

**Student Representative Council
Meeting Minutes
November 2020**

A meeting of the University of Newcastle Students' Association (UNSA) Student Representative Council (SRC) was held at 2:00pm on Wednesday 25th November 2020 in Room SC408 on Callaghan Campus and linked via Zoom: <https://uonewcastle.zoom.us/j/86970135517?pwd=TFBObWN2OHROWjZYZmViQTZAbVh1QT09>

Distribution list:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President- Luka Harrison • Vice-President Education (VPE) - Natasha Perrottet • Vice President Experience & Engagement (VPEX)- Georgie Cooper • Vice-President Welfare & Wellbeing (VPW) - Jessica Philbrook • Postgraduate Student Senate Convenor (PSSC) - Aaron Matthews • International Student Senate Convenor (ISSC) - Noor Maulidiyah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle Campuses Convenor (NCC)- Corey Dixon • Central Coast Campus Convenor (CCCC)- Matthew Knight • Cloud Campus Convenor (CCC) – VACANT • Sydney Campus Convenor (SCC) - Benjamin Goy • Port Macquarie Campus Convenor (PMCC) - Stephen Bennett • Disability Collective Convenor (DCC)- Geordan Hart • Indigenous Collective Convenor (ICC) - Ngairé Pakai • Queer Collective Convenor (QCC)- TJ Hay • Women's Collective Convenor (WCC) - Paris Drinkwater
Minute Taker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jen Hanson – UNSA Student Support Coordinator 	

Meeting opens: 2:03pm

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Pambalong clan of the Awabakal people, on whose traditional land this Callaghan Campus of the University of Newcastle is situated.

1.2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from VP Education, Port Macquarie Campus Convenor, and VP Welfare & Wellbeing

1.3. QUORUM

The chair confirms that quorum is not established

1.4. RIGHTS OF AUDIENCE AND DEBATE

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting the chair calls on the SRC to declare any previously undisclosed conflicts of interest. None declared by members present.

3. REPORTS

3.1. President: Not received

3.2. VP Education: Not received

3.3. VP Wellbeing

- 3.4. **Postgraduate Senate Convenor**
- 3.5. **International Senate Convenor**
- 3.6. **Newcastle Campuses Convenor:** Not received
- 3.7. **Central Coast Campus Convenor:** Not received
- 3.8. **Port Macquarie Campus Convenor:** Not received
- 3.9. **Sydney Campus Convenor:** Not received
- 3.10. **Cloud Campus Convenor:** Not received
- 3.11. **Disability Collective Convenor:** Not received
- 3.12. **Indigenous Collective Convenor:** Not received
- 3.13. **Queer Collective Convenor:** Not received
- 3.14. **Women's Collective Convenor:** Not received

Motion: in principle support to accept reports received.

Moved by: President

Seconded by: WCC

In favour: 5

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion Carried

4. GENERAL BUSINESS & FUNDING REQUESTS

4.1 Potential Recognition of previous Student Associations

PSSC gives a summary of his thoughts on the potential recognition of previous Student Associations. Previously the Postgraduate Students' Senate brainstormed ideas such as a garden or a statue but never came to a consensus. PSSC, previously the NUPSA president, explains that the previous associations dissolved after long tenures at the university. 20 years for NUPSA and 50 years for NUSA respectively. PSSC invites members to discuss if previous associations should be recognised, and if so, how should they be recognised.

President expresses his support for the initiative and sees it as an appropriate gesture to acknowledge the hard work students put into the organisations as well as the support the organisations gave to students.

QCC states that it could be a good opportunity to show how UNSA is similar, but also how it is different. Without the previous associations, we would not have UNSA: "this is what we have been, this is what we are now". President suggests conducting some research on specific people who made NUSA and NUPSA what they were to ensure those individuals are recognised as well. AGM adds that she has spoken to the University SSAF officer and they are be happy to put aside portion of next years' SSAF to be used for this. The university acknowledges the end of the student associations in the middle of a pandemic was very quiet and deserves some sort of acknowledgement.

Motion: in principle support to form a working party to prepare a proposal to recognise previous student associations, to be brought to the SRC in 2021.

