

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES – 21 November 2023

Minutes of the 48th meeting of the Student Advisory Council held at 12:30 on 21 November 2023 in the building 67 Moot Courtroom and online via Webex.

PRESENT:

Michael Valceski	Chair – Postgraduate (Academic Senate)
Carly Lavings	Deputy Chair – Persons with Disabilities Representative
Susan Zhang	Postgraduate (University Council)
Bayley Mathai	Undergraduate (Senate)
Durga Tandon	Postgraduate (Senate)
Ahsan Anees	International (Senate)
Ruby Blacka	Undergraduate (Business and Law)
Helena Ibro	Postgraduate (Engineering and Information Sciences)
Sanjoli Banerjee	International (Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities)
Andrea Knezevic	Postgraduate (Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities)
Ebeney Whillas	Residences Representative
Jin Zhao	Wollongong University Postgraduate Association President
Joshua Lane	Academic Senate (Undergraduate)
Cameron Biggs	Undergraduate (Engineering and Information Sciences)
Kipling Perkins	Women’s Representative
Georgi Coddington	Clubs and Societies Representative

IN ATTENDANCE:

Theresa Hoynes	Director, Division of Student Life
Melissa Zaccagnini	Senior Manager, Student Experience and Projects
Dr Kylie Austin	Associate Director, Student Equity and Success
Ben Hamill	Executive Officer
Noah Hardie	2024 Business and Law (Undergraduate)
Connor Soares	2024 Academic Senate (Undergraduate)
Amity Lees	2024 Academic Senate (Undergraduate)
Muhammad Sarwar	2024 Academic Senate (Postgraduate) Business and Law (International)
Bharadwaja Tondapu	2024 Academic Senate (Onshore (International))
Adrian Pittman	2024 LGBTQI+

APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Liz Clark	Senior Manager, Student Relations
Geeta Mahala	International (EIS)
Ela Akyol	Wollongong Undergraduate Student Association President

PART 1: OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*1.1 Opening of Meeting

1.1.1 Introduction and Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting at 12:30 and proceeded to welcome and introduce all Council members, and other attendees, special guests and observers present.

1.12 Acknowledgement of Country

The acknowledgement of country was provided by Benjamin Hamill, Executive Officer and welcomed by the Council.

*1.2 Apologies and Quorum

Apologies were noted and received by the Council; the Chair noted the meeting was quorate.

*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 Minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes from the 26 October meeting were adopted.

Draft Resolution:

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 October 2023 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:

ACTIONS ARISING

MEETING DATE	ACTION(S) ARISING	RESPONSIBLE PARTY(S)	UPDATE(S)
24 August 2023	Investigate how Faculties can provide further support to their representatives.	Director, Division of Student Life Senior Manager, Student Experience and Projects	In progress: There will be ongoing work occurring with the Faculties to better support representatives.
24 August 2023	Clubs and Societies and Persons with Disabilities Representative to meet and discuss quiet spaces on campus.	Clubs and Societies and Persons with Disabilities Representatives	Closed: This will be addressed in item 3.2
24 August 2023	Division of Student Life to include consultation process for SAC projects within the SAC Handbook	Executive Officer	In Progress: This will occur before the end of the year; representatives will be invited to provide their feedback on the document.
24 August, 2023	An update for the Clubs and Societies Review is to be provided to the Student Advisory Council.	UOW Pulse Student Director and Senior Manager, Student Experience and Projects	Closed this will occur in item 3.2.
26 October 2023	Ratify the resolutions of the 26 October Meeting. equipment.	Chair, SAC	Closed: This will be resolved in item 1.8.

***1.6 Chair's Report**

The SAC Executive delivered an activity update the Academic Senate on the 8th of November 2023. This was a successful opportunity for members of Senate to be provided an overview of the activities of the SAC. There will be a further update provided to University Council on the 8th of December.

The Chair reminded representatives to submit honorarium requests by the 8th of November 2023.

They indicated information about the 2024 Leadership retreat would be circulated shortly.

The Chair thanked all members for their hard work throughout 2023.

***1.7 Membership Business**

The Chair provided an update of the results of the Governance elections for representative positions in 2024. They welcomed new representatives present and congratulated them on their successful election.

***1.8 Adoption of Resolutions of the 26 October 2023 Meeting**

The Council adopted unadopted resolutions from the inquorate October 26 meeting.

