UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 2nd Ordinary Meeting of the 104th UQ Union Council, 2015

6:00PM

Wednesday 25/03/2015 Holt Room Level 4, Union Complex (Bld. 21), St. Lucia Campus Chair: Michael Lucas

Alexandra Brown

Roberto Fragoso

Laurence McLean

Patrick Bowman

Alistair Meldrum

Amanda Lamb

Michael Lucas

Jason Wang

Shilpa Datta

Dion Lee

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The meeting was declared open at 6:21PM

a) Credentials

The following members were present:

- Kathryn Cramp •
- Thomas O'Connor •
- Matthew Hales •
- Isabel Manfield
- Shannon Fogarty •
- Amy Jelacic •
- Annie Danks •
- Gabrielle Menolotto
- Daren Tan •
- Joshua Roser
- Amy MacMahon

The Following Members were absent:

- Andrew Simpson •
- Anthony Chepurin
- Nicholas Tong •
- . Jaime Goodwin
- Josephne Coddington •
- Michael Wellington
- Lynda Maybanks •
- Jacob Pedersen •
- Danielle Lovell •
- Jacob Kay .
- Nicholas Pratt •
- Melanie Keyte •
- •

Apologies were received from the following members:

- Lynda Maybanks •
- Jacob Kay
- Dominic smith
- Nicholas Tong •
- Danielle Lovelle •
- Jaya Prasad •

- Dominic Smith
- Gabrielle Starr
- Matthew Kim
- Amanthi Fernando
- Thomas Davies •
- Laura Howden
- Blair Ivens •
- Mike Hopkins
- Damien De Haan
- Ange Ou
- India Anderson
- Aroha Liebhart
- Thompson Wong
- Eithandee Aung
- Olivia Anderson
- Kyle Jenson
- Jaya Prasad
 - Nicholas Pratt
 - Jason Wang
 - Jacob Pederson

- Sophie Borzi

- Tom Millroy

The following applications for leave for this meeting were received:

• Lynda Maybanks

The following proxies were received:

- Nicholas Pratt to Conor Ruane
- Jaya Prasad to Fiona Gipps
- Jacob Kay to Ange Ou
- Jason Wang to Amanda Lamb
- Dominic Smith to Fiona Gipps
- Jacob Pederson to Thomas Robertson
- Danielle Lovelle to Matt Kim

The following others were present:

• Lauren Bicknell

Fiona Gipps

- Imogen Inglis Jared Peut
- Thomas Robertson
 - Conor Ruane
- Andrew LambKurt Tucker
- Lachlan Duffy

It was moved THAT THE NOTED APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED AND LEAVE BE GRANTED TO ALL APPLICANTS COUNCIL 104/14 MCLEAN/ STARR CARRIED

b) Elections

Nil

c) Reports of Elected Officers

The reports of the President and Treasurer were starred for discussion.

President's report

The president verbally presented her written report for council.

Question raised by, student, Thomas Robertson regarding what the Union will be doing to advocate for higher quality education in regards to issues such as class sizes and student access to lecturers and tutors.

Jared Peut entered the meeting at 6:28pm

The UQU President explained that the Student's Rights Vice Presidents both work on advocacy for education issues and the Union and other student representatives often highlight such issues on behalf of students to the University through forums such as Senate meetings.

Question raised by, student, Thomas Robertson regarding the proposed changes to SWOT VAC in terms of when any changes may take place.

The UQU President explained that changes won't go through until next semester.

Question raised by, student, Conor Ruane regarding whether there is an indication that the University wants to consult students and intends to take such submissions into consideration.

The UQU President responded that the consideration of the changes has been tabled for a significant amount of time in order to allow students to put together submissions to the Academic Board regarding the changes which is a good indication that student opinion is being considered very carefully in regards to the proposed SWOT VAC changes.

Question raised by, student, Thomas Robertson regarding what changes are being proposed for the Saturday sessions.

The UQU President responded that the University believes it may be able to remove Saturday sessions entirely by adding two extra weekday sessions.

Dominic Smith entered the meeting at 6:30pm

Question raised regarding the benefits and disadvantages of incorporation

The UQU President responded that the differences her report refer to are between various models of incorporation. She added that the benefits of Incorporation, more generally, include increased accountability and better mechanisms for transparency.

