

AGENDA

SSU Council Meeting

August 2017



Item	Meeting Details	Doc?	Time
	Venue: UN413 Chair: Ana Tinc (President) Minute-taker: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)		
1	Welcome & Meeting Open Meeting open 10:47. Council will observe one minute's silence for contemplation.		10:47
2	Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners The SSU Council respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge that we meet on stolen land and that the sovereignty of this land was never ceded. Council honours their elders past and present and recognises that this always was and always will be Aboriginal land.		
3	Attendance		
3.1	Required attendees: Ana Tinc (President), Sam Roberts (General Secretary), Starr Guzman (Education Officer), Alex Mcgilvray (Welfare Officer), Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair), Swathi Shiva (Postgraduate Representative), Zaheer Qazi (International Representative), Will Joseph (PAVE Representative), Joshua Briers (Queer Representative), Amy Gilderdale (Health & Disability Representative), Joaquina Miller Cooper (Environment & Sustainability Representative), Steven Blacker (Residence Representative), Harry Wall (General Representative), Joe Cullinan (General Representative), Akbar Syed (Education Public Affairs), Letisia Cherian (General Representative), Tarek El Maghraby (People of Colour Representative), Brenna Dempsey (Women's Representative)		
3.2	Attendance: Ana Tinc (President), Sam Roberts (General Secretary), Starr Guzman (Education Officer) (Via Skype Video Call), Alex Mcgilvray (Welfare Officer), Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair), Swathi Shiva (Postgraduate Representative), Will Joseph (PAVE Representative), Amy Gilderdale (Health & Disability Representative), Joaquina Miller Cooper (Environment & Sustainability Representative), Steven Blacker (Residence Representative), Tarek El Maghraby (People of Colour Representative),		
3.3	Observers: James Searle (Executive Officer)		
3.4	Apologies: Joshua Briers (Queer Representative), Harry Wall (General Representative), Joe Cullinan (General Representative), Akbar Syed (Education Public Affairs), Letisia Cherian (General Representative), Brenna Dempsey (Women's Representative)		
3.5	Absent without apology: Zaheer Qazi (International Representative),		
3.6	Acceptance of Apologies MOTION (Nievaart, El Maghraby): That the apologies listed be accepted		
		Carried Unanimously	
4	Confirmation of Agenda and Previous Minutes		
4.1	Ordering and starring of items MOTION (Roberts, Joseph): That the agenda as distributed be agreed to.		
		Carried Unanimously	
4.2	Ratification of previous decisions		

MOTION (Shiva, Roberts):

Carried Unanimously

5 Committee Reports

Written reports submitted by committee and board convenors to Council.

Written reports provided by committees/convenors will be published and available publicly online.

5.1 Secretariat Report

- Executive Officer to be hired as a Full Time staff member

5.2 Services Management Board Report

5.3 Education Board Report

5.4 Welfare Board Report

5.5 Hawthorn Campus Committee Report

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5.6 Croydon Campus Committee Report

5.7 Wantirna Campus Committee Report

5.8 Swinburne University Postgraduate Association Committee Report

5.9 Swinburne International Student Association Report

5.10 Pathways and Vocational Education Committee Report

6 Finance Reports

7 Business

7 Housekeeping, Office Update

The President will provide representatives with an update on office activities and other points of note.

7.1 Credit Card for Bar Manager

Action

That the SSU open a credit card with a limit of \$2,500 for the Bar manager Tom Vana, and increase the organisations credit card facilities master limit accordingly.

Moved: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)

Seconded: Will Joseph (PAVE Representative)

Carried Unanimously

7.2 Budget Update

Action

That the following budget lines be amended:

1. Office Salary - \$187,000 to **\$207,000**
2. Office Superannuation - \$31,790 to **\$35,190**

Moved: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)

Seconded: Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair)

Carried Unanimously

7.3 **In Camera**

Acting Executive Officer

Action

That:

1. Xavier Plummer be appointed Acting Executive Officer from 11th August 2017 (the day after the current Executive Officer ceases employment with SSU) until such time as the recruitment process for a new Executive Officer is completed and the successful candidate is appointed by the Council;
2. For the duration of the appointment as Acting Executive Officer, Xavier Plummer shall be classified at SUE 6.1;
3. The Acting Executive Officer be authorised to increase existing staff member's working hours in order to cover the Hawthorn reception desk during the period of his term as Acting Executive Officer if necessary.

Moved: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)

Seconded: Will Joseph (PAVE Representative)

Carried Unanimously

7.4 **Strategic Plan Themes**

Action

That Council:

1. Adopt the following themes for the 2018 – 2021 Strategic Plan
 - a. Campus culture & community
 - b. Full student organisation service provision
 - c. Student representation
 - d. Financial & environmental sustainability
 - e. Relevance, awareness & engagement
2. Direct the new Executive Officer, once appointed, to facilitate the completion of the Strategic Planning Process by the end of 2017.

Moved: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)

Seconded: Will Joseph (PAVE Representative)

Carried Unanimously

7.5 **Election Positions Criteria**

Action

That the eligibility criteria for the Women's Officer, be changed from, 'Must identify as Female,' to 'Must identify as a Woman.'

Moved: Sam Roberts (General Secretary)

Seconded: Swathi Shiva (Postgraduate Representative)

Carried (2 Abstentions)

7.6 **SSU Annual Election Eligibility Criteria**

Preamble

The SSU annual elections are coming and the positions descriptions and eligibility criteria need to be finalised for us to open nominations. In the last Council meeting no

position descriptions or eligibility criteria were provided and it is crucial that Council sets these with the intended groups of representation in mind. The Executive Officer circulated his recommendations for the eligibility criteria in July, with the exception of the new 58A positions and these need to be decided on by the Council prior to the notice of elections being given.

