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**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

**2020 Meeting 9 - September**

Tuesday September 29th – 1:00-3:00pm

Meeting ID: 921 7117 0319

**Unconfirmed Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Mary-Pearl Chung – President (Chair)

Vageesh Jha - Vice President Education - Postgraduate

Griffen Burgess - Vice President Education - Undergraduate

Nikodin Matic - Vice President - Activities

Tyler Wilson - General Secretary

Simon Preuss-Kearney – Kingswood Representative

Manika Sahni – International Student Representative

Rosina Armstrong-Mensah – Women’s Representative

Danielle Wolf – Environmental Representative

Adeem Jiwani - Parramatta City Representative

Sean Vierik – Residential Representative

Rameez Parkar – Ethnocultural Representative

Samira Huqe - Small and Regional Campus Representative

Robert Reed – Disabilities Representative

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clarke – Bankstown Representative

Veronica Ficarra – Hawkesbury Representative

Leanne Markovic – Online Representative (partial absence)

**Observers/Additional:**

Shonali Kumar (Student Observer)

James Newbold (NUS Speaker)

Paulin Tan (Student Observer)

Sarah Cupitt (Student Observer)

Sarah McDougall (Student Observer)

**Apologies:**

Razin Polara – Parramatta South Representative

Crystal R Ram – Nirimba Representative

Tracey Tran – Campbelltown Representative

1. **Procedural Matters**
   1. **Welcome, Introduction, and Apologies**

The Chair officially opens the meeting at 1:10pm, acknowledging Country, and welcomed members and guests. The following members have provided their apologies for this meeting; Leanne Markovic, Razin Polara, Tracey Tran and Crystal Ram.

* 1. **Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians of the Land**

The Chair acknowledges the Council is meeting remotely on the lands of the Darug, Eora, Dharawal, Gandangarra, Wiradjuri and Bundjalung peoples. The Chair pays respect to campus and community Elders, past present and future and acknowledges any First Nations peoples present.

* 1. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chair invites the committee to declare any new conflict of interests in relation to any matters on the agenda or their role on the committee more generally. No members declare any conflict of interest.

* 1. **Starring of Item**

*All Items to be starred for discussion*

* 1. **Order of Business**

*Order of Business is to be conducted as per the agenda.*

* 1. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

*Vicky seconds the July and August minutes*

* 1. **Confirmation of Member Reports**

*Can we confirm who seconded the member reports? Danielle Did*

* 1. **Action Sheet from Previous Meeting**

*Pearl and Tyler to discuss action sheet from previous meetings.*

1. **General Business of the Council**
   1. **Report from the Chair**

*Pearl discusses the budget request system being down over the past couple of weeks and she has been speaking to staff and students about the fee hikes, James is here to speak on that. She attended the USyd protest on Tuesday/Wednesday last week. She has also been soeaking to Tracey who asked to keep us updated on her project (in her member report) the Kind Project went well and the project for student submission of good deeds wasn’t rolled out as well as anticipated.*

*Following Clare’s recent resignation leaves us with a few vacancies now. We are looking at strategies to promote these positions and get more EOIs. In the email, Tyler suggested using social media to promote the upcoming EOIs. WesternLife, Pearl has access to send out emails to the 45,000 students and staff which allows us ability to mass communicate if needed. It will be used by a case-by-case basis.*

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

*SRP is not present today.*

* 1. **Report from Collectives**

*Danielle talks about Diversity Fest and the Enviro Collective will be collaborating with them. Monday, Luke will be doing a welcome to country as part of the opening which is live streamed. This involves workshops on different activities. Saturday for the last day includes an event such as planting, how to grow in small spaces etc. Specific themes per day for this Diversity Fest.*

*Rameez (Ethno-cultural Representative) has been working on Diversity Fest. He thanks EC and encourages everyone to come along to the working groups.*

*Manika (International Representative) has also been working on Diversity Fest and content for it. Advises they need to compile all the content and several people were helping but are no longer able to help and she requires some help with video editing and asks reps if anyone knows someone with these skills. Manika suggested professional help as she wants the content to look professional. Rameez suggests we have an in-house media team who can assist and it may be quicker. Manika suggests outside help may not take too long as everything is ready to go and just needs to be compiled.*

*Action Item: Pearl to post in Media Group to find a volunteer and circulate a flying minute regarding professional help.*

