



MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING #10:
Thursday, 3rd of November 2011.

1. MEETING OPEN:

Meeting opened by James Searle (The Chair).

Welcome to Country:

The SSU respectfully acknowledges that this meeting takes place in the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and honours their elders past and present.

2. ATTENDANCE:

Present:

PRESIDENT - James Searle
EDUCATION - VICE PRESIDENT - Mark Briers
SECRETARY - TREASURER - Matthew Landolfo
ACCESS & EQUITY OFFICER - Conrad Corry
HAWTHORN CAMPUS CHAIR - Vivian Farrelly
~~LILYDALE CAMPUS CHAIR - Emma Onan~~
~~CROYDON CAMPUS CHAIR - Peter Coates~~
~~WANTIRNA CAMPUS CHAIR - Keith Warburton~~
POST GRADUATE REP - Liz Rowe
UNDERGRADUATE REP - Andrew Kirkpatrick
~~TAFE/APPRENTICE REP - James Cooper~~
WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE - Nicole Robinson
~~INTERNATIONAL REP - Vivek Sarode~~
PART TIME REP - Langley Tay
MATURE AGE REP - Aimee McCarten
~~DISABILITY SUPPORT REP - Noel Gardiner~~

Apologies:

QUEER REP - Abigail Michell
PRAHRAN CAMPUS CHAIR - Brice Chappell

Absent:

Observers:

3. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The recorded minutes of the meeting held 16/08/11 are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting and should be published on the SSU website and distributed to the University's 'Executive Group'.

- Moved: *Landolfo*
- Seconded: *Tay*

Carried U

4. REPORTS:

PRESIDENT - James Searle
SSAF Proposal- Legislation is passed – 30% of SSAF, \$900,000-1.1

EDUCATION - VICE PRESIDENT - Mark Briers
Pahran Film & TV feedback session
Yearly Course Reviews

SECRETARY - TREASURER - Matthew Landolfo

ACCESS & EQUITY OFFICER - Conrad Corry
Meeting with students- Issues with Key access.

POST GRADUATE REP - Liz Rowe
SUPA for next year.
CAPA conference

Procedural to include CAPA Motion
Carried U

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE - Nicole Robinson
Conversation Group
Safe Sex & Sanitary Product Vending Machines
Weekly BBQs.
Women's Network launch.

PART TIME REP - Langley Tay

MATURE AGE REP - Aimee McCarten
Vending machines at Prahran
Centrelink & C in C.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

From reports and previous minutes.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION:

→ **Notice of Motion No. 1:**

Public Officer.

- Moved – *Landolfo*
- Seconded – *Rowe*

Preamble:

The current Public Officer, Noel Gardiner, has ceased to be a student and thus ceased to be an SSU Councillor. The Union is looking to recruit an Executive Officer in 2012 who will become the Public Officer, however, until such time, it's appropriate to have a Councillor as the Public Officer.

Motion:

The Council appoints James Searle to the role of Public Officer until the appointment of an Executive Officer and implores the University to fund an Executive Officer with revenue raised through the incoming Student Services Amenities Fee.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 2:**

Keith Warburton – Community Service and Life Membership.

- Moved – *Briers*
- Seconded – *Searle*

Preamble:

Keith Warburton has been a Swinburne character for many years. He's as helpful as he is entertaining and he is a boundless source of information on the history of the Union and the University. Though the Union recognised Keith as a Life Member some time ago, as Keith has decided not to run for office again next year it's an appropriate time to reaffirm our recognition of Keith's Life Membership and ensure his presence is welcome and appreciated into the future.

Motion:

The Council reaffirms Keith's Life Membership, thanks him for his community services and moves that the Minutes of all future Council Meetings be forward to Keith via email and that he always be permitted access to computers and the internet in the Union office. The volunteer of the year will also be afforded the 'Warburton Award' which will see that person's recognised in a fashion agreed to by the next Council Meeting.

Carried U.

