

UTS 2014 SRC Meeting 26/6/14

SRC attending: Andy Zephyr, Douglas MacDonald, Sashin Ranasinghe, Lara Paijmans, Chris Gall, Kate Alway, Callum Lee, Andie Yates, Jess Xu*.

Observers: None

Those marked with an asterisk (*) were present for part of the meeting.

Apologies: Elizabeth Hanley, Vanessa Jiang, Freya Newman, James Horsburgh.

Proxies:

- Jake Witchard to [1] Maggie Sheen, [2] Freya Newman, [3] Katelyn Jones, [4] James Horsburgh (no nominated proxies were present).
- Maggie Sheen to [1] Douglas MacDonald, [2] Freya Newman, [3] Casey Webster (Douglas MacDonald accepted).
- Carisse Martis to [1] Maggie Sheen, [2] Freya Newman, [3] Douglas MacDonald (proxy could not be accepted as Douglas already held a proxy).
- Jess Xu to Andie Yates (Andie Yates accepted).
- Danielle Hynes to Callum Lee (Callum Lee accepted).
- Lauren Cairns to Chris Gall (Chris Gall accepted).

Agenda:

1. Acknowledgement of Country
2. Apologies and proxies
3. Declaration of interests
4. Passing of minutes from previous meetings
5. Welfare Department Infrastructure
6. Students Thinking Outside Borders spending
7. Conference Funding Policy
8. Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations Affiliation Fee
9. Social Media Policy Reportback
10. Bookshop IT Tendering Process Reportback
11. President's Report
12. Education Vice President's Report
13. Students for Women's Only Services Endorsement
14. Queer Collective Conference Funding (travel reimbursements)

Meeting opened at 5.21pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country

2. Apologies and proxies

3. Declaration of Interests

Douglas MacDonald declared that his employer is linked to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and that he would abstain from making comment on issues surrounding immigration.

4. Passing of minutes from previous meetings

Motion: To accept the amended minutes of the 1/5/14, 12/5/14, 20/5/14, 28/5/14, 4/6/14 and 18/6/14.

Moved: Chris

Seconded: Lara

Carried.

5. Welfare Department Infrastructure

Motion: that the \$15,000 previously passed for the mobile survival centre cart and vertigo stands will come from the general SRC budget.

Moved: Lara

Seconded: Callum

Carried.

6. Students Thinking Outside Borders spending

Motion: To spend \$700 on catering for the Boycott Biennale Forum from the PERC Clubs budget.

Moved: Andy

Seconded: Lara

Carried (Douglas abstained).

Motion: To pass an upper spending limit of \$200 to reimburse the costs of flights for panellists who spoke at the Boycott Biennale Forum.

Moved: Andie

Seconded: Kate

Carried (Douglas abstained).

7. Conference Budget Policy

Motion: That we accept the UTS Students' Association Conference Budget Policy, with amendments, as discussed in the meeting.

Moved: Andy

Seconded: Sashin

Carried (Maggie abstained).

8. Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations Affiliation Fee

The Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA) has billed the UTS Students' Association an affiliation fee of \$15,392.30. This fee was charged at \$1.04 per Postgraduate Coursework Student and \$1.87 per Postgraduate Research Student studying at UTS in 2014.

Motion: To pay the 2014 CAPA Affiliation Fee of \$15,392.30.

Moved: Andy

Seconded: Kate

Carried.

Motion: That we endorse Kate Alway as our CAPA representative for 2014.

Moved: Chris

Seconded: Callum

Carried.

9. Social Media Policy Reportback

Callum Lee delivered a verbal reportback. The policy is currently being drafted.

10. Bookshop IT Tendering Process Reportback

Callum Lee delivered a verbal reportback. The tendering process for the Secondhand Bookshop IT Systems has begun.

11. President's Report

Andy Zephyr delivered a verbal reportback on their activities during May and June 2014.

Motion: That we accept the President's Report.

Moved: Douglas

Seconded: Chris

Carried (Andy abstained).

12. Education Vice President's Report

Motion: That we defer consideration of the Education Vice President's report to the next meeting.

Moved: Douglas

Seconded: Callum

Carried (Chris abstained).

13. Students for Women's Only Services Endorsement

Jess presented the following information on behalf of the Wom*n's Collective:

Under the State government's "Going Home, Staying Home" reforms, women-only services were not eligible to apply. To secure funding, they had to compete as "generic" homeless services, catering to all client groups and offering crisis to long-term housing. Many were unable to do so. Some were successful in forming consortiums with large NGOs, others are preparing to close. The first women's refuge to close was Erin's Place in Marsfield, which closed on the 20th of June. There are a further 81 services across NSW that were unsuccessful in their funding applications and are set to close.

The evidence over the past 40 years of women-only refuges in NSW shows that the option of going to a women's refuge is critical to enabling women to escape domestic violence and establish their independence. Women's refuges are being closed at a time when domestic violence is a growing, widespread problem in the community.

Already, the existing level of funding is far too low to meet demand. Over 85% of domestic violence cases attack women. As it stands in Sydney, one in two women who seek out the services of a refuge are turned away.

Numerous organisations have voiced their support for the continuance of women's refuges. For example, Leichhardt and Waverly Councils have made public their unanimous support for women's specialist services.

*As a Students' Association that has been vocally in support of the Wom*n's Collective, autonomous spaces and the safety of wom*n on campus, we need to take a strong stance in support of wom*n-only, specialist services which are vital to the wellbeing and safety of wom*n, including those who are students at UTS.*

Motion 1: That the UTS Students' Association supports the community campaign to keep women's refuges open across Sydney. The UTSSA believes that women's specialist services must continue to exist. We recognise that the existence of Women's Refuges is a critical component of any strategy to reduce and eradicate domestic violence.

Moved: Jess

Seconded: Lara

Carried.

Motion 2: We encourage UTSSA members to become informed, and where possible, get involved in the movement to keep Women's Refuges operating.

Motion 3: The UTSSA will post announcements of our support for the campaign to keep Women's Refuges open on our Facebook page.

Procedural motion: to pass the motions on bloc.

Moved: Andy

Seconded: Douglas

Carried.

14. Queer Collective Conference Funding (travel reimbursements)

Motion: To reimburse 55% of travel expenses to two students travelling to Queer Collaborations Conference in Melbourne, totalling \$257.95.

Moved: Andie

Seconded: Andy

Carried.

Meeting closed at 6.54pm.