

June UTSSA SRC Meeting 21.06.23

6:30pm Minutes

Attendance:

- Members
 - Will Simmons (General Secretary)
 - Nour Al Hammouri (President)
 - Zebadiah Cruickshank (Assistant General Secretary)
 - Laura Currie (Postgraduate Officer)
 - Mia Campbell (Welfare Officer)
 - Adrian Lozancic
 - Boris Tam
 - Saihej Singh
 - Joseph Naffah
 - Peter Munford (Postgraduate Council Member)
 - George Pond (Disabilities Officer)
 - Rose Mores
 - Harry Ryan
 - Mariam Yassine
 - Rufus Dadd
 - Jacqueline Bodill (*joined 6:50*)
- Observers
 - Adam Levett
 - Joe Hathaway-Wilson
- Other
 - Lisa
 - Fran
 - Mariah Brown
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Proxies Received

1. Kurt Cheng
 - 1.1. Rose Mores
 - 1.2. Joseph Naffah
 - 1.3. Mariam Yassine
2. Bridie

- 2.1. Rose Mores
- 2.2. Joseph Naffah
- 2.3. Mia Campbell
- 3. Bailey Riley
 - 3.1. Zebadiah Cruickshank
 - 3.2. Will Simmons
 - 3.3. Laura Currie
- 4. Joy
 - 4.1. Saihej Singh
 - 4.2. Nour Al Hammouri
 - 4.3. Mia Campbell
- 5. Aylin Cihan
 - 5.1. Mia Campbell
 - 5.2. Rose Mores
 - 5.3. Joseph Naffah
- 6. Ali Sobh
 - 6.1. Adrian Lozancic

Agenda:

- 1. Opening of Meeting
 - 1.1. Acknowledgement of Country
 - 1.2. Confirmation of Deputy Chair
 - 1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies
 - 1.4. Declarations of Interest
- 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
 - 2.1. January (RepsElect) SRC Meeting
 - 2.2. Emergency SRC Meeting
- 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 4. Correspondence
- 5. Office Bearers' Reports
 - 5.1. President
 - 5.2. General Secretary
 - 5.3. Assistant General Secretary
 - 5.4. Education Officer
 - 5.5. Welfare Officer
 - 5.6. Women's Officer
 - 5.7. International Students' Officer
 - 5.8. Indigenous Students' Officer
 - 5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer
 - 5.10. Cultural Diversity Officer
 - 5.11. Disabilities Officer
 - 5.12. Queer Students' Officer
 - 5.13. Environment Officer

6. Other Reports
 - 6.1. Committees
 - 6.2. Reports from Councillors, Convenors and Staff as requested or required.
 - 6.3. Vertigo Report
7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.
8. Other Business Arising on Notice
 - 8.1 O-Day Spending
 - 8.2 Vertigo Discussion
 - 8.3 Enviro Convenor
9. General Business
10. Close of Meeting

Minutes: 6:37pm

1. Opening of Meeting: 6:37 pm

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Given by Nour Al Hammouri.

1.2. Confirmation of Deputy Chair

Motion: to elect Will Simmons as Deputy Chair

Moved: Will Simmons

Seconded: Zeb

Dissent: n/a

1.3. Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Will: I have received four proxies and apologies:

- Kurt
 - Rose Mores (**accepts**)
 - Joseph Naffah
 - Mariam Yassine
- Bridie
 - Rose Mores
 - Joseph Naffah (**accepts**)

- Mia Campbell
- Bailey Riley
 - Zebadiah Cruickshank (**accepts**)
 - Will Simmons
 - Laura Currie
- Joy Xu
 - Saihej Singh (**accepts**)
 - Nour Al Hammouri
 - Mia Campbell
- Aylin Cihan
 - Mia Campbell (**accepts**)
 - Rose Mores
 - Joseph Naffah
- Ali Sobh
 - Adrian (**accepts**)
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1.4. Declarations of Interest

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. SRC Meeting

Motion: to confirm the May SRC Meeting Minutes

Moved: Will Simmons

Seconded: Zeb

Dissent: n/a

Joseph: can the spelling of my last name be corrected

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

n/a

4. Correspondence

n/a

5. Office Bearers' Reports

5.1. President

Nour speaks to his report
See Appendix

5.2. General Secretary

Take as read
See Appendix

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

Not received

Zeb: we have got the Voice campaign up and running, we are aiming to have a coherent Students for Yes campaign. Mostly, USYD, UOW, UNSW. I went to the Yes23 campaign, to help get things going. I am also going to NUS EdCon - speaking on Broken Hill Trade Unionism.

