Flinders University Student Council Meeting
Agenda of the Meeting held on Tuesday 4th August 2015.
Meeting Room, Flinders University Student Association.
6:00pm

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7. Matters for Discussion

7.1. Attendance at FUSA Events

8. Matters for Noting – None received

9. Meeting Closed
1. Welcome and meeting open

2. Apologies: Ella Keegan, Kevin Clark

3. Welcome guests

4. Accept Minutes from previous meeting

I move that Student Council accept the minutes from April. – General Secretary

5. Reports

5.1. President’s Report

**Bjorn Lomborg Consensus Centre.**

Recently Flinders university management (with the support of a tiny group of older male academics) have informally approached the Federal government to express interest hosting the Bjorn Lomborg Consensus centre. If Flinders goes down this path it will permanently damage the University’s reputation and calibre as a higher education institution, and obliterate any historical reputation the university has gained as progressive location for scholarly research.

Students and staff at University of Western Australia not only failed to reach a consensus with that university’s administration over a similar proposal, but the overwhelming majority rejected it for sound reasons. We must do so at Flinders.

From an academic point of view I agree with post-graduate student Josh Holloway’s comprehensive argument outlined in *Why Flinders University must reject Bjorn Lomborg and his ’Consensus Centre’,* published on medium.com. I encourage all those concerned in the Flinders community to read this.

Since the news broke of Flinders management’s approach to the government, many hundreds from the Flinders community have signed petitions against any association between our university and Lomborg. I encourage all students to sign these petitions, attend actions on campus, talk about the issue with your fellow students and staff, and raise concerns in the University. I have had much correspondence with concerned students and staff. It is clear that the overwhelming majority of academic staff oppose the establishment of a school associated with in any way with Bjorn Lomborg.
I will continue to be outspoken in the media in regards to our university’s actions – and have already been quoted on a number of occasions in major print media expressing my own - and the Student Association’s – opposition to this latest move.

**Nepali Flinders students.**

One of the on-going issues I have been involved in has been the welfare of Flinders Nepali students and their families since April’s deadly earthquake. The University has now agreed to free up an extra $30,000 to be used for those Nepali students who need financial assistance.

I would like to express my appreciation to Helen Laity and Sue Myatt in Student Assist and Chris O’Grady in helping gain this favourable outcome. Although this is great news, I understand that Nepali students - and indeed many tens of thousands of people back in Nepal - face ongoing challenges and hardship.

On a related matter the number of individual students approaching me seeking out financial assistance is alarming high. We must as a Student Council continue to press the university to ease the high costs of being a university student. It places extra importance on continuing to campaign for better student income support from the federal government and also reducing the burden of ‘extra’ hidden costs (e.g. textbooks, parking).

**Reclaim Australia March.**

It was with great pleasure that I was able to chair the successful counter-rally to the racist and extremist Reclaim Australia mobilisation. Racism is a large social problem in Australia, and anti-Muslim Racism has been a key ideological tool to divide students, workers and the poor and marginalised in Australia for many years. In recent weeks we have also seen a racist campaign against footballer Adam Goodes. The extreme right in Australia, including Neo-Nazis, have been taking advantage of the racist political climate in Australia to organise and promote public marches where they espouse hateful prejudice and bigotry. We must make every effort to show them and the community that this is not welcome or acceptable.

Congratulations to everyone that attended the counter-rally along with 500 others- it was fantastic to see so many people from the Flinders community present. Your actions mean people with a deep hatred of non-white people will feel less confident to openly parade around the streets of Adelaide and on our Flinders campuses. These bigots are, unsurprisingly, also racist, sexist and prejudiced in other ways, so the counter-protests also emboldened other sections of the community such as LGBTI people.

**Same-Sex Marriage protest**

Again it was great to see many Flinders students at the recent rally for Same-Sex marriage. It is very disappointing that the Labor Party has not committed to a binding vote on the issue.
for another 4 years; however I believe we should continue to support this vital anti-homophobia campaign and promote it amongst the student body.

5.2. General Secretary’s Report


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Inflow/Outflow transactions

*Note: This statement includes outstanding transactions

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(Please note that the transaction of $15,000 in affiliation fees to the National Union of Students has been made, but at time of compiling this report it was still pending on approval from Chris or Fay)

Clubs and Societies
I have spent time during O’Week talking to members of different clubs, and students who are wishing to start clubs, about what their knowledge is of FUSA, the barriers they find in terms of accessing the benefits we provide to clubs, and any other things they think would be helpful in terms of enhancing the relationship between FUSA and clubs. One of the big issues which I encountered repeatedly, and of which we are already aware, is the fact that many clubs find our funding options inaccessible or confusing. A few people, when asked, said they didn’t know where FUSA was located now. Clearly our temporary remote location, and the decreased foot-traffic we get as a result, is compounding the problems we are having reaching clubs and students who wish to start clubs.

