

UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

3rd WUSA Council Meeting
Monday March 3rd 2008
Room – 19.2082

Minutes

Present

Adam Knobel (General Representative) - Chairperson
Brendan Cook (Secretary)
Adam Rozadilla (Treasurer)
Patrick Kennedy Bates (Education)
Tim Rouen (External Students)
Chris Monnox (Global Solidarity)
Layne Brown (Indigenous)
Jun Lin Koh (International)
Allison Jeffares (Media)
Bec Nash (Queer)
Jessica Di Blasio (Welfare)
Carla Morgan (General Representative)
Kirri Piper (General Representative)
Michael Dicker (General Representative)
Hailey Sutton (General Representative)
Toby Kell (General Representative)
Mark Putvinas (General Representative) – arrived 13:12
Brodie Galloway (General Representative) – arrived 13:12

Observers

Nick Rouen, Jacq Dollard, Clinton Mead, Rob McKinley, Martin Laird, Christian Meek,
Sarah Woodcroft, Jackson Haynes, Catherine Garner

Meeting opened at 12:46

08/CM03/01

B. Cook/C. Morgan

It was moved that Adam Knobel assume the chair in Chris Pettett's absence.

CARRIED unanimously

1. Apologies

08/CM03/02

C. Morgan/H. Sutton

It was moved that apologies from the following representatives be accepted:
Anthony Strik (General Representative), Luke McGregor (General Representative), Chris
Pettett (President), Hong (Henry) Jiao Shao (General Representative), Ben Moffitt

(General Representative), Nikki Low (General Representative), Erin Fitzpatrick (Events)

CARRIED unanimously

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

08/CM03/03

C. Morgan/H. Sutton

It was moved that WUSA accept the following minutes:
Minutes from Council Meeting 2, Executive Meetings 1, 2, and 3.

CARRIED
For: 15
Against: nil
Abstentions: 1

3. Business Arising

08/CM03/04

B. Cook

WUSA Council grants Geoffrey Pidcock a four month leave of absence from his duties as a General Representative in accordance with Section 9.3 of the WUSA Standing Orders, beginning as of 1st February 2008. His written request is tabled as Attachment A.

FAILED
For: 7
Against: 9
Abstentions: nil

4. Correspondence

Nil.

5. Standard Operations Business

Election of members to WUSA Council

There is one (1) vacancy for Womyn's Representative.

Valid nominations received from:

- Hailey Sutton

Hailey Sutton was declared elected unopposed as Womyn's Representative.

- Jackson Haynes departed 12:56 -

6. President's Report

Nil.

7. Representative's Reports

08/CM03/05

C. Morgan/C. Monnox

Written Report: Brendan Cook (Honorary Secretary) – Attachment B

Written Report: Toby Kell (General Representative) – Attachment C

Written Report: Allison Jeffares (Media Coordinator) – Attachment D

Written Report: Hailey Sutton (Womyn's Representative) – Attachment E

CARRIED unanimously

8. General Business

08/CM03/06

B. Cook/

WUSA approves Attachment C of the minutes from the second 2008 WUSA Council Meeting as an amendment to the WUSA Election Regulations.

WITHDRAWN

- Mark Putvinas arrived 13:12 -
- Brodie Galloway arrived 13:12 -

08/CM03/07

B. Cook/C. Monnox

That WUSA Council agrees to comply with the Freedom of Information Request made by Toby Kell. WUSA acknowledges that the information distributed during this meeting satisfies the freedom of information request, being a true and accurate record of all correspondence and minutes taken.

CARRIED

For: 9

Against: 3

Abstentions: 6

08/CM03/08

B. Cook/C. Monnox

That a working group be established to investigate potential constitutional changes to be proposed at the WUSA AGM. Participation shall not be limited to Council members. Recommendations will be presented to a Council Meeting for approval prior to the AGM.

