

# 1<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the 111<sup>th</sup> Union Council

Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Innes Room, Level 4 Union Complex

a) The Union Secretary declared the meeting open at 5:37 PM

b) Credentials

The following were present:

## Councillors

Anna Redshaw  
Austin Smidt  
Ben Myatt  
Carib Phillips  
Daniel Dawes  
Edward Uzelin  
Elise Northcote  
Elloise Campbell  
Gabby Callow  
Jack Feng  
Julia Bejleri  
Laura Nolan  
Matthew Burgin  
Natasha Brettell  
Sam Adams  
Thomas Stephen  
Utrkist Paudyal

## Elected Officers

Alicia Steele  
Cara Rowe  
Ella Gutteridge  
Emily Searle  
Greta Simpson  
Justin Chen  
Marisha Robinson  
Myo Sumiko  
Radhika Peddibhotla  
Rheanna Norris  
Ti Parker  
Anna Li  
Samara Paradine  
William Kugelman  
Jack Mackenzie  
Helen Craze

## Others

Barclay McGain  
Bradley Stone  
Cristian Gutierrez  
Glenda Jacobs  
Jack Barton  
Jaafar Jabur  
Liam Heseltine  
Logan Beam  
Jordan Mark  
Max Thompson  
Ryan Jover (minutes)  
Rowan Evans  
Michael Walker  
Kore Opie  
Louisa McCarthy  
Zwe Htet Aung

The following proxies were received:

Samuel Chamberlain to Julia Bejleri  
Ethan Jones to Hughston Parle  
Mitchell Ablett-Nelson to Helen Craze  
Laura Nolan to Billie Kugelman (from 8:02PM)  
Anna Redshaw to Billie Kugelman (from 8:02PM)

*It was moved*

THAT THE CREDENTIALS FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 111<sup>TH</sup> UNION COUNCIL BE ACCEPTED

111/01

AUNG/STEPHEN

CARRIED



THAT THE CAMPUS CULTURE (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/07 NORRIS/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE CAMPUS CULTURE (EVENTS) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/08 CHEN/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE GENDER & SEXUALITY (WOMEN'S) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/09 SIMPSON/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE GENDER & SEXUALITY (QUEER) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/10 ROBINSON/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/11 SUMIKO/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/12 GUTTERIDGE/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE GOORIE BERRIMPA OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/13 REUBEN/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE COLLEGES OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/14 SNOW/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE TURBOT STREET OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/15 DACHAL/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE DISABILITY OFFICERS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/16 STEELE/ROWE CARRIED

THAT THE SEMPER FLOREAT EDITORS REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/17 KUGELMAN/ROWE CARRIED

#### **h) Matters Arising from the Reports of Elected Officers**

##### President's Report

Ella Gutteridge asked President Searle about something mentioned in her report about the Union maintaining its heritage in the complex and asked for an update with how her meetings with the Vice Chancellor were going with regard to the Union Complex. President Searle confirmed that the Union Complex would continue to be called the Union Complex in the new development, and that the Schonell Theatre would also maintain its name. Ella asked about Union control of spaces. President Searle confirmed that all of the spaces in the new development would be controlled by the Union except at the Union's discretion.

Officer Parker asked about any other heritage that would be incorporated into the new design. President Searle confirmed an attendance on student expression and speech and that spaces would be designated to continue to allow for this, for example a space in the Lennon Complex

*It was moved*

THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/18 STEPHEN/NORTHCOTE CARRIED

### Union Secretary's Report

Officer Parker asked about the new Model Constitution that was being written by the executive. The Union Secretary confirmed that the new Model Constitution would only impact C&S and was being updated to be clearer in what it both permits and requires clubs to do and to clarify the ways in which C&S Committee can discipline clubs.

*It was moved*

THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/19

UZELIN/STEPHEN

CARRIED

### Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer delivered the first part of her report orally.

There was an additional SSAF income in \$84,000 in December. Areas where expenses were higher than anticipated were Campus bus where there was higher than expected usage. C&S saw a result \$8000 lower than December budget due to unexpected usage of club grants in December. Elections saw a result lower \$38,000 lower than expected due to a late invoice submitted by the Returning Officer. All other departments and portfolios were underbudget.

The University informed the Union that SSAF funding for 2022 would be \$500,000 lower than expected. The Union was preparing communications and is taking steps to prevent this from happening.

