

University of Wollongong Students' Representative Council

Minutes of 10th Ordinary Meeting of the XXXI Students' Representative Council held on Monday 19th August 2004 in Kemira Room 3, UniCentre Building, University of Wollongong.

Present:

Ben Jones (President)
Rhys Bortignon (Hon. Secretary)
Daniel Simpkins (Hon. Treasurer)
Andrew Tibbitts (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer)
Joel Couchman (General Representative)
Ali Crowshaw (General Representative)
Sean Irvine (Vice President)
Annaliese Constable (Media Officer)
Dominika Grossy (General Representative)
Kate Jones (General Representative)
Matthew Daly (General Representative)
Shane Korytko (International Officer)
Eric Beh (Disabilities Officer)
Benjamin Coughlin (Welfare Officer)
Pamela Mete (General Representative) – arrived 11:28am
Cassandra Harris (Education Officer) – arrived 11:31am
Michael Cheetham (General Representative) – arrived 11:33pm

Observers:

Natalie Peters
Benjamin Coughlin
Rosie Downing
Eric Beh
Shane Korytko

Meeting opened at 11:27am by Ben Jones (President)

Procedural Motion **R. Bortignon**
“To move to the election of Disabilities Officer, Welfare Officer and International Officer”

CARRIED

1. Election of Vacated Positions

Nominations

- Disabilities Officer: Eric Beh
- Welfare Officer: Benjamin Coughlin, Rosie Downing
- International Officer: Benjamin Coughlin, Shane Korytko

Results:

- Disabilities Officer: Eric Beh
- Welfare Officer: Benjamin Coughlin
- International Officer: Shane Korytko

Procedural Motion **K. Jones**
“To move to the Agenda of the 10th Ordinary Meeting”

CARRIED

2. Apologies

04/A10/01 **R. Bortignon / K. Jones**

It was moved that the SRC accept the apologies of Gareth Ward, Denq-Jieh Su and Jenny Nguyen.

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

04/A10/02 **K. Jones / R. Bortignon**

It was moved that the SRC accept the minutes of the 9th Ordinary Meeting.

CARRIED

Abstain 1: Pamela Mete

4. President’s Report

04/A10/03 **R. Bortignon / K. Jones**

It was moved that the SRC accept the President’s Report. [see Attachment A]

CARRIED

Quorum lost: 12:35pm

Quorum reached: 12:55pm

Quorum lost: 12:57pm

Quorum reached: 1:05pm

5. Executives’ Reports

04/A10/04 **K. Jones / D. Simpkins**

It was moved that the SRC accept the written report of Annaliese Constable (Media Officer) [see Attachment B] and the verbal report of Eric Beh (Disabilities Officer).

CARRIED

6. General Representatives’ Reports

04/A10/05 **R. Bortignon / D. Simpkins**

It was moved that the SRC accept the verbal report of Kate Jones (General Representative).

CARRIED

7. General Business

04/A10/06

K. Jones / D. Simpkins

It was moved that the SRC pay the following invoice:

Invoice #	Invoice date	Invoice amount	Creditor	Details	Budget Line
W11157	6-May-04	\$ 30.00	Events	Microphone Hire	Bands

CARRIED

Abstain 1: Benjamin Coughlin

04/A10/07

K. Jones / D. Simpkins

It was moved that the SRC pay the following invoices:

Invoice #	Invoice date	Invoice amount	Creditor	Details	Budget Line
626379062	16-Feb-04	\$ 366.25	Hertz	Vehicle hire	Other Conferences
627441905	21-Mar-04	\$ 97.21	Hertz	Vehicle hire	Other Conferences
U1I0005852	17-Feb-04	\$ 6.50	UniShop	Sunscreen	O week
65	6-May-04	\$ 150.00	Fugg	Performance	Bands
160169	22-May-04	\$ 339.54	Thiess	Rubbish removal	Cleaning
Total		\$ 989.50			

CARRIED

04/A10/08

K. Jones / D. Simpkins

It was moved that the SRC pay the following invoices:

Invoice #	Invoice date	Invoice amount	Creditor	Details	Budget Line
233782	20-May-04	\$ 983.40	UOW	Software purchase	IT
U1I0007089	27-Apr-04	\$ 16.10	UniShop	drinks	n/a
86	7-Aug-04	\$ 70.00	Hecate	Subscription	n/a
17	5-May-04	\$ 64,275.48	NUS	affiliation 2004	Affiliation fees
Total		\$ 65,344.98			

