



**Flinders University Annual General Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd May 2017.**

Flinders Tavern, Student Hub Level 1

13:12

Present:

<i>Student President</i>	Jordon O'Reilly (Mr. O'Reilly)
<i>General Secretary</i>	Christopher Norman (Mr. Norman)
<i>Education Officer</i>	Hamish Richardson (Mr. Richardson)
<i>Postgraduate Students Officer</i>	Katt Hatzi (Ms. Hatzi)
<i>International Students Officer</i>	Vieshnavee Pandiyan (Ms. Pandiyan)
<i>Social Activities Officer</i>	Ashley Sutherland (Ms. Sutherland)
<i>Disabilities Officer</i>	Kathryn Gallagher (Ms. Gallagher)
<i>General Council Member</i>	Laurence Lagoon-Williamson (Mr. Lagoon-Williamson)
<i>Manager, Student Engagement</i>	Chris O'Grady (Mr. O'Grady)
<i>Minutes</i>	Anthea Stanton (Ms. Stanton)

FUSA Members Present: 50

Meeting Opened: 13:12

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Meeting Open

It was acknowledged that the Student Council meeting was taken place on the land of the Kaurna people.

2. Apologies

Grace Hensel (Women's Officer), Jacinta Robinson (Environment Officer), Khyle Milne (Queer Officer), Hilary Wigg (Welfare Officer), Paige Leedham (Indigenous Officer), Amy Hueppauff and Brodie McGee (General Council Members)



3. Accept Minutes from previous Annual General Meeting

Motion: The FUSA AGM accept the minutes of the previous AGM held on 3rd of May 2016.

Moved: Mr. Norman **Seconded:** Mr. Richardson

No dissent

Motion carried.

4. Accept the President's Report

In 2016 we saw our membership growth to just over 6000 students. This year I'm proud to announce we have over 8300 members, our largest growth in membership since FUSA's beginning.

Last year saw FUSA achieve some pretty huge milestones and achievements.

Representation Last year we appointed our first Mature Age officer for FUSA, Pauline Bullock. This has been a big step in FUSA becoming more representative of the different types of students that study at Flinders University.

The introduction of the Universities strategic plan unveiled a new commitment from the university, which is "to engage students as partners within the university". This has motivated FUSA to undertake a new review following up from the work done in 2011/12 into student representation.

FUSA's Student Representation and Development Officer, Kate Walsh review looked into Student Representation at the course, school and faculty level.

Some of the key outcomes of the review was that Flinders University needs to foster a strong culture to encourage students to become reps in their faculty/school and with the incoming colleges, we need to offer them the skills that is required to be a representative, and we need to reward them for their efforts.

FUSA has also been fighting current legislation before parliament to amend the University Act to remove elected staff and students from University Council. University Council is the peak governing body of the University and is made up of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, external appointed members, elected staff, and elected students.



I am also introducing a new program called “FUSA Delegates” who will become the eyes and ears of FUSA on our satellite campuses, as well as external and online students.

Our Post Graduate Officer Kat has launched the introduction of the Post Graduate Student Association. This group will work

O’Week

In 2017 FUSA well and truly followed up in providing one of the biggest O’Weeks. 110 unique stalls took place across the week, with a 18% and 13% increase on stalls on the Monday and Tuesday of O’Week. Our Outdoor cinema saw a drop off in numbers, 170 students attended compared to the 300 from the year previously. The “Comedy Arvo” saw an increase from 250 students to 350 and the “Quiz Arvo” saw an increase from 120 to 140, it worth noting that space is limited for some of these events. Our main event O’Festia grew in 2017, officially becoming a sell-out, with 3301 tickets sold.

FUSA gave out an extra 1000 tote bags of goodies which were all gone by Thursday morning of

Clubs

In 2017 we have officially have the more clubs operating on campus in the last 20 years. We now have roughly 100 clubs on campus.

Discussions within the University to look at the affiliation of Sporting Clubs under Flinders One to FUSA.

Student Assist

Student Assist saw 646 new cases, with 949 individual issues associated with these cases. In addition 285 individual email enquiries.

Looking Internally at FUSA

We are looking to change the constitution to allow by-elections to become appointments, meaning that when more minor positions on Student Council become vacant they are handled through an appointment process. If one of the office bearer positions (President, General Secretary and the possibility of Education officer) becomes vacant than we will hold a by-election.

Other Successes

In 2016 the University become fair trade accredited, a huge win for the 2016 Environment Officer.



Challenges Ahead

This year we have already awarded our FUSA Development grants to students undertaking some form of professional or personal development.

On the 9th of May the Federal Government will release its latest budget. Deregulation of fees, meaning they could charge hundreds of thousands dollars for your education.

