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**Student Representative Council Meeting #2 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes**

Tuesday the 25th of February 2020, 15:00 –17:00

Parramatta City: 8.12 - Bankstown: 03.G.54 - Zoom: 203141091

**Members Present:**

Matthew Bojanic – President (Chair)

Frederick W. Bekker – General Secretary

Leahanne Baker - Nirimba Campus representative

Natasha Ferrer - Liverpool Campus representative

Vageesh Jha - Residential Students Representative

Josh Newton - Hawkesbury Campus representative

Allen Feng – Ethno-Cultural Representative (Leaves 4:30)

Danielle Wolf - Environment Representative

Erdem Yigiter - Queer Representative

Sumegha Seghal – Woman’s representative

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark - Disabilities Representative

Sarah Cupitt - Online Students Representative (Leaves 3:30)

**Observers/Additional:**

Angelo Kourtis – Vice President - People and Advancement (Leaves at 3:20)

Michael Burgess - Chief Student Experience Officer- People and Advancement (Leaves at 3:20)

Richard Martino – Student Representation and Participation

Grant Murray – Student Representation and Participation

Mandii Carr – Student observer

Pauline Tan - Student observer

**Apologies**

Aditi Sengupta - Campbelltown Campus Representative

Clare DaSilva - Parramatta Campus Representative

Vlad Focas - Bankstown Campus Representative

**Absent:**

Daniel Bonatti - Vice president education – Postgraduate

Anirudh Kathik – Parramatta City Campus Representative

Shayne Miller – First Nations Representative

**1. Welcome**

The Chair officially opens the meeting at 3:03pm, acknowledging the hard work of Daniel Bonatti and Mandii Carr for the leadership provided during the summer period and of his absence.

Natasha Ferrer and Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark are commended in their work in organising and contributing to the work regarding the bushfire appeal.

The chair calls on all members to be reflective of their behaviour following the number of alleged events that have occurred, and ensure that they act within an ethical manner. As student leaders, it is up to the committee to reflect the ethical values of Western Sydney.

Finally, Mandii Carr is thanked for attending the meeting, and has been granted speaking rights by the Chair. Her previous work in the role of Vice President (Events) is noted and thanked.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

The cultural protocol of the acknowledgment of the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is held on, with further acknowledgment to and any elders past present, and emerging.

**3. Apologies**

Any Apologies received are noted by the Committee;

* Allen Feng – Ethno-Cultural Representative (Present)
* Aditi Sengupta - Campbelltown Campus Representative
* Clare DaSilva - Parramatta Campus Representative
* Erdem Yigiter - Queer Representative (Present)
* Sarah Cupitt - Online Students Representative (Present)
* Vlad Focas - Bankstown Campus Representative

**4. Declarations of Material Interests**

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

*Frederick W. Bekker*

declares that they are on personal relations with Mahad Mustafa regarding Agenda item 11

**Special remarks**

Angelo Kourtis thanks all members for grating their audience. The university interest in having a strong student run functional SRC are outlined and the importance it holds to a healthy university life. The level of support that is available is to the Council outlined and the wishes to assist where possible is discussed.

However, it is emphasised that the university is not concerned in meddling within internal affairs of the SRC, and rather wishes to make the university’s position of availability to facilitate to the ongoing efficiency of the SRC known.

Michael Burgess outlines that if there are any issues that are facing the SRC then they are hoped to be resolved, and that the goal is for an efficient self-run SRC

Per Matthews Bojanic’s request, Angelo Kourtis outlines the basic threshold expected of the SRC in order to discharge its service to the student body, as an example, the basic running of meetings.

Angelo Kourtis and Michael Burgess thank the chair for a space to speak.

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

Following amendments submitted by Vicky-Rae Renier-Clarke, the minutes from the previous meeting and member reports are confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Vageesh Jha Moves, Natasha Ferrer seconds

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clarke abstains due to requiring to send further detail regarding her agenda motion in the previous meeting.

*Motion Passes*

**6. Action Sheets from Previous Meetings**

The Committee noted the actions taken on items listed.

