

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 6th Ordinary Meeting of the
111th UQ Union Council, 2022

5:30 PM
Monday July 25th, 2022
Innes One
UQ Union Complex, St. Lucia
Chair: Samuel Adams

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:39 PM and acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of the land, paying respect to their elders' past, present, and emerging.

a) Credentials:

The following were present

Councillors

Utkrist Paudyal
Austin Smidt
Matthew Burgin
Edward Uzelin
Zwe Htet Aung
Ella Gutteridge
Natasha Brettell
Louisa McCarthy
Laura Nolan
Gabby Callow
Carib Phillips
Ben Myatt
Shenalle Jiang
Max Thompson

**Student Executives
and Officers**

Emily Searle
Cara Rowe
Radhika Peddibhotla
Justin Chen
Marisha Robinson
Myo Sumiko
Anna Li
Greta Simpson
Elias Blanch
Alicia Steele
Jake Coleman

Observers

Glenda Jacobs
Eric Yuw
Dylan Thomas
Liam Heseltine
Kore Opie
Ryan Jover
James Hohl
Ryley Calvert
Diana Elizabeth Aswon

Apologies and Leave:

- Sam Chamberlain
- Elise Northcote
- Elloise Campbell
- Rheanna Norris
- Julia Bejleri
- Samara Paradine

The following proxies were received:

- Samuel Chamberlain to Emma Goodwin
- Elise Northcote to Elias Blanch
- Helen Craze to Matthew Burgin
- Julia Bejleri to Mitchell Ablett-Nelson
- Ethan Jones to Hughston Parle
- Jack Feng to Hughston Parle
- Anna Redshaw to Louisa Mccarthy

b) Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were corrected to reflect the fact that it was Dylan Thomas who carried the motion to dissent the chair when Ben Myatt was nominated as chair in the absence of Sam Adams, and to correct the title of motion proposed by Austin Smidt, in the minutes as “Late Upload of Grades”

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 5th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 111TH UQ UNION COUNCIL HELD ON 30TH JUNE 2022 BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 111/48

SMIDT/NELSON

CARRIED

c) Business arising from the Minutes of the previous Meeting

Election of Rules Committee members

The chair invited nominations for the positions of members of the Rules Committee and Elias Blanch, Benjamin Myatt, Mitchell Ablett-Nelson and Utkrist Paudyal nominated themselves. The nominated candidates were elected with a majority vote.

d) Requests for starring/approval or noting of the items not starred *en bloc*

Utkrist Paudyal starred the reports of, the President, Secretary, Women’s Collective, Both Campus Cultures, Semper, Shenalle Jiang and, Glenda Jacobs.

It was moved

TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS NOT STARRED EN BLOC

CARRIED

President Report

Utkrist Paudyal sought clarification from the president Emily Searle on the definition of students per se who are eligible for the 10% discount rates offered under the mates rates program and was provided the same. The president also explained the academic access grants eligibility and informed the members of the council on the supplies offered through the grant to the students. To a query from Matthew Burgin on why textbooks were not included under the mates rates discounts, UQU GM Glenda Jacobs replied that SSAF is being used for Mates Rates under Food and Beverage category and, stationery cannot be covered under that SSAF category. President Emily Searle further clarified on question regarding subsidizing alcohol under Mates rates that RSA rules preclude making it too cheap.

Secretary Report

Utkrist Paudyal queried on the election accessibility forum and if there had been any other discussions on the election. The Secretary Cara Rowe informed that a detailed discussion will be held at the next Rules Committee Meeting. To a query on Red Frogs and potential partnership with them, Secretary Cara Rowe informed the council on how having a formalized partnership with Red Frogs makes the communication and planning easy and that it is being explored. She further clarified to the members of the council that religious affiliation or nature is not part of the Union's discussion with Red Frogs. She further informed the council that she is drafting the list of events to co-ordinate with Red Frogs to ensure seamless services.