TABLED

04/A10/09

R. Bortignon / K. Jones

It was moved that the following representatives be appointed to the following committees:

Personnel Committee

- Kate Jones
- Shane Korytko

Clubs and Societies Committee

- Sean Irvine

Finance Committee

- Shane Korytko
- Pamela Mete
- Annaliese Constable

Clubs and Societies Appeals Committee

- Matthew Daly
- Ali Crowshaw

Restructure Committee

- Cassandra Harris
- Kate Jones
- Shane Korytko
- Dominika Grossy
- Rhys Bortignon

CARRIED

Quorum lost: 1:36pm

Signed as a true and accurate record:

(Chairperson)

_____/_____/_____
(Date)

Report for 10th Ordinary Meeting

1. Over the past month I have been really busy with ensuring that the completion of our new Constitution ran to schedule and have also been drafting and revising the various sets of regulations which are necessary to complement the accountability and transparency measures in the Constitution. I have also been tending to staffing matters including OH&S issues, as well as running the BBQs on a weekly basis, contributing to the implementation of the Uni's recommendations liaising with the AUQA review committee, and seeking expressions for support for a student-based radio station. The social event that I organised on Monday night for SRC reps and others involved in the drafting of the Constitution went relatively well, and it would be nice to hold more of these events in the future, although we might need to find a different way of funding them. WUPA is planning a joint SRC/ WUPA function which will be a 'meet-and-greet' affair with the VC, VPA and Deans etc invited. I'll will liaise with WUPA on this and let you know more details soon. All the theme weeks are coming up. Amy is doing a good job with Blue Stocking Week, and I know that a lot is happening with Sexuality Week. No word on events yet for Education Week, except for a trivia night to raise funds for the launch of the radio station. WUPA is trying to organise a debate between the candidates for Cunningham, it would be great for us to support that.
2. Can I remind everyone to please try to follow the new procedures regarding the submission of motion forms at least two days before SRC meetings. The purpose of this is so that motions can be typed up before the meeting so that the Honorary Secretary's job is easier, people can be sure of what they are voting for and at least have some time to mull over decisions independently.
3. The Constitution went before Uni Council on Friday. A councillor questioned the section delegating power of interpretation of the Constitution to an honorary solicitor. As a result, I am in the process of further negotiations with the Council's representative. I hope to have this resolved by the end of the week so that the VC can sign off on it by early next week. Thanks to everyone who helped with this, it is going to be a significant part of this year's SRC's legacy.
4. At the Uni Council meeting, reference was made to the need for a Memorandum of Understanding between Uni and SRC. I would like to have a meeting at some point to discuss what we want out of our relationship with the University.
5. As part of the AUQA review, the Uni has prioritised the drafting of a Student Charter, which outlines the rights and responsibilities of students at the University. The initial draft provided by the Uni was unsatisfactory and involved no student consultation. The SRC and WUPA are thus providing our own draft. I'll keep you posted. The trial audit is set down for the 25th- 26th October. The final review will take place 16-19 May, 2005.
6. Regulations have been drafted for elections, publications, a code of conduct, standing orders and finance/ asset procurement. We've met the University's requirements, but the regs still require some work. I'd appreciate any help people can give in getting these done.
7. The plans for a student radio station are going well. The biggest problem with obtaining Uni approval is going to be technical/ network issues such as band

