

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 1st Ordinary Meeting of the
108th UQ Union Council, 2019

6:00PM

Tuesday 27/02/2019

Innes Room 2

Union building (Bld. 21C), St. Lucia Campus

Chair: Kurt Tucker

The meeting was declared open at 6:08pm

a) Welcome by Union Chairperson

b) Credentials

The following members were present:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Benjamin Koziy | • Georgia Boon | • Lili Wackwitz |
| • Ian Trinh | • Joseph Krebs | • Bradley Plant |
| • Gustavo Pazo | • Coen Harnischfeger | • Lachlan Gillespie |
| • Alexander Asher | • Nicholas Rowan | • Priya De |
| • Jehiel Lomaz | • Kurt Tucker | • Campbell Ray |
| • Jordan Duffey | • Lachlan Thomson | • Tom Campbell |
| • Nellie Gordon | • Ambrose Boylan | • Sarah Doyle |
| • Connor Morin | • Chloe Ainscow | • Rowan Evans |
| • Georgia Millroy | • Ethan Van Roo Douglas | • Nathan Kerr |
| • Kaiyin Wu | • Tom Landy | • Amy Sienkiewicz-Grob |
| • Isabella Scattini | • Bek Thornton | • Emil Hansen |
| • Selene Cannelli | • Tiantian Zhao | • Finnian Sonter |
| • Phillip Janowicz | | |

The Following Members were absent:

- Mohammed Al-Basir
- Katie Andersson
- Sari Simawy
- Radin Manafi-Khosroshahi
- James Perkins
- Jesse Tong
- Ezra Taliv Mo
- Bethany McLeod
- Murrawah Johnson
- Lucas Schober
- Georgia Baird
- Roxxanne MacDonald

Apologies were received from the following members:

Nil

The following proxies were received:

- Georgia Boon to Isabella Scattini
- Lachlan Thomson to Mitch Dougall
- Lachlan Gillespie to Kurt Tucker
- Mohammed Al-Basir to Zanaib Darbas

The following others were present:

- Jean Cotterell
- Mitchell Dougall
- Madeline Cunningham
- Shannon Colaco
- Paul Taylor
- Tahlia Robinson
- Zainab Darbas
- Nerissa Aitken
- Lachlan Firth
- Aimee Van Gulik
- Alex Smock
- Finn Semple
- Bradley Stone
- Samuel Ngugi
- David Corporal

Resignations:

- Kaiyin Wu (*Student Rights*)
- Tom Landy (*Campus Culture*)
- Isabella Scattini (*Semper*)
- Finn Armstrong (*Gender & Sexuality*)

c) Elections

i. Union Council Chair

Nominations for the Chair were received from the floor.

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Georgia Boon Proxied to Isabella Scattini	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Alexander Asher	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Kurt Tucker	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Lachlan Gillespie Proxied to Kurt Tucker	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>Kurt Tucker</i>
Priya De	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Jehiel Lomaz	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Sarah Doyle	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Connor Morin	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Lachlan Thomson Proxied to Mitch Dougall	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>
Jordan Duffey	<i>Ambrose Boylan</i>

Kurt Tucker was declared Chair of the 108th Union Council.

The Chair noted that:

- The Goorie Berrimpa positions were uncontested and have been declared.
- The International Officer resignation was not valid and the election will therefore not be conducted at the 1st Ordinary meeting.
- Of the Clubs and Societies Committee nominations, 1 was ruled invalid. As a result, 2 of the 3 vacancies have been declared. The election for the remaining vacancy will require a new notice period.

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting of Union Council to continue while the ballots are prepared for the remaining elections

CARRIED

ii. Vice-Presidents: Campus Culture & Student Rights

The election for Campus Culture and Student Rights Vice-Presidents was conducted by secret ballot.

The Returning Officer declared Rebekah Thornton and Tom Landy elected as Campus Culture VP.

The Returning Officer declared Isabella Scattini and Kaiyin Wu elected as Student Rights VP.

iii. Election of Rules Committee Members

The Returning Officer noted that 5 councillor vacancies on Rules Committee remain outstanding.

Discussions surrounding an unanimously supported ticket were unsuccessful.

The Chair called for nominations from the floor. The election was then conducted via secret ballot.

The Returning Officer declared the following Councillors elected to the 108th UQ Union Rules Committee:

- Lachlan Gillespie
- Benjamin Kozij
- Priya De
- Alexander Asher
- Lachlan Thomson

d) The Minutes from the Previous Meeting

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 9th ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 107TH UNION COUNCIL BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/01

KOZIJ/HARNISCHFEGER

CARRIED

e) Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Nil

f) Requests for Starring/ Approval or Noting of the Items Not Starred en bloc

The President, Secretary, Treasurer, Student Rights, Campus Culture, Gender and Sexuality and Colleges reports were starred for discussion.

Procedural motion to consider all other reports and business en bloc.

CARRIED

THAT THE ABILITIES OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/02

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/03

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/04

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/05

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE GOORIE BERRIMPA OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/06

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE MEDICAL STUDENTS OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/07

TUCKER/KOZIJ

CARRIED

THAT THE TURBOT ST OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 108/08 TUCKER/KOZIJ CARRIED

THAT THE GATTON OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 108/09 TUCKER/KOZIJ CARRIED

THAT THE SEMPER EDITOR'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED
COUNCIL 108/10 TUCKER/KOZIJ CARRIED

g) References

h) Reports of the Elected Officers

Union President's Report

Student, Mitch Dougall, questioned the relevance of the 'Israeli lobby funded junket' to Poland in the President's report. The President responded that the trip had been attended by student leaders from across Australia to learn about the rise of modern antisemitism and how to prevent it.

