

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE UTSSA – 28TH FEBRUARY 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
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 Audit Report + Fee
 - 7.2 2021 Policy Book ratification
 - 7.3 Ethnocultural reimbursement
8. Other Business Arising on Notice
 - 8.1. Appointment of persons to the Grievance Committee
 - 8.2 Vertigo Budget Approval
 - 8.3 Convener approval Welfare collective
 - 8.4 Convener approval Women's collective
 - 8.5 Website accessibility Toolbar spending
 - 8.6 Election nomination automation spending
 - 8.7 Accessibility Collective logo spending
 - 8.8 Queer Collective Mardi Gras motion
 - 8.9 CISA Dis-affiliation
 - 8.10 Ethnocultural Collective motions
 - 8.11 Amending SA website
 - 8.12 Omission of UTSSA Declaration for Good Behaviour
 - 8.13 Media Policy Amendment
 - 8.14 Political declarations
 - 8.15 Education Action Group motion
9. General Business
10. Close of Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Anna Thieben	President
Sabrine Yassine	General Secretary
Melissa Sukkarieh	Assistant General Secretary
Cat Doherty	Education Officer
Nour Al-Hammouri	Welfare Officer
Harry Ryan	Postgraduate Officer
Peter Mumford	Ex-officio Member
Zebadiah Cruickshank	General Councillor
Joseph Chalita	Vertigo
Biljana O'Connor	UTSSA Staff
Christina Markovska	UTSSA Staff
Camille Smith	Indigenous Officer
Cal Mckinley	Accessibility Officer
Gracie Abadee	Queer Officer

Mia Campbell	General Councillor
Vanessa Lim	General Councillor
Chloe Raffety	General Councillor
Saihej Bhangu	General Councillor
Sara Chaturvedi	General Councillor
Rufus Dadd-Daigle	General Councillor
Elijah Hollero	General Councillor
Simashee De Silva	General Councillor
Adrian Lozancic	General Councillor
Will Simmons	Observer
Mariah Brown	UTSSA Staff
Holly Hayne	Observer
Angela Jin	DSP

MINTUES

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting opens at 6:32pm

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

Anna delivers Acknowledgment of country

1.2 Election of Deputy Chair

General Secretary remains chair

1.3 Attendance, Apologies and Proxies

Junejt who proxies to 1. Peter, 2. Sabrine, 3. Nour. Peter accepts

Eshna who proxies to 1. Melissa, 2. Cal, 3. Vanessa. Melissa accepts

Suzy who proxies to 1. Sabrine, 2. Elijah, 3. Vanessa. Sabrine accepts

Bailey who proxies to 1. Gracie, 2. Nour, 3. Peter. Bailey 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.

Adrian, edit: "Justification for the 3000 copies to be printed in the first edition - and the cost do to so, which was \$20,000. Whether spending \$120,000 was necessary when we had online resources (issuu)."

Mover: Camille

Seconder: Nour

Passed unanimously

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Anna gives a summary of correspondence to the UTSSA

5. OFFICE BEARERS' REPORTS

5.1. President

Report is summarised.

5.2. General Secretary

Report is summarised.

5.3. Assistant General Secretary

Report is summarised.

5.4. Education Officer

Report is summarised.

5.5. Welfare Officer

Report is summarised.

5.6. Women's Officer

Report is read by Sabrina as Officer is absent.

5.7. International Students' Officer

No Report, extenuating circumstances are accepted.

5.8. Indigenous Students' Officer

No report provided, however speaks to month on council.

5.9. Postgraduate Students' Officer

Report is summarised.

5.10. Cultural Diversity Officer

Report is read by Sabrina as Officer is absent.

5.11. Accessibility Officer

Report is summarised.

5.12. Queer Students' Officer

Report is summarised.

5.13. Environment Officer

Report is summarised.

6. OTHER REPORTS

6.1 Committees

No committees yet

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

Peter from the University Council gives a report on the last council meeting and communicates relevant information to the SRC

7. OPERATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL BUSINESS, STIPENDS AND REIMBURSEMENTS.

7.1 Audit Report + Fee

Motion: That the SRC approve \$6,900 for the audit of the UTSSA and \$2,150 (not including GST) for the preparation of the statutory financial report for a total upper spending limit of \$9100

Mover: Camille

Seconder: Elijah

Passes Unanimously

7.2 2021 Policy Book ratification

Motion: That the 2022 SRC ratify the 2021 SA Policy book

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Sabrine

Passes Unanimously

7.3 Ethnocultural reimbursement

Motion: to reimburse approved \$120 for books that were included in a raffle prize for members on O'Day (receipt attached)

Motion Lapses due to extra cost needing to be added

8. OTHER BUSINESS ARISING ON NOTICE

8.1 Appointment of persons to the Grievance Committee

Motion: That Wendy Lam, Chandra Renouf, Mariah Brown, Christina Markovska and Simon Fletcher be appointed to the Grievance Committee.

