

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – 29 JULY 2021

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Minutes of the meeting of the Student Advisory Council held at 1:30pm on 29th July 2021 via WebEx.

PRESENT:	Jackson Cocks	Chair University Council - Academic Senate - Undergraduate
	Ben Hamill	Deputy Chair UOW Clubs & Societies Representative
	Carly Lavings	Deputy Chair Persons with Disabilities Representative
	Ashley Bannister	Academic Senate – Undergraduate
	Alec Hall	Academic Senate - Undergraduate
	Sarah Vogel	Academic Senate Postgraduate
	Jay Joshi	Academic Senate - Postgraduate
	David Havyatt	Postgraduate Faculty Representative – BAL
	Theo Totsis	Undergraduate Faculty Representative - BAL
	Bongani Munkuli	International Representative - BAL
	Samuel Harrison	Undergraduate Faculty Representative - EIS
	Helena Ibro	Postgraduate Faculty Representative – EIS
	Aurora Green	LGBTIQ+ Representative
	Mahime Watanabe	International Faculty Representative - ASSH
	Emily Nield	Shoalhaven Campus Representative
	Matt Hammond	Undergraduate Faculty Representative – SMAH
	Kate Humajova	International Faculty Representative – SMAH
	Nicholas Mott	Postgraduate Faculty Representative – SMAH
	Keval Patel	UOW Pulse Student Director
	Sam Jennings	UOW Residences
	Thomeissa Mason	Woilyungah Indigenous Centre - WIC
	Paris Rawaqa	Women's Representative
	Taani Hendrik	WUSA Representative
	Jin Zhao	WUPA Representative
IN ATTENDANCE:	Theresa Hoynes	Director, Student and Accommodation Services Division (SASD)
	Professor Julia Coyle	Pro Vice-Chancellor Students
	Rob Sim	Associate Director, Admissions, Fees & Scholarships (SASD)
	Rebecca Dickinson	Associate Director, Student Service (SASD)
	Adele McKenzie	Manager, Enabling Hub, Future Education
	Deb Porter	Manager, SSAF & Student Projects, SASD
	Grace Mahon	Management Cadet, SASD
	Christine Mason	Student Representation Coordinator, SASD Executive Officer, Student Advisory Council
APOLOGIES	Madeline Findlay	Academic Senate - Undergraduate
	Marg Hansen	Bateman's Bay Campus Representative
	Caitlyn Moore	UOW Clubs & Societies Representative
	Geeta Mahala	International Faculty Representative - EIS

PART 1: OFFICIAL BUSINESS

***1.1 Welcome & Introduction**

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land and welcomed everyone to the fourth SAC meeting in 2021.

The Chair noted that the meeting was quorate.

It was announced that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of taking minutes, there were no objections received from the floor.

The Student Representation Coordinator is the Executive Officer and will take the minutes of the meeting.

The Chair thanked the SAC for attending the meeting, acknowledging the change of meeting date and time. They also welcomed the new members Bongani Munkuli who is the new International student representative for the Faculty of Business and Law, Sam Jennings, the UOW Residences representative and Jin Zhao the President of the Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA) as well as other University staff presenting and in attendance as observers.

***1.2 Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted

***1.3 Arrangement of Agenda**

1.3.1 Conflicts of Interest

No conflict of Interests were declared

1.3.2 Confidential Items

No confidential items were declared.

1.3.3 Starring of Items

The Chair advised the SAC that there would be a change to the starring of items in the agenda. All student representative reports would be unstarred for the meeting as they are considered as being read for the meeting and the draft resolutions can be adopted at this point.

If a student representative would like to raise a point or discussion from the report, they may request the Chair to have their agenda item starred. Members can also raise student matters and /or issues that may be part of their report under Section 3 – Other business.

The following items remained starred for discussion including items in Other Business:

- 1.1 - Welcome & Introduction
- 1.2 - Apologies
- 1.3 - Arrangement of Agenda
- 1.4 - Actions Arising from Previous Minutes

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- 1.5 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 1.6 - Chair's Report
- 1.7 - Membership Business
- 2.1 - Presentation – Student Knowledge Management Project
- 2.2 - Presentation – SAC Goals & Values
- 2.3 - The 16th UN Climate Change Conference of Youth – SAC Climate Change Project Proposal
- 2.4 - Draft Students as Partners Partnership Agreement
- 2.5 - Update- Student Services & Amenities Fee Funding
- 2.9 - Persons with Disabilities Representative report.
- 3.0 - Other Business

RESOLVED 2021/37

That the Student Advisory Council adopt all draft resolutions in respect to unstarred items.

