

## Minutes of the UniSA Student Association Board Meeting

Monday 15 May 2023 – 6:09 pm  
Jeffery Smart Building JS6-13  
(also via Zoom)

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<b>Present</b>	Isaac Solomon Samrat Bhattacharjee * Riya Bhaizada Hayate Yamada Brendan Ritter * Alexandra Feilicia Joe Kush Modha Jeel Bhatt Zahra Bayani *+ Jayce Dimitriadis Oliver Shephard-Bayly Lucy Fawcett Arthur Siow Luis Gardezabal	President & Meeting Chair Mawson Lakes Student Representative Postgraduate Student Representative City West Student Representative UniSA Online Student Representative International Student Representative City East Undergraduate Student Representative Mawson Lakes Undergraduate Student Representative City East Student Representative City West Undergraduate Student Representative Magill Student Representative Magill Undergraduate Student Representative Legal Advisor A/CEO
<b>Observers</b>	Cristine Dagnoni Richard Irons * Brendan Hughes	Coordinator Governance and Student Leadership Director Student and Academic Services Director Student Engagement Unit
<b>Apologies</b>	Daniel Randell Rhys Peden Kaveeta Magandram	CEO Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Representative Finance Advisor
<b>Minute Taker</b>	Fulvia Lorenzon	Agency staff

\* attendance via Teams  
(+ Zahra Bayani part time on Teams)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 6.36 pm.

### 1. MEETING OPENING

#### 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The USASA Board acknowledges that it meets on the land of the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains and on the lands of others who are attending from locations beyond this country. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and

relationship with the land and acknowledge that these are of continuing importance to Aboriginal People living today.

The Chair extended this welcome to include all areas of Australia.

## 1.2 Leave Requests

**1.2.1 Rhys Peden** – will submit a retrospective leave request at the next meeting.

**1.2.2 Lucy Fawcett** – submitted leave request. At time of the July 2023 Board meeting will be attending Residential Week at Nunyara Conference Centre as part of her volunteering commitments with the Youth Parliament program.

HY enquired if a proxy form should be requested when a board member has been granted leave of absence, but their vote is required. AS responded that whilst there used to be a Proxy Policy, it is no longer current. It was only ever a formality and with today's improved technology/communications, proxy voting is irrelevant.

**Motion:** For the board to approve Lucy Fawcett's request for leave of absence at the July 2023 board meeting.

**Moved:** Riya Bhaizada

**Seconded:** Jayce Dimitriadis

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## 1.3 Conflict of Interest

Oliver Shephard-Bayly and Lucy Fawcett declared a conflict of interest on their respective Education Conference papers (**Agenda Items 2.1 and 2.2**) as they are both monetary recipients due to their attendance at the June 2023 National Union of Students Conference in Brisbane.

It was clarified that Here comes the Money paper (**Agenda Item 2.3**) does not constitute an actual conflict of interest but a potential one. The recommendation is for the CEO to investigate and report to the Board on the effects of increasing the various Honoraria. This proposed increase would only affect the 2024 incoming Board.

## 1.4 Previous Meeting Minutes

### 1.4.1 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** That the Minutes of the USASA Board Meeting of **17 April 2023** and its amendments be accepted as an accurate and true record of proceedings.

**Moved:** Oliver Shephard-Bayly

**Seconded:** Samrat Bhattacharjee

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## 2. MATTERS FOR DECISION\

### 2.1 Education Conference – Lucy Fawcett

Spoke to her paper.

The meeting discussed the allowances provided to the NUS delegates for travel and accommodation and the members' personal financial contribution to the costs involved.

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**Recommendation:** The Board approves up to \$500 for Lucy Fawcett to attend the National Education Conference in Brisbane.

**Moved:** Riya Bhaizada

**Seconded:** Alexandra Feilicia Joe

Except for Lucy Fawcett who abstained from voting due to a monetary conflict of interest, all were in favour and the Recommendation was **CARRIED**.

## 2.1 Education Conference – Oliver Shephard-Bayly

Spoke to his paper.

**Recommendation:** The Board approves up to \$500 for Oliver Shephard-Bayly to attend the National Education Conference in Brisbane,

**Amendment:** LF and OSB to provide presentations to the Board on their return.

**Moved:** Riya Bhaizada

**Seconded:** Jayce Dimitriadis

Except for Oliver Shephard-Bayly who abstained from voting due to a monetary conflict of interest, all were in favour and the Recommendation and the Amendment were **CARRIED**.

## 2.3 Here Comes the Money

Taken as read.

SB spoke to his paper and made the following clarifications:

- in the context of this paper, the term “CEO” refers to Daniel Randell (currently on leave) and not Luis Gardeazabal (Acting CEO);
- the paper will be formally presented at the July 2023 Board meeting at which time DR will have returned from leave; and
- there is an additional Honorarium not included in the paper and that is for Advisor category.

