****

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

**2020 Meeting 9 - September**

Tuesday September 29th – 1:00-3:00pm

Meeting ID: 921 7117 0319

**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
      1. SRC Clubs & Activities Committee
3. **New Business of the Council**
   1. Guest Speaker: Pete Maggs (Director of Library Services WSU)
   2. Guest Speaker: National Union of Students NSW Education Vice-President- James Newbold
   3. Developments to the Decommissioned Parramatta North Café
   4. SRC Brand/Eco Friendly Covid19 Masks for Residential Students

3.5 Western Education Action Group

3.6 Employability Webinar

3.7 Activities for Various Campuses

3.8 Activities for Kingswood: Air Hockey Table & PS5

3.8 Drug Safety at WSU

1. **Other Business**
2. **Next Meeting and Close**
3. **Procedural Matters**

**1.1. Welcome, Introduction, and Apologies**

The Chair officially opens the meeting, acknowledging Country, and welcomed members and guests. The following members have provided their apologies for this meeting;

Razin Polara

Crystal Ram

Leanne Markovic

**1.2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians of the Land**

The cultural protocol of the acknowledgment of the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is held on.

**1.3. Declarations of Interest**

The Chair invites the committee to declare any new conflict of interests in relation to any matters on the agenda or their role on the committee more generally.

**1.4. Starring of Items**

The Starring of items is to take place for agenda items requiring additional discussion.

**1.5. Order of Business**

Discussion whether a change to the order of business is required.

**1.6. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

July minutes to be reviewed and confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**1.7. Confirmation of Member Reports**

Member reports submitted and disseminated with meeting paperwork to be confirmed as a true and accurate record of activities.

**1.8. Action Sheet from Previous Meeting**

See ‘Additional Documents’ for list of action items from the July meeting.

1. **General Business of the Council**
   1. **Report from the Chair**

SRC President to provide her report at each monthly meeting of the SRC.

* 1. **Report from Student Representation & Participation**

Staff report and update provided by SR&P at each monthly meeting of the SRC.

* 1. **Report from Collectives**

Report from the Collectives to be provided at each monthly meeting of the SRC.

* 1. **Report on SRC Budget**

Report on SRC Budget to be provided by the General Secretary at each monthly meeting of the SRC.

* 1. **Reports from SRC Committees**
     1. SRC Clubs & Activities Committee

Report and recommendations from Vice President Activities following the SRC Clubs & Activities Committee meeting.

1. **New Business of the Council**

**3.1. Guest Speaker: Pete Maggs (Director of Library Services WSU)**

WSU Director of Library Services Pete Maggs to speak to SRC and meeting attendees about the services that the Library offer, and how the Library can work more with students to tailor to their needs particularly during the pandemic.

Opportunity for students (and staff) to share their experiences, feedback, recommendations, concerns and Q&A for Pete / Library Services.

**3.2. Guest Speaker: National Union of Students NSW Education Vice-President- James Newbold**

Given the current student political climate with fee hikes and funding cuts in universities all around Australia, James from the NUS has been invited to speak about the work of the NUS and how WSU students can find support and take action beyond their university communities.

Opportunity for students (and staff) to find out more about NUS and engage in general discussion about NUS, the fee hikes, funding cuts, etc.

**3.3. Developments to the Decommissioned Parramatta North Café (Simon Preuss-Kearney)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Developments to the Decommissioned Parramatta North Cafe |
| **Date** | 14/09/2020 |
| **Mover** | Simon Preuss-Kearney |
| **Seconder** | Sean Vierik |

*Issue Description:*

The café at Parramatta North was decommissioned in 2016, and while the building has been well maintained, it has yet to be utilised for a further use.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted*:

Residential Students at the WSU Parramatta North Village.

*Recommendation:*

The recommendation is to create a working group, formed with members of the residential village and interested SRC members. They will decide on how to repurpose the space so that it may be utilised, rather than its current status as a pristine empty space.

