

**TASMANIA UNIVERSITY UNION
Council
Minutes**

For the Meeting of the Council held at **6:00pm on Thursday, 1st December 2016**
via video conference in

SANDY BAY - Stanley Burbury Boardroom and LAUNCESTON - TUU Boardroom and CRADLE COAST - A119

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1.1 WELCOME

1.2 PRESENT

Clark Cooley, Tarek Muhtaseb, Joey Crawford, Gabriella Tregurtha, Dan Probert, Catherine Walker, Vivi Perry

1.3 APOLOGIES

Maria Daglas, Jess Robinson

1.4 ABSENT

SECTION 2 - MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

2.1 AMENDMENTS

N/A

2.2 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

N/A

2.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

N/A

SECTION 3 - CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 INWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

- Trudi Steedman CSD re: Rubbish and Recycling - TUU Barrels & Event
- Provost - College of Art and Law via Dean of Arts

3.2 OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

SECTION 4 - REPORTS

4.1 PRESIDENTS REPORT

Motion Title: TUU Refugee Scholarship

Preamble:

- As part of the Voice 2016 election commitments, a strong pledge to support disadvantaged students was made.
- Tasmania has a growing refugee population, including the largest per capita amount of Syrian refugees coming to the state. The Union must play its part in supporting refugees, including offering financial assistance to those who wish to undertake a university education.
- The scholarship will be run through the Universities scholarship office, to assist the student with the upfront costs of education, including textbooks, supplies, computers etc.
- Direction of the scholarship details will be the duty of the President

Motion:

- The Council approves to expenditure of \$3500 for the 'TUU Refugee Scholarship'

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Standing Policy

Preamble:

- The council's deliberation on matters relating to stance on education, and student related issues is unknown by members. Often buried in the minutes of meetings, that are rarely available.
- It is a cornerstone role of the union to stand up for our members on issues that may affect them, including education, and university policy
- A clear, online, version of a standing policy booklet would solve any issues around the stance of the union on policy issues.
- All policy passed by council would stand until removed by a further vote of council.

Motion:

- The TUU establish a 'Standing Policy' booklet, available on the TUU's website.

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:1

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Acknowledgement of Country (Standing Policy)

Preamble:

- The council understands that an acknowledgement of country is a way of showing awareness of and respect for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- In co-ordination with the ATSI officers a submission to Standing Policy has been established
- An Acknowledgement of Country at meetings is the reasonability and choice of the chair of that meeting. Council respects the decision of Presidents to adjudicate meetings how they wish.

Motion:

- The Council submits the following text into the standing policy document under the title Acknowledgement of Country. "The Tasmania University Union acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land, the Frist Australians, their Elders past and present. The TUU acknowledges and respects their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of our University"

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Policy Review Taskforce

Preamble:

- A number of policies the TUU currently holds are in need of review, Council has a responsibility to undertake this review and present our recommendations to Board.
- An establishment of a Policy Review Taskforce will assist Council undertake a review of current policy, as well as the establishment of new policy where needed.
- The Policy Review Taskforce shall comprise of all members of the Council, and any additional members the Taskforce wishes to invite. The President shall chair the Taskforce. The Taskforce shall report to the Council.

Motion:

- The Council establishes the Policy Review Taskforce to undertake a review and suggest any recommendations of the Union's policy.

Moved: Seconded:

For: Against: Abstain:

Moved to Postgraduate Report

Motion Title: Transparency and Accountability

Preamble:

- The TUU has extremely poor accountability and transparency standards.
- The Union should operate on an open basis, so members can have access to workings of the union, including meeting minutes, financial information, motions, staff, and policy.
- Council has limited control over this area, however can make a tangible start to this process

Motions:

- The Policy Review Subcommittee shall undertake a review of the establishment of a Transparency and Accountability Policy
- The Council shall publish a committee charter on the TUU website, outlining membership of university committees.

