

**Minutes of the 3rd Ordinary Meeting  
of the 111<sup>th</sup> Clubs & Societies Committee**

**24 January 2022 at 12:09 PM**

**Chair: Rheanna Norris**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 1.09 PM and made acknowledgement of the traditional owners and custodians of the land and wished to pay respect to their elders' past, present and emerging.

**1. Attendance**

**i. Members Present:**

- Rheanna Norris (Chair)
- Jessica Mills
- Ajay Chungath
- James Hohl
- Brad Plant
- Josephine Zhang (zoom)

**i. Apologies and Leave**

Finn Larson

**ii. Proxies**

Finn Larson to Brad Plant

**iv. Others Present**

- Ian Trinh
- Cara Rowe
- Ethan Jones
- Utkrist Paudyal
- Liam Heseltine
- Matt Davies
- Emily Ryan

## **2. Confirmation of the Minutes from the previous meeting**

### **Amendment**

Brad Plant requested that minutes be changed to reflect that BARS did not approach clubs and rather clubs had approached them.

*It was moved*

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CLUBS & SOCIETIES COMMITTEE BE ACCEPTED.

C&S 111/27

NORRIS/CHUNGATH

CARRIED

## **3. Business Arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.**

Nil

## **4. Reports of Elected Officers**

Nil

## **5. Matters arising from the Reports of the Elected Officers**

Nil

## **6. Business which has been proposed**

i) Ian Trinh spoke to his complaint regarding Political Science and International Relations Society. He outlined that he had concerns around the current processes with the review of applications by the C&S committee, noting that he hadn't been informed or asked to provide a statement or response given the crossover of aims and objectives. He found out about the potential club once it had been ratified and their IGM was advertised on the Facebook page.

Ian outlined that they are concentrating on more networking, educational and social events this year and there is cross over and similarities with some of these events.

Thirdly, Ian outlined the close relationship they have with the school, even though they are not classed as a faculty club. Ian explained that over the past three years, they have worked with the Graduate School of Governance International Affairs and through that relationship have managed to secure a joint membership with the Australian Institute of International Affairs.

Matt, also from UNSA outlined his concerns regarding another similar society. He explained that they used to do interstate events such as embassy tours. Now with the states reopening, he looks forward to being able to do that again but is unfortunate if another group arises that fills a perceived gap that hasn't been able to be filled in the last 2 years due to the health environment.

Observer Cara Rowe asked for clarity as to whether their aims and objectives were too similar, or the membership was similar. Ian advised that he hadn't seen or been advised of the aims and objectives of the club so couldn't correctly comment. The committee and Ian review the aims and objectives from the application. Upon review Ian outlined he believe there to be strong cross over particularly in the networking portfolio, as they had a specific careers portfolio, and aim to be better in terms of what is offered and how often providing an example of humanitarian event that that they are running with six other clubs. Ian admitted that they could possibly improve in this area, however their educational portfolio did cover this.

Following a query from Plant, Ian explained that Griffith had approached them about collaborating on an upcoming event. Ian said they agreed to the collaboration as they understood that there were numerous similarities.

After listing several UNSA events, Rowe enquired how UNSA could claim they were running events that were substantially different to model UN events and how can they claim to cater for Political Science students, when last year it appears they have only run model UN events. Ian explained that model UN were easier to run due to the health environment and what Matt had outlined earlier. They have run other events before last year and were keen to continue to do so. Observer Liam Heseltine enquired about their interest in maintaining such a large scope. Liam explained that he believes UNSA clearer had areas of strength and uniqueness and was curious to know why the club were interested in reducing on their scope of events. The UNSA exec affirmed that they were interested in diversifying their events following a question from the Chair.

The UNSA executive had explained that they had unanimously agreed that they believed there was room for a club such as the Political Science and International Science, however the 'International Relations' was where their strength and main objectives lay.

The committee agreed that it was clear where the strength lay with the UNSA and believed there was room for both clubs. There was a brief discussion regarding the process for which ratifications should be conducted and that UNSA and other clubs should have been consulted and the committee would be aware of this moving forward.

The committee asked to review their IGM documents noting that all documents had been received and quorum met. The committee raised concern that their initial aims and objectives listed in their application were now different to those of their constitution. Very notably the committee suggested the removal of the 'political neutrality' was an intentional change from their application, that had not been transparent following the submission of their IGM documents.