Mitch Dougall queried whether any connection was made by those running the trip between antisemitism and criticism of Israel. The President responded that Israel was not a big topic of discussion. She recognised that there are legitimate criticisms to be had of Israel, especially it's modern foreign policy. While these criticisms are not necessarily antisemitic, they can be grounded in antisemitism. However, the trip was described as largely historically-focused, with trips to sites of Jewish historical significance.

Mitch Dougall questioned how the trip was funded. The President confirmed that the trip was entirely funded by the Australasian Union of Jewish Students.

Councillor Duffey queried why the President had compared Great Court Party ticket sales to 2017 statistics in her report. The President explained that ticket sales had almost doubled from 2017 which she considered a particularly stark example and worth noting.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/11

MILLROY/TRINH

CARRIED

Union Secretary's Report

Councillor Duffey questioned how the SHOC booking system consultation process is progressing. The Union Secretary explained that a number of deficiencies were identified after the SHOC review, such as oversaturated services and long wait times for others. They are currently consulting with the new SHOC manager, SHOC advocates and UQ Student Services on the booking systems they could implement to better allocate resources.

Councillor Thomson queried whether confidentiality has been raised as a concern during consultation. The President confirmed that it has been raised and they will be taking this into account as a priority.

Councillor Duffey asked for more information on the response to the Mental Health Strategy Project Board submission. The Union President noted that the board have not yet met and more information will be available at a later date.

Student, Mitch Dougall, noted that the report states the University has 'so far been very receptive' to discussions surrounding mental health. He queried whether mental health has been identified as a top concern for the Vice-Chancellor. The Secretary responded that formal discussions with regard to rolling out the mental health strategy have been with the Student Affairs department, who have been very receptive.

Mitch Dougall queried whether the Vice-Chancellor has ever made negative comments, formally or informally, about students' mental health being considered an important issue.

The Chair suggested questions not directly related to the report be kept until Question Time.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/12

VAN ROO DOUGLAS/TRINH

CARRIED

Union Treasurer's Report

Mitch Dougall asked for further clarification on the statement that the Union are 'diversifying and growing revenue streams'. The Union Treasurer clarified that the Union are always considering ways to fund services for students without relying on funding from UQ. Other revenue streams include the My UQU Rewards Card and the eSports program.

Councillor Duffey queried how long the 'Jaffle Time' contract is for. The Union Treasurer explained that 'Jaffle Time' is a UQU outlet.

Councillor Thomson asked for more specific information on the Union's finances. The Treasurer explained that the Treasurer's report will ordinarily be accompanied by consolidated profit and loss statements. However, the budget has not yet been approved by Council and it would therefore not be appropriate to include this information yet.

Councillor De asked how many staff the \$300k Physiol redundancy covers. The Treasurer advised the councillor that this information is confidential.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/13

KERR/RAY

CARRIED

Student Rights Report

Councillor Duffey asked for further detail on the Academic Advocacy Network representative application process, particularly how the Student Rights VP is engaging with faculty clubs. Student Rights VP, Kaiyin Wu, explained that he has consulted with the major faculty clubs, heads of school and T&L chairs where appropriate. In terms of selection, each school and faculty has a different preference for selecting their representatives.

Councillor Thomson queried the action being taken to combat wage theft. It was noted that SHOC already run 'work rights' workshops.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT RIGHTS) BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

Campus Culture Report

Councillor Duffey queried the events planned for the next month.

The Chair asked that all questions be directly related to the report.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (CAMPUS CULTURE) BE ACCEPTED
AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/15

LANDY/GILLESPIE

CARRIED

Gender and Sexuality Report

Councillor Thomson asked how news of the Queer Collective restructure has been received by the collective. Women's Officer, Amy Sienkiewicz-Grob, noted that the structure was based on previous structures. She explained that the idea is to give the collectives more autonomy at all levels, including having a fundraising officer to identify fundraising opportunities, a finance officer to deal with expenditure etc.

It was moved

THAT THE REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (GENDER AND SEXUALITY) BE
ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 108/16

SIENKIEWICZ-GROB/THOMSON

CARRIED

Colleges Report

Councillor Duffey queried why only 60% of colleges sent representatives to the UQ Union and Colleges Executive Breakfast. Colleges Officer, Chloe Ainscow, explained that 60% is a very good turnout for a colleges event on a Friday morning.

It was queried which colleges did not send representatives. The question was taken on notice.

THAT THE COLLEGE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

i) Matters Arising from the Reports of the Elected Officers*Nil***j) Question Time****Ramsay Centre**

Councillor De noted that the Union President had attended a Senate meeting earlier in the week where discussions on the Ramsay Centre had taken place. She queried whether the Union President had any updates on UQ's attitude towards the Ramsay Centre. In response, the President explained that much of the discussions surrounding the Ramsay Centre remain confidential. However, she can advise Council that the Vice-Chancellor took the issue to Academic Board where a number of key concerns were raised. This included:

- Concern that a member of the Ramsay Centre would sit on the selection board when hiring academics to teach the major. However, it was noted that it is common practice to have members of external bodies on hiring boards and it happens frequently for degrees such as nursing, med etc. A compromise was reached in that the Ramsay Centre member on the board would hold a non-voting position.
- There was the perception that the University is being commercialised. However, the President noted that there is already private interest at UQ, including Boeing and the Confucius Institute and the Ramsay Centre is just a particularly provocative example.

