

UNION CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

7th Ordinary Meeting of the 112th C&S Committee

5:00 pm

Friday 4/07/2023

UQU Boardroom

UQ Union Complex, St Lucia Campus

5:13pm The Meeting was formally opened with Acknowledgement of Country by the Chair.

I. Credentials

The following were present:

Members

Michael Walker (Chair)

Utkrist Paudyal

Natasha Brettell

Kylie Ho

Barclay McGain

Alex Knight

Members

TJ Reupena

Observers

Jacinto Hedus, Minute Taker

Alex Smock

II. 5:14pm Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was moved,

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 6th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

C&S 112/92	WALKER/HO	CARRIED
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III. Business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Nil

IV. Reports of the Elected Officer

Nil

V. Ratifications, Part I

i. 5:18pm UQ Neuro

Gerard Kim and David Tran represented UQ Neuro. The Chair opened discussion by reraising the issue of UQ Neuro's proposed name, due to its similarity with UQ

Neurotech. The main point of disagreement from the representatives on changing the name to UQ Neuro centred around the club’s intention to cover neurology, neurosurgery on top of neuroscience. The representatives raised a comparison to the existing UQ Biology Society and UQ Biotech clubs, which the Committee felt was different due to the separation of degrees and that Biotech came after the establishment of Biology. Before the representatives left, the Committee clarified their only concern was with the name UQ Neuro, as well as the procedure with ratification.

5:22pm Barclay McGain entered the meeting.

Committee Members felt sympathetic to UQ Neuro’s situation but maintained that the name appeared too close to UQ Neurotech. The Committee agreed to ratify UQ Neuro, but would only affiliate the club on the condition that its name had been changed to better reflect the differences between the two clubs.

It was moved,

THAT UQ NEURO BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/93	WALKER/McGAIN	CARRIED
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5:35pm Marcus Birthisel entered the meeting via Zoom.

ii. 5:35pm Business Analytics Networking Association (BANA)

Marcus Birthisel represented BANA. A Committee Member began by noting that the UQ Business Association and UQ Fintech were happy with BANA. The representative then gave a brief overview of their club as a refresher to the Committee. A Committee Member enquired on the issue of BANA’s invalid 2022 IGM when they previously attempted to ratify, which the representative explained was due to issues with COVID to the Committee’s satisfaction.

5:38pm Marcus Birthisel left the meeting.

It was moved,

THAT THE BUSINESS ANALYTICS NETWORKING ASSOCIATION (BANA) BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/94	WALKER/KNIGHT	CARRIED
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VI. Affiliations, Part I

i. 5:39pm Psych MD

No committee members had managed to go to the IGM, and no issues were raised.

The photo supplied by the club contained at least 10 members, as per the requirement for Non-St Lucia Based Clubs.

It was moved,

THAT UQ PSYCH MD BE AFFILIATED TO THE UQ UNION

C&S 112/95	WALKER/HO	CARRIED
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ii. 5:41pm UQ Naatak

The Chair informed the Committee that Emily Ryan, the Clubs and Societies Manager, had reviewed footage of the clubs’ IGM and found no issues.

It was moved,

THAT UQ NAATAK BE AFFILIATED TO THE UQ UNION

C&S 112/96	WALKER/PAUDYAL	CARRIED
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VII. Other Business which has been proposed

i. 5:44pm Veg Society name change

The email discussion between the President of the UQ Veg Society and the Clubs and Societies Manager was reviewed. Brief discussion was had on potentially reviewing the club's aims and objectives due to the focus on veganism over vegetarianism, but was considered unnecessary.

It was moved,

THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE THE NAME CHANGE OF THE UQ VEG SOCIETY TO THE UQ VEGAN SOCIETY

C&S 112/97	WALKER/McGAIN	CARRIED
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ii. 5:53pm UQ Biology Postgraduate Club name change

The Committee reviewed the email from the President of the UQ Biology Postgraduate Club explaining the merger of the Schools of Biological Sciences and Earth and Environmental Sciences. No issues were raised from the Committee.

It was moved,

THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE THE NAME CHANGE OF THE UQ BIOLOGY POSTGRADUATE CLUB

C&S 112/98	WALKER/HO	CARRIED
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5:54pm Saumya Jain entered the meeting.

VIII. General Business, Part I

i. 5:55pm Brief discussion was had on the issue of QPay and the understanding that avenue had currently become a dead end. A Committee Member raised they were exploring solutions to the problem.

ii. 5:58 Fintech Grant by Application

The Committee was concerned over the size of the requested grant, noting it would amount to \$50 per person at the proposed event. A Committee Member raised the concern of clubs potentially highballing their grant applications in hopes of obtaining a desired middle ground. They additionally raised the preference to use the grants for 'charitable purposes' rather than for an event involving large corporations, such as Subway. Several Committee Members also raised the concern that clubs were effectively using union grants to directly or indirectly help lower ticket prices, fund foods and/or cash prizes. Noting the applied grant was the same size as the budget prize money, Committee agreed upon providing \$400 to instead cover the event's food.

Action Item: The Committee requested Emily Ryan to suggest to Fintech cheaper catering, as well as one that they could use their membership grant on. Additionally, they wished for her to discourage using grants by application to effectively cover cash prizes.

6:00pm Lily Cooke and Ryan McDonald entered the meeting.

6:08pm Sam Campbell entered the meeting for the UQ Biology Postgraduate Club

6:10pm Sam Campbell left the meeting understanding their club had already been covered.

iii. 6:11pm **Clubbies Awards**

Discussion was had on potential awards to add, such as Small Club Ball of the Year, as well as ones to remove for the sake of time. This included discussion on the shift in the nature of small clubs, such as the rise of launch parties or balls, with a member noting that the main barrier to the larger events was the deposit.

6:24pm Zhaoxi Zheng entered the meeting via Zoom.

IX. Ratifications, Part II

i. **6:24pm Social Sciences Postgraduate Association**

Zhaoxi Zheng and Saumya Jain represented SSPA. The representative aired several grievances they held in regard to the Committee's previous rejection of ratification stating that they felt what they had interpreted as a desire for undergraduates to be included, as well as the raising of the issue of long-term growth, to either be discriminatory towards postgraduates or have not made sense respectively. The Committee clarified their intentions for the grievances raised, stating, in terms of the former, they had asked for them to reach out to existing clubs to have a postgraduate officer and, in regards to the latter, had raised concerns about the club's executive managing to maintain momentum once the current executive left. Discussion continued to be maintained between the representatives including the representatives clarifying their aim to cater towards HDR students, clarifying this did not include coursework students.

6:34pm Saumya Jain and Zhaoxi Zheng left the meeting.

6:35pm Further discussion was then had on the sentiment of miscommunication and combative discussion before proceeding to the main discussion on the inclusion of postgraduates. A Committee Member felt the club would not address the issue of postgraduates not joining predominately undergraduate clubs, that helped create the issue of a postgraduate-undergraduate split. Additionally, it was raised that postgraduate officers were important in clubs to mentor undergraduates into becoming postgraduates. Another Committee Member raised they should allow the club to be ratified and note that a successful IGM taking place would demonstrate 30% of the cohort being interest in the Association.

It was moved,

THAT THE UQ SOCIAL SCIENCE POSTGRADUATE ASSOCIATION BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/99	WALKER/HO	CARRIED
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6:41pm The chair called for a recess of 5 minutes, with the meeting due to recommence at 6:46pm

6:47pm Lily Cooke, Lauren Ward, Ryan McDonald, Emma Goodwin, Jack Barton, Matthew Pereria and Alex Smock entered the meeting.

6:47pm The Chair called the meeting to order.

ii. 6:47pm **UQ Liberal National Club**

Emma Goodwin representing the Liberal National Club. Goodwin began by presenting an overview of their club. They noted 28% of millennials voted LNP in 2022 and estimated 20% of incoming UQ Student would be in that camp. Goodwin noted they were 'politically homeless' given the lack of a right-wing club on the campus. Goodwin further clarified they aimed to have no executives from the previously disaffiliated UQ Liberal National Society (UQ Menzies) club. They finally highlighted the clubs interests in offering campaigning opportunities, policy debates with other campus political clubs and hosting events with like-minded third-party organisations, such as IPA or Fair Australia.

A Committee Member raised the reaffiliation being attempted by UQ Liberal National Society, evidenced by several executives from the old club being present, and enquired Goodwin why the Liberal National Club should be affiliated instead. Goodwin reiterated that the Liberal National Club would have a different executive from the previous club (Liberal National Society) allowing a 'fresh start'. Goodwin clarified for the minutes that had been no communications with the former UQ Liberal National Society, confirmed by Lily Cooke, Lauren Ward, Ryan McDonald and Matthew Pereria as representatives of the former UQ Liberal National Society. Another Committee Member brought up the comparison of factional division between UQ Labor Left and UQ ALP Club, enquiring if the situation was the same between UQ Liberal National Society and UQ Liberal National Club. In response, Goodwin stated it was a difference of personal animosity.

Extensive discussion between the Committee, Cooke, Ward, McDonald and Pereria was had on confirming the disaffiliation of their club, that was confirmed to have occurred in the 2nd Extraordinary Meeting of the C&S Committee, and that the period for appeal had lapsed in accordance with R21.2 of the UQ Union Regulations. Cooke, Ward, McDonald and Pereria brought forward a number of additional arguments surrounding the closed matter of the disaffiliation of the Liberal National Society, arguing that it should be the right of the former society to reapply for affiliation before any new club or society could be considered with potential overlap. The Committee discussed these objections, with Walker noting that there was no right to reaffiliation as claimed by the Liberal National Society representatives. Cooke then raised the concern of substantial overlap between the members of UQ Liberal National Club and the UQ Monarchist League, which was confirmed by the chair to be not the case, as less than 50% of membership was the same.

7:30pm Lily Cooke, Lauren Ward, Oscar, Emma Goodwin, Jack Barton, Matthew Pereria and Alex Smock left the meeting.

7:30pm The Committee Chair, Michael Walker, read a letter from the UQ Union President, Ricky Klein, which affirmed his support for the creation of a club on campus as it "is crucial to upholding the values of freedom of speech and promoting a diverse range of political viewpoints on campus", also noting that the affiliation of a Liberal National club would "uphold our commitment for free expression and

diversity, fostering an inclusive atmosphere where all voices can be heard and respected”.

After some discussion, the Committee felt that the notion of a ‘fresh start’ was a favourable situation, and that it was in the interests of the student experience at the University that viewpoints of all political persuasions be heard.

It was moved,

THAT THE UQ LIBERAL NATIONAL CLUB BE RATIFIED

C&S 112/100	WALKER/HO	CARRIED
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X. General Business, Part II

- i. 7:34pm Clubbies was discussed with a Committee Member discussing who votes for the awards, which was clarified by the chair, noting the Clubs and Societies Committee creates a shortlist of recipients, with the Vice President (Campus Culture) and the Clubs and Societies Manager making the final decision.
- ii. 7:38pm Umbrella Clubs, such as EUS, BARS or SASS, were briefly discussed. This revolved around how they functioned and the need for a formalised process in how they are created and governed by the Union.
- iii. 7:44pm One Minute Videos was briefly discussed, with the Committee authorising Utkrist Paudyal to take the lead on the project.
- iv. 7:45pm General Exec Handbook was briefly discussed.

Alexandria Knight positively stated to Ukrist Paudyal “You have never given a bad idea in your life.”

Note: It was requested that the VP Campus Culture (Clubs and Societies) arrange informal zoom meetings to discuss general business matters.

- v. 7:50pm C&S Room Improvement was briefly discussed with the desire for a new room to store leftover decorations from club events agreed upon, this would create a system where decorations could be reused by other clubs and societies in the future.
- vi. 7:53pm Committee Members Alexandria Knight and Kylie Ho announced they would both be resigning from the C&S Committee due to graduation and leaving the country for the remaining year respectively. Barclay McGain positively stated that “I think you’re both perceived to be the most independent on this committee” and Michael Walker echoed the statements by McGain and thanked them as “I think this has been the most productive C&S Committee in the 112 years that the UQ Union has existed”

It was moved,

THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE THANK ALEXANDRIA KNIGHT AND KYLIE HO FOR THEIR SERVICE ON THE COMMITTEE AND WISH THEM LUCK WITH THEIR FUTURE ENDEAVOURS

C&S 112/101	WALKER/PAUDYAL	CARRIED
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8:03 The Meeting was closed.

