

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – 4 May 2023

Minutes of the 43rd meeting of the Student Advisory Council held at 09:30 on 4 May in the building 36 Council Room and online via Webex.

PRESENT:

Michael Valceski	Chair – Postgraduate (Academic Senate)
Keval Patel	Deputy Chair – UOW Pulse Student Director
Susan Zhang	Postgraduate (University Council)
Lara Warwick	Undergraduate (University Council)
Bayley Mathai	Undergraduate (Senate)
Durga Tandon	Postgraduate (Senate)
Andrea Knezevic,	Postgraduate (Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities)
Andrew Rielly	Undergraduate (Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities)
Bongani Munkuli	International (Business and Law)
David Havyatt	Postgraduate (Business and Law)
Ruby Blacka	Undergraduate (Business and Law)
Ben Regan	Undergraduate (Science, Medicine, and Health)
Geeta Mahala	International (Engineering and Information Sciences)
Helena Ibro	Postgraduate (Engineering and Information Sciences)
Cameron Biggs	Undergraduate (Engineering and Information Sciences)
Setareh Tabatabaei	Sydney CBD Representative
Henry Altenburg	Shoalhaven Campus Representative
Ebeney Whillas	Residences Representative
Kipling Perkins	Women’s Representative

IN ATTENDANCE:

Theresa Hoynes	Director, Division of Student Life
April Alexander	Head of Student Engagement, UOW Pulse
Tammy Small	Manager Projects (Indigenous Advancement)
Tracey Morton	Senior Manager, Strategy, Strategy Division
Nicole Mackey	Senior Manager, Strategy, Strategy Division
Kylie McElhone	Senior Manager, Safe and Respectful Communities
Elle Blissett	Student Relations Coordinator (Special Cohorts)
Ben Hamill	Executive Officer

APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Carly Lavings	Deputy Chair, Persons with Disabilities Representative
Grishma Nirola	Clubs and Societies Representative
Josie Smith	Woolyungah Indigenous Centre Representative
Justine Kissane	Mature Aged Representative
Nancy Shabo	Southwestern Sydney Campus representative



Rebecca Melouney Batemans Bay Campus representative
Deb Porter Senior Manager, Student Relations

PART 1: OFFICIAL BUSINESS

***1.1 Opening of Meeting**

1.1.1 Introduction and Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:30 AM and proceeded to welcome and introduce all Council members, and other attendees, special guests and observers present. The Chair thanked Deb Porter, Senior Manager, Student Relations for all her work in supporting student representation, who has departed her role to work in Strategy.

1.1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

The acknowledgement of country was provided by Andrew Rielly, Arts, Social Science and Humanities Undergraduate Representative and welcomed by the Council.

***1.2 Apologies and Quorum**

Apologies were noted and received by the Council.

Resolved:

that the apologies be accepted, and quorum declared, for the 3rd meeting of the Student Advisory Council.

1.3 Arrangement of Agenda

1.3.1 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interests declared.

1.3.2 Confidential Items

The Chair advised that there are no confidential items.

1.3.3 Starring of Items

All items are started for discussion.

1.3.4 Meeting Protocols

The Chair reminded members on decisions being made by consensus and for all questions to go through the Chair.

***1.4 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**



Minutes of the previous meetings held on 4 of April were confirmed and signed as a true record.

Resolved:

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 April be confirmed and signed as a true record.

***1.5 Business Arising from Previous Meetings and Minutes**

The Chair noted the action items arising from the previous meeting. These action items include:

Status: NE: New | CO: Carried Over | OH: On Hold | CL: Closed

RESOLUTION ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	PROGRESS
2 March 2023	NE	Executive Officer (EO) to establish Discussion Group with CIO and discuss how the SAC and maintain an ongoing relationship with the Integrity Division.	In progress
4 April 2023	NE	EO to organise discussion with Residence Representative and Accommodation team about the WIFI in accommodation.	In progress
4 April 2023	NE	EO to organise for the DVCA and ADE (BAL) to discuss AI with the SAC.	In progress
4 April 2023	NE	EO to assisting Shoalhaven Campus Representative in developing a survey on regional campus student experience.	Complete

***1.6 Chair's Report**

The Chair welcomed members to the third SAC meeting of 2023. They provided an update on the ongoing meetings with higher degree research students and the Graduate Research School, with an issues log being compiled.

They congratulated Carly Lavings for winning the Wollongong Youth Centre Young Volunteer of the Year and for Keval for being awarded highly commended.

They indicated that the SAC Facebook group is now up and available, with social media training



for the 8th of May.

Woolyungah Voice to Parliament snippets are to be filmed after the meeting at Woolyungah, all interested representatives are invited to attend. Further to this, AIATSIS Cultural Competency Training is available for members to attend.