A current proposed idea is to create a recreational space for the village residents to use. This will act similar a common hangout area. To achieve this coffee and sugar packets would be purchased and left there for students to freely access. The link below is an example of the type of boxes the coffee usually comes in, but I believe the Uni has access to cheaper options to order. (I anticipate that Grant will be able to advise on the Uni supplier which will reduce the cost for us). Other proposed ideas are an air hockey table for the room (adding to the villages’ current table tennis and pool table in the main common area). Additionally, you could get a portable tennis net and/or portable (small) soccer goals, and store them in that room, for access between 9-5pm. If security agrees to monitor this in future discussions, then this is workable.”

https://www.signet.net.au/store/products/10786/nescafe-blend-43-coffee-stick-packs-280-per-pack?PriceDisplay=GstInclusive&gclid=CjwKCAjw19z6BRAYEiwAmo64LVOZrm30QWI96iTlWvRSsKr7zCEBQFL3oZ7Ume6WM3I75m4jXZu7XxoC8D0QAvD\_BwE&fbclid=IwAR08rsvpizJxCx4gzzWtc5QZIdgFsaui9FmMDTt2nqj9SEBAi\_iXLPChqMk

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

I believe this would be an excellent use of our budget, as it provides something for the WSU village students to do will at the village. It encourages keeping active with the sport side, while also fostering more of a community feel, which has been lost in that area where the bus stop is, since the café closed.

*Budget Impact:*

None Currently. Costing will be explored during the discussion at the working group. A cost is expected to be developed and presented by Octobers SRC meeting.

*Proposed Action:*

I move that the Western Sydney University SRC votes on establishing a ‘Parramatta Recreational space working group’, formed with members of the residential village and interested SRC members, to discuss the repurposing of the old Café space at Parramatta North Campus, into a functional, recreational space for WSU North village residents.

**3.4. SRC Brand/Eco Friendly Covid19 Masks for Residential Students**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Price increase of necessary sanitary items during Covid19 Pandemic. |
| **Date** | 29th of September 2020 |
| **Mover** | Sean Vierik |
| **Seconder** | Vageesh Jha |

*Issue Description:*

Due to the Covid19 Pandemic various sanitary items such as masks have become a necessary expense.

Most mask are single time use and have been increasing in price due to demand, this is hard on all students’ expenses.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

All Students, Residential Students, International Students.

*Recommendation:*

I, Sean Vierik move that the SRC fund the $6306 required to purchase 600 custom made masks with SRC branding for residential students, including GST.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

Sanitary items are becoming expensive for all students but those who are suffering isolation in student accommodation and international students who are away from their families, frustrated from the lack of human connection and university facility use require additional support.

The SRC branding will help establish a presence throughout Western Sydney University that we have a health focus by promoting mask usage. The masks will also promote uniformity in this time of crises.

For now, I would like to focus on residential students as there are just under 600 residents and I have support from CLV to transport these masks between villages.

*Budget Impact:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| 600 x SRC Branded Masks | $5340 ($8.90 per mask) |
| Shipping | $120 ($0.20 per mask) |
| GST | $546 |
| Unexpected costs | $300 |
| Total: | $6306 |

*Proposed Action:*

These reusable face masks are made from a polyester compound of 200 gsm, includes inbuilt pouch for antiviral filters.

Normally cloth masks are considered the safest when containing respiratory droplets, but polyester is lightweight and still effective while ideal for sport usage.

These masks can be washed 200 + times.

SRC design with logo to help establish presence throughout Western Sydney University.

These masks are custom made by Delfina Sport based in Melbourne, the following companies have previously ordered custom masks with approval for their quality:

Mercedes, Melbourne Water, GPT Property Group, Ricoh, GenesisCare, Mitsubishi.

