



August ECU Student Guild Senate Meeting Minutes

Location: JO 01.447

Date: 24/08/2016

Time: 18:00 – 19:44



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1.0 Attendance

1.1 In Attendance

President - Lewis Price
General Secretary - Dominic Lindsay
Vice-President (Academic) - Kumbii Zvorwadza
Vice-President (Equity & Diversity) - Kymberlee Finn
Vice-President (Social Activity) - Trent Barron
Environmental Sustainability Officer - Sam Martyn
General Senator - Tim Natkanski
General Senator - Thomas Freeman
General Senator - Lainie Anderson

CEO - Brett Callender

1.2 Apologies

Postgraduate Officer - Vineet Chawla



2.0 Preliminary Matters

2.1 Acknowledgement of Country

"I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on Wadjuk Nyoongar land, and I would also like to acknowledge their elders, both past and present. We recognise that the land was stolen and never ceded, and it always was and always will be Aboriginal land."

2.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

- The General Secretary would like to declare a possible conflict of interest with regards to item 3.2 as they are a current Director of the ECU Jets, the Jets are considering the offer should the Guild not proceed with it.
- The Vice-President (Social Activity) would like to note a conflict on same grounds as the General Secretary for item 3.2.

2.3 Announcements

- The 2016 ECU Student Guild elections are now open for nominations.
- The Communications Officer (Tom Reynolds) has resigned from his position

2.4 Office Bearers Reports

2.4.1 President

- Has been working on the Guild constitution in preparation for the upcoming ECU Guild SGM; and
- Worked on arranging the elections, this has included speaking to the AEC and WAEC before approaching Ron Camp as the returning officer.

2.4.2 General Secretary

- Has been completing duties associated with the role; and
- Main focus has been preparing sponsorship proposals for the ECU Jets as well as working on the ECU Jets Website

2.4.3 Vice-President (Academic)

- Finalising Conference Week details with a focus on filling out the remaining speaker spots;
- Has started to make payments for catering and activities; and
- A reminder that if senators have agreed to promote Conference Week they should make sure that they are available during the pre-arranged time.

2.4.4 Vice-President (Equity and Diversity)

- Primary focus has been on arranging Mental Health Week; and
- Has successfully recruited several new department heads.

2.4.5 Vice-President (Social Activity)

- Continued to work on putting a steady foundation in place for the ECU Jets; and



- Has been involved with the planning of several events in including the upcoming Olympic Party.

2.4.6 Environmental Sustainability Officer

- Successfully ran a quiz night for the ECU Jets.

2.4.9 General Senator (T.F)

- Not present for monthly reports.

2.4.10 General Senator (T.N)

- Wrapped up the AFL season for 2016; and
- Has been involved in several upcoming events including the Olympic Party.

2.4.11 General Senator (L.A)

- Has been working hard on the 2016 ECU Student Guild Ball;
- Has started to work with the new liaison from Phenomenon; and
- Made the first few payments to the venue and events company.

2.4.12 CEO

- There have been several resignations including Jessica Janson (GSA) and Tom Reynolds (Communications Officer);
- Has successfully recruited two new GSA's;
- Work has begun on recruited for the role that was created after the previous records officer was made redundant;
- The NETU has withdrawn their unfair dismissal appeal regarding the redundancy;
- The Bunbury Guild office is now online and is connected to the rest of the Guild network infrastructure;
- Kaspersky has been installed on Guild laptops and desktops;
- The all users virtual machine has been set up and this will allow all team members to access their VM on all Guild computers;
- The next step of the ICT upgrade will involve the deployment of Recfind, that process should start shortly;
- The draft of the standing order has been created and the process to undertake constitutional changes has started as well; and
- The preparation of the EA has begun.



