

UNION CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

6th Ordinary Meeting of the 112th Clubs and Societies Committee

1:00 PM

Monday 19/06/2023

UQU Boardroom

UQ Union Complex, St. Lucia Campus

1. Credentials

The meeting opened at 1:01pm.

The following were present:

Members

Barclay McGain
Michael Walker
Kylie Ho
Utkrist Paudyal
Natasha Brettell
Tapenaga Reupena Jr
Alexandra Knight

Observers

Emily Ryan, Clubs & Societies
Katie Forbes, Clubs & Societies (minutes)
Jacinto Hedus

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 5th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 2023 CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

C&S 112/	WALKER /BRETTELL	CARRIED
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3. Business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Nil.

4. Reports of the Elected Officers

The Vice President Campus Culture (Clubs & Societies) presented his report.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORT OF THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES VP BE ACCEPTED

C&S 112/	REUPENA / WALKER	CARRIED
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5. Matters arising from the Reports of the Elected Officers

Nil

Alex & Barclay entered the meeting at 1:15pm

6. Business which has been proposed

I. Club Ratifications

i. Naatak

Initial Committee discussion centred around potential overlap with other clubs and the emailed comments from the ISC president about the possibility of Naatak being incorporated within ISC.

The Naatak reps entered at 1.15pm

They made a PowerPoint presentation outlining the club's aims, formation timeline and proposed inaugural theatre production Rivaaz, which is planned as a 10-minute film for release in October. They addressed the ideas of becoming a club under the ISC umbrella and as a collaboration with other clubs, but explained that overall, they would prefer to be an independent club with their own creative freedom. In addition, the team had held conversations with other related clubs including FAS, FPS, ISC, Tamil Soc and Underground Theatre.

It was mentioned that that ISC is very well-established at UQ, with considerable funding and support, and questioned whether Naatak could become an extension of ISC, in a similar way as Med Revue and Law Revue operating as extensions of the Medical & Law Societies. Krishna retaliated that they see themselves primarily as a Performing Arts club and would like to retain their own creative freedom without external influence from other clubs. They see potential overlap with performance, drama and film clubs, as well as ISC. The Committee asked whether the Naatak team felt that being part of ISC would compromise their cultural freedom, and Ira responded that while it may necessarily be an issue, they would nevertheless like the freedom to make their own decisions.

The Naatak Team left meeting at 1:30pm.

Discussions then focused on consistency of C&S policy, in that previous applications have been rejected because they came under the umbrella of larger existing clubs (UQ Tango/UQ Dance). Other comments were that the club appears to have wide crossover to several existing clubs, not just ISC and that they appear closer to Underground in fact, because of the performance aspect. It was also noted that there is an under-supply of performance clubs and room for more and comparison to ISC was not necessarily accurate if from a performance rather than international vain.

It was moved

THAT NAATAK BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/	REUPENA/PAUYDAL	CARRIED
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ii. Mahjong Society

Mahjong representative Justin entered meeting and explained his rationale for creating the Mahjong Society:

- There is no existing club, or space for people to come together and play Mahjong, and he feels that many people are interested in playing it. Mahjong is a social networking concept, as games take a few hours.
- Although Mahjong originated in China, it is also played in many other countries like Japan, Singapore, Malaysia etc, so there is cross-cultural appeal.
- Mahjong started in the 1800s, so Justin wants to preserve an ancient history/tradition.

Justin outlined his plans on how to organise the Mahjong Society. A committee member enquired about the Board Games Society and whether Mahjong has any relation to this; Justin explained that it is a very different concept and requires a different set up, so is not a strong comparison.

Justin left the meeting at 1:41pm.

Committee discussion focused on similarity to existing clubs, and whether Mahjong is likely to garner enough interest/have longevity within the UQ community; however, Michael reminded the Committee that this is the exact purpose of the minimum 30-person rule. The benefits of a club that enables cultural cross-over and social integration was also emphasised, especially between international students.

