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**Student Representative Council Meeting #1 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes**

Friday the 31st of January 2020, 15:00 –17:00

Parramatta City: 8.10 - Kingswood: G.26 - Bankstown: 1.060 - Zoom: 548542494

**Members Present:**

* Daniel Bonatti - Vice president education – Postgraduate (Chair)
* Mandii Carr– Vice President Activities
* Frederick W. Bekker – General Secretary
* Leahanne Baker - Nirimba Campus representative
* Clare DaSilva - Parramatta Campus Representative
* Natasha Ferrer - Liverpool Campus representative
* Vlad Focas - Bankstown Campus Representative
* Aditi Sengupta - Campbelltown Campus Representative
* Allen Feng – Ethno-Cultural Representative
* Vageesh Jha - Residential Students Representative
* Erdem Yigiter - Queer Representative
* Sarah Cupitt - Online Students Representative
* Josh Newton - Hawksberry Campus representative (arrives at 3:46pm)
* Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark - Disabilities Rep(arrives at 4:48pm)

**Observers/Additional:**

* Grant Murray – Student Representation and Participation
* Pualine Tan – Student observer

**Apologies**

* Shayne Miller – First Nations Representative
* Anirudh Kathik – Parramatta City Campus Representative

**Absent:**

* Matthew Bojanic – President
* Danielle Wolf - Environment Representative
* Rohan Chheda - International Student Representative

**1. Welcome**

The Chair officially opens the meeting, and welcomes members and those in attendance, expressing his happiness at members participating.

The Chair outlines best meeting practises to be held during the duration of the meeting.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

The cultural protocol of the acknowledgment of the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is held on.

The Chair discusses the recent bushfires and extends his support to the communities affected.

**3. Apologies**

Any Apologies received are noted by the Committee;

* Shayne Miller – First Nations Representative
* Anirudh Kathik - Parramatta City Campus Representative

**4. Declarations of Material Interests**

The Chair invited Board members to declare any new material interests in relation to any matters on the agenda or their role on the Board more generally.

*-Sarah Cupitt*

*-Natasha Ferrer, and*

*-Frederick Bekker*

declare that they are on personal relations with Seghal Sumgha regarding Agenda item 14

*-Sarah Cupitt*

declares that they are on personal relations with Matthew Jones regarding Agenda item 14

The Chair calls on all members to ensure they submit their monthly reports, even if late.

**5. Confirmation of Previous Meetings Minutes and member reports**

Following amendments submitted by Mandii Carr, the minutes from the previous meeting and member reports are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

**6. Action Sheets from Previous Meetings**

The Committee noted the actions taken on items listed.

**7. Starring of items**

The Starring of items for discussion is to take place, with all unstarred items as having been considered and noted, and their respective recommendations as adopted.

Item 11 has been starred by Vageesh Jha

Item 12 has been starred by Mandii Carr

Item 13 has been starred by Mandii Carr

Item 14 has been starred by Frederick Bekker

Item 15 has been starred by Frederick Bekker

Item 16 has been starred by Mandii Carr

Item 17 has been starred by Daniel Bonatti

**8. Arrangement of Business**

No change to the arrangement of business is required.

**9. Report from Student Representation & Participation**

The Student Representation & Participation provides their report and allows for queries.

Grant Murray notes that C3 congress is occurring the following week, and that attendance is compulsory for all SRC members. The transition from Orgsync to WesternLife as the online media for student engagement is outlined.

The inclusion of SRC into Western Connect is to take place, which is to allow for future Student consultation on relevant issues.

There is a change to the editor’s position, and the new director of student publications has been chosen to be Jostina Basta.

There is a renewed emphasis on the new student joining method and how new members interact with orientation.

The election for the incoming SRC representatives shall occur within the second week of April, and methods to engage further with the student body are discussed.

The budget has been limited to $75,000 for the current SRC body to ensure fairness for the future elected team.

Grant Murray encourages communication with the CLO for campus representatives and discusses future payment methods for representatives.

**10. Report from the President of the SRC**

Daniel Bonatti outlines the importance of members performing the role of their portfolios. Mandii Carr notes the importance of members responding to flying minutes.

**NEW BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

**11. Communications Strategy – Vageesh Jha, Seconded by Sarah Cupitt**

*Refer to attached Agenda Item Document*

The Communications Strategy Working Group (CSWG) has been meeting to improve our engagement with students. Pursuant to the working groups conceived outcomes, a number of proposals and actions are brought forward. The total amount of this purchase shall be $683.88

The future communications team as the interim shall be comprised of Vageesh Jha, Sarah Cupitt, and Frederick Bekker, as well as any other members that are interested.