3.0 Priority Items

3.1 Approval of past meeting minutes

SM1608/01: Motion that the ECU Student Guild approve the following meeting minutes as formal accurate and read:

- July 2016 Senate Meeting Minutes
- August 2016 Equity and Diversity Department Meeting Minutes
- August 2016 Social Council Meeting Minutes

Moved: Dominic Lindsay

Seconded: Trent Barron

Please see attachments for the specific meeting minutes.

Motion Carried

3.2 Discussion about the Night Sport Competition Opportunity

SM1608/02: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate accepts the offer as presented by the ECU Sports Centre Manager to manage the ECU Night Social Competitions.

Last Senate Meeting there was an extensive conversation about the night sport competition opportunity and the viability of pursuing the Night Sports Competition for the ECU Student Guild. Before reaching a decision the CEO wishes to present some further information about the opportunity.

Moved: Dominic Lindsay

Seconded: Lewis Price

- The CEO has talked to the financial controller and the response was that the competition was not viable from an accounting perspective
- The main reason was that considering the cost of the opportunity and administrative requirements would make it very difficult to run at a profit
- It was confirmed by the manager of the ECU Sports and Recreation Centre that the availability of the coordinators cannot be guaranteed
- For the Guild Activities officer to run this competition the Guild would need to undertake a change management process
- With the Activities Officer's current role, they work regular office hours, to ask them to work unsociable hours could result in the Guild having to pay an overtime rate
- It has been presented that the Sports Centre would not be free during exams as ECU is committed to holding exams in the halls.

Motion failed with abstentions for the General Secretary and Vice-President (Social Activity) on the ground of their conflict. In addition, an abstention from the General Senator (T.F).



4.0 Discussion Items

4.1 NUS Q & A on Accreditation

4.1.1 Item Summary

Several months ago, there was a discussion about the ECU Student Guild's affiliation with the National Union of Students (NUS) and the fact that it is currently a non-fee paying member (meaning it has not "accredited").

A debate was had about the reasons for and against accrediting for the year of 2016 (or 2017 depending on whether you paid a year ahead or not).

Those less informed on the topic were encouraged to make contact with others to gain a further insight into the various aspects of the debate. To provide Senators with an opportunity to ask questions of the NUS directly – Heidi La Paglia has kindly agreed to video-chat with the Senate for a brief Q&A session.

Heidi is the current Women's Officer for the NUS, representing all women students in Australia. She attended ECU's Orientation Days in Semester 1 and assisted with the Equity & Diversity Department's "ECU Women's Community" stall, provides ongoing support to that club as well as liaises with other campus representatives across the country. Given her positive rapport with ECU – it was agreed upon that she would be the best NUS contact to answer Senator's questions.

Below is the email received by the President from Heidi. The documentation she has provided is in the appendix of the Senate Agenda.

See Appendix A

4.4.2 Question and answer session with the NUS Women's Officer

Below is a summary of the question and answer session between the NUS Women's Officer and the ECU Student Guild Senate

General Senator (L.A) Question asking the NUS Women's Officer about the cost of NUS Accreditation

NUS Women's Officer The cost of affiliation is calculated by the NUS General Secretary based on the number of students within the given university that the NUS would be representing. Individual guilds can then negotiate the fee, currently university accreditation fees range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Environmental Officer Question asking about the difference in services offered by the NUS to Guilds based in Western Australia compared to universities in the Eastern States.



- NUS Women's Officer* Stated that the NUS campaigns on several national issues such as fee deregulation. The NUS will be organising to have a President, a Secretary as well as an Education VP in each state. There was also an additional campaign budget for WA given the issues associated with the distance.
- Environmental Officer* The question began with a statement that the ECU Student Guild is non-factional in nature and represents a broad spectrum of students. It is well known that the NUS is factional in its nature and the question asked how this impacts the organisation of the NUS.
- NUS Women's Officer* The factions do exist but they do not impact the organisations ability to effectively function. Many campaigns are universally accepted such as the one related to Sexual Assault.
- President* A question was asked regarding the use of SSAF money for NUS accreditation and how this was impacted by legislation.
- NUS Women's Officer* Several Universities do use SSAF to pay their accreditation fees and the NUS considers this to be an acceptable use of this money. This is because the NUS does not consider itself to be a political party. It would need to be determined by the individual University and the Student Guild as to if this is appropriate use of SSAF funding.