There was wide-ranging discussion about whether there could be a different way for smaller clubs to affiliate, perhaps even under a wider umbrella classification such as games/sports, with an opportunity to set up a future space, such as the existing e-sports room, for organisations like chess, board games, mahjong, etc to use and also store equipment. It was suggested that the concept is tabled for future discussion, with fixed parameters around it. The conversation circled back to Mahjong Society by talking about “passion” for the activity being most important, as had been clearly demonstrated.

It was moved

THAT MAHJONG SOCIETY BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/	REUPENA / KNIGHT	CARRIED
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iii. Neuro

There was a brief advance Committee discussion about the name of the proposed club, querying the difference between NeuroTech and Neuro, concluding that Neuro focuses on the science side, while Neurotech is more about the technical/technology aspect.

Kyungwook Kim entered the meeting at 1:56pm

Kim talked about his plans for the club. He has already contacted QBI (Queensland Brain Institute) to provide some research validity and has also planned a club speaker event who will talk about career pathways/specialties within the neuroscience field. After his presentation, questions were asked about the relationship and similarity with the recently established NeuroTech club, but Kyungwook confirmed the Committee’s understanding that NeuroTech is more about technical applications, whereas Neuro focuses on the medical career pathway. There were also enquiries about overlap in terms of club membership, and Kyungwook agreed that there could be some overlap but there would definitely be students interested in academic/research applications, so this club would fulfill a different need.

Kyungwook left the meeting at 2:02pm.

Subsequent discussion focused on the differences and approaches between the two clubs NeuroTech & Neuro, how Neuro has a much more medical perspective, and whether the club’s name could be adapted to reflect this more clearly.

TJ noted that a problem has also arisen with their application signatures. The committee agreed that the application should be tabled for resubmission to correct the issue with signatures, which would give the opportunity for the club to reconsider the name issue at the same time.

It was moved

THAT NEURO BE TABLED to the next meeting

C&S 112/	REUPENA/MCGAIN	CARRIED
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ACTION	C&S department to reach out to Neuro to ask about signatures and possible name change.
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iv. Logos

Seven representatives from Logo joined the meeting at 2:10pm.

Edward made the initial presentation explaining that Logos has been an established church for over 25 years. It is Christian religious club providing preaching, bible study group, guidance and friendship opportunities especially aimed at overseas students. The club was part of UQU up to 2010, but is no longer affiliated.

The committee commented that UQU already has 10 Christian-based clubs, and asked how Logos differentiates itself from the existing ones. Edward said that the club's focus is on Chinese Christian students, emphasising that they have a couple of permanent church locations in Indooroopilly and West End. It was asked where the club fits in terms of religious denomination and Edward said non-denominational, not Catholic. The committee also asked whether they could fit into an existing club, and the Logos team said that they are aware of other UQ religious clubs, but this is not an option because they are an established organisation, with existing locations and practical support and association.

The committee also asked what the club would gain from UQU-affiliation and the response was that they want to help others and give back to the UQ community. A follow-up question was whether that could happen outside of UQU, but the Logos team explained that UQU support would allow them to participate more widely in the university community. It was noted that only three of the representatives in the meeting were UQ students, while the others are past students/friends of the group. Michael emphasised that the rule of 70% minimum student membership.

The Logos representatives left the meeting at 2:25pm.

Further committee discussion noted that there is not a large overlap with other religious groups, that Logos appears to be an established church wanting to open a UQ branch, and that they are not requesting UQU affiliation to get funding, for them it is more about exposure. The Committee asked whether it was appropriate affiliate groups so they could proselytize. Discussion centred around whether UQU should be funding more Christian groups when there are already many existing religious groups, and whether there is in fact much of a connection to the UQ community.

The Committee summarised that the consensus is to not affiliate but would suggest that Logos continue to operate as an informal club and subsequently reapply, with a demonstration of what UQU could do for them, given that they are already an existing church and have a strong existing membership within the international/Chinese community.

