

MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING OF THE UTSSA - 24TH MARCH 2022

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. Executive Business
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes
 - 3.1 Policy Review Committee
 - 3.2 Finance Review Committee
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. Accessibility 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.
- 7. Operational and Procedural Business, Stipends and Reimbursements.
 - 7.1 Queer Picnic Reimbursement
- 8. Other Business Arising on Notice
 - 8.1. Appointment of persons to the Grievance Committee
 - 8.2 Motion to change the definition of a full-time student
 - 8.3 Motion for minimum faculty notice
 - 8.4 Higher Degree Research funding motion
 - 8.5 Creation and appointment of persons to the SSAF Committee
 - 8.5 Welfare Collective spending motion
 - 8.6 Development cost for the accessibility toolbar
 - 8.7 Trans Day of Visibility Rally
 - 8.8 Queer Vertigo
 - 8.9 Clubs Day/ Promotion for the SA
 - 8.10 Indigenous Collective Spending Motion
 - 8.11 Disabilities Collective Spending Motion
 - 8.12 Education Collective Convenor Confirmation
 - 8.13 Sydney Free Education Protest
- 9. General Business
- 10. Close of Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Anna Thieben	President
Sabrina Yassine	General Secretary
Melissa Sukkarieh	Assistant General Secretary
Cat Doherty	Education Officer
Nour Al-Hammouri	Welfare Officer
Harry Ryan	Postgraduate Officer
Eshna Gupta	Women's Officer
Zebadiah Cruickshank	General Councillor
Christina Markovska	UTSSA Staff
Cal Mckinley	Accessibility Officer
Gracie Abadee	Queer Officer
Vanessa Lim	General Councillor
Saihej Bhangu	General Councillor
Sara Chaturvedi	General Councillor

Rufus Dadd-Daigle	General Councillor
Adrian Lozancic	General Councillor
Elijah Hollero	General Councillor
Suzanne Taylor-Monzer	Cultural Diversity Officer
Melodie Grafton	Observer
Aiylin Cihan	Observer
Olivia	Observer
Rihannon	Observer

MINTUES

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting opens at 6:36pm.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

Anna delivers Acknowledgment of country

1.2 Election of Deputy Chair

General Secretary remains chair

Moved: Cal

Seconded: Nour

Passed unanimously

1.3 Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Junejt who proxies to 1. Sabrina, 2. Mia, 3. Saihej. Sabrina accepts

Antona who proxies to 1. Nour, 2. Mia, 3. Saihej. Nour accepts

Peter who proxies to 1. Nour, 2. Saihej, 3. Antona. Saihej accepts

Mia who proxies to 1. Sabrina, 2. Rufus, 3. Antona. Rufus accepts

Simashee who proxies to 1. Sara, 2. Vanessa, 3. Cal. Sara accepts

Bailey who proxies to 1. Harry, 2. Zebadiah, 3. Gracie. Harry accepts

Camille who proxies to 1. Melissa, 2. Eshna, 3. Cat. Melissa accepts.

1.4. Declarations of Interest

None

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1. Confirmation of previous minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the previous January Council meeting are taken as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cal

Seconded: Nour

Passed unanimously

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Policy Review Committee

With written consent the following nominate for the Policy Review Committee as a ticket for the election.

- 1) Bailey Riley
- 2) Vanessa Lim
- 3) Mia Campbell

Motion: That the UTSSA elect this ticket as the Policy Review Committee.

Moved: Sabrina

Seconded: Nour

Passed unanimously

3.2 Finance Review Committee

With written consent the following nominate for the Finance Committee as a ticket for Election.

- 1) Cal McKinley
- 2) Rufus Dadd-Daigle
- 3) Zebadiah Cruickshank

Motion: That the UTSSA elect this ticket as the Policy Review Committee.

Moved: Rufus

Seconded: Melissa

Passed unanimously

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Anna gives a summary of correspondence to the UTSSA

5. OFFICE BEARERS' REPORTS

5.1. President

Report is summarised.

Melodie, makes mention of the Food Co-Op and the initiative she began last year.

Discussion ensues about Food Co-Op vs Food Pantry

Eshna, mentions food wastage

Nour: I have a friend who works at the USYD Food Co-Op I can ask how they run theirs for inspo!

Vanessa: Last year when I talked to the food Co-op, they were sourcing food locally, people would hypothetically bring containers for the food and then they would pay by the kg/L, whilst a food pantry is cheap to free food that is often donated.

5.2. General Secretary

Report is summarised.

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

Report is taken as read.

5.4. Education Officer

Report is taken as read.

5.5. Welfare Officer

Report is summarised.

5.6. Women's Officer

Report is summarised.

5.7. International Students' Officer

No Report, extenuating circumstances are accepted.

5.8. Indigenous Students' Officer

Report is summarised.

5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Report is read.

5.10. Cultural Diversity Officer

Report is read.

5.11. Accessibility Officer

Report is summarised.

5.12. Queer Students' Officer

Report is summarised.