Following query by Vicky-Rae Renier-Clarke, Richard Martino confirms that as per the previous meeting her budget shall been allocated to the SRC budget, with the collective budgets being dissolved.

Following query to Frederick W. Bekker, the budget platform for WesternLife has not been completed yet, and as such the budgets cannot be completed yet so far. Matthew Stansfield is in charge of the project of updating the platform, and as such there is no ETA at the current moment.

Grant Murray shall be processing the Hootsuite and CanvaPro purchase personally in the interim, due to the one-off nature of the expenditure

Vageesh Jha notes that he is hoping to run a number of events at the residence throughout the semester, and has been working with CAPA and is hoping to create a collaborative event with both organisations.

Erdem Yigiter is hoping to run queer picnics following Mardi Gras, with the final goal of these being completely student run in the future. Further work is being done in order to complete the Talent Show to be held in May.

Sumegha Seghal is in touch with the International Association and will be in touch with other international groups and hopes to run a number of events.

Josh Newton has run his first events at Hawkesbury a dog event and hopes to do another on Western fair, and outlines a number of other projects he is working on.

Danielle Wolf outlines her work in the upcoming Western Fair’s and the outreach she has completed within her team.

Natasha Ferrer outlines her work with her CLO and is working on a ‘relaxation zone’, a ‘food friending hour’ with Campus Life, Liverpool Westfield’s with Westfields going to be funding it all. For the upcoming open forum she will be purchasing a whiteboard and incorporating a suggestion box, hoping to create an open platform, a walking group to be organised every Friday, collaborating with Campus bible ministry (CBM) and the Liverpool Youth Council, and more initiatives due to limited timeframes unable to elaborate on.

Sarah Cupitt hopes to contact the students that have benefitted from the online care packages, and is looking into how to best engage with students, including a student survey, and an online speed friending/mentorship workshop. Finally advocating for the student community by calling on W’SUP to create online friendly content

Allan Feng has been doing a number of initiatives, working with his team for Western fair, and shall be working on a number of initiatives for Western Life

**Action item:** Frederick W. Bekker to organise a shared platform for representatives to share about their upcoming project timelines.

Matthew Bojanic touches on the international student concession card and the work within this topic.

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark has been advocating regarding this issue and has been in touch with a number of MP’s and invites members to contact her regarding further efforts.

Vageesh Jha has been in contact with CAPA and is waiting on Daniel Bonatti regarding future action within this field.

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark raises that a major political reasoning as to why the state government has not granted these benefits to international student due the issue of international students not being able to vote within state election.

**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.

Frederick W. Bekker reminds all members that all items left unstarred shall be deemed passed unanimously and thus encourages all members to star any items that they have any qualms or concerns with.

Item 11 has been starred by Frederick Bekker

Item 12 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 13 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 14 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 15 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 16 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 17 has been amended from $4.15 per unit to $3.90 per unit by Frederick W. Bekker

Item 17 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 18 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

Item 19 has been starred by Danielle Wolf and Erdem Yigiter

Item 20 has been starred by Danielle Wolf

**8. Arrangement of Business**

The inclusion of Michael Burgess and Angelo Kourtis’s special remarks to speak to the Council have been added for inclusion between item 4 and 5

No further changes to the arrangement of business are made.

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

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

Grant Murray discusses the many email requiring responding, and that unfortunately due to the large number is being responded to in order of urgency and thus apologises to members having to wait.

Grant Murray apologises for not sending the recording of the previous meeting to the General Secretary, and notes that is likely a future responsibility of the SRC

CanvaPro and Hootsuite shall be purchased on Grant Murrays corporate card, and touches on rather than hiring for the communications strategy, the SRC should be looking at engaging student volunteers.

The Honorarium committee shall be convening in March to organise the honorariums for members, with members requiring urgent payment to reach out to Grant Murray.

Grant Murray encourages community efforts alongside the political efforts of the SRC

Grant Murray discusses with Natasha Ferrer the sourcing of kitchen supplies and printing in the future.

