



**Minutes of the USASA Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday 22 January 2020 3:15pm**  
**Adelaide Hills Convention Centre (Upper Deck Room)**  
**Hahndorf, SA**

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**PRESENT**

Board:

Noah Beckmann	President (Meeting Chair)
Rhys Peden	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Rep
Lekshmi Raj Shylaja	Postgraduate Student Representative
Melinda Ho	International Student Representative
Ned Feary	City West Undergraduate Student Representative
Linus Johnston	City West Student Representative
Jenny Chen	City East Undergraduate Student Representative
Emily Williams	Magill Student Representative
Jaisree Ravichandran	Mawson Lakes Student Representative
Joshua Steele	Mawson Lakes Undergraduate Student Representative
Lauren Baum	Mount Gambier Student Representative
Daniel Randell	USASA CEO
Arthur Siow	Legal Adviser

In attendance:

Bridget Laffy	Student Representative Support Officer (Minute Taker)
Cheree Taylor	Young Catalysts

**APOLOGIES**

Arunika Dutta	Magill Undergraduate Student Representative
Tim Pham	City East Student Representative
Nick Anderson	Finance Advisor
Richard Irons	Director Student and Academic Services (Regular Observer)

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 1528.

**1. MEETING OPENING**

**1.1 Acknowledgement of Country**

The Board of USASA acknowledges that it meets on the land of the Peramangk people of the Adelaide Hills and pays respect to their elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and acknowledge that these are of continuing importance to the Peramangk people living today.

## 1.2 Leave Requests

Noah noted that ordinarily Board Members requesting formal leave from attending Board Meetings will submit specific papers outlining their reasons for unattendance. However, as Arunika and Tim had submitted Leave Requests from the Board Retreat in its entirety, Noah recommended that the Board resolve to accept their leave from this meeting without additional papers.

Motion: To grant leave to Arunika Dutta and Tim Pham from the January 2020 Board Meeting.

Mover: Noah Beckmann

Secunder: Ned Feary

Outcome: All were in favour and the motion was carried.

## 1.3 Conflicts of Interest

Noah noted that he has a conflict for item 2.1 as it involves spending money on travel for him.

## 1.4 Previous Minutes

### 1.4.1 Confirmation

Motion: That the minutes of the Board Meeting of 3 December 2019 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Mover: Noah Beckmann

Secunder: Rhys Peden

Outcome: All were in favour and the Motion was carried.

### 1.4.2 Action Log – nil

## 2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

### 2.1 Respect. Prevent. Respond. Conference (NB)

Ned queried whether USASA has a policy about selecting hotels for travel and whether the standard of hotel selected by Noah was appropriate.

Daniel noted that the hotel in the paper was selected on the basis of it being at the conference venue and that the general rationale is about saving money on cab charges, saving time for delegates etc.

Daniel also noted that he has been to this conference previously and he wants Noah to attend so that he can see what is going on around the country and the world about SASH policies at Universities. One of the programs from last year's conference is being considered by the Uni and last year when he attended there was only 1 representative from the uni present. Noah will be on the SASH steering group and Daniel thinks it will be important for him to attend not only for his professional development, but so that it is clear how important USASA thinks this issue is.

Noah noted that this year there is a focus on students attending the conference.

Melinda queried whether this was the type of conference she could attend if she paid for herself and Daniel confirmed that it was.

Melinda queried why the conference was not booked in December so that we could get the early-bird pricing.

Daniel explained that any funding for Interstate Board Travel must be approved by the Board itself. As such, this Board meeting is the earliest the decision could be considered by the 2020 Board.

Mover: Noah Beckmann

Secunder: Linus Johnston

Outcome: All were in favour and the Motion was carried.

## **2.2 USASA Committee Appointments**

Arthur advised that the committees set out in Noah's paper were not standing committees and that the Board should first consider whether it wants to re-establish these committees in 2020. He noted that the Board is not obliged to reinstate any of them.

Melinda requested a brief explanation of what the committees do and Noah provided one.

Arthur noted that Noah's descriptions of the committees made the DEA committee and Welfare committee seem similar and, without making a case either way, presented this as an example of why the Board should reevaluate all committee's existence each year.