5.13. Environment Officer

No report

6. OTHER REPORTS

6.1 Committees

No committees yet

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

7. OPERATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL BUSINESS, STIPENDS AND REIMBURSEMENTS.

7.1 Queer Picnic Reimbursement

Motion: That the UTSSA reimbursee's Gracie \$30.97 for picnic spending

Moved: Gracie

Seconded: Suzy

Passes Unanimously

8. OTHER BUSINESS ARISING ON NOTICE

8.1 Appointment of persons to the Grievance Committee

Motion: That Fran Dougenis, Lisa Windon, and Preeti Somasi be appointed to the Grievance Committee.

Moved: Sabrine

Seconded: Saihej

Passes unanimously

8.2 Motion to change the definition of a full-time student

Motion: That the UTSSA urges UTS to change the definition of a "full time student" from "18-24CP/Session" to "3 Subjects OR 18-24CP/Session"

Moved: Harry

Seconded: Zeb

Passes unanimously

8.3 Motion for minimum faculty notice

Motion: That the UTSSA urges UTS and the various UTS faculties to give a minimum 2 weeks' notice of required textbooks/materials to students that are required for their subjects.

Moved: Harry

Seconded: Zeb

Passes unanimously

8.4 Higher Degree Research funding motion

Motion: That the SRC supports changing HDR funding from a reimbursement-based model to a model whereby the university fronts the money for the required materials.

Action: This scheme is taken to the academic board with the SRC's support.

Moved: Harry

Seconded: Sabrine

Passes unanimously

Suzy, what is the justification for the university making you pay out of pocket?

Harry, the level of uncertainty in HDR

Nour, is the science academic board rep, asks if that reimbursement scheme is for everyone in HDR?

Harry, will search for the specifics

8.5 Creation and appointment of persons to the SSAF Committee

Motion: That the SRC form a standing committee on the Campaign for a fair allocation of SSAF.

Moved: Sabrine

Seconded: Nour

Passes unanimously

Mover and seconder speak to the purpose of the committee:

- Work can be more collaborative/communicative
- Effective with planning and delegation
- Committee will officially report back to the SRC so everyone on council is privy to the progression of the campaign.

Expressions of interest received from Saihej, Vanessa, Rufus, Harry

Motion: That the SRC elect the executive and 4 student members Saihej, Vanessa, Rufus, Harry.

Moved: Nour

Seconded: Zeb

Passes unanimously

8.6 Welfare Collective spending motion

Motion: That the Welfare Collective has an upper spending limit of \$300 for BBQ and Fundraiser spending.

Moved: Nour

Seconded: Aylin moves through Sabrine

Passes unanimously

8.7 Development cost for the accessibility toolbar

Motion: That the UTSSA approve \$962.50 for the purposes of developing the Recite me toolbar on the UTSSA and Vertigo Websites.

Moved: Sabrine

Seconded: Cal

Passes unanimously

8.8 Trans Day of Visibility Rally

Motion: That the SRC supports the Trans Day of Visibility Rally on April 2nd and forms a contingent to attend the rally

Moved: Elijah

Seconded: Gracie

Passes unanimously

Elijah, will bring banner to the rally

Cal, spoke to the importance of the rally

8.9 Queer Vertigo

Motion: That the SRC endorses the creation of a 2022 edition of Queer Vertigo

Moved: Gracie

Seconded: Melissa

Passes unanimously

Olivia, speaks to the importance of Queer Vertigo and keeping it autonomous from Vertigo as a solely queer publication.

Rhiannon, speaks to a common goal and the importance of the magazine after the delay of the normal 2 year cycle of publication due to Covid.

Gracie, there are so many voices within the collective that are not given a platform and the pandemic disproportionately affected marginalised students and it's particularly important as by re-activating campus, UTS should take more of a stance as a more of a queer friendly university.

Elijah, supports the creation of Vertigo because it gives voices to intersectional people and a lot of Queer work remains surface level or performative e.g wear it purple day

Cal, there has not been a Queer Vertigo for a long time and especially with a lot of the terrible things to community has had to deal with it comes at a good time

Suzy, is it separate to Vertigo?

Rhiannon, yes we may reach out to Vertigo for advice however the current Vertigo team won't have anything to do with the magazine.

Aidan, Queer Vertigo can be extremely powerful and impactful and it's a great opportunity to endorse a Queer Vertigo in principle. However, there will have to be a business case made in terms cost and quotes etc.. Especially since Vertigo has been a pain point for president for many years. If you can reach out to Vertigo and have an autonomous Queer chapter that may be a possibility for cost cutting.

Rhiannon, yes we would have to ask Vertigo but might be a big ask if they already have all their editions planned out

Olive, we recognise that the Queer experience is not universal and that that budgeting is also a big concern and I've been in contact with printing services. In terms of taking over the Vertigo magazine, we would not want to but in to their already laid out plans and doing it online would be a disservice to the magazine as since 2005 it's always been a hard copy

Melodie, what about a zine? That would be very queer.

Olivia, quite small scale for what should be a large-scale magazine

Melissa, says it gives heaps of people opportunity to publish their work and making it super accessible to those who want to contribute and consume.

