

## **GSA Board Meeting Agenda**

Thursday 20 January 2022 4.00pm – 7.00pm

**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, Lilian Day, Phoebe Fitzpatrick, Matthew Harper-Gomm, William Kabira, Yingchen Zhao, Junyi Johnny Zheng
Other Attendees	Rachna Muddagouni - CEO Sajal Goundar – Manager Business Operations Dr Zachary Greig – Program Director Kerry Tucker – Manager Student Engagement Liana Moore– Executive Assistant & Board Support (Minute Taker) Eren Muller – Executive Assistant & Board Support
Representative Council Observers	Kate Denver-Stevenson – Activities Officer
Absent	N/A
Leave of Absence	N/A

## Meeting commenced 4.01pm

## 1 - FORMAL MATTERS

#### · Orani, az ini, ar r ziko

**1a. Welcome & Acknowledgment**The President delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

President reminded that all relevant GSA policies apply, including but not limited to Privacy, Code of Ethics and Conduct, and Respectful Workplace, and reminded attendees that should any policies be breached the Chair may exercise their discretion to ask any relevant members to exit the meeting.

#### 1b. Attendance

President noted attendance, welcoming Kate Denver-Stevenson as Representative Council Observer and new staff members Dr Zachary Greig and Eren Muller.

#### 1c. Declarations of Interest

Refer to Board Policies

#### 1d. Minutes & Follow-up log actions (Attachment 2)

Motion: The minutes of the GSA Board meeting held on 25 November 2021 be accepted

with no amendments.

Moved: Matthew Harper-Gomm Seconded: Yingchen Zhao

All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining - motion carries

## 1e. Matters for Approval

List all the matters of approval with clear documentation as received.

Circulars for formal approval:

N/A

Circulars for noting:

Attachment 3 – 1 December 2021

#### **CARF Demonstration Endorsement**

**Motion:** The GSA Board endorses the protest called by the Campaign Against Racism and Fascism at 12pm on 4th December which is a pro-vax, anti-fascist counter demonstration. This motion is specific to this one demonstration and any further work and additional resource allocation for this campaign will be determined by the staff and President in the future in collaboration with RC members.

Moved: Lily Day Seconded: Matthew Harper-Gomm

Carried forward unanimously

President 5 minutes

Responsible

person, time Allocated

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## 2 - BOARD REPORTING - verbal reports

# 2a President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and other meetings

President reported on activities since November meeting, highlighting:

- No major university committee meetings yet in 2022.
- Respect at Melbourne first meeting in December, similar to Respect taskforce but under new structure, looking forward to working with new GSA Women's Officer on this, involved with selection for Associate Director.
- New Student precinct Liaising with GSA staff and university on space allocation issues, looking to ensure all student facing organisations have space in the precinct.
- Representative Council meeting first meeting of year held on 13 January, large part of discussion and concern was on return to campus (see Representative Council minutes, Attachment 3), meeting with provost in next week in relation to this, and working with staff, Education Officers, and Health & Welfare officer on what GSA strategy looks like and what GSA stance is in face of changing circumstances since report first done last year.
  - Faculty Orientation progressing well with staff working group
- Governance Charter initial meeting with President, GenSec, CEO and lawyers related to need for standing orders/procedural guidelines, currently in progress to tailor to GSA needs.

## 2b General Secretary Update and any changes to operations discussed

GenSec reported on activities, highlighting:

- Constitutional Review Board member Matthew Harper-Gomm heavily involved in this work with GenSec and CEO, Governance charter big focus of work coming out of review, soon moving into information consultation phase with broader student population for feedback on relevant parts, progressing well and confident this will be completed before current term finishes.
- Elected Representatives meeting attended December meeting with President and Vice President, a lot of changes since the meeting in relation to COVID-19 and with related concerns raised at Representative Council meeting GSA will be pushing this work ahead.

#### 2c Vice President Report

Vice President reported on activities, highlighting:

- Attendance at Misconduct hearings
- Elected Representatives meeting update (from December):
  - COVID and international student return discussed, but both will have changed a lot.
  - air quality and improved ventilation ventilation is being invested in, university will try to reduce usage of rooms where improved ventilation is not possible
  - hurdle requirements being reviewed in relation to missing class due to isolation requirements, including special consideration around these matters
  - Return to Australia students encouraged to use travel agencies for better negotiating power when flights are cancelled and advised to use \$4000 return to Australia grant to get themselves to Australia
  - Quality of dual delivery teaching reassured funding is available for teaching staff to invest in resources and professional development
    - So far strategies remain the same, will advise of any updates

## 2d Treasurer Report

Treasurer reported on activities, highlighting:

- Draft policy on Representative Council developed and sent to CEO and MBOF
- Met with International Officer and Board Member Yingchen Zhao to discuss development of an international student mentorship network group

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**Board Members** 

45 min



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President and

other members

15 min

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- Work with CAPA attended a meeting in late 2021, met with President, planning to attend AGM at start of February
- Regular meetings with MBOF regular updates on audit, supporting some financial policy reviews, usual compliance and support on financial governance.

### 2e Phoebe Fitzpatrick Report

PF gave brief update, highlighting:

- Orientation working group meetings progressing well
- Student Life Consultative Committee attended first meeting held in December along with President, very full meeting and looking forward to more student involvement at the next meeting.

#### 2f Matthew Harper-Gomm Report

MHG gave brief update, noting work with GenSec and CEO on Constitutional Review Working Group working group as outlined by GenSec in her report.

#### 2q Yingchen Zhao

YZ gave brief update, noting work prospective mentorship program for international students with Treasurer ad International Officer

#### 2h Junyi Johnny Zheng

JZ gave brief update, highlighting current focus on orientation working group and Reconciliation Action Plan development group. JZ noted external work with UMSU working on host program as the Event Director and hoping to see some cross GSA/UMSU promotions or events if possible.

3 – MATTERS FROM 7	THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
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#### 3a Meeting Minutes (Attachment 4)

The minutes of the GSA Representative Council meeting held on 13 January 2022 tabled for noting.

# **3b Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration**

None to note.

#### 3c Questions and other business from observers

President invited questions or comments – none to note.

#### 4 - STAFF REPORTING

## 4a Meeting to move in camera

**Procedural Motion:** That the meeting move in camera All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion carries.

#### Meeting moved in camera at 4.20pm

GSA Board Chair and members thank all observers for their time and interest.

## **Next Board Meeting 24 February 2022**

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