The Women's representative seconded the motion, no objections were received from the floor.

*1.4 Actions Arising from Previous Meetings

The following action items arising from the previous meeting and carried over from 2020.

Actions arising from the 18th May 2021 meeting.

Action Item – SAC Core Value and Goals (SAC Moodle site)

The Chair raised the action item and advised the SAC that a review of the SAC Core Values and Goals from the Leadership Event will be presented to the SAC in a draft version for comment in Agenda Item 2.2 in General Business. The Chair requested that the tabled agenda item be uploaded to Moodle and/or WebEx for SAC members to review during agenda item 2.2.

Agenda Item 2021/30 – Action Item – Updated SARC Action Plan

The Chair advised that the SARC Action Plan has been finalised with some small formatting changes to be finalised and ready for the UOW Website. Once finalised the SRC will upload the Action Plan to the SAC Moodle Site.

Actions arising from the 15th April 2021 meeting.

Agenda Item 2.3

The Chair provided an update on this agenda item and advised that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) would be invited to the August 2021 meeting to provide an update on the progress of the Digital Uplift project.

Action Item - Other Business – Amendments to membership of Academic Senate

The Chair provided an update to the SAC and advised that the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor SDVC will be invited to the August 2021 meeting to discuss the changes in membership and answer any questions raised.

Action Item - Resolution 2021/24

The Chair provided an update on a SAC Standing Committee in Academic Matters and advised that this item is on hold until after the 29 July 2021 meeting as there are some other considerations that need to be explored.

Action Item - Resolution 2021/27

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The Chair provided an update on the proposed SAC Standing Orders. It has been proposed that the Standing Orders be updated and expanded in the SAC Handbook. This would be also addressed in Agenda Item 2.2.

Action Item - Chair's Report

The SRC has created a poll on the SAC Moodle site to seek availabilities for UOWx Leadership Action Class workshops. The poll will close 5pm, 30th July with a reminder to SAC members to register for a workshop/s and provide availabilities.

Action Item - Resolution 2021/21

The Academic Quality & Standards (AQS) Unit are still interested in receiving feedback from SAC members regarding Subject Evaluations and how to increase student participation in the survey. The feedback will be done in an informal setting so any interested SAC members please let the SRC know as soon as possible.

Actions arising from 2020 meeting.

Resolution 2020/24 - Scholarship Awards for High Achieving students

The Chair introduced the Manager, Enabling Hub, Future Education (MEH) to provide an update on UOW scholarships for high achieving students.

The MEH thanked the SAC for inviting them to the SA+C meeting.

A review of scholarships for high achieving students has been initiated and the Enabling Hub which is part of Future Education is working with Student Recruitment on this project. There will be an entire review of the elite program which is currently in the benchmarking phase. A survey will be going out to new and continuing high achieving students to gain an understanding of what can be offered to new high achieving students and continuing high achieving students and what can be done to retain these students at UOW. The review will include a quantitative and qualitative report with recommendations to faculties by October 2021. Faculties and high schools will be part of the consultation process to understand whether the program will be an offering versus a degree-based offering. Depending on what will be offered a final report may not be finalised till February 2022. The manager asked for feedback either directly to the Enabling Hub or via the Student Representation Coordinator (SRC).

The Chair asked if the Associate Director, AFS (ADAFS) would like to discuss other scholarship offerings at UOW. The ADAFS commented that there are currently two primary funded scholarship types at UOW and are either internally funded or externally sponsored (corporate scholarships). Following some of the comments made in student representative reports the ADAFS noted that scholarships are disproportionate across disciplines because they are mainly corporate sponsored scholarships. Scholarships that are equity based tend to be across all disciplines/faculties and are government funded.

The Chair asked if there were any questions.

The International representative of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences (IEIS) asked if the new proposed scholarship offerings would be for International postgraduate students and from any country of origin. The MEH confirmed that the elite program review would incorporate all new and continuing students and would not be based on country of origin. They also noted that the project was at benchmarking phase and appreciated the feedback provided.

The International representative of the Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (IASSH) stated that they studied in an Australian high school as an international student and

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was a consistent high achiever however the eligibility and options for scholarships were not available and therefore no incentive for these types of students. The MEH thanked the IASSH for the feedback.

