

TUU State Council

Minutes



22 September 2014, 17:30

CC.D212 Boardroom, Cradle Coast
NH.L172.Video, Launceston
SB.MMLib.B106.Video, Hobart



COUNCIL AGENDA

Section 1

Introductory Items

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- 1.2 Attendance and Apologies
- 1.3 Observers
- 1.4 Declaration of Interest
- 1.5 Items on Notice
- 1.6 Items to be Starred
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- 2.1 Minutes from Previous Meeting
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- 4.2 *Report from General Secretary
- 4.3 *Report from Postgraduate President
- 4.4 *Report from Campus President South
- 4.5 *Report from Campus President North
- 4.6 *Report from Campus President Cradle Coast
- 4.7 *Report from Societies Council President
- 4.8 *Report from Sports council President

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Agenda Item 1.1
Acknowledgement of Country
Presenter: President

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The Tasmania University Union pays respect to the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we work.

The **Plairhekehillerplue**, of the land on which the Cradle Coast campus was built.

The **Panninher**, of the land on which the Beauty Point AMC campus was built.

The **Leterrermairrener**, of the land on which the Newnham, Inveresk, and AMC campuses were built.

The **Mouheneenner**, of the land on which the Sandy Bay and Hobart city campuses were built.

The **Wangal** and **Gadigal** people of the Eora nation, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which Sydney's Rozelle and Darlinghurst (St. Vincent's) campuses were respectively built.

We acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community, who have survived invasion and dispossession, and continue to maintain their indigenous identity and culture.



Agenda Item 1.2-1.3
Attendance, Apologies, Observers
Presenter: General Secretary

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Present

Isaac Foster
Waqas Durrani
Arathi Khanal
Sue Kole
Saraswathy Varatharajullu
Olivia Jenkins
Shanty Priya

Apologies

Cassandra Shim

Observers

Harry Rolf
Thomas Rolf
George Holgate
Heide La Pagila
Clarke Cooley
Daniel Vespegnani
Tabitha Fletcher



Agenda Item 1.4
Declaration of Interests
Presenter: General Secretary

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N/A



Agenda Item 1.5
Items on Notice
Presenter: President

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N/A



Agenda Item 1.6
Items to be Starred
Presenter: President

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N/A



Agenda Item 1.7
Motions on Unstarred Items
Presenter: President

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N/A



Agenda Item 2.1
Minutes from Previous Meeting
Presenter: President

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Previous minutes were approved via email and uploaded on the website.



Agenda Item 2.2
Matters Arising from Minutes
Presenter: President

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N/A



Agenda Item 2.3
Work Health and Safety
Presenter: President

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Jenny Hart has been informed by Waqas Durrani about the toilet spaces in the TUU to be well maintained by the cleaners. The auto-spray deodorisers have been replaced and new smelly round things have been installed in the urinal tray.



Agenda Item 3.1
Inwards Correspondence
Presenter: General Secretary

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N/A



Agenda Item 3.2
Outgoing Correspondence
Presenter: General Secretary

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N/A



Agenda Item 3.3
Motions by Correspondence
Presenter: General Secretary

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MOTION that State Council approves reimbursement of 884.19 to Isaac Foster for flights, accommodation and other expenses in attending NUS Edcon 2014 at the University of Western Australia.

Isaac
All in favor

Saras

Passed

MOTION that State Council approve reimbursement of 769.85 to Isaac Foster for flights, transport, accommodation and other expenses relating to local work and campus visits in Burnie, Sydney and Launceston between June and September 2014.

Isaac
All in favor

Waqas

Passed



Isaac Foster

We only have two or three more meetings of State Council to go this year, so as we set our eyes on the finishing line I've got a few top priorities: **Handover**, working with our incoming reps to set expectations and ensure we're able to prepare the best resources we can for our 2015 reps; **Space Management**, getting one of our last SSAF deliverables (Book room) rolled out with UTAS's support; **Review**, pulling together our reflections on this year, and my work on the coming report which I hope to discuss with Council and Board in its final form this coming month!

- **Board of Management membership changes**

The August meeting of University Council appointed Simon Overland APM as the new Chair of the Board. Mr. Overland is the current Secretary to the Tasmanian Justice Department, and was Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police from 2009-2011. Mr. Overland is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration, and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Council has also appointed Emeritus Prof. Michael Stoddart. Professor Stoddart recently concluded his term as Chair of the Board of the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) at the University of Tasmania. Professor Stoddart was appointed as a Professor of Zoology at the University in 1985, having previously served at the University of Oxford and the University of London. He has formerly held the position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University of New England in New South Wales. Professor Stoddart also served as Chief Scientist of the Australian Antarctic Division from 1998 to 2008.