*Robert (Disabilities Collective) advises due to Covid there is limitation on events. They have been meeting with different individuals in regards to technologies in helping with AIPs. Putting captions on Zoom, 3 minute delays between tutors speaking and when the captions arise. Having meetings with Sally/Natalie/Stephen from ITDS department. Hoping to pick up on this next month due to forced staff leave. Will speak to Grant for EOIs for DC due to Vicky moving to Bankstown Representative.*

* 1. **Report on SRC Budget**

1. **Reports and Recommendations from SRC Committees**
   1. **SRC Clubs & Activities Committee**

*Just waiting on student leaders to book in a second meeting for that committee.*

1. **New Business of the Council**
   1. **NUS – James Newbold**

*James speaks on the fee hikes and the relevance to him. He has deferred due to cost of course at USyd. NUS are the peak body for student representation. They have student unions affiliate to them. He thanks us for our affiliation. James offers the opportunity for reps to ask questions regarding NUS.*

*Vicky asks about representation from a disability space. James points out they did not have a disability officer for some time. They are working on putting together a disabilities conference. Vicky asks why they are not taking it as a national issue and why there is no Disability Representative. Vicky says that Disabilities is left out even when they are represented which needs to change at the national level. Vicky asks about the plan for what will happen in regards to Disabilities if the vote for the fee hikes will be lost. Vicky also asks how can we ensure there is a disability officer if no one identifies as such from the universities.*

*Veronica mentions a tweet about a police raid on a USyd meeting and asks for clarification on this. James provides context on activism around USyd at the moment including funding cuts and fee hikes. He also points out the protests are also against police oppression. Lots of questions around why police a policing certain groups of people and not others. Jamberoo, sporting matches, beaches etc. are all open but not being policed.*

*Danielle asked about environmental stuff and there’s not much activity for some time regarding environment officer. James advises that NUS did a lot of environmental activism last year including rallies and protests. NUS were running out of money and an audit was conducted. Many student unions dissolved and lost a lot of funding. Less student activism and less money to spend. Tough decision made to remove environment officer and instead support a different organisation in this space. He points out the website is also not very well updated. Danielle asks if there is plans to restore the office or incorporate an office bearer of some kind. James says there has been talk but there is a need to restore funding first. There is an increase in campus accreditation.*

* 1. **Kind Project – Tracey Tran**
  2. **Developments to the Decommissioned Parramatta North Café (Simon Preuss-Kearney)**

*Seconded by Sean Vierik*

*Motion is passed.*

*Action Item: Simon to set up working group with students to decide on what to do with the space.*

* 1. **SRC Brand/Eco Friendly Covid-19 Masks for Residential Students**

*Robert addresses drying agents in polyester masks.*

*Agree that we’re not voting today and a flying minute will be passed when details are finalised.*

* 1. **Western Education Action Group**

*Seconded by Griffen.*

*Pearl amends motion to remove funding requirement.*

*Vicky stresses requirement to come together as a holistic collective not just from individual perspectives. Nikodin requests that we ensure protests are legal and follow the letter of the law to ensure our reputation is protected.*

*Motion is passed.*

*Action Item: Pearl to coordinate action group with members of SRC.*

* 1. **Employability Webinar**

*Manika would like to hold the agenda item due to questions raised during informal meeting. Raise funding request to $1500. She is yet to discuss with organisers with the event held at the end of October. She will likely send flying minute due to timing of next meeting and event.*

* 1. **Activities for Various Campuses**

*Nikodin would like to amend motion to $8500 to include Bankstown.*

*Danielle raises concerns about bean bags and Covid-19 safety. She also questions the funding and whether or not this should come out of the $50,000.*

*Nikodin agrees with the point regarding bean bags. He will also provide a draft of the predicted spending for the previously approved $50,000. Nikodin is happy to amend request to $4500 with the remaining funding coming out of his budget.*

*Seconded by Danielle.*

*Motion has been passed.*

*Action Item: Campus reps to liaise with CampusLife in regards to where activities are to be located.*

* 1. **Activities for Kingswood**

*Robert enquires about games inclusive of students with sensory issues. Nikodin and Simon request suggestions for which these students can be accommodated. Vicky addresses gaming consoles and warnings for students with epilepsy. Tyler discusses making it the responsibility of everyone to ensure social inclusion and awareness in regards to sensory issues.*

*Seconded by Nikodin.*

*Action Item: Simon and Nikodin to follow up with Robert regarding social inclusion provisions.*

