

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND UNION CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

3rd Ordinary Meeting of the 113th
Clubs and Societies Committee

1:30 PM

Thursday 29/02/2024

UQU Boardroom

UQ Union Complex, St. Lucia Campus

The Vice President (Campus Culture) Jaafar Jabur declared the meeting open at 1:58pm.

1. Credentials

The following were present.

Members

Jaafar Jabur, VP Campus Culture
Natasha Brettell
Zandro Lagman
Drew Nairn
Barclay McGain
Emily Ryan, Clubs & Societies Manager
Katie Forbes, minute-taker
Union Secretary Alex Smock (ex-officio)

Proxies

Nil

Observers

Daniel Carton

Apologies

Anthea Jones
Emily Scott

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 2ND ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 2024 CLUBS AND SOCIETIES COMMITTEE BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

C&S 113/14	BRETTELL / MCGAIN	CARRIED
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3. Business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

Emily Ryan reported that the UQ Postgraduate Counselling Students Association has withdrawn their application. The club was ratified at the previous meeting but might reapply later in the year.

4. Reports of the Elected Officers

Jabur reported that O and P-week events went well, and Club Conference was valuable for all attendees. He remarked that Exec Camp and Social Lawn Bowls numbers were a bit low, and that on Market Day, foot traffic was decent, but club membership signups were lower than in previous years.

In other news, Jabur is continuing discussions about a Clubs App, helping to plan the EID Celebration on 9 April and looking into whether the old Semper office can be converted into a second C&S Room. The new club grant has been increased to \$600 (as opposed to \$300 previously). The Grant by Application process will open soon.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORT OF THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES VICE PRESIDENT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

C&S 113/15	BRETTELL / MCGAIN	CARRIED
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5. Matters arising from the Reports of Elected Officers

Nil.

6. Business which has been proposed.

Ratifications

Nil

Alex Smock, Union Secretary, entered the room at 2:20pm.

Affiliation of UQ Internal Medicine Society

Jabur attended the IMS IGM and reported that it was well run and well attended with approx. 45 members present.

It was moved

THAT UQ INTERNAL MEDICINE SOCIETY BE AFFILIATED

C&S 113/16	JABUR / LAGMAN	CARRIED
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Disaffiliations

Following the Membership List submissions, Ryan reported that Social Work Society has only 10 members and have indicated that they wish to fold the club voluntarily. Robogals also has only 5 members and has arranged a meeting to discuss the next steps with probable voluntary disaffiliation.

The Committee reviewed the list of clubs with issues following the Membership List submissions. Several clubs had submitted a membership list but had been rejected due to using the wrong template. Some had missed the deadline to submit their membership list, and some had submitted a list showing fewer than 30 members. A discussion followed about whether a grace period should be applied, and about the clubs which have submitted but have been rejected.

There was further discussion about the notice to disaffiliate, and the length of time that should be allowed before the threat of disaffiliation.

It was moved

THAT SOCIAL WORK SOCIETY AND ROBOGALS SHALL RECEIVE A NOTICE OF DISAFFILIATION WITHIN 14 DAYS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE 30 FINANCIAL MEMBERS, WHICH IS IN BREACH OF UQU REGULATION 158.1 (J).

C&S 113/17	JABUR / NAIRN	CARRIED
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It was moved

THAT ALTERNATIVE CAREERS IN MEDICINE, CAFFEINE CLUB, CHESS CLUB, PAKISTANI STUDENTS'

ASSOCIATION, PROBONO ECONOS AND THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY SHALL ALL RECEIVE A NOTICE OF DISAFFILIATION WITHIN 14 DAYS, UNLESS THEY CAN SUBMIT A VALID MEMBERSHIP LIST SHOWING 30 FINANCIAL MEMBERS WITHIN THAT TIME PERIOD.

C&S 113/18	JABUR / MCCGAIN	CARRIED
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Name change for UQ Psychology Students' Association

The club has requested a name change to reflect its move to incorporation.

It was moved

THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOULD CHANGE ITS NAME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

C&S 113/19	JABUR / MCGAIN	CARRIED
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Category change for Reality Labs

Reality Labs has requested a change to become a Faculty Club rather than a Hobby/Interest club. The club feels that this categorisation more accurately reflects the focus on technological and academic development, and their membership which is largely students from the EAIT and EECS faculties. The club's comments regarding Market Day positioning and impacts of nearby stalls were also noted.

It was moved

THAT REALITY LABS CHANGE CATEGORY FROM HOBBY/INTEREST TO FACULTY EAIT.

C&S 113/20	JABUR / NAIRN	CARRIED
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7. General Business

Quorum Issue

Emily Ryan raised the issue of club's varying quorum requirements, which had become apparent when checking AGM documents. When clubs are first affiliated, they are required to use the Model Constitution as a starting point, but many clubs have changed items and requirements over the years. Discussion focused on how similar club constitutions should be to the Model Constitution, given that there are some essential components that cannot be changed, such as the \$2 minimum membership fee.

It was noted that the C&S Committee doesn't have the power to change a club's constitution as they are voted in and agreed to by members, however constitutions must still be "in the spirit" of the Union's model constitution as the affiliate body. Jabur commented that although it is not the C&S Committee's responsibility to change constitutions, there should be some oversight of key constitutional items such as quorum requirements, and there could be a directive from the VP Campus Culture to ensure that they remain in the spirit of the model constitution.

Alex Smock, Union Secretary, left the room at 2:36pm.

The Committee reviewed the list of clubs which Ryan had provided to demonstrate the widely varying and sometimes quite complex quorum requirements. It was further noted that any changes

are unlikely to change until clubs hold their AGMs, and that the annual handover of club executives often means that information gets lost.

Some key points were noted:

- Some quorums have no inclusion of general membership, which makes any decisions more applicable to an executive meeting, rather than an SGM or AGM which entirely shapes the club (TROHPIQ, DERM, FMAA).
- Some quorums require a raw number only which doesn't allow for changing club size (Anthropology, QUEST). McGain commented that quorum requirements should all have a raw number or a percentage, whichever is lesser.
- Quorum must be all financial members. Non-financial members can be observers but cannot vote and do not count towards quorum.

Action: For the C&S department to contact the relevant clubs and advise them that concerns had been raised regarding their quorums and suggestions from the club be put forward to resolve the issue. Calling an SGM may not be required to be called for this issue alone, however, should be included at the next available SGM. The issue must be addressed prior to the AGM in October.

Jabur to contact these clubs informally to request that they improve the wording. GEMS, Vegan Society, SIMBA, Newman Society, Film Appreciation, Korean Students, Biology postgrad, Indian, Ski, Gatton students, ICMJ, SPASA, TROHPIQ, Derm, Anthropology and QUEST.

It was also agreed that three issues would be carried forward for further discussion:

- quorum requirements.
- identifying which parts of the Model Constitution are essential.
- the question of financial membership at IGMs.

Market Day Stalls

McGain raised the issue that Market Day is a prestigious event for clubs, and the primary reason for most clubs to get a stall. At Sem 1 Market Day, two non-affiliated clubs set up within the main area: LNA and Socialist Alternatives' Students for Palestine stall. Barclay says that they could impose a fine like a car parking fine. Further discussion ensued about clubs asking for two stalls, and the fairness of this, plus about reputational damage to the university. Emily also raised the additional issue of clubs just setting up a stall in the Union complex or Grassy Knoll area.

Meeting closed at 3:12PM.