Harry, has an issue with the Vertigo editorial team not being brought to the table as they are directly elected and the team should at least have room to input as it undermines the whole point of electing the whole team. If you can use the Vertigo name but print a completely disconnected magazine it that may be an issue

Olivia, I understand where you are coming from so at the end of the day the whole Vertigo team is not Queer. So even though they get elected we are also elected by our collective.

Anna, just to clarify it's called Queer Vertigo but is not connected to the magazine?

Sabrina, what about the queer members of Vertigo allowing to be let in on the process?

Gracie, Vertigo can help coordination and certain logistical things but when it comes to creative judgment the people who are running it from the collective side of things, we would rather they avoid stepping on toes but it's just about having that conversation. A lot of people don't like publicising that they are queer so I don't see a problem with certain members of the team being there especially because the democratic process is so different for queer because we want to vote to remain anonymous.

Olivia, no qualms about any queer student getting involved from Vertigo just want it to remain sperate to the magazine

Eshna, the big issue coming up is that it is called queer 'Vertigo'. So, since it's so attached to Vertigo then can we use a different name and that will separate it from Vertigo and alleviate that stress about democracy and about the Vertigo being involved. Also, Shirley can't say that we are spending too much on Vertigo because it's separate.

8.10 Clubs Day/Promotion for the SA

Motion: NO MOTION

Anna, we have a club's day in July (not sure about exact dates) where we can have collective stalls around Bluebird and Night Owl. Activate charges us to participate in clubs' day but they don't publicise us on clubs' day and just shove us in a corner.

Anna asks: Would people prefer to use our wall for pestering or Night Owl?

Elijah, I am happy to use it half half, as the night owl is really good for students. But can we use the other half for trans day visibility.

Eshna, we can also divide it up for women's.

8.11 Indigenous Collective Spending Motion

Motion: That the SRC to approve a \$100 upper spending limit for food for the BBQ.

~~**Motion to donate \$50 to the GoFundMe for Jai Wright's funeral costs. This motion lapses as it needs approval from Mariah**~~

Moved: Zeb

Seconded: Nour

Passes unanimously

8.12 Disabilities Collective Spending Motion

Motion: That a spending limit of \$100 be passed for snacks for a Disabilities Collective Movie Night

Moved: Cal

Seconded: Eshna

Passes unanimously

8.13 Education Collective Convenor Confirmation

Motion: That Sara Chaturvedi is confirmed as the Education Action Group Convenor

Moved: Cat

Seconded: Suzy

Passes unanimously

8.14 Sydney Free Education Protest

Motion: That the UTSSA to support and endorse the NUS and NSW Education Collectives 'Sydney Free Education Protest - Staff and Students United'

Moved: Cat

Seconded: Zeb

Passes unanimously

Melissa, support important to speak on and support USyd.

Melodie, do we know what UTS NTEU is planning for that day, we can do something together.

Cat, Mark Bourne will be speaking, at the rally and I will get the NTEU to email branch members and get in touch with them to get their support

Melissa, hopefully the NTEU members will be able to come to the meeting and be open to discussion about the progress of the campaign. Either way we are looking for their endorsement

Melodie, if you can get some correspondence from the NTEU and their plans for the day that would be great

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Motion: **To vote in GB on the motion that the UTSSA supports the National Day of Action on the 5th of April as a result of the NSS survey**

Moved: Eshna

Seconded: Melissa

Passes unanimously

Motion: **That the UTSSA supports the National Day of Action on the 5th of April as a result of the NSS survey**

Moved: Eshna

Seconded: Melissa

Passes unanimously

Motion: **To vote in GB on the motion that the UTSSA supports all demands of the NSW Nurses and Midwives association:**

Action:

- Break the public sector pay cap
- Ratios in Hospitals NOW
- Better funding over all for public hospitals

The UTSSA will make social media post in solidarity with the NSW Nurses and Midwives,

The UTSSA stands against calls to ban this strike action from the NSW Industrial Relations Commission

The UTSSA calls for a protected right to strike under NSW Industrial Relations legislation

Moved: Melissa

Seconded: Nour

Motion: **That the UTSSA supports all demands of the NSW Nurses and Midwives association:**

Moved: Melissa

Seconded: Eshna

Suzy, something I'd like to see happen as Ethno officer is that before every year can students get a consult, right before they begin degree. Many students don't actually know what they are getting into with their

degrees, and a lot of student think that would be a really useful service especially as it will be compulsory, so student won't miss out.

Nour, this semester I was doing something similar, where instead of speaking to continuing students, I was speaking to commencing student and I had to do a feedback and evaluation sheet, however this was an optional resource for students.

Sabrina, we should look into it.

Motion: **To vote in GB on the motion that the UTSSA supports the Day of the Unborn child Counter Protest**

Moved: Melissa

Seconded: Eshna

Passes unanimously

Motion: **That the UTSSA supports the Day of the Unborn child Counter Protest**

Moved: Eshna

Seconded: Suzy

Passes unanimously

Note made: To avoid bringing up lastminute motions in GB when they should be added to the agenda for SRC to have notice and allow for proper consideration.

10. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closes on 8:23