

# **TUU State Council**

**Minutes and PAPERS**



**7<sup>th</sup> April 2014, 18:30**

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



## COUNCIL AGENDA

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- Section 1                      Introductory Items  
1.1      Acknowledgement of Country  
1.2      Attendance and Apologies  
1.3      Observers  
1.4      Declaration of Interest  
1.5      Items on Notice  
1.6      Items to be Starred  
1.7      Motions on Unstarred Items
- Section 2                      Minutes and Matters Arising  
2.1      Minutes from Previous Meeting  
2.2      Matters Arising  
2.3      Work Health and Safety
- Section 3                      Correspondence  
3.1      Inward Correspondence  
3.2      Motions by Correspondence
- Section 4                      Reports  
4.1      \*Report from President  
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
- Section 5                      General Business  
5.1
- Section 6                      Other Business  
6.1      Close of Meeting



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

Tasmania University Union, Inc.  
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Meeting opened at 5.37pm

**Present**

Isaac Foster (President)  
Aarati Khanal (Postgraduate President)  
Saraswarthy Varatharajullu (South Campus President)  
Cassandra Shim (North Campus President)  
Sue Kole (CC Campus President)  
Shanty Priya (Sports Council President)  
Waqas Durrani (General Secretary)  
Olivia Jenkins (Societies Council President)

**Observers**

Liam Carswell from the NUS  
Daniel Westbury representing Tog Magazine.



Agenda Item 1.4  
Declaration of Interests  
**Presenter:** General Secretary

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Motion to remove Isaac Foster as the Chair of the State Council. Decision to appoint a rolling chair with Sue Kole to be Chairperson for State Council Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Saras

Isaac

**Passed**

**Motion** for Isaac Foster to take the minutes until the arrival of the General Secretary  
Sue

Saras

**Passed**



Agenda Item 1.5  
Items on Notice  
**Presenter:** President

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N/A



Motion of Vote of No Confidence in the Statewide President.

**Motion** to go in Camera at 18:29  
Sue Saras **Passed**

**Motion** to go out of Camera at 20:02  
Shanty Saras **Passed**

A discussion was held in relation to the previous motion passed at the State Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014, which saw the motion of a Vote of No Confidence in the Statewide President being presented and passed at the meeting. After recommendations from the Board, mediation was held with Andrew Farquhar. At the conclusion of the discussion, members within State Council still wished to proceed with a Vote of No Confidence in the Statewide President. Everyone on State Council was given time to discuss their concerns to the rest of the members.

**Motion** of Vote of No Confidence in the Statewide President  
Waqas Olivia **Failed**

4 Abstained

After further discussion in relation to this issue a second motion was put forward to State Council to consider.

**Motion** to undertake the recommendations from the mediation session and to move forward as a united body.

Saras Shanty **Passed**



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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Due to no minutes being tabled or distributed from the last State Council meeting from 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014 it was decided that they will be discussed and passed at the next meeting.



Agenda Item 2.2  
Matters Arising from Minutes  
**Presenter:** President

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Agenda Item	Meeting Date	Issue and Actions Required	Person Responsible	Status
3.1.2	December 16 2013	Union strategic plan, stakeholder consultation, recommendations	Isaac Foster	Ongoing
3.1.3	December 16 2013	Constitutional Review and Review of Regulations	Isaac Foster	Ongoing
3.2	January 27 2014	Motions by Correspondence – President’s Summit	Isaac Foster	Tabled
5.4	January 27 2014	Calling State Council Subcommittees	Isaac Foster	Tabled



5.5	January 27 2014	MM/Science Library Consolidation	Isaac Foster	Ongoing
5.6	January 27 2014	SLIMS Communication with University	Isaac Foster	Ongoing
5.7	January 27 2014	Office365 Transitions at UTAS	Isaac Foster	Ongoing
5.4	February 10 2014	NUS TAS Indigenous Officer Artwork	Isaac Foster	Tabled



Agenda Item 2.3  
Work Health and Safety  
**Presenter:** President

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N/A



Agenda Item 3.1  
Inwards Correspondence  
**Presenter:** General Secretary

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Date	From	Subject	Action	By

Discussion on everyone in State Council to use this template in relation to reporting correspondence.