→ **Notice of Motion No. 3:**
Volunteer's Celebration

- Moved – *Briers*
- Seconded – *Tay*

Preamble:

Since opening our doors and boosting the Union's membership, many volunteers have come forward to lend their time to the Union and make life easier for our elected representatives. We feel it would be appropriate to recognise and celebrate our volunteers.

Motion:

The Council endorses a fund of up to \$700 for an event to recognise and celebrate the contributions of our volunteers in 2011 and award first annual Warburton award to the best volunteer as decided by the President & Vice-President.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 4:**
SCN Elections

- Moved – *Landolfo*
- Seconded – *Robinson*

Preamble:

The Secretary/Treasurer has written to the University's Executive Group and Governance & Policy Unit to dispute the conduct of the recent elections for the student on University Council, Academic Senate and Faculty Boards and SSAA Board (Sometimes collectively known as Swinburne's 'Student Consultative Network') currently taking place on campus.

The Union has already voted not to recognise the SCN as a form of student representation, however, with such serious questions being raised about the conduct of this year's election, the Union's stance must be strengthened.

Motion:

The Student Union expresses its concerns with regards to the conduct of the SCN Elections and advises students and staff of the University that the SCN has lost any legitimacy as a democratic institution. If the Governance and Policy Unit of the University are at all concerned with student's input on student's affairs, an enquiry should take place immediately into the future of the body and the shape of representation at Swinburne. The President and Secretary/Treasurer will pursue the issue with the University immediately.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 5:****Movember.**

- Moved – *Searle*
- Seconded – *Tay*

Preamble:

Every year men around Australia and around the world don a moustache for the month of November to raise funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and depression in men. Movember is a fun and easy way that the Student Union can support the campaigns of the 'Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia', 'beyondblue', 'Awareness and Education', and 'Global Action Plan'.

Motion:

The Union will donate \$5 for each student (up to 100 students) who provides a photograph of their moustache for the Union's facebook page and on the 1st of December a poll will be conducted on the Union's facebook as to the best moustache. The Winner will receive the SSU Hoodie or T-Shirt of their choice.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 6:****Fair Fares.**

- Moved – *Landolfo*
- Seconded – *Robinson*

Preamble:

For many years one of the most talked about disadvantages facing International and Postgraduate Students has been their ineligibility for state public transport concession cards. On the advice and strong lobbying of affiliate bodies, The National Union of Students is now conducting a campaign to highlight the issue and to encourage state and federal governments to address the disadvantage.

Motion:

The Council endorses the National Union of Student's 'Fair Fares' campaign and will do all it can to publicise the campaign, including the Secretary/Treasurer drafting a letter to the appropriate Ministers and shadow ministers seeking their support.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 7:**
The Knight Review.

- Moved – *Searle*
- Seconded – *Rowe*

Preamble:

The Federal Government has recently moved to adopt many of the recommendations of the Knight Review into International Student numbers, including laws around Student Visas.

Motion:

The Council welcomes the findings of the Knight Review and encourages the Government to adopt all of these recommendations without amendment. The President and International Representative-elec will write to the Government to express that as the Union's view.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 8:**
Baillieu Government Attacks on VCAL & TAFE Students.

- Moved – *Landolfo*
- Seconded – *Searle*

Preamble:

The budget of the first Baillieu Liberal Government in Victoria saw \$418million in funding cut from Victoria's education allocation. Among the hardest hit has been the VCAL and TAFE sectors. The Union has long stood up for our members studying at TAFE, including at the National Conference and Education Conference of the National Union of Students. These further cuts are an attack on TAFE & VCAL students and are yet another example of the conservative government widening the gap between rich and poor and compromising the skills and careers of young Victorians by dismissing the importance of diversity in education.

Motion:

The Council condemns the Baillieu Liberal Government's cuts to the TAFE sector and the Secretary/Treasurer will write to Premier Baillieu and the appropriate ministers to seek and explanation and explain the above as the Union's view. The Council also welcomes the NUS's General Secretary's willingness to help Swinburne Delegates to pursue our aim to see a State and National TAFE Officer elected to the NUS or TAFE peak representative body.

