

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Student Representative Committee (SRC) held at 5.30 pm on Monday 3 June 2019 in the Meeting Room 407, Level 4, MUSE Building, 18 Wally's Walk.

PRESENT:	Fiona Reed (Chair)	Didhiti Girdhar	Nadya Rykina-Tameeva
	Ibrahim A Ibrahim	Francisco Gutierrez Becerra	Amanda Tan
	Shlomie Bension	Alexander Hablutzel	Liz Vrazas
	Anna Cheng	Marlene Khouzam	Angus Webber
	Alex Cullen	May Thet Naing	Georgia Weeden
	Jarod Cunningham	Masumi Parmar	Jayden Whaites-Fruitrich
	Max Gale	Jade Quisumbing	
	UK Gautum	Ateka Rajabi	

ABSENT: Daniel Roberts Emily Ward

IN ATTENDANCE: Adam Anderson - Executive Officer – Property Services
John Durbridge - Campus Security Manager
Kylie Ebert - Director, Student Life
James Booth – Grapeshot Editor in Chief
Penelope Huisman - Manager, Student Equity and Diversity
Amber Loomis - RNA Project Officer
Calum Mumford - Manager, Customer Service and Sales for the Sports and Aquatic Centre
Ashley Regan - News Editor of Grapeshot Magazine
Christian Renford - Venue Manager for the Sports and Aquatic Centre
Nicole Saunders - Associate Director, Student Engagement
Gail White - Executive Director, Student Engagement and Registrar

SECRETARIAT: Air Sinthawalai

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mr Max Gale provided an Acknowledgement of Country on behalf of the SRC.

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed all members and noted the apologies outlined above.

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

- Mr Adam Anderson - Executive Officer – Property Services;
- Mr John Durbridge - Campus Security Manager;
- Ms Kylie Ebert - Director, Student Life;
- Mr James Booth – Grapeshot Editor in Chief;
- Mr Alex Hablutzel – new student member on the University Council;
- Ms Penelope Huisman - Manager, Student Equity and Diversity;
- Ms Amber Loomis - RNA Project Officer;
- Mr Calum Mumford - Manager, Customer Service and Sales for the Sports and Aquatic Centre;
- Ms Ashley Regan - News Editor of Grapeshot Magazine;
- Mr Christian Renford - Venue Manager for the Sports and Aquatic Centre;
- Ms Nicole Saunders - Associate Director, Student Engagement; and
- Ms Gail White - Executive Director, Student Engagement and Registrar

and that the quorum is met.

The Chair congratulated the newly elected SRC Officer Bearers as follows:

- SRC Assistant Chairperson – Mr Gale
- SRC Assistant Secretary – Ms Georgia Weeden is elected unopposed; and
- Treasurer – Ms May Thet Naing.

Mr Shlomie Bension and Ms Amanda Tan joined the meeting at 5:38 pm.

3. ARRANGEMENT OF AGENDA

3.1 Disclosure of conflicts of interest

The following possible conflicts of interest were declared:

- Ms Marlene Khouzam on agenda item 11.5 (Accessible Exchange Programs).
- Ms Weeden in relation to the funding application item.

3.2 Adoption of unstarred items

The item not starred for discussion was noted, and where appropriate, adopted as recommended.

4. PRESENTATIONS BY INVITED GUESTS

4.1 Student Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policy

Presented by Ms Penelope Huisman, Manager of Student Equity and Diversity, and Ms Amber Loomis, RNA Project Officer.

The Student Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Policy provides a framework for support, report and responding at Macquarie. Whilst the Procedure outlines the support services contact information as well as how the reports are handled, the Guide is written in an approachable language and answers common questions about making a report. These documents are designed to assist staff and students who provide support to students who are affected by sexual assault/harassment which also includes what to do in an emergency situation. The University will provide accessible support for students affected by sexual assault and/or sexual harassment, whether or not the incidents occurred during University activities and the matter will be treated as confidential.

More communication will be done via a number of information sessions and any student groups can contact respect@mq.edu.au to come and speak to them.

Mr Ibrahim A Ibrahim and Ms Ateka Rajabi joined the meeting at 5:47 pm.

4.2 RNA Student Advisory Group

Presented by Ms Penelope Huisman, Manager of Student Equity and Diversity, and Ms Amber Loomis, RNA Project Officer.

The Committee noted the RNA Student Advisory Group's Terms of Reference and invitation to join the group as part of the governance structure. The Advisory Group meets quarterly and its purpose is to integrate student engagement and consultation into the RNA Project. Members who wish to do so should register via respect@mq.edu.au.

Ms Huisman and Ms Loomis departed the meeting at 5:57 pm.

