

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Clubs & Societies Committee



CONFIRMED Minutes

12:00 pm Tuesday July 3rd, 2018

Special Meeting 02/18

**Location:
C&S Office, 1st floor Union House**

Meeting petitioned by Nancy Ciara Griffiths, Christopher Melenhorst, Joshua Bruni and Samuel Gard, to discuss the matters involving Fintech Hub in the agenda presented, and waiving notice requirements.

Meeting opened at 12:05pm by Mathew Simkiss

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: To elect Matthew Simkiss as chair.

Mover: Matthew Simkiss

Seconded: Joshua Bruni

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged

1.3. Attendance

C&S Committee: Nancy Ciara Griffiths, Christopher Melenhorst, Joshua Bruni and Samuel Gard

Office Bearers: Matthew Simkiss

Staff: Fiona Sanders

Fintech Hub: Shunshun, Hanjie, Tony Cui, Tianqi, Gary Man, Katie Yang

1.4. Apologies

Dorothy Coco Kirkcaldie Bowell, Raphael Canty

1.5. Proxies

Dorothy Coco Kirkcaldie Bowell to Samuel Gard, Raphael Canty to Joshua Bruni

1.6. Membership

N/A

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Conflict of interests

Name	Conflicts of interests declared
Christopher Melenhorst	Tabletop Gaming Society, Coffee Appreciation For Enthusiasts, and Melbourne University Potter Heads
Daniel Sango	Arts Students Society
Dorothy Coco Kirkcaldie Bowell	Science Students Society
Eleanor Seale	Friends Of Unnatural Llamas, and Melbourne University Classics and Archaeology Society
Joshua Bruni	Pirates
Matthew Simkiss	None
Nancy Ciara Griffiths	Friends Of Unnatural Llamas, Fantasy and Science Fiction Appreciation Society, and Melbourne University Classics and Archaeology Society
Samuel Gard	Spirits, Liqueur, and Cocktail Appreciation Society, Monarchist Society of Victoria, Melbourne University Freedom Society, Vexillologists of Melbourne University
Raphael Canty	Engineering Music Society, and PAWS

3. Correspondence

As circulated from both Fintech Hub contacts.

4. Recommendation from C&S Coordinator

Coordinator gives committee an update

- Tony spoke to Fiona after the meeting alleging Shunshun is the director of a fintech club and that he posted denigrating material in the WeChat.
- Fiona asked Tony to draft a diffusing letter.
- Fiona reflects on our role in this and that C&S doesn't have the role of mediating unaffiliated groups but deciding on affiliation. There was not one specific incident that caused this but a variety of them.
- No assertion that the ownership of the company and the conflict it provides is the reason for the recommendation but it does exist and needs to be considered.
- Concerns exist about the conduct between members and things said in the WeChat.
- Asks the committee to consider is this a thing UMSU wants to be connected to or a healthy way to start a club.
- 4.1.3 is especially relevant as both sides keep giving different accounts of events and interactions, and both have provided only partially translated WeChat conversations.

Discussion had between committee and coordinator.

- Industry connection is not necessarily bad but it does need to be declared.
- If the club isn't affiliated then they can reapply again and committee can reconsider then if the current problems don't exist.
- Discussion on how our department mediates existing clubs but this club isn't affiliated yet and is a drain on resources.

Coordinator lists major issues and concerns:

- Lack of clarity about pre-IGM negotiations and deals.

- IGM minutes inconsistent with the Returning Officer's report.
- Partially translated WeChat from both parties so no idea what the rest of the messages say.
- Hostility between parties including the edited YouTube video.

NCG – C&S ideals not upheld and the environment of the club is a risk to UMSU's reputation.

Joshua Bruni – Wants to know why the club wants to keep going in the current environment.

Fiona Sanders – C&S has no power to mediate, investigate or judge.

NCG – C&S shouldn't have this obligation either and affiliation is a privilege.

Matthew Simkiss – One of the reasons this meeting happened quickly was to put a stop to the hostility and protect students. Rejecting the affiliation is also likely to achieve this.

Club Founders and members given a chance to speak

Tony

- Feels guilty that this has happened and the club is being considered for rejection.
- Thanked Chris for listening to him at the last meeting.
- Scared the last meeting and came across as a dictator. He is sorry for this as he wasn't sure how to respond last time.
- Doesn't want the club to end because they have already put in large amounts of work.
- They already have a professor helping them do work for the club and have reached out to various organisations like venture capitalists etc.
- This is only a personal dispute between Tony and Shunshun so doesn't want the club to suffer and has offered to quit.
- Can provide evidence of work done.

Shunshun

- The company has a relationship with the club but wanted to make the club for students.
- If the company was the reason then why would they invite other people to be a part of it like Tony.
- Other students will run the club next semester and if affiliation is rejected then people will just affiliate it next semester so there is no point rejecting it.

Tianqi (Secretary)

- Introduces herself as the committee representative to speak on behalf of their whole committee.

Katie

- Introduces herself as the representative to speak on behalf of the members.
- Fintech is a hot topic right now and this decision affects the whole membership, not just a few people.
- The club provides a large benefit to students.

Gary Man

- The members want to be able to enjoy the benefits of the club

Tony

- Doesn't want personal disputes to ruin the club and happy to discuss things with Shunshun.

Procedural Motion 1: To go en camera.
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Mover: Joshua Bruni Seconder: Chair
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Procedural Motion 2: To invite Fiona en camera.

Mover: Chair
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Procedural Motion 3: To go ex camera.

Mover: Chair
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 3: To reject the affiliation of Fintech Hub.

Mover: Chair
For: 4 Against: 0 Abstentions: 2
CARRIED

Motion 4: To allow Fintech Hub to reapply next semester, and if the new contacts accept the constitution they can start at the IGM stage.

Mover: Chair
For: 6
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Matthew Simkiss informs the club they can continue operating as a student group and not to stop.

Tony asked some questions of how the process worked and it was noted he had been telling people the club had been affiliated already. If the club is affiliated next semester they will be around for semester 1 2019 orientation to get new members.

Meeting closed at 1:03pm