The President advised Council that the Vice-Chancellor has now moved into a MOU with Ramsay Centre and they are hoping to implement the major by 2020. It was reiterated that the offering would be a major in Advanced Humanities, and not a degree.

Student, Samuel Ngugi, queried why UQ are so keen to have the Ramsay Centre at UQ. The President explained that the Ramsay Centre is offering \$42m to UQ over 4 years and it is the belief of the Vice-Chancellor that this would not only benefit Ramsay students but also all students in the Arts faculty.

Councillor Asher raised that, while the Academic Board are advisory only, according to recent history there has not been a single case where Senate has gone against the recommendations of Academic Board. He queried how the Senate find it amenable to go against Academic Board's consensus on this issue.

The Union President responded that it was the perception of Senate that those in opposition were a vocal minority.

The Chair asked for the President's opinion on the matter.

The President noted that her personal opinion is that the situation is an indictment on the funding of federal universities. While she disagreed on principle to the teachings of the Ramsay Centre, the course itself appears to be a fairly standard humanities course according to the curriculum, though she accepted that it would be possible to teach from a colonial view. She acknowledged that it is a nuanced issue.

The Chair noted that the cohort of Advanced Humanities is very small. In response, Councillor Asher raised that historically the actions of the few have affected the many. He asked for confirmation on whether the Vice-Chancellor has expressed any red lines when it comes to the Ramsay Centre. The Union President stated that he has not.

The Union President noted that the additional funds would be used to create more study spaces on campus, which would again benefit students studying within the humanities. The scholarships will also favour those from regional backgrounds.

Councillor Campbell raised that it is not the Union's role to secure UQ funding. He stated that the Union's job is to make life better on-campus for students. The issue is one of academic integrity, as academics at UQ have expressed, which will adversely affect the lives of students on campus.

Councillor De raised that Abbott has specifically said the focus for the Ramsay Centre is to build cadre for the Liberal Party. She noted that it would open a dangerous door to allow a facility with such an explicit agenda on a University campus. She also stated that the Ramsay Centre is substantively different from the Confucius Institute and every other example of the

corporatization of University spaces. The Union President noted that the Confucius Institute has similar objectives in terms of radicalising and maintaining political connections.

Councillor Campbell asked Union Council to consider how it would vote on the Confucius Institute. He stated that it would be a shame if this is different to how they would vote on the Ramsay Centre.

Procedural motion to suspend standing orders and limit question time to 30 minutes

CARRIED

Refugee Scholarships

Councillor De queried whether the Union President had an update on the proposed refugee scholarships. The Union President advised that she would raise the issue in her upcoming meeting with the DVCA.

Student Rights Portfolio

Councillor De asked the Student Rights Vice-Presidents what they considered to be the main issues facing students in Australia. Student Rights VP Bella Scattini identified employability as a key issue, which they are tackling by providing volunteering and part-time job opportunities.

Councillor De noted that the Student Right VP in 2018, Paul Taylor, 'did not do a terrible job', particularly on the 'Save the 66' campaign, his work surrounding wage theft on-campus and his work encouraging young workers to unionise. She queried whether the current representatives intend to continue his good work in these areas.

Student Rights VP Bella Scattini stated that she is currently looking into campaigns to run in the future. Student Rights VP Kaiyin Wu stated that he intends to run a campaign on student placements and their associated financial challenges.

Clubs and Societies Committee

A question was raised from the floor regarding club affiliation. It was noted that many clubs remain affiliated to the Union that have been inactive for a long period of time and he asked that the disaffiliation of inactive clubs be a key priority for the committee. Campus Culture Vice-President, Tom Landy, took the question on notice.

Smokers' Rights

A question was raised from the floor regarding the actions the Union intend to take to combat the campus-wide smoking ban at UQ. The Union President noted that she supports designated smoking areas on campus, as it is a question of safety, particularly for female students studying late at night. Furthermore, smoking on the green bridge has meant cigarette butts have been swept directly into the Brisbane river. However, it was noted that UQ have been reluctant to renege on the ban, and she will have to take the question on notice to consider how tangible change could be achieved in this area.

UQ Student Mental Health

Student, Mitch Dougall, queried whether Vice-Chancellor Peter Hoj has ever made derogatory comments regarding students' mental health at public gatherings. The Union President noted that she had been in conversation with the Vice-Chancellor about his personal experiences with young people's mental health, and he had expressed how passionately he feels about helping young people deal with significant crises.

Schonell Theatre

Student, Mitch Dougall, asked the Union President for the Vice-Chancellor's opinion on the Schonell building. It was suggested that the Vice-Chancellor be asked for his opinion directly.

Unappointed Office-Bearers

A question was raised from the floor regarding the period of time the unappointed office-bearers were acting unofficially in their positions. The Union President stated that their work began after induction on December 15. Since this period they have been acting as UQU volunteers for insurance purposes and will be back-paid for the 2 months' work.

It was queried how the President could justify unelected officers being paid and cautioned that it could be seen as setting a precedent. He stated that he would be looking into the regulations and constitution as he is concerned about the power to retrospectively back-pay volunteers.