As a result of the successfully passed structural changes recommended to Council and Board this year, the 2014 union representatives on the Board will be the 2015 Statewide President (Heidi la Paglia), Postgraduate President (Aarati Khanal), and Campus President North (Clark Cooley).

- **Submission to Senate Inquiry into Higher Education Reform**

The Tasmania University Union submission to the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee Inquiry attempts to detail a comprehensive stance on issues raised with the Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014. It compliments submissions made by the National Union of Students, the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations, and the Postgraduate Council.

- **Workplaces (Protection from Protesters) Bill 2014**

The Bill follows from commitments made during the State Election by the Tasmanian Liberal Party. The legislation in its current form prohibits protests, whether on private or public property, that hinder access to business premises or disrupt business operations. It imposes mandatory penalties, including fines up to \$100,000 Australian dollars for organisations and up to \$10,000 Australian dollars for individuals. Repeat offenders face a mandatory minimum prison sentence of three months.

A joint statement has been drafted by Richard Griggs, head of Civil Liberties Tasmania, following a group roundtable of 25 community organisations and unions expressing concerns for the impact the legislation will have on freedom of association and public assembly in the state.

The legislation has attracted considerable attention, and on September 9 the United Nations Human Rights Commissioner called upon the state government to withdraw the bill, stating, "If passed, the law would almost certainly run afoul of Australia's human rights obligations, which Tasmania is also obliged to uphold. State governments in Australia need to ensure the legislation they adopt is in line with the country's international obligations under international human rights law."

Australia has since March 2014 been a co-sponsor to the UN Human Rights Council's resolution 25/38 that recognises that peaceful protests can make a positive contribution to the development and strengthening of democracy, and urges States to facilitate peaceful protests by providing access to public space. The TUU continues to hold conversations with Mr. Griggs, and personal invitations to meet and discuss issues have been forwarded to all current Members of the Legislative Council, where the legislation is anticipated to return before the end of the year.

- **October 16th National Day of Action (NUS Education Department)**

Sarah Garnham (National Education Officer) has called for a further National Day of Action to highlight the critical time for Higher Education policy following the commencement of the new Federal Senate. This will take place on October 16th.

Members of the SRC are currently organising a Higher Education forum to promote a discussion of issues on campus, and the Tasmania University Union remains an active and essential player in the Higher Education debates, through lobbying currently being put into effect through Tasmanian members of the Senate, and through the aforementioned submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014.

There are not currently plans in place to organise a rally-scale response. There is broad consensus that the purposes of an NDA have been achieved to their greatest effect this year and further actions of this type are unlikely to be the

best means of further engaging students on campus, or of broadening the TUU's networks. I am keen to discuss this further with anyone who has other thoughts on the matter.

- **Joint Strategic Meeting – State Council & Board of Management**

Following discussions with members on the Board, I have corresponded with the Chair of the Board of Management to arrange a joint strategic meeting of the Statewide Council and the Board of Management to discuss findings of the Report on Structural Review, which will be circulated out of session next week (September 29th – October 1st). More information to follow.

- **2014 Election Results (Cont.)**

At the September 16 meeting of the Board of Management we discussed complaints brought to the Board by a couple of students dissatisfied with the results of the election. A statement in return was drafted by the Chair of the Board, and the Board has noted the Declaration of Election released by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission as final. In response to a range of complaints made by the students, the Board echoed the view of the TEC that any complaints received, if substantiated, would not be enough to affect the outcomes of the election with the resulting margins. I hope to see students' concerns conducted and addressed in a constructive and positive manner.

Whilst students did not apparently see fit to contact their student representatives, it has been noted that the same complaints were circulated to the Secretary of the Tasmanian Justice Department, and undisclosed state media outlets. I cannot but express my disappointment at this kind of behaviour, for the unsportsmanlike attitude which it implies, and the implication it purports to make on the professionalism and experience of our electoral commissioners, for whom I maintain the utmost respect. I trust that this matter is now concluded.

- **Interstate and Campus Visits**

I am now setting in place plans for my last few rounds of campus visits this year, including hopefully one more visit to Sydney to discuss issues with our returning Sydney Campus Representative. I hope possibly this might be an opportunity to bring along the incoming President to get acquainted with the Rozelle and Darlinghurst campuses right at the outset for the 2015 term. I am circulating my work calendar as it stands for the year for anybody who is interested.



WAQAS DURRANI

Topics I will be talking about:

- **Study Space:**

The Uni Centre opposite the Morris Miller Library will be converted into an inflexible learning space for students. This is a huge accomplishment as a result of numerous meetings and constant follow up. Knowing that there isn't many study spots in Morris Miller, this will serve perfectly for students and is something that students will benefit not just this year but in the coming years as well.

- **State Council Investment:**

I would want the State Council to invest some of its money in printing TUU branded shirts to be placed on sale for students' purchases. The proceeds of these shirts would be used as a means of raising funds for TUU events and activities for students

Harry Rolf and others appreciated the idea.

