

Minutes of the USASA Board Meeting

Tuesday 19 June 2018

6.00pm Jeffery Smart Building JS6-13

Present:	Jordan Mumford:	President and Meeting Chair
	Board Members:	Qihua Zheng Natansh Modi Sneha Manimurugan Grace Dixon Ryan Colsey Kemal Brkic (via teleconference) Pamela Spek Georgina Gogel Surabhi Shubhraj (via teleconference) Sopor Tan
		Daniel Randell, General Manager Bridget Laffy, Student Representative Support Officer
Advisors:		Arthur Siow, Legal Advisor Nick Anderson, Finance Advisor
UniSA Observer:		Allan Tabor, Director Student and Academic Services
Minute Secretary:		Chula Murray
Apologies:		Bridget Barletta Kate Riggall Abid Billah

The President declared the meeting open at 6.00pm.

1. Meeting Opening

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Board of USASA respects the Kurna and Barngarla Peoples' spiritual relationship with their country and that today we meet on the land of the Kurna people and recognise the Kurna people as the custodians on the land where we meet. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with

the land and acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to these people living today.

The President further acknowledged and welcomed the new representative for City East, Sopor Tan.

1.2 Guest Speaker: Franco Parella, Student Ombud

Mr. Parella provided a brief update on the role of the Student Ombud, which has been in place since 2002. The position is an advocate for fairness and due process, not just an advocate for the individual.

It was explained that there are two main roles for the Student Ombud, a proactive arm and a responsive arm.

The proactive arm is open to suggestions for tweaks, amendments, improvements to policy, practice, communication.

The responsive arm is to be used as a last resort to check that university has followed due process.

The Board noted that the Student Ombud cannot override decisions by the university as it is neutral and allows an objective look at decisions made. It is an avenue to have an issue looked at from another perspective, and to get some answers. It is important to ensure to address problems if they are being raised.

1.3 Apologies/Leave Requests

The Chair noted the leave requests for:

1.3.1 Bridget Barletta

The Board agreed that this leave request should have been discussed at the last meeting. It was discussed that should members have events that have been planned in advance, e.g. international travel, the Board should be notified at preceding meetings.

Motion: That the Board accept the leave request of Bridget Barletta

Moved: Jordan Mumford

Seconded: Natansh Modi

All were in favour and the motion was carried.

1.3.2 Kate Riggall

Motion: That the Board accept the leave request of Kate Riggall

Moved: Jordan Mumford

Seconded: Natansh Modi

All were in favour and the motion was carried.

1.3.3 Abid Billah

Motion: That the Board accept the leave request of Abid Billah

Moved: Jordan Mumford

Seconded: Natansh Modi

All were in favour and the motion was carried.

1.4 Conflicts of Interest

The Chair stated:

‘that all Members and officers in attendance declare that they have read and considered all papers within this agenda that require decision making and have no known conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to those matters.’

It was noted that any conflict of interest would be declared if and when they arise.

1.5 Previous Minutes

1.5.1 Confirmation – 22 May 2018 Minutes

Bridget Laffy requested clarification in the minutes about whether all motions had passed.

Motion: Pending clarification of the minutes to state whether each motion passed, that the minutes of the May 2018 Board meeting conducted on 22 May 2018 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Jordan Mumford

Seconded: Pamela Spek

All were in favour and the Motion was carried.

1.5.2 Matters Arising / Action Log

2.1 Magill Toasties Activation

The Board noted that further activations were in progress.

2.2 2019 Budget Approval Process

The Board noted that the budget approval process needed to be complete by the July Finance meeting, and that this was in progress.

2.3 Equity and Diversity Committee

Arthur Siow confirmed on behalf of Kate Riggall that the TOR was in the process of being sent to the Governance Committee and the Board for approval.

2.4 Mt Gambier Movie Night

The Board noted that the Mt Gambier Movie Night was successfully held, in spite of the cold weather. This item was completed.

2.6 USASA Response to Hazing

The Board noted that a statement for the USASA website has not yet been completed but was in progress.

2.9 Finance Policy

The Board noted that the Finance Policy has been updated and that this item was complete.

5. Any other business

The Board noted that the Doodle Poll for Yarrow Place training was in progress.

2. Matters for Decision

2.1 2019 Budget Draft

Daniel Randell spoke to this item, which was taken as read.

The Board noted that the deadline for feedback has been set for the end of the month.