Question raised by, student, Jared Peut regarding whether council can be presented with the legal advice the Union has received from last year regarding Incorporation.

The UQU President responded that a lot of the advice from last year centred around a model of incorporation that the Union no longer wants to pursue and that advice is less relevant to what is being considered now.

Question raised by student, Jared Peut, regarding whether council could further discuss the various models that are under consideration in order to understand the matter fully.

The UQU President outlined that one model for incorporation involves a board and anything below that board would be an advisory committee and council would have less power to bind the executives. The current executive are trying to develop a model where the executive don't have too much power.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the legal process for Incorporation in 2014 is now irrelevant.

The UQU President clarified that last year's efforts are not irrelevant. The progress made was a good place to start but it raised a series of questions over the best approach to take.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding how much has been spent on incorporation to date and how much is forecasted for future expenditure.

The chair advised that any budgetary questions should be raised when council is considering the annual budget in the interests of keeping the meeting moving along efficiently.

The UQU President added that a more detailed report on incorporation could be provided at the next council meeting.

Question raised by student, Lachlan Duffy, regarding projected expenditure increases to comply with the various requirements of being incorporated such as statutory requirements.

UQU Finance Manager was invited to answer the question.

UQU Finance Manager raised that incorporation should not affect costs too much as the Union already gets audited every year.

Question raised regarding whether there are any other student unions who have also incorporated and gone through similar processes.

The UQU President responded that a lot of the research the Union has undertaken has been looking into the constitutions, regulations and approaches that other incorporated unions have. She added that most other student unions are incorporated. She explained that incorporating the UQU is more complicated due to its size.

Question raised regrading whether the Union is not incorporated because of its size.

UQU Finance Manager was invited to answer the question.

UQU Finance Manager responded that he wasn't sure why the Union is not incorporated but suggested that the UQU is an old organisation from probably very humble beginnings which did not require it.

It was moved THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/15 MCLEAN/ STARR C

CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

The UQU Treasurer presented the report for the financial results in February.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the abolition of the carbon tax has affected the operating costs of the Union.

The UQU Treasurer responded that he hadn't noticed any breakdown in the budget referring to the carbon tax.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the business trading arm and noted that sales income is down but cost of sales is up.

UQU Finance Manager explained that there have been cost increases on raw materials but the Union does not want to push the prices up too far as the food may become too expensive for students.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether this will become a continuing problem for the rest of the year.

UQU Finance Manager explained that the trend will hopefully not continue and added that the Union is looking at new ways of reducing costs. The Union has recently signed a new deal with a packaging company. He explained that the Union is also trying to subsidise the cost of goods by making savings in other areas.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the variance in grants.

The UQU Treasurer responded that this variance involved the president's conference and a college event which the treasurer was not expecting a claim for until March.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding what was covered in the conferences line.

The UQU Treasurer explained that the conferences line was largely associated with the UQU Club Presidents camp.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the variance on commission sales.

The UQU Treasurer responded that the variance is referring to the second hand bookshop and the Union is hoping that the trend won't continue.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the variance in casual wages.

The UQU Treasurer responded that it can be explained by increases in Physiol, Cleaning and Main. The budget was decreased to account for downtime but cleaning, in particular, still actually required the same amount of work to be undertaken.

UQU Finance Manager explained that the variance can also be explained by the flow on effects of things like sick leave, as often those vacancies are filled by casual workers.

The UQU Treasurer added that sick leave and maternity leave will also always be a variance because those areas aren't budgeted for.

UQU Finance Manager clarified that the Union can budget for maternity leave but setting aside money for sick leave is not standard accounting practise and sometimes if staff are more aware that sick leave has been budgeted for they may be inclined to take it even when they don't need it.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the subscriptions line and what it entails.

The UQU Treasurer and the Finance Manager explained that it covers areas such as the seek.com package, courses for training and a company that provides stock images which are used by the marketing team.

It was requested by student, Thomas Robertson, whether the council could be provided versions of the 2014 financial results which don't include the Herston Medical Bookshop and the cafes that are no longer in operation

It was suggested that the Union could include a column to reflect such figures in the consolidated income and business trading sections.

