



Students' Representative Council University of Sydney

Secretary to Council
e: secretary.council@src.usyd.edu.au

Level 1, Wentworth building (G01)
University of Sydney NSW 2006
PO Box 794 Broadway NSW 2007
t: (02) 9660 5222 f: (02) 9660 4260
int: 12871 www.src.usyd.edu.au
ABN: 597 391 306 68

MINUTES

of the 13th meeting of the 87th Executive Committee held in the Gosper Room, SRC Offices, on 14th July 2015.

PRESENT: Kyol Blakeney (Chair), Max Hall[^], Chiara Angeloni[^], Laura Webster Alison Xiao, Subeta Vimalarajah Georgia Kriz.

Apologies: Christopher Donovan, Daniel Ergas, Madison Mclvor,

In attendance: *Chiara Angeloni entered the meeting at 11:24*

Minutes: Julia Robins

Meeting Opened: 11:15

**[^]Joint position holders, counted together towards quorum.*

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Sydney Students Representative Council acknowledges the traditional owners of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. We pay our respects to the elders both past and present of the Eora nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal people present.

2. Attendance and Apologies

3. Minutes of the meeting of the 12th March 2015.

Motion: that the minutes of the 12th be accepted signed and adopted.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Subeta Vimalarajah

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

Dear Exec,

I am currently doing some post grad studies in counselling – to be specific, I have undertaken a Graduate Diploma in Counselling at UWS Kingwood Campus. It's a part time course which goes for 2 years.

At a Department meeting a while ago, James and Mel suggested I should request Study Leave. This came as a result of me using up a substantial amount of annual leave to study for my exam and finalise numerous essays throughout last semester. They advised it is stated in the Enterprise Agreement that we are entitled to 5 hours p/w per 35 hours p/w work, pro rata. So given I work 21 hours a week, it would be 3 hours Study Leave per week in my case (please see the attached section of the EA for your information).

As my studies are about how to work constructively in a supportive capacity with people, they relate to the work I do here as a caseworker. While we are case workers and not counsellors, many of the skills I am developing in my studies are transferrable to this work environment. These include: effective listening skills, reflective communication skills and effective ways to develop rapport and work with people from diverse backgrounds and with a range of needs. These are all skills and techniques I utilise in my work at the SRC and I am happy to share any knowledge I acquire with my colleagues to benefit the team and the students we work with.

The 3 hours a week study leave, if approved, would always be taken with the interests of this service in mind. It could be taken in a variety of ways; either 3 hours per week or accumulated and used closer to my exam period. Whatever the case, I would negotiate something that did not disadvantage my work as part of the casework team and that accommodates the needs of this service.

I would be incredibly appreciative of such support towards my professional development. It is the area I am most passionately interested in, so I would not be looking to undertake any other training unless of course James or Management wanted me to train in another specific area.

Mel and James also suggested I request to be backdated for this past semester. This would be very helpful to me, as I have eaten into a reasonable amount of my annual leave and again, these hours would be taken with the interest of the service in mind.

Thank you for considering my request. It is so exciting to be a student again and although balancing studies, work and family life is at times a juggle, I feel invigorated and excited to be expanding my mind and skills in this way.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like me to provide you with any further information.

Many thanks for considering my request,

Lorna Pringle

Casework and Policy Officer

Motion: To accept the request form Lorna Pringle for study leave.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Georgia Kriz

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

6. Workplace Health and Safety Report

Melissa de Silva:

We got our window frosting yay. They did a very goo job the only one with issues it Kyol's. This means that we can ensure confidentiality and safety at the same time

Motion: that the report of the Workplace Health and Safety Officer be accepted.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Alison Xiao

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

7. President's Report

Last week we spoke about Thomas and Annie's employment contracts, they are now both signed they are on alternating Fridays. I want to have a conversation about the \$2000 stalls for Re-O-day but think we should leave it for other business.

In terms of SEG, starting next semester, if Peter McCallum gets it together, we should be able to get a representative for every course worth over 200 students SCC this for SRC and Supra to get better reps. From next semester turn-it-in in will be compulsory for all written assessments to help prevent plagiarism.

The SRC will be submitting proposal to the university that students can apply for DNF after week 7. But we will also have to vote on that.