The Union President raised that she believed it would be better to have people acting in the role rather than to leave it vacant, particularly over O-Week.

The Union Secretary noted that he had explored the possibility of calling an extraordinary meeting of Union Council in order to officially elect the officers, however many councillors were unavailable until semester commenced. He raised that a meeting without proportional representation would be undemocratic, not transparent and the elected officers would not have a mandate.

Councillor Gordon noted that, if this were the case, she would now only expect Union Council meetings to occur if there is proportional representation.

The Union Secretary responded that Union Council meetings will be held in accordance with the regulations and extraordinary meetings will be called as needed.

Councillor Gordon queried how the VPs could be volunteers and paid workers simultaneously. The Union President responded that the word 'volunteer' has been taken out of context, and the VPs were considered volunteers in order to be covered by the Union's insurance policy only. The Union Secretary clarified that all elected officers are volunteers in some sense, and this is why they are not covered by the Union's enterprise agreement.

Councillor Gordon raised that there was no certainty that the officers would be elected at the next meeting of Council and this was hypothetical only. She queried why others were not given an equal opportunity to volunteer in the positions in the meantime, noting that it was not an absolute certainty that the officers would be elected into their positions. The Union President accepted that this was the case.

Councillor De queried whether content or form is more important. She clarified that the Councillors should be questioning the work the officers are doing, instead of quibbling about bureaucratic process.

Councillor Thomson queried whether the executive had sought legal advice to ensure that back paying the officers is above board. The Union President explained that legal advice had been sought from the Union's SHOC advocate and lawyer.

Procedural motion to extend Question Time

NOT CARRIED

k) Reports of Union Bodies

Nil

l) Appeals

Nil

m) Executive Business

Nil

n) General Business

Transdev Industrial Dispute

Councillor De explained that the Brisbane ferry workers have taken strike action multiple times over the last few months and, as a Union, Union Council should show solidarity with these workers. It was noted that UQ students use Transdev services to travel every day and it's an issue that affects the safety of UQ students.

The seconder reserved their speaking rights.

It was moved

THAT UNION COUNCIL NOTES THAT THE BRISBANE FERRY WORKERS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN AN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE WITH THEIR EMPLOYER, TRANSDEV, FOR MANY MONTHS. THIS DISPUTE REVOLVES AROUND THE SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION UNDER TRANSDEV OF CASUALIZATION IN THE WORKFORCE AND THE LOW WAGES FOR THE DIFFERENT GRADES OF WORKERS EMPLOYED.

COUNCIL BELIEVES THAT THE WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF FERRY WORKERS, AS A MODE OF TRANSPORT EMPLOYED BY MANY STUDENTS IN THEIR DAILY COMMUTE, DESERVE TO BE OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD. THIS IS ESPECIALLY THE CASE SINCE CITYCAT SERVICES ARE PAID FOR BY THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL.

COUNCIL STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE BRISBANE FERRY WORKERS.

THIS MOTION WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL, TRANSDEV AND THE WORKERS' RESPECTIVE UNIONS.

COUNCIL 108/18

DE/CAMPBELL

CARRIED

Climate Change

The Union President expressed her wholehearted support for the motion.

Councillor De raised that the QUT Guild Council passed a similar motion two weeks prior and if supported, it would mean the two major student unions in Queensland have demonstrated their support of a watershed political moment last year.

Councillor Asher suggested the motion be amended to state that the Union acknowledges that climate change is real. The Chair ruled that the amendment was out of order, as it would substantively change the motion.

It was moved

THAT TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE IS A KEY QUESTION OF OUR TIME. 2019 BEGAN IN AUSTRALIA WITH MASS FISH DEATHS ON THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN, FIRES IN TASMANIA AND DEVASTATING FLOODS IN TOWNSVILLE. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATE ELITE ARE NOT DOING ENOUGH TO COMBAT THIS POTENTIALLY EXISTENTIAL THREAT.

ACROSS THE WORLD, SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE BEEN STRIKING FOR CLIMATE ACTION. LAST YEAR, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SCHOOL STUDENTS – FROM KINDERGARTEN, TO YEAR 12 – DEFIED SCOTT MORRISON'S CALL FOR 'MORE LEARNING, LESS ACTIVISM', AND WALKED OUT OF CLASS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE.

ON MARCH 15, SCHOOL STUDENTS ACROSS AUSTRALIA WILL BE STRIKING AGAIN WITH THE SAME DEMANDS.

AS A PROGRESSIVE BODY COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, THE UQ STUDENT UNION APPLAUDS THE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND ENCOURAGES UQ STUDENTS TO ATTEND THEIR DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT.

RALLY DETAILS: FRIDAY WEEK 3, 1PM, QUEENS GARDENS.

COUNCIL 108/19

MILLROY/DE

CARRIED

Councillor Kozij abstained from the vote.

Campaign Trail

The Chair ruled the motion invalid, as the seconds name had been forged. Councillor Kozij volunteered to be the seconder of the motion.

Semper Ed. Evans raised that the time has come for bipartisanship, to come together and to make a good year of it.

It was moved

THAT COUNCIL BEGIN THE YEAR BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT IT HAS ALL BEEN LEFT ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

COUNCIL 108/20

EVANS/KOZIJ

NOT CARRIED

Abilities Collective Facebook Page

The mover, Councillor Asher, advised Council that political content from a Greens senator had been shared on the Abilities Collective Facebook page.

