

Thursday 24 March 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, Phoebe Fitzpatrick (4.15pm arrival), Matthew Harper-Gomm	
Other Attendees	(5.23pm Arrival), William Kabira, Yingchen Zhao, Junyi Johnny Zheng Rachna Muddagouni - CEO Sajal Goundar – Manager Business Operations Dr Zachary Greig – Program Director Kerry Tucker – Manager Student Engagement Eren Muller – Executive Assistant & Board Support (Minute Taker)	
Representative Council Observers	Monica Sestito	
Absent	N/A	
Leave of Absence	Lilian Day	
Meeting commenced 4.06pm		Responsible person, time Allocated
1 – FORMAL MATTER	-	
1a. Welcome & Ack	nowledgment	
	he 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.		President 5 minutes
1b. Attendance		
President noted attendan	ce, welcoming Monica S as Representative Council Observer.	
1c. Declarations of	Interest	
Refer to Board Poli	icies	
1d. Minutes & Follo	w-up log actions (Attachment 2)	
with no amendments. Moved: Junyi Johnny Zhe Seconded: Emily De Wind	•	
1e. Matters for App	roval	
List all the matters of a	approval with clear documentation as received.	
Circulars for formal ap N/A	proval:	
Circulars for noting:		
9 March 2022 – LoA	Lilian Day (Attachment 3a)	
	itzpatrick	



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11 March 2022 – CAPA (Attachment 3b) Motion: The GSA will become a signatory to the attached document ('A Statement to All CAPA Affiliates & Summons to a Special Council Meeting of CAPA'). The GSA signals its concern with breaches of process at CAPA and its failure to comply with its constitutional and regulatory obligations with Consumer Affairs Victoria and the relevant legislation. The GSA Board commits to seeking feedback and input from the Representative Council in relation to GSA's affiliation with CAPA, and will ensure the membership is informed of GSA's affiliation with CAPA. Moved: Matthew Harper-Gomm Seconded: William Kabira Carried unanimously	
2 – BOARD REPORTING – verbal reports	Board
2a President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and	Members
other meetings (see attached reports for details) President highlighted the format of the reporting has been changed to inform the Board and all relevant stakeholders on the key areas of work undertaken by the role. The report has been developed to draw up the key strategic issues and priorities of the organisation. Any feedback on report to be provided to President	45 min
<b>Governance.</b> A significant piece of this has been preparing a proposal for a working group to oversee the consultation process arising from the Board motion last. GSA has made considerable progress under the new structure, but we must remain open to learning and fine-tuning. Governance risks on the horizon include protecting our funding through upcoming SSAF negotiations and preparing for an effective handover to the next Board officials following the AGM. Another risk has been the ongoing exterior works to the 1888 Building. While operational, this has impaired many of our programs and poses potential OH&S risks. Raised this with the university and will be discussing this with the Director of Space Management and Leasing this week.	
Advocacy Working with GSA OBs, President continued our advocacy on the Covid safety front as a priority. GSA successfully lobbied for P2 masks to be made more widely available to students. To this end, President worked with the NTEU on a joint letter to university management to ask for more transparency on case numbers. The issue of certain faculties ceasing the PhD rate paid to casual tutors has continued to remain a problem that we have raised with the university and worked with the NTEU on this matter. The National Student Safety Survey results has been released, which will undoubtedly another harrowing reminder of the inaction on the systemic	
<b>Stakeholders</b> Within the university President continued to attend the Elected Representative Council Meetings, met with the President of UMSU, Academic Board meetings, NTEU Branch Officers, SASS Executive Director and Academic Registrar, and others. Regarding federal affiliates, GSA has formally joined the calls for a CAPA SGM following consultation with the Education Officers. President has engaged with CISA yet under their new leadership but will if an opportunity to advocate for international student concerns arises.	
MATTERS APPROVED EXECUTIVELY	
<ol> <li>Endorsement of the Uni Students for Climate Justice Protest in support of the Global Climate Strike on 25th March</li> <li>Removal of requirement to sign participant agreement for board observers</li> <li>No additional recommendations requiring Board noting at the time of report</li> </ol>	
2b Vice President Report	
Vice President reported on activities, highlighting some of the key issues arising from the Elected Student Representatives Meeting.	



