

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of the

110th UQ Union Council, 2021

5:30 PM

Thursday 29th April 2021

Heath Room, Union Complex

Chair: Ji Davis

a) **The Meeting was declared open at 5:39 PM**

b) **Credentials**

Elected Officers

Alicia Steele
Benjamin Kozi
Eli Blanch
Emily Searle
Kurt Tucker
Lisa Pham
Liam Heseltine
Oula Shihan
Ryan Jover

Proxies

Annabel Bartley to Darcy
Creighton
Julia Bejleri to Darcy
Creighton
Jason Wang to Alex Smock
Ella Gutteridge to Oula
Shihan
Tim Heffernan to Oula

Shihan

Kyle Clunies-Ross to
Tristan Murdoch
Anastasia Georgiou to
Tristan Murdoch
Gabby Callow to Bradley
Plant
Tyson Etri to Bradley Plant
Thomas Stephen to Cara
Rowe
Michael Walker to Cara
Rowe
Elise Northcote to Jordan
Mark
Hamish Barnett to Jordan
Mark
Elloise Campbell to Kurt
Tucker
David McGovern to Yaron
Strachan
Stuart Moss to Kurt
Munckton

Others

Alex Smock
Anna Redshaw
Barclay McGain
Bradley Plant
Bradley Stone
Cara Rowe
Christopher Stewart
Drew Pavlou
Ellie Lewis
Gryffyn Boyd
Jack Barton
James Hohl
Laura Nolan
Matthew Pereira
Priya De
Tilie Alleluia
Tristan Murdoch
Tyler Brennan
Yaron Strachan

c) **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FOR THE 2ND ORDINARY MEETING AND 1ST EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE 110TH UQ UNION COUNCIL BE ACCEPTED

COUNCIL 110/76

DAVIS/JOVER

CARRIED

d) Business arising the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Censure of Bradley Plant

It was moved that the motion be tabled

e) Requests for starring/approval or noting of the items not starred *en bloc*

The President's, Treasurer's and Campus Culture (Clubs & Societies) reports were starred for discussion.

Procedural motion to consider all other reports en bloc.

f) Reports of Elected Officers

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/77

JOVER/DAVIS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE STUDENTS RIGHTS (COMMUNITY WELFARE) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/78

HESELTINE/DAVIS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE STUDENTS RIGHTS (ACADEMIC) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/79

VU/DAVIS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE GENDER AND SEXUALITY (WOMEN'S) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/80

SEARLE/DAVIS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE GENDER AND SEXUALITY (QUEER'S) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/81

BLANCH/DAVIS

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICERS' REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/82

SHIHAN/DAVIS

CARRIED

g) Matters arising from the Reports of Elected Officers

President's

Oula asked about the Steering Committee and UQ's plan to turn the Union Complex into a "commuter lounge". President confirmed that she has reached out to news organisations and that something would be published in newspapers soon, and that the Union would more widely distribute the news after this. The President also met with Joanne and informed her of the Union's position, and the SVISC meeting on the issue has been delayed a month to allow the Union more time to consult. Joanne also confirmed the intention to model the Union complex after an airport lounge.

Oula asked about the timing of the publicization of these developments. President confirmed that it would take place after the news article.

It was moved that

THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/83

SCOTT/DAVIS

CARRIED

Campus Culture

Sam Adams asked Ben about posting club photos on Facebook and the policies thereof. Ben said that there was a long delay with the uploading of photos due to the current policy of checking every photo for social distancing. Social distancing reviews will not be applied to photos from events off campus.

It was moved that

THAT THE CAMPUS CULTURE (CLUBS AND SOCIETIES) REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/84

KOZIJ/DAVIS

CARRIED

Treasurer

Lisa Pham reported a trading surplus for BT and SS in the month up to the meeting, compared to a budgeted net loss. In March there was 5k more in retail, 53k more in hospitality. 65k higher than expected

President informed Council that the Union is receiving an extra 90k-100k in SSAF funding. Question asked about the distribution between SS portfolios, President says that is to be reviewed.

It was moved

THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/85

PHAM/DAVIS

CARRIED

h) Question Time

Marvin explained the cashflow projections that the Finance department of the Union makes. Marvin informed Council that it was his belief that Union will not go bankrupt in 18 months. Marvin explained that these cashflow projections are the most pessimistic projections and are not necessarily guaranteed to occur. Marvin explained that the outlets are an important part of the cashflow of the Union.