Christina, speaks to reallocating staff positions as the role requires a lot of work for the year

Amendment (amenable to the mover) to remove Chandra Renouf and Staff, and table the rest of the election for the next meeting however still elect both Wendy and Simon.

Amended Motion: That Wendy Lam and Simon Fletcher be appointed to the Grievance Committee.

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Elijah

Passes unanimously

8.2 Vertigo Budget Approval

Moved: Harry

Seconded: Elijah

See budget

Harry, describes that a photobooth may be an unnecessary cost and a UTS student can be hired/resourced to take photos instead

Will, inquiries about the Uber fairs and if driving was considered as an option or public transport

Joey, describes how the location of printing makes it difficult

Adrian, discusses the costs of the slack workspace and if the lite option can be considered

Joey, describes the nuances and how this is an incorrect assertion but will look into the options

Zeb, inquiries about the design workshop and the necessity of the associated costs.

Joey, describes the zine but concedes that materials can be provided by the library or UTSSA

Gracie, moves to the question of the cost for parties and asks how many drinks are bought with \$2200?

Joey, drinks at the last party ran out at 9:30. 100 people cannot be covered by drinks

Harry, notes if the bar tab is at the loft of underground, you are able to get subsidised to an extent

Joey, since we are not a club society those privileges aren't afforded

Final motion/amended budget:

The UTSSA approves the middle column of the Vertigo budget with the following conditions:

- **Remove the end of semester party**
- **The photo booth and animation are done by students**
- **Remove Uber fair's**
- **Remove materials for the zine**

Final Amendments; -

Moved: Zeb

Seconded: Sabrina

Passed unanimously

8.3 Convenor approval Welfare collective

Motion: That Aylin Cihan be confirmed by council as the Welfare Collective convenor

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Nour

Passed unanimously

8.4 Convenor approval Women's collective

Motion: That Bridie Macken be confirmed by council as the Women's Collective convenor

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Elijah

Passed unanimously

8.5 Website accessibility Toolbar spending

Motion: That the SRC approve the spending of \$3200.00 plus GST for the annual subscription to an accessibility toolbar for our UTSSA and Vertigo websites.

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Cal

Passed unanimously

Elijah, describes the features of the current tools used for accessibility.

Biljana, notes that she can send more details with a booklet that describes it's benefits and it's a company called Recite me that has the various tools

Harry, Asks about the difference between the toolbar and our current option?

Cal, answers.

Biljana, this tool has more flexibility also - text-to-speech, re-styling options, reading helpers or real time translation to over 100 languages

Rufus, an issue is that if you are accessing the current toolbar from a personal computer, you don't receive the same features.

8.6 Election Nomination Spending

Motion: That the SRC approve the spending of \$2131.25 for the development of an online election nomination form to be first implemented in our 2022 elections.

Motion lapses as no seconder or mover

8.7 Accessibility Collective logo spending

Motion: That \$60 be paid to artist Frankie Catt for the designing of the Accessibilities Collective logo

Moved: Camille

Seconded: Elijah

Passed unanimously

Peter, preference is that the designer is a current UTS student

Aidan, a precedent should be that UTS students get paid first (or just get first preference) and where we can locate designers or externals we try and locate them within the student body e.g as alumni

8.8 Queer Collective Mardi Gras motion

Motion: That the SRC endorse and organise a contingent for the Mardi Gras protest on March 5th.

Moved: Gracie

Seconded: Camille

Passed unanimously

Sabrina, are we creating a UTS contingent for the event?

Gracie, yes we will have one

Elijah, if we form a UTS contingent it would be good if there is a Banner that we can bring as support

Anna, there was one last year that you can track it down.

8.9 CISA Dis-affiliation

Motion: That the UTSSA permanently disaffiliate with CISA

Moved: Sabrina

Seconded: Rufus

Passed unanimously

Aidan, speaks to the situation of CISA and his experience with CISA in previous years. The new organisation is AISA which is an NUS affiliate and would be something to look to support in the future

Sabrina & Anna, express agreement

8.10 Ethnocultural Collective motions

Motion 1: That the SRC establish an Ethnocultural Social Media Officer position alongside the current Convener and Officer positions.

Moved: Sabrina

Seconded: Elijah

Passed unanimously

Motion 2: That the UTSSA collectives to unanimously endorse and support current Ethnocultural Safe Space campaign.

Amendment (amenable to the mover). Sabrina, notes that because of collective autonomy we do not want to “force” the collectives to support anything but rather we can “call on” the collectives to support this space and vote on it with their own members in collective meetings.