PART 2: COMMITTEE BUSINESS AND MEMBERS' REPORTS

3.1 Business from Student Advisory Council Committees

The Director, Division of Student Life indicated that recommendations from the SSAF Subcommittee on the expenditure of SSAF were largely endorsed with minor adjustments due to budget shortfalls.

The Academic Senate Undergraduate representative provided an overview of their involvement on Careers and Employability Review and encouraged representatives to be involved in ongoing work occurring in the Review.

The Deputy Chair indicated that the StudentLife@UOW Steering Group had its final meeting and thanked the departing Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Life) for their support.

***3.2 Member's Reports'**

No Member Reports was discussed.

PART 3: GENERAL BUSINESS

*3.1 Shoalhaven Campus Survey

The Chair invited Henry Altenburg, Shoalhaven Campus Representative to speak to this item.

They provided an overview of the Shoalhaven Campus Survey that they undertook to inform the delivery of activities on the Shoalhaven Campus. They indicated that there was a 79.7% satisfaction rating, with a desire for additional social and academic activities, particularly Peer assisted study.

The Director, Division of Student Life indicated that additional Peer Assisted Study Session would be offered to regional campus students and would be complemented by the Student Success Strategy. They congratulated the Shoalhaven Campus Representative on undertaking the survey.

Draft resolution:

that the Student Advisory Council:

- (i) note the Shoalhaven Campus Survey report and results;*
- (ii) endorse the draft recommendations of the report; and*
- (iii) approve the recommendations as the formal advice of the Council to be sent to the Delegated Authority for consideration,*

as set out in the Agenda papers.

*3.2 Clubs and Societies Review Update

The Chair invited Keval Patel and Melissa Zaccagnini to speak to this item. They provided an overview of the significant student and staff consultation that informed the recommendations of the working group.

The Clubs and Societies Review was initiated to ensure a vibrant, aspirational vision of clubs and societies at UOW, particularly following Covid-19. They provided an overview of the 5 key recommendation themes that emerged from the review and thanked all staff and students involved.

Draft resolution:

that the Student Advisory Council note Clubs and Societies Review Update provided by the Senior Manager, Student Experience and Projects and UOW Pulse Student Director.

*3.3 Student Success Strategy

The Chair invited Dr Kylie Austin, Associate Director, Student Equity and Success to speak to this item.

They provided an overview of the consultation that occurred to inform the development of the Strategy, leveraging perspectives from the Student Equity Working Group and International Experience Working Group.

The Strategy has five pillars for student success:

1. *Supported Transition into and Through UOW;*
2. *Living, Health and Wellbeing;*
3. *Engagement with Learning;*
4. *Belonging and Connectedness;*
5. *Strong Sense of Purpose.*

Several initiatives will be delivered as a result of the Strategy including:

- **Equity, diversity and inclusion training** for staff and students.
- A **first-year mentoring** program for all commencing students;
- **Student monitoring, outreach, and engagement** in support services through a dedicated retention team.
- Increased staffing and visibility of **literacy and numeracy skills and study support**.
- Launch of UOW's **financial** inclusion action plan, with increased access to emergency financial support, breakfast programs and initiatives that address placement poverty and food security.

They provided an overview of the Student Equity and Success unit structure.

The Clubs and Societies representative commended the work of the Strategy.

Draft resolution:

that the Student Advisory Council endorse the consultation of the Student Success Strategy to commence as provided in the agenda paper.

3.4 Building 19 Renovations and Move

The Chair invited Theresa Hoynes, Director, Division of Student Life to speak to this item. The Director, Division of Student Life provided an overview of moving Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Team into the ground floor of Building 19, with Student Associations moving to the first level of Building 11.

Draft resolution:

that the Student Advisory Council note Building 19 Renovations and Move update provided by the Director, Division of Student Life.

PART 4: OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Questions on Notice

There were no questions on notice.

***4.2 Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

4.3 Next Meeting

The Chair advised the next SAC meeting will be held in March 2024. .

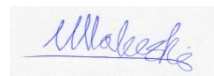
4.4 Rolling Agenda Schedule

No items were addressed.

4.5 Closure of Meeting

The Chair thanked all Members and closed the meeting at 2:00pm.

Signed as a true record:



Michael Valceski
Chair, Student Advisory Council
01/13/2024