- **Support to Isaac by sharing calendar:**

In order to provide support to Isaac for better communication and support in terms of managing work load, I have requested Isaac to share his calendar with me so that he can receive support.

- **Corporate Internships:**

The TUU will be a host organization for the Corporate Internship.

- **Orientation Shirts:**

Previously TUU used to distribute shirts during orientation and then discontinued it due to budget restraints. I would recommend we initiate this again as it is a good way of branding for the TUU and good advertising for us.

Olivia suggested to seek some sponsorship as well so we could increase the number of shirts produced.

- **Handover Dinner with the Board of Management:**

I will organize a dinner for the TUU 2014 and TUU 2015 with the Board of Management and the TUU staff as a thank you dinner for their services and an opportunity for everyone to socialize and know each other well. This will help developing a better understanding of everyone's work role and better working relations.

- **Animal Law Moot:**

The Animal Law Moot Team requires more funds to attend the interstate Animal Law Conference. A discussion was held and it was decided that they should receive the grant from Societies Council.



Agenda Item 4.3
Postgraduate President's report
Presenter: Postgraduate President

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Topics I will be talking about:

- Graduate Research Conference
- Orientation week Launceston and Cradle Coast
- Postgrads soccer tournament
- Postgraduate advocate and welfare officer
- Postgraduate space
- Social and networking activities
- New research strategy
- Revised graduate research candidature policy for higher degrees candidate

The postgrad council would be organizing the mental health awareness week offering yoga classes. Next year the postgrad council will apply for funding separate from the State Council. Aarathi also mentioned that she would be attending the CAPA conference.



SARASWATHY VARATHARAJULLU

1. Administrative Matters:

- Past Budget Reports

Dave is sorting out the amount spent per rep (Will probably have this by Friday). From this report, I am pooling whatever money reps will be unable to spend into a fund and put it towards a end of semester event, any collaboration project with Societies, Sports or Postgraduate President.

- Meetings

- Attended an academic misconduct meeting

- Correspondences

- Jacinta got back to me on 12/9 about the parking spots up 20 College road. She said she will provide an email with why the parking permits were not heavily advertised and why the spots up the hill are now staff parking. This will help us

- Congratulations to Lewis

We have to acknowledge Lewis' good work with getting a tangible response to the upgrading of the Ampitheatre. This was amazing work and shows how simple communication and support of students can achieve great changes

- Room opposite SRC office

If Isaac is in agreement, I think it would be a great idea to hand this project over to the Education rep or to work together with them. It would also be good to bring in the new Campus President, State President to work on this. If we start on this now, we could be ready by next February.

2. Events

- Study Abroad Agencies

This is the event that I attended and missed our last state council meeting. I had a good conversation with some of the agencies and students. The biggest take away I had was how agencies said that students really wanted to know about the university's activities and be able to already have a contact before they reach the campus.

I believe it would be a good idea for the current ISOs, welfare officers and Campus Presidents to work together with the incoming 3 reps to organise welcome packs and possibly being on the buses when these students arrive in Hobart.

- UTAS Open Day
Massive thanks to Heidi, Topher, Marissa, Lewis, Sophia, Kat, Olivia, Shanty, Isaac, Waqas and all other volunteers who came down to help out for this. Sophia's bike powered smoothie was such a success that it needs to be a permanent feature!
- International Film Night
TUU sponsored the screen for this event. It was successful with 100 students coming in. We are hoping to make this a bigger event next year by featuring a film that is fresh out of the theatres.
- Workshop for 2015 TUU Team
 - Week after exams are over (after 17/11)
 - If anyone is interested in helping me plan this workshop (possibly spanning 2 days), please do let me know
 - It would be great to do this with all SRCs, sports executive, societies executive and postgraduate executive
 - By doing this, we can build a more tightly knit team for 2015. This can foster more collaboration as everyone from societies and sports exec to postgrad exec to SRC exec are mingling.
- End of Semester Dance Party
This is something that Dave, Topher and I have discussed. We will be pooling whatever funds that is left for our SRC into this event. This means that we will be able to pull off a good end of year party before SWOTVAC week starts. We are in the process of hiring bands, etc.

Motion to approve \$300 for alcohol for SRC South from Non SSAF Budgets.

Saras

Olivia

Passed

All in favor



CASSANDRA SHIM

Greetings from the North.

The Northern TUU SRC has held multiple events in the past few weeks. This includes the international student's forum, open day, meet and greet with shadow Senator Amanda Rishworth and Helen Polly whilst ending the month with Stufftember.

