

GSA Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday 29 September 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	Jesse Gardner-Russell – President and Chair Yingchen Zhao, Emily De Wind, Junyi (Johnny) Zheng, Nidhi Sikka, Phoebe Fitzpatrick,
Other Attendees	Jeremy Waite – Interim Chief Executive Officer Sajal Goundar – Chief Financial & Operating Officer Dr Zachary Greig – Program Director Student Services Eren Muller – Minute Taker
Representative Council Observers	N/A
Faculty Council Observers	N/A
Absent	
Leave of Absence	Matthew Harper-Gomm, Bianca Jewell

1 - FORMAL MATTERS

1a. Welcome & Acknowledgment

President opened meeting at 4:02pm with welcome and acknowledgment, noting that Board Emily De Wind will join the meeting when available.

1b. Attendance

1c. Declarations of Interest

Refer to Board Policies

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

Motion: The minutes of the GSA Board meeting held on 25 August 2022 be accepted

without amendments.

Moved: President, Jesse Gardner-Russell **Seconded:** Treasurer, Junyi (Johnny) Zheng

5 in favour, 3 absent (Matthew Harper-Gomm, Emily De Wind, Bianca Jewell)

- Motion Carries

1e. Other Items

Circulars for formal approval:

N/A

Circulars for noting:

Motion: That the board endorse the recommendation of the CEO Recruitment

Subcommittee to appoint the Executive Chair as the consultant for the CEO recruitment.

Moved: General Secretary, Yingchen Zhao **Seconded:** President, Jesse Gardner-Russell - Motion Passed with a majority of those in favour.

Motion: That Lakvin Fernando to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the GSA

Constitution for the day 21/09/2022.

Moved: General Secretary, Yingchen Zhou Seconded: President, Jesse Gardner-Russell - Motion Passed with a majority of those in favour. Responsible person, time Allocated

President 5 mins



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Motion: That Monica Sestito to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the GSA

Constitution for the day 21/09/2022.

Moved: General Secretary, Yingchen Zhao **Seconded:** Board Member, Emily De Wind - Motion Passed with majority of those in favour.

Motion: That Matthew Harper-Gomm to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the

GSA Constitution from 29/09/2022 to 30/09/2022.

Moved: General Secretary, Yingchen Zhao Seconded: Board Member Phoebe Fitzpatrick Motion Passed with majority of those in favour.

Motion: That Bianca Jewell to be granted a leave of absence under s 9.14 of the GSA

Constitution for the day 29/09/2022.

Moved: General Secretary, Yingchen Zhao **Seconded:** Board Member Phoebe Fitzpatrick.

4 in favour, 2 oppose, 1 abstention (Bianca Jewell), 1 absent Board Member Matthew

Harper-Gomm).
- Motion Passed

1f. Meeting to move in camera

Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera

All Board Members vote in favour to move in camera with exception of Bianca Jewell, Matthew Harper-Gomm (LoA)

- Motion carries

Observers invited to attend for out of camera session, 6:00pm - Noted.

Board Member Emily De Wind, attends meeting at 4:42pm

2 - BOARD MOTION - Leave of Absence (LoA)

2a. Board Motion

Motion: Moving forward, the Board does not consider general study commitments as a sufficient basis for granting a leave of basis for Board or Representative Council meetings. For future leave of absence requests, the Board will require at least 72 hours' notice prior to the meeting, except in the case of an emergency.

Moved: Emily De Wind

Seconded: Jesse Gardner-Russell

6 in favour, 2 absent (Bianca Jewell, Mathew Harper-Gomm)

- Motion Carries

2b. Board Action Item

Updated version of the Leave of Absence (LoA) policy be tabled at the next Board meeting – *Noted*.

3 - BOARD REPORTING - (Attachment 6a-h)

3a. President Update on GSA Board, RC, external stakeholder issues and other meetings (Attachment 6a)

President Jesse Gardner-Russell tabled report, highlighting:

 Meetings with University stakeholders including, the Pro-Vice Chancellor Ed, Executive Director of the Office of the Provost, Senior Policy & Strategy Advisor T&L. GSA CEO, CFOO, and Programs Director. Board Members 5 mins