2.2 UATSIS National Indigenous Student Conference

Pamela Spek spoke to this item.

The Board noted the benefit of funding a representative to attend the Conference. It was agreed that a report will be prepared and presented to the Board following attendance.

Recommendation: That the Board approves funding for the registration of, and flights to, the National Indigenous Student Conference (NISC) for USASA ATSI Representative Pamela Spek.

Moved: Jordan Mumford

Seconded: Pamela Spek

All were in favour and the motion was carried

3. Matters for Discussion

3.1 Campus Advisory Groups

Bridget Laffy spoke to this item.

The Board noted that the Campus Advisory Groups tend to be very staff focused and that it is beneficial to have student representatives sit on the group. Whilst the groups do tend to be quite routine they deal with issues that also affect students. Board members are encouraged to join the Campus Advisory Groups if interested.

4. Matters for Noting

4.1 Presidents Report

The Presidents Report was noted and taken as read.

4.2 General Manager's Report

Daniel Randell spoke to this item.

The General Manager's Report was noted and taken as read.

The Board noted that there will be an opportunity to apply for funding in November for the financial counselling program to be run in 2019. USASA will also apply in this round for seed funding for clubs; all clubs to get money at the start of the year for their activities, as well as an additional large grant for clubs up to \$10,000 for major activities.

The Board noted that strategic planning has taken a back seat over last few weeks. Strategic plans have been explored from student unions around Australia as well as internationally. The practice overseas is to try and facilitate more student empowerment, focusing on how the union can help students help themselves.

4.2.1 Clubs Report

Ryan Colsey enquired about how "developing research methods to deliver UNITE training program" will be delivered. Daniel clarified that this is about club engagement and how to improve communication with clubs.

Surabhi Shubhraj noted that it is hard for students to engage and commit to clubs, on top of their regular workload. Clarification needs to be made to the student body about what the UNITE program entails and the benefits for undertaking the program.

4.2.2 Events Report

The Events Report was noted and taken as read.

4.2.3 Marketing Report

The Marketing Report was noted and taken as read.

4.3 Finance Report

The Finance Report was noted and taken as read.

4.4 Board Members' Reports

Jordan Mumford spoke to this item.

The Board Members' Reports were noted and taken as read.

The importance of contributing meaningful reports was discussed. It was highlighted that the Board Charter states that the non-submission of two board member reports would lead to removal of the member from the Board. Board members are urged to take this responsibility seriously.

4.5 Committee Meeting Minutes

The Board noted that for any members who sit as minute takers or convenors of committees, there are deadlines for minutes to be submitted. It is important to have minutes done on time, with the convenors responsible for chasing them up.

The Board noted that due to recent membership changes of the Welfare Committee, it may be an opportunity for Sopor Tan to join as a member.

4.5.1 Clubs Committee

The Clubs Committee minutes were noted and taken as read.

4.5.2 Women's Committee

The Women's Committee minutes were noted and taken as read.

5. Any Other Business

Proposed merger of Uni SA and University of Adelaide.

Jordan Mumford spoke to this item. The Board noted that Jordan has an interest as he also sits on the University Council.

The Board discussed that the Universities are exploring the possibility of a merger. It was noted that as the student association, it is important that USASA should be pushing for student involvement in decision making. At present, as the Universities are in the early processes of determining if a merger is viable, the Board agreed that it is not essential to be directly involved in the working group. However, it was noted that a monthly catch up with the Vice Chancellor would be beneficial, so as to keep USASA in the loop.

Whilst a timeline has not been confirmed, the Board would like to be notified of when the consultation process will likely be initiated and be involved in stakeholder advocacy.

The Board noted that Jordan has spoken to the media regarding the press release and has advised that the process has been outlined in the joint statement, and that USASA cannot make any further comment on a report that has not been reviewed. Further to this, Jordan would like to release a USASA press statement to reassure members that this process is a six-month process, with the Board ensuring that the student voice will be heard over this period. In the meantime, USASA will continue to operate as usual.

The Board agreed that this should be a standing item on every meeting with a monthly update from the Vice Chancellor. The Board also agreed that the Vice Chancellor should be invited to the next Board meeting to discuss future plans and any USASA concerns.

6. Meeting Closure

6.1 Next Meeting: 6pm, 17 July 2018 Jeffery Smart Building JS6013

6.2 Meeting Closed at 7:02pm