*Action Item: Simon to discuss with Emily location for activities.*

*Motion is passed.*

* 1. **Drug Safety at WSU**

*Shonali addresses that there is very limited information on the university website in regards to harm minimisation. The website does have small subsections for counselling services etc. Shonali will send through suggestions on what can be improved in this sphere.*

*Nikodin links the Drug and Alcohol Policy in the University Guidelines.*

*Robert address the way TAFE utilises drug and alcohol safety within their courses and how we can leverage this in WSU.*

*Seconded by Pearl.*

*Motion is passed.*

*Action Item: Tyler to coordinate working group with SRC reps and open up to other students as well.*

1. **Other Business**

*Nikodin -*

*Pearl – addresses Sarah Cupitt’s suggestion that the meetings were not advertised on Facebook/WesternLife.*

*Action Item: Nikodin to organise tutorial for WesternLife for new members.*

*Pearl re-emphasises importance of member reports and indicating meeting attendance.*

*Nikodin also points out budget that has been approved but not spend needs to be made aware of.*

1. **Next Meeting and Close**

Pearl closes meeting at 2:58pm.

**Additional Documentation for August SRC Meeting**

August Meeting Action Sheet

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| **Student Representative Council Action Sheet** | | |
| **Action** | **Responsibility** | **Completion** |
|  | Hollie | Pending |
| Submit budget request for CISA Affiliation | Vageesh | Pending |
| Liaise with NUS and NUS delegates to determine affiliation fees; ensure budget request is entered in Western Life  Redelegate | Hollie | Pending |
| Confirm who will be responsible for organising these meetings  Liaising with Tyler | Simon | Pending |
| Liaise with staff from Campus Life/SR&P to organise budget request and procurement of gaming items for Parramatta City campus | Adeem | Completed |
| Complete budget request and progress with purchase of sports flooring  Ordered samples, waiting for final confirmation OEC | Nikodin | N/A |
| Seek clarification on point 8 within the document on Transgender people; bring the final document to the Council when complete  Clare to send email out with final document | Clare | Completed |
| Enquire about on-campus space for SRC to hold meetings and capacity including social distancing  Vageesh spoke to security who are looking into it | Vageesh | Pending |
| Investigate what risk assessments may be required to allow clubs to use sporting facilities on campus and begin negotiations with WSU on this issue  Done by campus life/sporting team | Nikodin | Completed |
| Organise recording of future monthly meetings with Jenny Page | Hollie | Completed |
| Draft statement regarding the availability of Learning Guides two weeks prior to semester | All, led by Nik | Completed |
| Create budget request for LinkedIn prizes and form working group to manage LinkedIn  In progress, budget request not formally completed yet due to issues which Grant is working to solve with Manika | Manika | Pending |
| Commence discussion with relevant WSU department regarding security costs | Nikodin | Pending |
| Make contact with the Library team to discuss issues with printing on campus  Adeem advised library not working to full capacity | Adeem | Pending |
| Create a budget request for SRC Clubs Grant and undertake work to establish the scheme | Nikodin | Completed |
| Circulate Doodle Poll to gauge best time for monthly meetings throughout 2020, move a flying minute pending results  Redelegate | Hollie | Pending |
| Follow up with staff about managing WesternLife membership | Nikodin | Completed |
| Establish a working group for the International Student Collective  Working group established | Vageesh/Manika | Pending |

**Action Sheet**

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| **Student Representative Council Action Sheet** | | |
| **Action** | **Responsibility** | **Completion** |
| Pearl to post in Media Group to find a volunteer and circulate a flying minute regarding professional help. | **Mary-Pearl Chung** | **N/A** |
| Working group to be established to decide what to be done with the decommissioned café at North Parramatta. | **Simon Preuss-Kearney** | **Pending** |
| Western Education Action Group to be established. | **Mary-Pearl Chung** | **Pending** |
| Campus representatives to liaise with CampusLife to determine where activities are to be located. | **All Campus Representatives** | **Pending** |
| Simon and Nikodin to follow up with Robert regarding social inclusion provisions for Kingswood Campus activities. | **Simon Preuss-Kearney & Nikodin Matic** | **Pendig** |
| Simon to discuss with Emily location for Kingswood Campus activities. | **Simon Preuss-Kearney** | **Pending** |
| Drug Safety Working Group to be established. | **Tyler Wilson** | **Completed** |
| Organise a tutorial for WesternLife for new representatives.  Tyler to gauge interest for tutorial. | **Nikodin Matic** | **Pending** |
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