It was moved

THAT LOGOS BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/	REUPENA/WALKER	NOT CARRIED
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II. Club Affiliations

i. Food Science Club

The C&S team reported that FSC IGM docs had been submitted that morning and were valid.

It was moved

THAT FOOD SCIENCE CLUB BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	REUPENA / WALKER	CARRIED
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ii. Travellers Society

TJ was present at the IGM and confirmed that it was valid, with around 50 people in attendance.

It was moved

THAT TRAVELLERS SOCIETY BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	REUPENA / WALKER	CARRIED
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iii. Muslimah Society

Alex attended the IGM and confirmed that it was well conducted and valid, with more than 40 people attending.

It was moved

THAT MUSLIMAH SOCIETY BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	REUPENA / HO	CARRIED
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iv. Caffeine Club

Four Committee Members attended the IGM, which was valid.

It was moved

THAT CAFFEINE CLUB BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	WALKER / HO	CARRIED
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v. Neurotech

Michael & Utty were present at the IGM, which was valid.

It was moved

THAT NEUROTECH CLUB BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	REUPENA/KNIGHT	CARRIED
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vi. Alternative Careers in Medicine (ACM)

No C&S members were able to attend the IGM, however it was deemed to be valid with 12 people in attendance, in accordance with requirements for Herston clubs.

It was moved

THAT ACM CLUB BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	REUPENA/WALKER	CARRIED
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vii. Scottish Society

The IGM was successful, with 32 people present.

It was moved

THAT SCOTTISH SOCIETY BE AFFILIATED

C&S 112/	PAUDYAL / WALKER	CARRIED
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viii. BANA Business Analytics Networking Association

Discussion followed about BANA; they had not been ratified at an earlier meeting, and the C&S team will ensure that follow up takes place effectively. Jacinto reported from the previous meeting minutes and Emily explained that she should have got back to the club last month. The C&S team will invite the BANA team to the next meeting for review and reconsideration by the Committee.

ix. Social Science Postgrad Students Club

The Social Science Postgraduate Students Club was rejected at the previous Committee meeting and has now appealed against the decision. The committee agreed to reconsider this application and in fact should be doing more to support postgraduate clubs, as there is a shortage generally, and it would be good to improve postgraduate representation among UQU clubs, especially in the HASS faculty. There was some discussion about the required number of students for postgraduate clubs. The Committee decided to invite them to attend the next meeting, to give due process and to review the application again.

It was moved

THAT THE SOCIAL SCIENCE POSTGRADUATE CLUB APPLICATION BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT C&S COMMITTEE MEETING

C&S 112/	REUPENA / WALKER	CARRIED
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7. General Business

i. CSSA re-held AGM.

TJ had attended the re-held AGM meeting, and reported that the meeting was conducted correctly, all the club membership had been informed and that there were many attendees on Zoom but we not counted as quorum. At the meeting, the group re-elected the same executives as at the previous (invalid) AGM, so all is now in order in terms of club governance. There was some discussion about AGM voting via Zoom, however, the Committee concluded that if people have paid their membership fees, then they should always have a vote, and that this was likely to be a recurring problem especially for international clubs, therefore it should be allowed.

It was moved

THAT CSSA'S AGM DOCUMENTS BE ACCEPTED AND THEY REMAIN AN AFFILIATED UQU CLUB

C&S 112/	REUPENA / WALKER	CARRIED
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ii. QPSA requested advice and information on constitutional changes

Jess Heald joined the meeting at 2:39pm and gave an overview of PSA (Pharmacy Students Assoc), which is also associated with NAPSA and also the Pharmacy Guild of Australia. The club currently has about 450 members, each paying annual membership of \$15. The Pharmacy Guild has recently offered to sponsor club membership fees for all UQ pharmacy students; however, this is against UQU rules, because the UQU constitution does not allow free membership. Having paid membership allows UQU to have oversight of the number of students

actually invested in being a member of the club, and this would not be possible if the Pharmacy Guild was blanket buying membership for the entire pharmacy cohort. A Committee member suggested that students could pay a more modest fee, such as \$2, with the Pharmacy Guild sponsoring / subsidising the rest through a grant, or potentially supplying a cap / lab coat or similar collateral items.