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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N/A



## By Elections

I would like to formally welcome into the Tasmania University Union the following individuals:

- Aarati Khanal; TUU Postgraduate President
- Chee Yan Tang; SRC North Sports & Societies Convener
- Lewis Ringwaldt; SRC South Publications & Communications Officer
- Tomas Thiele; Conservatorium of Music Representative
- Johanna Van Der Hek; SRC North Education Officer
- Jesse Benjamin; SRC North Welfare Officer
- Jessica Crosswell; SRC North Women's Officer
- Cassandra Ng; SRC North Inveresk Representative
- Alex Rolo; SRC North Sydney Campus Representative
- Sarah Duff; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer
- Heather Haines; SRC CC Education Officer
- Andrea Courtney; SRC CC Sports & Societies Convener
- Camena Dyke; TIA Representative

I am truly excited to see these positions filled. It must be a very proud time for Cassandra and Sue. I look forward to seeing collaborations between Officers of Departments that have been operating in the South and their new counterparts in the North and the Northwest; I am sure that Heidi and Tabitha will be excited too.

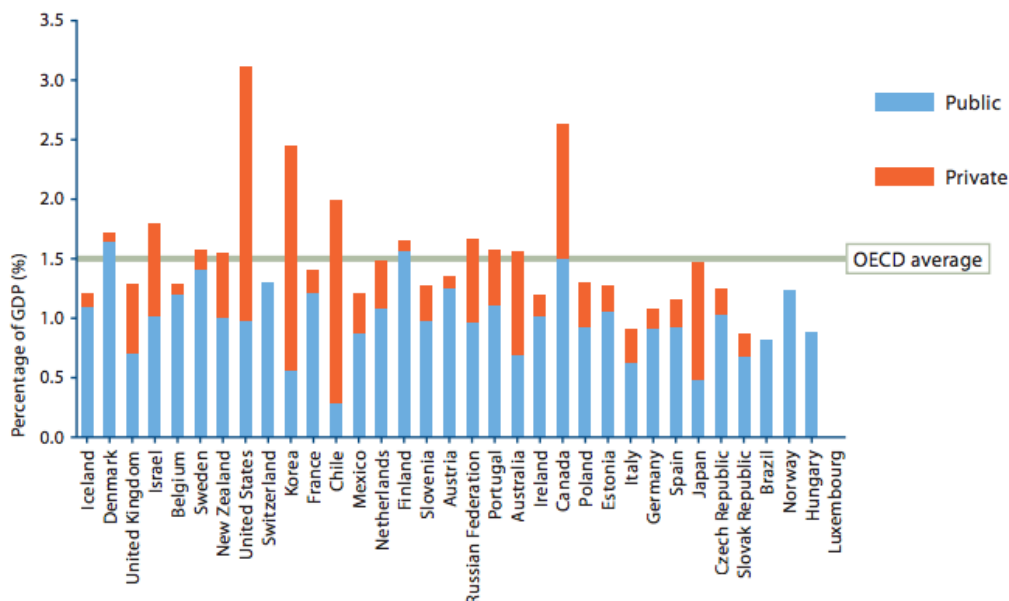
I would like to thank Stephen McCallum for his work as interim Publications and Communications Officer. Stephen continues to work with us as NUS Tasmania Environment Officer.

Many thanks to Debbie Baird-Bower, Vice President of the Postgraduate Council, who served in her capacity as Acting-Postgraduate President for much of the period caused by the casual vacancy which occurred at the last General Election. Likewise to Aarati, who has assisted Debbie on numerous occasions throughout this period, including joining the first Academic Senate meeting in February.