CARRIED

For: 16

Against: nil

Abstentions: 2

08/CM03/09

PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Kell/T. Rouen

It was moved that the words "*No person under the influence of alcohol*" in motion

08/CM03/10 be altered to read “*No intoxicated person*”.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/10

B. Cook/A. Rozadilla

That Council amends the regulations governing the WUSA Office to insert the following section:

3.6 No alcohol is to be consumed within the WUSA office under any circumstances. Any person found to be consuming alcohol in the office will be asked by the Office Manager or any member of staff present to leave the office immediately.

Council also amends the regulations governing Code of Conduct to insert the following:

3.3 No intoxicated person may participate in or be present for an ordinary Council meeting or Executive meeting. Any member of Council present may ask an intoxicated person to leave the meeting.

CARRIED

For: 15

Against: nil

Abstentions: 3

(T. Kell, T. Rouen)

08/CM03/11

PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Kell/T. Rouen

It was moved that motions 08/CM03/12, 08/CM03/13, and 08/CM03/14 be heard en bloc.

CARRIED

For: 17

Against: nil

Abstentions: 1

08/CM03/12

H. Sutton/A. Jeffares

That WUSA endorse the International Women's Day rally being held in Wollongong on Saturday, March 8 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

International Women's Day (IWD) is a major day of global celebration for the political and social achievements of women. 2008 marks the 100 year anniversary of the 1908 New York City protest when 15,000 women marched through the streets demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights. The Wollongong protest celebrates the efforts of these and all women, and calls for equal pay, a sustainable environment, the right to choose, freedom from violence, education, health and dental care, affordable child care and Indigenous rights.

That WUSA Council resolves to publicise the event to students and staff at the University and attempts to ensure a strong student turn-out. That the association also ensures that the

organisers of the event are contacted to see if any support can be provided by WUSA on the day.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/13

H. Sutton/A. Jeffares

That WUSA release an amount of up to \$500 to run events in relation to International Women's Day, these events will be finalised at the discretion of the Womyn's collective.

Budget line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies - Womyn's Representative

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/14

H. Sutton/A. Jeffares

That WUSA release up to \$250 to send women from WUSA Council and the Womyn's Collective to the South Coast Labour Council Women's Conference 2008 'Are We There Yet?'

Budget Line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies - Womyn's Representative

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/15

B. Cook/C. Monnox

That WUSA Office Bearers ensure that their collective meeting times are widely advertised and that meetings are open and accessible to all students. This is to maximise student participation in WUSA by ensuring that the association is genuinely representative of its members and students.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/16

PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Kell/H. Sutton

It was moved that Council now hear motion 08/CM03/17.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/17

T. Rouen/H. Sutton

That WUSA Council release \$70 to Carla Morgan for the payment of a Justice of the Peace Registration to provide the Undergraduate student community with a regular service of document verification, statutory declarations, etc.

Budget line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies – Unallocated Grants

CARRIED unanimously

- Carla Morgan departed 13:34 -

CARRIED
For: 13
Against: nil
Abstentions: 4
(T. Kell, T. Rouen)

08/CM03/24

B. Nash/B. Cook

That WUSA Council releases \$250 from the Queer Collective budget for miscellaneous campaigns, including but not limited to preparation for Diversity Week and resources for the Queer Space. The allocation of funding is to be determined by the Queer Representative, who will notify Council of intended expenditure as it arises.

Budget line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies – Queer Representative

CARRIED
For: 13
Against: nil
Abstentions: 4
(T. Kell, T. Rouen)

08/CM03/25

C. Monnox/B. Cook

That WUSA Council releases \$100 from the Global Solidarity Collective budget for miscellaneous campaigns, including the materials and resources necessary to ensure an active collective capable of promoting awareness of solidarity issues on campus. The allocation of funding is to be determined by the Global Solidarity Officer, who will notify Council of intended expenditure as it arises.

Budget line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies – Unallocated Grants

CARRIED
For: 13
Against: nil
Abstentions: 4
(T. Kell, T. Rouen)

- Adam Rozadilla departed 13:50 -

08/CM03/26

B. Cook/C. Monnox

That WUSA releases money for Jacq Dollard to be paid for the extra two hours per day she worked during O-Week and Week 1, from Monday to Thursday of both weeks.

