

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.

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| Board Members in attendance | Jeremy Waite – President and Chair Emily De Wind, Lilian Day, Phoebe Fitzpatrick, Matthew Harper-Gomm, William Kabira, Yingchen Zhao, Junyi Johnny Zheng |
| Other Attendees | Rachna Muddagouni - CEO Sajal Goundar – Manager Business Operations Natasha Abrahams – Manager Policy, Advocacy/Campaigns Kerry Tucker – Manager Student Engagement Liana Moore– Executive Assistant (Minute Taker) |
| Representative Council Observers | Monica Sestito (Education) |
| Absent | |
| Leave of Absence | |
| <p>Meeting commenced 4.01pm</p> <p>1 – FORMAL MATTERS</p> <p>1a. Welcome & Acknowledgment</p> <p>The President delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.</p> <p>President reminded that all relevant GSA policies apply, including but not limited to Privacy, Code of Ethics and Conduct, and Respectful Workplace.</p> <p>1b. Attendance</p> <p>President noted attendance, welcoming Monica Sestito as Representative Council Observer</p> <p>1c. Declarations of Interest</p> <p><i>Refer to Board Policies</i></p> <p>1d. Minutes & Follow-up log actions (Attachment 2a)</p> <p>Motion: The minutes of the GSA Board meeting held on 28 October 2021 be accepted with no amendments. Moved: Lilian Day Seconded: Phoebe Fitzpatrick All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion carries</p> <p>1e. Matters for Approval</p> <p><i>List all the matters of approval with clear documentation as received.</i></p> <p><i>Circulars for formal approval:</i> N/A</p> <p><i>Circulars for noting:</i> <i>Attachment 3a –4 November 2021</i></p> <p>LoA Monica Sestito Motion: As per the constitution Monica Sestito is to be approved for a leave of absence from 15th November to 21st November 2021. Passed unanimously</p> <p><i>Attachment 3b – 8 November 2021</i></p> <p>LoA Brendan Laws Motion: As per the constitution Brendan Laws is to be approved for a leave of absence for 18th November 2021.</p> | <p>Responsible person, time Allocated</p> <p>President 5 minutes</p> |

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| <p>Passed unanimously</p> <p><i>Attachment 3c – 10 November 2021</i></p> <p>LoA Lilian Day</p> <p>Motion: That Lilian Day be granted a leave of absence under s 7.25 of the GSA Constitution from 17 November to 24 November 2021 inclusive.</p> <p>Passed unanimously</p> <p>Please note LOA has been approved for William Kabira and Emily De Wind as per policy by Gen Sec.</p> | |
| <p>2 – BOARD REPORTING</p> <p>2a President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and other meetings (Attachment 4a)</p> <p>President presented report, highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement – Usual key stakeholder, in particular UMSU and NTEU and noting UMSU is heading into leadership transition and looking forward to continuing relationship with the new team. CISA support work continued, assisting with a statement calling for easier process for international students returning to Australia Approached by Times Higher Education for a statement on University of Melbourne’s advertised gender affirmation role, which was provided and included in an article. GSA has also put out a statement underscoring GSA values in relation to supporting gender diversity and highlighting work, led by LGBTIQ+ Officer, throughout Transgender Awareness Week. Respect Taskforce – starting next week, different governance model to earlier Policy Platform – please review and use to check that any matters approved executively align with policy Working with Marketing and Communications Officer on website improvements <p>2b General Secretary Update and any changes to operations discussed (Attachment 5a, 5b)</p> <p>GenSec thanked all, especially CEO, President, and Vice President, for support of recent Leave of Absence. GenSec presented report, highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LoA requests and approvals – 2 approved by GenSec as no major meetings impacted, good to see people feel empowered to take leave when needed Constitution review – identifying issues or things that may need amending in Constitution and electoral regulations, legal advice will be sought, then these will be taken broadly to ensure all are properly informed about what is being proposed <p>GenSec tabled Working Group Action Items, noting that there was no FRAC meeting held in November so no new items from this and all other items are updated.</p> <p>2c Vice President Report (Attachment 6)</p> <p>VP presented report, highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews – assisting with committee representative roles, with positions successfully filled, and the Program Director Student Engagement role. Elected Representatives meeting – development of the University’s Sustainability Plan and increasing rigour of targets to reduce ambiguity and improve clarity, with GSA concerns about ethical investments acknowledged. Update provided on Robert Menzies institute, noting that Menzies was a student, tutor, and chancellor so fits well into UniMelb scope, and highlighting that as a tenant RMI must uphold same standards as is required by all tenants. GSA raised concerns about hyper-partisan activity and sense was that UniMelb shares concerns if this were to happen and recognises their role to monitor this. Noted that UniMelb is reasonably confident that there won’t be enough flight capacity to ensure all students are back for start of Sem 1 2022. Looking forward to planned campus reactivation for early next year. <p>2d Treasurer Report (no attachment)</p> | <p>Board Members</p> <p>45 min</p> |