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: Online Update

Preamble:

- The online standing of the TUU is poor, and far below the standard expected from members
- Online pages are varied, and poorly designed. Multiple Facebook pages of different councils lead to much confusion from Students as to events, activities and services provided by the Union or its partners
- The TUU app, while in theory would be a way for students to access events, in reality societies, sporting clubs and student organisations use Facebook and its app for communication with the student body. The TUU should further embrace Facebook to better communicate with students.

Motions:

- The Union will update the Website of the TUU to the President and the Student Development Administrator discretion
- The Council will consolidate the "TUU - Tasmania University Union, TUU SRC South, TasPostgrads, TUU Education Council" Facebook accounts into a single page.
- The President shall undertake a request to discontinue the TUU app, and funding of online services including existing and new with discussion with the Executive Officer, Development Officer and the Board

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Vivi Perry

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Vivi Perry

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: President Office

Preamble:

- The President's Office is in dire need of upgrades, water damage, continued use, and poor hygiene habits of previous occupants have left the office in a poor state.
- A motion was passed by the 2016 State Council for a similar amount however was never actioned

Motion:

- The Council approve up to \$3500 for the furnishing of the President's Office (4x Office Chairs, 1x Fabric Sofa, 1x Desk, 1x Meeting Table, Over-desk cupboard, Delivery and Install + other furniture)

Moved:Dan Probert Seconded:Gabby

For:6 Against: Abstain:1 (Clark Cooley)

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Academic Senate / First Council Meeting Travel Motion

Motion:

- The Council authorizes: \$250 for the cost of accommodation, \$100 for the cost of fuel, and \$100 for any other expenses to the members discretion. (Total: \$450 each)

Moved:Joey Crawford Seconded:Dan Probert

For:5 Against: Abstain:2 (Clark Cooley. Vivi Perry)

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Presidents Council / Sydney Visit

Preamble:

- To ensure Sydney and other regional students are well represented Council members may attend the Sydney campus.
- The yearly Presidents Council in Sydney is hosted to ensure that Union Presidents may co-ordinate national campaigns and policy
- It is optimal that while attending the Presidents Council, a visit and meeting with Sydney based campus representatives is undertaken.

Motion:

- *To be discussed*

Moved: Seconded:

For: Against: Abstain:

Motion moved to via circular once details are released

Motion Title: Southern Campus President

Preamble:

- The current Southern Campus President is currently undertaking study overseas.
- The SRC South needs a chair to undertake planning for 2017, including O-Week/Welcome Week/Freshers Week
- The President of the Council shall undertake the duties of the Southern Campus President
- The President shall relinquish the duties of the Southern Campus President once the Campus President is able to retake there duties.

Motion:

- The Council shall appoint the President to undertake the reasonability of the Southern Campus President

Moved:Joey Crawford Seconded:Dan Probert

For:6 Against: Abstain:1 (Clark Cooley)

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Statewide Orientation Weeks Committee

Preamble:

- The Council needs to co-ordinate a state-wide plan for O-Week, this is inclusive of theme, graphic design, marketing and budget
- Regional Councils shall be responsible for the planning of O-Week activates, events and campaigns through the sub-committee process
- The Council respects the autonomy of the Regional Council sub-committees in planning O-Week.
- The membership of the taskforce shall comprise of all members of the Council, and any additional members the Taskforce wishes to invite. The President shall chair the Taskforce. The Taskforce shall report to the Council.

Motion:

- The Council establishes the Statewide Orientation Weeks Committee

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: SRC Autonomy and Council Policy

Preamble:

- The Council lacks a clear policy to overview issues such as appointments of new officers, meeting times, dates, and policy.
- Current policy exists within the regulations of the organisation, however is lacking in particular areas
- The need exists for Regional Councils to appoint students to positions in the interim time between by-elections.
- Council respects the autonomy of Regional Councils to appoint who they see fit to hold positions until such a time of a by-election

Motions:

- The Council will instruct the Policy Review Taskforce to establish a Council Policy, to look at the areas of new appointments, meeting times/dates, an update to the regulations and other Council related policy
- The Council will respect the decision made by Regional Councils to appoint members to representative positions as they see fit .