Student Hughston Parle asked Treasurer Peddibhotla about why it took the Union so long to begin communications with the University, and how they would manage the budget with the \$500,000 shortfall. The Treasurer stated that the Union was confident that they would be able to obtain the \$500,000 and was budgeting accordingly. The Treasurer also confirmed that the Union had already arranged meetings with the University about this issue, but that the first meeting was delayed by the floods and that alternative dates were being arranged.

The student further asked when the Union would know if it was receiving the money. The Union Secretary stated that they would not know until the University could be certain of providing an accurate figure of international student enrolments for Semester 2. President Searle confirmed that issues relating to COVID that have impacted Semester 1 enrolments are expected to be mostly resolved by Semester 2.

Student Barclay McGain stated that he believed the Union was setting the bar incredibly low for itself in terms of financial management and asked how the Union's targets for budgeting were decided. The Treasurer informed the student that budgeting is a collaborative process involving the Student Executive, the General Managers, the Finance Manager and the Union's Marketing Department. The Treasurer confirmed that the Executive had ensured that this year's budget would be more prudent and financially accurate this year than previously. The Union Secretary also added that the Finance Manager was providing a greater level of experience and assistance than previous student executives had. The Union Secretary also stated that budgets in the past were less accurate in the past due to the uncertainty around the exact percentage of SSAF the Union would receive, which has been resolved under the Union's new agreement with the University on SSAF funding.

Hughston Parle returned to the question of how the \$500,000 would be made up for. The Secretary stated that alternative sources were being followed up regarding the \$500,000 in case of the University not being able to make up all or part of the shortfall. The Treasurer also stated that it is better to budget for the \$500,000 and underspend rather than not to budget for it, receive it and then not have budgeted for it.

Cr Callow asked about the specific ways in which the Union was trying to source the \$500,000. The Treasurer confirmed that they would have to be discussed in camera and took the question on notice for the budget meeting.

*It was moved*

THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

111/20

ROWE/BRETTELL

CARRIED

#### **h) Question Time**

Hughston asked about the hiring process for the new Executive Assistant. The Union Secretary confirmed that the process was the ordinary one and that the position was being advertised on Seek.

Jordan Mark asked about the tables and bean bags outside the Kingham Room. The President said that she assumed that one of the collectives may have moved them and said that she would follow up.

Cr Feng asked the International Officers what the application process was for the International Collective subcommittee. The International Officers responded that the committee would be elected by those who attend the meeting.

Cr Paudyal asked if the International Collective meeting and committee nomination process was being advertised on Facebook and if it could be advertised on other platforms. The International Officer replied that Facebook was being used and that it was believed to be the most accessible platform.

A question was asked regarding the ability of the Union to contact students directly. The Union Secretary informed Council that Andrew Jell, the University's SSAF Co-Ordinator had personally promised her that he would get the information from the Academic Registrar on enrolments that the Union has been asking about for two years. Officer Parker asked if the University would be giving these emails to the Union midyear. The Union Secretary said that that was hopefully going to be the case.

Cr Adams asked Cr Bejleri why a number of councillors from the Together electoral group had not come to the Council meeting tonight. Cr Adams asked if Cr Bejleri believed there was a culture around not attending Council meetings. Cr Bejleri stated that some of their councillors had "real jobs" that they needed to attend and that it was not fair to base attendance on the first meeting. Cr Adams asked that if "real jobs" were more important, than why did Councillors take on the responsibility. Cr Bejleri stated that the two were not mutually exclusive.

There were no further questions.

#### **i) Reports of Union bodies**

*Nil.*

#### **j) Business which has been proposed**

##### Council Representatives on Board of Directors

The Union Secretary brought the Council's attention to an issue that had been raised by the Board of Directors regarding R3, the Regulation affecting the Board. It has been suggested that rather than elect the Council representatives at the Annual Meeting, that Council should elect the Council representatives mid-year. Secretary Rowe asked for Council's opinions on this possibility. No one on Council objected to the proposal.

*It was moved*

THAT UNION COUNCIL INTERPRETS R3.4 TO MEAN THAT NEW MEMBERS MAY BE ELECTED IN JUNE/JULY AND ATTEND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS AS

OBSERVERS

111/21

ROWE/BRETTELL

CARRIED

Schedule 3 Appeal of a Decision of a Union Body- UQ Political Science and International Relations Society

Cr Brettell moved that the Schedule 3 be tabled.