Kurt asked about general cashflow that even if we aren't projected to go bankrupt, we still only have less than \$100k in the bank in some projections, and why should it be expected that the economic situation will improve. Marvin said that the Union still has a \$1million term deposit. Kurt said he didn't believe that the COVID situation would improve and remained concerned about the

projections. Kurt asked if this was a conservative estimate, which Marvin confirmed. Marvin said that the Union was reviewing its business models.

Glenda emphasised that it was a conservative budget built around a status quo situation. Glenda said that the Union was looking at ways to find additional sources of income and to improve the income of Business Trading.

Tristan asked what was included in the expenditure. Marvin and Lisa confirmed that everything was included in the expenditure. Ji expressed his desire to see Council continue to monitor the financial situation, and for councillors to send questions to the Secretary and Treasurer before future meetings.

Procedural motion that the meeting go in camera

End the Tenancy of Subway

Brad said that Subway should close, as they are in arrears on their rent and that they should be closed so that we stop losing rent money and that more people go to out outlets. Marvin said that they were in the process of being closed. Darcy and Brad asked if there is a date for the closure. Marvin said that that was yet to be confirmed.

Officer Shihan asked that if Subway closes if the Union would lose the space. The President confirmed that the Union would lose control of the space, but that it was not a Union outlet and it was not expected that Subway was going to be replaced in a new complex regardless. Officer Shihan asked if the strategy was to let empty outlets sit idle, President Scott and Vice President Tucker both noted that there was little incentive for retailers move into these spaces. It is possible for the Union to attempt to claim the space for other reasons, but it should not be expected to be used by another retailer. Glenda noted that the Union was beginning discussions with the University on ensuring the Union was properly incorporated into the University's upcoming retail strategy.

It was moved that

UQU END ITS TENANCY FOR SUBWAY WITHIN THE UQU COMPLEX. SUBWAY IS TO PAY RENT OWED AND VACATE THE PREMISES

COUNCIL 110/86

PLANT/CREIGHTON

WITHDRAWN

Close the UQU Lolly Shop

Brad argued that both shops are making losses and as such should be closed. Cr Creighton expressed concern about the financial situation as well. Kurt commented on the toughness on the decision. It was noted that it would be beneficial for Clint as the manager for business trading to be in the room for this discussion.

Oula argued against and said that in the light of what the Treasurer said in her report and what Marvin said that the outlets should be kept open in order to ensure that the Union maintains the space and the employment of current staff is protected. Lisa noted that the majority of costs for those two outlets are wages. Marvin noted that Lolly Shop revenue is increasing. Cara Rowe noted that closing outlets weakens the Union's negotiation position with the University.

THE UNION COUNCIL DIRECTS THE UQ UNION TO CLOSE THE UQU LOLLY SHOP IMMEDIATELY. ALL STAFF AND STOCK ARE TO BE MOVED TO THE REFECTORY OR OTHER UNION RUN OUTLETS.

COUNCIL 110/87

PLANT/CREIGHTON

TABLED

It was moved that

THE UNION DIRECTS THE UQ UNION TO CLOSE THE UQU SECONDHAND TEXTS & STATIONARY STORE. ALL STAFF POSITIONS ARE TO BE MADE REDUNDANT IF THEY CANNOT BE MOVED TO OTHER SERVICES/OUTLETS WITHIN THE UNION

COUNCIL 110/88

PLANT/CREIGHTON

TABLED

Closure of the UQU Secondhand Texts and Stationary Store

It was moved

THAT THE UNION COUNCIL DIRECTS THE UQ UNION TO CLOSE THE UQU SECONDHAND TEXTS & STATIONARY STORE. ALL STAFF POSITIONS ARE TO BE MADE REDUNDANT IF THEY CANNOT BE MOVED TO OTHER SERVICES/OUTLETS WITHIN THE UNION

COUNCIL 110/89

PLANT/CREIGHTON

TABLED

Freeze All New Staff Hiring Within the UQU

Bradley Plant said the motion was self-explanatory. It was noted that the unrealistic nature of the motion in its broad sense was unviable.

It was moved that the motion be amended to refer only to professional and administrative staff. Brad was amenable.

Marvin spoke to the lean hiring process that currently exists. Glenda argued that the General Managers exist to make these decisions, and queried why it was felt by some that Union Council needed to intervene in this decision making. Glenda emphasised the level of work put in by the staff of the Union and that it was unfortunate that Council did not seem to value the importance of the work of the Union staff. Glenda said that was disheartening that Council did not trust or value the decision making capacity of the Student Services arm of the Union, and offered to begin submitting General Managers' reports to Council in order to better inform Council of the work of the Union staff.