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: Cheaper Textbooks (PIR)

Preamble:

- In 2009 the productivity commission found that the high price of textbooks in Australia is mostly due to the inflationary pressures of Parallel Import Restrictions (PIRs)
- PIRs ban the import of same edition textbooks printed overseas largely to shelter local printers. A lack of competition allows publishers and printers to name their price.
- The TUU understands that textbooks are a significant cost for students who undertake study. The cost of textbooks is upto 35% higher for Australian students compared to the United States.
- The TUU will lead a strong campaign against Parallel Import Restrictions, including lobbying the Federal Government to abolish PIRs.

Motions:

- The Council submits the following text into the standing policy document under the title Cheaper Textbooks: the removal of Parallel Import Restrictions (PIRs). “The Tasmania University Union supports the removal of parallel import restrictions. PIRs exist mostly for redundant copyright and protection purposes, but are now used by publishers as a price gouging mechanism. The TUU recognises that parallel import restrictions result in a significant and unnecessary cost to students, many of whom have no other choice but to buy new edition textbooks to succeed courses they have already paid for. Restrictions on other parallel imports have largely been removed in Australia allowing the importation of identical media, software, and other products that are available more cheaply overseas and providing consumers with access to substantially cheaper products. The Australian Productivity commission recommended that PIRs be abolished, and that this would introduce competition into the textbook printing market, and drive prices down substantially. PIRs on books substantially contribute to the overall financial costs of Higher Education, and by effect having a substantially unequal effect on those from lower income backgrounds, remote and regional communities, women. ”
- The Council authorizes the expenditure of \$1000 for the purchase of campaign materials to establish a Cheaper Textbooks now campaign. The appropriation of funding the campaign will be to the discretion of the President and the Education President.

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Vivi Perry

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: Expense Reimbursement for Induction Dinner

Motions:

- The Council reimburse the President and Societies President \$35 each for the cost of the Induction Dinner

Moved:Dan Probert Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:2 (Clark Cooley, Vivi Perry)

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Expense Reimbursement for Induction Dinner

Motions:

- The Council reimburse the President up to \$800 for the cost of the post Council Dinner

Moved: Gabriella Tregurtha Seconded: Catherine Walker

For: 2 Against: Abstain: 5 (Clark Cooley, Vivi Perry, Dan Probert, Joey Crawford, Tarek Muhtaseb)

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Planning Deadline and Establishment of Budget and Planning Review Taskforce

Preamble:

- The consultation for budgeting for 2017 will take place shortly. The Council must establish a plan for 2017, inclusive of an overview and budget for events/ activities/campaigns and other initiatives.
- The establishment of a Budget and Planning Review Taskforce to overview the plans and establish a proposed budget for both the internal and external funding available to Councils inclusive of SSAF and baseline funding.
- Regional Councils must complete plans by the 16th of December 2016 for inclusion in the Budget and Planning Review Taskforce planning meeting.
- The Budget and Planning Review Taskforce shall meet in December once plans have been received by Regional Councils. The Taskforce shall be chaired by the President. All members of the Council shall be members of the Taskforce.
- The Budget and Planning Review Taskforce shall submit a report of proposed plans to the President for consultation with the appropriate internal and external bodies.

Motions:

- The Council establishes the Budget and Planning Review Taskforce to undertake a single plan to be presented to the President for consultation with the appropriate internal and external bodies.

Moved: Clark Cooley Seconded: Joey Crawford

For: 7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Student Representatives

Preamble:

- To better understands the needs of our members, students must know their student representatives. Students should be able to activity identify their representatives and be able to approach them.
- The Union has taken a number of steps in the past to address this including; t-shirts, posters, banners, a strong online presence
- The Council should continue these steps to allow new representatives to engage with the membership
- In consultation with the Council, the President shall be responsible for the design and production of the materials

Motions:

- The Council approves up to \$1000 for the purchase of banners, and posters displaying the student representatives
- The Council approves up to \$4999 for the purchase of clothing for the student representatives, inclusive of t-shirts, and hoodies.