Board Members 10 mins

gsa

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- Attendance at the Arts and Culture Centre opening night at the invitation of the Chancellor. It was a great event and used the opportunity to build up our relationship with the Student Quality Services Director.
- SSAF Funding the President provided Board members with an overview of consultation with University SSAF key stakeholders, reporting on SSAF negotiations and the favourable outcome resulting from these meetings.
- Advocacy FaresFair Campaign Momentum for the Campaign continues to build. The Fares Fair working group has formed and met and has endorsed key agenda items including our recommended model of concession. I have engaged MGA, FUPA, CAPA, LTSU and now Swinburne Student Union, with Deakin and RMIT on the way. I am working on constructing an overall strategy to lobby the government and minimise the need for mass student mobilisation. I am conscious of graduate student's time availabilities, as well as their need to often work. Likewise, our commitment to COVID-19 safety means that we must be cautious about protests and the health of immunocompromised students.
- Successfully lobbied for the for VCCC to be included in the University Security escort range. This is a fantastic win for graduate researchers who are currently dealing with attacks.
- Increases to the indexation rates for PhD Stipends have been published. At 6.1% this is a great win for Graduate Researchers.
- Faculty Council Induction Presented at the Faculty Council Induction. It was a great opportunity to meet and greet new members.

3b. General Secretary Report (Attachment 6b)

General Secretary Yingchen Zhao tabled report, highlighting:

- General Secretary advised the board, taking LoA 1-5 October to travel interstate.
- Attendance of CEO Recruitment Working Group, Chancellery, Enterprise Bargaining Negotiations, FareFair Working Group, CEO and CFOO meetings.
- Conducted online interviews for casual officers with HR Manager.
- Training for Board, Representative and Faculty Council members Discussions of training programs HR and President.
- Prepared Training for Faculty Council Members Induction.
- Constitution worked with the CEO on the Election period, key dates.
- Appointment of the Families Officer, Areej Shahid. The remaining outstanding role to be filled – First Nations Officer, Nominations for the First Nations Officer reopened until 20/09 in accordance with the Constitution and Election Regulations.

3c. Vice President Report (Attachment 6c)

Vice President Matthew Harper-Gomm tabled report No items to report - LoA

3d. Treasurer Report (Attachment 6d)

Treasurer Junyi (Johnny Zheng) tabled report, highlighting:

- Attendance of meetings with outgoing treasurer Emily De Wind, CFOO, FRAC and RUOK Event.
- Familiarising with the new role and responsibilities.
- Will be reviewing the Rep Council Expenditure policy and conducting interviews with Rep Council members.

3e. Board Member Bianca Jewell (Attachments 6e, 6e i)

No items to report - LoA



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3f. Board Member Emily De Wind Report (Attachment 6f)

Board Member Emily De Wind tabled report, highlighting:

- Resignation Emily will resign as GSA Board Member on 26 October. Emily thanked all board members, with special thanks to Jeremy Waite in his current role as Interim CEO and previous role as President.
- The month has mostly consisted of handing over the treasurer role. Meeting with new appointed Treasurer, Junyi (Johnny) Zheng.

3g. Board Member Phoebe Fitzpatrick (Attachment 6g)

Board Member Phoebe Fitzpatrick tabled report, highlighting:

· Attendance of meetings including, Board, CEO.

3h. Nidhi Sikka (Attachment 6h)

Board Member Nidhi Sikka tabled report, highlighting.

- Busy month, attending various meetings with focus on the Green Impact Program.
- Met with Board Member, Emily De Wind to gain further knowledge about FRAC and how to best contribute.
- Working Group PTV transportation and concessions for graduate students.
- Attendance of meetings including, CEO, Rep Council, Sustainability Officer.
- Attendance of the Faculty Council Induction, meeting new members.
- Assisted the Treasurer Junyi (Johnny) Zhao at the RUOK Day's booth, engagement with students.

Board Member Phoebe Fitzpatrick left meeting 7:05pm

7 - MATTERS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

7a. Minutes of Representative Council Meeting (Attachment 7a)

The minutes of the GSA Representative Council meeting held on 21 September 2022 to be noted.

RC Minutes, noted.

7b. Recommendations from the Representative Council for Board consideration Sustainability Workshop Catering Funding

Memorandum (Attachment 7b i)

Carbon Offset calculation (Attachment 7b ii)

Quote (Attachment 7b iii)

Board to view attached document and vote on the Sustainability Workshop Catering Funding proposal by Circular Motion. To be recorded for October Bord meeting.

No recommendations for September

7c. Questions and other business from observers

7d. Meeting to move in camera

Procedural Motion: That the meeting move in camera

Meeting concluded 7:15pm

Next Board Meeting - Thursday, 27 October 2022

President 10 min