It is proposed to increase the level of Honorarium for future Board members to counter the continuing rise in cost of living.

The Recommendation to be amended to reflect that the paper will be presented at the July 2023 Board meeting in time for DR's return.

AS commented that it was important for the proposal to be included in the budget process and submitted at the next Finance Committee meeting for consideration/discussion. An Honorarium is a payment made to cover expenses personally incurred by Board members and not covered by USASA (e.g. meals, travel). However, does an increase in the CPI justify an increase in the Honorarium when it is not a wage and, if there are rising costs, are those costs relevant to the work carried out by the individual Board representatives? AS suggested that the investigation into the effect of raising the Honorarium be undertaken by the Finance Committee in lieu of the CEO – this will provide the appropriate financial governance and the reason for it. The Finance Committee can investigate the proposed increase in Honorarium as part of its overall budget review with consideration given to the affordability of the proposed increase. DR is on the Finance Committee as is Kaveeta

Magandram who can provide an independent perspective on this issue within a budget context. AS further commented that it can be argued that a rise in the Honorarium may be called for especially in view of the increase in members' board work load, particularly in the online space and the management of a larger budget, however, an increase in SAFF funding does not automatically assume an increase in the Honorarium.

SB said he was amenable to amend the additional Resolution to reflect that the Finance Committee investigate the possibility of raising the Honorarium in lieu of the CEO.

SB outlined the consultation process that was undertaken with Deakin University Student Union for comparison purposes on the subject and that other Universities can be contacted for further consultation.

The meeting continued the discussion with the outcome that the new Recommendation states the Finance Committee to investigate on behalf of the 2024 Board the Honoraria (viz. for Board, Verse Magazine, President and Advisors) costs included in the USASA Budget.

SB also commented that the numbers used in the original Recommendation were purely base line figures for a per annum increase.

6:30pm Zahra Bayani joined the meeting in person

**Recommendation:** The Finance Committee investigates on behalf of the 2024 Board all the Honoraria in the USASA Budget.

**Moved:** Sam Bhattacharjee      **Seconded:** Brendan Ritter

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## 2.4 Voice to Parliament

Taken as read (additional information provided).

IS spoke to his paper and gave an overview of the content.

IS referred to his conversation with DR last year re this subject and the Reconciliation strategy and whether USASA should take a stance. DR advised it was up to the Board, but hoped it would do so. IS also commented on the additional information provided as back-up to the paper and referred to the links and the attached documentation.

IS also spoke about the Students for the Yes Campaign. UniSA students will be encouraged to participate in this democratic process regardless of how they wish to vote.

In response to a query from BR on reporting on any collaborative efforts with other organisations, it was agreed to add this action to the list of Recommendations for the paper.

Other points discussed include:

- the resources required for the campaign and the budgetary implications;
- the impact on voting for international students and domestic students who are not on campus;



- involving First Nations Voice on University decision making processes, ensuring our actions reflect that UniSA is the University of choice for Aboriginal students and, as part of USASA's Reconciliation Strategy, empowering students towards reconciliation not only on campus but in the broader community;
- how to approach the No campaign – consideration needs to be given to that perspective. It is important that USASA is seen to respectfully support both sides regardless of viewpoint; and
- the voting/enrolment process for the campaign.

The meeting also considered possible risks involved with the campaign and agreed to add a further point to the recommendations to reflect the Reconciliation Committee is to create a risk assessment of common activities that may be involved with the campaign.

The Board supported HY's suggestion to add to the Recommendations that USASA supports The Uluru Statement from the Heart in full, Voice Treaty, and Truth

It was also noted that it may be beneficial for the Board to have some education, from a legal and in a non-political way, the correct definition of a 'constitution' and a 'referendum'.

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1) That USASA supports the principle of a constitutionally enshrined First Nations Federal Voice to Parliament.
- 2) That USASA joins the Students for Yes Campaign
- 3) Empowers the President to collaborate with the students for Yes Campaign, other student organisations, the National Union of Students and community organisations on behalf of USASA, for the purpose of campaigning for a Yes vote.
- 4) The President report on any collaborative efforts with other organisations.
- 5) Empowers the President to arrange a voter drive to take place on campus with the support of USASA staff and with use of USASA resources.
- 6) That USASA supports The Uluru Statement from the Heart in full, Voice Treaty, and Truth

**Moved:** Isaac Solomon

**Seconded:** Oliver Shephard-Bayly

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## **2.5 DEA Committee Recommendation**

Taken as read.

LF spoke to her paper and outlined the request for the Board to support the Rainbow Club in getting the door to their Club space widened to allow for wheelchair access.

The meeting discussed the Club's entrance limitation and whether a similar situation existed with other Club spaces at the Mawson Lakes campus. The meeting also looked at the mechanism in approaching the Mawson Lakes Campus Manager on this issue.