## National Day of Action

On Wednesday 26 March the TUU SRC and the National Tertiary Education Union supported the National Union of Students' NDA, '*Abbott and Pyne: Hands Off Our Education*,' The goal of the rally was to highlight how university cuts disproportionately affect small & regional universities. Universities like ours must invest disproportionately more into pathways and preparations for university-ready students, given the state's low TCE completion and year 11/12 attrition rates. Small & regional universities are also tasked with a greater burden of social and academic responsibility in the state, but tend not to receive sufficient additional funding in compensation.

NTEU State Branch President Kelvin Michael highlighted the broad trend to under-fund tertiary education in Australia. The Government has thusfar only committed to 30% of the costs outlined in the 2008 Bradley review, and has not complied with the recommendation for an increase in base funding of 10%. Australia just meets the OECD average for tertiary funding as a proportion of GDP, but is startlingly low for public funding as a proportion, especially for a country with an AAA credit rating. Even US public investment as a proportion of GDP is higher than Australia's; in a country notorious for the overprivatisation of its tertiary education sector.



Source: OECD (2010), Education at Glance 2010

Privatisation is not a path that has much appeal; the soaring costs associated with fewer public universities can be seen in both the United Kingdom and the United States.

Distressingly, Go8 Universities have recently called for the ability to opt out of Commonwealth funding and to charge undergraduates full fees in selected courses. This would be a significant shoe in towards effective privatisation within these universities. Most Go8s can afford to do this; there will always be a waiting pool of academically prepared and financially supported university students interested in 'elite' universities. This is not the case for most others, the University of Tasmania included. Where this will lead remains to be seen.

### National Union of Students Affiliation

We have received our 2014 invoice for affiliation with the National Union of Students, and submitted our application for a reduced invoice. Affiliation fees are calculated as the affiliate university's EFTSL figure, multiplied by five. This naturally produces a far greater figure than the TUU is capable of paying given our financial situation post-VSU; in fact most organisations seek a reduced invoice. I will provide a further report once the application review process gets underway.

## **Current State of Union Representation in University Governance**

At present the Union is represented in over 20 university committees, councils, working parties and advisory groups. These include:

- University Council
- Academic Senate
- Research College Board
- University Learning and Teaching Committee
- Cross-Faculty Learning and Teaching Subcommittee
- Faculty Learning and Teaching Committees\*
- S&E Learning and Teaching Committee
- Standing Academic Committee
- Learning and Teaching Evaluation Subcommittee
- SSAF Consultation Committee
- Student Experience Committee
- Admissions Policy Committee
- Safety Net Review Committee
- 125<sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee
- Morris Miller Master Plan Committee
- Academic Appeals
- Disciplinary Panels
- Academic Misconduct Panels
- Sustainability Sub-Committee (SMT)
- Sports Facilities and Clubs Working Party

We are also communicating or collaborating in varying capacities in the following bipartisan GOs and NGOs:

- National Union of Students (NUS)
- Council of International Students Australia (CISA)
- Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA)
- Tasmanian Women's Council (DPAC)
- National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU)
- Australian Student Environment Network (ASEN)
- Network of Women Students Australia (NOWSA)

## **University of Tasmania Foundation Dinner, Newnham**

On Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> I attended a UTAS Foundation dinner to celebrate the latest round of scholarship recipients in the North. Approximately 177 scholarships have been awarded so far this year.

## **State Election, New Ministries**

The Tasmanian State Election has concluded, with the election of 14 Liberal MPs, 3 Greens and 6 Labor. The Premier HRH Will Hodgman has appointed Jeremy Rockliff (former Shadow Minister for Health, Primary Industries and Water, and Workplace Relations) as the new Minister for Education. Opposition Leader Bryan Green has appointed Michelle O'Byrne (former Minister for Health, Children and Sport & Recreation) as the Shadow Minister.

Mr. Rockliff grew up in Sassafras, Northwest Tasmania, and graduated from Lincoln University in 1990 with a Diploma in Farm Management, and worked for many years in Agriculture. He has held Board and Committee memberships in one- or two-dozen organisations, and first joined Parliament in 2002 representing the electorate of Braddon. Previous portfolios include Shadow Minister for Arts, as well as Water, Primary Industries and the Environment.

Ms. O'Byrne was born in Launceston, and graduated with a BA (Tas) in 1992. Early experience was with the Miscellaneous Workers' Union (later renamed LHMU, today United Voice). Previous policy specialities include Youth, Women's and Social policy. As Federal Member for Bass 1998-2004 she served on the Standing Committee for Transport and Regional Services, and was briefly Shadow Minister for Communications.

The new Government's policy for tertiary education has yet to be significantly fleshed out and was not a focus of the election, focus being largely on year 11/12 retention rates, NAPLAN and TCE measurements and literacy, with a view to increasing skilled labour and productivity.

Interested parties await indication of how closely the Premier will align himself with the broad policies for Higher Education being developed by Minister Pyne, or whether he may attempt to strike his own path with respect to Tasmania's uniqueness in the sector.

## **State Council Chair**

For the foreseeable future I will be stepping down as Chair of State Council. I think it will be incredibly refreshing for Council members based outside the South of Tasmania to be enabled to take leadership within Council, as well as for members of our Sports and Societies Council.

## **Academic Senate Membership**

The latest meeting of University Council, held on 28 March, formally endorsed the proposed change of membership structure within Academic Senate. This came in response to an external review produced in 2009, and factored in further changes initiated by the 2013 Faculty restructures. The original 2009 review recommended that senate reduce membership from 107 to 55 members, with an implemented reduction to 83. Following a strategic Planning Session held in December 2013, impetus for further change was given on the basis of the 2013 Faculty restructures, the coming introduction of Faculty boards, the need for greater clarity in Senate's purpose and communication with University Council, and the consideration that the current size was too unwieldy.

The approved changes have seen a change in Senate membership from 83 to 57, which breaks down as follows:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Ex Officio/elected</b>	<b>Number</b>
Vice Chancellor	Centre	Ex officio	1
Provost	Centre	Ex officio	1
Deputy Vice Chancellors	Centre	Ex officio	2
Registrar	Centre	Ex officio	1
Faculty Deans (incl. Dean Graduate Research, now PVC R&T)	Faculties/Centre	Ex officio	7
Institute Heads (AMC, MRI, IMAS)	Institutes	Ex officio	3
Heads of Schools/Directors of National Centres	Faculties/AMC	Ex officio	16
Professor of Aboriginal Higher Education	Centre	Ex officio	1
Chair	Faculties/Institutes	Elected by Academic Senate	1
Deputy Chair	Faculties/Institutes	Elected by Academic Senate	1
Chairs of Faculty Boards	Faculties	Elected by Faculty	6
Research Fellow	Faculties/Institutes	Elected by Academic Staff	1
Other elected members	Faculties/Institutes	Elected by Academic Staff	12 (6 + 6)
TUU President, Postgraduate President, Campus President (North) and x1 International Students Officer.	Tasmania University Union	Elected by Students	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>57</b>

## **University Council**

The University Council met in the AMC Board Room on Friday, 28 March 2014, beginning with strategic and operational sessions prior to ordinary business. Business in the public sphere includes confirmation of changes to the UTAS logo, confirmation of the text of the 2013 UTAS report, discussions around NRAS, and a report on the success of UTAS' Dementia-care MOOC. I am able to respond to questions on any of these topics.

## **Breadth Units**

Breadth units at UTAS were approved by a modest majority in a meeting of Academic Senate held on 15 November, 2013. From Semester 1, 2015, it will be mandatory for all new commencing students to enrol in two breadth units as part of their degree requirements. Currently committees are in place to oversee the approval and rollout of non-mandatory breadth units to be made available in Semester 2, 2014, and new units continue to be considered for approval for subsequent semesters.

These units are developed collaboratively, passed through FLTCs and are formally considered by the Cross-Faculty Learning and Teaching Subcommittee, designed for this purpose. I attended the most recent of these meetings on 2 April on behalf of Tabitha Fletcher, and have provided a report to her and to Saraswathy on the proceedings.