The Deputy Chair, SAC asked whether there would be provision for a SAC representative to be a part of the working party for the project. The MEH said that this was a good suggestion and that they would welcome a SAC representative to work on the project as it would be a real value add.

The Women's representative asked if there were gaps in certain industries where the company/industry would like to have students work with them and obtain a scholarship however the industry may not have the means to offer a scholarship.

The ADAFS asked if this was reference to work integrated scholarships or the fact that the industry/company may need to attract students but don't have financial means to do so. The ADAFS went on further to state that the Advancement Division at UOW looked after the corporate and philanthropic scholarships and currently there are personal philanthropic scholarships in the medical/health space. Some corporate areas may also have more financial capacity to provide scholarships as opposed to other smaller corporations. The Women's rep confirmed that this may be a general concern and something to note in this space.

The PVC(S) asked the Women's representative to talk to them about this as equity scholarships are a part of their portfolio and that they may look at strategies to change this.

The Chair asked that if there were any further questions and if there were any other Actions Items or questions to raise.

The Postgraduate representative of Faculty of Business and Law (PGBAL) raised the Draft Students as Partners Partnership agreement and whether a meeting was scheduled after the SAC 18th May 2021 when the SAC were asked for feedback on the draft agreement. The Manager, Student Services and Amenities Fee & Student Projects (MSSAF) confirmed that there was no feedback following the May 2021 meeting so the Chair of SAC would seek final comment from this meeting and then the working party will meet again to finalise the draft for endorsement by the SAC at the August 2021 meeting.

The PGBAL representative also raised the point about the SaP agreement and the SAC Values being closely aligned and that these values should be a coherent set of values.

No further questions were received from the floor.

*1.5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED 2021/38

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th May 2021 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

The approval of the minutes was seconded by the Clubs & Societies representative (CS) and the Chair declared the motion carried. No objections were received.

*1.6 Chair's Report

VC's Stand-Up meetings with SAC

The SAC have held three informal meetings with the VC with the following main topics of discussion:

- Closure of Campus clinic and interim measure put in place to provide support students

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- Health and Wellbeing Service model to replace the Campus Clinic
- The July Graduation ceremonies deferred to September 2021 due to the current lockdown. The University is exploring the WIN Stadium or WEC as possible options for graduation. Student representatives advising the University that a ceremony at the venues is preferable to a virtual ceremony.
- Transition to online learning until 20th August 2021 and now having to be extended due to the current extended lockdown restrictions. More will be discussed in Section 3 Other Business.
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) discussed new draft Student Conduct Rules for Online teaching and learning. The SAC will be included in the consultation and development of the guidelines.
- SAC have raised issues regarding the number of students in online lectures/tutorials, inability to seek academic advice and delays in service at Student Central (Student Service).
- Introduction of Studiosity.
- Providing support for Higher Degree Research (HDR) students and Honours students due to COVID and possible delays in use of labs, collecting data etc.

The meetings will continue weekly with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, 5th August and the Chair noted that there would not be a meeting this week due to the scheduled SAC meeting.

VC Delegates Strategy

The Chair advised that both himself and Keval Patel the UOW Pulse representative attended the event which was held virtual due to the lockdown. Both representatives were on a discussion panel chaired by the PVC(Students) and were also judges for a Pitch Presentation. They found that the discussion panel was very inciteful and is beneficial to channel information to staff and the wider university community. It was a great experience.

SAC First Responder Training

The Chair thanked those SAC members who attended the First Responder training and added that it is beneficial training for SAC representatives and was made compulsory by the SAC for representatives to attend. The SRC would work with the SARC team to provide more training for those represent5atives unable to attend.

The Chair reminded all SAC representatives to do this training as part of their student leader responsibilities.

SAC representative reports

The Chair asked the SAC if there was any feedback regarding the new format of the SAC representative report template. Feedback submitted directly back to SAC Executive via WebEx or to the SRC.

National Student Safety Survey (NSSS)

The Chair asked the Deputy Chair (PWD) representative to provide an update on the survey being designed by the Australian Social Research Centre. A meeting was held in early July regarding the survey which is due to be released on 6th September 2021 to a range of 10,000 students. It will be open for 4 weeks and will take approximately 10 – 12 minutes to complete.

The focus questions have changed from the previous survey and the questions are more about the behaviours of sexual assault and asking respondents if they have experienced sexual assault, attitudes to violence against women. The SAC are being asked to endorse the survey and encourage student participation. There will be pamphlets and social media campaigns to advertise the survey to gain as much participation as possible from the student cohort.