The seconder reserved their speaking rights.

The Union President spoke against the motion. She cautioned against over-politicising the post and advised Council that she believes it was relevant content that was shared in good faith.

Procedural motion to table the motion until the next meeting of Union Council

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT THE UNION TAKE AS AN OFFICIAL POLICY POSITION THAT WE CENSURE THE ABILITIES OFFICERS FOR SHARING POLITICAL PARTY CONTENT ON THE OFFICIAL ABILITIES COLLECTIVE FACEBOOK PAGE

COUNCIL 108/21

ASHER/KOZIJ

TABLED

Union Complex Mural

Councillor De raised that the mural, which states ‘white Australia has a black history’, is one of the only things on campus commemorating indigenous people and to paint a selfie station next to this historical mural is in poor taste.

Union Secretary suggested the motion be amended from ‘UQ’ to ‘UQ Student Services’. The mover and seconder were amenable to the amendment.

The seconder of the motion, Rowan Evans, noted that the ‘kiddie train’ used recently for Campus Tours speaks for itself when it comes to Student Services.

Georgia Boon entered the meeting at 6.48pm.

It was moved

THAT COUNCIL CONDEMNS THE UQ STUDENT SERVICES DECISION TO PAINT A MURAL ON THE WALLS OF THE UNION COMPLEX, NEXT TO A HISTORICAL MURAL FOR INDIGENOUS RIGHTS.

WE CALL ON UQ STUDENT SERVICES TO EITHER PAINT THE WALL WHITE AGAIN, OR CONTRIBUTE A NEW, POLITICALLY POIGNANT MURAL FOR STUDENTS TO CONTEMPLATE

Ramsay Centre

The mover of the motion, Zainab Darbas, raised that the Ramsay Centre threatens academic freedom at UQ, whitewashes colonialism and is clearly ideologically motivated.

The seconder reserved their speaking rights.

Procedural motion to temporarily move into Question Time

CARRIED

Councillor Kozij raised that he sees nothing wrong with the Ramsay Centre and he has personally attended Arts courses that feature 'leftie propaganda'.

Councillor Asher queried whether Councillor Kozij has read the EOI from the Ramsay Centre and urged him to do so.

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>Against</i>
Georgia Boon	<i>In Favour</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>Against</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>Abstain</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>Against</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>Against</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>Against</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Gillespie	<i>Against</i>
Alexander Asher	<i>In Favour</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>Against</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>Abstain</i>
Priya De	<i>In Favour</i>

Jehiel Lomaz	<i>In Favour</i>
Sarah Doyle	<i>In Favour</i>
Connor Morin	<i>In Favour</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>In Favour</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>In Favour</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>In Favour</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Thomson	<i>In Favour</i>
Jordan Duffey	<i>In Favour</i>

It was moved

THAT UQU CALLS ON VICE-CHANCELLOR PETER HOJ AND THE UQ ADMINISTRATION TO CEASE THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH RAMSAY CENTRE FOR WESTERN CIVILISATION IN RELATION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A MAJOR OF WESTERN CIVILISATION AT UQ. THE CENTRE'S PROPOSED MAJOR RAISES SIGNIFICANT CONCERNS WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND INSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY, AND IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE CURRICULUM WILL ENCOURAGE A WHITEWASHING OF COLONIALISM. THE RAMSAY CENTRE DEAL IS, ADDITIONALLY, INCOMPATIBLE WITH UQ'S COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION WITH ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES. UQU THEREFORE CALLS ON VICE-CHANCELLOR PETER HOJ AND THE UQ ADMINISTRATION TO CEASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RAMSAY CENTRE

COUNCIL 108/23

DARBAS/GORDON

CARRIED

Sexual Assault on Campus

The mover, Zainab Darbas, noted that it is important for the Union to reaffirm their commitment to addressing sexual assault on campus by committing to specific actions as part of a larger campaign.

The seconder reserved their speaking rights.

The Union President raised that the Colleges Officer had recently invited the author of the Red Zone Report, Nina Funnell, to speak at the UQU and Colleges Executive Breakfast and she will also be speaking at the International Women's Day Breakfast on March 8. They will be conducting training with all of the clubs that run drinking events and colleges have been asked to send a representative. The Union President is also meeting with members of UQ's Sexual Misconduct Panel.

In response, the mover noted that, while it is positive the Union are taking steps to address the problem, she would still like to see the commitment reaffirmed in Council.

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>In Favour</i>
Georgia Boon	<i>In Favour</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>In Favour</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>In Favour</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>In Favour</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>In Favour</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>In Favour</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Gillespie	<i>In Favour</i>
Alexander Asher	<i>In Favour</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>In Favour</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>In Favour</i>
Priya De	<i>In Favour</i>
Jehiel Lomaz	<i>In Favour</i>
Sarah Doyle	<i>In Favour</i>
Connor Morin	<i>In Favour</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>In Favour</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>In Favour</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>In Favour</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Thomson	<i>In Favour</i>
Jordan Duffey	<i>In Favour</i>

It was moved

THAT UQU CONDEMNS THE PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES, AND ACKNOWLEDGES THE UQ COLLEGES HAVE A PARTICULARLY PROBLEMATIC CULTURE THAT INCREASES THE RISK OF SEXUAL ASSAULT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS. SEXUAL ASSAULT HAS SERIOUS AND ONGOING CONSEQUENCES FOR SURVIVORS AND FOR OUR COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. UQU ACKNOWLEDGES THE WORK OF UQ'S SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SUPPORT UNIT IN COMBATING SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS AND COMMITS TO A SUBSTANTIVE AND ONGOING AWARENESS, WELFARE AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO END SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS AT UQ.

