

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Queer Committee

Agenda

10th December 2019 2pm

Meeting 1(20)

Location: OB Space

Open 2:14pm

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1.1: To Elect Ciara O'Sullivan as Chair
Mover: Ciara Second: Eleanor
Carried without dissent

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So Acknowledged.

1.3 Attendance

Office Bearers: Ciara O'Sullivan, A'bidah Zaid Sherbeeni (call-in)

Committee: Reece Moir, Natasha Bay, Eleanor Watson, Natale Froia, Iley Johnson

Observers: Lauren Mendes, Raph Canty (minute-taker)

1.4 Apologies

Andoni Fischer, Grace E. Bevan.

1.5 Proxies

Andoni Fischer to Natale Froia.

1.6 Membership

No changes.

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 1.7: To Adopt the Agenda
Mover: Ciara O'Sullivan (Chair)

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

None

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

None

4. Correspondence

None

5. Office Bearer Report

Ciara explains motion regarding Darlington Statement, has passed Student Council. Letter from UMSU President & Queer Officers to Vice Chancellor. Affirmation of intersex people

Ciara has started going through archives to replace mural in Queer Space

Karl arrives 2:19pm

Availability difficult for collectives calendar

Queer Ball is tentatively booked for 8 October. motion next meeting for deposit

Motion 5.1: To accept the Office Bearer Report

Mover: Ciara O'Sullivan (Chair)

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

6. Other Reports

None

7. Motions on Notice

7.1 Queer Department Budget 2020

Motion 7.1: To adopt the attached budget as the Queer Department Budget for 2020.

Mover: Ciara O'Sullivan Second: Iley Johnson

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

7.2 Delegation to Operations Sub-Committee

Motion 7.2: That we approve budgetary delegation to the Operations Sub-Committee of up to \$1000 for each Queer Department Budget Line.

Mover: Ciara O'Sullivan Second: Natale Froia

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

7.3 Queer Space Furniture

Iley asks whether furniture can be taken to new student precinct. Ciara responds yes: we don't want things purchased to be obsolete in a couple of years.

One new kettle, we'll see what we want to get and what we need more of. Chairs with better back support.

Motion 7.3: To approve up to \$500 from the Queer Space Maintenance line for new Queer Space Furniture and Appliances.

Mover: A'bidah Zaid Seconder: Natasha Bay

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

7.4 Queer Space Supplies

A'bidah explains that snacks are heavily used and we want them to be available.

Eleanor asks about tea of the week. Fridge area needs to be cleaned.

Karl asks about what's supplied. Should we ask people using the space what they'd like to have there.

Ciara mentions that there's not much engagement right now. Eleanor suggests that at the start of next semester we ask people using the space. Favourite teas or biscuits. Milk and non-dairy options.

Motion 7.4: To approve up to \$600 from the Queer Space Maintenance line for maintenance of Queer space, including snacks, tea, coffee, pads, sexual health supplies, etc.

Mover: A'bidah Zaid Seconder: Reece Moir

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

8. Other Business

8.1 Queer Space Working Group

Ciara mentions that queer space is an "unmitigated nightmare" which needs to be cleaned over summer. Better delegated in the chat. Other people from queer space involved in cleaning the space. Only stuff crucial is the fridge so that it can be taken out in hard waste.

Eleanor: "what are our thoughts on the beanbags? They stink!" Discussion about cleaning. Shibas as replacement animals for the panda.

Cleaning tasks:

Wipe down blackboards - fresh slate.

Clean couches - take covers off and put in washing machine

Clean bean bags if they can be

New notice boards and up-to-date poster

Update tablecloths

Reorganise bookshelf and new books potentially?

Lauren brings up that more DVDs for diverse subsections of the community (there weren't many lesbian films)

Rearrange things in space. Moving resources to make it easier to get to.

Eleanor will bring Star Observer Magazines

Karl: "Any safety requirements for a professional clean?"

Eleanor: "When will UH be brought down"

Ciara: "New student precinct will be operational in 2022"

Karl: "Would UH Cleaners clean?"

Ciara: "They vacuum"

Reece: "None of the collective spaces are cleaned because that would come out of the department's budget. OB's responsibility to maintain a clean and safe space. There's too much stuff in there."

Anyone who identifies as queer can be in it "Gays who like cleaning. Find them" -Ciara

Eleanor is happy to coordinate working group. Will put something out on queer facebook page for anyone who wants to get involved.

8.2 Summerfest (day)

Ciara explains what is happening with Summerfest: all of UMSU gets one day to do as much as possible and engage students. Plans for summerfest is 11-3 with a stall (26 Feb). Bracelet stuff, badge making. No glitter this year: agreement from Natasha about it being difficult to make and not worth the pain.