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| <p>Treasurer presented a verbal report, highlighting working with MBOF to review financial management policies and review finance documents for previous month, and reporting anc compliance with regards to end of year. Working on project to write proposal for policy for Rep Council for process for expenditure for advocacy projects. Met with president of CAPA to review compliance with funding agreement. Working with Afsaneh to set up working group aimed at setting up mentorship network for graduate international students for next year.</p> <p>2e Phoebe Fitzpatrick Report (Attachment 8)</p> <p>PF presented report highlighting Orientation Working Group meetings, which are progressing well, and Student Life Consultative Committee introductory meeting, with committee meetings to commence next month. PF noted Aboriginal Awareness training was very good.</p> <p>Query regarding Student life consultative committee and what this entails. Chair and PF responded this is a higher level group to address low student satisfaction rating in QILT survey – still early so waiting to see what form it takes.</p> <p>2f Matthew Harper-Gomm Report (Attachment 9)</p> <p>MHG presented report, highlighting constitutional process and encouraging board members to reach out if they want to discuss this further. MHG noted attendance at Menzies Institute protest, which Education (Research) Officer helped organise and spoke at, and praised the good energy and commended Education (Research) Officer</p> <p>2g Yingchen Zhao (Attachment 10)</p> <p>YZ presented report, highlighting attendance AGM for Taiwanese postgrad association and GSA Art and Craft Prize Award ceremony as well as meeting with CEO And attendance at Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training.</p> <p>YZ expressed interest to join the International Graduate Student Subcommittee and requested Board approval.</p> <p>Motion: That Yingchen Zhao be appointed to the International Graduate Student Subcommittee. Moved: William Kabira Seconded: Junyi Johnny Zheng All in favour, no one against, one abstaining (Yingchen Zhao) – motion carries</p> <p>2h Junyi Johnny Zheng (Attachment 11)</p> <p>JZ presented report, highlighting ongoing Orientation Working Group meetings, and initial planning for Reconciliation Action Plan. JZ noted that the RAP expression of interest has been approved and he has been liaising with members of a residential college RAP development committee to gain a better understanding of process and necessary planning needed.</p> | |
| <p>3 – MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL</p> <p>3a Meeting Minutes (Attachment 12)</p> <p>The minutes of the GSA Representative Council meeting held on 21 October 2021 tabled for noting.</p> <p>3b Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration</p> <p>None to note</p> <p>3c Questions and other business from observers</p> <p>President invited Education (Research) Officer to raise any queries or make comments.</p> | <p>President and other members</p> <p>15 min</p> |

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| <p>Education (Research) Officer highlighted that a motion calling on GSA to endorse a rally for early December called by Campaign Against Racism and Fascism has been sent to the President and Gen Sec. ERO gave an overview of the background and intent of the rally and noted that UMSU and NUS have endorsed this rally with scope for GSA to put itself in the same tradition. ERO hopes this can be put to the Board shortly and meet with approval.</p> <p>President noted this will be followed up with GenSec regarding next steps and thanked ERO for providing this additional information for the Board.</p> <p>Education (Research) Officer requested more information on the constitution review. GenSec replied that as the new constitution was only implemented in 2021 it is important to look at how this is working as a whole for GSA. At this stage no structural or large changes have been identified, but some small items have been flagged. GenSec emphasised that no decisions have yet been made with the process being in the early stages and this will go to wider consultation next year. GenSec noted that part of the process is looking at clarity of what is in constitution and if policies or processes need to be written to ensure understanding of how what is in constitution works in practice.</p> <p>4 – STAFF REPORTING</p> <p>4a Meeting to move in camera</p> <p>Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion carries.</p> <p>Meeting moved in camera at 4.34pm</p> | |
| <p align="center">GSA Board Chair and members thank all observers for their time and interest.</p> | |
| <p align="center">Next Board Meeting 20 January 2022</p> | |