

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 5th Extraordinary Meeting of the
107th UQ Union Council, 2018

7:00PM

Thursday 25/10/2018

UQ Union Boardroom

St. Lucia Campus

Chair: Matthew Diamond

The meeting opened at 7.05pm

a) Welcome by Union Chairperson

b) Credentials

The following members were present:

- Nerissa Aitken
- Georgia Millroy
- Ethan Van Roo
- Coen Harnischfeger
- Paul Taylor
- Nicholas Comino
- Duncan Hart
- Olivia Winchester
- Aaron Barker-Smith
- Nathan Kerr
- Gloria Woods
- Zil Silvester
- Benjamin Kozij
- Paige Howard
- Jeremy Lwin

The following members were absent:

- Brandon Lo
- Kulkarawa Kukoyi
- Elif Kaya
- Matthew Qiu
- Lianne Mellin
- Lachlan Bon
- Rebecca Bennett
- Adelaide Power
- Zach Schafferius
- Lili Wackwitz
- Kenny Tran
- Kevin Tian
- Lulu Nkwazi
- Emma Shayler
- Rowan Evans
- Keira Murray
- Jimmy Jin
- Samuel Pulsford
- Michelle Zhang
- Samuel Kiernan
- Connor Haddad
- Jackson Rees
- Adelaide Power

The following proxies were received:

- Brandon Lo to Aaron Barker-Smith
- Adelaide Power to Duncan Hart

The following others were present:

- Anna Heale
- Tim Gardner

c) Election

Nil

d) Confirmation of The Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Nil

e) Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Nil

f) Requests for Starring/ Approval or Noting of the Items Not Starred *en bloc*

Nil

g) References

Nil

h) Reports of the Elected Officers

Nil

i) Matters Arising from the Reports of the Elected Officers

Nil

j) Appeals

Nil

k) Question Time

l) Reports of Union Bodies

Nil

m) Executive Business

Nil

n) Business which has been proposed

'R100: Notification of Results' Amendments

The mover of the motion, Councillor Hart, spoke for the motion. He explained that the motion was drawn up in discussion with Zachary Thomas and distributed to Rules Committee members. Essentially, the proposal is to create a more formal process whereby the results of an election are publically released as opposed to the current situation, in which the results of an election are only reported to the Union internally. The Councillor noted that the detailed results of an election should be provided to the students who voted and campaigned.

Gender and Sexuality Vice-President, Nicholas Comino, queried whether the proposed structure would outline the primary votes and preferential votes, or would simply show the two-party-preferred vote. In response, Councillor Hart explained that the proposed regulatory amendment mirrors the content of R101.1, which outlines the information the returning officer currently provides as part of the RO report, omitting only potentially sensitive information.

In reference to R100.3, Nicholas Comino queried whether the results would be published in both the Union newspaper *and* online. In response, Councillor Hart drew the Vice-President's attention to R100.2, which states that the report will be published both on the website and on Union Facebook pages. It was also noted that, in the previous regulations, it stated the RO must publish the results in the Union newspaper. This has been amended to the Union Newspaper editor.

Nicholas Comino suggested that, for clarity and transparency, R100.3 be amended from:

'The Union Newspaper editor must publish the results of the election in the Union Newspaper as soon as practicable after the election'

to

‘The Union Newspaper Editor must publish the results of the election in the Union Newspaper *and online* as soon as practicable after the election’

The mover was amenable to the amendment.

It was raised that standing orders would have to be waived in order to vote on the proposed amendments, as a quorate meeting of Rules Committee had not been held.

Procedural motion to suspend the standing orders to allow Council to vote on the proposed regulatory amendments

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT UNION COUNCIL AMENDS R100 ‘NOTIFICATION OF RESULT’ AS PER APPENDIX ONE

COUNCIL 107/220

HART/THOMAS

CARRIED

See Appendix 1.

Part Five of the Regulations Amendments

The seconder of the motion, Jeremy Lwin, explained that the motion amends the current polling regulations to allow for an online referendum to be held. The verification method will require a student ID number and date of birth. It was noted that this is a common method of identification. Council were advised that the regulations will become invalid after the online referendum has been held.

The motion was amended to allow for the regulations to be automatically repealed after the referendum.