*Motion Moved:*

*The SRC shall seek the formation of a Communications team to co-ordinate and do online social outreach for the Council*

*The SRC shall purchase a monthly subscription to ‘Hootsuite’ to aid in the delivery of online content for $39 per month*

*The SRC shall purchase a monthly subscription to ‘Canva Pro’ to aid in the delivery of online content for $17.99 per month*

***Motion Passed Unanimously***

**12. Community Research funding - Vlad Focas, Seconded by Mandii Carr**

Vlad Focas outlines his wishes to lead a team to create outreach towards the student body. This shall include 3x $50 gift cards for students as incentive. Per Mandii Carr’s questioning, appropriate scientific methods are to be used to collect the relevant data. The proposed timeline is to be completed within a month. The research is to pass through the ethics committee of Western Sydney University post being approved by the SRC.

Grant Murray raises the issue that SSAF funding is not to be used for research purposes.

After discussion Vlad Focas shall be removing the money allocation element of this motion.

*Motion Moved:*

The SRC would like to initiate a taskforce to investigate, via scientific methods, the major concerns of students and formulate targeted initiatives and campaigns.

***Motion Passed Unanimously***

**13. Disability Awareness Training – Vlad Focas, seconded by Clare Da Silva**

Vlad Focas presents the motion on behalf of Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark. There are three proposed workshops for 20 students each in order to make the university more ‘disability aware’

Upon Josh Newtons questioning, the proposed workshops shall be informed to the wider student body via Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark ‘connections’ within various departments via email, personal messages to friends on Facebook, sharing posts on Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Josh question the purpose of the goal of the training, and Clare Da Silva responds that having both a student and staff aspect of this engagement would be most apt, and would hold the university most accountable.

Mandii Carr outlines the previous email thread on this topic and question answered.

Daniel Bonatti raises his concerns that this amount shall not be used to effectively benefit students and shall rather benefit staff. Vlad Focas responds with his belief that staff awareness shall assist with all students suffering with mental illness and other disabilities.

Sarah outlines that she wishes to all spaces payed for to be used so as to not waste SSAF fees. The issue of not having a full outline of implementation is also raised.

*Motion Moved:*

As such the Disability Collective would like to request a total of up to $9000 to facilitate these three sessions on the Bankstown, Campbelltown and Parramatta Campuses.

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| **Against** | **Abstain** | **For** |
| Josh Newton | Natasha Ferrer | Vlad Focas |
| Vageesh Jha | Frederick Bekker  | Erdem Yigiter |
| Daniel Bonatti | Sarah Cupitt | Clare Da Silva |
|  |  | Mandii Carr |
|  |  | Aditi Sengupta |
|  |  | Allen Feng |
|  |  | Leahanne Baker |

***Motion Passes***

**14. Election of the Small and Regional Campus Representative and Women’s representative – Frederick Bekker**

*Refer to attached Agenda Item Document*

As per the received EOI’s attached, I move that a vote is held in order to elect the incoming Small and Regional Campus Representative and Women’s representative.

Grant Murray emphasise the impartial nature required in electing new members of the SRC and conducts the vote.

**Small and Regional Campus Representative**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Vivek Rathod** | **Subhekshya Sharma** |
|  | Vlad Focas |
|  | Erdem Yigiter |
|  | Clare Da Silva |
|  | Mandii Carr |
|  | Aditi Sengupta |
|  | Allen Feng |
|  | Leahanne Baker |
|  | Natasha Ferrer |
|  | Frederick Bekker  |
|  | Sarah Cupitt |
|  | Josh Newton |
|  | Vageesh Jha |

Daniel Bonatti abstains from this motion

***Motion Passed Unanimously:***

*Subhekshya Sharma elected as Small and Regional Campus Representative*

**Women’s representative**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Aleksandra Tomic** | **Summer Anne Subakti** | **Jaime Vassallo** | **Sumegha Sehgal** |
| Vlad Focas | Josh Newton  |  | Frederick W. Bekker |
| Mandii Carr | Allen Feng |  | Vageesh Jha |
| Erdem Yigiter  |  |  | Aditi Sengupta |
| Clare Da Silva |  |  | Natasha Ferrer |
| Leahanne Baker |  |  | Sarah Cupitt |
|  |  |  | Daniel Bonatti |

The issue of conflicts of interest regarding Sumegha Sehgal’s personal relationship with various members is discussed.