The Chair queried the Secretary on the campaigner who was mentioned in the report as repeatedly violating the badge rules. The Secretary replied that it is a discussion best suited for Rules Committee and noted that the Campaign Manager involving the said campaigner did not communicate to them that it was an issue.

The Secretary clarified to the Chair on the existing rules and the proposed advocacy of the Secretary on union's behalf to various committees on broadening the scope for removal of Academic Penalties and Financial liabilities involved with it. Glenda Jacobs further informed the Council on how the process regarding applying for deferred exam has been opaque and the various penalties involved with it. To a query from Hughston Parle, the secretary clarified on the role of UQU staff member Tarn tan.

Semper Report

Eric Yun on behalf of Semper clarified to Utkrist Paudyal on the proposed wrapups initiative as, a summarization of what happens in council meetings through a podcast discussion. To a further query, the Chair replied that they were part of the discussions held by Semper on this initiative. Gabby Callow raised a concern that council summaries in a podcast can be misrepresented as what happened in the council, without having obtained the consent of the council members involved. The Secretary mentioned that the idea when implemented will be impartial in nature. The Council concurred with Chair's view that the council better wait till William Kugelman can attend the council meeting and provide answers to questions Council members may have.

Campus Culture Reports

Utkrist Paudyal expressed concerns to the Council regarding the C&S Committee meetings being hampered by lack of quorum as well as disinterest among certain members to attend the meetings or engage productively. He urged the council to explore a way to have such members consider resigning or step down. To a query from the chair, Utkrist mentioned James Bradley plant and Josephine Zhang as the members of the C&S committee whose continuous absence/inactivity is affecting the C&S committee from holding meetings. The Secretary Cara Rowe informed him that any urgent matters can be referred to the council in the absence of C&S meeting taking place and that any concerns regarding the discharge of duties by any member of C&S Committee should be taken to the C&S General Assembly.

Shenalle Jiang's Report

Shenalle Jiang clarified to Utkrist Paudyal on the composition and nature of the students who were surveyed as part of her report. To a query from Utkrist, UQU GM Glenda Jacobs answered that Visa and Legal personnel from UQU run workshops, both online and in-person, for international students to create awareness about their rights and obligations. She further informed that UQ Union would be happy to accommodate any request for such workshops from any school/faculty if made compulsory for their cohort. The Chair expressed appreciation to the efforts of Shenalle Jiang in compiling this report.

UQU GM Glenda Jacobs report

Matthew Burgin queried the UQU GM Glenda Jacobs on what would be the priority areas for the Union in the draft proposal of FSA to be discussed with UQ. Glenda Jacobs informed replied that clarifying the partnership between

UQ and UQU, things that need to be demonstrated to get the finances from UQ and ensuring it is clearly seen as separate from SSAF and avoid any future confusion, would be priority areas among other things. She offered to provide a summary at the next Council meeting.

ACTION ITEM : UQU GM Glenda Jacobs to provide a summary of FSA draft proposal at the next Council meeting.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, SEMPER, C&S BY VP CAMPUS CULTURE RHEANNA NORRIS, SHENALLE JIANG AND UQU GM GLENDA JACOBS BE ACCEPTED EN BLOC

CARRIED

e) Matters Arising from Reports of Elected Officers

The Chair mentioned to the council that the session will have to move in-camera to discuss a matter arising out of a report and explained the general rules and procedures involved with how a in-camera session is held and what is expected from those allowed to partake in the session.

It was moved

THAT THE COUNCIL SESSION MOVE IN-CAMERA

CARRIED

The Council Session moved in-camera at 6:27 PM.

The Council Session moved out of camera at 7:01 PM and the council waited till 7:08 PM for the observers to come back inside the meeting venue .

f) Question Time

Matthew Burgin queried on the observations Semper may have regarding the Union publishing its own newsletter and why Semper is not talking about the Union.