It was moved THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/16 MCLEAN/ STARR CARRIED

The Turbot St Officer's report was starred for discussion.

It was suggested that, as the campus no longer exists, perhaps council could look into updating the regulations to amend references to Turbot St.

It was moved en bloc THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/17 MCLEAN/ STARR CARRIED

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT RIGHTS) BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/18	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (GENDER & SEXUALITY) BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/19	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (CAMPUS CULTURE) BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/20	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/21	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/22	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/23	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE GOORIE BERRIMPA OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/24	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE TURBOT STREET OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/25	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE GATTON CAMPUS OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/26	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
THAT THE COLLEGES OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED			
COUNCIL 104/27	MCLEAN/ STARR	CARRIED	
Jaya Prasad left the meeting at 6:58 pm			

d) Matters Arising from the Reports of Elected Officers $_{\rm Nil}$

f) Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Council was given time to review the minutes from the previous meeting.

Corrections were given to the spelling of Lynda Maybanks, Thomas O'Connor and Edward O'Brien.

It was moved THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 1ST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 104TH UNION COUNCIL BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED PENDING SPELLING CHANGES SUGGESTED IN COUNCIL COUNCIL 104/28 MCLEAN/ STARR CARRIED

g) Business Arising From the Minutes

Nil

e) Question Time

Question time opened with questions on notice

Question from student, Daniel Maggacis, regarding the Union's stance on college voting at the annual elections.

The UQU President responded that the executive have no position but the heads of college have requested a meeting on this topic. She added that college voting relies on their permission and the Union can't enforce polling on private property.

Andrew Lamb entered the meeting at 7:04pm

Question from student, Jared Peut, regarding whether the colleges officer will be invited to the meeting as well.

The UQU President responded that he is welcome to come.

There was a second question on notice from student, Daniel Maggacis regarding the status of incorporating the Union.

The UQU President explained that the answer to this was covered earlier in the meeting and a more detailed report will be made available at the next meeting.

Questions from the floor were invited.

Question raised by student, Fiona Gipps, regarding whether the Union intends to affiliate with NUS.

UQU President responded that there is nothing in the budget to reflect and NUS fees. She added that she can't say it will never happen but so far there hasn't been any push to put it in the agenda or the budget.

Question directed to the environment officer raised by student, Conor Ruane, regarding the screening of Gasland II and whether it was appropriate for the Union to screen a political film which advocates for the abolition of an industry of which many UQ engineering graduates are hoping to find employment in.

UQU Environment Officer explained that in the capacity of the role of Environment Officer, they are interested in the environmental side of those debates. She outlined that they had good communication online with engineering students, all students were welcome and that the film was engaging, well researched and had a lot of good feedback from students of all sorts of different disciplines.

The UQU President added that political films are screened by the political science school quite regularly.

Student, Conor Ruane, went on to clarify that the question of appropriateness was more to do with the fact the Union is meant to represent all students.

The UQU Environment Officer responded that they are fulfilling the role in terms of putting on events for students who are interested in environmental issues.

A councillor raised that a Union's very essence is political.

Student, Conor Ruane, raised that a student union should represent all students and shouldn't push fringe political agendas.

The UQU President raised that the Union also funds clubs such as engineering student clubs, which represent a broad range of ideas and values.

A councillor raised that the UQU Environmental Officer put on a good event, received good feedback there was good interest in the event from students.

Question raised regarding why the UQU is funding the Socialist Alternative and allowing it to become a UQU club.

UQU Vice President Campus Culture responded that the Socialist Alternative applied for ratification twice and on the second time they were ratified. They are yet to be affiliated and haven't received funding. She explained that Ratification is the first step in a two-step process and there are only four

grounds that you can use to reject a club for ratification. She explained that the second step requires them to get 30 financial members

Question regarding whether the committee considered frustrations amongst the student body regarding the presence of the Socialist Alternative.

It was raised that the Union represents all students and all sorts of beliefs, as such, some of the affiliated clubs cater for fringe interests and hobbies. One of the other clubs being discussed for ratification is a magic club, for instance, and the committee has followed the regulations.

UQU President added that any club who breaches the rule can be disaffiliated.