Vice President Tucker emphasised that the motion was not to fire staff or completely prevent the hiring of new staff, but instead to bring greater transparency and process to the hiring of new staff, and that this would bring the Union in line with the operations of other organisations in which the board or equivalent body, in this instance Union council, oversees hiring processes.

Cara spoke against the motion and argued that the motion was needlessly bureaucratic and that the purpose of the motion was fundamentally unsubstantiated.

Officer Shihan spoke against the motion and argued that the Union was already operating with a narrow staff and that any assertion that there was superfluous or redundant staff was not substantiated. Oula also asserted that if the Union was to have a viable presence on campus that the Union needed to have professional staff and could not simply rely on a volunteer base.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION COUNCIL DIRECTS THE UQ UNION TO FREEZE ALL NEW PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF HIRING WITHIN THE UQU. IF A NEW STAFF MEMBER IS REQUIRED THEY SHOULD PETITION THE UNION COUNCIL BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION. THIS FRREZE IS TO REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL LIFTED BY UNION COUNCIL.

COUNCIL 110/90

PLANT/CREIGHTON

FAILED

Durries in the Lolly Shop

Cara Rowe spoke on the need to find new ways to increase business revenue and suggested that reintroducing the sale of cigarettes would be one potential mechanism. Vice President Tucker noted that this was already a Standing Policy of the Union which had not been enacted.

It was moved

THAT UQU LOLLY SHOP ACTIVELY ENDEAVOUR WITHIN A REASONABLE TIMEFRAME TO INTRODUCE CIGARETTES PENDING ADVICE FROM BUSINESS TRADING

COUNCIL 110/91

ROWE/HESELTINE

CARRIED

It was moved that the meeting move ex camera 6:36 PM

Chair moved that meeting be adjourned

Chair reconvened the meeting at 6:49 PM

Drew Pavlou asked the Environment Officer about Socialist Alternative's attack on Bob Katter. Drew explained that Bob a member of the CFMEU and that he is a strong supporter of the labour movement. Drew asked if Socialist Alternative understood that Bob is actually one of Australia's most progressive MP's and explained that Bob Katter advocated for and advanced First Nations rights throughout his career.

With regard to Bob Katter's problematic comments in the past, Drew argued that the heat of the North Queensland sun can fry any man's brain. Drew pointed out that Bob encourages his supporters to read anti-colonialism texts, and that he has met with Greens Senator Lidia Thorpe to discuss First Nations issues. Drew also explained that Bob is an advocate against free market fundamentalism

Drew asked the Environment Officer how could Bob be a fascist when he supports progressive policies

Oula allowed Priya to respond on her behalf. Priya argued that Drew's point is frivolous and that his article in Semper and his points in Council do not refute that Bob Katter is a conservative. Priya argued that Bob's views and his comments on various issues mean that he should not be seen as a friend of progressive movements.

Chair moved that speaking time to 3 minutes and announced that only those who raise their hand to be put on the speaking list will be heard as, "He really does not need this".

Drew reasserted his points and argued that Bob Katter should not be cancelled for being a 75 year old man.

Oula argued that Bob's remarks speak for themselves and that they have material consequences. Oula argued that dismissing Bob's remarks as being a product

Jack Barton asked the Environment Officer about the publication made in Semper Floreat that mocked the death of Prince Phillip. Jack defended the legacy of Prince Phillip, noted his environmental conservation efforts, and asked how the Environment Officers would rival Prince Phillip's work in environment. Jack noted his refugee background.

Oula declared that she celebrated Prince Phillip's death and that he died way too old. Oula argued that everything included in the publication was factually accurate. Oula argued that as Prince Phillip was a beneficiary of imperialism and colonialism and that he was not someone who should be mourned. Oula rejected his environmental efforts and said that his involvement in founding the WWF is not relevant in the context of his being a beneficiary of the imperialist and capitalist system. Oula argued that the monarchy has no positive impact and should be abolished.

Chris Stewart spoke to emphasise the positive impact the monarchy has on the economy of the United Kingdom and that it is a net benefit for the public purse. Chris rejected the assertion he was connected to Nazis and spoke to Prince Phillip's service in the Royal Navy. Chris also argued that dismissing his contribution to the environmental movement was disingenuous.

Kurt interjected to assert that Prince Phillip's place was chosen by God under the divine right of kings.