IS suggested the recommendation be amended to delegate the convenor of the DEA Committee to meet with the Campus Manager to discuss improving motor disability access to the Club space.

**Recommendation:** That the Board appoint the Convenor of the DEA Committee to meet with the Mawson Lakes Campus Manager to see how physical access to the Rainbow Club space can be improved.

**Moved:** Lucy Fawcett

**Seconded:** Jeel Bhatt

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## 2.6 Indonesia Festival 2023

Taken as read.

AJ briefed on the arrangements for the Indonesian Student Association of UniSA (a USASA Club) to participate in and host an activity booth at this year's Indonesia Festival. AJ will be representing USASA and act as spokesperson for the organisation on the day.

The meeting briefly discussed the request for resources/freebies to hand out and AJ confirmed there was no personal cost involved as it is a free event.

The Board wished AJ good luck and looks forward to AJ's report on the event at the next meeting accompanied by lots of photos.

**Recommendation:** For the Board to approve the collaboration and assist the Indonesian Student Association of UniSA in providing material support for the Indonesian Festival.

**Moved:** Alexandra Feilicia Joe

**Seconded:** Zahra Bayani

All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED** unanimously.

## 3. MATTERS FOR NOTING

### 3.1 President's Report – March

### 3.2 President's Report - April

Taken as read – both March and April meeting reports (correction to heading in "January" Meeting 2023 – should read "April" Meeting 2023).

IS reported that the organisation has been 'kicking goals' and gave a brief overview of the many meetings he has attended over the reporting period.

In response to a query from BR re the number of student enquiries on assessment and teaching quality, IS responded that a component of his of his role is to receive emailed enquiries on issues students are experiencing with a particular assessment or course. IS provided some examples and talked about his meetings with relevant Academic Units and the Dean of Business to satisfactorily resolve these concerns.

NOTED.

### 3.3 CEO's Report

Taken as read.

LG updated the meeting on:

- New staff onboarded (Manager, Retail and Spaces, and Volunteer Coordinator) – interview process for new Clubs Manager completed;
- Financial support for students;
- Success with marketing and current projects;
- Pub crawl was a success with 560 tickets sold;
- Received SAFF money for projects; and
- Updated on partnership with Hanoi University.

NOTED.

### 3.4 Finance Report

Taken as read.

JC provided the following update after today's meeting to discuss the financials:

- a loss was recorded this month due to bank charges, investment advisory fees, audit and T/A expenses;
- revenue is higher to budget due to increased merchandise sales and postage revenue;
- discussions with Perpetual re USASA's investment portfolio; and
- Perpetual's presentation on the current economic events, i.e. debt ceiling in USA.

LG will provide revenue details on Pub Crawl event at the next meeting.

NOTED.

### 3.5 Board Members Reports

The following members submitted written reports:

<b>Alexandra Feilicia Joe</b>	Taken as read
<b>Brendan Ritter</b>	Taken as read
<b>Hayate Yamada</b>	Taken as read
<b>Jayce Dimitriadis</b>	Taken as read
<b>Jeel Bhatt</b>	Taken as read
<b>Kush Modha</b>	Taken as read
<b>Lucy Fawcett</b>	Taken as read
<b>Oliver Shephard-Bayly</b>	Taken as read
<b>Riya Bhaizada</b>	Taken as read
<b>Sam Bhattacharjee</b>	Taken as read
<b>Zahra Bayani</b>	Taken as read

Taken as read and NOTED.



**3.6 Finance Committee – 13 April 2023**

Taken as read.

There were no amendments.

ACCEPTED and NOTED.

**3.7 Governance Committee – 17 April 2023**

Taken as read.

Some amendments to this set of Minutes – refer back for approval.

NOTED.

**3.8 Education Committee – 14 April 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.9 Reconciliation Committee – 20 March 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.10 Reconciliation Committee – 18 April 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.11 Clubs Committee – 10 March 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.12 Clubs Committee – 14 April 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.13 Clubs Committee – April 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.14 DEA Committee – 6 March 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

**3.15 DEA Committee – 2 May 2023**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

Replying to a notification for amendment to Club Committee Minutes at the Board meeting, AS outlined the correct process for submitting minutes of



meeting to the Board, noting that amendments should be made prior to the Board meeting.

### **3.16 Board Symposium Report**

Taken as read.

NOTED.

### **3.17 Ninja Training Report**

Taken as read

IS commented on the Board's attendance at a productivity workshop run by Productivity Ninja. Reviews of the workshop were very positive.

## **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business

## **5. WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOUR MEMBERS?**

Board members provided a brief update on their individual Board Members Report.

## **6. MEETING CLOSURE**

**6.1** The next USASA Board Meeting will take place on **Monday, 19 June 2023** at **6:00pm** at City West Campus Adelaide, RoomJS6-13.

The meeting concluded at **7:52 pm** followed by an In Camera Session.



9/1  
IS

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'U' followed by a horizontal line.

21/6/23

