Flinders University Student Council Meeting
Provisional Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2015.
Meeting Room, Flinders University Student Association.
6:00pm

Present: Grace Hill (General Secretary), Caleb Pattinson (Education Officer), Brodie May (Environment Officer), Latoya Rule (Indigenous Officer), Shannon Abeywardena (Post-Graduate Officer), Simone Jowett (Social Activities Officer), Ella Keegan (Welfare Officer), Riana Cermak (Arrived 6:54) (Women’s Officer) Michael Bezuidenhout, Jack Harrison, Mitchell Huffa, Catherine Wagg (Arrived 6:11), Chris O’Grady (Manager, Student Engagement), Fay Hart (Minutes), Laura Telford (Empire Times Editor), Simone Corletto (Empire Times Editor), Genevieve Danenberg (Student Council Candidate), Joshua Sunman (Student Council Candidate), Janet Lyon (Student Council Candidate).

Meeting opened: 6:04pm

1. Welcome and Meeting Open

It was acknowledged that the Student Council meeting was taking place on the land of the Kaurna people.

2. Apologies

Ann Raith (leave of absence)
James Vigus, Amy Hueppauff, Kevin Clark are all absent for this meeting.

3. Welcome Guests

4. Accept Minutes from previous meetings

Grace Hill: Minutes from the previous meeting provided were only provisional minutes I am questioning whether members are happy to approve these now or would they prefer to wait until the next meeting to approve the full minutes.

Jack Harrison: If we approve the provisional minutes will the actual minutes be uploaded on the web, if we approve the provisional minutes will they become the official minutes of the meeting?

Grace Hill: Yes the provisional minutes will become the official minutes. Because we can’t upload everything we’ve all said without it being approved.

Michael Bezuidenhout: It’s got all of the decisions.
Grace Hill: It’s got all of the decisions, I’d be happy either way to approve the provisional minutes or wait until the next one.

Caleb Pattinson: My understanding from the last meeting was that the provisional minutes are online within a few days of the meeting. At the next student council meeting we approve the full set of minutes. This hasn’t happened this time. Just in case people wanted to know what was happening with the new system. I don’t have an opinion on whether we should approve these or not.

Grace Hill: Given that the provisional minutes are already on line it’s my opinion that it’s best to wait until the next meeting to approve the actual minutes, students aren’t being deprived of the decisions that were made.

Michael Bezuidenhout: The only comment I would make on that is that I won’t be here next year, obviously I haven’t read what is in the transcripts (which will probably quote me a few times) I would like to be involved in the approving process.

Caleb Pattinson: We’ve got one more meeting.

Grace Hill: That’d be the case for the last meeting. You’d be welcome to come along to the next meeting and way in what you’ve said if you’re very concerned.

Michael Bezuidenhout: I’m happy either way.

Grace Hill: Shall we leave this and approve the actual minutes (not the provisional minutes) at the next meeting.

Simone Jowett: Given that these minutes are online then I think its fine.

**Motion:** Student Council to pass the September Student Council at the next meeting as only the provisional minutes were circulated to members who attended the previous meeting.

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Caleb Pattinson

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

5. **Reports**
Grace Hill: We did not have an Executive Meeting before this meeting, we will have to approve all of their Reports here.

**Motion:** Student Council approves the submitted reports en bloc.

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Michael Bezuidenhout

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

6. **Matters for Decision**

**Procedural Motion:** Add the following matters for decision to the agenda:

- 6.8: Training of Student Council – Simone Jowett

**Moved:** Grace Hill

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

**Procedural Motion:** Move the following matter down the agenda for discussion:

- 6.1: Women’s Officer Budget Proposal – Riana Cermak

**Moved:** Jack Harrison

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

6.0. **Motions left un-starred to be moved en bloc.**

Motions left un-starred:

6.2. **Asylum Seeker Scholarship – General Secretary**

**Motion:** That Student Council’s position be that Flinders should be taking a public stand against racism by offering a minimum of two scholarships per year to students of refugee backgrounds. These scholarships should cover the cost of a degree, and any additional English language or similar supplementary programs which the students may require in order to complete the degree. These scholarships should be announced publicly.

6.3. **Turnbull – General Secretary**

**Motion:** I move that the Student Council take the position that Turnbull is bad for students, and bad for the working class. His agenda is fundamentally the same as Abbott’s was – to increase the share of wealth going to corporate profits, to decrease the share going to workers, and to sabotage working and living conditions for ordinary
people. FUSA is committed to fighting against the Turnbull government, and rejects all of Turnbull’s pretensions of being socially progressive.

6.5. FUSA supports all efforts by students to improve wages and conditions in the workplace – Student President

**Motion:** FUSA supports all efforts by students to improve wages and conditions in the workplace.

FUSA supports dropping all restrictive study visa conditions that allow employers an opportunity to bribe, blackmail and intimidate international students.

FUSA invites SA Unions to participate at O week 2016. This will mean providing a table free of charge for SA unions to promote to students why joining a Trade union is important protection against employer exploitation.