Budget line: Office Staff – Front Desk

08/CM03/27

B. Cook/C. Monnox

Photocopying usage and maint.	\$100.00/month	\$1200.00	Photocopying usage and Maint.
Security monitoring fees	\$101.10/month + additional costs	\$644.00	Security

Budget line: Office and Administration Expenses

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/31

B. Cook/C. Monnox

Three invoices for 2007 expenditure were recorded in January 2008. The invoices have been paid in full, but have put some budget lines into deficit. To correct this, WUSA approves the increase of the following 2007 budget lines:

- *Cleaning: increase from \$2 500.00 to \$2 659.05*
- *Sundry: increase from \$850.00 to \$953.33*
- *Indigenous: increase from \$3 000.00 to \$3 074.49*

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/32

B. Cook/A. Rozadilla

That WUSA release funds of up to \$100 to replenish First Aid Kit so supplies in kit meet workplace first aid recommendations.

Budget line: Office and Administration Expenses – Sundry Expenses

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/33

B. Cook/C. Monnox

That WUSA pay overdue Tertangala payments to former student from 2005 for articles *High Waisted* (489 words), *A Weighty Issue* (939 words) and *Those Other Hemlines* (581 words). Total of 2,009 words at \$0.05cents/word is \$100.45.

Budget line: Unallocated Campaign Expenditure – Projects, Campaigns, and Resources

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/34

H. Sutton/A. Jeffares

That WUSA release the amount of \$250 to pay the instructor of the Women's Self-Defence workshop that was run as part of WUSA's Orientation week activities.

Budget line: O-Week

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/35

A. Jeffares/H. Sutton

That WUSA releases \$100 to buy soft drinks to sell at a barbeque to fundraise for the Tertangala.

Budget Line: Tertangala

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/36

H. Sutton/T. Rouen

That WUSA release the amount of \$150.18 to reimburse Hailey for the purchase of lollipops, sauce, serviettes and other items required for Orientation week and membership bags.

Budget line: O-Week

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/37

T. Rouen/H. Sutton

That WUSA release the amount of \$75 to purchase condoms to be sent to external campuses.

Budget Line: Collectives, Clubs, and Societies - External Students Representative

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/38

P. Kennedy Bates/H. Sutton

That WUSA Council releases \$300 for the purchase of a new barbecue.

Budget line: Discretionary Spending – Strategic Assets and Purchases

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/39

P. Kennedy Bates/H. Sutton

That WUSA Council releases \$100 for the purchase of utensils, condiments and the refilling of gas bottles.

Budget line: Additional Services and Provisions – Weekly BBQs

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/40

PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Rouen/H. Sutton

It was moved that motion 08/CM03/41 be amended to delete the original motion, replacing it with the following:

Contingent on the WUSA President's performance, Council will review and possibly reduce the President's Honorarium at the 5th Council Meeting of 2008. The terms of the review will be determined by the WUSA Executive. The President will be given three weeks from the time of the review to comply with all benchmarks.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/41

T. Rouen/H. Sutton

Contingent on the WUSA President's performance, Council will review and possibly reduce the President's Honorarium at the 5th Council Meeting of 2008. The terms of the review will be determined by the WUSA Executive. The President will be given three weeks from the time of the review to comply with all benchmarks.

CARRIED

For: 15

Against: 1

(T. Kell)

Abstentions: nil

08/CM03/42

PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Kell/P. Kennedy Bates

It was moved that Council hear Emergency Motion 08/CM03/43.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM03/43

EMERGENCY MOTION

H. Sutton/B. Cook

That WUSA releases 482.60 to cover expenditure for the supply of: bread and sausages from Illawarra Smallgoods - \$229.00, bread from Unishop - \$8.60 and bread and sausages from Illawarra Smallgoods - \$245.00 relating to O-Week.

Budget line: O Week Activities

CARRIED unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 14:40.

Attachment A

Request for Leave of Absence – Geoffrey Pidcock (General Representative)

To the student representatives of the Wollongong Undergraduate Student Association;

I hereby request a four month leave of absence from my position as general representative as per section 9.3 of Standing Orders.

