

University of Melbourne Student Union
Minutes of the Education Committee



Meeting 7/08

CONFIRMED

10.00 am. 8th May 2008

Location: Office Bearer Space, Union House

Meeting declared open by Education Public Officer, Robert Anderson-Hunt at 10.30 am with apologies for revised starting time but a couple of members were unavoidably late.

Rob apologised for no typed agenda because of severe power outage late yesterday afternoon that affected Union House and read out the Agenda:

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Election of Chair
- 1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.3 Attendance
- 1.4 Adoption of Agenda

2. Office Bearers' Reports

3. Education Conference

4. Save Arts Campaign

5. Next Meeting

6. Close

Agenda Item 1: Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: There being no other nominations Robert Anderson-Hunt elected chair
Moved: Robert Anderson-Hunt; Seconded: Onagh Bishop
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

1.3 Attendance

Scarlet Love, Robert Anderson-Hunt, Rebecca Barrigós, Lucy Maxwell, Onagh Bishop, Lawrence Frawley, David Hammerton

1.4 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: The agenda adopted
Moved: Chair
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Agenda Item 2: Office Bearer Reports

Onagh Bishop tabled and spoke to her report:

Education (academic affairs) Report

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Student Representative Network

At the last Student's Council we finally had a new member appointed to the Staffing Subcommittee. There have been a few Office Bearer resignations, in addition to the need to open up nominations for first year appointments to each of the Course Standing Committees.

I am currently in negotiations to have another all of University email sent out, which will get the ball rolling for the application review and appointment process.

Academic Board

Libby Buckingham and myself both spoke around the Arts Faculty at the April Academic Board. Both Glyn Davis and Mark Considine responded, without referring to any of the issues we raised. The sentiment of the Board was generally supportive of our statements, however.

Policy and Procedures Working Group

The Assessment Policy has now gone through its final working group draft and is being sent through committees and faculties for consultation. If you would like to find out more about the policy and its review process, please see me after.

Higher Education Review Working Group

The Draft Paper for the Higher Education Review will become available in June. Hopefully it will also receive a lot of attention and discussion at Education Conference during the mid-winter break. At the next Student's Council I intend to open up nominations for a working group that will meet intensively over the break and draft a submission to the review process. If you would like to see the terms of reference for the review, please let me know.

As part of training for this project, I would also seek the committee's approval of a six monthly subscription to *Campus Review*. *Campus Review* is Australia's only weekly higher education publication written for the sector by an independent voice. As the only newspaper in Australia dedicated to reporting higher education and vocational education and training issues, *Campus Review*'s weekly news and analysis is unrivalled. *Campus Review* is a subscription-based publication delivered in a hard copy format

Recommendation: That Education Committee authorise \$105 from the Training and Development line to cover the subscription cost for *Campus Review*.

Motion 3: That Education Academic Officer Report including recommendation be adopted.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Robert ceded chair to Onagh while he gave his report

Robert tabled and spoke to the following Education Public Report:

Ed Public OB Report

A few big things at the moment:

1. Growing Esteem: A Melbourne University Board Game is going into the next edition of Farrago. It looks great, thanks to Zoe for layout & imagery.
2. We're all getting geared up for the big Save Arts action on Monday May 12th. More promotion today, speak-out on the day and a march around campus to gather numbers will be proposed on the day.
3. Scrap VSU postcards need to go out today!

Recommendations:

1. That Rob Anderson-Hunt be reimbursed \$20 for P.A. hire for the mock auction/speak-out on April 16th. That this money come from the Internal Campaigns line of the Ed Public budget.
2. That Lisa McOrist be reimbursed \$95.63 for materials for the Education Action Collective working-bee on 30 April, including red A4 paper, purple fabric, red card and thick white card. That this money come from the Internal Campaigns line of the Ed Public budget.
3. That the Education Committee authorise up to \$200 expenditure for materials and costs relating to the action on Monday, including but not limited to noisemakers, sign materials, P.A. hire. That this money come from the Internal Campaigns line of the Ed Public budget.
4. That the Education Committee move \$200 from the national campaigns line of the Education Public Affairs budget to the postage line of the Education Public Affairs budget and authorise the expenditure of up to \$200 postage on sending the "Scrap VSU" postcards to Julia Gillard.
 - Rob tabled receipts for the first two recommendations that required reimbursement
 - He will be attending the NTEU workloads campaign meeting today and may get to speak.