6.6. FUSA Opposes Unpaid Student Placement/Internships/Practicums – Student President

**Motion:** FUSA opposes unpaid student placement/internships/practicums.

FUSA believes all labour should be paid. FUSA calls on the Federal government to introduce a student payment no lower than the minimum wage for all students conducting unpaid labour as part of their university study/course requirements.

**Motion:** The Student Council accepts all of the unstarred motions en bloc.

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Michael Bezuidenhout

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

6.4. **Motion to change election regulations** – Jack Harrison

Mitchell Huffa: I’m a bit confused about whether we already have a system in place within the Election Regulations concerning a tie breaker.

Caleb Pattinson: The current Regulations state that if there is a tie it is randomly decided by a computer.

Mitchell Huffa: Right now this would change it to go back a stage calculate the number of votes each person had before, a count back basically. If it’s equal at all stages it’s then decided by lots or random instead of going to another vote?
Caleb Pattinson: Yes

Jack Harrison: The current Regulations state that if there is a tie a decision will be made by random computer generation. This allows an extra mechanism to break the tie, giving a better result than random selection. What was the question?

Mitchell Huffa: For the second option where all votes are tied, is there any chance of having another election instead of doing a random lot.

Jack Harrison: As these Regulations stand no, what would happen is that if you’ve exhausted the first option the result would then go by lot. Which as I understand it this is a fairly common mechanism to resolve ties in student elections.

Mitchell Huffa: Would anybody have the power to activate a second election (or by-election) for that? Or do you think that would be too much of a hassle in a tie situation.

Jack Harrison: If this is passed, my understanding is the only way for that to happen is if someone broke the Regulations so badly that the brought the election into disrepute. It the unlikely event that there’s a tie and they go back and there’s a tie again then they would “flip a coin” or any way the Returning Officer deems fit to break the tie.

Brodie May: Can I clarify that it’s returning back one stage into preferential voting? It’s essentially most likely whoever had the most first preference votes should prevail?

Jack Harrison: Yes. If you only had two candidates running this obviously would not apply because there’s nothing to go back to.

**Motion:** To amended 11.8(g) so it now reads:

When there is a tie,

i. regard shall be had to the total number of votes credited to those candidates at the end of the most recently preceding stage of the count at which they had an unequal number of votes and the candidate with the lowest number of votes at that stage shall be excluded; and

ii. where the number of votes credited to those candidates was equal at all stages, the returning officer shall decide, by lot, which of those candidates is to be excluded.

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Jack Harrison  
All in favour.  
**Motion carried.**

6.7. **Clubs and Societies – General Secretary**
Grace Hill: The reason that I starred this is that everything is fine with all of the constitutions, except the Flinders University Vegetarian and Vegan Club, who did not send me one. I still put it on the Agenda so that members could see that they attempted to affiliate.

Simone Jowett: They haven’t fulfilled the requirements?

Grace Hill: No they have not.

Jack Harrison: Which club is this?

Grace Hill: Vegetarians and Vegans

Caleb Pattinson: This is a question for you Chris, can we approve non-financial affiliation without a constitution?

Chris O’Grady: No you cannot

Brodie May: Haven’t we done it before? We used a basic constitution, a template?

Michael Bezuidenhout: There is a template constitution they can use, but they still need to provide it and say they want to use it.

Grace Hill: We can’t assume they want to use that constitution.

Mitchell Huffa: The best course of action for this is not to vote for them to be affiliated but ask them to provide their constitution for affiliation at the next meeting.

Grace Hill: Absolutely, the text of my motion will read that the Student Council approves affiliation for the [names of clubs] minus the Flinders University Vegetarian and Vegan Club. I just thought it should be put on the Agenda for purposes transparency and information.

**Motion:** Student Council approves the affiliation of the Speakeasy Club; Flinders University Nursing and Midwifery Student Association; Flinders University Rural Health Society; Flinders University Criminal Justice Student Association

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Caleb Pattinson

All in favour.

**Motion carried.**

6.8. **Training of Student Council – Simone Jowett**

Simone Jowett: You should all have the little piece of paper in front of you, I apologise it didn’t come through in time I only wrote the proposal today. Basically I’ve noticed there’s been a disparity between what we as Student Council Members are trained to do and what the Student Casuals are trained to do. I would like for future Student Councils to be able to be (as they choose) trained up on those events that FUSA continually run like Welfare Breakfasts;
Relax Days things like that so that we’ve got people on Student Council who are trained up in the event so that if we don’t have access to either funds for Student Casuals or if there are no Student Casuals available. It came to me today that in regards to the Outdoor Cinema we don’t have anyone available to work who is trained in the setup of the outdoor cinema or pa system. So we’ve had to shuffle some things around for that, I think this would mean that in future if there are events that we can’t staff then student council can volunteer.

Catherine Wagg: What about food safety? So that when where doing BBQs, have you thought about included food handing in the training?