By the end of today I will be done for my part in helping organise the SRC contributions for disabilities awareness week, I've been working with Samuel Brewer and Jaz Camdzic.

Last week I was at [NUS Education Conference] and we are looking at the proposals for the next NDA, and also for raising awareness on the issues we are covering. In terms of stunts we were thought about a giant Jenga and there was also mentions of guillotine's and such.

Also looking into seeking support from other places, getting facts to make sure we know what the consequences are and getting more politicians on side. There were more tips on maintaining an agenda with regards to education and using people's personal experiences to create understanding.

Chiara Angeloni: Will we have a response to the discussion paper?

Kyol Blakeney: That will be in the first edition of Honi Soit for the semester.

Chiara Angeloni: Are there are particular group you will be working with or with a broader spectrum?

Kyol Blakeney: mostly working with the EAG and the broader SRC

Laura Webster: I'm worried about the narrow perspective of the EAG

Kyol Blakeney: SRC and EGA are making separate submissions

Motion: that the report of the President be accepted.

Moved: Chiara Angeloni

Seconded: Laura Webster
The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

8. Vice Presidents' Report

There was no report from the Vice Presidents

9. General Secretaries' Report

Last week we got talked about the resource pool and this meeting I would like to put a provisional so that these can start being loaned out ASAP. Then take a formal one for council in August.

If the resources are lost or damaged subject to the discretion of SRC executive, the costs associated will be taken from the budget of the office bearer to pay, under the circumstances in which in which it was made.

Max Hall: motion to move the meeting in camera
seconded: Chiara Angeloni

Meeting moved in camera at 11:40

Moved ex camera at 11:45

Max: if our report is accepted our first recommendation

the executive approves spending by the SRC legal service of up to an additional \$3000 above the amount approved in the budget

Motion: that the report of the General Secretaries be accepted.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Alison Xiao

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

10. Report of the Administration Manager

Chitra Narayanan entered at 11:47

Chitra Narayanan: Stipend wages have gone up as per minimum wage increase so you will notice that.

Max Hall: How much more?

Chitra Narayanan: about \$10 a fortnight.

I got accepted into my master's of I.T course so I will be taking study leave from the 27 October. The elections database is up and running it works much better now than it used to.

Chitra left at 11:50

Motion: that the report of the Administration Manager be accepted.

Moved: Chiara Angeloni

Seconded: Laura Webster

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

11. Report of the Casework and Policy Manager

There was no report from the casework and policy manager.

12. SRC Legal Service Report

Thomas entered at 11:51

Comments are due today for a draft complaints policy for the university. I'm thinking that there are some large evolving situations. There is case law that education service providers are covered by the Australian Consumer Law or ACL. 2 main clauses: not to engage in deceptive and misleading conduct, or unconscionable conduct. Universities have operated under all their own policies they have created, and they are regarded as a private relationship bit like a club. I think that these new proposed complaint policies are a way of trying to get ahead of the curve on the new ACL case law, this is because you can get in serious financial liability issues if you have people paying lots of money and wanting to get what they can from that investment, and then suffering from breaches of the ACL by the university.

The implications of the confidentiality clause in the new policy affect whether a student talk about a public interest complaint, they can't write an article of complaint or blog about it and warn other students if there is a confidentiality agreement on all complaints.

I'll give the other issues I have to Kyol later today. So - international students pay hundreds of thousands of dollars so they will be leading the change I suspect. While in the last many years [the university] hasn't been regarded as a business provider but it seems now they are.

Motion: that the report of the SRC Legal Service be accepted.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Subeta Vimalarajah

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

13. Approval of Payments

13.1 Invoices

Laura Minchella spray paint for graffiti tunnel performance: \$350 (Indigenous Department)

13.2 Reimbursements

Patrick Morrow (Honi): \$68.00 SD card for USU Election recordings.
Chitra Narayanan (for Honi): \$99.76 for honisoit.com domain registration for 5 years

Motion: to accept the invoices and reimbursements on bloc.
Moved: Chiara Angeloni
Seconded: Alison Xiao

13.3 Requests for funding

Education:

Hi guys,

We would also like to request \$200 for a new badge maker ^^

Here is a link to the one I was thinking we might get: http://www.ebay.com/itm/Complete-Button-Making-Set-Machine-250-Buttons-Circle-Cutter-Glass-Plate-/251688189939?pt=LH_DefaultDomain_0&hash=item3a99c8fff3

Thanks!