Hughston Parle had a question on the number of placement bursaries granted halfway into the window period and was informed that VP Academic Rights Samara Paradine would be providing an answer.

To a query from Ti Parker on the Union Complex plans and Updates, The President Emily Searle informed that the Council will be given a update at the next Council meeting.

Hughston Parle queried on the number of tickets sold for exec day and the amount spent for the same and Secretary Cara Rowe replied that to the best of her knowledge around 120 tickets were sold and any questions regarding the amount spent are to be directed to Emily Ryan, C&S Manager.

The Chair queried Matthew Burgin on the number of proxies from members of his group and Matthew Burgin replied that all the councillors who were not present have had their leave granted and approved, and if anyone wanted to raise an issue, the time to do so was when they applied for leave.

To a question regarding the leave approval, the Secretary Cara Rowe informed the Council that councillors need to give a Bonafede reason for their leave to be approved.

The Secretary Cara Rowe asked the newly elected members of the Rules Committee on if they would be attending the next rules committee meeting and was answered in the affirmative.

g) Reports of Union Bodies

Nil.

h) Business which has been proposed

International Students Working Conditions

The motion mover Shenalle Jiang expressed her thanks to Max Thompson in drafting the motion and waived her speaking right

The motion seconder Max Thompson spoke on the exploitative conditions under which the international students worked in the industries mentioned in the report, the impact such conditions have on Australia's export of tertiary education and urged all the members to support the motion.

Laura Nolan spoke agreeing with the bulk of the report and urged the Union to publish the report more widely and urged the council to stand in solidarity with the international students and fight against the terrible visa and working conditions imposed upon the students which in turn forces them into working under stressful conditions.

The Secretary Cara Rowe spoke on the need to support the international students especially considering the international students are not allowed to protest generally because of their visa conditions and hence, it is the Union's responsibility to organize a picket Infront of such establishments till they improve the working conditions and pay for international students employed in those places.

Elias Blanch observed that lot of the jobs taken up by international students are emotionally draining and there is urgent need to support the international students in general and those working under unfair conditions.

Louisa McCarthy spoke on the need for Union taking initiative towards a concerted campaign and highlight the existing visa laws are in fact a huge disadvantage to the international students and campaign till the current labour government changes the existing laws.

Zwe agreed that the Union should use more resources and tools to help the international students at UQ and spoke on the need to conduct more concentrated workshops on workplace rights for international students at UQ.

Ella Gutteridge spoke on how the whole problem of exploitation of international students on this scale happens because of the racist and restrictive nature of the existing visa laws. She observed that as a Union representing such a huge number of students, it should take up the issue with the government. She further mentioned that the students are not informed on their rights, existing Unions and the resources that can be offered and it needs to be rectified, especially by UQ Union. She urged the members to start a campaign against the current government on this issue.

Shenalle Jiang mentioned that as a starting step, all the students should be sent an email detailing their rights as well as things that are to be avoided.

There was a procedural motion that the motion be put

It was moved

THAT THE

- 1) UQU Promotes and advocates fair working conditions and pay for international students.
- 2) UQU Condemns all the offending enterprises for its disgusting treatment of international employees.
- 3) UQU is committed to using the international department to advocate for workplace rights and fair remuneration for international students.
- 4) UQU provide Student Advocacy and Support services to help international students overcome the abuse they face in their work.
- 5) UQU and UQ provide basic law popularization for international students so that more students know what they are going through

COUNCIL 111/49

JIANG/THOMPSON

CARRIED

UQU calls on all C&S Committee members that are constantly absent from C&S meetings to consider resigning from the C&S Committee

The motion mover Utkrist Paudyal waived his speaking rights as he already mentioned the issue earlier.

The motion seconder Samuel Adams said the motion in itself is self-explanatory and that anyone who puts their hand up for a job and then decide they cannot do it, the honourable thing to do is to resign.

