

Meeting 17/6 of the UTS Students' Association (UTSSA) Student Representative Council held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 13 June 2017 in the Activist Space, Level 3, UTS Building 1.

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Present:

Beatrice Tan (President)  
Norma Cooper (Education Vice President)  
Luke Chapman (Secretary)  
Lachlan Barker (Treasurer)  
James Wilson (Assistant Secretary)  
Christine Saunders (General Councillor)  
Gabiella Brackenbury-Soldenhoff (General Councillor)  
Leya Reid (Women's Officer)  
Adrian Rook (Postgraduate Student's Officer)  
Edward Strong (General Councillor)  
Indraneil Banerjee (Overseas Students' Officer)  
Michael Rosser (Postgraduate Member of University Council)  
Bijay Sapkota (Undergraduate Member of University Council)  
Harrison Stanton (General Councillor)  
Peter Zacharatos (General Councillor)\*

In Attendance:

Mariah Brown (Executive Officer)  
Christina Markovska (Case Worker)  
Michael Zacharatos (Vertigo)  
Taylor Ficarra (Special Needs Officer)

Apologies:

\*the member was present for part of the meeting

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## **AGENDA**

**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**2. APOLOGIES AND PROXIES**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

•General Meeting of the UTSSA SRC held 22 May 2017

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**6. EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**7. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**8. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**9. ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**10. WOMEN'S OFFICER REPORT**

**11. PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

**12. VERTIGO EXPENDITURE**

**13. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**14. CLOSE**

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**AGENDA**

The chair opened the meeting at 6:39pm

**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The chair acknowledged country.

**2. APOLOGIES AND PROXIES**

Peter Zacharatos sent his apologies and proxied to Norma Cooper.

**MOTION C17/73**

That the apologies and proxies be accepted.

**Moved:** Norma Cooper

**Seconded:** Harrison Stanton

**Motion Carried**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nothing was declared at this point

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

•General Meeting of the UTSSA SRC held 22 May 2017

**Moved Adrian**  
**Secinded Lachlan**  
**Carried**

##### **MOTION C17/74**

That the minutes of the meeting held 22 May 2017 are an accurate record of proceedings.

**Moved:** Adrian Rook

**Seconded:** Lachlan Barker

**Motion Carried**

#### **5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

We're nearing the end of the and I feel it now more than ever; I'm limited. The year so far has felt like one short day, there's just so much to do. I wish I didn't have to keep calm for once, I just feel like flying off the handle. But then I remember, whether I achieve gravity defying feats or not, that I'm doing this for good.

Enough about me, on to what I've worked and you've waited for; our major projects.

##### **1. 2017 SSAF Allocations**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, our Treasurer, Lachlan, and I, had a meeting with the Deputy Vice-Cancellor (Education and Students), Shirley Alexander regarding our SSAF allocation for this year.

Since I last presented the budget to council in a meeting earlier in the year, it has gone through some changes. The latest version I circulated in the 2017 UTSSA Working Group. The changes to the budget were made after receiving the auditor's report as well as the profit and loss statement for 2016. The major shifts include allocating more money to student publications, night owl and the equity loan scheme.

Shirley was quite happy with the SSAF allocation this year. The only aspect in question is using

SSAF to implement the equity loan scheme. We just have to double check if this is covered under the legislation.

## 2. Sexual Assault Working Group

Since its formation, the sexual assault working group has met twice. We've discussed some basic short, medium, and long term goals that we seek to achieve.

In my previous report, I mentioned that the student consultation group was set up. We've finalized a meeting date and have since met up. We will be taking their input to the next sexual assault working group meeting.

## 3. The Federal Budget

Our goal in the next few weeks is determining how this year's budget will affect UTS students, with the repayment threshold being lowered and funding cuts to universities. The government has openly stated that we have a revenue problem; reallocating funds away from universities was a way to plug the problem. As a result, students and youth will face the brunt of this allocation. We will be speaking to management to see how the funding will impact not just student learning but the price students pay for their education. While this time may seem uncertain, if we work in tandem, there's no fight we cannot win. Together, we're unlimited.

## 4. Spending:

In one of our earlier meetings, I was given the discretion to approve certain things. Please find the list of things I've approved since the last meeting.