Tabled (111/22)

Slava Ukraini! UQU Stands With Ukraine

President Searle noted the war occurring in Ukraine and the atrocities occurring thereof and said that the Union should acknowledge this. Cr Smidt further noted that regardless of political opinions all should agree that the humanitarian crisis that was unfolding was a catastrophe.

*It was moved*

THE UQ UNION UNEQUIVOCALLY CONDEMNNS THE BARBARIC INVASION OF UKRAINE BY RUSSIAN FORCES. UNION COUNCIL PROPOSES A ONE MINUTE SILENCE FOR THOSE KILLED IN THE COURSE OF THE CONFLICT.

111/23

SEARLE/SMIDT

CARRIED

*A minute's silence was held.*

**k) General Business**

Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee

Student Jack Barton said that he believed that the Union should come together to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Queen's service on the throne. He stated that he believed that this event should go for at least a week, as he accepted that his preferred three months long celebration might not viable.

Barclay McGain stated that he thought it was interesting that despite there being republicans in the room, no one seemed to support the Republic model proposed by the Australian Republican Movement. McGain invited attendees to come to an event being joint hosted by the UQ Monarchist League, with the Governor of Queensland as a special guest, commemorating the Queen's 70-year reign.

Cr Adams opposed the motion and stated that he believed the Crown was the ultimate representation of a system which engaged in the violent oppression of many people, and that the Union should stand to oppose such a system.

Student Liam Heseltine asked how much the event would potentially cost. Jack Barton confirmed that the event would cost at least \$2.5 million.

The Union Secretary asked about the specific nature of the event. Jack stated that "we would dance around the maypole, sing hymns and attend Church."

*Cr Northcote moved that the motion be put.*

*It was moved*

THE UQ UNION RESOLVES TO HOLD A CELEBRATION IN HONOUR OF HER MAJESTY'S 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AS SOVEREIGN OF AUSTRALIA

111/24

BARTON/MCGAIN

NOT CARRIED

Making ECP's be more available.

Cr Burgin stated that students should have access to present and up to date information on the courses they are signing up for, and that the Union should advocate for this.

*It was moved*

UNION COUNCIL CALLS ON THE UNIVERSITY TO ENSURE ALL ELECTRONIC COURSE PROFILES (ECP'S) FOR UPCOMING COURSES ARE RELEASED TO STUDENTS PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF CLASS SIGN-ON FOR THOSE COURSES

111/25

BURGIN/CAMPBELL

CARRIED

Condemning Semper

Cr Craze wanted to condemn Semper for failing to support women by not including the Women's Action Party report in the first edition's set of electoral group reports.

The Union Secretary asked for clarification on what Cr Craze meant by the phrase "those that identify as women". Cr Craze said that she did not want to go into the politics of gender and that people who identified as women should be supported in that identity.

A student asked what the distinction was. Barclay McGain interjected to state that there was a distinction. The Union Secretary named Barclay McGain.

Chief Editor Kugelman stated he believed that Cr Craze was a member of Together but that if the editorial team approved, he would include her report in the next edition.

Vice President Robinson asked if any trans women ran on the WAP ticket. Cr Craze stated that none did.

Cr Craze called for a recorded vote.

Edward Uzelin *Against*  
Julia Bejleri *For*  
Natasha Brettell *Against*  
Utkrist Paudyal *Abstain*  
Elise Northcote *Abstain*  
Elloise Campbell *For*  
Austin Smidt *Abstain*  
Ethan Jones proxied to Hughston Parle *For*  
Ben Myatt *Against*  
Matthew Burgin *For*  
Zwe Htet Aung *Abstain*  
Gabby Callow *For*  
Thomas Stephen *Against*  
Anna Redshaw *Against*  
Mitch Ablett-Nelson proxied to Helen Craze *For*  
Helen Craze *For*  
Shanelle Jiang *Abstain*  
Samuel Chamberlain proxied to Julia Bejleri *For*  
Sam Adams *Against*  
Carib Phillips *Against*  
Daniel Dawes *For*  
Laura Nolan *Against*  
Jack Feng *For*