The Deputy Chair and UOW Pulse Student Director will be taking headshots following the meeting for interested representatives.

***1.7 Membership Business**

The Chair welcomed new members to the Council: Razan Habara and Grace Walker, Academic Senate Undergraduate Representatives, and the Mature Aged representative Justine Kissane.

They thanked departing representative Michael Brandon for their role as clubs and societies representative. Recruitment would be undertaken the following week.

PART 2: GENERAL BUSINESS

***2.2 UOW Pulse Update**

The Chair invited April Alexander, Head of Student Engagement (HOSE), UOW Pulse to deliver a UOW Pulse Update.

The HOSE provided an overview of UOW Pulse and their activities. They indicated that in the first quarter of the year, 89 events were run, with 18,943 student engagements. With 2000 students engaging with Pulse Pantry. They stated there were 77 affiliated clubs and societies, with 465 club-run events and 7 Club Executive workshops. 1681 volunteer hours were contributed through Pulse volunteering. 34 wellness activities occurred in the first quarter. They provided an overview of Pulse perk, with 1500 current members. UniActive was currently involved with sending students to Uni Nationals.

They outlined the Pulse strategic plan having three pillars: enhancing the student experience, increasing campus engagement and sustainability.

The Business and Law postgraduate representative asked whether there was a record of clubs and societies each year. The HOSE indicated they did, with a decrease in number of clubs from 100 last year to 77 this year. They indicated that it was difficult to affiliate as a club and there were workload implications to become a club Executive. Pulse would be running development opportunities for students to become Executives. The BALPR asked why clubs accounts were limited to NAB, with the HOSE said they were building a relationship with IMB.

The Business and Law undergraduate representative highlighted the value of the random act of kindness activities.



Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the UOW Pulse Update provided by the UOW Pulse Head of Student Engagement.

2.8 Residence Representative Members Report

The Chair invited the Residence Representative member Ebeney Whillas to deliver their report.

The residence representative provided an overview of their report, namely:

- Wi-Fi unreliability
- New mail collection area concerns
- Lack of communication and transparency between management, staff and students
- Concerns regarding the 2022 Student Satisfaction Survey results not being followed up with residents

The Business and Law International representative reiterated the unreliable WIFI in accommodation and electricity tripping the need to improve it.

The Director, Division of Student Life indicated that a report on WIFI in accommodation would be delivered at the next meeting and highlighted some of the challenges facing internet and electrical infrastructure.

ACTION: The Division of Student Life to present an update on WIFI infrastructure in accommodation.

The UOW Pulse Head of Student Engagement indicated that they would address privacy concerns with mail collection.

ACTION: UOW Pulse HOSE to discuss with UOW Australia Post Office to ensure students present identification to collect items

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the Residence Representatives Members' Report as provided in the Agenda papers.

2.3 Women's Mentorship Proposal

The Chair invited Kipling Perkins, the Women's representative to provide an overview of their Women's Mentorship Proposal.

They highlighted it was an early-stage concept, which would be similar in essence to the EIS mentorship program with a emphasis on peer connections and community building.

The Engineering and Information Sciences International Representative indicated they would be able to lend support to the program. The Deputy Chair and UOW Pulse Student Director indicated mentoring occurs in the Student Hub.

The Director, Division of Student Life stated that mentoring would be a part of the UOW Equity Strategy, and that the Women's Representative would benefit from meeting with the Associate Director, Student Equity and Success.



ACTION: The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the Women’s Representative and Associate Director, Student Equity and Success.

The Business and Law Undergraduate Representative identified the importance of this program, particularly the networking aspect.

The Head of Student Engagement, UOW Pulse raised the possibility of reaching out to local women’s mentoring program “Mentor Walks” to inform the delivery of this program.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council provide feedback on the Women’s Representative Women’s Mentor Proposal.

2.4 Engineering and Information Sciences Members’ Report

The Chair invited the Engineering and Information Sciences representatives to provide an update on their report.

The International representative provided an update on their work to address international student employment issues, grading of Master of Research degrees, support for enrolment processes for international students and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC). They indicated that this OSHC has lapsed, with students paying out of pocket rather than going through BUPA for coverage.

The Director, Division of Student Life, asked for the international representative to discuss with the Associate Director, Student Services and that the University was aware of this issue and that tender process was occurring for health cover.

ACTION: The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the EIS International Representative and Associate Director, Student Services.

Discussion occurred on the awarding of master’s degrees with distinction and high distinction. The Director, Division of Student Life, indicated that awarding degrees with high distinction was not a sector norm and master’s degrees by research degrees with distinction is a discussion to occur with the Faculty.

The postgraduate and undergraduate Engineering and Information Sciences provided an update on their reports and the ongoing work they are undertaking with the Graduate School of Research and Faculty staff and students respectively.

