

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 5th Ordinary Meeting of the
107th UQ Union Council, 2018

6:00PM

Tuesday 26/06/2018

Innes Room 1

Level 4, Union building (Bld. 21), St. Lucia Campus

Chair: Kelsie McArthur

The meeting opened at 6.02pm

a) Welcome by Union Chairperson

The chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land.

b) Credentials

The following members were present:

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|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| • Kelsie McArthur | • Georgia Millroy | • Benjamin Koziy |
| • Elizabeth Silvester | • Aaron Barker-Smith | • Emma Shayler |
| • Samuel Pulsford | • Ethan Van Roo | • Duncan Hart |
| • Nerissa Aitken | • Gloria Woods | • Adelaide Power |

The Following Members were absent:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Rebecca Bennett | • Kenny Tran | • Lachlan Bon |
| • Matthew Qiu | • Kevin Tian | • Michelle Zhang |
| • Lianne Mellin | • Matthew Diamond | • Samuel Kiernan |
| • Elif Kaya | • Brandon Lo | • Nicholas Comino |
| • Paige Howard | • Jimmy Jin | • Paul Taylor |
| • Connor Haddad | • Jeremy Lwin | • Samuel Ngugi |
| • Zach Schafferius | • Kulkarawa Kukoyi | • Lili Wackwitz |
| • Lulu Nkwazi | • Nathan Kerr | • Jackson Rees |

- Rowan Evans
- Coen Harnischfeger
- Keira Murray
- Olivia Winchester

Apologies were received from the following members:

- Lulu Nkwazi
- Lili Wackwitz
- Nathan Kerr

The following proxies were received:

- Olivia Winchester to Georgia Millroy

The following others were present:

- Wilson Gavin

It was moved

THAT THE NOTED APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED AND LEAVE BE GRANTED TO ALL APPLICANTS

COUNCIL 107/162

SHAYLER/WOODS

CARRIED

c) Elections

It was moved

THAT KELSIE MCARTHUR BE NOMINATED AS COUNCIL CHAIR FOR THE 5th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 107TH UNION COUNCIL

COUNCIL 107/163

MCARTHUR/KOZIJ

CARRIED

d) The Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting and no amendments were suggested.

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 2nd EXTRAORDINARY MEETING BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

e) Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Nil

f) Requests for Starring/ Approval or Noting of the Items Not Starred *en bloc*

The Treasurer's Report was starred for discussion.

The Finance Manager noted that the consolidated profit and loss statement for the year to date shows a surplus of -\$73k, compared with the budget of -\$5k. The largest impacting factor in Student Services for May was an overspend on student promotions, including the Queer Collaborations conference and Pride Ball. However, the Union received an extra income of around for indigenous events which compensates partially for the overspend. It was noted that the Business Trading arm has performed below budget as an aggressive budget had been set for the Food Services Department. They had been asked to achieve around 7% more revenue for 2018 but this has been impacted by an overall decline across campus in foot traffic as fewer students come to campus. It was noted that a particular focus will be put on wages for casual staff in the coming weeks. The Finance Manager and Operations Manager are currently working on a productivity tool that will aid supervisors in rostering staff to meet demand.

Councillor Hart queried by how much the union were out of pocket from the queer events. The Finance Manager explained that they will be able to provide a more accurate figure once all ingoings and outgoings are complete.

g) References

Nil

h) Reports of the Elected Officers

Procedural motion to consider all other reports and business en bloc.

CARRIED

It was moved en bloc

THAT THE UNION PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/165 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/166 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE UNION TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/167 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT RIGHTS) BE ACCEPTED AND
CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/168 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (GENDER & SEXUALITY) BE ACCEPTED
AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/169 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (CAMPUS CULTURE) BE ACCEPTED AND
CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/170 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE ABILITIES OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/171 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/172 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/173 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND
CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/174 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE GOORIE BERRIMPA OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/175 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE MEDICAL STUDENTS OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/176 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE TURBOT ST OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/177 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE GATTON OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/178 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

THAT THE COLLEGE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 107/179 MILLROY/SHAYLER CARRIED

i) Matters Arising from the Reports of the Elected Officers

Nil

j) Question Time

Union Environment Officer, Samuel Pulsford, asked for an update on the progress made with the UATSIS affiliation process.