*It was moved*

THE UQU ENDORSES THE IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRATIC CONTRIBUTION FROM WOMEN AND THOSE THAT IDENTIFY AS WOMEN AND CONDEMNS SEMPER'S EXCLUSION OF THE WOMEN'S ACTION PARTY REPORT FROM THE 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION OF SEMPER FOR 2022

111/26

CRAZE/BEJLERI

CARRIED

#### UQIC Funding Freeze

The Treasurer spoke to complaints made about the usage by UQIC of SSAF funding. The Treasurer stated an investigation was being conducted by a professional staff member, not involving the Student Executive. The Treasurer also confirmed that this was not a cut to UQIC's funding, but simply a freeze in their funding that was temporary for the duration of the investigation. The Treasurer confirmed that the President of UQIC had been informed about the decision. The President stated that she believed that UQIC should not be impacted in the short term by the decision.

Hughston Parle asked how long the Executive believed the investigation would take. The Treasurer was not able to confirm but reiterated that the President of UQIC had been consulted on the decision and had confirmed to the Executive that he was not expecting to receive this SSAF funding imminently, and thus this decision would not impact their operations.

Cr Adams asked the Treasurer who the President of UQIC was. The Treasurer confirmed that it was Bradley Plant.

The Treasurer further clarified that UQIC invoiced the Union in November of last year, and thus was not in urgent need of the funding.

*It was moved*

THAT 2022 SSAF FUNDING FROM UQU TO UQIC BE TEMPORARILY FROZEN PENDING AN INVESTIGATION BY THE UQU GENERAL MANAGERS AND FINANCE MANAGER.

111/27

PEDDIBHOTLA/SEARLE

CARRIED

#### Environmental Motion

Cr Nolan stated that the natural disasters of the last couple of weeks emphasised the importance of fighting for climate justice through attending the climate strike.

The seconder of the motion stated her belief that the 2050 targets of the major political parties.

*It was moved*

THE UQ UNION ENDORSES THE MARCH 25TH GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE AND REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO FIGHTING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE.

111/28

NOLAN/OPIE

CARRIED

#### Stand With the Adelaide University SRC

Ella stated that this was a classic example of right-wing students using underhanded and undemocratic tactics to undermine representatives who were actually elected by students. Ella stated that it was important for the Union to defend student unionism more broadly, and that the Union should sign onto the statement published by the SRC to demonstrate its solidarity and its belief in student democracy.



Anna stated that this attack on the SRC was preventing left-wing students from carrying out the duties that they were elected by students to do, particularly preventing from campaigning on attacks to the quality of education that students at the University of Adelaide were receiving. As student unions should defend the quality of education and oppose education cuts, it was even more pertinent that the Union support this motion.

Barclay McGain spoke to commend Socialist Alternative for bringing the motion to Council's attention, but that the issue spoke to the superfluous spending of student money by student unions.

*It was moved*

THE UQ UNION CONDEMNS THE RIGHT-WING, ANTI-DEMOCRATIC ATTACKS ON THE ADELAIDE UNI SRC. THE UQ UNION RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF CAMPUS ACTIVISM AND OPPOSES EFFORTS TO STIFLE CAMPUS ACTIVISM AND UNIONISM.

111/29

GUTTERIDGE/REDSHAW

CARRIED

### Oppose the Religious Discrimination Bill

Mover Louisa McCarthy stated that this bill was about an attempt by the Liberals to undermine the rights won during the same-sex marriage debate. The assertion that the bill is about protecting religious freedom is a farce and that the real purpose is to defend the powerful Christian organisations that are aligned to the LNP. The decision by Labor MP's to push for the tabling of the bill was not sufficient and that the bill's ongoing existence was still dangerous.

Vice President Robinson stated that while religious discrimination should obviously be opposed, the effect of this bill would be to cause harm to queer people, particularly queer children and teachers. The fact that some Christian organisations no longer support the bill on the basis of the amendments that were successfully moved is indicative of its real intention and is thus indicative of its real purpose.

Barclay McGain spoke in favour of the motion and stated it doesn't go far enough, and that anti-discrimination bills generally should be abolished as they impact on freedom of association. McGain stated his belief that institutions that discriminate will naturally go out of exist over time. McGain believes that no one who claims to be a liberal should support the bill.

