

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES

From the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of the
107th UQ Union Council, 2018

6:00PM

Tuesday 17/04/2018

Room 110, Building 69

The University of Queensland, St. Lucia Campus

Chair: Matthew Diamond

The Meeting Opened at 6.07pm

a) Welcome by Union Chairperson

b) Credentials

The following members were present:

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| • Jeremy Lwin | • Kelsie McArthur | • Sam Ngugi |
| • Rowan Evans | • Nathan Kerr | • Jackson Rees |
| • Connor Haddad | • Paul Taylor | • Paige Howard |
| • Jimmy Jin | • Nicholas Comino | • Samuel Pulsford |
| • Lili Wackwitz | • Georgia Millroy | • Benjamin Kozij |
| • Nerissa Aitken | • Gloria Woods | • Adelaide Power |
| • Duncan Hart | • Matthew Diamond | • Zil Silvester |
| • Aaron Barker-Smith | • Olivia Winchester | • Brandon Lo |

The Following Members were absent:

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| • Ethan Van Roo | • Coen Harnischfeger | • Emma Shayler |
| • Keira Murray | • Rebecca Bennett | • Kenny Tran |
| • Michelle Zhang | • Matthew Qiu | • Kevin Tian |
| • Samuel Kiernan | • Lianne Mellin | • Lulu Nkwazi |
| • Lachlan Bon | • Elif Kaya | |

Apologies were received from the following members:

- Ethan Van Roo
- Rebecca Bennett

The following proxies were received:

- Coen Harnischfeger to Georgia Millroy
- Keira Murray to Aaron Barker-Smith
- Emma Shayler to Brandon Lo
- Ethan Van Roo to Nerissa Aitken

The following others were present:

- Zachary Thomas
- Bradley Stone

It was moved

THAT THE NOTED APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED AND LEAVE BE GRANTED TO ALL APPLICANTS

COUNCIL 107/108

LO/DIAMOND

CARRIED

c) Elections

Nil

d) The Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting and no amendments were suggested.

It was moved

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE 1ST ORDINARY MEETING BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/109

DIAMOND/LO

CARRIED

e) Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was raised that a number of motions were tabled at the previous meeting of Union Council.

Conference Centre Names

It was confirmed that the Union are yet to receive any conference centre name submissions.

The Union Secretary raised that she had just received a submission during council proceedings from Gender and Sexuality Vice-President, Nicholas Comino- 'The Dame Quentin Bryce Centre'. It was noted that the Rohingya Centre is also automatically a name submission, as per the original motion.

The Union Treasurer informed council that the name the 'Aung San Suu Kyi Conference Centre' was never officially accepted by Senate and can therefore be changed without prior approval, including the physical removal of the plaque.

It was raised that the conference centre is named the 'Aung San Suu Kyi Conference Centre' on the UQ website and this would also need to be amended.

The Union Secretary noted that she would be consulting with the marketing team to organise a campaign to encourage name submissions.

The Union President stated that he would contact property and facilities in regards to the removal of the plaque.

UATSIS

The chair noted that he had received a motion in relation to UATSIS affiliation and this would be discussed later in the meeting.

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

Nil

g) References

Nil

h) Reports of the Elected Officers

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

CARRIED

It was moved en bloc

THAT THE UNION PRESIDENT'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/110 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

THAT THE UNION SECRETARY'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/111 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

THAT THE UNION TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/112 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

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

COUNCIL 107/113 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

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

COUNCIL 107/114 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

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

COUNCIL 107/115 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

THAT THE ABILITIES OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/116 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/117 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

THAT THE POSTGRADUATE OFFICER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AND CONFIRMED

COUNCIL 107/118 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/119	DIAMOND/LO	CARRIED
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COUNCIL 107/120	DIAMOND/LO	CARRIED
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COUNCIL 107/121 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/122 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/123 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/124 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

Nil

Nil

CARRIED

Procedural motion to consider all other reports en bloc.

CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/125 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/126	DIAMOND/LO	CARRIED
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COUNCIL 107/127	DIAMOND/LO	CARRIED
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COUNCIL 107/128 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/129 DIAMOND/LO CARRIED

COUNCIL 107/130 MILLROY/LO CARRIED

Nil

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- Although this was during a period that Mr. Liveris was not CEO, he has maintained the company's position of refusing to accept responsibility for this legacy and has actively tried to challenge the science behind the effects of Agent Orange.

