

Wednesday, 30th April 2025 5:00pm – 8:00pm Room 198-L1-102| Zoom

10 min

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	Ethan Chou (President)
Board Members in attendance	Jesse Gardner-Russell (General Secretary)
	Yingchen Zhao (Treasurer)
	Junyi (Johnny) Zheng (Vice President)
	Amin Abedini
	Yutong Cheng
	Deli Zhou
Staff Members in attendance	Sajal Goundar (CEO)
	Munaf Bhatkar (Manager, Student Engagement)
	Kavisha Garg (Governance & Executive Officer, Minute Taker)
Apologies	Mevuni Wanigasooriya

1 – FORMAL MATTERS	Presenter, Time allocated
1a. Welcome & Acknowledgment	
The Duraidant around the practice at EVOE DNA with an Askyrovaled consent of	President

The President opened the meeting at 5:05 PM with an Acknowledgement of Country.

1b. Attendance

All members were in attendance and the quorum was achieved. Yutong Cheng and the General Secretary joined the meeting at 5.15pm.

1c. Declarations of Interest

No new declarations were made.

1d. Minutes from Previous Board Meeting

Motion: The minutes of the GSA Board Meeting held on 26th March 2025 be accepted with no amendments.

Moved: Ethan Chou (President)

Seconded: Junyi (Johnny) Zheng (Vice President)

All were in favour, with no abstentions and no votes against. Motion carried.

1e. Follow-up log actions (Attachment 1e)

The action items were discussed, and progress reports were noted.

1f. Other Items

- Circular resolutions for ratification: None
- Motion for Formal Approval:

Motion: That the GSA Board approves the leave of absence request for 30th April

2025 to 4th May 2025 for Mevuni Wanigasooriya.

Moved: Jesse Gardner-Russell (General Secretary)

Seconded: Yingchen Zhao (Treasurer)

All were in favour, with no abstentions and no votes against. Motion carried.

Board Meeting, April 2025 1 | Page



Wednesday, 30th April 2025 5:00pm – 8:00pm 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.

1g. Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera.

All were in favour, with no abstentions and no votes against. Motion carried.

2 - BOARD REPORTING

2a. President's Report

- Board Members 30 min
- Meeting with University stakeholders. The key outcome from the last month is the progress made in the Flexi Space campaign. A meeting with the Dean led to the decision to participate in the next review of the Flexi Space model. GSA will have the opportunity to add some questions to the survey. The update has also been announced in the newsletter sent out, so our members are informed as well.
- Next month, the focus will be on wrapping up the protest consultation activities.
- Preparing for the revamped induction session for the incoming elected representatives along with the CEO.
- The Board Report Template follows the new strategic plan and includes a section at the beginning to explain the report's purpose and value, especially for incoming board members. It now has a "Next Steps" column to focus on future actions, not just past activities. Also, the "Ideas and Suggestions" section allows board members to propose initiatives.

2b. General Secretary's Report

- Focusing on SSAF consultations.
- Supporting work on Flexi Spaces.
- Preparing to send board handover email for outgoing members.
- The General Secretary, in his final Board meeting, reflected on his three-year journey with GSA, expressing gratitude and wishing the incoming team and continued growth for GSA.

2c. Vice-President's Report

- Wrapped up the final meetings for both Faculty Council and Grad Group Working Groups last week.
- The canteen project is now complete and running smoothly.
- The Special Consideration Technology Working Group is in good hands with the Disability Officer, who will continue leading the project.
- The Vice President appreciated the opportunity to work alongside the GSA team over the last three years and expressed gratitude for everyone's individual contributions.

2d. Treasurer's Report

- Finalized the Board's matrix, including the glossary and recommendations. All amendments have been made, including updated scores.
- On the finance model, discussions with the MBOF continue. The final numbers are still pending based on the SSAF figures and EBA.
- The Treasurer thanked everyone for their support over the past three years, feeling fulfilled with the progress made and confident in the new board's direction.

Board Meeting, April 2025 2 | Page



Wednesday, 30th April 2025 5:00pm – 8:00pm 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.

2e. Amin Abedini's Report

- Thanked outgoing board members for their hard work and contributions to GSA.
- Attended a few meetings on SSAF negotiations.
- Participated in the SPC meeting along with the President.
- Will attend the Faculty Conference to be held end of May.

2f. Deli Zhou's Report

- Thanked outgoing board members, expressing appreciation for their ideas and the learning experience as a new board member.
- Attended the Melbourne Student Forum, where food security on campus was discussed, key issues and recommendations were identified, and the top five university values were highlighted.

2g. Yutong Cheng's Report

- Thanked everyone for the information and guidance provided, expressing that working at GSA has been a pleasure and a valuable learning experience in understanding and catering to the needs of graduate students.
- Wrapped up the annual report's sustainability section.
- Represented GSA at the APC meeting, learning about faculty resources for students and sharing GSA's resources, including the strategic plan. Highlighted the appointment of online officers in response to faculty comments on enhancing the online student experience.

2h. Mevuni Wanigasooriya's Report

Noted.

3 - MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE & FACULTY COUNCILS

3a. Minutes of Representative Council Meeting

Meeting held on 16th April 2025.

3b. Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration.

Outcome: Discussed the recommendations from RC Meeting.

- The Women's Officer requested for additional funds for Safer Sex Trivia event. This was approved by the Board.
- The Queer Officer submitted a proposal for extra funds to support the Sapphic Success event. This was approved, with additional requirements to be met.
- The President presented an overview on the updated Activities and Conference Proposal Form, highlighting new accessibility and environmental checklist sections designed to improve operations and ensure more inclusive and sustainable events.
- President also highlighted the updated access & equity policy endorsed by the RC. The board noted the Activity & Conference Proposal form and the Access & Equity Policy from the RC and had no further edits/comments on it.

3c. Minutes of Faculty Council Meeting

To Be Noted

Board Meeting, April 2025 3 | Page



Wednesday, 30th April 2025 5:00pm – 8:00pm 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.

No meeting was held.	
No meeting was held.	
- The Climate Bites Proposal is approved on the condition that Andrew acquires the grant that he applied for to cover for the rest of his initiative.	;
4 – MATTERS FROM WORKING GROUPS	
Outcome: Board informed about the work and recommendations from the working groups.	To Be Noted
4a. Minutes & Recommendations from Grad Group Working Group	Vice-Presider
 Meeting held on 24th April 2025. 	
 The minutes of the meeting are still being finalised and will be approved by the Vice-President once ready. 	,
4b. Minutes & Recommendations from International Graduate Students Working Group	Yutong Chen
Meeting held on 29th April 2025.	
- Deli Zhou will meet with the Communications Team to check on the progress of the Mascot Proposal.	i
5– OTHER BUSINESS	
5a. Questions and other business.	President
No other items were discussed.	5 min
5b. Meeting to move in camera.	
55. Meeting to move in cumeru.	
Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera.	

Board Meeting, April 2025 4 | Page