Cuts to programs such as HEPPP which helps to improve access to disadvantage students attend

This year the National Union of Students will release its report done in conjunction with Headspace into student wellbeing. The initial findings is that 7/10 of those surveyed rated their mental health as poor or fair. 80% of students had felt anxious, more than half had experienced panic. Our universities need to do more to address these issues. We as a student association need to work in conjunction with the university, non for profits and NUS to further the services we offer students.

In Closing, I urge you all to continue to get involve with FUSA, be proactive in speaking up about how your student association can be more representative of you. Speak to your friends and family about the issues you're going through while at university, seek out the support services that the university provides. As always you contact me or FUSA via the web, email, Facebook.

By-Election Changes

Currently sections 15.3 and 15.4 read:

15.3. Vacancies must, where possible, be filled within 42 calendar days:

(a) in the case of office-bearer positions and Student Council Officers and

General Members directly elected by students, by a by-election being held in accordance with the regulations, subject to Clause 15.4;

15.4. If a vacancy in an office-bearer position or Student Council office position or General Members of the Student Council occurs within 2 months before the annual elections, the Student Council may elect a student who would be eligible to stand for the position in accordance with the Constitution and the Regulations.



The proposal is to change these sections to:

15.3. Vacancies must, where possible, be filled within 42 calendar days:

(a) in the case of office-bearer positions directly elected by students, through a by-election being held in accordance with the regulations, subject to Clause 15.4;

(b) in the case of Student Council Officers and General Members directly elected by students, through a casual vacancy process held in accordance with the regulations, subject to Clause 15.4;

15.4. (a) If a vacancy in an office-bearer position or Student Council office position or General Members of the Student Council occurs after July 1st, but before the annual elections, the Student Council may appoint a student who would be eligible to stand for the position in accordance with the Constitution and the Regulations.

(b) If a vacancy in an office-bearer position or Student Council Officer position or in one of the General Members of the Student Council occurs after the annual elections but before the 1st of December, the incoming member (or one of the incoming members) for that position must be offered an early start to the term in that position, otherwise Student Council may appoint a current member of the Student Council who is eligible for the position, or Student Council can decide to leave the position vacant.

These changes is a response to feedback from students, student council members, candidates and staff about the difficulty around by-elections. After 3 by elections since 2016 it became clear that not only was the current system on by- election a strain on students and candidates but came at a great financial burden and took staff away from the other work which they were doing. These changes will still require there to be a by-election for office bearing positions as currently they require an increased responsibility as well as a higher honorarium. It is reasonable that these positions should have to go back to the students if the positions are vacated.

All other positions on Student Council would be filled by a causal vacancy process to be outlined in the regulations. This would likely include a small panel making a recommendation to the student council to approve for any non-office barer vacancies.

These changes would also clear up the process which already exists that is to occur if a vacancy is to occur close to or after the annual elections which currently are either not considered or has an arbitrary cut off 2 months before a variable date. The changes fix the date after which clause 15.4 is triggered at the 1st of July (instead of 2 months before annual elections which can occur between 1st August and 15th of October).



Clubs and Societies:

Currently the definition for Club or Society in section 1.1 defined as:

“Club” or “Society” means a group of students and other natural persons who meet for a social, cultural, literary, or other purpose, except for a sporting pursuit. For the avoidance of doubt, a club formed or intending to be established for a sporting pursuit is not permitted to affiliate to the Association under Section 20;

The proposed change is to make it:

“Club” or “Society” means a group of students and other natural persons who meet for a social, cultural, literary, or other purpose., This allows any sporting club that is refused affiliation by Flinders

One (which will currently only affiliate a sporting club that represents a sport that occurs at Uni Games) to still receive support from FUSA.

Currently s20 of the constitution reads:

ha,20.1. Clubs and societies shall be eligible to affiliate to the Association if they fulfill the following requirements:

- (a) have a membership of ten (10) or more students;*
- (b) has a set of rules that governs the operations of the club or society; and*
- (c) any further requirements as approved by the Student Council.*

20.2. A list of affiliated Associations shall be kept by the General Secretary.

20.3. The affiliation of a club or society may only be revoked by a resolution of Student Council.

The proposed change will read:

20.1. Clubs and societies shall be eligible to affiliate to the Association if they fulfill the requirements of the regulations:

20.2. The affiliation of a club or society may only be revoked by a resolution of Student Council.

This change will allow FUSA to be more flexible with clubs and societies while also allowing clubs and societies who are looking for the rules that govern those Clubs and Societies a single document (the regulations) to see the rules and not have to check whether they meet multiple sets of rules in multiple documents.



Motion: The FUSA AGM endorses the proposed changes to the FUSA Constitution.

Moved: Mr. Norman **Seconded:** Mr. Richardson

No dissent

Motion carried.

5. Other Business

Mr. Lagoon: Promoted the National Union of Student Protest Wednesday 17th of May, 3pm Parliament House. Protest against the Liberal Budget university fee increases, cuts to welfare and changes to HECS.

Meeting Closed: 13:29