



Adelaide University Union Board Meeting Minutes

For the meeting on 17th of January 2022

In the Board Room at 5:30pm

Present:	
Oscar Zi Shao Ong (President)	Gary Sutherland (Observer) (Zoom)
Isaac Trumble (Vice-President)	Michael Physick (Observer) (Zoom)
Luke Allen (Executive, Clubs Committee Chair) (Zoom)	
Emily Deng (Executive) (Zoom)	
Yi-Ruei (Esther) Hung (Executive)	Visitors:
Oliver Douglas (Student Media Committee Chair)	Grace Atta
Grace Franco	
Rebecca Etienne (Zoom)	Minutes Secretary:
Felix Eldridge	Chuyue (Angela) Qin

The meeting opened at 5:34pm.

1. Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners and Apologies

OO

We would like to Acknowledge that the land we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their Country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

OO

That all directors and officers in attendance declare that they have read and considered all papers within this agenda that require decision making and have no known conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to those matters.

The board moved in-camera at 5:34pm.

The board moved ex-camera at 6:32pm.

3. Unstarred Agenda Items

OO

Felix Eldridge asked to star item 4 and 9.

Recommendation:

That all unstarred items are approved.

Moved: Yi-Ruei (Esther) Hung

Seconded: Felix Eldridge

CARRIED

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

OO

Felix Eldridge asked his comment for item 3 to be amended and he will send the wording over to be changed. He asked his comment in Any Other Business to be noted as a joke and pointed out that Oliver Douglas's name was spelt wrong.

Recommendation:

That the Board accepts the amended minutes of the meeting of the 14th December 2021 as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Grace Franco

Seconded: Yi-Ruei (Esther) Hung

CARRIED

5. AUU President's Report*

OO

Oscar Zi Shao Ong went through his report.

Felix Eldridge asked about compulsory vaccination. Oscar Zi Shao Ong said that the student bit will likely be addressed by the SRC instead, but he expressed the disagreement that students being excluded from classes and unable to continue.

Grace Franco asked about the negative RAT test results and whether the university would be providing them. Oscar Zi Shao Ong said that the university will only provide them for students with medical exemptions. He noted that the AUU has also purchased RAT tests for staff.

Grace Franco asked whether the AUU will create a vaccination policy. Oscar Zi Shao Ong said that for the AUU Board, they would follow the university's policy. Gary Sutherland added that while the policy would be similar to that of the university's, negotiation and consultation process would still need to take place. This process has already started.

Luke Allen asked whether it would be AUU's responsibility to check vaccination status during O'Week. Gary Sutherland said that it should be the university's responsibility.

6. SRC President Report

AO

7. Clubs Committee Chair Report*

LA

Luke Allen said that there hasn't been a meeting, but another meeting will be arranged soon. Oscar Zi Shao Ong added that grant applications have opened for all clubs.

Felix Eldridge asked about Luke Allen's opinion on board directors attending club committee meetings as observers. Luke Allen mentioned the board elected him to represent the board in clubs committee meetings.

8. Student Media Committee Chair Report*

OD

Oliver Douglas said that the first student media committee meeting was good, and it was great to be introduced to staff and media directors. The student radio is going to move towards a livestream format instead.

Grace Franco asked how many editions On Dit are expected to produce per year. Oliver Douglas answered that they are expected to produce 10 editions.

9. Rule Concerning Student Media

OO

Oscar Zi Shao Ong introduced the item and said that the objective for the amendment is to ensure On Dit Editors are also governed by the defamation act, as well as to broaden definitions to include all media content On Dit published in various channels.

Isaac Trumble amended clause 6.9 and 7.9 to remove "Familiar with and".

Grace Franco asked whether clause 2.5 only include content published by AUSM directors or all content published by AUU. Isaac Trumble clarified that it would be the former definition. Felix Eldridge asked

whether it would be the content published in AUSM editor's official capacity, to which Isaac Trumble confirmed. Grace Franco suggested this could be added in the wording to clarify.

Michael Physick left the meeting at 6:57pm.

Oscar Zi Shao Ong asked whether the On Dit account on online platform, Medium, is owned by the AUU. Gary Sutherland said that the account is owned by AUU, but staff generally do not control content published on the platform.

Grace Atta asked whether the intention of clause 6.9 and 7.9 is to prevent potential defamation caused by content of On Dit, to which Oscar Zi Shao Ong agreed to. Grace Atta said that in such cases, the writer of the article would have liability, to which Gary Sutherland clarified that the AUU can still be sued and would be liable for defaming content. Isaac Trumble agreed and said that AUU as the account owner would be liable.

Felix Eldridge said that all students are already included in the Equal Opportunity Policy and asked the intention of including it in the rules. Oscar Zi Shao Ong said that this would act as a reminder to the AUSM directors.

Felix Eldridge said that he is concerned that both the Equal Opportunity Policy and the Defamation Act are long and complicated, and suggested an amendment to Clause 5.3, reading "that the training must include a practical walkthrough of all the legal obligation".

Isaac Trumble disagreed and state that it should be the reporter's responsibility to understand the obligation. Gary Sutherland added that professionally trained staff, such as Kearin Hausler, could also assist in this area.

Felix Eldridge argued that it would still be good to include a walkthrough of the Defamation Act during AUSM director training. Oscar Zi Shao Ong said that the university has created formal document and guide on this act that AUSM directors can access.

Felix Eldridge asked for a clarification over "all matters not within the jurisdiction". Oscar Zi Shao Ong clarified that currently the committee could only decide whether AUSM director in question has breached their director duty and could only suggest removing the director. He explained that it is more flexible to have more options when making recommendations. The composition of the independent committee is

explained to the board as the AUU President, the Executive Officer, and a nominate of student care.

Felix Eldridge asked whether different types of recommendations could be listed to which Oscar Zi Shao Ong dismissed the idea as unpractical.

Felix Eldridge asked whether the committee could refer the matter to the university, and what would happen in that case. Felix Eldridge asked about potential other actions that the board could take to reprimand AUSM director, to which Oscar Zi Shao Ong listed a few actions such as mediation session or reducing honorarium could be potential options.

Felix Eldridge asked the motions to be moved in two sections.

Recommendation:

Regarding the power granted in Clause 20 of the AUU Constitution, this Board resolves to:

Add:

Clause 2.5 “AUSM content” means any content published and/or distributed by AUSM Director and/or AUSM volunteer which include but not limited to: an issue of On Dit Magazine, an AUSM social media post, an AUSM online article, an AUSM podcast.

Clause 6.9 act within the Equal Opportunity Policy and Student Misconduct Rules of the University, and Defamation Act 2005 (SA) at all times.

Clause 7.9 act within the Equal Opportunity Policy and Student Misconduct Rules of the University, and Defamation Act 2005 (SA) at all times.

Amend:

Clause 2.2. “AUSM Director” means an On Dit Magazine Editor or an On Dit Radio Director.

Moved: Isaac Trumble

Seconded: Oliver Douglas

CARRIED

Felix Eldridge disagreed on the grounds that he has taken the stance previously as On Dit director on content control.

Recommendation:

Regarding the power granted in Clause 20 of the AUU Constitution, this Board resolves to:

Amend:

Clause 10.3 The Independent Committee must determine whether the AUSM Director/s named in the Resolution of Board breached an AUSM Director Obligation. The committee may make any recommendations as it sees fit, in all matters not within the jurisdiction and not provided for in these Rules, provided that they act fairly.

Clause 13.2 The AUU may prevent and/or remove the distribution of any AUSM content if the AUU has reasonable grounds to fear successful legal action may be taken against it should the content be distributed.

and authorises the EO to alter the Master Copy accordingly.

Moved: Isaac Trumble

Seconded: Oliver Douglas

Felix Eldridge, Grace Franco, Rebecca Etienne dissented the motion.

CARRIED

10. Any Other Business*

Felix Eldridge mentioned that he was recently elected as the president of Labor club, noting that there could be potential conflict of interest arising. To mediate, he has delegated the vice president as the spokesperson of the club.

Oscar Zi Shao Ong appreciated his effort but noted that there could be times when a conflict of interest is unavoidable, and he should be putting the AUU first. Felix Eldridge said that he understands, and hence he is mentioning these in advance.

Grace Franco asked about board director's role during O'Week. Oscar Zi Shao Ong replied that board directors are expected to volunteer, and a timetable will be sent out soon.

11. In Camera Items*

The board moved in-camera at 7:19pm.

The board moved ex-camera at 7:46pm.

10. Close:

The meeting was closed at 7:46pm.

Next Meeting:

09/02/2022

Close of Submissions:

COB 02/02/2022

Persons Responsible for Agenda Items:

Oscar Ong (OO)

Ana Obradovic (AO)

Luke Allen (LA)

Oliver Douglas (OD)