4.3 Campus Life Presentation

Presented by Mr Calum Mumford, Manager of Customer Service and Sales for the Sports and Aquatic Centre, and Mr Christian Renford, Venue Manager for the Sports and Aquatic Centre.

Campus Life is an institution, of children services, food & beverage outlets and sports and recreation whose mission is to bring life to campus. The Sports and Aquatic Centre hopes to call upon the SRC to work with them ensuring their products meet student expectations. The team encourages SRC ideas to improve life on campus whilst reducing the cost for students.

Mr Mumford and Mr Renford departed the meeting at 6:08 pm.

11.4 Review of PAYG Parking Rates

Paper submitted by Georgia Weeden, Major Student Organisation Representative.

Mr John Durbridge, Campus Security Manager, and Mr Adam Anderson, Executive Officer – Property Services, were invited to attend and respond to this matter. The Committee noted that PAYG was introduced for students, who are the major consumer, as a cheap option and was designed to maximise the use of parking spots during the train station closure. The \$1 per hour was an introductory rate and was always planned to change once the rail re-operates. The parking rates were set by the Executive Group, following the consultation with previous SRC and benchmarking with other Universities and corporate parking rates around the area. Following this decision, Property is responsible for implementation and management.

The University is looking at improving the carpooling system and promoting public transports. HDR students can travel to the Waterloo road building with University shuttle buses every 15 minutes from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Mr Durbridge and Anderson departed the meeting at 6:22 pm.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting held 13 May 2019 are provided.

RESOLUTION:

The minutes of the SRC meeting held 13 May 2019 were confirmed and approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 6.1 Summary of Outstanding Action Items

The Committee noted updates on the following items:

- Student elections: ongoing, SRC members to discuss alternative selection processes for the SRC representative on the Selection Panel at future meetings;
- Re:Conception 2019: Accessibility concerns were raised with the Re:Conception Steering Committee and University stakeholders. Students are encouraged to participate in 2019 Re:Conception design competition;
- Sustainable SRC: ongoing, SRC members to create a roster that two students per meeting clean up at the end;
- Global Voices: completed, Campus Engagement will fund up to \$15,000 to provide MQU students with a scholarship to attend an international conference such as the Y20, World Health Assembly, UN, arranged by Global Voices; and
- Cultural awareness training: completed, the Cultural Competency and Respect Now Always workshop is scheduled on 25 July 2019, 3.00 – 5.30 pm. The calendar invitation will be circulated to the SRC members.

7. UPDATE FROM SRC TREASURER

On behalf of the SRC Treasurer, Ms Saunders provided an overview of the SRC annual budget, \$202,218.00, and the remaining full-year budget, approximately \$59,000. The SRC members also noted the Postgraduate fund pool of \$394,943.41 to be spent on postgraduate focused activities by the end of 2019.

8. UPDATE FROM SRC SPOKESPERSON

The Committee noted the Disney Appreciation Society request to promote their events on the SRC social media channels.

Mr Booth and Ms Regan left the meeting room before the next item be discussed.

9. REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

There was no report provided at this meeting.

10. REPORT FROM STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE (SEC)

The appointed SRC Office Bearers will be contacted by the SEC Secretary in coming days.

Mr Booth and Ms Regan rejoined the meeting.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 11.1 Review Function of the SRC Spokesperson and Establish SRC Subcommittees
Paper submitted by Governance Services.

Three SRC Spokesperson positions were created to make any statement and conduct interviews with student publications on behalf of the SRC whilst SRC members who are not elected as spokespersons are to seek approval of the Marketing Subcommittee to ensure a consistent message is maintained. Whilst SRC spokespersons monitor, contact the right SRC members for specific questions and respond to enquiries submitted to src@mq.edu.au, the Marketing Subcommittee's Chairperson is in control of the SRC' social media accounts.

There was a lack of clarity between the function of SRC Spokespersons and Marketing Sub-Committee's Chairperson. As such, it is recommended that the SRC review the function of both positions and put forward any recommendations to be discussed at future meetings.

ACTION:

Marketing subcommittee to review the function of SRC Spokespersons and Marketing subcommittee's Chairperson and provide its recommendation at future meetings.

ACTION:

Mr Alexander Hablutzel and Mr Alex Cullen to appoint one appropriate SRC member and train as one of the three spokespersons.

Members noted the list of subcommittees formed by the previous SRC and resolved to establish the following subcommittees:

- Student Elections subcommittee;
- Infrastructure subcommittee;
- Marketing and Communication subcommittee;
- Student Services and Amenities fee (SSAF), SRC Budget and Finance subcommittee; and
- Equity and Diversity (E&D) subcommittee.