I request this privilege because I am unable to attend meetings over the duration of my University of Wollongong sponsored exchange semester to the University of Arizona, USA. As you may have all notice, at this time, I am simply unable to enact the responsibilities of my position.

I apologise for the delay in this request. Suffice to say, time differences, a sheer magnitude of mail, and a large amount of exchange student commitments have prevented me from addressing this concern until now. I also apologise for any inconvenience that my absence has generated for the council.

I understand that I should be present for the submission of this request. To my defence, my commitments required me to depart early November last year- back before my instatement as a general representative, and official capacity to participate in meetings.

Whatever the cause, I request leave of absence over resignation because I feel I could still bring something to the WUSA council- now, and upon my return. The University of Arizona has one of the most active student unions in the country, at one of the most globally and politically significant times of recent memory, the primaries. Moreover, the University of Arizona has the centre for student development and leadership (still entirely aligned with the unions, unlike the csd of Wollongong), which coordinates a wide variety of both local, and international, programs. These are two resources that could be utilised by WUSA, for the student body's benefits. The potential for networking cannot be overlooked- especially given the context of the respective institutions close relationship.

I have already begun to explore these avenues for the council back home. If you support this, I would appreciate any direction you have to offer.

I also promise my greatest level of enrolment and enthusiasm upon my return.

Suffice to say, I care for this position, and duly wish to maintain it through leave of absence.

That stated, if the members of the council judge me as unfit, I will indeed resign immediately, to expedite my replacement.

So please, consider my request. I'm sure you will act in a way that best benefits the student's interest.

Thank you for your time; I wish you all the best.

Geoffrey Pidcock

Attachment B

Representative Report (B. Cook) – Minutes from Election Regulations Working Group

2nd Meeting of Election Regulations Working Group
10:00AM Monday, 4th February 2008
Room – Executive Office

Meeting Minutes

Present

Chris Pettett (President)
Brendan Cook (Hon. Secretary) – acting chairperson
Chris Monnox (Global Solidarity Officer) – acting minute secretary
Luke McGregor (General Representative)
Hailey Sutton (General Representative)
Clinton Mead (WUSA member)
Nick Rouen (WUSA member)

Meeting opened at 10:12AM

Issues raised by those present as being worthy of review:

- Digital campaigning
- Photo alteration
- Campaign period
- Above-the-line voting
- Presidential neutrality
- Need for definition of “campaigning”

Chris Pettett suggested ‘digital ballot rooms’, i.e. limiting voting to specially designated areas setup with computers for voting.

Brendan Cook noted that this would probably increase the expense with the election and would definitely limit student participation. He suggested that WUSA could negotiate with the University to have a small digital ballot room operating so long as voting could also take place outside of the specified area.

Luke McGregor suggested a dedicated website for WUSA elections.

Brendan noted that this would also be more expensive, but that we should ask University to more prominently advertise the WUSA election on its website.

Brendan spoke about the issue of Presidential neutrality, particularly regarding the proposal to liaise with the University prior to the election. He noted that the RO would be more objective, but that this position wasn’t paid until the election period, whereas he would need to perform these new duties at least a week prior to the election.

It was agreed that Section 3.2.5 and 3.2.6 should be changed accordingly.

Brendan spoke about an issue raised in the last Council Meeting regarding Section 4.4.3 needing to be clarified.

It was agreed that this section would be deleted and replaced with 4.2.6, requiring that each candidate specify whether they are in a group or not.

Luke raised the issue of photo alteration.

Hailey Sutton said that candidates should be allowed to alter the backgrounds of photographs.

It was resolved that Section 5.2.5.1 should be amended to indicate that altered photos are allowed, so long as the candidate is clearly visible, not obscured, and alone in the photo.

Chris Pettett raised the issue of online material. He noted that this area was difficult to police and that the University had indicated it saw no need for the RO to be involved.

It was agreed that Section 5.3.7 should be deleted.

Brendan raised the issue of defining what was and wasn't considered campaigning.