Richard Martino outlines Western life, with 800 events that have been uploaded on the platform, and the official launch has been concluded. 17,000 uses have been recorded, 16,500 being students, and during orientation 1,500 new users, and 700 users downloaded the app. Usage has seen a large uptake, and questions regarding courses/friendship seeking have been found occurring.

The leadership board scheme is outlined, where students through various activities may gain ‘points’ and potentially gain prizes from their engagement.

The final stages of the trialling of credit cards for student leaders and the SRC is being completed, and students shall be able to access their own bank account on behalf of their student group.

Following Matthews Bojanics query, Richard Martino outlines how Chartwell the external provider of outlets, who are discussing the rebranding and reframing of various food/drink outlets on Campus.

**Action Item:** Matthew Bojanic to reach out to Bill Parasas regarding the formation of the student advisory committee relating to food and beverage options available on campus

Richard outlines the textbook procurement and the lack of student representation within this field.

Richard outlines the student accommodation and the lack of student representation within this field.

**Action Item:** Matthew Bojanic and Vageesh Jha to reach out to the CLV regarding the formation of the student advisory committee relating to student accommodation

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

The communication of the Covid-19 Coronavirus outbreak is required to be passed on to the wider student body, and identified students at risk communities are kept informed, including those overseas.

Matthew Bojanic thanks Student representation and Procedures as well as University media for relaying the relevant information to the student community

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark remarks she is receiving up to 54 messages per day, and some students might not be understanding the messages being relayed to students and emphasises the importance of ensuring that all messages relating to the Coronavirus are for appropriate groups. Matthew Bojanic notes that this is an issue that has been relayed to the Vice-Chancellor and thank Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark for her ongoing commitment to assisting the wider student community.

Richard Martino encourages to directing students requesting questions or concerns to the Coronavirus website which is updated daily, or for those requiring assisted services to directly contact the service centre.

Richard Martino empathizes the already ongoing specialisation of emails being sent to emails.

Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark critiques the volume of email communication regarding the virus and argues that there is too much ongoing information being sent, the same level of which was not provided during the Bushfire crisis.

Vageesh Jha notes in light of the communication that within residential accommodation there has been taken negatively towards students of Chinese background, and further critiques the support regarded to those affected by the travel ban

Richard Martino states that he cannot speak on behalf the university, but states that the role that the SRC has in setting an example to the wider student community and showing unity during trying times.

**NEW BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

**11. Election of the new incoming Penrith Campus Representative – Frederick W. Bekker**

Frederick W. Bekker moves that Grant Murray conduct the role of returning officer for the election of the new incoming Penrith Campus Representative, to which Grant Murray agrees.

As per the received EOI’s attached, a first past the post voting system shall be used to select the new incoming Penrith Campus Representative.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yamin Wang** | **Joel Brady** | **Simon Preuss-Kearney** | **Mahad Mustafa** | **Matthew Vilis Jones** |
| Erdem Yigiter | Allen Feng | Natasha Ferrer | Frederick W. Bekker |  |
|  |  | Sumegha Sengupta |  |  |
|  |  | Vageesh Jha |  |  |
|  |  | Matthew |  |  |
|  |  | Danielle |  |  |
|  |  | Josh Newton |  |  |

**Motion passed:**

*Simon Preuss-Kearney elected as the new incoming Penrith Campus Representative*

**12. Environmentally sustainable custom 1L metal bottle merchandise order for SRC + Collectives x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

The purpose of this purchase is to provide the students of WSU with environmentally sustainable re-usable items that will assist them in their journey throughout university. This product is bulk bought and thus passes on savings to the student body. Particularly aimed at first year students entering at O-week, these products shall further the message of the SRC as a platform for students to have a voice and encourage more involvement in campus life.

The merchandise has been chosen by the students as per the democratic poll advertised on the WSU SRC and various collective Facebook Page’s, with the results attached.