## **Faculty Learning and Teaching Reporting Frameworks**

One issue that has been highlighted to me since the last meeting is the lack of specific knowledge relating to membership of Faculty Learning and Teaching Committees. Currently the Arts FLTC is membered by two TUU nominees studying within the Faculty. This makes communication between members and our Education Department simple and intuitive. It does not appear that this model is consistent across Faculties (eg. Law and Business Faculties feature TULS and TUBS Committee members, respectively). I can only assume that the same is true of the Faculties of Health Science, Education, and for the AMC.

I do not wish to challenge the legitimacy of our Societies in this respect; it seems positively like an opportunity for increased collaboration between the TUU and our student leaders in affiliated societies outside of our non-academic collaborations, while addressing our obvious and urgent need to be informed of the business of these committees.

Moving forward, I think it should be made the business of the Education Department to track membership of Learning and Teaching Committees at the Faculty level, and for them to meet and report on these committees to the Education Research Subcommittee, to be Chaired by the Education Department and providing a report to State Council. Where necessary and amenable we should aim to have TUU office-bearers studying within the relevant Faculties sitting on these committees.



## National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) Briefing

The National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) is a long term commitment by the Australian Government in partnership with the States and Territories, to invest in affordable rental housing.

The Scheme, which commenced in 2008, seeks to address the shortage of affordable rental housing by offering financial incentives to persons or entities such as the business sector and community organisations to build and rent dwellings to low and moderate income households at a rate that is at least 20 per cent below the market value rent.

UTAS is one of many successful tenders to produce NRAS compliant housing, with CBD moving to implement the following:

Accommodation Services will offer the following:

- Newnham Apartments, Newnham (Launceston) campus. Ready for occupation **February 2014** – 180 apartments
- West Park Apartments, West Park, Burnie. Scheduled for occupation 2016 – 40 apartments
- Inveresk Apartments – Inveresk (Launceston) campus. Scheduled for 2016 – 120 apartments
- Melville Street Apartments – Hobart city. Scheduled for 2016 – 430 apartments.

To be eligible to be considered for an NRAS apartment:

- You must be at least 18 years old.
- Your gross annual income (in Australian dollars) must not exceed AUD \$45,956.

We should consider how the proliferation of students in these new spaces will provide new opportunities and challenges for representation in the coming few years.

### Meeting Dates to Note:

Meeting	Location	Date
Academic Senate	Launceston	April 11
125 <sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee	Videoconference	April 15
Student Pathways and Transition Sub-committee	Videoconference	April 16
University Learning and Teaching Committee	Videoconference	May 2
University Council	Launceston	May 9





## Waqas Durrani

All the projects that I am working on are progressing well.

I just wanted to raise the student concerns of having the need of a Microwave in the Morris Miller Library.

As students study for long periods in the Library they bring home cooked meals which are affordable and serve their particular dietary requirements. The cafes in the University do not cater to the dietary requirements of all students, are very high priced and the quality is definitely not in line with the price. It would be great if we could install a microwave in the Morris Miller as it is a need of students.

If we cannot have a microwave installed in the Library since having hot food is not allowed in the Library (although at night it is a normal practice students enjoying take away meals from Mc Donald's etc) I would put forward the idea of utilizing some of the space under the Library as a Library Cafe (where we have SB.MMLib.B106.Video) and access to this area is via the laneway between the Library and the Chemistry building. It has computers available there and a microwave could be installed there which would address the students' needs without disrupting the Library atmosphere.

For the Corporate Internship program, I have asked the Director of the program to advertise in Togatus to create awareness amongst students and get the word out (focusing on the basic demand-supply theory). An increased number of students applying for the Corporate Internship would create the need of arranging more host organizations. The university would then make efforts to fulfill the needs of the students and arrange more Corporate Internship projects.

A price of \$125 has been quoted for a quarter page advertisement in Togatus. The only reason of this charge is the fact that Togatus is funded by SSAF and the students should not be billed for an advertisement aimed at them. However, this charge is strictly not for the intent of profit making.