It was resolved that Section 2.1.3 would be created, defining "Campaigning" as meaning the distribution of physical material intended to persuade students to vote for a particular candidate. It was resolved that with this amendment, there was need to change Section 5.3.6, which had been raised as an issue in the last Council Meeting.

Chris Monnox raised the issue of campaign times. He noted that the period 10am-3pm was insufficient, but that this proscriptive approach was still suitable.

It was resolved to amend Section 9.1.2 to extend hours to 4PM.

- Clinton Mead arrived 10:40 -

Clinton Mead raised the issue of campaigning hours and suggested that Council discretion in this area should be minimized.

It was resolved that the reference to Section 3.2.1 in Section 9.1.3 should be deleted.

Clinton said that altering the terms of representatives to begin in December is a good idea, but may require a change to the WUSA Constitution.

Hailey said that the above-the-line voting system sounded too complicated.

Brendan noted that in practice it would be much simpler for student voters.

Clinton raised the issue of voters preferencing both a group and an independent, and asked whether this would be possible.

Brendan said that students would be able to do this, but that the independent candidate would need to come either before or after the group candidates, it could not be listed in between. To do this would require preferences to be indicated below-the-line, which would also remain an option.

- Nick Rouen arrived 11:01 -

Clinton suggested that independent candidates should be displayed above-the-line.

Brendan responded that this would create a loophole in the system whereby a ticket could list all of its members as 'independents', gaining much greater visibility than a group of candidates list as a single entity. It is also unnecessary, given that voting below-the-line is available for any student wanting to preference an independent. He suggested that independents could be grouped together in a separate column to make them more visible if this were seen as a problem.

It was resolved to mandate a column for independent candidates to be grouped together below-the-line. It was also resolved to allow all independent candidates to display the word 'Independent' in lieu of a group name.

Clinton suggested that students might not know who they are voting for or that political deals could be done.

Chris Monnox said that this would not be a problem given that candidates would have their ticket name displayed and would be group according to their ticket. Given this and the fact that preferencing would not be distributed automatically within groups, not between them, it made it difficult for candidates to obscure the voting process. He also noted that the current system allows people of varied backgrounds to seek election under a single ticket, without needing to acknowledge this political diversity to students.

Clinton raised the issue of paper voting, suggesting that it was seen as more safe, while also encouraging candidates to meet with students outside of polling booths.

Brendan said that student associations at other universities wanted to introduce electronic voting, and that reverting to paper ballots would be a step backwards. He also noted that electronic voting at personal computers was easier and more convenient for students, making the entire process more democratic because it encouraged greater participation. However, he also said that there could be merit in investigating electronic booths in addition to allowing students to vote at home. These booths would allow quick access to the voting website, while also encouraging candidates to interact with the inevitable concentration of students.

Clinton suggested that the election edition *Tertangala* need to be impartial and that there could be a conflict of interest with Media Officer's seeking re-election.

Brendan agreed that this was a good point, and suggested Clinton mention it to the Media Officer with potential amendments to the Media regulations. He also noted that separating the WUSA election and that of the Media Officer (or a Media Committee) could be a possibility.

Clinton raised the issue of candidate's statements, noting that a factual error was found in a statement made during the 2007 WUSA election.

Brendan replied that a 24-hour objection period should be created, after nominations are submitted and made public. During this period it would be at the RO's discretion to mediate complaints made.

It was resolved to include a 24-hour objection period following the publication of nominations.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02PM

Attachment C

Representative Report (T. Kell) – ‘Welcome to Wollongong’

The Welcome to Wollongong day came together on Friday 29th February 2008 after months of planning and work. I have reported on this to council twice previously and it is my pleasure to report that it was a highly successful event that significantly raised the profile of WUSA and the role it plays in the community. We were able to take the opportunity to promote our international student travel concession campaign “fare play” as well as financial and non-financial membership.

In addition to this, the opportunity to network with local and regional business and business groups proved invaluable. By working together with local council, community groups and local business we have been able to generate interest in the community that we can potentially capitalise on through advertising, sponsorships, grants, general assistance and advice.