Environment Officer, Samuel Pulsford, queried whether the councillor would take the same stance if a company such as Hugo Boss invested in the university. It was noted that the company provided the uniform for the Gestapo.

The councillor responded that he would have to look further into the ethics of the company but he would be alarmed at the prospect.

Gender and Sexuality Vice-President, Nicholas Comino, raised that, while he agrees the company has a bad history, clear lines must be drawn in terms of the acceptance of donations for the future. He raised that ultimately the money will benefit students.

Student, Zachary Thomas, raised that the building is an honorary name and Andrew Liveris is likely the most notable alumni to ever come out of UQ. He contended that, while there is no ethical consumption in a capitalist world, Dow, in the modern era, actively saves lives. Examples include Dow's research on genetically modified foods that prevent starvation in developing countries and the development of the world's best solar panels that are more cost efficient than using coal. Further, it was noted that Andrew Liveris himself is a charitable individual who has saved countless lives in the developing world through his individual charitable contributions. Lastly, he stated that the focus should be on Andrew Liveris' achievements during his time as CEO of Dow, rather than the company's historical actions before his tenure began.

Councillor Gloria Woods raised that the names of university buildings are largely irrelevant, with the benefits of the donation outweighing the negatives. It was noted that supporting the motion to take away \$40 million worth of infrastructure from the university is ultimately not worth it.

Procedural motion to put the motion to a vote

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE INTENTION OF THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION TO NAME A BUILDING AND “ACADEMY” AFTER THE CEO OF DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, ANDREW LIVERIS, AFTER RECEIVING A DONATION OF \$13 MILLION WITH THE PROMISE OF A FURTHER \$26 MILLION FROM MR LIVERIS AND HIS WIFE.

COUNCIL CALLS ATTENTION TO THE DEPLORABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMANITARIAN RECORD OF THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY. THIS RECORD INCLUDES THE PRODUCTION OF NAPALM AND AGENT ORANGE DURING THE VIETNAM WAR AND REFUSALS BY THE COMPANY TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE IMMENSE DESTRUCTION THESE PRODUCTS CAUSED.

MR LIVERIS HAS NOT RECTIFIED THIS RECORD, WHICH CONTRADICTS THE STATED PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED “LIVERIS ACADEMY”, WHICH IS SAID TO BE ABOUT “IDENTIFY[ING] PROMISING STUDENTS WITH LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL AND A PASSION TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES.”

COUNCIL CALLS UPON THE UNIVERSITY TO RECONSIDER THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION BY MR LIVERIS AND HIS WIFE, AND OPPOSES THE ADMINISTRATION’S DECISION TO NAME A BUILDING AND “ACADEMY” AFTER HIM.

COUNCIL 107/131

HART/POWER

NOT CARRIED

UATSIS

Goorie Berrimpa Officer, Connor Haddad, briefly outlined the role of UATSIS for those that had not attended the previous council meeting. He explained that the details of the agreement had been discussed, including a significant reduction of the membership price and the creation of a number of key performance indicators.

Councillor Duncan Hart noted that, while he was for the motion, he questioned the logic of paying half-price and demanding advocacy and representation. He asked for clarification on how UATSIS functions differently to the NUS and how representation is guaranteed.

Connor Haddad noted that ANU have outlined similar KPIs in their agreement. In terms of the NUS, it was noted that UATSIS office bearers are not paid so there are no monetary concerns, and they do not operate on a proportional representation system.

The Union President raised that, from conversations with UATSIS, there is a specific need for indigenous peoples to be able to interact cross-campus. The unions decision to not affiliate with the NUS is based on the understanding that UQU can provide everything that they could internally and this is not the case with UATSIS. He noted that there is a specific need for a QLD branch and this is what UATSIS is trying to achieve. Further, these kinds of agreements that specific KPIs are not uncommon before buying in.

Connor Haddad noted that the president of UATSIS was encouraging and flexible when it came to affiliation.