Members were reminded that SRC subcommittees operate in a similar way to the formal SRC meetings whereby a quorum is required to vote on motions/recommendations. If the person is unable to commit due to their other commitments, it would be respectful not to sign up. Members can join or withdraw from subcommittees at any time.

ACTION:

SRC Secretariat to share the SRC subcommittees' membership with all SRC members following this meeting.

Ms Didhiti Girdhar joined the meeting at 6:48 pm.

11.2 Improving Mental Health Resources

Paper submitted by Mr Gale, Undergraduate Student Representative.

The working group will consist of SRC members and University stakeholders to improve mental health resources and a term of reference should be established for clear guidance. Student Life agrees to assist the working group with a wider student consultation process via surveys, front-line questions and/or other existing services. The working group will focus on mental health resources whilst other E&D matters, including E&D grants, be considered by the E&D subcommittee.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC unanimously resolved to make a commitment work with Macquarie University to improve mental health resources.

ACTION:

Members who wish to join the SRC Subcommittees and Mental Health working group to contact srcsecretariat@mq.edu.au.

11.3 Cultural Competency Training for All

Submitted by Ms Neenah Gray, Student Representative for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students, Ms Thet Naing, Student Representative from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background, and Ms Khouzam, Student Representative for Students with a Disability.

The Committee acknowledged that the Cultural Competency and Respect Now Always workshop has been scheduled for the SRC members and the training for staff are underway. However, it is crucial for all Macquarie students and staff to undergo such cultural awareness training for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Disabilities and LGBTQI+ communities and equip them with necessary information. This training should be implemented as a compulsory induction session.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC unanimously resolved to recommend the University that all staff and broader community, undergo cultural awareness training to deepen their understanding of differing cultural entities, disabilities and LGBTQI+ communities, strengthening leadership and competency skills. Proposed by Ms Gray and seconded by Ms Liz Vrazas.

Mr Hablutzel departed the meeting at 7:15 pm.

11.5 Accessible Exchange Programs

Submitted by Ms Khouzam, Student Representative for Students with a Disability.

The Committee noted that none of the current International exchange programs offered at Macquarie University appears to be completely accessible. Disabled students who are shortlisted for exchange opportunities are being turned away at the last minute; due to accessibility needs not being met. The Committee noted the outlined consultation process and suggested that the Accessibility Services, Campus Wellbeing, should be consulted for an informed opinion.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC unanimously resolved in principle in support of disabled or otherwise unwell students on University exchange programs, subject to a delegation to the E&D subcommittee to engage in further consultation with University stakeholders including the Accessibility Services and bring back to the SRC further information and recommendation. Proposed by Ms Khouzam and seconded by Mr Jayden Whaites-Fruitrich.

ACTION:

The E&D subcommittee to engage in further consultation with University stakeholders including the Accessibility Services and bring back to the SRC further information and recommendation at the future meetings.

11.6 June 2019 Grant Applications

Submitted by Governance Services on behalf of the SRC Treasurer.

Due to the transitioning of SRC members, the grant applications were not considered by the SSAF, SRC Budget and Finance subcommittee prior. Members noted that the requested grant from AIESEC was significant however it will benefit twenty students and that Nathan Ricardo and Nessa Salvador are fifth-year law students who have represented the University at the Jeesup Moot.

RESOLUTION:

The SRC resolved to approve the following funds to the respective applicants:

- \$5,000 for the AIESEC - twelve (12) votes in favour, five (5) votes against and four (4) abstentions. Proposed by Mr Cullen and seconded by Mr Whaites-Fruitrich; and
- \$5,300 for Nathan Ricardo and Nessa Salvador to attend the Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot Court Competition – twenty (20) votes in favour and one (1) abstention. Proposed by Ms Thet Naing and seconded by Ms Khouzam.

12. QUESTION TIME

12.1 Accessibility Services should be part of the consultation process for any accessibility concerns prior to any submission to the SRC for further discussion.

12.2 Any members who wish to be added to the SRC closed Facebook group and WhatsApp, please contact Ms Khouzam.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Post-Election Survey Results

The Committee noted the report on the post-election survey results.

13.2 Departure of Ms Fiona Reed

On behalf of the former and current SRC, Mr Cullen thanked Ms Reed for her great contribution and guidance to the SRC during the past five (5) years. Ms Reed's term of office as the SRC Chairperson will conclude on 30 June 2019.

14. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:35 pm.

16. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Student Representative Committee has been moved from Thursday 18 July to Thursday 25 July 2019.

CONFIRMED as a true record.

MS FIONA REED
SRC CHAIRPERSON