<https://www.delfinasport.com>

**3.5. Western Education Action Group**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Student fightback: Fee Hikes, HECS-HELP / FEE-HELP cuts, funding cuts. To establish a Western Education Action Group |
| **Date** | 29th September 2020 |
| **Mover** | Mary-Pearl Chung |
| **Seconder** | Griffen Burgess |

*Issue Description:*

In June, the Coalition Government announced plans to increase the cost of humanities and arts degrees by over a hundred percent while subject areas that are deemed to have higher projected employability will have a decrease in fees by more than sixty percent. The fee hikes and funding cuts will cause significant strain on students and staff within those faculties, and it is very inequitable for students in those streams. The Government’s Job-ready Graduates legislation is also reducing the access to HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP, for students who are deemed to have “low completion or progression rates”.

There is no evidence or sufficient justification that reducing government funding in those said areas will improve Australia’s economy, job-market or the outcomes of current and prospective students.

Other universities in NSW such as UOW, UNSW, USyd and MacquarieU among other campuses have made efforts within their SRC or student unions to act against the fee hikes and cuts in university.

Portfolios/Students Impacted:

*All students / SRC*

*Recommendation:*

Western SRC to establish our own Education Action Group against the fee hikes and cuts; organise rallies, senate enquiries, protests, consultation with university.

Justification/Reason for Recommendation:

Budget Impact:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| Action Group incidentals expenses  (These incidental expenses may include but are not limited to: sourcing face-masks, first-aid equipment, signage, resources for Covid-safe rallies/protests, as an example.) | $300 |

*Proposed Action:*

I move that Western SRC establishes a Western Education Action Group, subsidiary of SRC, to focus on education-related issues and collaborate with broader NUS on the student fightback campaign. WEAG is also to be allocated $300 as an incidentals budget for its endeavours.

**3.6. Employability Webinar**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Webinar hosted by Student Job Australia and supported by NSW Government Small Business |
| **Date** | 29th September 2020 |
| **Budget** | $1000 |
| **Mover** | Manika Sahni |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

International students find it hard to understand the Australian job market. This has been further impacted by the current challenging situation which has led to reduction in job/ internship opportunities for international students in their field of study.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

Aimed at international but open to all

*Recommendation:*

Western SRC to sponsor online webinar to be organized by Student Job Australia and supported by NSW Government Small Business. The webinar would be aimed at bringing students and hiring authorities on a common platform where they will get an opportunity to discuss critical aspects for improving students' employability quotient in Australia which will help them to find suitable employment opportunities in their field of study.

The sponsorship money will be majorly used to give prizes to participants.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

Aim:

Help students understand the viewpoint of employers/ hiring agencies

Provide students an opportunity to network and ask questions to recruiters.

*Proposed Action:*

I move that Western Sydney University SRC votes to sponsor the employability webinar hosted by Student Job Australia and supported by NSW Government Small Business in better interest of students.

**3.7. Activities for Various Campuses**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Activities for various campuses |
| **Date** | 23/09/2020 |
| **Mover** | Nikodin Matic – Vice President Activities |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Portfolios Impacted:*

* Parramatta South Campus Representative, Vice President – Activities.
* Campus Reps – Hawkesbury, Campbelltown, Parramatta South, Parramatta City, Sydney Olympic Park, Nirimba, Bankstown

*Issue:*

* Lack of activities for students

*Recommendation:*

* Approve funds to acquire activities and games so everything can be bought and ready to go for the return to back on campus that is scheduled.

*Reasons for Recommendation:*

* Increase range of activities for students for students to encourage more engagement with fellow students.

*Budget Impact:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | $7450 |

*Proposed Action:*

I move that the Western Sydney University SRC allocates $7450 including a contingency amount to cover delivery and any other costs that might arise for the purchase of various activities at various campuses. Each campus Rep will be responsible for locating a place to host the activities and I am happy to help facilitate that.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Campus | Item/s | Total |
| Hawkesbury | Foosball, Air Hockey, Board Games, TV Stand and TV | $1648.06 plus delivery |
| Campbelltown | Foosball, Air Hockey, Board Games, TV Stand and TV | $1648.06 plus delivery |
| Parramatta South | Foosball, Board Games, TV Stand and TV. | $1148.06 plus delivery |
| Parramatta City | Bean bags x 15 | $510 |
| Sydney Olympic Park | Air Hockey | $500 |
| Bankstown | Air Hockey | $500 |
| Nirimba | Air Hockey | $500 |
| Total |  | $6454.18 plus delivery  $7450.00 (including delivery) |

Foosball Table $129.95 plus delivery.

https://www.catch.com.au/product/all-4-kids-4ft-foosball-soccer-football-table-6354039/?offer\_id=31661710&gclid=Cj0KCQjwvvj5BRDkARIsAGD9vlKLKk0k79AAteVnQt9HDBGffpmOyOvtWhd-9EWVSg5WVNW0xiBjShUaAvvSEALw\_wcB

Foosball replacement balls $11.99

https://www.amazon.com.au/Table-Soccer-Foosballs-Replacements-Black/dp/B0739ZZTC6/ref=asc\_df\_B0739ZZTC6/?tag=googleshopdsk-22&linkCode=df0&hvadid=341773339153&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=6438148789337421055&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=9071878&hvtargid=pla-420322783147&psc=1

Air Hockey Table plus accessories $500

https://www.trsports.com.au/air-hockey-table-s/1820.htm

Big W

* Monopoly $25
* Life $25
* Sequence $25
* Pictionary $25
* second rule $19
* Articulate $29
* Grafix Pop and Hop Game $5
* Uno playing cards $7
* Fast Fun Bounce off $10
* Classic Games Tumbling Tower $10
* Bigger is better $19
* Classis Games 100 games $20
* Cranium $25
* Risk $33.99

https://www.ebay.com.au/i/293155111586?chn=ps&norover=1&mkevt=1&mkrid=705-139619-5960-0&mkcid=2&itemid=293155111586&targetid=919947033086&device=c&mktype=pla&googleloc=9071878&poi=&campaignid=10761501260&mkgroupid=109636695801&rlsatarget=aud-786643581086:pla-919947033086&abcId=9300382&merchantid=107365777&gclid=Cj0KCQjwvvj5BRDkARIsAGD9vlIq\_MMzihC-8glTrK7\_j9QV1sykm8TE\_aZlP8rudDc3kuOB9GLDhqIaAnDcEALw\_wcB

Ticket to Ride $33.14

https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/Days-of-Wonder-Ticket-to-Ride-Board-Game-Europe-edition-Melbourne-Stock/293155130701?\_trkparms=aid%3D555018%26algo%3DPL.SIM%26ao%3D2%26asc%3D20160908110712%26meid%3Dd8fd8aea824a4ea88d99f4534d305307%26pid%3D100677%26rk%3D2%26rkt%3D30%26mehot%3Dpp%26sd%3D333575443254%26itm%3D293155130701%26pmt%3D1%26noa%3D0%26pg%3D2386202%26algv%3DSimplAMLv5PairwiseWeb&\_trksid=p2386202.c100677.m4598

**Total for board games = $311.13**

TV & PS5 Stand $95.99

https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/32-To-65-Black-Led-Plasma-Lcd-TV-Stand-Mount-Bracket-Mobile-Trolley-With-Wheels/312602261681?hash=item48c88bf8b1:g:sngAAOSwAtlc04Ni&frcectupt=true

58” 4K TV $599 plus delivery

https://www.kogan.com/au/buy/kogan-58-smart-hdr-4k-uhd-led-tv-android-tvtm-series-9-ru9210-kogan/

**Total = $1648.06 plus delivery**

Bean bags x 15 $15 each = $150

https://www.kmart.com.au/product/black-bean-bag/686305

Bean bag fill 100L x30 $12 each = $360

https://www.kmart.com.au/product/100l-bean-bag-refill/681313

**3.8. Activities for Kingswood: Air Hockey Table & PS5**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Activities for Kingswood: Air Hockey Table & PS5 |
| **Date** | 17/09/2020 |
| **Mover** | Simon Preuss-Kearney |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

To foster more engagement at Kingswood campus when we return in 2021, it seems sensible to acquire some activities for the return to campus. The suggested items include an Air Hockey Table and a PS5 (with the necessary extras, including a stand for a TV & PS5).

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

All WSU student that attend the Kingswood campus. The main people who will use it are the Kingswood students, but it will be in publicly accessible locations so anyone may use it on campus.

*Recommendation:*

It is recommended to acquire these new games to re-engage students on campus when we can return to it. To achieve this, it is recommended to purchase a PS5, Stand for a TV and PS5, and an Air Hockey Table.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

Purchasing these games will foster more student engagement at Kingswood from 2021 and beyond. It will also encourage student to socialise with others as they informally compete.

Additionally, a PS5 will be newly released in mid-November and will be a decent investment as they tend to be the current console for at least 7 years. The corresponding stand can have flexible uses, so it can either be for the new PS5, or be used to store the older PS4 console. Finally, at any arcade, the air hockey table is always a big hit, and all active table sports games are constantly used at the Kingswood campus. Therefore, air hockey would be a welcome addition to the campus and the overall student experience there.

*Budget Impact:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Items** | **Quotes/Cost** |
| Air Hockey table | $ 450 |
| Spare pucks and pushers | $ 50 |
| PS5 | $ 800 |
| Controllers and/or games | $ 250 |
| TV & PS5 Stand | $ 100 |
| **Total** | **$ 1300** |

*Supporting links for the proposed costings of these items:*

* Air Hockey Table:

https://www.trsports.com.au/air-hockey-table-s/1820.htm?fbclid=IwAR28lEE-0hagfJDH0BKR26JihDmz1C4g8UsR6uB3jGDUhVyKTBlTahq24oM

* PS5 & accessories:

https://www.ebgames.com.au/featured/playstation-5 https://www.ebgames.com.au/product/ps5/267702-playstation-5-dualsense-wireless-controller

https://www.ebgames.com.au/product/ps5/265515-nba-2k21

* Stand for the TV & PS5:

https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/32-To-65-Black-Led-Plasma-Lcd-TV-Stand-Mount-Bracket-Mobile-Trolley-With-Wheels/312602261681?hash=item48c88bf8b1:g:sngAAOSwAtlc04Ni&frcectupt=true

*Proposed Action:*

I move that Western Sydney University SRC votes to fund the acquisition of an Air Hockey Table, PS5, and a corresponding TV stand for the betterment of the Kingswood campus and anyone who wishes to use it.

**3.9 Drug Safety at WSU**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | Drug Safety at WSU |
| **Date** | 24/09/2020 |
| **Mover** | Tyler Wilson |
| **Seconder** |  |

*Issue Description:*

Students have brought to our attention the position in which the university has aligned itself in regards to drug and alcohol safety and the way in which this is promoted to students. The current stance promotes abstinence, which previously has been proven to be ineffective compared to a harm minimisation approach. The harm minimisation approach seeks to encourage safer behaviours, provide extensive resources and education surrounding substance abuse and support students through said issues as opposed to adopting a position that disregards the ramifications.

*Portfolios/Students Impacted:*

All students

*Recommendation:*

I recommend that the SRC look into the different ways in which it promotes drug and alcohol safety and work to refine this to adopt a harm minimisation approach. I propose that we, as the SRC adopt a unified stance on the subject and present a united front in which we can advocate for in different areas of the university to try an enact positive change and support students in this sphere.

*Justification/Reason for Recommendation:*

Substance abuse is a widely prevalent issue at WSU and throughout Western Sydney and following on from largely inadequate education provided during high school, students should be presented with better, more accessible and more effective information and education regarding drug and alcohol safety.

*Budget Impact:*

N/A

**Proposed Action:**

I move that the SRC establish a Drug Safety Working Group to address the university’s stance towards substance abuse and look into liaising with the right channels in order to encourage a more proactive and effective stance towards drug and alcohol safety at WSU.

1. **Other Business**
2. **Next Meeting and Close**