Jess then asked whether they could charge people fees and then have the Guild reimburse them, but the Committee's preference is to steer the Guild away from membership avenues, but rather towards other funding options, such as the Guild sponsoring an event, or bar tab at an event. When further questioned, Jess added that almost 100% of the membership is Pharmacy students, that she wants to be transparent about funding sources, and that the club's primary allegiance is to the Union. She will follow up with the Guild and let UQU know what happens. Jess left the meeting at 2:49pm.

iii. Review of Grant by Application requests – SIMBA / BA / MC

SIMBA – Asking for \$1500 to cover costs for a Professional Development symposium. The Committee felt that there should be some charge to members, rather than offering it as a wholly free event. The committee agreed that they could offer \$550 to partially cover the cost of catering, without funding the whole event and suggest that the club charges a fee as well. The Committee never funds prizes; therefore, it was suggested that the C&S team will encourage SIMBA to use their Membership Grant for the rest of the event expenses.

Business Association – Asking for \$5000 funds towards cost of staging their inaugural Biz Revue. BA has positioned the ticket price at \$25, as opposed to the usual level of around \$45 charged for Med Revue and Law Revue tix, in order to gain traction in the first year. As this is an inaugural event and costs are somewhat unknown, the Committee suggested that the club use their Membership Grant funds first and then come back if they make a loss. Some discussion followed on whether clubs should be able to cover all event costs (and/or potential losses) without needing extra funding. Ultimately, the committee rejected the application with the suggestion that the club reassess their budget and reapply later if they make a loss.

Motoring Club – Asking for \$3000 to take 15+ people to a raceway/go-karting event and provide subsidised tickets. The committee supported a donation of \$350, checking first that this is in line with what the FRS received for their Formula One event. Conversation circled around whether the event would still go ahead if the C&S grant donation was smaller than the minimum amount required.

SPIA – TJ recused himself from the meeting at 3:42pm and Michael took the Meeting Chair. SPIA is asking for \$629 for a food-sharing Fresh Feast event. After some discussion, the Committee decided to offer \$500 and ask the club to make up the rest of the expenses through donations.

TJ re-entered the meeting at 3:50pm and resumed as Meeting Chair.

iv. Funding reallocation for unspent funds

Clubs have all been informed that they have a deadline of 25 July to access funds.

v. UQ Respect modules for C&S Exec

Utty reported about the UQ Respect module, which is a one-off online training module which ostensibly takes two hours, but in practice can be completed in around 30 minutes. He advocated that this should be compulsory for all T3 execs. There was a discussion about whether this should be compulsory or strongly recommended; this is also dependent on whether UQ will make it a requirement for all students.

Kylie left the meeting at 4:02pm.

There was brief discussion about the End of Semester Exec Event at Strike Bowling on 20 June; 64 tickets have been sold. Most of the Committee members will attend.

Alex left the meeting at 4:06pm.

vi. C&S room improvements

TJ has had conversations with Rahul and Glenda about the swipe card entry issue. There is some confusion about the intentions for the spaces near the C&S rooms. TJ will follow up and provide updates.

vii. Email scam re Monarchist League

Barclay outlined two email scams which have occurred relating to the Monarchist League. In one, an invoice for \$228 had been forged with a false bank account which had been paid by the club. In the second, the fake invoice was intercepted and not paid. The club was alerted by noticing that the name had been subtly changed. It was thought possible that the personal email address had been compromised, which had given access to the club's account. Barclay has flagged the issue with UQU Finance and also discussed with CommBank, so appropriate action has been taken. The C&S team has also made clubs aware of the risk of scams in a recent C&S newsletter. Some discussion followed about whether a watermark can be used to make invoices harder to forge

viii. Other agenda items

Discussion on C&S Orientation / handover, umbrella policy and social club category were shelved/held over for a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 4:17 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ty R. Keup". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.