It was moved

THAT THE UQU CALLS ON ALL C&S COMMITTEE MEMBERS THAT ARE CONSTANTLY ABSENT FROM C&S MEETINGS TO CONSIDER RESIGNING FROM THE C&S COMMITTEE

COUNCIL 111/50

PAUDYAL/ADAMS

CARRIED

Close the Camps, Free the Refugees

Louisa McCarthy spoke on how the treatment of refugees by the government is disgusting and mentioned the Biloela family whose rights in the country were still not fully sanctioned or protected. She condemned the huge amounts spent by the government to hold the refugees in camps and hotels, further stating that it might be a legacy of the liberals, but the current labour government is continuing it, which is sheer hypocrisy. As a student union, the aim should be to fight for the rights and protection of oppressed sections of the society and urged everyone to vote in support of this motion.

The seconder Ella Gutteridge waived her speaking rights in favour of Ti Parker.

Ti Parker mentioned that the current labour government is just as horrendous as when it comes to refugee rights in the country and that nothing different can be expected from the Anthony Albanese government. She urged that as a Student Union, UQU should fight for refugee rights and join the protests as and when they happen and urged everyone to vote for the motion.

Max Thompson left the meeting at 7:50 PM

It was moved

THAT THE UQU CONDEMNS THE BARBARIC TREATMENT OF REFUGEES AND CALL FOR ALL CAMPS TO BE CLOSED. UQU ALSO CALLS FOR ALL REFUGEES BE GIVEN FULL CITIZENSHIP AND PROTECTION

COUNCIL 111/51 McCARTHY/GUTTERIDGE CARRIED

Recorded Vote

Edward Uzelin *For*

Julia Bejleri proxy *Against*

Natasha Brettell *Against*

Utkrist Paudyal *For*

Elise Northcote proxy *For*

Austin Smidt *For*

Ben Myatt *For*

Matthew Burgin *Against*

Zwe Htet Aung *For*

Gabby Callow *For*

Max Thompson *Abstain*

Anna Redshaw *proxy For*

Mitch Ablett Nelson *Against*

Sam Chamberlain *proxy Against*

Carib Phillips *For*

Daniel Dawes *Against*

Jack Feng *proxy Against*

Laura Nolan *For*

Shenalle Jiang *For*

Helen Craze *proxy Against*

Ethan Jones *proxy Against*

Max Thompson joined the meeting again at 7:53 PM

UQU Council recognises motion 111/17 regarding UQ Photography being out of order

Utkrist Paudyal spoke on the motion he proposed by saying the intent of the motion is to make UQ photography more flexible, the club pages will have more traction and visibility and makes the process easier for UQU staff handling marketing and photography.

Gabby Callow waived her speaking rights as seconder.

Motion mover agreed to the amendment to **part e)** of the motion to now say **e)Options to request a google drive, drop box or similar ,link with finalized photos to be shared with the club.**

Hughston Parle spoke against the motion saying that before speaking on or voting on motions related to UQ Photography, clarity is needed on why the motion 111/17 was not implemented yet and sought the reason. The Secretary clarified that the HR and employment policies cannot be mitigated by the Council instead of the HR of the Union.

The minutes reflect the fact that the Chair made unparliamentary remarks towards Hughston Parle's opinion and Hughston expressed his protests towards

the remarks. The Chair expressed his remorse at the remarks made and apologised to Hughston Parle.

To a query from Jack Burton, Secretary Cara Rowe replied that about 10 photographers are under the purview of UQ Union.

There was a procedural motion that the motion be put.

The Chair named Ella Gutteridge, Liam Heseltine, and Louisa McCarthy for disrupting the proceedings.

The motion was split into two, one dealing with the first point and the other dealing with the points 2,3 and 4.