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The survey will report on the different demographics with separate questions for the Gay and Queer community and will also focus on other groups such as males and males from International backgrounds with the importance of engaging underrepresented communities.

Universities Australia are releasing the survey and they are open and receptive to feedback.

The Director, Student and Accommodation Services Division (DSASD) thank the Persons with Disabilities representative and restated the importance of the voice of the SAC in this survey. There will be more attention around the results of the survey as the University has a Support First model which is highlighted through the First Responder training.

The DSASD advised that NSSS should be a standing item with the SAC for the remainder of meetings in 2021 and until the results are released in February 2022.

*1.7 Membership Business

There was no membership business to report.

PART 2: GENERAL BUSINESS

*2.1 Presentation – Student Knowledge Management Project

The Chair welcomed the Associate Director, Student Service (ADSS) to present their item. The ADSS provided a brief background on the Student Knowledge base that has been developed within ServiceNow, the same repository used by IMTS. The Student Knowledge base will be known as ASKUOW and will expose explicit, tacit and implicit knowledge embedded across various repositories across UOW.

ASKUOW will be a student centric, self-service tool for students to easily access information 24/7 and search for answers to commonly asked questions. There was a soft launch in Autumn session 2021 followed by a hard launch towards the end of 2021. The ADSS provided an online demonstration of the knowledge system. What happens behind the scenes is critical and will continue to work heavily with meta data which is important for searching in order to answer questions and seek support.

The ADSS asked if there were any questions from the SAC.

The Chair asked if the ASKUOW will be considered to expand as a question-and-answer forum much like the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). If a student asks a question, then when the answer is provided it is posted so that others can see the question and answer. The ADSS said that this is not yet available to students but something that can be explored when there is a higher volume.

The Undergraduate representative from the Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (UASSH) asked if this system would be integrated with the library frequently asked questions. The ADSS said ideally that would be good, however the library system was more of a specialist platform system and used across other libraries in other universities. At the moment the system is focussed on critical aspects of the student lifecycle at least from a search perspective.

The ADSS added further that as the rollout approaches and a communication strategy is in place it can be presented to the SAC. The Chair suggested that they may want to consider presenting in an informal setting so that more discussion and feedback can take place.

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The Chair invited any further comments and thanked the Associate Director, Student Service of the project for presenting to the SAC.

RESOLVED 2021/39

that the Student Advisory Council note the presentation provided by the Associate Director, Student Service regarding the Student Knowledge Management project as set out in the agenda paper.

***2.2 Presentation – SAC Goals & Values**

The SAC Exec met with MSSAF and SRC to discuss the values and goals that were agreed on at the leadership event. At our workshop prior to this meeting the values were paired together as four values and a statement was written that describes each of the values. These will also guide member's behaviour and responsibility in their roles and provide grounding for the draft Standing Orders currently under review.

The Chair confirmed that the final page of the document tabled at the meeting will be the front facing public document.

At the washup workshop the SAC Executive also looked at the goals that were articulated at the leadership event and from those the following three goals were formulated:

- Ensure visibility and awareness of SAC
- Empower members to meet their individual goals and the objects of the SAC
- Provide targeted training to SAC members.

The goals will be supported with achievable outcome-based plans such as mentorship, appropriate training material, content plans etc. A brief discussion on the draft Standing Orders will also take place as a result of the values and goals and will be less formal than originally presented to the SAC. Further work will be done on this in the coming weeks.

The PGBAL rep commented that they liked the combination and statement of values and made comments on formatting. They also suggested making some changes to the grammar used.

The Chair asked for any other comments. Some discussion took place around the use of the words Justice and Equity and the Deputy Chair reminded the SAC that this was all of SAC's values and everyone's contribution is appreciated.

The MSSAF reminded the SAC that the wording around the values came from the leadership day and there is always an opportunity to have further discussion. The MSSAF also thanked the SAC Executive to putting together the document in the three-hour timeframe. Worked well into the night, commend the SAC Executive.

There were no further questions or comments.

RESOLVED 2021/40

that the Student Advisory Council:

- (i) *Note the presentation of the Values and Goals developed for the SAC at the Leadership Event as tabled at the meeting; and*
- (ii) *Endorse the draft SAC 2021 Statement of Values as tabled at the meeting and note the final statement will return for approval after consultation with relevant stakeholders.*

*2.3 The 16th United Nations Climate Change Conference of Youth – Student Advisory Council Climate Change Statement Project

The Chair introduced the agenda item and asked the Deputy Chair to provide an overview of the opportunity to contribute to the 16th United Nations Climate Change Conference of Youth Conference which will be held in Scotland in October/November 2021.

The Deputy Chair commented that it was exciting for SAC to be given this opportunity and the tangible outcome it provides. It also offers the opportunity for the University to leverage its vast student resource to boost its position globally and in Australia. The project will involve development of a Youth Climate Change Statement whilst improving UOW's climate response.

The SAC Executive have drafted a project brief which was forwarded to the DSASD for review and comment. There will be three broad deliverables for the project:

- UN Youth Climate Change Statement
- Provision for a draft climate commitment for the University's approval
- Provide an exploratory University Climate Change Statement and Action Plan

The project will have a broad membership base of students under the age of 35 and will be a SAC led project. Asking for expressions of interest and will involve 10 hours of work for students and 20 hours for SAC Executive. Grace Mahon, a Management Cadet at UOW will be working on the project with the SAC.

PGBAL advised the SAC that there is an Energy Futures Network linking up research in economics, engineering and social sciences and Tye Christopher the director would be a useful resource for this project.

Discussion took place about the University's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development goals and working towards 2030 and whether this is part of the goal. The Chair confirmed that this is more an independent project and is based on Goal 13 – Climate Change.

The Chair stated that Expressions of Interest can be sent through to the SRC and will be open for a week as there has to be a quick turnaround to get the project started as there is a deadline in October 2021. The DSASD commented that if there were no interested students the SAC Executive may approach SAC reps to consider undertaking the role.

RESOLVED 2021/41

that the Student Advisory Council note the briefing on the Climate Change Project as set out in the agenda paper and notes that SAC Members are invited to express their interest in becoming members of the project team.

*2.4 Draft Students as Partners Partnership Agreement

The Chair introduced the agenda item and stated that the SAC members take the item (draft agreement) as being read. There was only one piece of feedback received on the draft so the Chair has asked that members review the draft and submit any final feedback or comments to the working party so that it can be finalised for approval. The Chair will be sharing his thoughts on the draft agreement.

The Chair noted that the meeting may become inquorate as it progressed so would like to pass all the resolutions in the agenda now unless there are any objections to them. The Chair moved to the next draft resolutions.

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The Chair following the passing of draft resolutions returned to the Draft Student as Partners Partnership Agreement. To begin, the Chair had to comments to make:

- i. Proposing to provide a schedule of undertakings ie goals as the agreement is high level and would like to see a 'live' document that can be updated when goals are achieved and new goals proposed; and
- ii. Would like to seek VC opinion to have SAC Chair or a member of the SAC Executive to have attendee rights for non-confidential items as the University Leadership Group (ULG) which has replaced the Vice- Chancellor's Advisory Group (VCAG).

It would be a good opportunity for students to have attendance at the meetings so that feedback regarding matters affecting students is immediate and this can be placed in the agreement. The Chair would like comments.

The PVC(S) has been tasked with initiating work on the review of Student Charter and the Code of Conduct that goes with it. The PVC(S) stated that they like what the SAC executive have done with values and with the draft agreement is a different set of values. There is a range of similar but not the same values and was wondering how to get more coherence as the University would potentially want the guiding practice to be the same beyond SAC.

The agreement was drafted by the working party which didn't have the same values as those that were agreed on at the Leadership event. It's a wider agreement between students and the University not just with SAC.

The Chair invited more comments and confirmed that the SAC would receive an email with five working days to provide feedback to SRC.

RESOLVED 2021/42

that the Student Advisory Council:

- (i) *note the final review and comments of the Student Advisory Council regarding the Draft Students as Partners Agreement; and*
- (ii) *note that the agreement be finalised for endorsement by the SAC at the next SAC meeting as set out in the agenda paper.*

***2.5 Update – Student Services & Amenities Fee Funding**

The Chair invited the MSSAF to provide an update. The MSSAF is in the final stages of preparing a paper for the Chief Operating Officer (COO) providing an estimate income for 2022 and how to move forward. It is proposed to look at the same model as for 2021 and that is for existing projects to get funding and ones that provide the greatest value to students which at this time is support for student wellbeing and mental health. The SSAF working party will aim to meet towards the end of August.

The MSSAF also raised the question asked by some students why SSAF funding from UOW Pulse has been put on hold for Clubs and Societies for Spring Session 2021. The MSSAF had a brief discussion with the Chief Executive Officer of UOW Pulse and the reason for the pause is simply to ascertain what was happening on campus with the extended lockdown and whether the SSAF fee would be charged for spring session 2021. The MSSAF expects that an updated communication will go out to students shortly.

The DSAD noted the importance of raising the profile of what SSAF and what it provides for students through clear and transparent communications.

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The Chair asked if there were any questions, none were received.

RESOLVED 2021/43

that the Student Advisory Council note the update provided by the Manager, SSAF and Student Projects for SSAF funding as set out in the agenda paper.

2.6 Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities Report

RESOLVED 2021/44

that the Student Advisory Council note the Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities representatives report as set out in the agenda paper.

2.7 Faculty of Business & Law Representative Report

RESOLVED 2021/45

that the Student Advisory Council note the Faculty of Business and Law representatives report as set out in the agenda paper.

2.8 Academic Senate Representative Report

RESOLVED 2021/46

that the Student Advisory Council note the Academic Senate representatives report as set out in the agenda paper.

***2.9 Persons with Disabilities Representative Report**

The Chair introduced the PWD representative to discuss an item out of their report.

The PWD representative provided an overview of their proposed initiative, a Wellbeing and Inclusion Space. They would like to seek support from the SAC to establish a physical accessibility and inclusion space for all students with a focus on students with disabilities and those suffering with mental illness. Ideally this space would be a good leverage for students to engage in a more informal support network before reaching out to other support services. Inspiration for modelling this space would be Safe Haven Wollongong, WUSA's Queer Space and the Women's Collective. The PWD has been liaising with key stakeholders to utilise facilities already in place at UOW.

The PWD pitched the idea to Student Mental Health Advisory Group with the PVC(S) and the UOW Pulse student representative to get feedback on the project. They do not want it to be just a physical space but a community space also. The PWD would like guidance from the SAC about this project. There is opportunity now due to the Campus Clinic closing to have a space within the new Campus Clinic model and the VC has expressed interest in this initiative.

The PWD asked if the SAC would like to provide feedback. There was discussion on some of the factors that should be taken into account regarding the initiative and that it is a student led space so taking into account that the wellbeing of students who have lived experiences and who are volunteering in this space. The PVC(S) commented that they would provide some guidance and support on this initiative and for the PWD to make contact with them. The UGBAL representative also highlighted that this initiative should also be considered for regional and metropolitan campuses.

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Further discussion took place around inclusion of minority groups, introducing the Couch Conversations which would work well with the initiative. PWD was pleased with the suggestions and feedback and commented that a working party would be created.

Action Item – place information on Moodle and ask SAC members to indicate their support for the Wellbeing and Inclusion Space.

The Chair has asked that the DSASD provide an update on the current lockdown and what this means for remote teaching and learning at UOW (see Section 3 Other Business) for summary.

RESOLVED 2021/47

that the Student Advisory Council;

- i. note the Persons with Disabilities representative report as set out in the agenda paper.*
- ii. request SAC representatives with an interest in the development of a virtual and physical wellness spaces to indicate their interest to the Persons with Disabilities representative; and*
- iii. that SAC requests the Persons with Disabilities representative to engage with the Director of Student and Accommodation Services Division, the Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students) on this matter.*

The PWD representative accepted the change to the draft resolution and the CAS representative seconded the motion, no objections were received.

2.10 UOW Clubs & Societies Representative Report

RESOLVED 2021/48

that the Student Advisory Council note the UOW Clubs and Societies representatives report as set out in the agenda paper.

2.11 UOW Pulse Student Director Representative Report

RESOLVED 2021/49

that the Student Advisory Council note the UOW Pulse Student Director representative report as set out in the agenda paper.

2.12 Woolyungah Indigenous Centre Representative Report

RESOLVED 2021/50

That the Student Advisory Council note the Woolyungah Indigenous Centre representation report as set out in the agenda paper.

PART 3: OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Update – Campus Update and Extension of Online Teaching & Learning

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The DSASD advised that an email has been sent to students regarding extension of remote delivery till 28th August 2021 due to the extended lockdown. The University is committed to letting students know the week before, if not earlier so that they can make an informed decision regarding their studies prior to the census date (31st August). The University has considered changing the census date however there are several impacts to this decision and have only ever taken this action once before.