The EISUR raised that examination methods are not outlined in subject outlines and it is important to ensure students are prepared.

ACTION: The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the EIS Undergraduate Representative and Senior Manager, Examinations and Progression.

The Director, Division of student Life commended the EIS representatives for a comprehensive report.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the Engineering and Information Sciences Members’ Report as provided in the agenda papers.



2.1 Woolyungah Indigenous Centre Update

The Chair invited, Tammy Small, Manager, Projects (Indigenous Advancement) to speak to this item.

The Manager Projects (Indigenous Advancement) provided a snapshot of Reconciliation Actions Plans across the University Sector, with 70% of universities having a RAP, broken down between different tiers: Reflect, Innovate, Rise and Elevate. UOW was currently at a Innovate level of a Reconciliation Action Plan.

The MPIA indicated that for the SAC to engage with reconciliation, it was important to discuss and engage with training and reconciliation opportunities and to use their voice.

UOW has actioned 97.7% of RAP deliverables set for 2022, launching a Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Policy, Community Engagement Reference Group and opportunity for training.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council

- i. note the presentation of the UOW Innovate Reconciliation by the Manager Projects, Indigenous Advancement.*
- ii. Congratulate the Indigenous Strategy unit for their work in promoting reconciliation*
- iii. Encourage University Council to have an acknowledgment of Country in the Council room.*

2.5 Science, Medicine and Health Members' Report

The Chair invited, the Science, Medicine, and Health Undergraduate representative to provide an update.

The SMAH undergraduate representative highlighted the work they had undertaking in discussing with the faculty in ensuring degrees have accreditation with relevant medical associations. They provided an overview of the stakeholder engagement that has occurred with students and staff. They highlighted the events that the SMAH faculty would be undertaken along with clubs and societies.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the Members report provided by the Science, Medicine, and Health Representatives.

2.9 LGBTIQ+ Members' Report

The LGBTIQ+ representative provided an update of their activities and undertakings including meeting with the Queer Collective, local community groups and developing a LGBTIQ+ digital handbook providing an overview of resources available at UOW with the Pro Vice-Chancellors (Students) division.

They have advocated for the Welcome Here space program across campus businesses.



Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the LGBTQI+ Members' Report as provided in the agenda papers.

2.6 WUSA President Report

The report was taken as read.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note WUSA President Members' Report as provided in the agenda papers.

2.7 WUPA President Report

The report was taken as read.

Resolved:

that the Student Advisory Council note the WUPA President Members' Report as provided in the agenda papers.

PART 3: Other Business

3.1 Business from Student Advisory Council Committees

The Chair indicated the Students as Partners group had met and was working on the Students as Partners

***3.2 Member's Reports'**

No business was discussed.

3.3 Questions on Notice

There were no questions on notice.

PART 4: OTHER BUSINESS



4.1 Other Business

The International EIS Representative provided an overview of the mentoring program they have developed and encouraged representatives to participate.

The SMAH Undergraduate representative encouraged representatives to undertake consultation with the Advocate for Youth and Young People.

4.2 Next Meeting

The Chair advised the next SAC meeting will be held on the 25th July 2023 in the Council Room.

4.3 Rolling Agenda Schedule

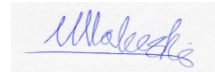
ROLLING AGENDA ITEM	MEETING DATE
ASSH Members' Report	25 July 2023
BAL Members' Report	25 July 2023
Academic Senate Members' Report	25 July 2023
Clubs and Societies Members' Report	25 July 2023
Persons with Disabilities Members' Report	25 July 2023
UOW Pulse Representative Members Report	25 July 2023
AI Forum	25 July 2023

4.4 Closure of Meeting

The Chair thanked all Members and closed the meeting.



Signed as a true record:



Michael Valceski
Chair, Student Advisory Council

20/07 / 2023

ACTIONS ARISING

MEETING DATE	ACTION(S) ARISING	UPDATE(S)
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4 April 2023	EO to organise discussion with Residence Representative and Accommodation team about the WIFI in accommodation.	In progress
4 April 2023	EO to organise for the DVCA and ADE (BAL) to discuss AI with the SAC.	In progress
4 April 2023	EO to organise discussion with Residence Representative and Accommodation team about the WIFI in accommodation.	In progress
4 May 2023	The Division of Student Life to present an update on WIFI infrastructure in accommodation	In progress
4 May 2023	UOW Pulse HOSE to discuss with UOW Australia Post Office to ensure students present identification to collect items	In progress
4 May 2023	The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the Women's Representative and Associate Director, Student Equity and	In progress



	Success.	
4 May 2023	The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the EIS International Representative and Associate Director, Student Services.	In progress
4 May 2023	The Executive Officer to organise a meeting with the EIS Undergraduate Representative and Senior Manager, Examinations and Progression.	In progress