The chair explained that certain documents, such as the regulations and constitution, must be updated and provided to UATSIS before the process can begin. As it has been a busy month, there has been no action on either side.

A query was raised on whether the Union had agreed to pay a fee for affiliation and whether this was on the basis that UATSIS are a non-partisan organisation. Council were referred to the motion that was passed in the 3rd Ordinary meeting of Union Council regarding affiliation with UATSIS (COUNCIL 107/132). The chair suggested that all financial questions be directed to the Treasurer on his return at the next meeting of Union Council.

k) Reports of Union Bodies

Councillor Gloria Woods starred the Academic Teams Funding Board report for discussion. It was raised that, despite it being the inaugural meeting, an application had been submitted and was approved by the board. It was noted that there had been no official release of the criteria for applications. It was suggested that the minutes be tabled until the chair of the board is in attendance.

It was moved

THAT THE ACADEMIC TEAMS FUNDING BOARD REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/155

WOODS/KOZIJ

TABLED

Procedural motion to consider remaining reports en bloc.

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/153

MCARTHUR/WOODS

CARRIED

THAT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/154

MCARTHUR/WOODS

CARRIED

THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/155

MCARTHUR/WOODS

CARRIED

l) Appeals

Nil

m) Executive Business

Nil

n) General Business

Nil

o) Notice of Business Proposed

Budget Amendment: eSports Program

It was suggested that the motion be tabled until the mover and seconder are in attendance. Council agreed to table the motion.

It was moved

THAT THE BUDGET BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE \$35 000 OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE SETUP OF A UQ UNION ESPORTS PROGRAM

COUNCIL 107/164

NGUGI/LWIN

TABLED

Asylum for Biloela Family

Councillor Duncan Hart spoke in support of the motion. He raised that many organisations have come out in support of the family, who have been in Australia since 2000 and are valued members of their community. He explained that Peter Dutton has the discretionary power to grant the family asylum and suggested it would be a humanitarian gesture for the Union to support this motion.

Union Environment Officer, Samuel Pulsford, questioned why the application for asylum had been rejected. In response, it was explained that the Department of Home Affairs have not granted the family asylum as the Australia government does not consider the Sri Lankan Tamil community to meet the protection obligations of Australia. It was noted, however, this has been challenged by the UN and multiple people in the Tamil community have faced persecution and forced disappearances.

Officer Pulsford asked for clarification on the Councillor's definition of persecution.

In response, Councillor Hart explained that the Sri Lankan Tamil's are an ethnic minority that lost a civil war and the land of the Tamil people has endured extensive military occupation. The Tamil liberation struggle has led to enforced disappearances and executions.

The seconder of the motion, Councillor Adelaide Power, noted that the local economy relies upon the labour of those working at the meatworks and the community continue to hold vigils for the family.

The Environment Officer stated that he believed there was a lack of clarity and a precedent should be set that motions are well researched before they are brought to Union Council.

Councillor Ethan Van Roo spoke against the motion. He raised that Union Council's role is to represent students, as has been raised in previous meetings, and Council should not be considered with lobbying for social justice issues unless they directly impact on UQ students. Councillor Hart responded that this is a very limited frame for the Union and he has always disagreed with this assertion.

Student, Gavin Wilson, queried whether the father had been an active member of the terrorist group in Sri Lanka [The Liberation Tigers of Tamil] and stated that any person who has been involved in an illegal civil war does not deserve to be a part of Australian society.

Councillor Hart reiterated that, as far as he is aware, the reason the application for asylum was rejected was solely due to the Tamil community not falling under the protection obligations of Australia.

Procedural motion that the motion be put

CARRIED

Councillor Benjamin Kozij abstained from the vote on the procedural motion.

It was moved

THAT UQ UNION COUNCIL CALLS ON THE IMMIGRATION MINISTER, PETER DUTTON, TO USE HIS DISCRETIONARY POWER TO GRANT ASYLUM TO THE FAMILY OF PRIYA, NADES AND THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS DHARUNIG AND KOPIGA

COUNCIL 107/164

HART/POWER

NOT CARRIED

p) Any Other Business

Nil

The meeting was declared closed at 6.35pm

CONFIRMED