5.4. Education Officer

N/A

5.5. Welfare Officer

N/A

5.6. Women's Officer

Taken as read
See Appendix

5.7. International Students' Officer

Take as read
See Appendix

5.8. Indigenous Students' Officer

No report was received

5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Laura:

In the first few months as a postgraduate officer, it has been difficult to reach other postgrad students as the collective is not very known amongst especially HDR students and/or other new postgraduates in 2023. However, I have organised to meet with the HDR student association regarding a Spring collaboration and potentially hosting more events together and raising awareness of the presence of the collective. Furthermore, I would like to focus more in Spring regarding the generation of research newsletters showcasing talents and works from postgraduate students, aside from merely focusing on increasing presence. I am also liaising with GRS and people who are working with sending out monthly newsletters to encourage them to partake in our new project, and furthermore, to take part in the collective and suggest some ideas on what can be improved this year. I am aiming to put through another motion regarding PhD stipends as inflation has been affecting the majority of us, furthermore, following up on creating a social media for postgraduate students and potentially gather enough of a community to host talks and to create an opportunity for students to have a voice regarding their projects, passions and to allow postgrads to network with potential industry experts that can give them an insight into different career paths.

I have also been communicating with numerous postgrad students regarding night owl, again, as inflation has been one of the major issues that postgrads/HDR students are struggling with due to lack of free time to work and a low stipend amongst financial inclines. I aim to advertise bluebird pantry and night owl services more towards HDR students as most don't know about it, but will definitely help with financial and living circumstances. But overall, it has been a great success in terms of communicating with fellow postgraduate peers and digging into the core of what has been the underlying issues and struggles that everyone has been having that impacts the well-being and performance in university.

5.10. Cultural Diversity Officer

Not Received

5.11. Disabilities Officer

Not Received

5.12. Queer Students' Officer

Take as read

See Appendix

5.13. Environment Officer

Not report received

Boris: I have resigned from my position.

6. Other Reports 6:47pm

6.1. Committees

Will: defer this til 8.2

6.2. Reports from Councillors, Convenors and Staff as requested or required.

Fran: It ran for 11 weeks over the autumn supper, 1700 visitor, 160 students perweeks, most were full time international undergraduates. Core group of 10-12 who help out as volunteers. One won a green hero award. It has been very successful. Living hope church deliveries - roughly 8 hours of labour. Staff have contributed.

Looking to spring semester we plan on opening in week two, increase the fresh food and get value for money. Make sure it is reaching local and international students. And streamlining sign ups. With a herb garden.

6.3. Vertigo Report

Joe: We're about to finish the next volume

Jacqueline Bodill joins meeting at 6:50pm

7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements. 6:50pm

8. Other Business Arising on Notice 6:50pm

8.1 O-Day Spending

Motion: See Appendix

Moved: Will Simons

Seconded: Mia Campbell

Dissent: n/a

8.2 Vertigo Discussion

Assistant General Secretary Zebadiah Cruickshank takes over minuting

Joe: whatever we shift towards, what the focus is on. Unfortunately a lot of students dont know about vertigo. This leaves them in a position

Will: It needs to be a two way street. If the SRC encroaches on the vertigo space, the SRC should participate more with vertigo. Vertigo should be a union rag that supports the interests of the union, it should support the activism of the union. Vertigo should be an extension of the council. The vertigo election is a battle of aesthetics rather than of content. We want to see a shift now before the next team is elected. Hopefully this will prevent future conflicts between the SRC and vertigo. It will make it easier to remove vertigo edits

Nour: proposes that the vertigo team shares the changes they would like to see in semester two.

Joe: The research project was insightful. 88% of people say they like the magazine. It is counter productive to scrap the printing in its entirety. The consensus of the team seems to be leaning towards a zine. More desire between the organizations and collectives.

