

## STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES- 20 October

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the Student Advisory Council held at 1:30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in the Council room and online via Webex.

### PRESENT:

Jackson Cocks	Chair - University Council (Undergraduate) (UGUC)
Carly Lavings	Acting Chair and Deputy Chair - Persons with a Disability (PWD)
Michael Valceski	Academic Senate (Postgraduate) (PGAS)
Katherine Minns	Academic Senate (Undergraduate) (UGAS)
Ahsan Anees	Academic Senate (International) (INTAS)
Andrea Knezevic	Postgraduate (ASSH) (PGASSH)
Helena Ibro	Postgraduate (EIS) (PGEIS)
Lara Breniser	Mature Age Representative (MA)
Ben Regan	Undergraduate (SMAH) (UGSMAH)
Keval Patel	UOW Pulse Student Director (UOWPSD)
Seterah Tabatabaei	Sydney Business School Representative (SBSR)
Aurora Green	LGBTQI+ Representative (LGBTQIR)
Michael Brandon	Clubs and Societies Representative (C&SR)
Henry Altenburg	Shoalhaven Campus Representative (C&SR)

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Professor Theo Farrell, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Life)  
Theresa Hoynes – Director, Student and Accommodation Services Division  
Deb Porter – Senior Manager, Student Relations  
Liz Armitage, Senior Manager, Current Student Communications  
Chiara Mammone, Senior Manager, Current Student Events  
Ben Hamill, Executive Officer  
Yasmine Russell, Student Services Officer  
Bethany Donlan, Safe and Respectful Communities Advisory Group Undergraduate Representative

### APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

David Havyatt, Postgraduate (BAL) Representative  
Bongani Munkuli, International (BAL) Representative  
Gabriele Tahhan, Postgraduate (SMAH) Representative  
Thomeissa Mason, Woolyungah Indigenous Centre (WIC)

## PART 1: OFFICIAL BUSINESS

### \*1.1 Welcome and Introduction

The Deputy Chair, Carly Lavings was acting as Chair at the meeting and welcomed representatives to the 7<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting.

The Chair advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of minute taking and asked if there were any objections, no objections were received. The Chair noted that the meeting was inquorate and that the Executive Officer will take the minutes of the meeting. Any resolutions from this meeting will be carried over to the end of year event.



The Shoalhaven Campus representative delivered the acknowledgement of country.

**\*1.2 Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted.

**\*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 were no confidential items.

**1.3.3 Starring of Items**

All items are started for discussion.

**\*1.4 Actions Arising from Previous Meetings**

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

<b>RESOLUTION ITEM</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
20 September Agenda item 2.1	CO	Confirmation of SSAF Circular Resolution.	The Chair advised has now been closed. Voting closed on the 14th of October. 12 Responses were received in favour of the recommendations. These recommendations will now be taken to relevant stakeholders.
20 September Agenda item 1.5	CO	Adopt resolutions from the 20 September inquorate meeting	The Chair advised this will be carried over to the end of year event as the meeting was inquorate.
Resolution 2021/27	CO	Seek feedback from SAC on new Standing Orders	The Chair advised this in progress.



28 July 2022 Agenda item 2.2	NE	Investigate whether students as partners can have their own website.	The Chair advised this is in progress.
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**\*1.5 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Chair noted that because the meeting was inquorate, confirmation of minutes for the August and September would occur in the October meeting.

**\*1.6 Chair’s Report**

The Chair provided an overview of the SAC membership report. They advised there were 8 valid responses, equating to a 24% response rate. The survey was divided into five sections: Committee Role, Membership, Committee Functions, Consultation and Communication and Feedback.

Key themes of the survey identified the need for greater stakeholder consultation with students and staff, visibility of the SAC and additional training and support in your roles. They indicated that the results will be unpacked further with representatives over the next few months and will form the basis of planning for next year.

The Chair provided reminded representatives to submit their honorarium requests by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. They further reminded representatives that the SAC and Federal MP meet and greet will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November and that the end of year event will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November.

They advised that due to a lack of numbers for UOW Ally Training and SASH First Responder Training, these will be carried over to next year and will be integrated as part of the induction process for all members.

