

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Student Representative Committee (SRC) held at 5.30 pm on Thursday 29 June 2017 in the Academic Senate Room, Level 3, 16 Wally's Walk (C8A).

PRESENT:	Fiona Reed (Chair) James Cummins Aidan Galea Grace Goddard Alexander Hablutzel Sam Hurrell Kimberley La	Milind Lokhande Timothy Mathew Suren Missaghi Mahyar Pourzand Maddison Poynter Caitlin Rhodes Paul Russell	Anthony Ryan Zwe Paing Sett Cissy Shen Aditya Srivastava Isuru (Izzie) Weerasooriya Dee Zegarac
APOLOGIES:	Stacey Broll	Eliza Kitchener	Alex Mikaelian
IN ATTENDANCE:	Megan Kemmis, University Committee Secretary and Manager of Secretariat Services Clare Wade, Acting Manager, Campus Engagement		
SECRETARIAT:	Air Sinthawalai, Governance Officer		

1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and suggested members to take turn giving the acknowledgement at each SRC meeting.

ACTION:

Ms Weerasooriya will acknowledge the traditional custodians at the next SRC meeting, 24 July 2017.

2. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed members and noted that apologies had been received from Stacey Broll, Eliza Kitchener and Alex Mikaelian.

The Chair noted that in addition to the members, the following were in attendance:

- Megan Kemmis - University Committee Secretary and Manager of Secretariat Services
- Clare Wade – Acting Manager, Campus Engagement

3. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

4. **ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA**

4.1 **ADOPTION OF UNSTARRED ITEMS**

All agenda items were addressed.

5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

5.1 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 29 MAY 2017**

Members approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held 29 May 2017 as a true and accurate record, subject to a minor amendment to item 9.5 SRC Constitution and Elections.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 29 MAY 2017

The Chair spoke to the paper, noting that:

- Actions for SRC Induction, Campus Hub Communications and Grant to Queer Collective are completed;
- SRC Meeting Preference, Nominations for three office bearer positions on the SRC and Summary of Previous SRC actions will be discussed at this meeting; and
- Update from Student Election Sub-Committee is deferred until the next SRC meeting when Ms Shen presents.

7. REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

The Committee noted that University Council was meeting at the same time as this SRC meeting and recommended the update be provided at the next SRC meeting when Ms Shen, the Council student member, presents.

8. REPORT FROM STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE (SEC)

The Committee noted that the Student Experience Committee had not met since the last SRC meeting on 29 May 2017.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9.1 MEETING PREFERENCE FOR 2017

Submitted by Governance Services

Members were invited to provide their preferences for which days of the week, and at which times, meetings should be held. Based on the responses received, three options were provided and members were asked to select one option to confirm meeting dates for the rest of 2017.

Members casted a vote as follows:

- Eight (8) votes for option 1;
- Five (5) votes for option 2; and
- Three (3) votes for option 3

RESOLUTION:

The SRC resolved to keep the existing 2017 meeting dates set out by the previous SRC, alternating between Mondays and Thursdays between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

- Monday 24 July
- Thursday 24 August
- Monday 18 September
- Thursday 19 October
- Monday 13 November
- Thursday 14 December

9.2 NOMINATIONS FOR ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON, TREASURER & ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Submitted by Governance Services

Nominations had been received for the three office bearer positions on the SRC. The nominees spoke briefly to the meeting on their nomination as follows:

Assistant Chairperson:

- James Cummins
- Caitlin Rhodes

Treasurer

- Dee Zegarac
- Aidan Galea
- Anthony Ryan

Assistant Secretary

- Aidan Galea
- Alexander Hablutzel

The Committee noted that Governance Services will conduct online elections for each of the three positions,

in line with the election requirements set out in the Student Representative Committee Election Rules. Members will be able to vote between 2.00pm, Friday 30 June 2017 until 2.00pm, 7 July 2017.