It was moved

THAT THE

- 2) UQU will only hire candidates who are UQ students at the time of their application as new photographers
- 3) UQU will publish photos within three business days of the event
- 4) UQU photography to create an online request form that includes
 - a) options for dimensions and placement of UQU logo
 - b) options for clubs to upload additional logos for placement alongside the UQU logo by the photographer
 - c) options to request specific photographers for the event with blurbs and portfoliosthese requests will be complied to in all cases unless the photographer is unavailable
- d) options to add a bump in and bump out time
- e) options to request a google drive link with finalized photos to be shared with the club

COUNCIL 111/52

PAUDYAL/CALLOW

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE COUNCIL MOTION 111/17 BE REPEALED

COUNCIL 111/53

PAUDYAL/CALLOW

CARRIED

UQU condemns deadnaming on all student facing platforms at this university ,that this is particularly egregious when these names are provided to tutors who then read them out in public classrooms, tutorials, seminars etc. The council urges the university to resolve the process of deadnaming which they have been attempting to resolve for the past 36 months, expediently.

The Secretary Cara Rowe, who moved the motion, explained to the Council members on what dead naming is, how it impacts the students. She further explained on the huge numbers of systems where students can accidentally come across their dead name still and it takes a lot of time to fix those and that it has been an ongoing battle with the University for over 24 to 36 months now.

The seconder of the motion, Marisha Robinson expressed anguish at the slow pace of the process, lack of required resources and in amounts required to finish this process

Elias Blanch gave their own example where despite four years since,their dead name shows up on UQ databases and,usage and identifying with correct name reduces suicide risk

It was moved

THAT THE UQU CONDEMNS DEADNAMING ON ALL STUDENT FACING PLATFORMS AT THIS UNIVERSITY ,THAT THIS IS PARTICULARLY EGREGIOUS WHEN THESE NAMES ARE PROVIDED TO TUTORS WHO THEN READ THEM OUT IN PUBLIC CLASSROOMS, TUTORIALS, SEMINARS ETC. THE COUNCIL URGES THE UNIVERSITY TO RESOLVE THE PROCESS OF DEADNAMING WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE FOR THE PAST 36 MONTHS, EXPEDIENTLY.

COUNCIL 111/54

ROWE/ROBINSON

CARRIED

The minutes reflect the fact that this motion was passed unanimously

I, Matthew Burgin move that councillor Sam Adams be condemned for using ableist language including the term retarded to describe a member of the Union Council

Matthew Burgin mentioned that as the person responsible for maintaining decorum and being the Chair, such behaviour and usage of such language was inappropriate.

COUNCIL 111/55

BURGIN/BRETTELL

CARRIED

The Chair apologised to Hughston parole and promised to behave better in future

I, Natasha Brettell move that Emily Searle and Cara Rowe be condemned for intimidating a Union Councillor to try and influence their vote

Natasha Brettell spoke on the motion proposed saying that Union Councillor should be able to vote out of their own volition and should not be pressured or intimidated.

Matthew Burgin waived his right as seconder to speak.

Max Thompson mentioned that he does not give a damn about what Cara Rowe proposes to vote on/for and that it does not influence him.

Emily Searle exercised her right to reply and mentioned to all the councillors that she will never try to intimidate a member of her party. Cara Rowe mentioned through her right to reply that this motion mentions something that did not happen and also she reiterated that she will never intimidate Max Thompson.

The motion was amended to “appearing to intimidate their own Union Councillor”

It was moved

THAT EMILY SEARLE AND CARA ROWE BE CONDMENED FOR APPEARING TO INTIMIDATE THEIR OWN COUNCILLOR

COUNCIL 111/56

BRETTEL/BURGIN

CARRIED

UQ Union issues a statement in support of Drew Pavlov after his unjustified and politically charged arrest late last week

Jack Barton spoke mentioning how Drew Pavlov held a protest in 2019 and now again in 2022,he flew for a protest in London and held a peaceful protest in front of the Chinese Consulate in London. He was arrested by the metropolitan police on the basis of a email provided by the consulate purporting to be from Drew Pavlov and held in custody for over 23 years. He mentioned that the Union should condemn the CCP and raise this incident as politically motivated.