General discussion around recommendations 3 and 4 in his report.

Rebecca Barrigos moved an amendment to recommendation 3 that the Committee authorise \$600 expenditure in case a small marquee is need because of rain. This was accepted by Robert after checking that there was still \$2000 left in that budget line.

A question was asked if it was necessary to have \$200 for postage to send postcards to Julia Gillard because they would be sent in bulk in a postage bag but because there is only a small amount in the budget line and still a semester to campaign the Committee decided to leave the amount as it stands.

Motion 4: That the Education Pubic Affairs Report be adopted with the four recommendations including the amendment to recommendation 3 making it \$600 and not \$200.

Moved: Robert Anderson-Hunt; Seconded: Rebecca Barrigos

CARRIED

Robert resumed chair

Agenda Item 3: Education Conference

The conference is in Queensland this year at the QUT in Brisbane on 25th – 27th June and because of the cost of travel subsidies will be needed.

Rob suggested that the minimum commitment should be the payment of delegate's registration fee of \$75 with a preference to active members of committee, office bearers and education collective.

General discussion:

- What is a reasonable amount to subsidise?
- How much should the pool of money be?
- Who should be subsidised?
- Should everyone receive the same amount?
- Is there a limit to the subsidy?
- Cheap flights are still expensive
- Money will come from both education officers' budgets
- What was last year's budget?
- Important that activists from collective attend – some are very keen to go
- Onagh concerned that some people will not attend like last year when Union paid for them

- In principle commitment of paying registration of those who want to go, then later the committee go through applications and make a decision of extra subsidy?
- Money should be distributed equally
- Money will come from the Campaign budget lines

Rob suggested setting aside \$2500 for the conference subsidies – the highest Committee should go
Onagh suggested \$2000

Rebecca noted that if 25 people go then subsidy only \$100 if the kitty is \$2500. After registration that is only \$25 towards fares and/or accommodation – not an excessive amount

Lucy requested Rob check how much is in campaign budget lines

**10.55am Meeting recessed for 5 minutes while Rob collected copy of budget.
Onagh left for an 11.00am appointment
David Hammerton arrived**

Meeting resumed when Rob returned with copy of budget and committee was assured that there would be plenty of money left in Campaign line for next semester

Motion 5: That Education Committee open applications for subsidies for people to go to Education Conference. That these subsidies cover the registration fee of \$75 and preference active members of the Education Collective. That total grants do not exceed \$2500 and that this money come from the international and national campaign lines in the Education Departments' budgets.

Moved; Rebecca Barrigos; Seconded: Lawrence Frawley

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Agenda Item 4: Save Arts Campaign

1. Rob explained there is an action planned for Monday and everyone must work towards its success
2. Rebecca said collective is organising daily stalls on campus to raise awareness and taking petitions around areas where students congregate
3. Yesterday staffed stalls for an hour before collective met and Rebecca personally spoke to 50 people and the response is overwhelmingly positive
4. This is the first big public demonstration for the campaign. It is not a forum so need a big show of students to make an impact
5. There will be a table set up at 12 today in Union House
6. Rob has leaflets to distribute and will be going out again today with Mongo the gorilla mascot, who is a great drawcard
7. The campaign also includes letters, petitions, student reps on university councils raising the matter, filming the Speak Out

Agenda Item 5: Next Meeting

A need to set the next Education Committee meeting prior to Education Conference to approve subsidies.

Motion 6: That the Education Committee next meet on Thursday 22nd May 2008 at 10.00am in the Office Bearer Space

Moved; Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

7. Close

Meeting closed at 11.08 am