

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Disabilities Committee

Confirmed Minutes

29th January 2pm

Meeting 2(18)

Location: OB Space

Meeting opened 2:05

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Petition to have meeting without the agenda submitted two business days in advance. Passed. (Signatures attached)
- 1.2 Election of Chair
Motion to elect Hien Nguyen as chair. Carried without dissent.
- 1.3 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.4 Attendance
Hien Nguyen, Jacinta Dowe, Ankita Panjraton, Lucy Birch, Dannielle Thorman, Bridie Cochrane-Holley.
- 1.5 Apologies
Russell Wong
- 1.6 Proxies
None.
- 1.7 Membership
No changes
- 1.8 Adoption of Agenda
Correction to the second Key Activity titled “Australian Network Disability Promotion & Info Session”. Should refer to “AND” not “AND/PACE”.
Motion to adopt the agenda with this correction: Hien Nguyen.
Ankita: Seconded
In favour: all.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion to confirm the previous minutes: Hien Nguyen.
seconded: Jacinta
in favour: All.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

4. Correspondence

None.

5. Office Bearer Report

Key Activities

Website Updates

We've been writing draft additions to our community page of compiled resources for mental health. We are going to meet with Clare from Counselling and Psychiatric Services to discuss these pages to make sure they are accurate and worded appropriately, to optimally benefit students. We are also hoping to write a 'Alternatives to Self-Harm' page and potentially run it through comms, print and place it in bathroom stalls around campus.

Australian Disability Network Promotion & Info Session

We've organised a AND/PACE workshop for the 15th March. We have also printed some promotional material for them to put up in our notice board, and in our office and disabilities space. We have also organised for a representative to come down to the Carnival Day stall to talk to people there.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Since the last report, we have calenderised and produced promotional material through comms for two upcoming events: SEDS info session and DisabiliTea, and completed our OH&S plan. We have had meetings with people from both SEDS and Advocacy to discuss their input to the info sessions. This project was set back slightly when we found out that the location booked cannot be confirmed until week one because it is a teaching space. Since we've already put the location on all our promotional material this is a bit of an issue – Isobel is trying to find a backup location and see if she can get confirmation earlier so we have enough time to promote the event.

We also received the fidget cubes we ordered for the department – they are multi coloured and pretty cool. We're going to put a bunch in the new Disabilities Space once we have access to it and have some with the sensory toys at carnival day, but they are not going to be given away.

Fair Food have not been running on campus for the past month but they are back now and we're in the process of organising a meeting with them for our collab workshop.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	21/12/2017	Facebook boost for event (SEDS info workshop)	Up to \$80	0 Week	Spending \$3.80 a day for the next three weeks (starting 12 th Jan)

1	21/12/2017	Office Supplies	\$80	Office Supplies	\$72
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6. Other Reports

None.

7. Motions on Notice

7.1. Summerfest Events

For O Week we will be running three events: DisabiliTea, SEDS info workshop, and Carnival day.

Motion: to spend up to \$1800 on each event, from the \$5500 passed from budget line ‘O-Week’ in the last committee meeting.

Ankita asked how much money would really be needed for DisabiliTea. Hien stated that since quotes are not yet available we have divided up the available money from the budget equally and will move where necessary. Any leftover money will be returned to the budget.

Moved: Hien Nguyen

Seconded: Dannielle Thorman

in favour: All

7.2. AND info workshop

We have been in contact with the Australian Network on Disabilities about having another info session like last years. That even was not widely attended, we are hoping to get a bigger pull this year by having it earlier in the semester and advertising ahead of time.

Motion: To spend up to \$80 to advertise for AND info workshop from budget line Special Projects and Events.

Bridie asks what form the advertisement will take. Dannielle suggests LMS alerts. Ankita suggests sending out emails. Some discussion over email lists from SEDS and whether people will feel uncomfortable receiving emails because they’re registered with SEDS. Bridie asks if we could do it anonymously.

Moved: Jacinta

Seconded: Lucy

Abstained: Ankita

In favour: Lucy, Dannielle, Bridie.

Carried.

7.3. Department Guide Submissions

We would like to pay for artistic and creative writing submissions for our 2018 Department Guide as a way of directly benefiting students with disabilities while encouraging them to engage with our department. We’ve decided to accept up to ten people’s writing submissions (three submissions per person) and up to 5 art submissions, and to pay them \$25 per person. We would also like to ask our committee (you) to judge which submissions to accept. It would also be good to get self-written bios (about a paragraph or so) from each

of you to put into the department guide with a photo each, if you are comfortable with the idea!

Motion: to move \$375 from budget line “Special Projects and Events” to pay students for Department Guide submissions.

Some discussion over voting process if committee members are submitting. Decided that committee members can simply abstain from voting on their own piece. Submissions could potentially be sent in emails as a blind voting process so other members won't know who is abstaining.

Moved: Hien Nguyen

Seconded: Dannielle Thorman

In favour: all.

7.4. Office Maintenance

Motion: to pass up to \$20 a month for office maintenance.

moved: Hien Nguyen

Seconded: Ankita Panjratana

in favour: All.

8. **Motions Without Notice**

Ankita: motion to go paperless for meetings.

Seconded: Jacinta

in favour: all.

9. **Other Business**

9.1. UMSU sleepover is coming up and we need some volunteers to help us run a board games room. At least two supervisors will need to be in the room awake at all times, so Hien and I will need some people to help out for when we need to take breaks/naps etc. Volunteers get free tickets.

Lucy and Ankita are willing to volunteer but need a specific date.

9.2 Neuro-divergence Collective

Welfare has come to us about running a neuro-divergence collective (similar to the anxiety support group but more broad) for students with mental illness/disability. Because our budget line for collectives only has enough for two collectives per week, we can replace anxiety collective with neuro-divergence collective, run them both on alternating weeks, or move money from budget line ‘Special Projects and Events’. (This is if our committee thinks a neuro-divergence collective is a good idea).

Please discuss.

Dannielle asks for the cost of running a collective -\$50/week. Asks if we can move any money left over from Summerfest. Hien says yes. Ankita suggests a trial period to see who is interested. Hien suggests alternating weeks, Dannielle agrees this is a good idea. Ankita asks about the name “neuro divergence collective”. Discussion over whether this is a term that people will identify with. Ankita suggests to go back to welfare and ask about aims/target demographic. Dannielle suggests creating an online forum or different

formats like a magazine. Hien mentions distancing between mental illness and disability. Dannielle suggests the name “Mental Wellness Group”. Lucy mentions that this might help move people who don’t identify as mentally ill towards counselling. Ankita points out it is also inclusive of anyone struggling. Lucy asks about sub committee.

10. Next Meeting

Monday 12th February 2pm, OB space.

11. Closed at 2:45pm