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<ul> <li>a) Along with other representatives from GSA, UMSU and UMSU International, met with University executives to discuss issues pertinent to students.</li> <li>b) The following items were discussed: Safety on Placement report, Covid-safety on campus, vaccine validation, availability of P2 masks for students and new student IDs for TGD students.</li> <li>Other matters as noted in the report.</li> </ul>		
2d Treasurer Report		
<ul> <li>Treasurer reported on activities, highlighting:</li> <li>1) Fortnightly Catch Ups with the MBOF</li> <li>2) FRAC Subcommittee Meeting - 15th March a. Chaired the March FRAC meeting – a) discussed financials, risk and compliance b) Noted that annual budget currently phases expenditure evenly across the year - potential need to improve phasing of expenditure in annual budget based on known patterns and timings to provide more meaningful analysis of variances to Board and FRAC in future. C) Received endorsement of updated Representative Council Expenditure Policy and Procedure</li> <li>3) Discussed issues raised by RC members and membership during RC restructure process and ways to address issues identified.</li> </ul>		
Discussions held on the Representative Council Expenditure Policy. Treasurer provided an overview of the key components of policy and process undertaken (which includes wide consultation with RC and Board members) to develop the policy. Fact sheet to be developed on the process undertaken. Monica Sestito (GSA Education Officer) raised issues in relation to embedding this policy in a manner that the authority and delegation of RC Expenditure Policy is retained into the future, ensure RC members are informed of the funds available for them to expend on activities and ensure there is allocation of discretion funds. CEO clarified that RC members were informed at the Budget briefing presentation of the funds allocation and process for accessing these funds. The Managers have provided information to RC members information about the funds allocated. However further information can be provided if members are not clear or sure. The review of the policies into future can ensure these allocation and delegations are retained. The purpose of ensuring discretional funds have to be managed carefully to allow and ensure the prudent utilisation of the funds.		
Motion: The Representative Council Expenditure Policy be adopted without any amendments Moved William Kabira Seconded Yingchen Zhao Passed unanimously by members present (except Lily and Matt)		
2e Phoebe Fitzpatrick Report		
<ul> <li>PF gave brief update, highlighting: <ol> <li>GSA committee rep interview (21/02): Helped to facilitate an interview on zoom as a board member.</li> <li>GSA orientation board introduction: Introduced myself to any viewers of the intro video so that I am visible to the graduate student body.</li> <li>International women's day orientation session (16/03) 4. GSA orientation social bowling (16/03)</li> </ol></li></ul>		
2f Matthew Harper-Gomm Report		
Report tabled only		
2g Yingchen Zhao		
YZ gave brief update, noting orientation week event participation and linkages with graduate groups.		



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2h Junyi Johnny Zheng			
JZ gave brief update, highlighting current work undertaken during orientation week. JZ will prepare an evaluation report, identifying some key areas of improvement in relation to marketing of events and distribute to CEO and Board.			
New Student Precinct Steering Committee Meeting, 01/03/2022			
a. Attended the Steering Committee meeting as GSA delegate and received updates on the new Student Precinct project development.			
b. Endorsed the committee's proposals for the new Student Pavilion regarding establishment of a dishwashing hub and exploring food co-op tenancy opportunities.			
3 – MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL	President		
<b>3a Meeting Minutes (Attachment 4)</b> The minutes of the GSA Representative Council meeting held on 17 March 2022 tabled for noting.	and other members		
3b Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration	15 min		
None to note.			
3c Questions and other business from observers			
Monica raised the following queries:			
<ul> <li>a) Noting from Matt's report the progress or any feedback in relation to constitutional changes/ electoral regulations</li> <li>b) Information dissemination to members about CAPA President informed that he was working on establishing a working group that will invite members from the Board, RC and Faculty Council to be on working/ steering committee. This group will work with all parties to identify the key issues that need changes both in constitution, electoral regulation and policy/process documentation to ensure there is improved collaboration/consultation and respectful working relationship. CEO provided further clarity the process will take a few months as it needs to be conducted ensuring issues identified, can be resolved collectively, changes to constitution and electoral regulations are considered prudently for future proofing, conducted independently to ensure the membership can trust the process and will take time. CEO role will facilitate and resource the process. Consultants will be chosen with the support of Steering Committee and GSA will ensure the prudent use of the SSAF funds to undertake this work. The work will take around 6 to 8 months. CEO also highlighted to the group the financial delegation allows her position to take such decisions within the delegation manual and President would oversee this work with the input of the Working /Steering Committee. No further comments provided.</li> </ul>			
4 – STAFF REPORTING			
4a Meeting to move in camera			
<b>Procedural Motion:</b> That the meeting move in camera All in favour, no one against, no one abstaining – motion carries.			
Meeting moved in camera at 5.05pm			
GSA Board Chair and members thank all observers for their time and interest.			
Next Board Meeting 28 April 2022			