A member raised concern about 4.7 in the constitution which stipulated that no two members of T3 can have been previously or at the time of nomination be a member of the executive.

It was moved

THAT THE POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SOCIETY BE AFFILIATED

C&S 111/29

NORRIS/CHUNGATH

NOT CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SOCIETY RE HOLD THEIR IGM A MEETING TO CHANGE THEIR NAME TO EXCLUDE 'INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS', INCLUDE THEIR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES THAT REFLECTED THEIR INITIAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES AND REVIEW 4.7 IN THEIR PROPOSED CONSTITUTION.

C&S 111/30

NORRIS/HOHL

CARRIED

A [redacted] club representative entered the meeting at 12.29pm. Two other representatives joined online.

#### REMOVAL OF MEMBER FROM A CLUB

An anonymous complaint was received against [redacted] club, regarding the removal of an executive member [redacted] following a media post that had resurfaced.

Rheanna gave an update of the recent SGM whereby the club held a vote to remove the executive member.

A club representative provided an update of the situation agreeing that there was an "oversight by the executive" that the member was not given warning by the secretary specifically, in writing. It is understood that the notice was given by a text message, but not by the Secretary.

The representative explained that following the appointment of the member, the club executive decided to call an informal meeting to outline the expectations for the role "recognizing that the executive member sustains quite a presence on social media and is no stranger to being picked up by the media and being talked about. That was something we (the club) foresaw that we (the club) would be clear about and that we would be sensitive to that as a society". The club further said they wanted to "make clear that the remedy we have at our disposal, particularly for this one, (issue of removal a member) of asking an executive member to step down is they were the subject of controversy due to his actions".

After a controversial social media post, made by the executive member gained media attention, concerns were raised about the potential reputational risk this may cause in relation to sponsorship. "It was a decision of the executive that was material enough and significant enough that a) the executive would want to have this sort of vote on it and that b) it would be a valid vote given that it was reasonably foreseeable that that sort of action could put into jeopardy the image of the society."

Following the media post, some of the club executive met with [redacted] to advise him of the SGM and the vote on his removal as an executive whereby they also gave [redacted] the opportunity to step down voluntarily. The executive member advised he wanted the decision to be voted on. A follow up text message was also sent to the executive member advising him of the meeting.

The committee source clarification of who had sent the message as the clubs constitution stipulates it must be the Secretary, in writing, within a certain notice period. It was identified that the Secretary had not been the one to give notice.

The club explained that they felt they had issued the member with fair warning (informal meeting) and that the vote had passed at the recent SGM, so may well be the case that the vote pass again should the committee find in favour of the executive member.

It was moved

THAT THE MEETING BE MOVED IN CAMERA

C&S 111/31

NORRIS/PLANT

CARRIED

OUT OF CAMERA

It was moved

THAT THE MEETING BE MOVED OUT OF CAMERA

C&S 111/32

NORRIS/MILLS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE REMOVAL OF [REDACTED] WAS INVALID AS THE SECRETARY DID NOT PROVIDE NOTICE ACCORDING TO THEIR CONSTITUTION AND THAT IT WAS NOT HELD AT AN EXECUTIVE MEETING. THE COMMITTEE ADVISED THAT THE MEETING WOULD NEED TO BE REHELD.

C&S 111/39

NORRIS/PLANT

CARRIED

## **ii) Name change request – Herpetological Society**

The committee reviewed the email from Cameron outlining the request for a name change. The committee reviewed some of the clubs' recent documents including their constitution and AGM documents noting that the club's recent AGM had been inquorate and was therefore invalid. After some discussion regarding other clubs who may have similar objectives to the proposed name change to 'Ecology Society' the committee had no grievance with the change of name.

The committee requested that 21b be updated in their constitution to be less vague.

The committee discussed whether this was an entirely new club as they outlined their membership had changed. If that was the case, they should go through the new application process as clubs cannot simply change their name and aims because they want to. The committee agreed that

given we do not have a specific policy regarding this, that they review the club in its current form and consider requested changes.