TO FURTHER THIS CAMPAIGN, THE UQU VICE-PRESIDENTS (GENDER AND SEXUALITY) COMMIT TO:

- RUNNING AN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ABOUT THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SURVIVORS THROUGH THE SEXUAL MISCONDUCT SUPPORT UNIT, INCLUDING COUNSELLING AND ASSISTANCE WITH MAKING FORMAL COMPLAINTS;
- WORKING WITH THE UQU COLLEGES OFFICERS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS GENERALLY TO IDENTIFY WAYS FOR UQ COLLEGES TO BE SAFER AND MORE RESPECTFUL FOR ALL STUDENTS;
- PROVIDING RESOURCES TO ASSIST CLUBS AND SOCIETIES IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL ASSAULT, SUCH AS INFORMATION AND TRAINING ON HOW TO IMPLEMENT A WELFARE OFFICER POSITION ON CLUB EXECUTIVES; AND
- PROVIDING WELFARE OFFICERS AT UNION EVENTS AND VENUES WHERE ALCOHOL IS PROVIDED.

COUNCIL 108/24

DARBAS/GORDON

CARRIED

Wage Theft

The mover of the motion, Councillor Duffey, noted that wage theft is an important issue, with students at UQ significantly impacted. The Union should therefore have a stance and provide support to these students.

The Chair queried whether Councillor Duffey had held discussions with the Student Rights portfolio. The Councillor stated that he had not.

The seconder reserved their right to speak.

The Union President urged Council to read the next edition of Semper, as they will be including an expose on wage theft.

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>In Favour</i>
Georgia Boon	<i>In Favour</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>In Favour</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>In Favour</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>In Favour</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>In Favour</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>In Favour</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Gillespie	<i>In Favour</i>
Alexander Asher	<i>In Favour</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>In Favour</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>In Favour</i>
Priya De	<i>In Favour</i>
Jehiel Lomaz	<i>In Favour</i>
Sarah Doyle	<i>In Favour</i>
Connor Morin	<i>In Favour</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>In Favour</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>In Favour</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>In Favour</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Thomson	<i>In Favour</i>

It was moved

THAT UQU CONDEMNS THE ONGOING PRACTICE OF WAGE THEFT FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AMONG QUEENSLAND BUSINESSES AND CALLS ON THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT REFORMS TO COMBAT WAGE THEFT. YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING UQ STUDENTS, ARE OFTEN DELIBERATELY EXPLOITED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS WHO STEAL BILLIONS FROM THEM IN UNDERPAYMENTS, UNPAID SUPERANNUATION, UNPAID OVERTIME AND SHAM CONTRACTING. 60% OF FORTITUDE VALLEY BUSINESSES DO NOT COMPLY WITH WORKPLACE LAW. UQU CALLS ON TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION THAT COVERS THE COMPLEX ARRANGEMENTS IN WHICH WAGE THEFT CAN OCCUR, AND CONTAINS OFFENCES AND PENALTIES IN LINE WITH THE SEVERITY OF WAGE THEFT, AS WELL AS RUN AN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AROUND BUSINESS' OBLIGATIONS TO YOUNG WORKERS. MANY UQ STUDENTS DEAL WITH FINANCIAL INSECURITY AND THE SEVERE IMPACTS OF WAGE THEFT CAN AND DO FURTHER INCREASE THEIR HARDSHIP.

TO HELP COMBAT WAGE THEFT AND REDUCE ITS BURDEN ON UQ STUDENTS, THE UQU VICE-PRESIDENTS (STUDENT RIGHTS) COMMIT TO RUNNING AN AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR UQ STUDENTS AROUND THEIR RIGHTS AT WORK.

COUNCIL 108/25

DUFFEY/DARBAS

CARRIED

Women's Collective 2019 Facebook Group

The mover, Zainab Darbas, explained that the motion is in response to a specific post shared on the Women's Collective Facebook page relating to sex work, titled 'Supporting sex work is not only anti-feminism, but anti-human rights'. While the mover recognised that the page is a place for discourse, it should first be a safe space for women and non-binary people. The Gender and Sexuality VP should support all women's choices and recognise that sex work is work.

The seconder reserved their right to speak.

In response, the Gender and Sexuality VP, Amy Sienkiewicz-Grob, stated that, while not personally supportive of the argument outlined in the post, she supports freedom of speech. Therefore, unless posts are hate speech or a personal attack, they will not be removed. She raised that it would set a dangerous precedent to remove the posts from the group, as this would suggest that the Women's Officer has the autonomy to decide what can and can't be discussed on the page, and this would be infringing on the rights of the women in the collective to have discussions about very relevant topics. She noted that, just because you disagree with someone's opinion, doesn't mean that they don't get to voice it.

The seconder, Taliah Robinson, questioned where the line for freedom of speech will be drawn and advised that, as the Women's Officer, she should be listening to the response from the Collective.