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:1

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: Australian Flag

Motion:

- The Council approves up to \$600 for the purchase of an Australian flag and stand for the TUU South

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Dan Probert

For:6 Against:1 Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Student Media

Motion:

- The Council recommends the Board remove sections of the Media Policy in regards to autonomous officer bearers

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:5 Against: Abstain:2

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the President's report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

4.2 GENERAL SECRETARY REPORT

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the General Secretary's report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Tarek Muhtaseb

For:7 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Sports President left the Meeting

4.3 POSTGRADUATE PRESIDENT REPORT

Verbal report submitted

Motion Title: Policy Review Subcommittee (PRS)

Preamble:

- A number of policies the TUU currently holds are in need of review, Council has a responsibility to undertake this review and present our recommendations to Board.
- An establishment of a Policy Review Subcommittee will assist Council undertake a review of current policy, as well as the establish of new policy were needed.
- The Policy Review Taskforce shall comprise of all members of the Council, and any additional members the subcommittee wishes to invite. The President shall chair the subcommittee. The subcommittee shall report to the Council.
- The subcommittee will review all TUU policies, regulations, and constitution and provide recommendations to relevant bodies (e.g Council and/or Board)
- The PRS will review position descriptions of all TUU positions
- The PRS will review and/or develop terms of reference for each standing council and provide recommendations to Council

Motions:

- To establish a Policy Review Subcommittee of Council
- For the Executive Officer to provide word document files for all TUU policies, procedures, guidelines, regulations, and constitution to the PRS

Moved:Joey Crawford Seconded:Clark Cooley

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion 1 Passed

Moved:Joey Crawford Seconded:Clark Cooley

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion 2 Passed

Motion Title: Strategy Subcommittee Establishment

Preamble:

- To facilitate a consultation process with stakeholders for strategic direction of the TUU
- To develop a six-year strategic plan for the TUU which ensures financial viability and organisational success without external income sources beyond baseline funding
- Propose and facilitate changes to the organisation in the direction of the strategic plan

Motions:

- The Council establishes the Strategy Subcommittee (SS)

Moved:Joey Crawford Seconded:Clark Cooley

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

4.4 EDUCATION PRESIDENT REPORT

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the Education President's report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

4.5 SPORTS PRESIDENT REPORT

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the Sports President's report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

4.6 SOCIETIES PRESIDENT REPORT

Verbal report submitted

4.7 CAMPUS PRESIDENT - SOUTH REPORT

No Report Submitted

4.8 CAMPUS PRESIDENT - NORTH REPORT

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the Campus President - North report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

4.9 CAMPUS PRESIDENT - CRADLE COAST REPORT

Motion Title: Purchase of Outdoor Beanbags for Courtyard area

Preamble:

- Cradle Coast SRC wishes to purchase ten outdoor bean bags for the courtyard area, as there is limited outdoor furniture in the courtyard, this would encourage more student social interaction. The bean bags would be required before orientation day.

Motions:

- The purchase of ten outdoor beanbags and beans. Total cost \$1710. Budget line: 6-2840

Moved:Catherine Walker Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Purchase of television for the TUU space

Preamble:

- We wish to purchase a television for the TUU space, to be used for advertising events, services, general information, and SRC representation. At present we only have a whiteboard to provide information to students. This would be required before the beginning of semester one.

Motions:

- The purchase of 43" LG television from Harvey Norman, cost including installation \$1000

Moved:Catherine Walker Seconded:Vivi Perry

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

Motion Title: Report

Motion:

- The Council approves the Campus President - Cradle Coast report

Moved:Clark Cooley Seconded:Joey Crawford

For:6 Against: Abstain:

Motion Passed

SECTION 6 - GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Nothing to report

6.2 ACTION LIST

SECTION 7 - GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Closed: 7:51pm

Next Meeting: 6:00pm, 24th of January, Burnie - CC.D214 (MR.AL09.L02.214) and
Launceston - NH.A001 (NH.BF24.L00.001) and Hobart - SB.Physics218 (SB.AU14.L02.218)