It was moved

THAT UQ HERPATOLOGICAL SOCIETY RE-HOLD THE SOCIETY'S AGM TO BE QUORATE AND RE-ELECT THEIR 2022 EXEC, WHEREIN THEY RE-HOLD VOTES TO: CHANGE NAME AND CHANGE AIMS TO REFLECT THOSE OF AN ECOLOGY SOCIETY. THE C&S COMMITTEE ALSO REQUESTS THAT AIM 2.i.b) "To educate and inform" TO BE MORE SPECIFIC TO THEIR SOCIETY, AND ALSO SPECIFY A MEMBERSHIP PERIOD IN THEIR CONSTITUTION.

C&S 111/33

HOHL/NORRIS

CARRIED

### **iii) Name change request – Filipino Australian Society**

The committee reviewed the request for the change. Plant asked why they were making their club smaller explaining that changing from The Association of Filipino and Filipino Australians of UQ to UQ Filipino Australian Student Association was narrowing themselves down believing that the Filipino Student Association would be more inclusive. The committee requested they supply further information regarding the change either in writing or were welcome to attend in person at the next meeting.

It was moved

THAT FILOZ PROVIDE A WRITTEN RESPONSE DETAILING THE REASONING FOR THEIR REQUEST

C&S 111/34

NORRIS/PLANT

CARRIED

### **iv) Change of category - Buddhist society**

The committee reviewed the request for the Buddhist club to change their category. A member suggested they would need to significantly change their aims and objectives for this to be considered.

It was moved

THAT THE REQUEST BY TABLED SO THE CLUB COME TO THE NEXT MEETING SO THE COMMITTEE CAN BEST UNDERSTAND THE REASONING AND DESIRE FOR THE CHANGE.

C&S 111/35

PLANT/NORRIS

CARRIED

#### **v) Change of responsibility- C&S Committee**

The committee discussed a specific clause in the model constitution – Alteration of Rules 22.2 “However any amendment or addition is valid only if it is registered by the president and approved by the Clubs and Societies Committee” agreeing that it was the club members’ responsibility to vote for their constitution and the committee’s responsibility to review it should a complaint or illegal rule change, arise.

It was moved

THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETITES COMMITTEE REMOVE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REVIEW EVERY CONSTITIUTIONAL CHANGES TO CLUB CONSTITUTIONS

C&S 111/36

PLANT/NORRIS

CARRIED

#### **vi) Crypto currency club**

The C&S manager advised that Crypto had requested an extension after not receiving quorum at the second IGM. The committee agreed the club should reapply with another application as this may reflect a lack of interest in the club.

It was moved

THAT CYRPTO RE-SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AN INITIAL APPLICATION AS NO EXTENSION ARE TO BE GIVEN TO REHOLD AN IGM

C&S 111/37

NORRIS/CHUNGATH

CARRIED

#### **vii) Membership List submission post market day**

The C&S manager enquired about the cut-off date for membership lists. Plant advised he would check previous minutes and advise.

**Action:** Brad to send Emily the confirmed date.

#### **viii) Market Day**

Emily provided a brief update regarding the market day map.

### **7. Ratifications**

Nil

### **8. Disaffiliations**

It was moved

THAT TURKIC SOCIETY AND UQ CRIT BE DISAFFILIATED DUE TO NOT SUBMITTING 2021 AGM DOCUMENTS

C&S 111/38

NORRIS/PLANT

CARRIED

## **9. Affiliations**

### **i) Monarchist League**

The committee reviewed the applications and agreed all was in order. A member queried whether they would have a stall at Market Day, and the manager advised that as documents had not been received or correspondence had, she had not allocated them a stall space.

It was moved

THAT MONARCHIST LEAGUE SOCIETY BE AFFIILATED AS A UQ UNION CLUB

C&S 111/39

NORRIS/HOHL

CARRIED

### **ii) Defence Interest Group**

The committee acknowledged that while all documents had been received, three quarters of cameras were turned off and people could not be confirmed as present or verified.

It was moved

THAT DEFENCE INTEREST GROUP BE AFFIILATED AS A UQ UNION CLUB

C&S 111/40

NORRIS/HOHL

NOT CARRIED

## **10. General Business**

Nil

**The Chair closed the meeting at 3.10 PM.**



Rheanna Norris

Chairperson