During the day I provided short statements to both TV and print media about the part WUSA has played in the planning of Welcome to Wollongong and the projects and campaigns that we have developed in the last few years aimed at tackling international student issues. We also gained some exposure through acknowledgements from official speakers on stage as well as the event MCs. Most notable however is the profile created by simply being present during the planning and during the day, a presence that was noted by the public and international students as well as the Vice Chancellor, Wollongong Mayor Alex Darling (who granted us the his only interview of the day) and the ABC.

Special thanks must be directed to Tim Rouen, Patrick Kennedy- Bates, Alison Jeffares and Erin Fitzpatrick for their assistance in organizing or publicizing the event as part of their role on WUSA council. I would also like to thank Jacq Dollard and John De-Vaney for their contributions. Special recognition reserved for Nick Rouen and Clinton Mead who volunteered considerable time on the day to film the event and assist in making sure it ran smoothly. Without the contributions of these WUSA members who volunteer their time the work that WUSA does would never deliver the results and benefits that our members deserve.

Although it is very early to speculate, it is likely that the event will become an annual event that will be bigger and better every year. It is also one that WUSA can highlight as big achievement for international students alongside the Momentum programme and the Fair Play campaign (developed, initiated and supported financially and otherwise by WUSA).

Attachment D

Representative Report (H. Sutton) – NEWS Conference

Allison Jeffares and myself attended the NEWS 08 conference in Melbourne on the 31.01.08 and 01.02.08, which we released the money for at the last council meeting. I found the experience very useful as it allowed us to make contacts with editors from student magazines/ newspapers around the country and learn skills and new information to help us with running the Tertangala.

We spoke to editors from other universities and We had a chance to look at their magazines, allowing us to see how student media can work in different formats and styles and giving us ideas for the Tertangala. I learnt what others think student magazines should be about and the potential they have to be an important voice in the community.

The conference ran a number of talks and seminars about different topics, such as learning about copyright and defamation, editing skills, media on the internet, creating and maintaining a contributor base, advertising, and Photoshop and InDesign training. The InDesign training was particularly helpful as we only knew the basics before the conference and were having difficulty putting layouts together. But the training allowed us to become more familiar and comfortable with using the programs. Without this training it would have been difficult for us to put our first issue together.

The conference also highlighted to us the importance of raising money for the media collective and the Tertangala. This could allow us to run social media collective meetings to encourage attendees, as well as other initiatives that would allow us a stronger presence on campus and encourage involvement from students.

I found the conference a very valuable experience that any future editors should consider attending, if only for the fact that they can gain a greater perspective on student media and gain contacts with student magazines/ newspapers around the country.

Attachment E

Representative Report (A. Jeffares) – NEWS Conference

Hailey Sutton and myself attended the NEWS 08 conference in Melbourne on the 31.01.08 and 01.02.08, which we released the money for at the last council meeting. We found the experience very useful as it allowed us to make contacts with editors from student magazines/ newspapers around the country and learn skills and new information to help us with running the Tertangala.

I spoke to editors from other universities and We had a chance to look at their magazines, allowing us to see how student media can work in different formats and styles and giving us ideas for the Tertangala. We learnt what others think student magazines should be about and the potential they have to be an important voice in the community.

The conference ran a number of talks and seminars about different topics, such as learning about copyright and defamation, editing skills, media on the internet, creating and maintaining a contributor base, advertising, and Photoshop and InDesign training. The InDesign training was particularly helpful as we only knew the basics before the conference and were having difficulty putting layouts together. But the training allowed me to become more familiar and comfortable with using the programs. Without this training it would have been difficult for us to put our first issue together.

It was also important that as publisher I was aware of all the legal implications that can arise from printing certain articles. I gained a greater understanding of what, legally, can and cannot be published, but realised also that student media is renowned for taking risks.

The conference also highlighted to us the importance of raising money for the media collective and the Tertangala. This could allow us to run social media collective meetings to encourage attendees, as well as other initiatives which would allow us a stronger presence on campus and encourage involvement from students.

I found the conference a very valuable experience that any future editors should consider attending, if only for the fact that they can gain a greater perspective on student media and gain contacts with student magazines/ newspapers around the country.