That said, even clubs which are in communication with FUSA seem not as engaged as they could be. This was clearly shown at O’Week, where there were empty tables which had been booked by clubs that never turned up. I have been talking with the Manager of Student Engagement and the Clubs and Events Officer about this. The idea has been floated that we have less tables and overbook, on the assumption that clubs will not turn up. I disagree with this, on the basis that it would be a pretty big problem if the clubs then all did turn up to find that they didn’t all have tables. I need to talk with others more about this issue, but at this stage I think there are two sides we need to work on. The first is increasing club engagement with FUSA to increase club turn out, and the second is to figure out something to do with any tables which are unoccupied to lessen the appearance of inactivity so as not to dishearten new students, such as decorating the tables with pre-existing FUSA posters/banners.

I have been in touch with clubs wishing to affiliate via email.

Unfortunately, the proposed clubs and societies subcommittee meeting date of 7.8.15 is at this point untenable. We will still have the meeting, but at a later date. I have been in discussion with the Clubs and Events Officer about this, and we will soon have a new date. I will email it out to everyone when it’s decided, and council members would be encouraged to attend – especially the council members who are active in clubs!

**Reclaim Australia**

In July in cooperation with the NUS State Education Officer I organised, and got Student Council approval for, the counter-rally to the racist Reclaim Australia rally. I spent literally hours every day organizing this counter-rally. This involved leafleting and conversing with students on campus, and around the city during the holiday break, and also substantial amounts of postering and spamming people on social media. I am pleased to report that the counter-rally was extremely successful. The racists were outnumbered by anti-racists by around 4-1. They left the steps of parliament house demoralized; and with the fascist elements of their group exposed – the organisers were unable to stop rally participants from doing the Nazi salute, yelling seig heil, or wearing their white supremacist gear. More
socially conscious racists, unwilling to be associated with Nazism or face counter-demonstrators again, are refusing to march again.

Despite this overwhelming success, the fight isn’t over. Reclaim have announced their intention to hold another rally in Adelaide later this year, and to organize a repeat of the Cronulla riot in a few weeks. They are fuelled and validated by the current climate of extreme racism in Australia. It’s very easy to dismiss the Reclaim folks as total fringe lunatics, disconnected from all reality. However, the fact is, they are extremely connected with reality – the reality that both Liberal and Labor have shown that they are 100% committed to vilifying Muslims and refugees. It’s telling that the far-right once again have traction in this country at a time when concentration camps for refugees are bipartisan policy, when young refugees die in detention, and when the Labor party have adopted positions on refugees that 10 years ago were those of the One Nation party. Clearly the politics of the far right do have serious consequences in this country, and if we ignore this we do so to our peril. Drawing attention to Reclaim Australia, and their relationship to mainstream politics, is what has exposed to people what their movement is really about, and this has to be the strategy moving forward if we actually want to defeat them for good.

Marriage Equality

I was disgusted by the shameful display at the recent ALP conference, where the left had the highest numbers they’ve had for years, and still the Labor party refuses to bind on not being homophobes until 2019. To make that clear – it is acceptable to the ALP for members to continue to be homophobes until 2019. Many Flinders Uni students who I talked to at the most recent Marriage Equality rally, which happened on the same weekend as the conference, were also disgusted when I saw them at O’Week. Myself, James, and Brodie spent hours promoting the rally by leafleting to students and postinger around campuses and in the city, and the turnout was great. It’s an absolute shame that the 1000+ people who turned out for the rally will have to continue to wait for basic human rights, have to live under a homophobic government, and that the so-called opposition will not agree to all get their shit together and stop being bigots until 2019. I got hundreds of signatures on the NUS marriage equality petition from Flinders Students just in O’Week, which clearly illustrates where students sit on this issue.

National Day of Action

My focus during O’Week was talking to students about the National Day of Action, and giving them promotional material for the event. I have been doing this on the main Flinders campus, and also in the city. I have put up lots of posters also.
5.3. Education Officer’s Report

School Association Project:

For the past few weeks I have been on placement as part of my degree so I have delegated much of this responsibility to the FUSA staff. The project is still coming along, with Super Tuesday around the corner. All the 5 Deans of the targeted schools have been met up with and informally support the concept of the project and it going ahead. Large banners have been made to string around the University with a large amount of poster to take place over the next week or two.

It is important to note all University staff and students should be aware of the Super Tuesday date, August 25th. I would expect to see large numbers of Student Council out on the day, conversing with students around the important of the representation structures being created and to help with the logistics of the events, running AGM’s, cooking BBQs amongst other things.

#StopLomborg

The grassroots campaign to stop Bjorn Lomborg taking up residence at Flinders University has hit the ground running. I attended the action meeting hosted by students last week in support of what would arguably be a devastating blow to the academic integrity of Flinders University.