I have already offered to share my personal contacts in the industry to the Director of Corporate Internship and would be closely working with them in getting more host organizations. I am highly passionate to help out students to advance in their careers and I am more than happy to dedicate my efforts for this program. This would indeed be a great initiative by the TUU and a great service to students!

For the Red Cross-UTAS Society affiliation and English Speaking and Sporting activities I would be having a meeting with Xavier Lane-Mullins, the Stakeholder





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

Tasmania University Union, Inc.  
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Postgraduate President, Aarati Khanal having just been elected into this position will present her report in the next meeting.













## Shanty Priya

### 1. UniGames

Had a meeting with UniGym and Ingrid on the 31st of March 2014. The meeting was held to discuss about increasing social sporting in UTAS and participation in UniGames.

Minutes of the Meeting:

Item of business	Notes	Action By
UniGames	<p>Bulk booking for accommodation and transport. Will liaise with student travel to have best deal. UniGym will pay for and hold places for the time being.</p> <p>Clubs that have committed to going - Futsal, Netball, Christ and Fisher from Hobart! Will compile and pass the list to Mel by Friday.</p> <p>Get contact with students through bulk email after getting sufficient details about the package (travel, accommodation &amp; subsidy) we are offering.</p> <p>Get students to pay for registration. And TUU will cover cost for flights and accommodation - pay the money to UniGym's account.</p> <p>Court hire: Get registered then they can use the gym facilities for free. Mel would organize the bookings.</p>	<p>Mel</p> <p>Shanty</p> <p>Mel</p> <p>Ingrid</p> <p>Mel</p>
Storage Space	To remove cleaning equipment from storage space and get the space sorted by next week. Every club will be issued with one key.	Michelle
Social Sporting provided by UniGym	Basketball, Netball and Futsal  Price is an issue. 150 bucks per team for futsal - 4 weeks of competition and 2 weeks of finals. Must register by 16 April 2014. 8 people = \$150 bucks!	Michelle
TUU UniGames in Hobart	Tentatively on 16 or 23 August 2014. Unigym will provide free court hire. To work with UniGym on the event.	Everyone





Saras:

1. Minutes online
2. Chairperson of the State Council
3. Honoraria and salary allocations – Isaac in the process of auctioning this to the Board of Management.
4. Further concerns raised about the Salad Days – Article in relation to the Law department, this has upset the Faculty of Law due to listing the names of academic's in the article. Saras is to meet with the Law Faculty, and Isaac will also attend to explain why this article went to print.
5. Strategic Workshop for the State Council and a proper system for each of us to be answerable about our job scope – Dates for this workshop to occur over the weekend of April 26-27. The Saturday to focus on State Council, and the Sunday being for all SRC Representatives statewide.
6. Isaac's position in the State Council after mediation – As per discussion at agenda item 1.6

Cassandra:

1. Current situation with AMCSA – Still reluctant to affiliate with the TUU, Cass is hoping to attend one of their council meetings. What can we do as the TUU to show the AMCSA that we have their best interests as an important factor. Suggestion that a meeting is held with all council members on the AMCSA committee with Jenny Hart, Isaac and Cass to discuss the various options in affiliation.
2. Expression of Interest for LGBT Officer in the North – Was decided that Cass may organise this.
3. Formal T-Shirts for SC members – One of Cass's representatives is currently looking into the cost of this, and will get back to council with more details.

Waqas:

1. TUU Executive Officer to attend future SC meetings to ensure transparent communication, smooth flow of information and an opportunity for SC members to learn from their expertise as a result of service to the TUU over numerous years.
2. Motion to be passed to cover the accommodation costs for the NUS Summit in Sydney for Saras and Waqas.

**Motion** for reimbursement for accommodation costs to the NUS Summit for Saras and Waqas.

Olivia

Shanty

**Passed**



Agenda Item 6.1  
Date of Next Meeting  
**Presenter:** President

Tasmania University Union, Inc.  
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The date of the next meeting will be **Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**, held at 5:30pm 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 at 20:43.

Saras

Shanty

**Passed**