Oula argued that there was no economic benefit of the monarchy to working class people, and that the point of the Semper publication was to ask the question about their benefits to society.

Sam asked that being the result of inbreeding was not a moral failing on the behalf of the individual. Oula rejected that that was the point of the publication. Drew interjected that it's not fair on students like Kurt as inbreeding is out of the child's control.

Kurt argued that the publication was fundamentally disrespectful, particular in the week of Anzac Day, and should never have been published.

Jack reasserted his question about what the Environment Officers' will do to meet Prince Phillip's efforts in environmental conservation. Oula argued that the question was disingenuous

Cara agreed with Kurt's remarks around disrespect to the recently deceased.

Drew argued that Socialist Alternative are systematically targeting old people in their political attacks.

Jack asked why the Environment Officers' were wasting Semper space on this material rather than promotion of their activities. Oula responded that the purpose of the publication was to set the record straight on Prince Phillip's life.

i) Reports of Union Bodies

It was moved

THAT THE QUEER COLLECTIVE REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 110/92

DAVIS/JOVER

CARRIED

j) Business which has been proposed

Food Hampers Funding

It was moved

THAT THE FOOD HAMPER BUDGET BE CUT TO MONEY ALREADY SPENT

COUNCIL 110/93

PLANT/MURDOCH

WITHDRAWN

Cut Semper Printing Funding to \$0

Brad argued that Semper can very easily be published online. Matt responded that Semper has been published in print since 1932 and that it should remain as a physical presence on campus.

It was moved

THAT UNION COUNCIL CUT SEMPER PRIMARY FUNDING TO CURRENT SPENT AMOUNT. SEMPER IS TO BE PUBLISHED ONLINE ONLY.

COUNCIL 110/94

PLANT/MURDOCH

FAILED

Full Review of All Staff KPI's by Union Council

ALL STAFF MEMBERS WITHIN THE UQ UNION HAVE A FULL REVIEW OF ALL KPI'S CONDUCTED BY UNION COUNCIL. THIS REVIEW SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL AT THE NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING.

COUNCIL 110/95

PLANT/CREIGHTON

WITHDRAWN

Renaming of the Abilities Collective

Kurt asked about the purpose of the name change; Abilities Officer explained that the purpose of the change is to make the Collective more accessible.

It was moved

THAT THE ABILITIES COLLECTIVE ARE GIVEN PERMISSION TO REBRAND AS THE DISABILITIES COLLECTIVE

COUNCIL 110/96

BLANCH/SCOTT

CARRIED

Ji announced that Priya had posted a photo of Council without approval and asked that she either delete the post or leave the meeting. Priya removed the post.

UQ Life

Kurt spoke about UQ Life's disgraceful attempts to undermine the Union and undermine campus culture; he noted the attempts by UQ Life to take over clubs and societies. He also noted the student voice week, an attempt to destroy the student union's role as the advocacy body for students on campus.

Recorded vote:

Matthew Pereira (proxy for Chamal Abeytungu) *In Favour*

Kurt Tucker (proxy for Elloise Campbell) *In Favour*

Darcy Creighton *In Favour*

Darcy Creighton (proxy for Annabel Bartley) *In Favour*

Darcy Creighton (proxy for Julia Bejleri) *In Favour*

Kurt Munckton *In Favour*

Kurt Munckton (proxy for Stuart Moss) *In Favour*

Bradley Plant (proxy for Gabby Callow) *In Favour*

Bradley Plant (proxy for Tyson Etri) *In Favour*

Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Kyle Clunies-Ross) *In Favour*

Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Anastacia Georgiou) *In Favour*

Oula Shihan (proxy for Tim heffernan) *Abstain*

Oula Shihan (proxy for Ella Gutteridge) *Abstain*

Myah McGinity *In Favour*

Zoe Goss *In Favour*

Sam Adams *In Favour*

Drew Pavlou (proxy for David McGovern) *In Favour*

Elise Northcote *In Favour*

Jordan Mark *In Favour*

Cara Rowe (proxy for Thomas Stephen) *In Favour*

Alex Smock (proxy for Jason Wang) *In Favour*

Michael Walker *In Favour*

It was moved

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND UNION CONDEMNS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS UQ LIFE'S PERNICIOUS ATTEMPTS TO MIMIC AND UNDERMINE THE FUNCTIONS AND

ACTIVITIES OF THE UQ UNION, AND CALLS FOR THE PRESIDENT TO PUBLICALLY
REPROACH UQ LIFE

COUNCIL 110/97

TUCKER/CREIGHTON

CARRIED

General Managers' Report

It was moved

A Manager's Report is presented at each regular each regular Union Council meeting.