A student-run petition has been set up, plenty of media traction gained and the crowd-funding site has been well received. I congratulate James Vigus for admirably representing the Student Council and entire student cohort in the media statements he has released.

National Day of Action

Due to my placement I have been unable to have the essential conversations with students that are needed to build this rally to success. However I have done a couple of ‘poster runs’ so that I still feel like I am contributing slightly. As many of you would have seen, there is also a large poster in the FUSA office for all students to see as they come and visit us.

I thanks those who have put in the effort so far to build the National Day of Action and urge Student Council to continue to get behind the event. Continue having conversations with students and promoting it on social-media and through posters. While posters don’t necessarily gain traction for the rally, it serves as a constant reminder to the students who are aware of the event, keeping the fight against deregulation fresh in their minds. It is essential Flinders University and Vice-Chancellor, Colin Stirling, come out in opposition of deregulation, else risk Flinders University students becoming worse off under a similar model to the Americans.
5.4. Environment Officer’s Report

Last week it came to light that Bjørn Lomborg and some version of a Consensus Centre, might be finding their new home at Flinders. This has clearly been in the works for some time. Lomborg, while not being a climate change denier, is most certainly a climate science denier. His centre having $4m attached to it and being pushed so hard by the Federal Government is clearly due to the fact that his ideas back up the government’s agenda regarding climate change: do nothing. He is a former adjunct professor of political science whose entire project is to consult with economists on matters of environmental science, to promote the use and expansion of coal and to discredit those who recognise the very real threat climate change as ‘alarmists’, and he has been parachuted into Australian academia to prop up the federal government's anti-climate science agenda.

Lomborg agrees that climate change exists, and is manmade, but he thinks we shouldn’t act to prevent it. He thinks coal is the best energy source, and justifies the loss of entire nations due to climate change as insignificant compared with other issues. It’s easy to see why the Liberal government, which also pursues an agenda of doing nothing about climate change and pouring billions into fossil fuels, is so insistent on pushing the Lomborg consensus centre.

Climate change will obviously not be solved by doing nothing, but neither will it be solved with the strategy of Labor and the Greens of working within the market. As capitalism progresses, the situation worsens for ordinary people and for the planet, and few places is this more clear than the issue of climate change. The half-measures of market based solutions have gotten us nowhere – we are still hurtling towards disaster, and there’s no signs that anything serious is being done. The technology and money required to stop climate change exist – and yet nothing happens.

In the rule of global capital, the bottom line is the law. Businesses and investors are intent on minimising costs and maximising returns as much as possible, so any and all methods must be used to get ahead and remain competitive (even employing ‘environmentalists’ like Lomborg) and the environment or other consequences be damned. The alternative is to go out of business or be swallowed up by more competitive capital.

The interdependence between business and capital, providing revenue from the business, and security and infrastructure from the state, draws nations into this struggle in the form of imperialism. It's no surprise that the Middle East, being one of the most oil-rich regions in the world, is the centre of so much conflict and military intervention. Capital is willing to go to utterly barbaric lengths to control the resources there.

Securing this cheap and steady supply of fossil fuels is absolutely essential to remaining competitive, both in production and transport of commodities around the globe. We can see
this in the way that production in these areas has been massively increased, particularly in the United States, having increased their gas and oil production enormously to get the edge over others. With the world’s leading superpower doing this, how on earth could other states behave any differently? To ignore resources available in their own countries would spell doom, leaving them without potential revenue and power in the global pecking order. We can see exactly the same process in Australia: the largest open cut coal mine in the world is under construction in Queensland, and prospectors are scurrying about to find optimal places for coal seam gas extraction, despite widespread knowledge of climate change and the effects of continued mining and fracking.

Lomborg fits perfectly into this agenda. Simultaneously claiming to give a shit about the environment and the world's poor, while advocating for measures which will utterly wreck the world and lives of billions.

Given the spectacular failure of the attempts to solve this crisis through the market, through the market, the endless number of NGOs who've taken up the issue, and even the (obviously half-hearted) attempts by governments around the world to slow, let alone stop catastrophic climate change; it is clear that a thorough and fundamental restructure of the whole of the world's economy is required to stop this crisis. In short, we need a revolution. The rulers of the world have determined that even tiny cuts to their profits are too much, let alone massive restructuring. The total reorganisation of society under the democratic control of the working class is the only thing which can halt the world thundering towards oblivion. It's precisely because of their place in production that workers must be at the forefront of this fightback. It's not just the natural world that the capitalists are willing to rip to shreds to turn a buck, but the wages and conditions of workers.

To this end, I’ve been doing a few different things. I’ve been using the #stoptheborg petition around the campus, talking with students and staff about the upcoming demonstration against Lomborg and the consensus centre. I’ll be putting up posters everywhere around the campus, once the poster is available. I’ve been sharing the event and petition on groups I’m in on social media, and have been in correspondence with journalists I’m in contact with. I’ve also been meeting quite frequently with the student president and general secretary, as well as contacting the national environment officer to discuss the issue, as well as contacting students from UWA who were involved in getting rid of Lomborg there. And I’ve been participating in the various meetings that have been held on campus on the topic, the student-run meeting as well as the consultancy session called for by the biology department.