Simone Jowett: That’s definitely something that can be included in that. I’ve run BBQs with Caleb and haven’t had any official food handling training that’s up to date or current. A lot of the training is common sense based but then there’s specific things like running the PA setting up the Outdoor Cinema knowing how to set up the Welfare Breakfasts. Just knowing how things are done in order to set those events up and run them. But that’s definitely something that can be added if that’s something our casuals are being given training for. We’ve approve the use of casuals and yes they get paid well but I think as long as there’s Student Council members at these events that they should be trained in the same way as the casuals are.

Grace Hill: Are you wanting to add food safety to the motion?

Simone Jowett: Yes I can add Food Safety to that. I can change the motion to “this includes training on: Welfare Breakfasts, Relax Day, Outdoor Cinema, PA Equipment training and Food Safety.

Caleb Pattinson: For the majority I’m very supportive of Simone’s motion I think it’s worth commenting that we’ve just passed a motion supports that all efforts by students to improve wages and that the University’s attitude towards Student Council is that basically free labour. We’re not on a wage were on an honorarium and we are expected to do hours and a lot of the time go above and beyond that. While I don’t disagree with the motion it’s important to note that we have to be cautious that Student Council become used as free labour because of this training.

Simone Jowett: I have included that in my motion “so they may be utilised appropriate when the FUSA casual pools is unavailable.

Caleb Pattinson: But in my opinion Student Council should be able to attend as a Casual to events and be paid appropriately. That’s a bigger is discussion to be had at another time, but it’s important to mention it now.

Shannon Abeywardena: Would that be included in our hours?
Simon Jowett: It would still be included in your hours. Every time I attend and work at a FUSA event I include it in my hours.

**Motion:** To direct FUSA Staff to arrange training for the 2016 and future Student Council members on event procedures, so that they may be utilised appropriately when the FUSA casual pool is unavailable. This includes training on: Welfare Breakfasts, Relax Day., Outdoor Cinema, PA Equipment training and Food Safety.

**Moved:** Simone Jowett  
**Seconded:** Brodie May

All in favour  

**Motion carried.**

6.1. **Women’s Officer Budget Proposal – Women’s Officer**

Grace Hill: I’d rather talk about the budget proposal before we talk about the in camera item. Jack is there any way that Riana can call in?

Jack Harrison: I don’t believe so. I would prefer to wait.

Grace Hill: Do we know how far off she is?

Brodie May: Can I propose that we pass it? It’s only $200.

Simone Jowett: But does she the budget? That’s why I starred it we need to find out if she does have that money in her budget still. Because I know she has requested money from her budget multiple times and I wanted to make sure it was still there.

Grace Hill: If there isn’t and we just passed it anyway there’s other money and there’s people here who haven’t spent all their money I’m sure we would be okay.

Catherine Wagg: I’d be willing to put my budget towards it.

Grace Hill: I think we should just pass it and take the money from somewhere else if she doesn’t have it. I propose we pass it and if Riana turns up she can talk to it.

**Motion:** Student Council approves $200 for catering for Yarrow Place Training session.

**Moved:** Grace Hill  
**Seconded:** Latoya Rule

All in Favour  

**Motion carried.**

Meeting moved to in-camera discussion.

**Motion:** That $3,000 from the Social Activities Officer budget, $1,000 from General Councillor Michael Bezuidenhout's budget, $1,000 from General Councillor Catherine Wagg's budget, $1,000 from the Environment Officer budget, and
$1,000 from the Education Officer budget, be approved to be spent on the FUSA pub crawl.

Student Council directs the Manager of Student Engagement to sign off on spending for this pub crawl, which he and financial services have determined is within the spirit of the legislation.

Student Council also directs the Media Officer(s) to update the shirt design as per instructions for the Social Activities Officer.

**Moved:** Simone Jowett  
**Seconded:** Michael Bezuidenhout

All in favour

**Motion carried.**

*Meeting left in-camera discussion.*

**6.1. Women’s Officer Budget Proposal – Women’s Officer**

Riana Cermak: I have two events in October one for roughly $200 and one for roughly $300. I know I’m very last minute and very disorganised for this Student Council and event.

Grace Hill: So in addition to the Yarra Place?

Riana Cermak: No just one extra $300

Grace Hill: What’s that for?

Riana Cermak: It’s for next Friday 9 October a platter for antipoverty week “Women in poverty Need” Seminar session.

**Motion:** Student Council endorses that $300 be approved from the budget of the women's officer to run a session at the anti-poverty network conference about women in need.

**Moved:** Riana Cermak  
**Seconded:** Ella Keegan

All in Favour

**Motion carried.**

**7.1. FUSA Ball – Simone Jowett**

Simone Jowett: There has been some time set aside within the program for Student Council to say some goodbye speeches. If people from Student Council aren’t attending I’m happy to write something on behalf of Student Council and present it. And also to welcome and make an official announcement as the votes would be counted by then as it’s the next day after the election. If you’re there you can get up on stage but if you’re not there I understand that $50
is a lot of money for people. I’ve been trying to get tickets for Student Council but unfortunately it’s not within the budget.

*Meeting closed: 7:09pm.*