



GSA Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 28 February 2024

4:00pm – 7:00pm

Room 198-L1-102 | Zoom

Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we meet and work on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to the Elders, past and present and recognize the strength, resilience and capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people in this land.

Chair	Jesse Gardner-Russell (President)	
Board Members in attendance	Yingchen Zhao (General Secretary) Junyi (Johnny) Zheng (Treasurer) Rosalie Ritter-Jones (Vice President) Yujia (Lucy) Zhang - Online Amin Abedini - Online Bolor Jamiyandagva Devyani Vadke	
Staff Members in attendance	Sajal Goundar (CEO) Kelvin Hoang (Manager, Business Operations & Finance) Christina Murambi (Manager, Policy & Advocacy) Munaf Bhatkar (Manager, Student Engagement) Kavisha Garg (Governance & Executive Officer, Minute Taker)	
Other attendees	None	
Observers	Ethan Chou (RC Member, International Officer) Siti Fathonah Wijayanti (FC Member) Glenn Pandelaki (FC Member) Dimple Malhotra (FC Member)	
Absent		
	1 – FORMAL MATTERS 1a. Welcome & Acknowledgment The President opened the meeting at 4:09 pm with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all members. He greeted the new Board Member, Devyani Vadke, who then introduced herself and thanked everyone. 1b. Attendance 1c. Declarations of Interest The President declared his appointment as the Board Chair of The Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA). 1d. Minutes & Follow-up log actions Motion: The minutes of the GSA Board meeting held on 31 st January 2024 be accepted with no amendments. Moved: President, Jesse Gardner-Russell Seconded: Bolor Jamiyandagva All in favour, Devyani Vadke abstaining, no one against. Motion carries. 1e. Other Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulars for formal approval: No circulars for formal approval. 	Presenter, Time allocated President 15 min

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<p>1f. Meeting to move in camera.</p> <p>Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera.</p> <p>All in favour, no one abstaining, no one against. Motion carries.</p>	
<p>2 – BOARD REPORTING</p> <p>2a. President’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GSA has initiated the Postgraduate Group of Eight, along with developing a term of reference to coordinate efforts among the postgraduate groups. A meeting was held with Justin Zobel regarding Stipend Extensions, resulting in the decision to reverse the scheme's termination. Over the next three weeks, plans will be developed for the full reinstatement of the scheme, benefiting 800 graduate researchers. <p>2b. General Secretary’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chancellery Elected Student Representatives Meeting: Only one nomination has been received so far. Bolor clarified the eligibility requirements and nominated herself to participate in the meeting. Three more spots are available. University Advisory Committee: The board needs to discuss the appropriate roles to delegate to this committee. Anti-Racism Working Group: The President stated that he is a member of the working group but may not be able to contribute significantly to the subject matter. To discuss the representative in the in-camera session. Student and Education Forum: Bolor nominated herself to be a part of this forum. <p>2c. Vice-President’s Report</p> <p>Vice-President’s Report, noted as read.</p> <p>2d. Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Advocacy Working Group: Making efforts to onboard members of the group to participate. Planning to collaborate with the P&A Officer to develop discussion topics for the group. Raised concern that no other members of the group turned up for the meeting apart from the chair (Treasurer). <p>2e. Yujia Lucy Zhang’s Report</p> <p>Yujia Lucy Zhang’s Report, noted as read.</p> <p>2f. Bolor Jamiyandagva’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the FRAC Meeting for the first time. Meeting Senior P&A Officer to discuss Committee meetings engagement. <p>2g. Amin Abedini’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed to two committees: Medical School of Graduate Program and Education Executive Committee. Looking forward for the updates. <p>2h. Devyani Vadke’s Report</p>	<p>Board Members 30 min</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Melbourne Leadership Conference in February and said it was a disappointing experience. Devyani is open to discussing it further with anyone interested. • There may be additional opportunities for engagement with the Student Forum. • The President invited Devyani to attend the Staff-Student Partnership Leadership Forum. 	
<p>3 – MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE & FACULTY COUNCILS</p> <p>3a. Minutes of Representative Council Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting held on 21st February 2024 ▪ January Representative Council Minutes (amended) <p>3b. Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration.</p> <p>Purpose: To discuss the recommendations from RC Meeting.</p> <p>GSA Wellbeing Packs Program Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolor wants to clarify the selection process for the program. • The members discussed the timeline of the program and its implementation process. • The CEO sought clarification on whether the program would be endorsed for the newly elected Health and Welfare officer as well. The President explained that all purchasing, and assembly would be completed before the AGM, with staff handling distribution afterward. • Devyani inquired about the process for determining the selection process and financial needs. The CEO mentioned the difficulty in assessing the financial needs of students. • Devyani suggested implementing a system where students can only utilize the program once, thereby utilizing their allotment. The President stated that students who received packs mid-semester would not receive it at the end of the semester break. <p>Motion: That The GSA Board endorses the GSA Wellbeing Packs Program Proposal on the basis that each student is entitled to only one pack per semester.</p> <p>Moved: President, Jesse Gardner-Russell</p> <p>Seconded: Devyani Vadke</p> <p>All in favour, no one abstaining, no one against. Motion carries</p> <p>3c. Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held on 7th February 2024 <p>3d. Recommendations from the Faculty Council for Board consideration</p> <p>Purpose: To discuss the recommendations from FC Meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No concerns or questions were raised. 	<p>To Be Noted 5 mins</p>

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<p>4 – MATTERS FROM WORKING GROUPS</p> <p>Purpose: To inform the GSA Board about the work and recommendations from the working groups.</p> <p>4a. Minutes & Recommendations from Grad Group Working Group No Meeting held in February 2024.</p> <p>4b. Minutes & Recommendations from Strategic Advocacy Working Group No Meeting held in February 2024.</p> <p>4c. Minutes & Recommendations from Constitution, Electoral Regulations & Governance Charter Working Group Meeting held on 27th February 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No concerns or questions were raised. <p>4d. Minutes & Recommendations from Strategic Plan Working Group No Meeting held in February 2024.</p> <p>4e. Minutes & Recommendations from International Graduate Students Working Group No Meeting held February 2024.</p>	<p>15 mins</p> <p>Vice-President</p> <p>Treasurer</p> <p>General Secretary</p> <p>President</p> <p>Yujia (Lucy) Zhang</p>
<p>5 – OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>5a. Questions and other business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No concerns or questions were raised by the observers. <p>5b. Meeting to move in camera.</p> <p>Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera. Moved: President, Jesse Gardner-Russell All in favour, no one abstaining, no one against. Motion carries.</p>	<p>President 10 min</p>
<p>Meeting Concluded: 8:45 PM</p>	
<p>Next Board Meeting – 27th March 2024</p>	