Will: I would like to see vertigo remain in print, just not in its current form. It suits being put online, while more timely stuff should be printed. The fashion crap is unnecessary and should be put online, while the timely content is cheaper and disrupted by print on campus. Honi Soit stands get kicked over because they are printing the right content.

Joe its important to not to be too polarized. Agrees that vertigo should be more political. Pulp and Honi Soit are polar opposites. Im hesitant to go down either road. I agree that design has dictated the outcome of elections. A lot of students are drawn to the magazine is because they're are pretty.

Laura: The first time I saw vertigo I thought it was very flashy. It would be good to have a cheaper and faster production schedule.

Will: we raised the idea of a zine which combines the design and the newspaper aspects. I would support having both types of printing, but the budget is always a concern. Pulp and Honi Soit are produced by two different organisations. We should not hand over printing to Activate because we would never get it back.

Laura: if it was one way or the other it would deter certain people in the audience.

Joe: We would like to push for more student politics, but only 13% in the survey said they were interested in reading it.

Laura: focusing on more the students politics would get more readers.

Will: We shouldn't call it UTS news. We used to run a newspaper and design magazine and that was the most popular year.

Laura: Is vertigo online?

Joe: Vertigo is online.

Nour: Is Tik tok on the cards

Joe: It is a possibility.

Will the next vertigo committee meeting be more open?

Will: yes it will

8.3 Enviro Convenor

Motion: See Appendix

Moved: Boris Tam

Seconded: Zebadiah Cruickshank

Dissent: n/a

9. General Business

Motion:

- That the UTSSA pass an upper spending limit of \$2000 to be spent on a Yes Campaign for the Voice to Parliament referendum with its allocations to be determined by the existing Voice Committee and SRC.
- That the UTSSA purchase from this allocation: \$10 x 15 (\$150) Black Corflutes (See <https://yes23.com.au/shop>) and 30 Yes Shirts
- That the Yes materials are made available to all students involved in the UTSSA's campaign upon request.

Moved: Will Simmons

Seconded: Zebadiah Cruickshank

Dissent: n/a

10. Close of Meeting 7:28pm

Appendix

Motions

8.1

Motion: That the UTSSA approves an upper spending limit of \$100 for each collective to spend for O'Day activities.

8.3

Motion: That the UTSSA confirms Lauren Cooley as the Enviro Collective Convenor

Collated OB Reports June SRC

Nour Al Hammouri President's Report

There unfortunately isn't too much to report, there hasn't been enough time for things to happen. However, this is what I do have for you.

Kylie Readman Meeting

- In accordance with our last SRC meeting, I brought up the Simple Extensions, 11:59PM Submission Times and moving away from largely weighted assessments to which she sounded in support of.
- I will be writing an official paper to her soon, outlining our position and will sign it on behalf of the SRC and present it. This seems to be the method of officialising things that Kylie prefers - and I think it'll expedite the process.
- We also discussed the implementation of 3 year funding agreements at great length to which she is in ardent support of. This will give us more certainty and ease for upcoming years.
- We're also going to be part of the new SSAF committee which will be changing how SSAF is allocated, at the moment its looking like itll be slightly more competitive which isnt necessarily fair - but oh wells.
- We discussed the future of Student Media with Kylie too, and she seems to be happy with the findings and the high level future directions that we've identified thus far.

- I also mentioned and asked of her to give us some more training opportunities and to also have all our elected SRC members get AHEGS transcript recognition upon graduation.

AI Operations Board

- Since our last meeting I have had the opportunity to facilitate and be part of many panels and workshops regarding the use of AI at UTS - focusing mainly and markedly on Generative and Predictive AI. I've also been invited to attend a national Australia wide AI roundtable discussion as the UTS Representative (idk why either).
- Again, I repeat for the sake of clarity - UTS has not taken the approach of using TurnItIn for AI recognition.
- If you have any thoughts, ideas or commentary about AI please feel free to speak on it whenever or just come knocking on my office door - I'm there too much.

Sustainability

- It's with great pleasure that I inform you guys that one of our Bluebird Pantry and Night Owl Noodle volunteers Xiang Hong Ong has won third place in the Green Hero Award
- You can read more about the Award and the winners [here](#)

Will Simmons General Secretary's Report

In the short time since the last SRC there has not been much on.