Student, Lachlan Duffy, raised that one of the grounds is a similarity of aims and objectives to another club. He pointed out that the Socialist Alliance have also been ratified.

Vice President for Campus Culture, explained that representatives of the Socialist Alternative came to the meeting and explained core differences and how their aims and objectives differed from the other socialist club.

Edward O'Brien and Christopher Withers entered the meeting at 7:19pm

Question raised by student, Lachlan Duffy, regarding whether this will set a precedent for too many similar clubs.

Vice President for Campus Culture, explained that the precedent had already been set by the many religious clubs on campus, often belonging to the same over-arching religion.

It was raised by student, Conor Ruane, that most students wouldn't know the difference between the two clubs.

Vice President for Campus Culture responded that the Clubs and Societies Committee has been satisfied that the two clubs are different.

It was raised that the club must be in the students' interests

It was raised that the club has thirty members, which indicates student interest.

Question raised by student, Fiona Gipps, regarding the Union's activities in advocating against feederegulation and whether it's appropriate to advocate against a political issue. UQU President responded that no organisation is one-hundred percent representative of every individual member but the Union Council did pass a motion last year to affirm the Union's stance against fee-deregulation.

It was raised that the constitution mentions the Union's role in advocating on behalf of students and that unionism involves advocating on behalf of the membership on pertinent issues. It was raised that student unions around the country are also advocating against fee-deregulation.

Question raised by student, Conor Ruane, regarding why the Union sees that fee-deregulation is considered unfair and why it makes education less accessible.

The UQU President responded that the Union has tried to engage in the topic of fee deregulation in a non-political way. She also responded in terms of accessibility, the Union is concerned that students will be in a position where they will end up choosing institutions based on fees and what they can afford to commit to rather than which institution is actually better for them.

It was raised by student, Conor Ruane, that the proposals don't involve getting rid of the HECS system.

UQU President responded that there is research indicating that students form a lower socioeconomic background are debt averse.

Vice President for Student Rights added that the current administration was strongly opposed to feederegulation when they were elected. She added that a petition has been run since and the Union received over a thousand signatures on Market Day

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the Union has presented the other sides of the arguments surrounding fee de-regulation to the students.

Vice President for Student Rights suggested that the questioner distributes a petition on such platforms and goes to the student election with it.

One councillor raised that the executive analysis from his own school regarding what fee deregulation and other proposed reforms will do to the cost of their respective degrees may result in much lower enrolment or larger class sizes.

It was raised by student, Conor Ruane, that 40 out of 41 Vice Chancellors are in favour of the reforms and asked why the councillor been selective in his authority of what Universities want.

The councillor explained that the faculty has high overhead costs and provides substantial perspective.

Question directed to the Editor of Semper Floreat raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether Semper Floreat is trying to subsidise some of its costs through advertising.

UQU Semper Floreat Editor responded that he does not get involved with advertising and marketing but added that the advertising and marketing team includes Semper Floreat as an option to advertise.

UQU President added that if Semper Floreat can keep to its budget without having to advertise, that's a choice they can make.

The chair received a motion from the floor which was read aloud. A recorded vote was requested.

It was moved THAT THE UQ UNION	RE-AFFIRMS IT'S STANCE AGAINST THE DERE	GULATION OF
UNIVERSITY FEES.		
COUNCIL 104/28	MCLEAN/ MANFIELD	CARRIED
Recorded Vote:		
EAIT Councillor 1	Opposed	
EAIT Councillor 2	In favour	
HABS Councillor 1	In favour	
HABS Councillor 2	In favour	
HABS Councillor 3	Opposed	
BEL Councillor 1	In favour	
BEL Councillor 2	Opposed	
BEL Councillor 3	In favour	
HASS Councillor 1	In favour	
HASS Councillor 2	In favour	
HASS Councillor 3	Opposed	
Science Councillor 1	In favour	
Science Councillor 2	Opposed	
Science Councillor 3	In favour	
MABS Councillor	In favour	

The chair directed that question time resume and invited further questions from the floor.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding spelling and grammatical errors in Semper Floreat and the steps being taken to avoid them.

The Semper Floreat Editor responded that he proofreads the magazine before printing.

Question raised by student, Edward O'Brien, regarding the storage of the Lipton Tea.

UQU President responded that the Union is considering having a stall to give out the tea

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the President approves of the content in Semper Floreat before publication

The UQU President responded that her role in approval before publication is only in regards to liability issues.

A councillor put forward a procedural motion to end question time.

The chair explained that such a motion would only apply to end a particular debate within question time. The chair asked if there were any further questions from the floor.

Question from student, Imogen Inglis, regarding whether the UQU President would feel comfortable addressing the Semper Floreat team on whether the publication is of a high enough quality.

The UQU President responded that if she felt that way, she would have a conversation with the Semper Floreat team but ultimately they are separate from the student executive.

It was raised that the quality of Semper Floreat relies on high quality submissions.

It was raised by student, Thomas Robertson, that the responsibility of spelling, grammatical and formatting errors is the responsibility of the editor.

h) Reports of Other Union Bodies

It was moved en bloc THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/29 MCLEAN/STARR CARRIED THAT THE QUEER COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/30 MCLEAN/STARR CARRIED THAT THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/31 MCLEAN/STARR CARRIED

THAT THE STUDENT RIGHTS ACTION GROUP REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMEDCOUNCIL 104/32MCLEAN/STARRCARRIED

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMEDCOUNCIL 104/33MCLEAN/STARRCARRIED

THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMEDCOUNCIL 104/34MCLEAN/STARRCARRIED

THAT THE ABILITIES COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMEDCOUNCIL 104/35MCLEAN/STARRCARRIED

i) Business Which has Been Proposed

i. <u>The Annual budget</u>

The chair explained that parts of the Annual Budget are commercial in confidence. As such they have been numbered and must be returned at the end of the meeting. He added that non-commercial in confidence material has already been distributed to council members.

The Annual Budget was presented by the UQU Treasurer.

He outlined the Union's Business Trading arm is budgeted to run at a net surplus of \$1,199,000 while the Students Services Arm is budgeted to operate at a net loss of \$1,312,000. Therefore, the Union is forecasting a net operating loss of \$115,503 for 2015.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the major factors contributing to depreciation.

The UQU Treasurer highlighted the depreciation on goods upon purchase under capital expenditure such as furniture.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the Union could provide a breakdown of projected depreciation.

The UQU Treasurer agreed to the request.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the Union could provide a comparison between the 2014/2015 annual budgets without the businesses that are no longer in operation.

The UQU Treasurer agreed to the request.

Question from student, Jared Peut, regarding whether the Union will provide a further breakdown of expenditure in the student services area.

The Finance Manager explained that the breakdown on those figures could be provided.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the expenditure listed under "other" could be broken down further.

The UQU Treasurer and the UQU Finance Manager responded that the breakdown of that line could be provided.

A councillor suggested that the breakdown is provided on page 14.

Student, Thomas Robertson, clarified that he is enquiring in regards to the breakdown of "other expenses" and not "other income"

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the Net Loss and whether the Union is taking measures to move the budget into surplus.

The UQU Treasurer responded that Net Loss includes depreciation on accounting expense. He explained that looking at the cash position otherwise, the Union is in a very healthy position.

Question from student, Andrew Lamb, regarding revenue from cigarettes and alcohol.

The UQU Treasurer responded that such figures can be determined and provided to council.

The UQU Finance Manager raised that only one Union outlet sells cigarettes.

Discussion moved on to Business Trading.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the Schonell Theatre has been moved into the student services portfolio.

UQU Finance Manager explained that at one point the Union was talking about moving the Schonell Theatre into the Student Services Portfolio but it has since been moved back as it fits more appropriately within the Business Trading Arm portfolio.

It was raised by students, Thomas Robertson and Jared Peut, that they would like to see the budget broken down further in order to debate or approve of projected expenditure.

The 2014 Annual budget was provided as an example of the level of detail given last year.

The UQU Treasurer reviewed the document and agreed that such breakdowns can be put together.

Question from student, Edward O'Brien regarding how quickly those figures could be put together.

The UQU Treasurer responded that the requested figures could be put together quite soon but not before the meeting ends.

There was a discussion amongst members and non-members about the level of detail in the budget necessary in order for council to consider and vote on it.

The UQU Treasurer suggested an extraordinary meeting to consider the budget in more detail.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether business packs can be provided to non-members of council by uploading them onto the UQ Union Noticeboard Facebook page.

The UQU Secretary responded that he can send out the business pack to all members of council other than documents which contain commercial-in-confidence information.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the business packs could also be uploaded onto the Union website or the noticeboard facebook page.

The UQU Secretary responded that he may be able to but would need to check whether the business packs contain information which would be too confidential for broader public distribution. He explained that there is a level of understanding amongst council members that the content they are sent is to be treated sensitively and the UQU Secretary added that he would need to take advice from Union Managers and the Student Executive as to whether the business packs are appropriate for public distribution.

The chair suggested that council consider the motions regarding whether or not to accept the budget or to refer the motions to the next meeting.

Question from student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether council could continue to discuss the budget as it stands before moving on in the agenda.

The Chair and UQU Treasurer agreed to the request.

Question raised regarding funding directed to the PACE campus for 2015.

UQU President raised that the Union is particularly looking into more SHOC services for external campuses. She added that the Union is also looking into permission to carry out certain activities at external campuses as some of them, such as PACE are also private property of external organisations.

The questioner clarified that he was also enquiring into things like the provision of microwaves and coffee.

The UQU President responded that the provision of such things fall into more of a facility rather than a service and they can be difficult to provide on property that doesn't belong to the Union but the Union can look into an arrangement with PACE or the University in respect to such things.

Question raised regarding the variance in the structural fund under the executive line in the budget.

The Chair suggested that any questions on the budget could be sent to the UQU Treasurer as a question on notice to be answered at the next meeting.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding the variance in the cash flow statement between the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015.

The UQU Finance Manager responded that he would need to take the question on notice. He added that some of the sums in the budget spreadsheet are automatic which can lead to errors.

It was moved THAT THE ANNUAL BUDGET BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED COUNCIL 104/36 MCLEAN/STARR REFERRE

REFERRED TO NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

It was moved THAT THE DEBATE BE ADJOURNED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OF UNION COUNCIL COUNCIL 104/37 MCLEAN/STARR CARRIED

ii. <u>Special Resolution</u>

A motion regarding the suggested remuneration of the International Students Officer and the Postgraduate Officer was read aloud to Council.

The UQU President outlined that the Student Executive have identified the two particular officers as their portfolio represents about a quarter of the UQ population each and they also do a significant amount of work for those students.

It was raised by student, Jared Peut, that money spent is often an indicator of the work done in each portfolio. He highlighted that more was spent in the month of February in the colleges and environment area.

The UQU President responded that month-by-month financial results do not always reflect the work completed in that month. She added that both portfolios have long term plans.

Question raised by student, Jared Peut, regarding why the other portfolios have not been selected in consideration for remuneration.

The UQU President responded that once the Union gets further along in the process of incorporation, they will need to assess and discuss which positions require remuneration and which positions don't.

Question raised by student, Thomas Robertson, regarding whether the proposed remuneration would be a temporary measure.

The UQU President responded that it has been put forward as a temporary measure to allow for the any changes relating to incorporation. She added that it will be considered for a permanent change later on.

It was raised by student, Edward O'Brien, that last year there may have been discussion regarding the remuneration of the Environment Officer. He questioned why the Union is no longer considering remuneration for that position and how they decide which positions should be paid and which positions should not be paid.

The UQU President responded that looking into previous arrangements and reasons for remuneration is less helpful than considering the present circumstances. She raised that it is better to look at the position and consider how many students the portfolio represents and how much work will be involved. She added that last year the Postgraduate portfolio underspent on its budget because it did not have the people power to run events.

Student, Edward O'Brien, raised that this could set a precedent where portfolios are rewarded for working less hard.

The UQU President raised that she would like to invite the two elected officers to explain the work and projects they have planned for the year as it informs debate. She went on to explain that if an elected officer is not completing any work, they will be held to account for that by the student executive. She added that Vice Presidents only get paid for work if they have been clocking in and out and has been working in the office.

The chair invited the Postgraduate Officer and the International Students officer to address council regarding the matter.

The UQU Postgraduate officer outlined the many events they are planning and have been involved with. Those events included O-week, Market Day, social events for postgraduates, a networking welcome and workshops such as the upcoming "Pitching Your Research" workshop. He added that

he has been communicating with the NTEU. He directed council to also read the reports he has submitted in the agendas for council.

Question raised by student, Edward O'Brien, regarding how much time the postgraduate officer spends on working for the Union.

The UQU Postgraduate officer responded that he probably works for about 10-15 hours each week.

The UQU International Students officer was invited to address council by the chair.

The UQU International Students officer outlined that based on his communication on the ground, international students often feel there is a lack of representation for them. He added that they are not always aware of the services available to them and are less represented with events. He highlighted the Lunar New Year event as a good example of an event where the Union was able to design an event that appealed to international students personally.

Question raised by student, Edward O'Brien, regarding how much time the International Students Officer spends on working for the Union.

The UQU International Students officer responded that he works more than five hours a week. He highlighted that he has committed to a weekly consultation, which will take 4- 8 hours per week.

The UQU President added that the International Students officer easily works more than ten hours a week.

Question raised by, student, Jared Peut regarding the performance of last year's postgraduate officer and whether this response will incentivise other office bearers to complete less work in order to achieve a wage for their work. He also questioned whether five hours per week are enough.

The UQU President responded that five hours per week seems like a good amount for a test run. She added that is the motion gets voted down, the office bearers will all continue to work hard but the Union would like to recognise the work of the International Students Officer and the Postgraduate Officer. She added that she is not concerned that other office bearers may work less in order to achieve a wage as she has faith that they all signed on to roles because they cared about the positions.

Question raised by student, Conor Ruane, regarding whether it is appropriate to make a change to a permanent document (the regulations) based on the performance of individual officers in one year. He also suggested the position of the Gatton Officer as more deserving of remuneration as they work on a separate campus.

The UQU President responded that the remuneration of the Gatton Officer has not been suggested yet and expressed that the Gatton Officer is welcome to contact the student executive regarding

remuneration. She clarified that changes won't be made to the regulations as the motion is a special resolution. She explained that the special resolution is also in response to student feedback that the two areas are not represented enough. She highlighted that International Postgraduate students are paying SSAF for the first time this year and, as such, want more support from the Union than they have had in the past.

Question from Thomas Robertson, regarding how many votes a special resolution needs in order to pass through council.

The UQU secretary explained that special resolutions require a two-thirds majority in order to succeed.

Question from student, Edward O'Brien regarding what the President meant when she described the special resolution as a test.

The UQU President explained that she was referring to the two office bearers in particular and what effect remuneration would have on their work. She went on to explain that she would happily debate similar arrangements for other roles. She added that due to incorporation, the Union may become legally obliged to pay other office bearers as well and that will be looked into in detail.

It was suggested by student, Jared Peut, that perhaps the trial should be for three months and the amount of hours be increased in order to have bigger financial impact on those office bearers.

The UQU President responded that if there's support for an increase, council could debate that, however, if the Union is asking the office bearers to adjust their lifestyles to accommodate the paid hours, it would be unfair if those hours gets taken away after a trial period of three months.

It was suggested that council could support an increase in those wages later in the year.

Question raised regarding how the office bearers are paid and who they will report to.

The UQU President responded that the Vice Presidents clock in and out in the Union building when they work. She explained that this in itself provides a level of accountability for the fact that they are working. She added that they will report to the Student Executive. She explained that the Postgraduate Officer works with the Association of the Postgraduate Students and he is also accountable to them. There is also a suggestion for the establishment of an International Students Collective. She added that they are both also accountable to Council.

It was raised that the work of office bearers is often reflected in their reports to council.

It was suggested by student, Thomas Robertson, that the motion be considered.

It was moved

THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH R89, THAT THE ELECTED OFFICER POSITIONS OFPOSTGRADUATE OFFICER AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICER ARE EACH PAIDTEN HOURS PER FORTNIGHT, AND THAT THESE ELECTED OFFICERS BE BACK-PAID TOTHE 1ST OF FEBRUARY 2015, AND ARE PAID UNTIL THE 30TH OF NOVEMBER 2015.COUNCIL 104/38CRAMP/MCLEAN

j) Notice of Business to be Proposed

The meeting was declared closed at 8:47PM