The international student's forum focus on educating and informing international students their rights, opportunities and benefits as students from abroad. Amongst the speakers were people from the different companies and societies to give talks relating to different topics. Amongst the companies included the Fairwork Ombudsman that spoke about wages and working rights, Tasmanian Ombudsman that took all academic problems, the IELTS presenter who gave students an idea of what examiners expect in IELTS, a speaker from the Visa Lawyers Australia who gave a briefing on permanent residency and issues regarding VISA's, followed by the secretary of the Council of International Students Australia touching base with the students.

The Northern TUU also played a large part in the UTAS Open Day as a whole section was dedicated to showcasing some of our campus' most interesting and popular societies. Food stalls were also erected in which free food from the Indonesian Society was distributed for free together with the traditional TUU barbecue.

Furthermore, the meet and greet with both senator Amanda Rishworth and Helen Polly was held in conjunction with a visit to the entire campus for both senators. This was a great opportunity for student's to give their opinions and for both senators to get a first hand account of the issues that students are and will be facing from the budget cuts. It was indeed an extremely informative session for both the senators and the TUU as students got to raise their concerns and for them to be answered instantly.

Lastly. the Launceston and Inveresk Campus are currently hosting Stufftember, an entire month filled with a different theme every month. The first week held was Art's Week in which a "Chill Out Night" was hosted where we showcased the talents of the Inveresk Campus from comedians to musicians. This was then followed by "Are U Ok?" Day which was held to not only raise awareness to the students about suicide and mental health but also to reaffirm those who are down to keep their spirits up. Art's Week ended with the Rocky Horror Show costume party.

Art's Week was followed by Cultural Week which kicked off on Monday with an international themed barbecue followed by Trivia Night on Wednesday, pizza-movie night on Thursday with Wallaby Stew from Riuwana followed by the infamous Mamak Night on Friday hosted by the Malaysian Students Association with the TUU as the co-host.

Upcoming events include the last week of Stufftember which is Health Week followed by a "Stress Less Day" barbecue and free massages.

That is it from the North.



SUE KOLE

Sunday 31st August saw the SRC participating in UTAS open day. We ran the traditional BBQ lunch and had a stand. This was a great opportunity to speak with prospective students. The day went well with over 500 people on campus through-out the day. The guest speaker was OAM David Parkin Ex Carlton Football Coach.



On Friday 12th September we held a morning tea for R U OK day. This was a great opportunity to speak to students to discuss mental health issues, and to check in on how people are going with their studies this semester.

Monday 15th September saw Cradle Coast host a very important media event. MP Bill Shorten the leader of the opposition party (Federal) came to Burnie for the day and spoke to students and their concerns in relation to the Abbott Governments proposed changes to Higher Education and how this would impact on students and the community of the North West Coast of Tasmania. It was great to have Isaac come up for this event, and we would like to thank him for his support on the day.



The rest of semester we have only two more events planned. Monday 6th October, for Mental Health week we will be having a morning tea, and the traditional BBQ and entertainment for Stress Less Day.

Congratulations to the newly elected TUU SRC Cradle Coast Team for 2015.

Campus President – Sue Kole (Re-elected)

Regional Secretary – Tamara Mackinlay

TIA Representative – Camena Dawnstar (Re-elected)

Education Officer – Vacant

Sports and Societies Convenor – Vacant

Rural Clinical School Rep – Vacant

ATIS Officer – Vacant

General Rep – Vacant

Hopefully when the bi-election is called we can fill these vacant positions. I look forward to working with the new team in 2015.



OLIVIA JENKINS

Societies Council is plodding along nicely at the moment. We're definitely going to be using up all of our grant money, both the conference budget and the other budget, so that's a positive. I'm going to begin integrating George into some of the decision making processes and also get him along to the last Societies Council meeting to ensure that he has a good understanding of the role and what he is required to do.

On that note, I've also begun putting together a handover document, something I think we should definitely all start doing, to ensure that George will step into the role fully prepared to undertake it. I'm just putting in it helpful points, people to contact, relevant forms, committees I currently sit on that he will need to continue etc. to make handover a little bit easier.

We've also got the society awards happening soon, they close on the 12th of October, so would be great if you could encourage anyone you know on a society to apply for these.



SHANTY PRIYA

1. Community Cup Games

The event was a success.

2. Spare Room that was previously used for Community and Friends

Sports Council would like to check if that unused space could be given to clubs and societies who want to hold their AGM or general meetings. As currently, there is no space available for such purposes.

3. Unigym Facilities Booking System

There has been some suggestions as to having an online booking system for venue hire.

Shanty also mentioned that UTAS will collaborate with TUU for the Sports Awards.



Agenda Item 5.1
General Business Items
Presenter: Isaac

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N/A



Agenda Item 6.1
Date of Next Meeting
Presenter: President

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The date of the next formal meeting will be 13th October 2014, to be held at 5:00pm in CC.A119, SB.MMLib.B106 and NH.L172 via videolink.



Agenda Item 6.2
Close Meeting
Presenter: President

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Motion that the meeting be closed.