However, over the last week I've have been taking on board the feedback from the Vertigo team at the last SRC. Nour, Mariah, Biljana, and myself have gone over the research report. The results are as expected and demonstrate that we as an organsiation need to seriously readapt our approach to student media to stay relevant in the landscape.

Which is why we have discussed the introduction of a Vertigo Charter/Bylaws to help govern Vertigo moving forward, bringing us in line with other campuses. I discussed this with the Vertigo Committee and will be putting to SRC for a discussion at this meeting. Before moving ahead with constitutional changes. I hope to have feedback from both Veritgo and the SRC before then.

This was also discussed with VC Kylie Readman who showed a level of engagement in our decision to adapt how we operate Vertigo. Alongside other discussion points which Nour will have detailed in his report.

EdCon is next week and I am looking forward to the opportunity to discuss and debate with student representatives from across the country in sunny BrisVegas. I will be involved in a talk with the NUS Education Officer, so I look forward to seeing many of you there for that.

Zebadiah Cruickshank Assistant General Secretary's Report

Not received

Education Officer's Report

n/a

Mia Campbell Welfare Officer's Report

Not received

Aylin Cihan Women's Officer's Report

As UTS heads into the mid-semester break things have begun to slow down for all students. Overall this semester the Women's Collective was able to run a successful women in media panel, raise awareness for international women's day and introduce a 6 month trial process for free hygiene products in the womens and gender neutral bathrooms. These accomplishments have greatly bettered the lives of women and non-identifying students on campus were we continue to achieve these triumphs. Looking forward to next semester the womens collective will aim to have a meeting with UTS security to ensure that only women or women identifying security members are able to enter and check the women's space. This follows an incident where a male staff security member had checked/entered the 24hr womens space late at night with one other women in the room, making them feel uncomfortable and unsafe, completely opposing the purpose of security. In doing so, we aim to ensure that all women students on campus can feel secure in an area specifically designed to keep them safe.

Joy Xu International Students Officer's Report

In June,

We organised first collective meeting and elected a convenor. Only the OB and a candidate (now elected unopposed) attended the collective meeting.

The newly elected convenor is Raghav Monati, from UTS business school. We have also updated his name and position on our social media and website. He also prepared a speech for running his position:

While studying at UTS over the years, it has become evident that our student community has immense potential waiting to be unlocked, says my belief, whose essence conforms with my aspirations of becoming your Convenor. If given a chance, I'm committed to channelling this latent potential towards meaningful outcomes while advocating for each individual's interest without exclusion or bias from any form whatsoever. Making things work effectively under my Convener mandate stretches around communication focus which drives a collaboration strategy essential for every student's voice to be heard. At the same time, their concerns are addressed transparently in open dialogue across the board. My watchword prioritises engagement through quality events, suitable workshops, and carefully selected forums reflecting diverse interests, ensuring you don't miss out and ultimately foster growth.

My value system also includes ensuring leadership transparency, which forms the bedrock of every activity under my leadership. With your trust never assuming second place as we work together organising, sharing each member's distinct viewpoint to achieve the most desirable campus life where our differences are acknowledged with respect at all times.

I'm well equipped with unmatched skill sets acquired over time, attending to other students' needs through active participation in several organisations and serving across different capacities. I'm committed to enhancing your UTS experience consistently on this leadership path towards lasting impacts in shaping the future of the student association as a whole.

Thank you

By Raghav Motani

In June, we also gained few members sign ups. However, for future development for the international collective, it is concerning that we have a very low rate of activism and

involvement. This is why I suggested at an earlier stage that we need partnership and events before we are holding collective meetings, to proper promote ourselves and attract sign ups, hopefully which can lead us to a better position on organising. However, we have a strict rule around how we run the collectives, and which render our international cohort a challenging group to organise and even harder to propose a way forward. We need a flexible arrangement or by-laws to deal with our challenges.

Bailey Riley Indigenous Officer's Report

Not received

Laura Currie Postgraduate Officer's Report

Not received

Arjeez Slamang Ethnocultural Officer's Report

Not received

George Pond Disabilities Officer's Report

Not received

Sara Chaturvedi Queer Officer's Report

Not received

Boris Tam Environment Officer's Report

Not received

Vertigo Team's Report

Not received