Platform

That the Council adopts the attached list of eligibility criteria, based off the Executive Officer's recommendation, for the upcoming annual election.

Moved: Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair)

Seconded: Steven Blacker (Residence Representative)

Amendment: Small & Regional, and Person of Colour requirements will be as stated in previous document.

Carried Unanimously

7.7 Free Education: stopping the commodification of an education and fighting government attacks on students.

Preamble

Education is an essential aspect of life both for an individual and a community. Too often, education, especially at a tertiary level, is made inaccessible or impractical due to its cost even under the FEE / HECS HELP scheme coincided with the poor and stagnant living standards young people are faced with.

To fall in line with and show increased solidarity with the National Union of Students' education camping 'Make Education Free Again' the Swinburne Student Union should support the abolishment of fees for higher education courses at commonwealth institutes of higher education and demand the increase of funding to these education institutes. Commodifying education undermines the very purpose and nature of education and as such is detrimental in every sense to the institution, its staff and students and should be fought against at every possibility.

Platform

1. The Swinburne Student Union stands united with the National Union of Student and its affiliates against the Liberal National government and any successive governments who plan cuts to education in any means, increase or introduce new fees and fight any plans for fee deregulation.
2. The Swinburne Student Union supports free education and the abolishment of University fees for all domestic students including the FEE/ HECS help schemes.
3. The Swinburne Student Union opposes the commodification of education.
4. The Swinburne Student Union sees the importance of arts faculties and Arts degrees and opposes any cuts or reductions in arts equations in universities on a funding and institutional level
5. The Swinburne Student Union believes that all political parties that have students interest at heart and are passionate about the importance of education should include free tertiary education in their national and state platforms.

Action

The Swinburne Student Union disregards and abandons support of motion 7.5 in May 2017 council in its entirety.

The Swinburne Student Union will widely promote online (social media and website), in person and through campaigns the union's position on making education free again

The Swinburne Student Union will encourage all political parties to include free and accessible tertiary education in their national and state platforms and supports those within the party seeking to include it.

Moved: Steven Blacker (Residence Representative)

Seconded: Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair)

Carried (2 Against, 4 Abstentions)

7.8 **Endorsement of Nikki Nievaart as the candidate for student representative on Swinburne University Council**

Preamble

University council is the governing body of the university and as such a student voice, and union focus and oriented one at that, is extremely important. The union in previous years has endorsed candidates for this position and it is the policy and belief of the student union that representatives are granted positions on all university committees and boards. It is in our opinion that Nikki Nievaart is a very motivated, well intentioned person and with her strong allegiance to the union and the students she is elected to represent that she will make a great representative on the University council.

Platform

That the Swinburne Student Union council endorse Nikki Nievaart, Hawthorn Campus Chair, to be the official SSU candidate for Swinburne University council.

Action

That a printing allowance of \$100 be allocated from the campaigns budget line for the purpose of distributing election material and representatives openly endorsing Nikki Nievaart as the selected candidate.

Moved: Steven Blacker (Residence Representative)

Seconded: Joaquina Miller Cooper (Environment and Sustainability officer)

Carried Unanimously

7.9 **Official Acknowledgement and thanking of Alex Hume**

Preamble

Alex Hume was a hardworking member of staff at the Swinburne Student Union for 18 months who dedicated countless hours ensuring that union events ran as smoothly and as well as possible. She was a highly valuable asset to the SSU and we wouldn't be in

the successful place that we currently are without her.

Platform

That the SSU officially recognises and thanks Alex Hume for all of the work she did for the organisation throughout the 18 months she was with us and wishes her all the best for her future endeavours. The SSU also welcomes Stef Sergio and Tom Vana to the team and wish them luck in their positions.

Moved: Nikki Nievaart (Hawthorn Campus Chair)

Seconded: Alex McGilvray (Welfare Officer)

Carried (1 Abstention)

8 Reports

Written reports provided by representatives will be published and available publicly online.

8.1	President Report	doc
8.2	General Secretary Report	doc
8.3	Education Officer Report	doc
8.4	Welfare Officer Report	doc
8.5	Hawthorn Campus Chair Report	doc
8.6	<i>Wantirna Campus Chair Report – VACANT</i>	
8.7	<i>Croydon Campus Chair Report – VACANT</i>	
8.8	Postgraduate Representative Report	doc
8.9	International Representative Report	
8.10	PAVE Representative Report	
8.11	Education Public Affairs	doc
8.12	Women's Representative Report	
8.13	Disability Support Representative Report – for noting	doc
8.14	Environment & Sustainability Officer Report	doc
8.15	Queer Representative Report	doc
8.16	Residence Representative Report	doc
8.17	Indigenous Representative Report	
8.18	People of Colour Representative Report	doc
8.19	General Representative – Harry Wall Report	

8.20	General Representative – Joe Cullinan Report	doc
8.21	General Representative - Letisia Cherian	
8.22	Media Committee – Sarah Sordelli Report	doc
8.23	Media Committee – Ryan Carolan Report	
8.24	Media Committee – Imogen Bailey Report	doc
8.25	Media Committee – Felix McPhie	doc
8.26	Executive Officer Report	doc
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9	Other Business	
9.1	Ed-con Report back	
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9.2	Future Meetings	
	The next council meeting will be scheduled by the General Secretary subject to availability.	
	The Next council meeting will be held on the 5 th of September at 12:30pm	
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10	Closing Business	
10.1	Meeting closed.	1:37
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