Councillor De raised that, while she supports the decriminalisation of sex work, the motion itself is not in support of sex workers. She expressed concern that the same motion could be used to shut down opposition to right wing principles in the future. She noted that it is dangerous to vest this power to officials and it would therefore be dangerous to pass the motion.

Semper Ed., Rowan Evans, raised that it is inappropriate to bring the motion to a Council meeting with 16 male councillors. The issue should be referred instead to the Women's Collective and escalated internally.

The Union President encouraged the male councillors to abstain from the vote out of respect for the autonomy of the Women's Collective.

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>Against</i>
Georgia Boon	<i>Against</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>Against</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>Abstain</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>Against</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>Against</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>Against</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>Abstain</i>

Lachlan Gillespie	<i>Against</i>
Alexander Asher	<i>Against</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>Abstain</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>Abstain</i>
Priya De	<i>Abstain</i>
Jehiel Lomaz	<i>Abstain</i>
Sarah Doyle	<i>In Favour</i>
Connor Morin	<i>In Favour</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>In Favour</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>In Favour</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>In Favour</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Thomson	<i>In Favour</i>
Jordan Duffey	<i>In Favour</i>
Kurt Tucker	<i>Against</i>

It was moved

THAT IN REGARDS TO THE UQU WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE 2019 FACEBOOK GROUP, THAT ARTICLES AND OPINIONS WHICH MAKE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE OR UNSAFE, OR ARE NOT INCLUSIVE, SHOULD BE DISALLOWED AND DELETED FROM THE GROUP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

UQU SUPPORTS ALL WOMEN'S CHOICES; IN LABELLING SUPPORT OF SEX WORKERS AS ANTI-HUMAN RIGHTS, THERE CAN BE NO RESPECTFUL DISCUSSION.

COUNCIL 108/26

DARBAS/ROBINSON

NOT CARRIED

Coup in Venezuela

The mover of the motion raised that it is important to demonstrate that the Union disagrees with imperialist policies and to support our comrades internationally.

The seconder reserved their right to speak.

Councillor Pazo invited the mover to read the Venezuelan constitution, which would demonstrate that Guaido's position is not illegitimate.

Procedural motion to put the motion to a vote

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT UQU CONDEMNS THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ITS SUPPORT FOR THE UNELECTED AND SELF-DECLARED "PRESIDENT" OF VENEZUELA, JUAN GUAIDO. UQU OPPOSES THE CONTINUED IMPERIAL POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THE PROFOUND CAUSATIVE EFFECT IS HAS HAD ON THE CURRENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION IN VENEZUELA, AND ALSO NOTES THE UNITED STATES' LONG HISTORY OF MEDDLING AND UNDERMINING DEMOCRACIES IN THE REGION AND GLOBALLY. SO LONG AS THE UNITED STATES IS INVOLVED NO LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT CRISIS FACED BY THE VENEZUELAN PEOPLE CAN BE REACHED

COUNCIL 107/27

DOUGALL/DARBAS

NOT CARRIED

Flags

The mover, Lachlan Firth, raised that the treatment of the Queensland flag as a tablecloth on the Chair's table is against state and federal guidelines.

The Chair noted that he expressed his discomfort with the use of the flag at the start of the meeting. He queried whether the mover would be happy to withdraw his motion if the flag was removed from the table and folded in a dignified manner. The mover stated that he would.

It was moved

THAT WITHIN QUEENSLAND GUIDELINES IN REGARDS TO BOTH STATE AND FEDERAL POLICY, FLAGS (STATE/NATIONAL) "SHOULD ONLY BE FLOWN OR DISPLAYED IN A DIGNIFIED MANNER, AND SHOULD NEVER BE USED FOR THE UNVEILING OF A MONUMENT OR PLAQUE, OR USED AS A TABLE OR SEAT COVER, OR LET FALL TO OR LIE UPON THE GROUND".

ALL UQ UNION EVENTS, MEETINGS OR OTHER SUPPORTED/AFFILIATED EVENTS
SHOULD RESPECT STATE AND NATIONAL FLAG POLICY

COUNCIL 107/28

FIRTH/THE SEMPER EDITORS

WITHDRAWN

Ramsay Centre Action

The mover explained that the motion would give more teeth to the original Ramsay Centre motion put forward at the start of the meeting, by committing the Union to concrete action.

The seconder reserved their right to speak.

Councillor Kozij spoke against the motion, stating that the motion in question is too similar to the motion considered earlier in the meeting.

It was moved

THE UNION TAKE AS AN OFFICIAL POLICY POSITION THAT WE CONDEMN ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION BETWEEN UQ & THE RAMSAY CENTRE, AND WILL COMMIT TO ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING AGAINST THE RAMSAY CENTRE, BOTH ON THE GROUND, IN THE FIELD AND IN THE MEDIA OVER THIS SEMESTER

COUNCIL 107/29

ASHER/HARNISCHFEGER

CARRIED

Seccies

The mover of the motion, Semper Ed. Evans, stated that the fact that a seccie had recently entered the meeting and asked members to put out their cigarettes speaks for itself.

The Union Secretary raised that the motion is a shameful and elitist attack on working class people who work hard, noting that they do not make the rules, they just have to enforce them.

The mover suggested that the motion be amended from 'all seccies' to 'some ununionised seccies'. The Chair ruled that the amendment would substantively change the motion.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION TAKE AS AN OFFICIAL POLICY POSITION THAT ALL SECCIES ARE DOGS

FOCUS Corflute

The Chair ruled the motion out of order, as the regulation referenced applies during the election period only. It was suggested that the reference to the regulation be removed. The mover and seconder were amenable to the amendment.