Mitchell Ablett-Nelson expressed concern on the grave danger of Drew Pavlov ending up in British prison under these charges.

It was moved

THAT THE UQ UNION ISSUES A STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF DREW PAVLOV AFTER HIS UNJUSTIFIED AND POLITICALLY CHARGED ARREST LAST WEEK

COUNCIL 111/57

BARTON/NELSON

CARRIED

Recorded vote:

Edward Uzelin *For*

Julia Bejleri proxy *Abstain*

Natasha Brettell *For*

Utkrist Paudyal *Abstain*

Elise Northcote proxy *For*

Austin Smidt *For*

Ethan Jones proxy *Abstain*

Benjamin Myatt *For*

Matthew Burgin *For*

Zwe Htet Aung *For*

Gabby Callow *Abstain*

Max Thompson *Abstain*

Mitch Ablett Nelson proxy *For*

Daniel Dawes *Abstain*

Carib Phillips *For*

Jack Feng proxy *Abstain*

Shenalle Jiang *Against*

Helen Craze proxy *Abstain*

Shenalle Jiang expressed her protest at the speech made by Jack Barton when he proposed the motion.

I, Elias Blanch move a motion to condemn Matthew Burgin's disrespectful behaviour to the student executives and councillors

Elias Blanch spoke to the council mentioning that the behaviour of Matthew Burgin in the last couple of Council meetings was objectionable, especially towards the T3 and student executives and that it is making them feel uncomfortable and asked for him to redress it. Marisha Robinson as the seconder of the motion, concurred with the sentiments expressed by Elias.

Matthew Burgin through his right of reply mentioned that it was never his intention to make anyone feel uncomfortable. He acknowledged that there have been incidents in the past where he might have gone far and apologised for the same.

It was moved

THAT MATTHEW BURGIN'S DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS STUDENT EXECUTIVES AND COUNCILLORS BE CONDEMNED

COUNCIL 111/58

BLANCH/ROBINSON

NOT CARRIED

Various speakers spoke on the importance of maintaining standards and respectable behaviours at the Council meetings and Gabby Callow further added that any questions asked, or clarifications sought should not be seen as an attack or go on the defensive as a response

UQ Union Executive give complete authority and management control of the UQ Union Food Co-op to the VP Student Rights(Welfare) by implementing the following :

Hughston parle spoke on the motion proposed saying that it is important for the Council to empower VP Student Rights Welfare in ensuring the Food Co-op is run well and that the points listed in the motion explain the intended nature and reasons for the motion.

The motion seconder Natasha Brettell spoke on the importance of maintaining quality and safety standards of the products at the Food Co-op.

The Student Rights VP Welfare Jake Coleman approved of the motion saying that this will only consolidate the portfolio of VP Student Rights Welfare.

The Secretary Cara Rowe asked to strike the word Welfare from the motion, clarified that no expired products are disbursed through the Food Co-op and asked for the motion to be tabled until the council can hear from UQU GM Glenda Jacobs.

There was a procedural motion that the motion be put.

It was moved

THAT THE UQ UNION EXECUTIVE GIVE COMPLETE AUTHORITY AND MANAGEMENT CONTROL OF THE UQ UNION FOOD CO-OP TO THE VP STUDENT RIGHTS(WELFARE) BY IMPLEMENTING THE FOLLOWING :

- 1) Student Rights VP welfare must approve all changes in policy for food co-op unless otherwise delegated
- 2) Student rights VP to handle all communications unless otherwise delegated
- 3) No food can be served after its expiry date
- 4) No food can be supplied after its best before date unless a quality check determines that it is of a satisfactory nature
- 5) Increased training for food co-op staff, and
- 6) The student rights VP to be supported in developing connections with firms for cash donations for the purposes of food co-op.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM