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**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

**2021 Meeting 3 - March**

Wednesday February 30th – 5:00-7:00pm

**Agenda**

1. **Procedural Matters**
   1. Welcome, Introduction, and Apologies
   2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians of the Land
   3. Declarations of Interest
   4. Starring of Items
   5. Order of Business
   6. Confirmation of Previous Minutes
   7. Confirmation of Member Reports
   8. Action Sheet from Previous Meeting
2. **General Business of the Council**
   1. Report from the Chair
   2. Report from Student Representation & Participation
   3. Report from Collectives
   4. Report on SRC Budget
   5. Reports and Recommendations from SRC Committees
3. **New Business of the Council**
   1. Absentee Voting

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| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Combating Agenda Items Failing To Pass, Simply Through Lack Of Quorum |
| **Date** | 19/03/2021 |
| **Mover** | Simon Preuss-Kearney |
| **Seconder** | Danielle Hope Albertine |

*Issue Description:*

Two of the previous three SRC monthly meeting have failed to achieve quorum and it has either resulted in agendas being delayed a month (from Dec to Jan meeting) or (in February) needing an extensive flying minutes list be made to try and make up from the missed agenda items (with some important agendas being missed due to the big logistical task of putting that flying minute package together). This has raised the question of what we as the SRC are meant to do if most members can’t attend at the same time.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

Any that are included in the agenda items.

*Recommendation:*

It is recommended we introduce a new expectation for reps who send apologies to also put in their votes for agenda items. This would entail of a vote of either YES/ABSTAIN/NO.   
  
For example: how you would do this vote beneath your apologies:   
Item 1.1 – Simon’s proposal that the SRC teaches all chickens it encounters to do backflips - no matter the circumstance or how widely inappropriate that might be. Vote: NO – Because you are an absolute nut Simon (comments are complete optional, and should be as constructive as possible, unless it’s your own agenda 😉)

This would be a simple addition to the list where you copy either the full proposed action or simply the agenda number list and vote on each one. There is nothing wrong with abstaining from all of them, but please do not do this simply because you didn’t read the agenda. Put your best approximation of what your vote would be from skimming over the agenda items at the minimum.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

The reason is clear: We cannot fulfil our role as an SRC without passing our agenda items. It is not sensible to be unable to pass agendas simply because we cannot all be together at once. We should utilise the strength of modern communication, being able to email reply when we want 1am, 2pm – doesn’t matter as long as it’s before the deadline. It makes sense that if we are sending an email for the apologies anyway, why not just include our votes into that. It simply means that when we do the meeting, the time the people who can attend is not wasted, and we can get the numbers to pass the agendas - even if quorum is not possible. It makes sense to solve this so that we can get our agendas passed and return to our previous productive meetings that we started with (the glory days - back when Nikodin lived on a resort in zoom).

*Budget Impact:*

None

*Proposed Action:*

I propose the SRC makes a commitment to always vote on agenda items alongside their emailed apologies (unless the usual exceptional circumstance requirement is met). This will be listed with agenda item numbers and/or proposed actions and be paired with one of these the selected responses: YES/ABSTAIN/NO.

* 1. SRC Chess Challenge

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| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Purchase Wooden Chess Board |
| **Date** | 08/03/2021 |
| **Mover** | Simon Preuss-Kearney |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

*Background information to the passed agenda item:*  
In the previous unofficial meeting (due to lack of quorum) I raised the idea of me bring in a chess board and allowing students to challenge for prizes. It was suggested that the SRC could purchase a chess board for themselves and then fund a small prize for a win (competing student only eligible).    
  
*Additionally:*  
The SRC has now acquired a chess board the chess challenge and for us to use overall. This is a decent board and good quality, but considering the many uses we can get out of decent boards and our substantial budget, I suggest we acquire an additional board for the SRC – a high quality wooden one.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*  
SRC members can utilise a high quality chess board. Student clubs can request to use the current competition chess board, and we will have the wooden set to utilise for the current chess challenge. All students who challenge myself can win a price, and this can be extended to any SRC member who wishes to also utilise this challenge format.

*Recommendation:*

For the SRC to purchase and acquire a high quality wooden competitive chess board. The remaining budget can be recycled into gift vouchers to be redeemed at the local cafes on Campus (For example, Kingswood vendors such as 3 cows, subway, Piccolo Me, etc).

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

The reason we would offer this is it would encourage students to meet there SRC and get to know them in an inadvertent way (I.e. by playing for a prize which isn’t SRC related), by opens just channels to have natural dialog between SRC members and the attending students. This also supports the local business that want to get involved as it allows them to introduce themselves to students, and give them a little bit of money in this tough time. This also increases our visibility to the vendors who can recommend us to any student who may mention their concerns, which the SRC could deal with, but they are unaware of who we are or how to contact us.    
Lastly, the reason we might acquire a chess board is to allow the possibility of future competition style events we can put on, using our own board as the resource. This could be used for SRC events and/or clubs could apply to borrow our board for their own tournament.    

*Budget Impact:*

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| Items | Quotes/Cost |
| Competition standard chess board | $70-120 |
| Food vouchers ($10 each) | $100 (approved but not yet utilised) |
| Total approved: | $220 |
| Total used so far: | $84.95 |
| Total remaining: | $115.05 |
| Additional fund requested (estimation) | $250 (board and left over the prize pool) |

**Proposed Action:**

I propose the SRC funds the purchase of one high quality wooden chess board, and the remaining budget be added to the food vouchers for any winning student challenges.

* 1. Budget Approval for 2020 Diversity Fest

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| **Issue** | Budget Approval for 2020 Diversity Fest |
| **Date** | 19/02/2020 |
| **Mover** | Manika Sahni – International Student Rep |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Portfolios Impacted:*

All Students

*Issue:*

The budget request is for the money spent by the international rep on promotional video for diversity fest and Facebook promotion of Employability Webinar held in October 2020. The allocation was approved last year but was not submitted as a budget request in Western Life. As per procedural requirements, the committee needs to approve the budget request again as this request is from previous calendar year.  

*Recommendation:*

To approve $153 for the money spent by international rep on Promotional Video and Facebook Promotion.

*Budget Impact:*

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| =$153  1. Diversity fest promotional video: $125.58  2. Facebook promotion for employability webinar: $27.50 |

*Proposed Action*

I move that the Western Sydney University SRC approves $153 for the money spent by international rep on Diversity Fest Promotional Video and Facebook Promotion of Employability Webinar.

* 1. Welfare Officer

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| **Issue** | Introduction of an Interim Welfare Officer |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Rameez Parkar |
| **Seconder** | Crystal Ram |

*Issue Description:*

In the current Procedures review process the introduction of a new Welfare Officer position has been agreed to. However the review is unlikely to get finalized before the election.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

SRC-WIDE

*Recommendation:*

The creation of an interim Welfare Officer that the SRC will fund till the approval of the Procedures Review.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

A welfare officer position is urgently needed especially in such tumultuous times. The sooner this happens the better.

*Budget Impact:*

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| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| Honorarium | $5000 |

* 1. Ticket Groups at SRC Elections

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| **Issue** | SRC Elections |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Rameez Parkar |
| **Seconder** | Crystal Ram |

*Issue Description:*

The Student Representation Guidelines allow for the candidates in an SRC Election to identify and run as a ticket group on a ballot. At the last election there were technical issues that resulted in tickets not being identified on ballots.

*Recommendation:*

That the SRC call for every step to be taken to allow for tickets to run and for a smooth running of upcoming SRC Elections.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

The best representation for students will come from completive elections with high participation. Allowing tickets and not only results in better compliance with the Guidelines it is also likely to engage more students.

* 1. Moratorium on Uber Eats

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| **Issue** | Terrible conditions faced by UberEats Drivers |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Rameez Parkar |
| **Seconder** | Crystal Ram |

*Issue Description:*

In addition to being poorly paid UberEATS drivers also face terrible conditions. Late last year a student at WSU who worked as an UberEATS drivers unfortunately died in an accident.

*Recommendation:*

That the SRC stop any funding being used for UberEATS whether at events, through vouchers or any other means.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

The SRC has previously given away UberEATS vouchers in giveaways. It is not appropriate for the Western SRC to be supporting a business that has directly exploited the students we represent.

*Budget Impact: None*

* 1. Attack on Worker’s Rights

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| **Issue** | Attack on Worker’s Rights |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Rameez Parkar |
| **Seconder** | Crystal Ram |

*Issue Description:*

The Federal Government has launched an attack on worker rights in its latest Industrial Relations Omnibus Bill. It represents the strongest attack on workers’ rights since Work Choices.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

All

*Recommendation:*

1. Call on the Federal Government to entirely drop the bill in its entirety.
2. Work with Unions NSW on a campaign to inform students about their rights and forms of redress in cases they are not receiving their entitlements.
3. Issue a resource informing students about resources available on campus that may help them with issue they may have.
   1. Respectful Relationship Taskforce Module

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| **Issue** | Respectful Relationship Taskforce Module |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Rameez Parkar |
| **Seconder** | Griffen Burgess |

*Issue Description:*

The Respectful Relationships Taskforce has created a module that we can potentially use

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

*Recommendation:*

Work with staff to see in what ways we can implement the module and resources from the Taskforce.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

To ensure the safest possible experience for all students.

*Budget Impact:*

None

* 1. Mobile Phone Charging Station at Parramatta South

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| **Issue** | Mobile Phone Charging Station at Parramatta South |
| **Date** | 23rd March 2021 |
| **Mover** | Pearl Chung |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

I received an email from Marissa Waddington to pass on a request for mobile phone charging stations, consistently asked by Parramatta South students.

I have found a few links here to a variety of charging options.

1. [Orotec Triple Mobile Charger Pad Qi-compatible Wireless Charging & USB 2.0 Ports $67](https://www.dicksmith.com.au/da/buy/orotec-wireless-triple-mobile-charger-pad-w-usb-ports-mh-q100/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=product_listing_ads&gclid=CjwKCAjwgOGCBhAlEiwA7FUXkimcuSogUQ-HdcAxP0-2vv35XPXYFbv3QLDYu30jnI7r2Gx4ADtr0hoCPjEQAvD_BwE)
2. [mbeat Gorilla Power 7-Port 60W USB-C & USB-A Charging Station $49.99](https://www.catch.com.au/product/mbeat-gorilla-power-7-port-60w-usb-c-usb-a-charging-station-6357465/?offer_id=31673328&ref=gmc&gclid=CjwKCAjwgOGCBhAlEiwA7FUXkvk-C91CXxrTWkfjquqotm56DUx9gxiUhOCMbNcc_l1VfOUafeE81RoCe_8QAvD_BwE)

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

Parramatta South Campus

*Recommendation:*

The amount proposed covers two Triple Mobile Chargers (Orotec) and two 7-Port 60W USB-C and USB-A charging stations (mbeat) (as outlined above).

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

I recommended 2 varieties of chargers as the first product has 3 wireless charging capacity and the second product has 7 ports for individual users to plug in their various cables for their device. The suggested location on Parramatta South is next to the couch in EF. The chargers can be secured on to tables using double sided adhesive.

*Budget Impact:*

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| --- | --- |
| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| 2 x Oretec Triple Mobile Charger | $134 |
| 2 x mBeat Charging Station | $100 |

*Proposed Action:*

I propose that SRC funds $234.00 for a charging station at Parramatta South.

* 1. Incidentals Budget

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| **Issue** | Incidentals budget for all representatives |
| **Date** | 23/03/2021 |
| **Mover** | Vicky-Rae Renier-Clark |
| **Seconder** | *Robert Reed* |

*Issue Description:* Currently the SRC needs to pass motions for small expenditure as no incidental budgets have been passed for the 2021 term. Given the issues with meeting recurringly being inquorate this creates massive backlogs of work and budget requests for small purchases. I therefore propose that all portfolios are given a small budget allocation of $1000 each to support these small purchases.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

International, Campus and Equity Representatives

*Recommendation:*

I move that the SRC allocates an incidentals budget of $1000 per campus and collective to assist with small purchases.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

See description

*Budget Impact:*

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| --- | --- |
| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| Incidentials budget $1000 x 14 | $ 14,000 |

**Proposed Action:** I move that the SRC allocates $1,000 for each of the campus and equity representatives including international for the purposes of an incidentals budget to the overall total costings of $14,000.

* 1. VPA Portfolio

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| **Issue** | Funding within the portfolio of Vice President - Activities |
| **Date** | 16/02/2021 |
| **Mover** | Nikodin Matic – Vice President Activities |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Portfolios Impacted:*

VPA

*Issue:*

In order to allow me to undertake my responsibilities effectively and to not clog up SRC meeting time to put a motion for multiple budget requests for various events and activities each meeting. 

*Recommendation:*

VPA be allocated a sum of money to allow Nikodin to fulfill my obligations and responsibilities as the Vice President - Activities. 

*Reasons for Recommendation:*

* To not clog up SRC meeting time with each individual budget request for various events and activities.
* To allow me to undertake my role effectively and plan events in advanced.
* Survey by students highlights that SRC events are the second most important thing the SRC should focus on in 2020-21.
* I will implement a forward-thinking long-term investment like approach to ensure a low cost per use per student. This will allow the SRC to maximise value and many of the purchases and ideas will be able to be reused.
* My club won Best Event in 2019 amongst 3 other awards, so I believe that goes towards my credibility in running events that the students enjoy and maximizing a limited budget.
* Furthermore, the SRC has underspent their allocated budget in recent history. So by using the budget in a positive manner that will improve student engagement and events at the University can only be a positive.

*Budget Impact:*

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| VPA Portfolio | $15,000 |

*Proposed Action:*

I move that the Western Sydney University SRC allocates a sum of $15,000 out of the SRC budget to the portfolio of the VPA for events, activities and infrastructure projects. I do this conditionally that the events, activities and infrastructure projects will be distributed amongst the WSU campuses to reach as many students as possible. Furthermore, oversight would be provided by the budget committee chaired by the General Secretary and overseen overall by Grant as the Student Representative Officer for full transparency and oversight.

* 1. SRC Inbox Management

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| **Issue** | Management of SRC Email Inbox |
| **Date** | 23/3/21 |
| **Mover** | Tyler Wilson |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

The SRC inbox is currently the only dedicated formal way students are able to contact the SRC and raise concerns as well as provide suggestions. At current, there is no system in place for the effective management of this inbox and as such, there is ambiguity as to who is to respond to and address inbound communications to the SRC inbox which can cause confusion, lead to lower response times as well as double handling.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

SRC Representatives

*Recommendation:*

I recommend the introduction of a formal policy for SRC Executive Committee to take formal control over the SRC inbox and delegate responsibility to the relevant representative as they see fit. In this way, the Executive will be able to first discuss the nature and requirements of the incoming communication and determine the most suitable representative to handle the enquiry. These enquiries will be added to the action sheet of items for the relevant representative to complete and report back its completion. This policy is not an addition to the procedures but instead is to be considered a ‘by-law’ of the SRC for which we agree to abide by.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

In the past there have been several instances where email communications have not been responded to in a timely manner or at all due to a lack of clear communication as to who will address the enquiry, or the representative not using the ‘reply all’ function so that the rest of the council can see the item has been actioned. Furthermore, this will eliminate any risk of inappropriate communications being sent out on behalf of the SRC as there will be increased oversight on the management of inbound emails. Such policy has been approved by Grant as being a suitable extension to policies of the SRC and not conflicting with any procedures.

*Budget Impact:*

N/A

*Proposed Action:*

I propose that SRC introduces a formal policy that stipulates the SRC Executive shall have authority over the delegation of inbound communications to the SRC email to the relevant representative who will action the item within a stipulated time frame and report back upon its completion. In the instance a representative believes they are able to appropriately action an email prior to its delegation by the Executive, they are to request permission from the Executive outlining their intended response and action items.

1. **Other Business**
2. **Next Meeting and Close**
3. **Additional Documents**
   1. February Action Sheet

*No action sheet for February due to inquorate meeting*