Ned provided his view on why the Welfare Committee and DEA Committee should retain separate identities, though noted that perhaps it would be more accurate to name it the Wellbeing Committee.

Arthur advised that the Board could set up the Committees as they stood in 2019, and then review the existence of each committee during the Terms of Reference Reviews in each first meeting. The Board informally decided to proceed on this basis.

During the meeting, Noah received nominations for committee convenors from the Board members as follows:

Welfare Committee: Melinda nominated uncontested

Education: Jenny, Rhys, and Jaisree nominated.

Governance: Lex nominated uncontested.

Finance: Linus nominated uncontested.

DEA: Emily nominated uncontested.

Clubs: Josh and Jaisree nominated.

It was agreed that nominations for the Secretary positions could be done during the first meeting of each committee individually.

It was agreed that there would be an election for the Convenor positions that received more than one nomination.

Motion: That the Board appoints Bridget Laffy as Returning Officer for the election of the USASA Committee Convenor Appointments.

Mover: Noah Beckmann

Seconder: Lex Shylaja

Outcome: All were in favour and the Motion was carried.

Prior to holding the election, Bridget noted that she would count the votes employing a first past the post system and that if there was a tie for the Education Committee a run-off election would be conducted between the top 2 candidates.

Arthur Siow scrutineered the count and the result was as follows:

Education Committee Convenor: Jenny Chen

Clubs Committee Convenor: Joshua Steele

Noah took nominations for Committee membership as follows:

- Welfare: **Melinda**, Josh, Rhys, Jenny
- Education: **Jenny**, Ned, Josh, Jaisree, Lex, Rhys, Melinda
- Governance: **Lex**, Josh, Ned, Rhys, Emily, Melinda
- Finance: **Linus**, Ned, Lauren, Melinda
- DEA: **Emily**, Josh, Lauren, Melinda
- Clubs: **Josh**, Linus, Jaisree, Lex, Melinda, Ned

### **2.3 Academic Board Appointments**

Noah took nominations for appointment to the Academic Board of the University of South Australia.

Noah, Linus, Rhys, Lex, and Ned nominated for these positions.

As five of five positions were filled, and no one dissented to the nomination of any of these Board Members, the positions were taken to be filled.

### **2.4 University Council Appointment**

Noah noted that the issue of him being considered a Postgraduate Student was no longer relevant and that this agenda item did not need to be addressed.

It was noted that per the USASA Constitution, the two Student Representatives for University Council would be Noah Beckmann as President and Lex Shylaja as Postgraduate Representative.

### **2.5 Whyalla Election Timeline**

Lauren asked what would happen if no one runs for the vacancy.

Arthur explained that the Board would have the absolute discretion to appoint someone in whatever manner it sees fit, including that they may also choose to appoint no one.

Motion: That the Board approves the following recommendations:

That the Board appoints Debra Arnold as Returning Officer for the 2020 Whyalla Student Representative By-Election.

That the Board appoints Bridget Laffy as Assistant Returning Officer for the 2020 Whyalla Student Representative By-Election.

That the Board approves the following timeline:

- Notice of Election published at 9am 17 February 2020
- Nominations open at 9am 2 March 2020
- Nominations close at 4pm 13 March 2020
- Voting opens at 9am 30 March 2020
- Voting closes at 4pm 3 April 2020
- Provisional results announced at 5pm 3 April 2020

Mover: Noah Beckmann

Seconder: Rhys Peden

Outcome: All were in favour and the Motion was carried.

#### **4. MATTERS FOR NOTING**

##### **4.1 CEO's Report**

Daniel noted that he would have his paper taken as read, but wanted to highlight to the Board why it is formatted in that particular way and explained the types of things that would be reported in it. It was noted that this will sometimes include post-event reports and travel diaries.

He highlighted that Noah received Media Training recently and that there was also an intent to find professional development opportunities appropriate for other Board Members to receive throughout the year.

Melinda noted she had a suggestion for some and would pass it on to Daniel.

#### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **5. MEETING CLOSE**

**5.1 Next meeting** – 6pm Tuesday 16 February in JS6-13

**5.2 Meeting Close** – 1600