9.3 ANALYSIS OF SRC RESOLUTIONS

Submitted by Governance Services

The SRC noted the analysis of SRC resolutions from 28 May 2015 to date with respect to unresolved items and other matters.

ACTION:

Governance Services to seek updates on relevant items and report to the Committee at the next meeting.

Cissy Shen and Suren Missaghi joined the meeting at 6:15pm.

9.4 AFFILIATION WITH THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS

Submitted by Anthony Ryan, Student Representative for Students with a Disability

Members noted the proposal to initiate an internal dialogue within the University to gather feedback from staff and students and review any benefits of affiliating with NUS. Should the SRC support affiliation, the Committee would be asked to vote on the affiliation fee, which is negotiable.

Concerns were expressed about reports on the behaviour of NUS office bearers, behaviour at national conference, and about the NUS's political view even though the focus should be on student well-being. Some members recommended to broaden the resolution to investigate other national groups in order to find the most appropriate student representation for MQ students; regardless of their political views. Nine members requested a secret ballot to vote on this resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

The SRC should in its endeavours consider and investigate possible affiliation or options for an appropriate student representation in Australia by:

1. Identifying relevant representative options and undertaking important discussions with the following:
 - University Executives, especially the DVC (Students and Registrar) and PVC (Students);
 - Campus Life, Governance and members of the Student Experience Committee;
2. Establishing a Student Representative Sub-Committee to consider the representation model; and
3. Inviting appropriate representatives from other universities or representative bodies to present before the SRC, in accordance with the SRC constitution and charter.

Moved by Anthony Ryan and seconded by Aidan Galea. Eight (8) votes in favour and ten (10) votes against

The motion was not supported.

9.5 FOOD COURT PAYMENT REFORM

Submitted by Anthony Ryan, Student Representative for Students with a Disability

Members noted the limited information on which food and beverage outlets will remain at the new Student Hub. The Committee was informed that there will only be franchises and university-run outlets at the new Student Hub with EFTPOS facilities, and noted that appeals by some small businesses are under review.

The Chair suggested that SRC is not the right forum to make decisions on this matter but could recommend that Property consider including EFTPOS facilities on the business agreement and that the University contribute a budget. Some members raised that such requirements will create pressure on small business owners who offer cheaper food and recommended more ATM facilities instead.

Dee Zegarac departed the meeting at 7:15pm.

RECOMMENDATION:

The SRC recommended to notify the University, Student Experience Committee and Property of the concerns about supplying EFTPOS facilities at all food and beverage outlets. Four (4) votes in favour and thirteen (13) votes against.

The motion was not supported.

Maddison Poynter departed the meeting at 7:30pm.

9.6 IMPROVED DIALOGUE WITH STUDENT BODY

Submitted by James Cummins, General Undergraduate Representative

Members noted the protocols of the ratification of minutes of meetings, current technological issues with the SRC website, and agreed on the need to further develop SRC's reputation.

Members also noted that the previous SRC has passed the motion to have a Grapeshot member attending SRC meetings as an observer but was not able to establish a mutually agreed MOU with Grapeshot. Member Caitlin Rhodes undertook to progress an agreement with Grapeshot that published reports must align with the SRC minutes to avoid nullifying the agreement enabling their attendance at SRC meetings. A suggestion was noted that SRC promotional work could be delegated to the Marketing Sub-Committee through SRC marketing channels.

RESOLUTION:

1. The SRC resolved to appoint a member to be responsible for the SRC Public Releases. Moved by James Cummins and seconded by Cissy Shen. All in favour.

ACTION:

Governance Services to consider an appropriate process to appoint this position after the SRC elections of three office bearer positions has concluded. It was noted this resolution does not require an amendment to the SRC Constitution.

2. The SRC resolved in principle for a Grapeshot member to attend SRC meetings as an observer, subject to the SRC approval of an agreed set of parameters and protocols between Grapeshot and the SRC at the next SRC meeting. Moved by James Cummins and seconded by Caitlin Rhodes. Thirteen (13) votes in favour and three (3) votes against.