5.5. Queer Officer’s Report – None Received

5.6. Women’s Officer’s Report

- I have had a very busy month with the upcoming seminar series
- Regularly updated the Women’s Collective Facebook and Instagram pages
- Worked from the FUSA stall for four hours on Monday of O’Week advertising the Women’s Collective, collecting emails and explaining my role at FUSA
- Responded to student emails and queries, including from numerous new students after O’Week’s success
- Met with the Vice President of the Flinders Medical Student Society twice to organise a presentation at the Flinders Medical School about “Gender Bias in Institutions”
- Presented for one hour in a Q&A seminar on Thursday 30 June at the Flinders Medical School about “Gender Bias in Institutions” and explained my role at FUSA as Women’s Officer
- Regularly updated the Facebook events planning seminar
- Contacted numerous students for suggestions of speakers from different faculties across the university
- Contacted numerous academics to arrange speakers for the “Celebrating Women in Higher Education” seminar on August 10
- Wrote a document with the details of the event and sent it to each of the confirmed speakers
- Responded to the speakers unable to attend to organise potential later opportunities to present
- Contacted Yarrow Place to organise a training session on August 31 and spoke with a senior social worker to finalise details
- Contacted the FUSA events team and went into the office to plan the upcoming seminars
- Organised tea, coffee and catering for upcoming seminars in August
- Organised room bookings for upcoming seminars in August
- Helped create a Facebook events page for the “Celebrating Women in Higher Education” seminar
- Contacted the FUSA media team to help create a poster for the “Celebrating Women in Higher Education” seminar and drew a design
- Contacted a local bakery to organise donuts that spell “Blue Stockings Week Celebrating Women in Higher Education” for stall on August 11

5.7. International Officer’s Report – None Received

5.8. Welfare Officer’s Report

I am working with Health and Counselling and Flinders One Sport and Fitness to provide students with another series of free wellbeing classes. The yoga is designed for stress management, countering the effects of sitting, and will be trauma sensitive. There will be no hands on adjustments and movements offered will be physically very gentle, with more of an
emphasis on developing body awareness and acceptance. It will be suitable for those affected by stress/anxiety/depression. FUSA have funded some yoga props, so people with limited flexibility/mobility will be accommodated/welcomed. Classes will include breathing practices and brief yoga nidra (relaxation) practices, as well as mindful movement practices. Andrew Wood has agreed to release Maureen, a counsellor who is also an experienced yoga instructor, and cover her time. Maureen has asked that I purchase some props to be used in the classes.

I also visited the Foodbank with Stacey and Helen. We had a tour of the warehouse and shop and learnt more about what they offer and the best ways to make this available to students.

1/7/15:
- Wendy re ED policy
- Spoke to Steph re class promotion
- Visited the Food bank

3/7/15
- Discussed the policy and mindfulness classes for semester 2
- Responded to emails

4/7/15
- Attended the construction party! Well done Simone.

8/7/15
- Had a meeting with Maureen and Wendy re the semester two classes
- Spoke with Wendy re the ED policy
- Drew up a poster plan for the semester 2 classes for Steph
- Met with Wendy and Steph to plan promotion for the Mindfulness Triathlon and semester 2 classes
- Responded to emails
- Was a guinea pig for O'Week surveys
- Spoke to Maureen re props for the yoga and meditation classes

10/7/15
- Spoke with Sue re the involuntary medical leave policy
- Spoke to Wendy re gym policy and involuntary medical leave policy. Discussed promotion and education events for eating disorders on campus
- Spoke to Steph re the semester two classes poster
- Discussed subcommittee sign ups and online presence for the welfare and external and regional and collectives with Adam, Steph and Chris
- Organized for Fay to order some props for the well-being classes
- Wrote motions

13/7/15
- Responded to emails

14/7/15
- Responded to emails
- Read over the student medical leave policy and procedure and the draft response notes

20/7/15
- Delivered props for the semester 2 wellbeing classes to the gym

21/7/15
- Spoke to Maureen and Wendy re yoga classes for semester 2
- Responded to student emails

22:
- Emails
- Spoke with Chris and Nicola re RUOK Day
- Spoke to Steph re posters

24
- Spoke with Adam re O’Week and signing people up to subcommittees

27
- Spoke to Wendy, Maureen and Steph re yoga promotion and start date

28
- Spoke to Maureen re semester 2 classes
- Put up posters for the semester 2 wellbeing classes
- Had some school managers put out emails re the classes
- Responded to student emails
- Spoke to Oasis and Flinders living to get the classes advertised there
Responded to student emails

5.9. Social Activities Officer’s Report

In July I spent the majority of my time consolidating information I got from attending Edcon 2015. I have begun researching issues related to campus safety, in particular the loop bus route at night time.