Blythe Worthy | Education Officer

Held over till report, on consultation with the education officer David Shakes the executive will purchase a badge maker as part of the OB's shared resources pool. The funding will be taken out of that allocation and not the departments budget.

Motion: to accept the request and that the funding be drawn form the shared resources pool.

Moved: Chiara Angeloni

Seconded: Max Hall

The motion was put and **CARREID**

Ethnic Affairs:

To the SRC executive,

The Ethnic Affairs Office Bearers would like to submit a motion that the costs of a minibus to Melbourne be approved on behalf of the Campus Refugee Action Collective (CRAC), out of their allocated part of the Ethnic Affairs budget.

Details:

CRAC will be taking part in the convergence on Melbourne for the refugee rally outside the Labor conference and for the national refugee strategy day 24th-26th July. This is a major calendar event for the refugee campaign, and will also provide networking opportunities for students from different universities across the country - with a special student session at the conference.

Cost: \$795 for minibus hire (this does not include other costs associated with the convergence, such as petrol and accommodation).

To be funded out of: CRAC part of Ethnic Affairs budget

Dates: 24th - 26th July

Reimbursement: The bus is to be paid for on day of pick up, so reimbursement form will be filled in afterwards. However, given it is a substantial amount of out of pocket pay, CRAC would like advance approval of this reimbursement.

Kind Regards,
Kavya

Motion : To approve the funding request of the ethnic affairs officers.

Moved: Georgia Kriz

Seconded: Subeta Vimalarajah

The motion was put and **CARRIED**

14. Other Reports

14.1 Wom*n's Officers

- **Contingent for Forced Closures Rally** - Had a few members of WoCo attend the Forced Closures rally. The Women of Colour Collective also made a banner for the rally.
- **Feminist Education Workshops** - Had a volunteer training session last week. Having our first workshop at USYD on the 24th of July. Hope is that students will report back well to their schools so that we can run further workshops. Registrations are coming in from various schools - please share the event if you have a relative/friend who might be interested - aimed at senior high school students.

Subeta Vimalarajah: Really exciting and it's going ahead with a whole bunch of high school students from all over!

- **Organising Bags** - Left over work from O-week. Xiaoran has organised the bags. We have a lot of O-week material left over which we're hoping to use at Re O-Day (unless the stalls are too expensive for the SRC).
- **Stop Taxing My Period Campaign** - I've been talking to the Senior Advisors of the State Treasurers - WA, Tas and Qld so far. All going well. Also have found local representatives in each state/territory who will be doing local petition deliveries in the next month, pending information about the date of treasurers meeting with Joe Hockey (TBC). Working on making a short video clip for the campaign also.

Subeta Vimalarajah: Looks like local reps are working on getting to states and getting them onside with the campaign, I'm also doing a weird clip with Christine Forster

- **Verge Festival** - Holding a script writing skills share workshop on Friday to try and collect written material for our Verge space. I organised this with Victoria Zerbst, intended to be a more accessible way for collective members to get involved with performance on campus.

Subeta Vimalarajah: We are going to be doing three workshops as part of verge, and from those three events we will put on a performance

- **Rad Sex & Consent** - I met up with Rad Sex & Consent organisers to see what their plans are and how I can help. Throwing around idea of having Honi dedicate some articles/pages (all TBC) towards relevant issues. Provided contacts for a sexual assault panel based on the RPAH Panel WoCo ran last year. I'm interested in Collective helping as much as it can - Courtney (one of the organisers) is a committed WoCo member.

Subeta Vimalarajah: We are going to keep working on this from last year and we are looking into adding a radical debate.

- **Sexual Harassment Campaign** - Moving very slowly. Aim is for the campaign to be launched with Rad Sex & Consent, not sure how that will go. Will probably have another meeting with uni management when we get back. .

Subeta Vimalarajah: This is coming along but the university is basically like yep we collaborated.

- **Hey Sis Campaign** - Campaign to fight the closure of Indigenous Women's Sexual Assault service. Working with Indig Collective through Georgia Mantle. Notional plans to have a fundraiser screening of Black Panther Woman and having Marlene Cummins come and speak to us (re-creation of an event last year), followed by RENT visit.
- **NOWSA 2016** - A lot of WoCo members went to NOWSA this year. One member suggested having NOWSA 2016 at Usyd. I've indicated that I would want to be involved, but Xiaoran has voiced her support. A notional bid was placed at the tournament, I'm unsure of what the implications of that are.