The Chair provided an update on the Global Climate Change Week Video Competition which received 6 submissions that are now in the process of being judged. They thanked the project team for their work.

The Chair reminded representatives that the next VC Stand-up is scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> of October and that questions have been carried over from the previous meeting. They asked for members with questions to send through by 5pm on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October.

**\*1.7 Membership Business**

The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Life), Professor Theo Farrell joined the meeting and provided an update. They thanked SAC members for their valuable work over the past year. They reiterated the importance of clear and simple pathways for student report, which had been echoed by representatives in consultation. They further highlighted the focus on student mental health and making the support structures clear, which will be an outcome of the Divisional re-alignment. They concluded highlighting the importance of continuing students as partners and thanked representatives.

The Chair thanked the DVCA for their update and for their work in working with students.



They noted that the LGBTQI+ Report will be carried over to the end of year meeting. They provided an update about the BBQ event and thanked representatives for putting their hand up to assist and encouraged further representatives to help if they had time.

## **PART 2: GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **\*2.1 CAMPUSFEST 2023**

The Chair invited the Senior Manager, Current Student Events (SMCSE), Chiara Mammone to present this item.

The SMCSE provided background around CampusFest in 2022 being a way to reactivate campus and replace the University's orientation week activities. It had since evolved to be part of the University's ongoing strategy to increase on campus teaching, learning and student engagement. They highlighted the opportunity it provides to facilitate student peer and student staff connection and be aware of support at the University.

They indicated that the event would target commencing and existing students and has been designed in partnership with students to ensure it is engaging and suitable for students from different contexts, including other campuses, international students and those living in residence.

The SMCSE stated that the approach to orientation will occur over multiple weeks, allowing students to choose events suited to them, with a focus on peer and staff connections at a discipline level and an embedded Aboriginal Ceremony.

The SMCSE advised that working groups had been established to form the development of key activities, with a focus on international students, student support, Faculties, regional and metropolitan campuses and Students as Partners.

They provided a presentation of the key design concepts that will accompany the event, with a particular focus on an initial "Campus Fest", following by Respect Week, Uni101 and a guide to campus living. There will be key themes of belonging, careers, life and study success and wellbeing.

The Undergraduate Science, Medicine and Health Representative raised concerns about whether CampusFest will be engaging for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students given they felt it was targeted towards first year students. The SMCSE reiterated that the multiweek approach and events that target a wide range of interests will ensure that students across year groups will be engaged and occurring concurrent to normal University activities.

The Director of Student and Accommodation Services highlighted that due to COVID-19, there has been difficulty for students to form relationships and a desire from second- and third-year students to take part with orientation events.

The Clubs and Societies Representative raised the idea of integrating clubs and societies within the event and consistent with the themes of the multiple weeks. The SMCSE indicated that this would be helpful to build vibrancy.



The Shoalhaven Campus Representative highlighted the need for public transport for regional campuses to be made available. They also raised the opportunity to promote events by notifying subject coordinators.

The Undergraduate Council Representative raised concerns around budgetary concerns and the large scope of the event. They noted the importance of the party aspect in O-week in facilitating relationship building. They further noted the importance of targeting different student types.

The DSASD stated that due to the large number of questions, further questions will be asked with the SMCSE after the meeting concludes.

The Chair took a final question from the Postgraduate Academic Senate Representative who reiterated the importance on focusing on international and regional students for the event to which the SMCSE indicated that this would be a focus.

***Draft Resolution:***

*that the Student Advisory Council note CAMPUSFEST 2023 Plan as set out in the agenda paper.*

**\*2.2 Current Student Communications: Blueprint for a Whole of Institution Approach**

The Chair invited Liz Armitage, Senior Manager, Current Student Communications to present this item.

They provided an overview of the Current Student Communications Blueprint which had been informed by Business Improvement and consultation with staff and students. They highlighted feedback about a lack of structure and clarity with existing student communications.

The SMCSC explored the theme of the blueprint being the right student, receiving the right message, at the right time. The intention being to make communications clear, simple, and student centric.

The Chair asked representatives for feedback on the item. The SMAH Undergraduate Representative highlighted difficulty in students identifying correct information given the multiple sources of information available to students.

The SMCSC highlighted that the document is framed for an internally facing document.