4.4.3 Procedural Motions

Procedural Motion SM1608/03: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate considers the issue of NUS accreditation in a motion.

Motion Carried

Procedural Motion SM1608/04: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate considers the issue raised in Procedural Motion SM1608/04 as a secret ballot.

Motion Carried



4.4.4 Motion specifically regarding NUS Accreditation

SM1608/05: Motion that:

1. The ECU Student Guild supports the right for students to have a national representative union that is run by students and for students.
2. The ECU Student Guild recognises the importance of the recently successful campaign against the deregulation of university fees coordinated by the National Union of Students.
3. The ECU Student Guild recognises that with a government that is attacking students it is vital to have a national organisation that is capable of organising campaigns across campuses on a national scale.
4. The ECU Student Guild reaffirms one of its core values of unionism in identifying that collectively student unions have greater power and influence when they work together.
5. The ECU Student Guild undertake a fee waiver process to affiliate to NUS as per the 2016.
6. The ECU Student Senate ratify the amount at the next available meeting.

4.4.4 Discussion related to SM1608/05

- General Senator (T.F) noted that the current government has been trying to pass new legislation that would negatively impact students.
- General Senator (L.A) asked General Senator (T.F) why the ECU Student Guild should be concerned with issues outside of ECU and if instead the focus should be on issues that directly impact ECU Students.
- General Senator (T.F) replied that national issues could only be won on by working nationally. A win for one student is a win for all students.
- The CEO noted that the guild should not make any motion that binds the guild to accreditation without specifying what is happening with the cost of accreditation.
- The General Secretary reminded the Senate that the issue of fees were not being considered in today's meeting and the only issue that should be discussed is related to the value of NUS accreditation.
- The point raised by the General Secretary received a note of agreement from the General Senator (T.F).

4.4.5 Motion Result

Motion Failed in a secret ballot with the result being three votes for and six vote against



5.0 Other Items

5.1 Confidential Section

Meeting moves in-camera

Procedural Motion SM1608/06: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate authorises the CEO to remain in the meeting for the following conversation items.

SM1608/06: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate appoints the ECU Student Guild Environmental Officer (Samuel Martyn) to the vacant seat on the discipline committee.

Moved: Lewis Price

Seconded: Dominic Lindsay

Motion Carried

SM1608/07: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate refers the Postgraduate Officer to the Discipline Committee.

Moved: Lewis Price

Seconded: Dominic Lindsay

Motion Carried

SM1608/08: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate disaffiliates the club Nerdspace from the ECU Student Guild Social Council.

Moved: Trent Barron

Seconded: Lewis Price

Motion Carried

SM1608/09: Motion that the ECU Student Guild Senate refer ECU Student Guild Member Sanjay Sivadass to the Discipline Committee.

Moved: Trent Barron

Seconded: Lewis Price

Motion Carried

Meeting moves out of camera

Meeting closed at 19:44



6.0 Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 – Email from the NUS Officer

Dear Lewis and the ECU Student Guild,

Thank you for offering NUS the opportunity to present to the Senate.

The National Union of Students (NUS) is a member-driven organisation and is always keen for feedback and questions. Should you have any; please do not hesitate to ask at any time.

Attached to this email you will find:

- A letter directed to the ECU Student Guild containing information about NUS;
- A document containing a brief history of the National Union of Students and reports from our NUS departments with information about campaigns and other activities that are being run this year; and
- A sample motion / guide for NUS accreditation.

If you could distribute this information on to your Senate members for discussion at the meeting, it would be greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Heidi La Paglia
National Womens Officer
National Union of Students (NUS)

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