***Motion Passed:***

*Sumegha Sehgal elected as the Women’s representative*

**15. Environmentally sustainable merchandise order – Frederick Bekker**

*Refer to attached Agenda Item Document*

The purpose of this purchase is to provide the students of WSU with environmentally sustainable re-usable items that will assist them in their university journey. Particularly aimed at first year students entering at O-week, and additionally furthering the word of the SRC out there as a platform for students to have a voice and encourage more students to get involved. The merchandise chosen has been as per the democratic poll conducted in late 2019 by students and advertised on the WSU SRC Facebook Page. This merchandise shall be distributed to all campuses equitably for fair distribution to all students.

After spending a really long time looking at prices online, and have eventually found prices which are comparatively affordable due to the bulk nature of the purchase, and shall have tangible ongoing benefits to students. Attached are the three cheapest price quotes found for each item within the agenda item document.

After thorough discussion the motion has been deferred to be moved either via flying minute or the following meeting.

**Action item: All Campus representatives shall make a stock intake of their existing merchandise and report this back ASAP.**

**16. Planning for 2020 - Clare Da Silva, seconded by Sarah Cupitt**

After thorough discussion on the underutilisation of funding within 2019, it is deemed action is necessary to ensure that budgets are used effectively.

**Action Item: For each SRC Representative to set up a rough schedule of projects for the semester that are relevant to their position and fit within their procedural guidelines.**

**17. SRC Member Budgets – Frederick Bekker, seconded by Josh Newton**

In order for SRC members and representative best to fulfil their elected role it would be prudent to allocate $2,000 to each member to allow for spending to benefit students such as events, etc.

*Motion moved:*

The SRC allocates $2000 per each SRC representative, in order to be utilised to benefit the student body. The total cost of this funding is $46,000.

Vlad Focas and Clare Da Silva abstain due to believing the General Secretary and the President should be allocated funding.

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| **Against** | **Abstain** | **For** |
|  | Vlad Focas | Erdem Yigiter |
|  | Clare Da Silva | Mandii Carr |
|  |  | Aditi Sengupta |
|  |  | Allen Feng |
|  |  | Leahanne Baker |
|  |  | Natasha Ferrer |
|  |  | Frederick Bekker  |
|  |  | Sarah Cupitt |
|  |  | Josh Newton |
|  |  | Vageesh Jha |
|  |  | Daniel Bonatti |

***Motion passed***

*Mandii Carr moves to extend the meeting by 30 minutes, and Clare Da Silva seconds.*

**20. General business**

Any General Business of the Council is to be discussed here;

The issues of storing merchandise in SRC offices is raised by Allen Feng, and the prevalent fragmentation and un-uniformity of merchandise.

**Action item: Allen Feng, Frederick Bekker, and any other interested members are to meet and to organise a merchandise purchasing order for the next SRC meeting.**

Daniel Bonatti discusses his wish to create an International student Travel concession program.

**Action item: Daniel Bonatti to send out flying minute regarding organising an International student Travel concession program.**

C3 congress is occurring in the following and is compulsory attendance for SRC representatives. If members are unable to attend, they are encouraged to inform Grant Murray.

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark arrives to the meeting at 4:58pm

Matthew Bojanic shall be arriving back on the 2nd of February 2020.

Furniture can be purchased by campus CLO’s and SSAF funding is no required to be spent on this purpose.

**Action item:** **Frederick Bekker the General Secretary shall create a Doodle Poll to gauge availability for representatives for future meeting dates.**

**21. Next meeting and closure**

The next scheduled meeting of the SRC is to be set by the General Secretary following results of the Doodle Poll

Close of meeting at 5:04pm

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| --- |
| **Student Representative Council Action Sheet**  |
| **Action**  | **Responsibility**  | **Completion**  |
| Special meeting #3 – All members are to read and provide feedback for the ethics statement | SRC | Pending  |
| Meeting #1 2020 - All Campus representatives shall make a stock intake of their existing merchandise and report this back ASAP | All Campus representatives | Pending |
| Meeting #1 2020 - For each SRC Representative to set up a rough schedule of projects for the semester that are relevant to their position and fit within their procedural guidelines. | Each SRC Representative | Pending |
| Meeting #1 2020 - Allen Feng, Frederick Bekker, and any other interested members are to meet and to organise a merchandise purchasing order for the next SRC meeting. | Allen Feng - Ethno-Cultural Representative,Frederick Bekker -General Secretary,any other interested members | Completed |
| Meeting #1 2020 - Daniel Bonatti to send out flying minute regarding organising an International student Travel concession program. | Daniel Bonatti – Vice President (Postgraduate education) | Pending |
| Meeting #1 2020 - Frederick Bekker the General Secretary shall create a Doodle Poll to gauge availability for representatives for future meeting dates. | Frederick Bekker – General Secretary | Completed |