COUNCIL 110/98

MURDOCH/MUNCKTON

WITHDRAWN

International Ball Budget Cut

It was moved

THAT \$1000 ALLOCATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL BALL BE REMOVED FROM THE
BUDGET

COUNCIL 110/99

PEREIRA/PLANT

OUT OF ORDER

Censure of Environment Officer

Vice President Tucker believed that the offensive nature of the Semper content regarding Prince Phillip warranted a censure of the Environment Officer and a formal apology from Semper Floreat. Officer Shihan said that she regrets nothing and believes she should not be censured. Drew disagreed with the content of the publication but believed that freedom of political communication should be respected.

Vice President Tucker amended the motion to split the Semper Floreat apology from the censure of the Environment Officer. Vice President Tucker then withdrew the Semper Floreat motion.

Recorded vote:

Matthew Pereira (proxy for Chamal Abeytunga) *In Favour*
Kurt Tucker (proxy for Elloise Campbell) *In Favour*
Darcy Creighton *In Favour*
Darcy Creighton (proxy for Annabel Bartley) *In Favour*
Darcy Creighton (proxy for Julia Bejleri) *In Favour*
Kurt Munckton *In Favour*
Kurt Munckton (proxy for Stuart Moss) *In Favour*
Bradley Plant (proxy for Gabby Callow) *In Favour*
Bradley Plant (proxy for Tyson Etri) *In Favour*
Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Kyle Clunies-Ross) *In Favour*
Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Anastacia Georgiou) *In Favour*
Oula Shihan (proxy for Tim Heffernan) *Against*
Oula Shihan (proxy for Ella Gutteridge) *Against*
Myah McGinity *Against*
Zoe Goss *Against*
Drew Pavlou (proxy for David McGovern) *Against*
Sam Adams *Against*
Elise Northcote *Against*
Jordan Mark *Against*
Cara Rowe (proxying for Thomas Stephen) *Against*
Alex Smock (proxying for Jason Wang) *Against*
Michael Walker *Against*

It was moved

THE UQ UNION CENSURES ENVIRONMENT OFFICER OULA SHIHAN FOR HER
COMMENTS ON THE DEATH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP

COUNCIL 110/100

TUCKER/CREIGHTON

FAILED

It was moved

THAT THE SEMPER FLOREAT EDITOR PUBLISHES ON APOLOGY IN THE NEXT ISSUE
FOR THE PIECE PUBLISHED ON HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP

COUNCIL 110/101

TUCKER/CREIGHTON

WITHDRAWN

Stop Rape on Campus

Cara Rowe said that a number of complaints had come through the collectives about behaviour at
BARS events and the club's ongoing lack of a welfare or equity officer.

Matthew Pereira (proxy for Chamal Abeytung) *Against*
Kurt Tucker (proxy for Elloise Campbell) *Against*
Darcy Creighton *Against*
Darcy Creighton (proxy for Annabel Bartley) *Against*
Darcy Creighton (proxy for Julia Bejleri) *Against*
Kurt Munckton *Against*
Kurt Munckton (proxy for Stuart Moss) *Against*
Bradley Plant (proxy for Gabby Callow) *Against*
Bradley Plant (proxy for Tyson Etri) *Against*
Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Kyle Clunies-Ross) *Against*
Tristan Murdoch (proxy for Anastacia Georgiou) *Against*
Oula Shihan (proxy for Tim Heffernan) *Abstain*
Oula Shihan (proxy for Ella Gutteridge) *Abstain*
Myah McGinity *Against*
Zoe Goss *Abstain*
Drew Pavlou (proxy for David McGovern) *In Favour*
Sam Adams *Against*
Elise Northcote *Against*
Jordan Mark *Against*
Cara Rowe (proxying for Thomas Stephen) *Abstain*
Alex Smock (proxying for Jason Wang) *Abstain*
Michael Walker *Against*

It was moved that

WE TOTALLY DEFUND THE BEER AND RUM SOCIETY BECAUSE THE TOXIC
MASCULINITY EXHIBITED BY ITS JOCK LEADERSHIP IS RESPONSIBLE AT LEAST IN
PART FOR A TERRIBLE RAPE CULTURE ON CAMPUS

COUNCIL 110/102

PAVLOU/ROWE

FAILED

Chair closed the meeting at 8:02 PM

CONFIRMED