Vice President Simpson stated that the institutions didn't need to go out of exist as they often provided important services, but that they simply should not discriminate in the course of the provision of those services.

Disabilities Officer Steele stated that the aim should be for a society that doesn't have discrimination in general.

Cr Stephen stated he felt that there was a need for some sort of religious discrimination legislation, but that he would oppose the bill as it was a political ploy by the Prime Minister

Officer Parker responded that Student Action could not support any version of this bill, as they did not believe any religious freedom put forth by the Federal Parliament would not adequately protect religious minorities due to the history of the government discriminating against religious minorities.

Vice President Robinson stated that at the protest on March 12 that the NUS Queer Officer, a former Union Councillor, was speaking. Vice President Robinson further stated that the Queer Collective had resolved that the current bill was unacceptable.

*It was moved*

UQU REJECTS THE 'RELIGIOUS FREEDOM' BILL IN ANY FORM; NO AMENDMENT IS ACCEPTABLE, AND STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH AND SUPPORTS THE LGBTI PROTESTS OPPOSING IT.

111/30

MCARTHY/ROBINSON

CARRIED

Vaccination Mandates for Off Campus Students

Barclay McGain stated that UQ was continuing to harass students about verifying their vaccination status, even those students who are studying externally and present no threat to other students as a result of their vaccination status.

Jack Barton waived his speaking rights.

Cr Adams asked a question about the responsibility of people to get vaccines. McGain stated that he believed that he was standing up for the rights of responsible students who have chosen not to attend campus due to their vaccination status.

President Searle clarified that it was already policy of the University not to require external students to declare their vaccination status and any external student who has should inform the Union.

Cr Redshaw stated that the Union should support vaccine mandates in principle and that external students can still come onto campus. McGain responded that any member of the public could come onto campus so by this logic students are being more tightly restricted than random members of the public.

Officer Gutteridge asked why Jack's dad would ever come onto campus.

*It was moved*

UQ END CORRESPONDENCE WITH STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMMITTED TO STUDYING EXTERNALLY REGARDING THEIR VACCINATION STATUS AS THEY POSE NO THREAT TO SPREADING THE VIRUS ON CAMPUS WHEN THEY ARE STUDYING REMOTELY

111/31

MCGAIN/BARTON

NOT CARRIED

Union Council Congratulates Glenda Jacobs

*It was moved*

UNION COUNCIL CONGRATULATES GENERAL MANAGER (STUDENT AFFAIRS) GLENDA JACOBS FOR WINNING THE AUSTRALIAN DANCE SPORT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS THIS PAST WEEKEND

111/32

STEELE/ROWE

CARRIED

Condolences to the Family of Shane Warne

Cr Uzelin noted that it was a tragedy that Shane Warne had passed so young, and said he believed that the Union should express its condolences.

*It was moved*

THE UNION EXPRESS ITS CONDOLENCES FOR THE FAMILY OF SHANE WARNE

111/33

UZELIN/STEPHEN

CARRIED

**Election of Council Chair**

The Union Secretary brought the attention of Union Council back to the election of Chair.

No councillors nominated for Chair. The Union Secretary called for a 10-minute recess.

The Union Secretary stated that she had seen a written nomination from Cr Ablett-Nelson. Cr Bejleri called Cr Ablett-Nelson on her phone, and he declined the nomination.

Cr Adams called for a referral to the Rules Committee. The Union Secretary responded that the Rules Committee could not amend the Constitution, and thus the Union found itself in a constitutional crisis.

The Union Secretary suggested that a Councillor who was not expecting to regularly attend could be nominated, and that their proxy would not have to act as chair and thus their vote would still be counted.

Cr Adams suggested that all Councillors be required to stand, and that the first person to sit be elected Chair of Union Council.

*Councillors Nolan and Redshaw left and proxied to Billie Kugelman at 8:02PM*

Cr Adams declared that he would be willing to nominate to bring a conclusion to the debate.

*It was moved*

THAT SAM ADAMS BE NOMINATED AS CHAIR OF UNION COUNCIL

111/34

ROWE/BRETTELL

CARRIED

Barclay McGain noted that Cr Adams was one of the hardest working and most outspoken Councillors and that it was disappointing that it took him being elected to resolve the impasse.

*Cr Adams assumed the Chair and declared the meeting closed at 8:13PM*