Amended Motion: That the UTSSA calls on collectives to unanimously endorse and support current Ethnocultural Safe Space campaign.

Moved: Sabrina

Seconded: Nour

Passed unanimously

Motion 3: That the UTS Students Association condemns the Morrison government for pushing discriminatory policies that negatively impacts migrant students and complicit parties for failing to oppose these amendments.

Moved: Sabrina

Seconded: Zeb

Passed unanimously

8.11 Amending SA website

Motion: The UTSSA will list all councillors and office-bearers, easily accessible for all students on the "Student Representative Council" or a new "Elected Officeholders" section of the website. This will

include the name of the councillor/Office-bearer, the start of their term, and the ticket/group they were elected on for reasons of transparency."

Amendment (amenable to the mover): To remove "and the ticket/group they were elected on for reasons of transparency."

Moved (amendment): Peter

Seconded: Adrian

Passes unanimously

Sabrina, tickets to an extent don't actually represent the groups on council and promotes dis-harmony and continue to sow lines of division on council

Anna, that information is available but not pertinent to our role on council

8.12 Omission of UTSSA Declaration for Good Behaviour

Motion: The association will remove the "UTSSA Declaration for Good Behaviour" requirement for office-bearers, as it is unnecessary considering existing rules and regulations.

Motion lapses as this requirement does not exist, where the requirement did exist last year it has been extinguished

Noted, required to follow the by-laws and constitution in an undertaking you sign when you put in your nomination form in therefore unneeded motion

8.13 Media Policy Amendment

Motion: Amend the section 5.3 of the UTSSA Media Policy, from "Only the President is authorised to make official comment to the media about sensitive or contentious issues; issues of a political nature; or issues relating to funding or management" to "Only the President is authorised to make official comment to the media about sensitive or contentious issues; issues of a political nature; or issues relating to funding or management as an official representative of the UTSSA. ~~However, students may do so in an individual capacity.~~"

Peter, notes you cannot attach your title and responsibility to the SA but comments have always been allowed.

Melissa, agrees on removing the last section.

Will, speaks to benefits of changing the motion.

Amendment (amenable to the mover): Last sentence includes, "*In accordance with section 5.6, students may do so in a private capacity.*"

Moved (amendment): Peter

Seconded: Will in the name of Zeb

Passes unanimously

8.14 Political declarations

Motion: That councillors declare membership of registered political parties, or significant unregistered political entities and for this information to be displayed on the website for transparency purposes.

Moved: Adrian

Seconded: Cal

Motion does not pass 1-24, Adrian voted for

Holly, weird motion, raises concerns of people's privacy and safety, it's alright for student to know who's in what political organisation but not in this capacity.

Will, launches into noting that this can jeopardise people safety and Adrian is doing it solely to put his party's logo and name on our official party website, alludes to the notion of Mcarythism.

Adrian, denies this

Camile, nobody has been quiet about political affiliations, but this is taking it too far

Peter, if it is good enough for the highest committee within the university not to have this in their policy it is good enough for the UTSSA

Harry, Unnecessary political division again by Adrian and brings in political identity in a time where we should be more bipartisan

Gracie, student are already alienated if you look about how many people voted in the election and this just adds to this

Chloe, I think are think student unions are inherently political organisations however I'm not for people having to register and it can't be a substitute for political debate. Agrees with the notion that it hints to McCarthyism and isn't welcome in this space.

Aidan, not a single person here has been endorsed by a political party it is when they have been endorsed and supported by a political party then this could be a requirement however and that has not occurred in the UTSSA we are simply party members which is our right in this democracy and not be either publicly labelled or registered on the website for no good reason except to give Adrian a platform.

Will, no one is representing their political parties when they come to these meetings and records this is something that should already been noted by Adrian.

Rufus, notes that it labels individuals unnecessarily.

Sabrina, point out that it pointlessly categorises people when so much of what we have to do with the SA has nothing to do with political identity but rather personal and inherent values

→ discussion ensues about its unnecessary nature

Moved: Adrian

Seconded: Cal

Motion does not pass 1-24, Adrian voted for

8.15 Education Action Group motion

Motion: That the SRC endorse the upcoming EAG rally: 'No Cuts No Fees: Student Protest to Defend Education' on Wednesday 9th March.

Moved: Cat

Seconded: Elijah

Passed unanimously

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

Policy Review and Finance Committee:

Sabrina, expressions of interest are now open for the Policy Review and Finance Committee where three students aside from the President, Gen Sec and Assistance Gen Sec will sit on the committee. Please email expressions of interest prior to the deadline and we'll elect committees at the next meeting.

10. CLOSE OF MEETING

Meeting closes at 8:02