I spent time working with Rachael to ensure that everything was ready for semester 2 O’Week. I also worked at the Jazz night, and attended the quiz night with other SC members.

Ali Roush from Flinders Fairtrade asked to meet with me, and when we met we discussed the idea of changing over our pub-crawl shirt supplier to one who provides Fair Trade shirts. The FFTS has gathered quotes from suppliers, and these will be sent to me. By all accounts the prices are comparable, but printing times may be longer. I feel it is something that definitely warrants investigation by SC and FUSA, and is a great step to making the whole university FT compliant. Ali and I also discussed an event FFTS wish to hold this semester, where they invite clubs, societies and other campus groups, in an effort to educate them on what Fair Trade is, and how they as organisations can become FT compliant as well. I have offered the group my help in organising this event, and all I require from SC is access to the clubs contact information held by the GenSec, so that all FUSA clubs can be invited along. More info to follow about this event and Fair Trade t-shirts next month.

I have spoken with both Rachael and Meaghan regarding the FUSA ball, which will be occurring around October 16th. I will be working very closely with the new events assistant, Anthea, to begin full-scale organisation of this event in the coming weeks.

In regards to Anthea and the new events assistant position, it was requested that I be on the interview panel when this position was being filled, however due to a pre-planned holiday I was unable to commit to it, and thus had Mitchel Huffa take my place.

Following on from my previous report, I spoke to Chris O’Grady regarding the Student Radio progress, and expressed my disappointment on behalf of SC that it has been held up for this long. Chris then immediately got in contact with those currently holding it up, and it seems as though they are moving forward again. I think it's important to note that if we want university executive to do anything for us in the next 6 months, we should somehow tie it in with the 50th anniversary celebrations, as mention of that seems to get things done.

5.10. Accessibility Officer’s Report

15/07/2015 12.30pm-2.00pm
Writing on and putting up National Union of Students National Day of Action posters around Uni SA West Campus

16/07/2015 4.15pm-5.30pm

National Union of Students National Day of Action poster printing and writing

17/07/2015 2.00pm-6.00pm

National Union of Students National Day of Action poster writing

21/07/2015 4.30pm-6.00pm

Attended the Education Action Network meeting to discuss the National Day of Action

23/07/2015 10am-11am

Attended a meeting with the Disability Advisors, Toni Crisci and Paula Williams to discuss the collaborated creation of a Flinders University navigation mobile app and other accessibility related issues.

23/07/2015 11.30am-2pm

Poster from Tonsley train station to Ascot Park train station down to Oakland train station for the National Day of Action

27/07/2015 2.30pm-6.30pm

Poster from Warradale train station to Seaford train station for the National Day of Action

3/08/2015 9am-5pm

Helped to set up, man and talk to students to promote the National Union of Students Wellbeing Survey as well as packing up

3/08/2015 5pm-6.30pm

Writing motions and July report for FUSA Student Council meeting

Banner Painting

Throughout the past two weeks I have spent well over 10 hours painting a banner to promote the National Day of Action

Registry Road Bus Area Redevelopment
I have sent a follow up email to Shane Jennings as he has not yet responded to my previous attempts to schedule a meeting to discuss plans for the redevelopment of the Bus Area on Registry Road

Hours for July: 27.5+

5.11. Post-Grad Officer’s Report

- attended Flinders African Student Association meeting to discuss ideas and concerns for post graduate events and concerns; also have been meeting with president and vice-president on a regular basis to plan and discuss future joint event/social event and plans for post-graduate students (3 hours)
- met various times in person in Bedford Park and city, via phone, and via internet with Flinders Living and ISSU staff member, Mr. Yavin Grewal, to discuss housing opportunities and options for international students and post-graduate students who are looking for affordable student housing and student discounts on local events, goods, and services (7 hours)
- subcommittee meeting to discuss and plan events for semester 2 of this year (2 hours)
- emailed post-graduate students regarding upcoming events and plans for semester 2 (intramural sports, newsletter, welcome back event); I’ve also continued to write and edit the post-graduate newsletter on a regular basis and have been communicating with other students regarding their submissions
- still communicating with James Kilpatrick via email, phone, and in person to plan welcome back post graduate party (Latin Dance Night)

5.12. Indigenous Officer’s Report

This semester I have been incredibly busy finalising our NAIDOC event with two more budget proposals submitted, many meetings held with First Nations students, Yunggorendi, FUSA, MACO and the VC’s Office.

I attended the National ATSI Student Conference in Sydney which I was fortunate to report to and speak at in different avenues. I will be planning different campaigns and programs that came from that meeting and will be working to implement these in second semester as part of a national Indigenous working group.

