

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.

Board Members in attendance	Jeremy Waite – President and Chair Emily De Wind – Vice President, Lilian Day – General Secretary, William Kabira – Treasurer, Phoebe Fitzpatrick, Matthew Harper-Gomm	
Other Attendees	Rachna Muddagouni - CEO Lisa Hadaway – Manager Student Engagement Sajal Goundar – Manager Business Operations Natasha Abrahams – Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns Liana Moore– Executive Assistant (Minute Taker)	
Welcome & Acknowledgment	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting opened at 4:01pm</p> <p>The President delivered the Acknowledgement of Country. The President thanked the GSA Membership for his re-election and noted that he looks forward to working with staff and board in his upcoming term as the President and the Chair of the meetings.</p> <p>The President reminded the GSA Board members and the attendees about the importance policies that need to be adhered to. These included the GSA board policies in relation to Privacy and Confidentiality Policy, Code of Conduct, and Respectful Workplace policy.</p>	President
Absent	Maitreyee Phadke, Xiangyu Su	Pending membership confirmation (as per discussion at the 7 June 2021 – Extraordinary Board meeting)
Leave of Absence	N/A	
Declaration of Interest (Conflict of Interest)	<p><i>Refer to Board Policies</i></p> <p>General Secretary noted there are no conflicts of interest to note in relation to current agenda and advised all members to make it known should any arise during the meeting.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">1a. Minutes & Follow-up log actions (Attachment 2a & 2b)</p> <p>Motion: The minutes of the Council meeting held on 29 April 2021 be accepted with no amendments. Moved: Lilian Day Seconded: Emily De Wind Five in favour, no one against, one abstaining (Phoebe Fitzpatrick) – motion passed.</p> <p>Brief discussion held about FRAC Committee, the role of the committee, responsibilities and the reporting mechanism to the Board. It was noted the role of the committee was to provide additional oversight and support to the Board function and provide recommendations to support Board decisions.</p>		

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<p>Motion: The Board establish the Finance Risk Audit Compliance (FRAC) Committee with Lily Day as the Chair, and membership consisting of William Kabira and Matthew Harper-Gomm. Moved: Emily De Wind Seconded: William Kabira All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion passed.</p> <p>Motion: The minutes of the Finance Risk Audit and Compliance (FRAC) Meeting held on 15 June 2021 accepted with no amendments and the decisions made by FRAC Sub Committee be ratified. Moved: Lilian Day Seconded: Matthew Harper-Gomm Five in favour, no one against, one abstaining (Phoebe Fitzpatrick) – motion passed.</p> <p>1b. Matters for Approval (3a, 3b 3c & 3d)</p> <p><i>List all the matters of approval with clear documentation as received.</i> <i>Circulars for formal approval:</i> N/A</p> <p><i>Circulars for noting:</i> <i>Members provided signed copy of circular motions by General Secretary</i> <i>Circular Resolution 12 May</i> <i>Circular Resolution 17 May – School Strike 4 Climate</i> <i>Circular Resolution 17 May – Sexual and Relationship Harm Policies</i> <i>Circular Resolution 7 June</i></p>	
<p>2a. Strategic Plan (Attachment 4)</p> <p>Purpose: To discuss the operation plan for 2021 for the strategic plan – aims, vision and objectives and seek input on the way to implement the strategies. Outcome: Board informed about the progress of the work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report Back on Operational Plan <p>CEO provided an overview of all activities documented in the in Operational Plan tabled and highlighted key activities undertaken to date. CEO informed the Board planning day have been undertaken at team levels too. Clear delegation and accountability framework discussed with Board. The six-monthly report indicated that GSA is well on track to deliver the key activities identified in the plan and outcomes for the organisation. No issues raised. GSA board members accepted the report presented.</p> <p>2b. GSA Representation report (Attachment 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d)</p> <p>Purpose: Board informed on the progress of the work and table issues that need Board input. Outcome: Board is informed and provides direction on issues of strategic and governance concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and Advocacy Report Committee and Misconduct Representatives List Representative Council (Education Officer – Course work, Education Officer – Research, Women’s Officer, LGBTIQA Officer, and Sustainability and Environment Officer report back) Board Policy Platform 	<p>CEO</p> <p>Manager Policy. Advocacy/ Campaigns 15 mins</p>