Briers abstention
Carried

→ **Notice of Motion No. 9:****National Union of Students**

- Moved – *Briers*
- Seconded – *Searle*

Preamble:

The President and Education-Vice President have been in negotiations with the General Secretary of the National Union of Students to highlight Swinburne's lack of funding and revenue stream and the need for our affiliation fees to be waived. He has agreed to allow us to affiliate for a nominal fee of \$500. This is in stark contrast to other Universities which pay an average of \$10,000-\$20,000 per annum.

Motion:

The Council votes to renew the Union's affiliation with the peak, national representation body, the National Union of Students, and in doing so, demonstrates our Union's solidarity with students nation-wide in constant campaigns for student's rights, support and equality, and quality of education and welfare services for students. The SSU's conference fees for the 2011 National Conference will be deferred to the first meeting of next year's Council which will decide on the payment based on the level of funding we receive from the Student Services Amenities Fee.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 10:****Union Notice Boards Policy**

- Moved – *Searle*
- Seconded – *Tay*

Preamble:

There is currently no official Union policy on the use of our Notice Boards and there is also some confusion as to fair use of Notice Boards supposedly owned by the SSAA. To clear any confusion the President has drafted a Notice Board Policy for review by the Council.

Motion:

The Council endorses the attached Notice Board Policy until more advertising space has been secured and the President will continue working towards utilising as much advertising as possible or appropriate.

Carried U

*Procedural -
Moved briers
that the amendment be heard with briers as the mover.*

→ **Notice of Motion No. 11:**
The Republic.

- Moved – Corry
- Seconded – Gardiner

Preamble:

The presence of the Queen in Australia is quite offensive to many students from various cultural backgrounds; her visit to Melbourne is insensitive and outrageous.

Motion:

~~SSU condemns the Queen's visit to this fair city of ours.~~ SSU stands against the Monarchy in Australia and recognises the need for Australia to become a Republic independent nation.

Carried???

*Procedural –
that the amendment be heard in place of the original motion as the mover is no longer present.*
Moved – Rowe
Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 12:****Women's Room.**

- Moved – *Robinson*
- Seconded – *Briers*

Preamble:

Since taking on the role, the Union's Women's Representative has established the Women's Room as a place of friendship, support and creativity and run a frequent conversation group to help female international students to practice and improve their English language skills and gain confidence in social situations on campus.

Motion:

In order to make the room as welcoming as possible and to facilitate the expansion of the Women's Network, a budget of \$300 is granted for the purchase of second-hand furniture and decorative items to be used in the Women's Room.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 13:****Women's Room.**

- Moved – *Robinson*
- Seconded – *Briers*

Preamble:

Since taking on the role, the Union's Women's Representative has established the Women's Room as a place of friendship, support and creativity and run a frequent conversation group to help female international students to practice and improve their English language skills and gain confidence in social situations on campus.

Motion:

In order to make the room as welcoming as possible and to facilitate the expansion of the Women's Network, a budget of \$300 is granted for the purchase of second-hand furniture and decorative items to be used in the Women's Room.

Carried U

→ **Notice of Motion No. 13:****CAPA ACM.**

- Moved – Rowe
- Seconded – Tay

Preamble

The CAPA ACM is a three day conference attended by representatives from postgraduate associations from around Australia. It is to be held on campus at the University of Sydney from the 30th November – 2nd December 2011 and will provide an opportunity for the postgraduate representative to gather a better understanding of what is being done for postgraduate students around the country. It will also allow the postgraduate representative the opportunity to engage with presidents of other postgraduate associations from around Australia to help us get SUPA back on its feet in 2012. CAPA has waived our affiliation fee in hope that it will be able to help us send a delegate to the conference.

Motion:

That SSU fund the CAPA ACM conference attendance up to a total of \$500 including the \$220 Conference fee, approximately \$200 for flights and approximately \$120 for accommodation. The postgrad rep will deliver a written report via email by the end of December and to the next Council Meeting.

Carried U

7. GENERAL BUSINESS:

Nil submitted.

8. OBSERVER QUESTIONS:

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9. MEETING CLOSED:

Meeting closed by James Searle (The Chair).