Subeta Vimalarajah: Some people went to NOWSA, and then offered Sydney University to host NOWSA next year. But this will need an in depth discussion.

Motion: that the report of the Wom*n's Officer be accepted

Moved: Chiara Angeloni

Seconded: Laura Webster

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

14.2 Education Officers

David shakes gave a verbal report

So I haven't given one of these in a few months.

It's the end of semester, we've now entered a new phase, fee deregulation is still going on but feels like Chris Pyne is flogging a dead horse and that people are going to get on, there is a big

fracture on the education movement and it was kind of embarrassing and messy that this occurred at the same time that the university [of Sydney] has announced a massive restructure and reduction of courses from 126 to 26 this has happened at a lot of universities including Melbourne which is what the university is modeling these changes on. This will mean huge spending cuts and also looks like lots of staff will be losing jobs and I understand that it is to do with funding cuts but it is also a left wing veneer on making students pay more, a subtle way to create deregulation.

We went to National Alliance for Public Universities. It was a bunch a academics and passionate people. Something to come out of that is that the focus will be on managerialism form dereg it not that relevant eight now. The EAG took over a SCC meeting sat in on the meeting with Michael Spence, I thought it was useful and illuminating and I think it was really important that we let them know our stance and that we reject the proposal, I think it is important that an utter rejection from students was clear, and claiming that fee deregulation is good for poor students and showed how good he is at spinning things. The only suggestion he had for fighting this was campaigning in marginal seats, which surprised me. I've seen the Caseworkers report and it was really good. The deadline its over for the response for that paper and so that makes me think that the consultation period for undergraduates is over and it really shouldn't be.

So NUS education conference was last week, [university of Sydney] was the biggest contingent from NSW by far and also one of the biggest nationally. Blythe and I gave a seminar about the restructure, we are looking at talking to activists from universities where this has already occurred to help with a campaign t=letting students know the consequences of these changes.

we are looking into making a new video. We are also planning new actions for the start of semester. Some stunts on eastern avenue include things like giant Jenga and other such games to engage with the issues.

The NDA is on August 19 on the new law lawns focusing on the restructure. Blythe went to the NTEU all staff meeting and they're are planning an action for the week before the NDA. They will also take their lunch break during the NDA, to show support.

Kyol: Now about the badge maker

Chiara: it would be form the shared resources pool rather than the education departments funding. This ok with you guys

David: Sure, Also we would like to add this as well.

Historical Materialism 2015 represents an opportunity for student activists to broaden their theoretical and conceptual tools and knowledge. The 2015 program includes panel presentations on the student movement, environmental theory, and analysis of international activist movements.

Motion: That the SRC executive approves up to \$400 (waged) or \$160 (unwaged) for up to 8 tickets for members of the EAG to attend the Historical Materialism 2015 conference on the 17-18 July.

Motion: that the report of the Education Officers be accepted including the expenditure up to \$400.

Moved: Alison Xiao

Seconded: Laura Webster

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

15. Other Business

15.1 Staff Leave

Melissa de Silva: Annual, 27/07/15 – 27/07/15, 1 day, 7 hours

Motion: that the staff leave be approved.

Moved: Laura Webster

Seconded: Chiara Angeloni

The motion was put and **CARRIED.**

15.2 Other Requests

Lorna Pringle requests approximately \$250 to buy plants for the office; she is looking into them but would like an idea of funding first.

The executive notes the request but asks for more information before it will consider funding.

15.3 Re O-day

Kyol: So as mentioned last exec meeting, Alisha has said that stalls [for Re O-day] will cost approx. \$2000. I don't think that the cost for this equates the value we would get out of it for a day.

Max Hall: I agree with Kyol expletives included

Georgia Kriz: we should hold out and see if we get it cheaper, we should tell Alisha to get f**ked

Max Hall: we can get tables and do out own.

Kyol Blakeney: do the General Secretaries want to keep communicating with Alisha? Or should I?

Max Hall: Nope. Can you?

The meeting closed at 12:33

APPENDIX

No. *Agenda Item*