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<p>Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns provided an overview of Policy and Advocacy report tabled – all key policy work, submissions and campaigns identified have been delivered as per plan.</p> <p>Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns tabled the Committee and Misconduct Representatives list and noted two vacancies. MPA informed Board that strategies have been developed and currently implemented to fill the vacancies.</p> <p>Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns provided an overview of Representative Council members work as outlined in report tabled.</p> <p><i>Key Priorities to date</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSA Women’s Officer – Safety on Placement Project and Stand Alone Sexual Harm Policy • GSA LGBTIQ - Engagement with Pride in Action network Gender affirmation policy • GSA Education Course Work - Online exams during Covid-19 restrictions Lobbying to extend no-disadvantage WAM policy to Semester 1 2021 • GSA Education Research Officer - Advocacy on extensions and leave for graduate researchers during Covid-19, Material aid for graduate researchers, Engaging with NTEU on casuals campaign • GSA Environment and Sustainability Officer- Engagement with grad groups, Sustainability Plan, GSA involvement in Green Impact <p>Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns tabled Board Policy Platform. Discussions held about fee policy and board agreed that GSA should work towards free education for all students with the understanding that a heavily subsidised fee structure with increased government funding is a reasonable step on the way to reach this goal.</p> <p>GSA board members accepted the reports tabled.</p> <p>2c. GSA Program Management/Partnerships (Attachment 6a, 6b, 6c)</p> <p>Purpose: Board informed on the progress of the work and table issues that need Board input.</p> <p>Outcome: Board is informed and provides direction on issues of strategic and governance concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager Report • Graduate Group update • Representative Council (Activities Officer, Health and Welfare Officer, International Officer, Families Officer, and Indigenous Officer report back) <p>Manager Student Engagement tabled Manager Student Engagement report and highlighted key areas. The focus of discussion were around the Orientation Week, the graduate groups forum, the marketing and communication work undertaken to date and the Training and Development scheduled for Semester 2.</p> <p>Manager Student Engagement tabled Graduate Group update and thanked the GSA Board for their attendance.</p> <p>Manager Student Engagement provided an overview of Representative Council members work as outlined in report tabled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSA Activities Officer Orientation Semester 2 planning • GSA Health and Well-being Officer Ongoing support for graduate students, especially those cohorts identified at greater risk Student resilience report, Consideration to food security and other Resources • GSA International Officer Support to international students, International Town Hall feedback, International Education submission International Student Working Group 	<p>Manager Student Engagement 15 mins</p>
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<p>CEO noted Justice Connect has been engaged to consult with Grad Groups, Staff, and Board to design a framework for dispute resolution. Query about Membership strategy raised. MSE gave an overview of current work looking at communications with members and potential members as part of an overall contact plan, to be incorporated into a Membership Strategy that will then be brought to the Board. GSA board members accepted the reports tabled.</p> <p>2d President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and meetings (Attachment 7 – N/A, no written report this meeting)</p> <p>President gave an overview of recent activities, noting this has been a busy period.</p> <p>President highlighted work with Education (Coursework) Officer, Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns, and CEO in joining a campaign with UMSU and UMSU International to call for WAM Adjustments for Semester 1 2021.</p> <p>President noted recent communications with Representative Council members to touch base and encourage that proposals and ideas be brought up with their relevant Manager and through the appropriate channels to ensure this is happening through the established process.</p> <p>President noted that as mandated by GSA Constitution he will chair the Representative Council meetings and will recommend that General Secretary be appointed chair of Faculty Council Meetings when that group is established.</p> <p>President noted the role of the Board will be to consider recommendations and proposals from a governance and policy perspective and highlighted he is looking forward to Board being able to support the work of the Representative Council Members.</p>	<p>President 10 min</p>
<p>10 minute break Manager Student Engagement and Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns left meeting at 5.14pm</p>	
<p>Closed session (In-camera)</p> <p>Procedural Motion: Council moves in camera with CEO, Manager Business Operations/Finance, and Minute Taker to remain. Moved: Jeremy Waite All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion passed. In-camera session commenced at 5.25pm. In-camera session finished at 6.31 pm Manager Business Operations/Finance and Minute taker have left.</p>	
<p>GSA Board members reconvened at 6.41pm</p> <p>4. GSA Board Discussions Functions and reporting including planning (Managers to attend to discuss strategic concerns)</p> <p>Purpose: To ensure the governance of the GSA Board Advocacy is undertaken effectively and efficiently. Outcome: Meet all directors responsibilities successfully.</p>	

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<p style="text-align: center;">4a General Secretary Update (Attachment 11a and 11b)</p> <p>General Secretary provided an overview of the work undertaken to date in relation to induction, compliance, audit and range of tasks to support the formation of the Representative Council and Board over the last 4 weeks.</p> <p>Further discussions held in relation to establishment of working groups and committees.</p> <p>International Students Working Committee</p> <p>Motion: The Board will establish the International Graduate Student Committee with Afsaneh Seifinaji as the Chair, and membership consisting of Sriram Gopalasubramanian, Perna Aggarwal, Neharika Bajracharya, Sagrika Chugh, and Simran Purushotam Manyal.</p> <p>Moved: Jeremy Waite Seconded: William Kabira All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion passed.</p> <p>One vacancy will be filled by Manager of Policy and Advocacy and Afsaneh Seifinaji and Board will be informed of the recruitment.</p> <p>Gen Secretary provided an overview of the purpose of Leave of Absence policy, the application and also the changes recommended in relation to the Gen Sec delegations when the leave is only for less than 2 weeks and no major meetings absence will not occur. Discussions held in relation to right of appeal and also the provision to address Conflict of Interest and monitoring</p> <p>Motion: The Board adapted the Leave of Absence Policy with the proposed amendments (Gen Sec should refer the decision to the GSA Board if the application does not meet the criteria and does not have authority to deny any request without Board deliberation and all approved requests should be reported via monthly reports by Gen Sec). The policy will be effective immediately and applicable to GSA Board and Representative Council Members.</p> <p>Moved: Phoebe Fitzpatrick, Second Matthew Harper-Gomm All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion passed.</p> <p>Board / Council Expectations Document</p> <p>Gen Secretary provided an overview of the purpose and application of the document. The information provided all GSA Council Members and Representative Council Members better framework for transparency, accountability and articulates clearly the accepted process and policies.</p> <p>Motion: Board adapts and endorses the Board/ Representative Council Expectations document in the entirety with no amendments effective immediately.</p> <p>Moved Emily De Wind Second Matthew Harper-Gomm All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion passed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4b Vice President Update and Board reporting – moved to the next meeting which will also include written report.</p>	
<p>Closed session (In-camera) CEO left the meeting. GSA moved back into the in-camera session at 7.01pm Board meeting finished at 7.48pm</p>	
<p>Next Board Meeting 29 July 2021</p>	