ACTION:

Mr Cummins to set up a meeting between Marketing Sub-committee members and Grapeshot.

Cissy Shen departed the meeting at 7:45pm.

9.7 PROPOSAL FOR REDUCTION OF TERMS OF SERVICE

Submitted by Aditya Srivastava, Postgraduate Student Representative for Faculty of Business & Economics

Members agreed that while the office bearer positions provide an opportunity for leadership development, the term of office should be shortened to provide other members with the same opportunity; noting that the existing office bearers can be re-elected for the same positions.

The Chair advised that changes to the term of office for these positions will require an amendment to the SRC Constitution, which can only be done during the annual review of the Constitution.

Catlin Rhodes stepped out of the meeting at 7:52pm.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC resolved to recommend an amendment be made to the Assistant Chairperson, Treasurer & Assistant Secretary's term of office from two years to six months from the date of appointment. Moved by Aditya Srivastava and seconded by Alexander Hablutzel. Nine (9) votes in favour with five (5) votes against.

ACTION:

SRC Secretariat to refer this recommendation for the next annual review of the SRC Constitution.

Zwe Paing Sett departed the meeting at 7:54pm. Catlin Rhodes returned at 7:56pm.

9.8 S2 2017 O WEEK

Submitted by Isuru (Izzie) Weerasooriya, MSO Representative

The Orientation Planning Team and SRC Marketing Sub-Committee have met and discussed the structure of the O-Week. Should SRC want to have a stall during O-Week, a minimum of two members must be present between 11am to 3pm. Alternatively, SRC representatives can be present at Faculty and Overseas Orientation Welcome Sessions in order to introduce themselves to all incoming students. Members noted quotes for O-Week food and merchandise.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC approved to allocate up to \$10,000 to assist with activities planned by the SRC for Session 2 O-Week, based on the 2016 budget. Moved by Isuru Weerasooriya and seconded by Anthony Ryan. All in favour.

ACTION:

Campus Engagement, or SRC Treasurer once appointed, to follow up with the approved budget allocation and provide update at the next SRC meeting.

9.9 STUDY MATERIAL GRANTS

Submitted by Aidan Galea, Major Student Organisation Representative

A suggestion was noted that SRC should utilise its budget to benefit all MQ students equally, regardless of their income. However, it was agreed that SRC should budget a fund to assist low income students with their study material expenses for a one year trial.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC resolved to allocate \$10,000 for a one (1) year trial period to the Equity Unit for the study materials equity scheme, subject to the usual Equity and Diversity (E&D) parameters and determinations. Eleven (11) votes in favour, two (2) votes against and two (2) members who abstained.

ACTION:

Campus Engagement, or SRC Treasurer once appointed, to follow up with the approved budget allocation and provide update at the next SRC meeting.

10. UPDATE FROM SRC TREASURER

As the SRC Treasurer position is currently vacant, Ms Wade tabled a report on expenditure in June. The issue with the Queer Collective grant has been resolved. Members were reminded of upcoming events; Re:conception Day where SRC contributed \$50,000 in 2016 and O-Week. Ms Wade will arrange training for the new elected Treasurer.

11. UPDATE FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

ACTION:

Sub-Committee members are requested to appoint their Chairs and report at the next SRC meeting.

Izzie Weerasooriya volunteered to be the Chair of the Marketing Sub-Committee.

12. QUESTION TIME

No questions were raised.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 SRC WORKSHOP

Members were reminded of the workshop and Team Dinner on Friday 30 June 2017.

13.2 SRC RETREAT

Members were reminded of the need for exemplary conduct during the retreat, particularly as it is held offsite.

14. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:09 pm.

15. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Student Representative Committee will be held on Monday 24 July 2017.

CONFIRMED as a true record.

MS FIONA REED

CHAIR