Education Conference:

- Accommodation for Lachlan: \$140
- Accommodation for Reagan: \$140
- Accommodation for Beatrice and Norma: \$17.40

NOWSA:

- Registration for Chloe and Leya: \$740

#### International Students Conference:

- Registration for Bijay: \$85
- Travel and accom for Bijay: \$285

#### Vertigo:

- SWF Tickets: \$30

#### Women's Collective:

- Food for meeting: \$6
- Craft: \$8.80

#### Semester 2 O'Day:

- UTSSA bags: \$4630

#### Other:

- Norma's phone bill: \$266
- Vertigo stands: \$2540

## **6. EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Hello everyone. Hope you are well. It's been a hectic month for all of us. We've reached the half way mark, and we haven't killed each other yet, so that's something to celebrate. I ardently believe that one day, the UTS Students Association van will return to us. As well as all the other expensive things we used to own that mysteriously vanished. So what's happened? Our computers have arrived, which is fantastic, though I wasn't expecting them to take this long. New furniture for the office is also being investigated. This is very exciting considering the majority of the furniture has been here since the Assistant Secretary came to UTS. That is a long time. Education Conference is coming up, which is very exciting. A few people will be attending through the Education Collective. This is actually my first conference so I will be keen to see what I can learn from this experience. If anyone is hosting a workshop, please let us know. An idea about UTS Students Association shirts was thrown around. We may not have enough time, but if people would like to take the blue shirts, they can go for their life. Just to

remember to take photos. I hope everyone will stay safe and have a buddy or group of friends to look out for them. In other news, I'll be looking forward to Orientation Day. The handbooks have already been delivered in preparation, and we will look to organising a schedule to get everything done. Other than that, I'll be looking to implement the Chill Out Trolley next semester, as well as the Textbook Loan Scheme if all goes well. Also, the constitution, hooray! We did it! I'm not sure I will be ever able to eat pizza again. As we discuss this today councillors, please be kind. We all want to get out of here at a reasonable time. Thank you.

## **7. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Since our last meeting, I am pleased to report that the President and I have finalised a draft for the new constitution. I would like to thank the members of the Constitutional Working Group, SRC Councillors and the Vertigo team for their feedback and contributions. After receiving independent legal advice, I look forward to calling the Campus General Meetings that are necessary to enact these changes.

After council voted at our last meeting to affiliate to the Council of International Students (CISA), I have been working to complete our affiliation. I would like to thank the President and the Overseas Students' Officer for their support. CISA will be holding their annual conference from 3-6 July. If you are an international student or domestic student who is interested in advocating for international students, please get in touch with myself or the Overseas Students' Officer.

I have continued working with Professor Sally Varnham on her OLT project titled, Student engagement in university decision-making and governance: towards a more systemically inclusive student voice. The next fellowship event will be a collaborative workshop to be held in Sydney on June 23rd.

Over the break, I will be attending the National Union of Students Education Conference (NUS Edcon) and will report back at our next meeting. I wish everyone the best of luck with their final assessments and hope you all have an enjoyable break.

Luke Chapman  
secretary@utsstudentsassociation.org

## **8. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Since the last meeting, the President and I sat with the DVC and sought approval for our budget allocations. This was met with surprising approval – of note are increases to expenditure for student publications/Vertigo, an increase to case workers, the submission of an Equity Load Scheme (pending approval by the DVC, as we were unable to determine where it would fall under SSAF allowances), and increases to orientation and elections to allow for adaptation to the teaching period changes. The meeting also provided the opportunity for us to discuss future plans with the DVC including ways to spend from our rather substantial reserves, possible collaborative projects around welfare services, and constitutional reform. The healthy and communicative relationship we have with management is a benefit that we

should use to its fullest extent as they seem eager to involve us directly and cooperatively in delivering a positive student experience.

I also met with the President, the Women's Convenor and Catharine Pruscino to discuss a trajectory for the Sexual Assault Working Group and ways that the UTSSA can practically support a campaign. Focus was put, in particular, on the responsibility of seeking consent and the fact that the UTSSA and UTS broadly do not tolerate sexual harassment or violence. Ideas for leaflets and specially titled gelatos were floated and I am investigating these further for our upcoming re-o-day. If anyone has ideas of food outlets other than Messina or a great graphic for the flyers then please email me. If you would like to be involved in the student organising arm of the SAWG feel free to contact the President or myself.