This merchandise shall be distributed to all campuses equitably for fair distribution to all students. The items purchased have been ensured to be sourced from environmentally sustainable sources, from companies with strong ethical values ethos. In order to ensure a competitive pricing, the cheapest of three quotes found rule has been utilised and this has been made available previously via email, upon request, and additionally uploaded to: https://1drv.ms/u/s!Al9WnbfmIEDAn1l9OX7Y2InWCbKy?e=9YEhsX.

Each student shall get a merchandise assortment containing the Bamboo keep-cup, Wooden 32GB USB, Metal Straw + cleaning kit, Reusable Metal Bottle, Bamboo Cover Lined Notebook, sticky notes, and Recyclable Bamboo Fibre/Corn-starch Pen. The price for this purchase per student shall be $19.03, with the total purchase for 2000 units for students shall be $38,060

Finally, as per the direction of SR+P the following purchases shall be split into two segments in order to fulfil the under $5000 requirement for motions passed.

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of 1000 environmentally friendly 1L metal bottles for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.80 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,800

Matthew Bojani and Josh Newton note that the large nature of the purchase, and that due to already purchased merchandise available on various campuses, the pending appropriateness of making the purchase. Josh Newton apologises for not responding with the merchandise on his campus as was requested.

It is noted by Erdem Yigiter and Natasha Ferrer the inequitable distribution of merchandise, with Parramatta South, Parramatta City, and Liverpool campus only having Tote bags and sticky notes.

Danielle Wolf raises the she fears that this is an issue within her portfolio, and questions why she was not involved within the decision making process, due to the environmental nature of the purchase. Matthew Bojanic responds that all members are allowed to move a motion per their own discretion if they see it fit. Frederick W. Bekker responds that he has emailed Danielle Wolf two weeks previously with no response received following discussion at the C3 congress in order to gauge her opinion and to discuss the various sourcing choices made.

Matthew Bojanic and Josh Newton note that the large financial nature of the purchase shall exceed the $75,000 spending limit, with only $15,000 that was left unallocated at the end of meeting #2. It is noted that this would leave the SRC without the adequate funds for its conduct of business. As such Frederick W. Bekker shall be deferring agenda items 12 through to 20 to allow for additional time for discussion, with a likely reduced amount of purchase. The role of co-coordinating more further discussion shall be delegating the responsibility to Danielle Wolf following her interest to lead further working groups.

**Action item:** Danielle Wolf and Allan Fang shall be co-ordinating working how much money the council is prepared to allocate, and working out where that money is to be allocated for merchandise. This meeting shall be open to all members for discussion.

*As such motion’s 12 through to 20 have been withdrawn*

**13. Environmentally sustainable custom 1L metal bottle merchandise order for SRC + Collectives additional x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of an additional 1000 environmentally friendly 1L metal bottles for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.80 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,800

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**14. Environmentally sustainable recycled 32GB USB’s custom merchandise order for SRC + Collectives x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of 1000 environmentally friendly recycled 32GB USB’s for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.59 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,590

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**15. Environmentally sustainable recycled 32GB USB’s custom merchandise order for SRC + Collectives additional x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of another 1000 environmentally friendly recycled 32GB USB’s for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.59 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,590

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**16. Environmentally sustainable bamboo custom lined notebook, custom bamboo fibre/corn-starch pen, and custom notepad merchandise order for SRC + Collectives x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of 1000 environmentally friendly eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $3.90 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $3,900

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**17. Environmentally sustainable bamboo custom lined notebook, custom bamboo fibre/corn-starch pen, and custom notepad merchandise order for SRC + Collectives additional x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of another 1000 environmentally friendly eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $3.90 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $3,900

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**18. Environmentally sustainable metal straw and cleaning kit custom merchandise order for SRC + Collectives x2000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of 2000 environmentally friendly metal straw and cleaning kit for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $1.55 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $3,100

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**19. Environmentally sustainable eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups custom merchandise order for SRC + Collectives x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of 1000 environmentally friendly eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.19 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,190

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**20. Environmentally sustainable eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups custom merchandise order for SRC + Collectives additional x1000 – Moved: Frederick Bekker, Seconded: Allan Feng**

