was undertaken. A committee will be reconvened, and the data will be examined more thoroughly, action points will be developed to mitigate instances of sexual harm on campus in the future.

Mariella reminded the SRC members about the importance of their conduct as students occupying official roles as members of the University Council and Senate. Students must adhere to the student code of conduct. If staff or students holding office are found to be in breach of the codes of conduct required on campus individuals may be discharged from their position as a risk mitigation strategy. The expectation of office holders is that they will conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

Jayden: Sought clarity about the scope of responsibilities and mechanisms that Macquarie has to investigate online behaviour.

Jarrold: Sought clarity about the scope of responsibilities and mechanisms that Macquarie has to investigate and complaints raised against academic staff.

Pavel: Sought clarity about the scope of the complaints process, and clarity on the nature and procedure of complaint submission and investigation.

Mariella: Provided a review of the Complaints and Discipline procedure at Macquarie but is also happy to provide additional information to the SRC to provide additional clarity in this area.

Udai: All members of the SRC agree that the University should have a Code of Conduct to hold students and staff accountable to provide a safe learning environment. SRC members understand why the university does not wish to form or maintain associations with individuals who have engaged in unwanted behaviour or violated the relevant codes of conduct.

**15. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Student Representative Committee (SRC) will be held Thursday, May 19 2022. Agenda items are due by Thursday 12 May 2022 via e-mail to [SRCSecretariat@mq.edu.au](mailto:SRCSecretariat@mq.edu.au).

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 7:44pm.