## **9. ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Since the last SRC meeting I have contacted IT Services about the situation with the new computers and I'm happy to say they have arrived. Thanks to Beatrice for staying with this issue.

I have also been attending Constitutional Change working group meetings that have produced a draft Constitution to be voted on tonight. I'm happy to see many people from across the political spectrum come together and involve themselves in creating a better future for the Association. Hopefully the SRC will move to accept the draft so we can seek approval from the university and our membership for it to become our new Constitution.

I have been acquainting myself with the Social media aspects of the Association and looking at ways in which we can build our profile within the university, for our membership and stakeholders.

Lastly, I will be attending the National Education Conference in Brisbane July 3-6 and will offer a reportback, if required at the next SRC. I must say I am disappointed when I learnt the CISA conference was on concurrently as I had already booked flights and accommodation for Brisbane, and I had never been to a CISA conference. I hope that those who do go can fill us in at the next SRC meeting.

## **10. WOMEN'S OFFICER REPORT**

What an exhilarating, yet exhausting semester for WoCo. As semester two wraps up, and we reflect on our past accomplishments, we would like to say a huge thank you to our community for supporting us through our ups and downs. Here is a list of our fabulous achievements:

- International Women's Day Breakfast 9/2
- FemFest Creative Night 22/3
- UTS Contingent: Counter-rally to anti-choice 26/3
- Crafternoon 11/4
- Film screening and discussion 11/4
- UTS Stop Funding Harassment & Intimidation 21/4
- Established the Women's Vertigo Organising Committee 28/4
- UTS Contingent: Women's March in the Park 29/4
- Human Rights Commission Sexual Assault & Harassment Project Workshop 2/5
- Sex Work Solidarity & Justice Public Panel Talk 17/5

- UTS Staff & Students Say No to Islamophobia 23/5
- STAND UP SPEAK OUT! Open Mic Event 25/5

After brainstorming with collective members about our vision for Semester 2, we have lined up a number of topics we would like to pursue for FemFest, our year long campaign that raises awareness on women's issues, de-stigmatises feminism and provides an outlet for women and non-identifying students to express themselves. Our ideas centred around Radical Sex and Consent Week, women of colour and intersectionality, and the end sexual assault on campus campaign. Over the holidays we will be working on drafting a new constitution, giving the Women's Room a fresh makeover, prepping for O-Week and labouring away at the Women's edition of Vertigo. We will continue to extend these ideas and discuss new ones, so we would love your input, support or participation. If you are looking to get involved, we urge you to come along to the meetings and attend our Vertigo Women's Magazine launch party.

**MOTION C17/75**

That the reports be accepted as read en bloc.

**Moved:** Adrian Rook

**Seconded:** Michael Rosser

**Motion Carried**

**11. PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

**MOTION C17/76**

That the UTSSA accept the amendments to the constitution as discussed by the Constitutional Working Group.

Rationale: The current constitution in place is severely outdated. Members of this council have worked tirelessly for the past few months to discuss and draft a more current governance document that fits in with current operations.

**Moved:** Norma Cooper

**Seconded:** Luke Chapman

**Motion Carried**

**Motions to Amend the Constitution**

The circulated draft of the new constitution was amended in the following ways:

- Disabilities officer renamed to accessibilities officer and clause 11.8.1 was edited to read 'be a student who identifies as having a disability. This definition does not exclude mental health disorders, and intellectual disabilities;'

- SSAF added to the definitions under 1.2.18
- Clause 5.9.1 'This does not apply to ex-officio members of the council' was added
- Clauses 7.9 'A voting member of the Students' Representative Council who is absent from a meeting and has apologized in writing may proxy their vote to another voting member of the SRC by notifying the General Secretary in writing before the meeting.' and 7.10 'A voting member of the Students' Representative Council may only hold their vote and one proxy at any given time.' were added
- Clause 11.7.1 was edited to read 'be a student identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer or asexual (LGBTIQA)'
- 17.2 was edited to read 'After the first year of operation the constitution shall only be amended by a two-thirds majority of Students' Representative Council voting members at the meeting in which it is discussed, and a campus resolution along with the acceptance of the University Council.'
- Section 18 – Campus resolutions was added. It reads as follows:

## **SECTION 18 CAMPUS RESOLUTIONS**

- 18.1 A Campus Resolution shall be called by the General Secretary of the Students' Representative Council upon receipt of a petition of at least 50 UTS students stating the matter to be discussed, or upon request by the Students' Representative Council.
- 18.2 The General Secretary of the Students' Representative Council shall determine the location, date and time of the meeting, subject to the following requirement:
- 18.2.1 The meeting date or dates shall be no later than four semester weeks after the date of the petition, unless the date falls within the semester break. In this case, the meeting shall be held no later than three semester weeks into the next semester.
- 18.3 The Secretary shall give notice on the Notice Boards at least five academic days prior to the date of the meeting of:
- 18.3.1 The time of the meeting;
- 18.3.2 The place of the meeting;
- 18.3.3 Motions that are to be raised at the meeting.
- 18.4 Quorum for a Campus Resolution of the Association shall be 150 UTS students.
- 18.5 The President shall act as Chair of the meeting. In the President's absence, the meeting shall elect a member to act as Chair.

- 18.6 At the time indicated by the notice for the beginning of the meeting, the Chairperson shall make or cause to be made a list of names and student identification numbers of all UTS students present. The Chairperson shall then announce the reason, purpose or topic for the meeting.
- 18.7 The meetings shall consider only motions contained in the request for the Campus Resolution and no amendments shall be accepted.
- 18.8 The method of voting at each Campus Meeting shall be a show of hands unless a resolution of the meeting decides otherwise.
- 18.9 The Chairperson shall tally or cause to be tallied the votes for and against and the number of abstentions in respect of each motion and shall forward such results, together with the attendance list and any other relevant information to the General Secretary of the Students' Representative Council.
- 18.10 The General Secretary shall inspect the attendance lists and determine, by summing the number of students in attendance, whether quorum has been reached. If quorum has been reached, the General Secretary shall proclaim the results of all resolutions after summing the number of votes lodged.
- 18.11 All decisions made by a Campus Resolution of the Association shall be binding on the Association, the Students' Representative Council, its members and employees unless revoked, rescinded or amended by a subsequent Campus Resolution of the Association.
- 18.12 The Association, by a majority of votes cast in a Campus Resolution, may remove any office bearer of the Association.

**MOTION C17/7**

That the draft of the constitution be accepted and submitted to university council for review.

**Moved:** Norma Cooper

**Seconded:** Luke Chapman

**Motion Carried**

**12. VERTIGO EXPENDITURE**

Vertigo is submitting a motion for reimbursement and a motion for payment to SOS Print & Media for two invoices. All receipts and invoices have been sent to the Treasurer.

1. Reimbursement for header cards and craft supplies:

As per each Volume so far, we have printed A2 Header Cards for most of the Vertigo stands around campus, costing \$48.00.

For the recent Stop Motion video released on our Facebook page advertising the close of submissions for Volume 4: Tide, art supplies were purchased for the video, costing \$38.45.

We therefore ask to be reimbursed \$86.45.

## 2. Payment to SOS Printing company for Volumes 2 & 3.

The invoice for Volume 2 delayed due to a minor printing error and accordingly the invoice had to be amended. Volume 2 will be significantly cheaper than all other Vertigo volumes as the incorrect materials were used for the cover. Overall, 4,000 copies for Volume 2 and 3,500 copies for Volume 3 were distributed.

Vertigo Volume 2: \$13,673.

Vertigo Volume 3: \$16,599.

SOS are therefore owed \$30,272, including GST.

Beatrice Tan noted that she would approve these expenditures in her capacity as President.

## 13. GENERAL BUSINESS

### MOTION C17/77

That attendees approved by the UTSSA to attend the National Education Union Education Conference (NUSEdcon) be paid a food allowance of \$30 per day and a transport allowance of \$10 per day.

**Moved:** Luke Chapman

**Seconded:** James Wilson

**Motion Carried**

### MOTION C17/78

That the following statement as amended be presented to the University Council on behalf of the UTSSA:

**Moved:** Michael Rosser

**Seconded:** Bijay Sapkota

**Motion Carried**

## 14. CLOSE

The meeting was closed by the chair at 8:05pm