I also attended a NATSIHEC meeting earlier this month that brings together all of the First Nations Dean’s and Directors of Aboriginal Education and First Nations units in Universities across Australia to discuss Aboriginal student matters. I was also able to speak at this meeting on behalf of students and was able to discuss making student involvement in these meetings compulsory. I am now working with them on their constitution about how we can achieve this involvement.
Have also been in discussion with Environmental Officer Brodie about the anti-mining forum proposed for the 4th August.

5.13. MSE Report

FUSA Staff

Student Representation & Development Officer

The recruitment process for this position has begun and the application period closes on the 3.8.15. The appointment committee consists of myself, the Student President and the Team Leader, Student Assist.

Events Assistant

The appointment process for the Events Assistant has been completed and it is a pleasure to announce that Anthea Stanton won the position and will be starting in week 2. Anthea is in her final year of a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English. She is the Team Leader of Residential Coordinators at Flinders Living, and comes to us with a wealth of experience in student events. Anthea will work 20 hours a week Tuesday – Friday.

Student Radio

A paper that provides recommendations by key University departments including Buildings and Property, Integrity, Risk and Governance and Information Services has now been forwarded to the University’s Senior Executive Team (SET). I will attend their next meeting to answer any follow up questions. I am hopeful that I will have a definitive answer on Student Radio at the next meeting.

FUSA Rebrand

The Media Officer and Student Experience Officers (Media) are working very hard to finalise the rebranding process. There have been meetings with the Rebranding Group (would welcome more Student Council attendance at these meetings) and also student focus groups. The next meeting will be held at FUSA on Tuesday August the 4th at 3pm where three branding options will be presented, with the view of deciding on the final option.

Director, Student Services

On August 24, Ms Jodie Zada will begin as Director, Student Services within the Student and Academic Services Division. Ms Zada will oversee the department of Student Services, in which Student Engagement sits.

Online Voting
In 2014, Policy and Secretariat and FUSA requested that the current online voting solution be reviewed, and updated or replaced. ITS and the Online Voting Reference Group have recommended that the tool be replaced by a cloud-based, managed solution. This is welcome news. However, given the timing of this decision, it means that a new system will not be in place until 2016 and the 2015 FUSA Elections will utilise the current system.

**Super Tuesday**

I am working closely with the Education Officer, Clubs and Events Officer, Media Officer and others to ensure this event is a success. I have been meeting with the relevant Deans who are all supportive of the establishment of School Associations. Adam and Paul have been meeting with the relevant student groups to ensure that they have input into the associations and in particular, the constitutions. A lot of work still needs to be done but I am confident that the remaining five Schools will have associations by the end of the 25th of August. It would be wonderful to have Student Council support on the day. Please contact Caleb or Adam to see who how you can assist.

**O’Week Semester 2**

I would like to thank all of our events and admin staff, the Social Activities Officer and our Student O’Week Directors for their hard work in executing a wonderful program of activities for Semester 2 O’Week. Events were well patronised and all feedback to date has been very positive. A survey for new students will be sent out next week. The focus now turns to the National Campus Band Competition, the NAIDOC event and of course the weekly ‘FUSA Says Relax’ Days.

**Student Assist Report – July 2015** - Prepared by the Team Leader, Student Assist

**Casework**

Numbers of students requesting assistance from Student Assist (SA) has increased to 57 from the 41 new cases that were opened in June.

The SAO’s and SFAO dealt with a total of 99% issues, comprising mostly Final Grade Reviews (27%), requests for Emergency Financial Assistance (10%) and issues/applications for resubmissions (10%).

In addition, 31 students have contacted the Student Assist general email address for assistance. Academic enquiries comprised 61.2% of the email correspondence maintained with Student Assist. 35.5% of the enquiries resulted in an either an appointment or advice to make an appointment with a Student Assist staff.
Students using this medium of communication with Student Assist were chiefly domestic (67%) and female (71%).

In total for Semester 1, 105 students were assisted with EFA in Semester 1, to the value of $9710. Of those assisted there were fourteen Nepalese students who received a total of $2330.

Meetings/Communications

The SFAO attended a meeting on the 3rd July with Senior University staff along with the Manager: Student Engagement and the Student President to develop an appropriate response to assist Nepalese Students suffering financial hardship as a result of the 2015 Earthquakes.

In recognition of the dire circumstances students have experienced and continue to endure as a result of the earthquake in Nepal, S.A. has advocated for special consideration with regards to applications for Second Semester Grants submitted by Nepalese students directly affected by this event.

We are very glad to report that thanks to the goodwill of all university units, Flinders University has agreed to set up a separate fund for the purpose of supporting Nepalese students. FUSA has also managed to change the eligibility criteria for 2015, so that all Nepalese students are eligible to apply. Applications close on the 14th August.

Policy

Student Medical Leave policy submission to Policy and Secretariat.

Awareness/networking activities

O’week presentation in conjunction with Student Learning Centre.