Each day the Crisis Management Team (CMT) meet including weekends following the Premier's announcements. The pharmacy on campus will have Astra Zeneca vaccines by mid-August and the Campus Clinic have extended their service until mid-August 2021.

The Chair asked if there were any questions. The DSASD indicated that they would like students to reach out to them if they have any questions.

The Chair confirmed that the meeting was still quorate and put a motion to the SAC to extend the meeting by 30 minutes. The Chair confirmed that the motion was passed and no objections received.

The Chair opened up for discussion and advised the SAC that there were some additional draft resolutions which pertain to the update on extension of lockdown and online teaching and learning. The SAC recommended the following course of action.

RESOLVED 2021/51

That the Student Advisory Council recommend that the University's COVID response include the following measures:

- i. Satisfactory grades be reintroduced with the option to remove failed grades from student's academic transcripts (matching the measures from 2020); and*
- ii. Students have the ability to self-verify evidence in requests for academic consideration be reintroduced for the session; and*
- iii. The ability to self-verify evidence in requests for Academic Consideration be made permanently available for any period of lockdown, inside the Student Academic Consideration Policy (noting policy review upcoming); and*
- iv. The University commit to granting requests for extensions of all Honours research projects ending this year by at least one week on request by the student. The extensions may be longer depending on the impact recorded by students.*

The draft resolution was moved by the Chair and seconded by the Clubs & Societies representative with no objections recorded, the motion was passed.

Update - Activation Group Working Party

The UOW Pulse representative was elected as Chair to the Activation Group working party. The working party have met twice and the focus of the meetings were priorities for the next two months such as activities for Orientation to raise visibility and awareness of SAC. The group will meet again and discuss more strategies around online visibility and awareness.

Higher Degree Research Students – Impacts on study due to COVID19

The Postgraduate Academic Senate (PGAS) representative, a Higher Degree Research (HDR) student raised the issue about lack of communication from the Graduate School of Research (GRS) regarding candidature and extensions due to the ongoing pandemic. HDR students have been asked reconsider their projects if they are experiencing delays on their research. This is not a viable option particularly for students who are well into their degree. The GRS will not consider extensions unless the student is at 4.5 years of their study.

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The PGAS representative asked that the Deputy Vice-Chancellor - Research (DVCR) be invited to the next SAC meeting to address some of the issues raised by HDR students. The PGBAL representative suggested that a letter be prepared outlining the concerns and issues raised by the SAC representatives who are HDR students and meet with the DVCR and the Dean, Graduate Research School (DGRS) outside of the meeting. The Chair suggested that a briefing be put together for submission to the Executive so that they are prepared for the meeting and to understand the current issues faced by those enrolled in a research degree.

It was mentioned also that Honours students may encounter some difficulties, however noted that an extension is not as difficult as is for HDR students. The Postgraduate representative for EIS (PGEIS) raised the issue also of HDR students not currently being able to be reimbursed for conference funding when paying out of their own pocket, this too would be addressed.

The Calm App

The Chair raised that the DSASD wanted to have a discussion regarding the CALM app being made available to students. As the DSASD had to leave the meeting early it is likely that they will raise this at the August 2021 meeting.

SAC Scheduled Meetings

Also raised for discussion is the schedule of SAC meeting days and time and the Chair suggested that there only be one day and time for meetings so that students can schedule this in with their enrolment in subjects and tutorial. This will ensure quorum for meetings however the MSSAF commented that this might also be problematic. The Women's representative advised that it might work for a representative now but not in the future.

Action Item – Poll on Moodle seeking student feedback scheduling of SAC meetings in 2022

The Chair asked if there was any other business; no other business was raised.

3.2 Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, 17th August however this is only three weeks from the meeting today. The SRC will go out to the SAC to gauge whether this date can be moved back.

3.3 Rolling Agenda Schedule

The rolling agenda is available on the SAC Moodle Site.

The following SAC representatives are scheduled to submit a report at the next meeting in August 2021 and the SRC will be in contact with the representatives to provide support if required.

- University Council representative
- Women's representative
- LGBTIQ+ representative
- Shoalhaven, Southern Sydney (Loftus) and Bega representative reports

3.4 Membership, activities table and thank you

Meeting Closed at 4pm.

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Signed as a true record:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'h' followed by a checkmark-like flourish.

Chair, Student Advisory Council
31/ 08 / 2021

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