*Motion moved:*

The SRC shall make the purchase of an additional 1000 environmentally friendly eco-friendly reusable bamboo keep cups for student distribution as chosen by the student body in a democratic poll. At $4.19 per unit, the total price of this purchase is $4,190

*This motion has been withdrawn as per the discussion above*

**21. Garden project – Moved: Danielle Wolf**

*Background*

Last year (2019) a sum of $5,000 was allocated to the Environment Collective for the purposes of implementing the garden initiative originally tabled (successfully) by Mandii Carr as a SSAF bid. This sum was to cover initial expenses related to planning, purchasing and planting out the garden. Due to the delays encountered in dealing with OEC and other departments unfortunately the funds were unable to be spent. As it is not possible to outline exact amounts to be spent at this time due to the complicated nature of designing the garden because of its location, and our own relatively limited experience, I suggest that this same sum be allocated again as a starting point. This will be for getting the project off the ground now that the raised garden beds are in place, and for the purpose of a ground-breaking event and funding ongoing expert workshops (both internal and external experts) and stakeholder collaborations.

*Motion moved:*

I would like to move that there be an initial sum of $5,000 allocated to the Environment Collective for the purposes of planning and executing the garden project as detailed above.

*Motion unanimously passed (Left unstarred)*

*Per Frederick W. Bekker’s raising, the motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes*

*Moved: Matthew Bojanic, seconded: Josh Newton*

*Passed unanimously*

**22. General business**

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

Josh Newton discusses the idea of bringing a housing cooperative (co-op) where crisis housing can be provided at a more affordable rate for the student body.

Richard Martino discusses the structures in place regarding OEC and the potential resistance to be found. Richard Martino proposed formulating a clear outline of operation, and how it would differ to existing infrastructures.

Josh Newton outlines the structure of University of Sydney and how it is a largely Student run imitative

Matthew Bojanic discusses the difficulty regarding the nature of the SRC being an unincorporated body and the challenges in how this entity would exist.

Vageesh Jha discusses the idea of extending the 2 weeks and $1,500 for an additional week of student crisis housing, into three weeks of full free student housing.

Matthew Bojanic commends Josh Newton and Richard Martino for their discussion regarding the issue.

Natasha Ferrer questions the lack of merchandise available at her campus, and asks when further merchandise can be allocated to her for equitably purposes in line with what other campus representatives have access to.

Mandii Carr outlines that this was due to the fact there was no representation at the time at Liverpool Campus.

Richard Martino suggests campus representatives get in touch with Natasha Ferrer regarding distributing any excessive stock available.

Matthew Bojanic notes that all student jobs have been retained on the Kingswood Campus, and following discussion with the Vice-Chancellor the issue is hoped to be looked into for no further reiterations

**Action item: Frederick W. Bekker to organise a doodle poll gauging member availability for the next meeting**

**Action item: Frederick W. Bekker to send through the Action Item List as soon as possible to the Council.**

**23. 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 5:10pm

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| **Student Representative Council Action Sheet** | | |
| **Action** | **Responsibility** | **Completion** |
| Frederick W. Bekker to organise a shared platform for representatives to share about their upcoming project timelines. | Frederick W. Bekker | Completed |
| Matthew Bojanic to reach out to Bill Parasas regarding the formation of the student advisory committee relating to food and beverage options available on campus | Matthew Bojanic | Pending |
| Matthew Bojanic and Vageesh Jha to reach out to the CLV regarding the formation of the student advisory committee relating to student accommodation | Matthew Bojanic and Vageesh Jha | Pending |
| Danielle Wolf and Allan Fang shall be co-ordinating working how much money the council is prepared to allocate, and working out where that money is to be allocated for merchandise. This meeting shall be open to all members for discussion. | Danielle Wolf and Allan Fang | Pending |
| Frederick W. Bekker to organise a doodle poll gauging member availability for the next meeting | Frederick W. Bekker | Completed |
| Frederick W. Bekker to send through the Action Item List as soon as possible to the Council. | Frederick W. Bekker | Completed |