First year community of practice: attendance.
Casework breakdown

ISSUES BY TYPE

W Personal Issues
F Tuition Fee payment by Instalments
A Research Higher Degree
A Disability
A Remark
A Placement
A Enrolment
F Remission
Complaint re Academic Program (topic/course...)
F Student Loans
F Second Semester Grant
F Centrelink
A Appeal
A Academic Integrity
A Supplementary Application
F Financial Counselling
A Resubmission
F Emergency Financial Assistance
A Review of Grade

CASES BY TYPE

Academic 67%
Financial 32%
Welfare 1%
5.14. General Council Reports

Ann Raith

O'Week: Worked on the Social Work Stall and helped the Education Association distribute posters 4 hours.

28th July: organised and hosted a Networking Event for students 4 hours

Spent at least 2 hours in consultation with international student who had failed a prerequisite topic for placement.

1 hour consultation meeting with Julia Parker from the Careers Office regarding implementation of career guidance workshops specific to interviewing for employment and other hands on skills workshops for students.

Also met with UniSA Career Centre supervisor Catherine Klimes in relation to student support collaboration, 1 hour.

Catherine Wagg

June Hours

Entering NUS Survey data – 7 hours

Helping at the BBQ for the NUS Survey collection – 3 hours

Attended a meeting for Super Tuesday – 1 hour

July Hours

Attended the Construction Party – 4 hours

Putting up posters for the NUS Action Day – 3 hours

Attended Orientation Week with the intention of helping out on the stall, but each time I was assured there were enough people on the stall.

Attended the Jazz night for Orientation Week and helped to clean up – 4 hours

Kevin Clark

May:

Multicultural Festival: 3

CSEM Student Association Setup: 4hrs
CSEM Student Association AGM and BBQ staffing: 1.5hrs
Correspondence and SC Meeting: 3hrs
NUS Student Survey Entry/Student Engagement: 1.5hrs
Total: 13

June:
May carry over: 5
Correspondence/SC Meeting: 3.5hrs
NUS Student Survey Entry/Student Engagement: 5
Total: 13.5

July:
June carry over 5.5
Correspondence: 1
Tonsley Student engagement: 3
FUSA O’Week events (Jazz and Quiz night): 5
Total: 14.5

6. Matters for decision

6.1. Oppose the Bjorn Lomborg consensus center

Motion:
The Flinders Student Association opposes Bjorn Lomborg and his ‘Consensus Centre’ being established at Flinders University and any self-respecting university in Australia and abroad.

6.2. Women’s Officer Budget

$200 out of Women’s Officer Budget for tea, coffee and afternoon tea for seminar session on August 10 “Celebrating Women in Higher Education”

- Tea and coffee catering from FlindersOne
- Extra baked goods from Coles
$216 out of Women’s Officer Budget for baked goods to give out at a Blue Stockings Week stall on August 11

- I have organised (pending approval) Brighton Jetty Bakery to supply donuts spelling out “Blue Stockings Week Celebrating Women in Higher Education” and 70 extra mini donuts with blue icing to give away at a stall in humanities on the morning of August 11
- It is $2 per letter and $2 per extra donut which in total is $240 and an extra 10% discount on top of that bringing it down to $216

$200 out of Women’s Officer Budget for tea, coffee and afternoon tea for seminar session on August 31 “Yarrow Place Recognising and Responding to Rape and Sexual Assault Training”

- Tea and coffee catering from FlindersOne
- Extra baked goods from Coles

6.3. Confidential Item

6.4. R U OK Day

R U OK Day is a national suicide prevention campaign. Its aim is to encourage and equip everyone to have regular, meaningfully conversations and ask people “are you okay?” The key message is that when we are connected we are better protected from suicide. This is an important campaign for Student Council to support.

**Motion:** that Student Council endorses the use of $1,500 from the Events Budget to contribute to R U OK Day.

6.5. Bjorn Lomborg center protest

I move that the student council endorses the upcoming protest against Lomborg and the consensus centre on Thursday the 6th at the registry, and will use its social media to promote the event.

6.6. Booing Adam Goodes is racist

The recent persistent booing of Adam Goodes is explicitly racist. Goodes is the target of this racism because in the minds of the racists he doesn’t know his place. As journalist Amy McQuire put it in an article she wrote for New Matilda, Adam Goodes “steps outside of the narrow confines of what is expected of him as an Aboriginal athlete. That is, to keep his advocacy restricted to his team’s chances at winning a premiership, and not use his impressive public platform to stick up for his people”.
Unions around Australia have been standing in solidarity with Goodes, and it’s imperative that FUSA do the same.

Motion: The student council condemns all booing of Adam Goodes as racist, and stands proudly in solidarity with Goodes and his public stand against racism.