Procedural motion to suspend the standing orders to allow Council to vote on the proposed regulatory amendments

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT PART FIVE OF THE REGULATIONS BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CLAUSES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING THE ONLINE REFERENDUM TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 2018, AFTER WHICH TIME THE REGULATIONS WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REPEALED

COUNCIL 107/221

THOMAS/LWIN

CARRIED

See Appendix 2.

Post-Referendum Regulation Amendment Repeals

The chair raised that the amendment to the previous motion had effectively made the final motion unnecessary. Despite this, Union Council agreed that they wished to vote on the final motion.

Procedural motion to suspend the standing orders to allow Council to vote on the proposed regulatory amendments

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE ONLINE REFERENDUM CONDUCTED IN 2018, RULES R120A, R126A, R127A, R129A, R130A, R131A, R133A, R134A SHALL BE REPEALED

COUNCIL 107/222

THOMAS/HART

CARRIED

O) Notice of Business Proposed

Nil

p) General Business

Nil

The meeting was declared closed at 7.19pm

Appendix 1

That R100 be changed from:

R100 Notification of Result

- 100.1 The Returning Officer must as soon as practicable after the election:
- a) publish the results in the Union Newspaper; and
 - b) notify all candidates of the results.

To the following:

R100 Notification of Result

- 100.1 The Returning Officer must, within five calendar days of the declaration of the election:
- a) notify all candidates of the results
 - b) submit to the union secretary and electoral group campaign managers a report which includes:
 - i. the results of the Election;
 - ii. the number of ballot papers issued and returned;
 - iii. a complete breakdown of voting statistics at the various polling locations.
- 100.2 The Union Secretary will publish the report referred to in R100.1 b) on:
- a) the UQ Union Noticeboard Facebook page, or its successor; and
 - b) the UQ Union website.
- 100.3 The Union Newspaper editor must publish the results of the election in the Union Newspaper as soon as practicable after the election.

Appendix 2

It is moved that:

Part Five of the regulations be amended to include the following clauses for the purpose of conducting the online referendum to be held in November 2018, after which time the regulations will be automatically repealed:

R120A Online Ballot Paper

120A.2 If the election is conducted online, the ballot paper for R120 is considered all forms and pages from verification until their vote is submitted.

120A.3 In the event of multiple Referendums being conducted simultaneously, all questions may appear on the same ballot paper. A ballot paper is not considered informal if at least one question is validly marked, even if one or more other questions are not.

R126A Days of Polling for Online Referenda

126A.1 If a Referendum is held online R126A shall apply in place of R126.

126A.2 An online Referendum must be held across at least three Academic Days and no more than 10 Academic Days.

R127A Online Polling Places

127A.1 If a Referendum is held online R127 does not apply, and the single polling place is considered to be “online”.

R129A Issuing of Online Ballot Papers

129A.1 If a Referendum is held online R129A shall apply instead of R129.

129A.2 Each voter must verify their ballot with:

- a) their student ID; and
- b) their day and month of birth

129A.3 Each ballot must be assigned to the faculty in which their degree is administered

R130A Online Provisional Voting

130.1 If a Referendum is held online R130A applies in place of R130.

130.2 A student whose student ID and date of birth does not appear on the voters roll may submit a provisional vote, which shall be counted subject to their eligibility being determined.

R131A Online Spoilt Ballot Papers

131A.1 If a Referendum is held online R131A applies in place of R131.

131A.2 Voters must be able to alter their vote before casting their ballot.

R133A Casting of Online Votes

133A.1 If the Referendum is held online R133A applies in place of R133.

133A.2 All voters must be given a summary of their vote before given the opportunity to cast their ballot.

133A.3 Online votes must be cast by the voter clicking a “submit” button to affirmatively confirm their decision to cast a ballot.

R134A Security of Online Ballot Papers

134A.1 If the Referendum is held online R134A applies in place of R134.

134A.2 The online polling software must have sufficient security measures to prevent brute forcing of voters verification information.

134A.3 Before commencement of the scrutiny the Returning Officer must nominate a secure place which shall be used as the designated room for the duration of the scrutiny.

134A.4 The ballot papers must be printed at the conclusion of the polling period.

134A.5 The physical and electronic voting data must be kept for twelve months after the declaration of the Referendum.

CONFIRMED