- width. I'd like to thank Shane for all the work that he is putting in to getting this radio station operating.
8. Our issues with UniCentre re KidsUni have been resolved. We need make a decision about future funding for members who have children and those who are members of Clubs and Socs.
 9. Finances are going as well as can be expected. Dan and I still have to put together a fee proposal for University Council. We are going to go through our finances in detail so as to better judge what this fee proposal shall include. We're still waiting for final reconciliation of our revenue for 2000- 2004 fees, once we receive this we'll be in a better position to know where exactly we are financially
 10. The implementation of Uni recommendations seems to be going smoothly but slowly. It would be great if more people could show up to the meetings regarding these recommendations.
 11. A number of reps, particularly Jen, Kate, Pam and Dan have been developing a student survey to find out whether the SRC is meeting the needs of our members. A draft was distributed to reps, any feedback would be appreciated prior to it being distributed to students
 12. In my role as Office Manager, I have been focused on building a more constructive relationship between Council and staff. As many of you are aware, there have been disputes between particular students/ reps and staff, and overall the relationship has been tense. I have spoken to all members of staff and have told them that certain behaviour will not be tolerated and that if certain practices continue, further action will be taken. I have also consulted with the students involved in particular instances, and they are satisfied with the outcome. I have concerns that the Office is still not operating as efficiently as it could be, so I will continue to address this issue in the future and will report back at the next meeting. We have received a log of claims from our CPSU/ PSA members. I have also been attempting to meet with NTEU representatives.
 13. Possible campaigns: There is a rising level of dissatisfaction with college food. Quality and quantity are declining while prices continue to rise. I think that supporting college action on this matter is important both in terms of representing the needs of over 10 per cent of our members, but also in terms of a broader campaign against student poverty and unfair fee increases. It would be good to have some kind of day of protest with regard to fees/ student poverty during education week. Kate, Ali, Sean and I will be meeting with college reps later today. I'll keep you informed.
 14. Also coming up will be the elections for the 2005 SRC. It is crucial we get our regs done. The Uni is in control of these, and have decided to have e-elections. In my President's report in the upcoming Sexuality Tertangala, I have included information for students interested in nominating and voting.
 15. The most visible service that many students see the SRC providing is the weekly BBQ. It is a shame that so few reps are able to help out, we have been relying on Ben, Tracey and Shane over the past few weeks. I would like to extend our thanks to them, and also encourage reps to make more of an effort. This leads me to my final point. The success of this SRC will depend on everyone pulling their weight, which includes more than coming to meetings. My understanding is that all members of the Council should write reports for the meeting, reports for the Tertangala editions, assist executive staff with

projects and work to bring new ideas and solutions to problems facing the SRC. For Gen Reps who are at a loss as to what to help with instigate some ideas for projects, ask around, spend some time around the office to see how things run, come to the BBQ and help out or ask me or an executive member with projects in an area you are interested in if you can help out. You might like to attend their collective meetings. If you would like to help out with admin/finance issues in the office, or are still looking for stuff to do come and see me. There is so much to do and the SRC needs YOU!

16. I have been asked about my own ideas for the future of the SRC, and what I hope we can achieve before the next election. The ultimate aim is to make the existing structures and positions functional and productive so that we are then in a position to argue for further reform like incorporation if that is what students want. I hope that we can set up structures in the SRC including a new constitution, regulations, a Student Charter, and a strong financial management system. Ideally those items will govern in a way to minimise the potential for future corruption, encourage transparency and accountability and allow future SRCs to work within the structures without constant reference to the SRC solicitor. It is my hope that everyone including staff might make suggestions, but of course believe that the views of elected representatives are of paramount importance as was intended. I hope that despite the work on these long term goals we can begin a positive agenda for action that has been missing for a while. Many projects are being run at the moment by hard-working reps that need our support. As President I see my role and that of Rhys will be making sure that valuable projects go ahead and that the Council is able to work on these projects with a minimum of red-tape and fuss, while doing what we need to, under our own rules and those of the University.

Ben Jones

Media Officer report
Annaliese Constable
19th August 2004

- Cath Blakey (or was it Cassie?) and Amy Parish have organised a tertangala distribution stand that they scored from unishop for free – yay
- Currently need help distributing women's edition of the tert around campus.
- Have been organising community forum on same sex marriage for sexuality week and also the action to get a new queer space. The organising to get a new queer space has included creating a petition, leaflet, posters, media release and spreading the word about getting involved.
- So far I have been extremely disappointed with the turn up to meetings to organise this action. Thus far only queer identifying people have shown support in attendance. Hmmm makes me think.
- I have also been disappointed with the lack of assistance Amy and Sparki have received from the rest of the council in organising blue stocking and sexuality week. I see this happening with Environment and Education weeks too. These weeks are not the domain of their allotted executives – these weeks are held and supposed to be supported by the entire SRC. The least you could do is turn up to events.
- Sexuality edition of the tert comes out next week and is being taken to the printers today by Yolande.
- I need some input from Cassie and Lisa in regards to the next edition of the tert which is themed 'e' with a focus on education, environment and the election – I haven't approached them for this yet.
- The next deadline for your SRC reports is the 27th of August they are to be sent to Keziah Judd and are to be dated.
- I have advice on writing your report for any new Reps.
- Anyone who signed the petition for the new queer space when it was outside unishop you need to resign as the petition was vandalised and stolen.
- Please sign the petition for the new queer space if you are in agreeance with what we are requesting.
- Would really like to sort out the constitution shamozzle regarding the wording of media officer/tert editor and more.
- Am about to start researching in order to get the tert staff to the student media conference held in Newcastle later in the year.
- P.S I 'm not editing this so ignore the mistakes. I'm tired.