6.7. Motion to support NUS wellbeing survey

Motion: I move that Student Council supports the National Union of Students Wellbeing Survey and that all Student Council members make an active effort to support and be involved in the collection of information for this survey. This includes helping to set up and pack up stalls, assisting at the stalls, talking to students and facilitating the collection of information.

6.8. Motion to access funds for NUS wellbeing survey

Motion: I move that Student Council supports the allocation of $2,000 of the Accessibility Officer’s funds for the National Union of Students Wellbeing Survey. This will be spent on food and drink for stalls to collect data from students.

6.9. Motion to stop Flinders University from hosting Bjorn Lomborg and the “Australian Consensus Centre”

The Federal Government has approached Flinders University to establish the "Australian Consensus Centre" with a $4 million incentive, to be taken from tax payers funds, which will play host to Bjørn Lomborg’ s work. In addition to this, there will be an $8-9 million dollar lack of funds which be taken from the Flinders University Student and Services Amenities Fees.

Flinders University has failed to disclose the specific information about whether the purpose of this Consensus Centre will be for teaching, research or both. For Flinders University to allow the Liberal government to interfere in the way our university runs its research is unacceptable.

Bjørn Lomborg’s academic history is one of dishonesty and he has had multiple complaints of scientific dishonesty lodged against him. For Flinders University to host such a controversial program would put into question our academic integrity and reputation.

Motion:

I move that Student Council condemn Flinders University’s consideration to host Bjørn Lomborg and the "Australian Consensus Centre".
6.10. Club Affiliations

6.11. AYCC

Club Description:
This club is to raise awareness of climate change and to get young people involved and making a positive change.

Club Activities:
Pledge collecting, talking about issues that are affecting us and our futures.

6.12. Engineers Without Borders Flinders Humanitarian Society

Club Description:
The Engineers Without Borders Flinders Humanitarian Society (EWBFHS) aims to connect, educate, and empower people through humanitarian engineering.

Club Activities:
Fundraising events, high school outreach (HSO) programs (running activities at high schools to promote and engage students in engineering and humanitarian work), PC’s for Refugees (refurbishing computers and donating computers and teaching how to use them).

7. Matters for Discussion

7.1. Attendance at FUSA Events

8. Matters for Noting – None received.

9. Meeting Closed
Mindfulness Triathlon Event Proposal

Contents

1.0 Introduction
2.0 Components of Event
3.0 Location
4.0 Casuals Required
5.0 Budget
6.0 Important Dates
7.0 Queries

1.0 Introduction

The event is to be held prior to end of year exams in order to ground people, distress, have some fun, and provide a sense of community. The event will be held at the top oval, date and time to be announced.

2.0 Components of Event

2.1 Event Registration/Ticket Sales

This event will be free to all Flinders students, staff and possibly the public.

2.2 Primary Activity

The Mindfulness Triathlon involves a 5km walk/run (with activities to increase mindfulness), mindfulness based yoga on the top oval with three instructors on a stage each demonstrating a different style, a zumba class with two instructors, leading into a dance party with a mainstream dj.

2.3 Secondary Activities

There may also be activities in case people don’t feel comfortable dancing such as big balls, Frisbees, dancing/cheer leading displays/group dances. Depending on the time of the event there may also be food (pizza and soft drinks or fruit from the food bank).

2.4 Promotion

The event will be promoted with posters, social media (through FUSA and Flinders One), at the gym, through Health and Counselling and through clubs.

3.0 Location

The event will be held at the top oval near the pavilion. If complications arise due to weather the event will be postponed.

4.0 Casuals Required

4 x Marshalls and 1 x PA casual.

4.1 Poster Distribution
4.2 Event Assistants
5.0 Budget

Please see the budget for this event below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Cost p/unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Estimated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Equipment/Venue Hire, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 instructors (Yoga/Zumba) @ 1 hr each</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>$375.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 casuals @ 7 hours each</td>
<td>$33.20</td>
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<td>PA casual @ 7.5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>DJ @ 2 hours</td>
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<table>
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<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Cost p/unit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Small Stage (provided by Flinders One)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large PA system set up (provided by FUSA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food/Drink/Groceries</th>
<th>Cost p/unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Estimated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fruit (possibly no charge - Foodbank)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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</table>
Pizza/Soft Drinks $150.00

Total $350.00

6.0 Important Dates
6.1 Facebook Promotion
To be announced
4.3 Poster Distribution
To be announced
4.4 Event Date
To be announced, mid-October

7.0 Queries
Queries can be directed to the Clubs and Events Officer, Adam Rau, at adam.rau@flinders.edu.au or alternatively via phone at 8201 2953.

**Motion:** that Student Council approves:

- The above proposal allowing for minor changes as deemed appropriate by the Welfare Officer, the Clubs and Events Officer, and the Sports Centre Manager;
- $100 from the Social Activity Officer’s budget; and
- $1,000 from the Welfare Officer’s budget (rest to be paid by Flinders One).