Reece suggests pencil cases: there will be a lot of tote bags.

Some students still use stationery - might be useful for people and a better branding choice.

A'bidah: "Tote bag helps with growth & reach of department - seeing it around."

Natasha leaves 2:45pm

Something with branding to give out.

If anyone wants to make a badge design, it would be great to have variety.

Eleanor mentions name badges - reusable in collectives, especially trans collective.

Ciara to give committee a few weeks to think about options and will put up a poll.

Natale mentions option of community organisations involved in Summerfest.

Bubble Teas with the LGBTs

Request made to comms about the event. To be as sustainable as possible, tea can be purchased separately from pearls. Bamboo straws and keep cups will eliminate waste. Bubble teas will be a picnic.

Picnic blankets needed. Giant Connect 4 and Jenga.

Iley suggests keep cups to take away as department branding. Ciara is unsure whether there's enough money to give them to everyone. She will ask comms about it and Iley will send to committee the keep cup she had in mind.

Zine

A'bidah: "The Edugayte yourself zine is something which we'd like to continue".

Karl: "Would be good to advertise in the holidays for people to contribute to"

Raph suggests committee members and experienced queer space frequenters to be available to support new students who might not be comfortable in a new space.

Karl mentions reusable mugs - having our own will mean they're not cleaned; encouraging people to use mugs from downstairs will be best. Karl suggests a trolley to bring mugs up at the start of the day and take them down at the end of the day.

8.3 Politicking next year! (Direct Actions and Workshops)

Holly Lawford-Smith is introducing a winter subject entitled "Feminism" with questionable contents. The department will have to take action. Eleanor is happy to take action on this. Ciara is keeping an eye on this.

Eleanor "we should keep pressure on the vice chancellor about 'free speech'. Engage with *Farrago* to have anti-terf content published."

Ciara is keen to start the "You are Queer enough" campaign. For people who are bi in a hetero relationship or anything which doesn't fit into the queer stereotype. We don't want to police queer people but we want all queer people to feel comfortable to access queer department services. Would be good to push to people in the queer space. Not many campaigns have been run before regarding queer inclusion within the community. Eleanor suggests a 'this is what queer looks like' photo poster.

Anti-queerphobia workshops PoC ran last year as anti-racism workshops. A'bidah is getting someone for week 1. Not sure how it will turn out for the first week but it's important to have. OBs will forward applications to queer committee as blind applications. Workshops will be non-autonomous.

Iley: How to get non-queer people to come along?

A'bidah: "Autonomy is optional to presenter. Pulling in friends will help start them and hopefully attendance will catch on"

Ciara: "Some people don't understand trans people but would like to - there's a market for sharing this information."

Eleanor: "A lot of people are afraid to ask questions but I'm happy to answer them."

Karl recalls that a panel class with four trans people who were asked questions for an anthropology class.

Committee brings up queer sex education panels. Collaboration with womens sexplorations week.

Iley leaves at 3:15pm

8.4 Queer Collaborations 2020

5-11 July at UniMelb. Hoping to get a lot of students in attendance.

Ciara: "Grants stay the same but we can spend less on more people as we won't need to cover accommodation".

Accom + Food + Registration is about \$500.

Hoping to show people Melbourne and include lots of collaboration, workshops, friend-making and professional development.

Eleanor mentions that she has connections to Transgender Victoria

8.5 Midsumma/Pride march 2020

2 February 2020. Hoping it won't be too hot.

Reece leaves 3:21pm

PiA is thinking of buying fans this year.

Raph explains that we're thinking of a craft event where people can make banners and signs for people to bring along. Committee is keen for this.

Perhaps too far away to take a group all the way from uni but brunch beforehand or meeting at Fed Square are options for people finding the parade on the day.

Tell your friends to come!

8.6 General Ideas for 2020!

Going off Midsumma, Eleanor mentions Geelong Rainbow festival - weekend after midsumma over three days. Fourth year running and it's increasing. UMSU Queer could make an appearance.

Lauren asks whether Queer Lunch will be moved permanently to the Arts Lab this year. Ciara will book Arts Lab every week when she has access to the booking service.

Karl: "Arts Lab can get crowded, would training rooms be possible?"

Ciara: "Arts Lab is good as it's next to Queer Space. We wouldn't want to have Lunch outside as it could out people."

Options for a bigger venue for the first week of the semester will be explored.

8. Next Meeting

TBD via doodle poll

9. Close

Meeting Closed at 3:34pm