Councillor Thomson noted that the motion is self-explanatory and it is clear that you would not, for example, walk around in campaign shirts outside of the election period.

The seconder, Councillor Campbell, stated that the motion is common-sense.

Councillor Trinh countered that no reasonable person would believe that a FOCUS corflute in the window of the Union building constitutes campaigning. He stated that the motion is nonsensical and is a deliberate ploy by the opposition to waste Union Council's time.

Alexander Asher left the meeting at 9.11pm.

Mitch Dougall raised that it is not reasonable to advertise an electoral group outside of the election period and this could be considered Fresh era campaign tactics.

Councillor De noted that Momentum should stop trying to win political arguments through bureaucracy, as they are not very good at it. The discussions are irrelevant to the arguments members should be having with the right on, for example, free education, refugee policy, students living in poverty etc.

Procedural motion that the motion be put

CARRIED

It was moved

COUNCIL CENSURE THE PRESIDENT GEORGIA MILLROY FOR HAVING A FOCUS CORFLUTE CLEARLY VISIBLE THROUGH HER WINDOW AND THAT THE COUNCIL COMPEL THE PRESIDENT TO REMOVE THIS FROM HER OFFICE.

Plastic Straws on Campus

Environment Officer, Emil Hansen, raised that plastic straws are high waste and are a common item picked up by clean-up group volunteers. They are not made from sustainable plastic, cannot be recycled and kill animals.

Councillor Trinh raised that On a Roll Bakery have recently introduced paper straws and it has been a welcome change.

The Union President noted that the Union are already moving towards paper straws at all Union outlets, with plastic straws under the counter for those that may need them.

Councillor Ray raised that plastic straws are, in fact, recyclable, as they are made from polypropylene. He expressed his concern that the motion would limit the availability of plastic straws for those that need them.

Abilities Officer, Finnian Sonter, raised that paper straws are not a viable alternative for some with disabilities. He noted that some do not have the fine motor skills to raise a drink to their mouths. There is also an issue with cleanliness and hygiene for those with a lowered immune system, as it is not possible to clean a metal straw if you do not have the mobility to hold a cup. However, he noted that he agreed with the move towards paper straws, contingent on the availability of plastic straws for those that need them.

It was suggested that the motion be withdrawn, as the motion does not have regard for those that may need plastic straws. Furthermore, positive steps are already being taken to limit the use of plastic straws on campus. The mover agreed to withdraw the motion.

It was moved

THAT THE UNION DISCONTINUE THE USE OF PLASTIC STRAWS ON CAMPUS IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS BAMBOO, CARDBOARD OR METAL.

COUNCIL 107/32

HANSEN/TRINH

WITHDRAWN

Freedom of Speech Charter

It was suggested that the motion be tabled to the next meeting of Union Council in order to give the Union Secretary a chance to disseminate the charter to the councillors.

It was moved

THAT THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH CHARTER AS PRESENTED AT THE 108TH UQU COUNCIL BE ADOPTED AS A STANDING RESOLUTION AT UQ UNION

COUNCIL 107/33

MILLROY/DE

TABLED

Back-Pay for Volunteer VPs

Mitch Dougall suggested that any back-pay to Union officers be delayed while the regulations are considered in more detail. He noted that he believes back-pay is bad practice and would set a dangerous precedent.

The seconder reserved their right to speak.

Procedural motion that the motion be put

CARRIED

Recorded Vote:

Benjamin Kozij	<i>Against</i>
Georgia Boon	<i>Against</i>
Lili Wackwitz	<i>Against</i>
Ian Trinh	<i>Against</i>
Joseph Krebs	<i>Against</i>
Bradley Plant	<i>Against</i>
Gustavo Pazo	<i>Against</i>
Coen Harnischfeger	<i>Against</i>
Lachlan Gillespie	<i>Against</i>
Nicholas Rowan	<i>Against</i>
Campbell Ray	<i>Abstain</i>
Priya De	<i>Abstain</i>
Jehiel Lomaz	<i>Abstain</i>

Sarah Doyle	<i>In Favour</i>
Connor Morin	<i>Abstain</i>
Nellie Gordon	<i>In Favour</i>
Mohammed Al-Basir Proxied to Zainab Darbas	<i>In Favour</i>
Ambrose Boylan	<i>In Favour</i>
Tom Campbell	<i>In Favour</i>
Lachlan Thomson	<i>In Favour</i>
Jordan Duffey	<i>In Favour</i>

It was moved

THAT WHILE PEOPLE SHOULD IN PRINCIPLE BE COMPENSATED FOR WORK PERFORMED, THE UNION EXECUTIVE IS NOT ABOVE THE RULES. THE ISSUE OF BACK-PAY FOR VOLUNTEER VICE-PRESIDENTS SHOULD BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AFTER A CONSIDERATION OF THE UQU RULES BY COUNCILLORS AND THE UNION EXECUTIVE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE EXECUTIVE CAN BACK-PAY THE VOLUNTEERS WITHOUT HAVING A (SUPERMAJORITY) VOTE IN COUNCIL.

COUNCIL 108/34

DOUGALL/DARBAS

NOT CARRIED

O) Notice of Business Proposed

Nil

The meeting was declared closed at 9.25pm