It was moved

THAT GOORIE BERRIMPA, AND THE UQU, PROVISIONALLY AFFILIATES WITH UATSIS TO THE SUM OF \$1500. THE UQU WILL AFFILIATE CONTINGENT ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA BEING MET:

1. ANOTHER QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY AFFILIATES
2. GOORIE BERRIMPA SEES THE MONEY IT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE DIRECT BENEFIT OF GOORIE
3. GOORIE CONTINUES TO OPERATE AS A NON-PARTISAN COLLECTIVE
4. ALL MONETARY DECISIONS ARE AGREED UPON BY ALL UNI REPS WITHIN QLD
5. UATSIS FACILITATES AT LEAST ONE UPSKILLING EVENT FOR QLD AFFILIATES
6. UATSIS FACILITATES AT LEAST TWO CROSS-CAMPUS EVENTS PER YEAR
7. THE FINANCES OF UATSIS ARE TRANSPARENT AND ACCESSIBLE TO GOORIE

COUNCIL 107/132

HADDAD/NGUGI

CARRIED

Higher Education Award at Campus Outlets

Councillor Gloria Woods recused herself from this item due to a conflict of interest.

Councillor Gloria Woods left the room at 6.37pm

Student Rights Vice-President, Paul Taylor, explained that it is unfair for some retail workers on campus to be paid less than others. He stated that if a wage is acceptable in one place, it should be acceptable in all of them.

Procedural motion to put the motion to a vote

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS THE EXECUTIVE TO PURSUE A CAMPAIGN THAT THE UNIVERSITY MANDATE ALL RETAIL OUTLETS ON CAMPUS TO BE PAID THE HIGHER EDUCATION EQUIVALENT AWARD, SUCH AS THE HIGHER EDUCATION INDUSTRY GENERAL STAFF AWARD, IF THEY ARE OTHERWISE BEING PAID UNDER A LOWER AWARD, SUCH AS THE GENERAL RETAIL INDUSTRY AWARD OR THE FAST FOOD INDUSTRY AWARD.

THE COUNCIL ALSO DIRECTS THE EXECUTIVE TO INVESTIGATE CLAIMS OF OUTLETS ON CAMPUS PAYING WORKERS BELOW THEIR CURRENT AWARD WAGES.

COUNCIL 107/133

TAYLOR/HART

CARRIED

Councillor Gloria Woods re-entered the room at 6.39pm

Acknowledgment of Country

Union newspaper editor, Rowan Evans, spoke for the motion, explaining that another meeting is another opportunity to acknowledge and another opportunity missed by the forgetful chair.

Councillor Duncan Hart raised that an acknowledgment of country should be written into the standing orders and in the meantime, the chair should do so by convention.

The chair noted that any regulatory amendments would have to go through Rules Committee. It was agreed that the proposed regulatory amendment would be sent to Rules Committee at the conclusion of the meeting.

It was moved

THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THIS LAND, JAGERA
AND TURBAL PEOPLES

COUNCIL 107/134

EVANS/HART

CARRIED

Acting Presidents

Union newspaper editor, Rowan Evans, spoke for the motion. He noted that it's a shame that other Unions have not taken up the mantle the same way UQU has in relation to acting presidents.

Student Zachary Thomas raised that the current council is lacking a strong voice opposing frivolous motions, as there has been in the past, and urged members to take the mantle up in this respect. He drew attention to the fact that, if this motion were to pass, UQU would be endorsing a coup.

Procedural motion to put the motion to a vote

CARRIED

It was moved

THAT COUNCIL REGRETS THAT ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER
HAS BEGUN PERSECUTING AU UNION'S NEW ACTING PRESIDENT BRODIE SCOTT.

COUNCIL EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH ACTING PRESIDENT SCOTT AND EXPRESSES
ITS HOPE THAT STUDENT NEWSPAPERS EVERYWHERE CAN COEXIST WITH THEIR
ACTING PRESIDENTS

COUNCIL 107/135

EVANS/WOODS

NOT CARRIED

Recorded Vote:

HASS Councillor: Ethan Van Roo proxied to Nerissa Aitken

Against

HASS Councillor: Olivia Winchester

Abstention

HASS Councillor: Duncan Hart

Against

BEL Councillor: Georgia Millroy *Against*
BEL Councillor: Ben Kozij *In Favour*
BEL Councillor: Zil Silvester *Against*
EAIT Councillor: Coen Harnischfeger proxied to Georgia Millroy *Against*
EAIT Councillor: Aaron Barker Smith *Against*
HLBS Councillor: Emma Shayler proxied to Brandon Lo *Against*
HLBS Councillor: Keira Murray proxied to Aaron Barker-Smith *Against*
Science Councillor: Nerissa Aitken *Against*
Science Councillor: Gloria Woods *In Favour*
Science Councillor: Adelaide Power *Against*
MBS Councillor: Brandon Lo *Against*

n) General Business

Nil

o) Notice of Business Proposed

Nil

p) Any Other Business

Nil

The meeting was declared closed at 6.50pm