Moved by: President

Second: QCC

In favour: 5

Opposed: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Carried

4.2 UNSA student spaces on campus

AGM gives an overview of student spaces on campus, explaining that UNSA is losing the space in the Hunter Building (previously the NUPSA office). At present, there are very few student spaces, especially at NUspace, where there is no student space at all.

AGM tells members that UNSA will be presenting to the University Vice-Chancellor's Campus Activation Committee regarding the need for greater student spaces on campus. The proposal will also demonstrate UNSA's need for a large, visible clubs space. (The current clubs space under BOTH could be converted to an

equity space to hold meetings for various collectives. This space is tucked away under BOTH making it more suitable as it is not as visible to the public and thus members of those collectives are not forced to publicly identify). Before the proposal is presented the AGM asks members to send in their suggestions for spaces on campus. Specifically, UNSA is seeking a space for clubs at Callaghan campus and a space for students somewhere in Newcastle City. As for the other campuses, UNSA has very little chance of finding anything on Sydney campus but will be campaigning for half of the Millery at Ourimbah on the Central Coast. AGM expresses that this proposal is a vital opportunity for UNSA to try to get more student spaces across campuses.

4.3 Ecosia on campus campaign

AGM gives an overview of the Ecosia search engine platform which uses profits to plant trees. In our strategic planning, ethics and ethical business operations was a significant objective of ours. It may be a slightly clunkier option than Google, which should be taken into consideration. Also, UNSA would be the first University in Australia to partner with Ecosia.

Motion: in principle support to further explore the possibility of collaborating with Ecosia for an on campus campaign.

Moved by: President

Seconded by: VPEX

In favour: 5

Abstain: 0

Oppose: 0

Motion Carried.

5. MATTERS FOR NOTING & GENERAL QUESTIONS

5.1 UNSA SRC handover procedure

Members discuss the draft handover template circulated before the meeting. Members agree it is a good starting point for handover.

UNSA Positional Email Accounts:

ISSC asks about positional email accounts being carried over for next year. AGM expresses concerns over the positional accounts as they could breach the Privacy Act due to the personal nature of information that may be in the accounts. Ultimately it is up to the SRC to decide whether to keep these or not, as it is not an official UNSA policy.

UNSA Collectives Handover:

WCC asks about handover for UNSA Collectives. AGM answers that SRC elections and inductions are on a different timeline for collectives. At present there is no hard date for collective handover or elections however going forward UNSA would like to consult with collectives on what sort of timeline would be best.

Election Review Sessions:

President advises members that there is one more Election Review Session on Friday 27th November from 11:30 to 1pm and getting involved is highly encouraged. Reach out to Manager Student Representation if you are interested in attending in person or via zoom.

Bike Hub:

AGM gives an update on the Bike Hub facility and NUBUG, the bike club that was previously affiliated under NUSA. The biggest issue with the Bike Hub is the design and structure, as it is made from metal and built on a carpark. In recent years there have been many complaints received by IFS regarding safety at the Bike Hub. The current set up is not safe nor is the building safe to be working in during the hot summer months. As a result, IFS did not renew the Bike Hub lease and it was shut last month. Many students were upset about the Bike Hub since it was originally a service created by students, for students. At present the AGM is working closely with the previous manager of the Bike Hub and IFS to facilitate the Bike Hub coming back to campus. It should be coming back at some stage next year.

6. MEETING FINALISATION

6.1. Review actions to be taken

ACTION	ASSIGNED TO	STATUS
Contact 2020 and 2021 SRC to form a working group to create a proposal to recognise previous student associations.	President	
Send feedback and ideas to UNSA AGM regarding experience with student and clubs spaces on campuses, to be incorporated into the proposal for the VC's Campus Activation Committee.	All members	
Send any feedback regarding the election review process to Manager Student Representation.	All members	
Send out handover template to SRC.	Student Support Coordinator, Governance and Representation	

6.2. Next meeting:

This was the final meeting for the 2020 UNSA SRC. There will be an informal SRC get together in the coming weeks to celebrate the end of the year.

Meeting closes: 2:37pm