The Postgraduate Academic Senate Representative asked whether marketing students were able to be employed within the communications space. To which the SMCSC said they had a communication student employed.

The University Council Representative (UGUC) highlighted the importance of a clear student orientation pack which provides clear guidance of what information is available on what channels.

The PGAS and UGUC identified the importance of a “one stop shop” for information around support.

***Draft Resolution:***

*that the Student Advisory Council note the Current Student Communications: Blueprint For A Whole of Institution Approach as set out in the agenda paper.*



### **\*2.3 Election of the Student Advisory Council Deputy Chair (Communications)**

The Chair advised that due to the meeting being inquorate, that the election of the Deputy Chair (Communications) would occur outside the meeting via a poll. They invited the candidates Keval Patel and Michael Valceski to each deliver the speeches to be recorded and distributed to members by the Executive Officer.

### **\*2.4 Clubs and Societies Member's Report**

The Chair invited Michael Brandon, the Clubs and Societies Representative, to provide a verbal update on the clubs and societies member's report.

The C&S Representative highlighted difficulties in visibility and engaging effectively with clubs and societies. They highlighted that these would be a focus.

The PGAS asked about what the SAC could do to support Clubs and Societies Representatives. The C&S Representative identified the importance of the stakeholders and connections that SAC had developed being made available to them within their roles.

#### ***Draft Resolution:***

*that the Student Advisory Council note the Clubs and Societies Member's Report as set out in the agenda paper.*

### **2.5 National Leadership Forum Update**

The Chair invited Helena Ibro, EIS Postgraduate Representative (PGEIS) and Keval Patel, UOW Pulse Student Director to speak to this item.

They provided an update of the four-day event that occurred between the 15-18 of September, representing the SAC and UOW amongst young leaders across the nation, with the opportunity to meet with Federal politicians and policy makers. They highlighted the key achievements in being:

- Developing a better understanding about leadership and what it means to the community.
- Reflecting on existing structures and methods and operations of leadership at UOW.

The prevailing theme of the forum was "Seek to Serve".

The Chair thanked representatives for their presentation and invited comments.

The PGAS Representative asked each representative their most important takeaway.

The PGEIS Representative highlighted the importance of a "servant-leader" model of leadership.

The UOWPSD emphasized the transformative nature of the conference and changed their perception of politics.



### ***Draft Resolution:***

*that the Student Advisory Council note the National Leadership Forum Update as set out in the agenda paper.*

## **PART 3: OTHER BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Other Business**

The Chair invited the Director of SASD to provide an update.

The DSASD provided an update about the “Goodwill Hunting” Event and that it would have to be put on hold next year due to the workload on volunteers next year. They highlighted that the event would have to be reimagined to ensure its continuity.

The UOWPSD indicated that the event could be transformed into a similar concept as UOW Pulse Pantry to address the issues in resourcing the event.

The Chair highlighted the importance of the Goodwill Hunting event for students in providing a meaningful difference for students. The UOWPSD also echoed this sentiment for international students.

The Chair indicated that a resolution could be passed at the next meeting thanking the volunteers that contribute to Goodwill Hunting.

The PGAS Representative raised the suggestion of partnering with community to assist with the event.

The Chair invited the Sydney Business School Representative to speak on solidarity with Iran, following suggestion from the PGAS.

The SBSR highlighted the importance of calling out injustice in our community and the importance for policy makers to call out injustice on a global scale. The Chair invited a moment of silence.

The SMAH Representative raised difficulty with SMAH students to receive employment opportunities given that UOW does not offer an Australian Institute of Medical Science accredited course.

The DSASD suggested first raising this with the Associate Dean (Education) with the Faculty.

The UOWPSD also indicated that there were similar issues with accredited courses within EIS.

The Chair advised that it would be helpful to discuss with the Student Representation Coordinator.

### **3.3 Next Meeting**

The Chair advised the next SAC meeting will be held on the 24th of October 2022 with details to be confirmed. The Chair closed the meeting.



### 3.4 Rolling Agenda Schedule

Rolling Agenda Item	Meeting Date
Mature Age Representative Report	T.B.C. 2023
LGBTIQ+ Representative Report	End of Year Meeting

Signed as a true record:

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Chair

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