



UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNION

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UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNION SECRETARIAT

The attached minutes have been accepted by the Clubs & Societies Committee by resolution as a true and accurate record of the events of the meeting held on the 8 February 2011.

Chair: Sibella Matthews

15/03/2011

Date

Meeting of the Clubs and Societies Committee
3.00pm, 8 February 2011, The Isabel Fidler Meeting Room, Manning House
MINUTES



Committee Members	Sibella Matthews (Chair), James Flynn (Deputy Chair), Timothy Matthews, James Sin, Cameron Creigh, Sarah Nguyen
USU Staff	Angela Vogiatoglou (Clubs and Societies Manager), Frieda Chan (Committee Secretary)
Visitors	<i>Australian Chinese Youth Association:</i> Libby Lin, Michael Shiraev

No#	Details
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The Chair opened the meeting at 3:43pm.

Please note that the meeting did not reach quorum as required by USU regulations, and thus the committee was only able to make recommendations to be ratified by the Board.

1. Apologies And Leaves Of Absence

C&S
***1/11**

The committee recommended that apologies be accepted from Alistair Cowie, Mina Nada and Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne and to accept a request for late arrival from Sarah Nguyen.

Timothy Matthews / Cameron Creigh

2. Minutes Of The Meeting Held 23 November 2010

It was raised by Ms. Angela Vogiatoglou that in the draft minutes the name of Beat the System was misspelt. There were no other issues with the previous minutes.

C&S
***2/11**

The committee recommended that the minutes of the previous meeting held 23 November 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

James Flynn / James Sin

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the November minutes.

4. General Business

4.1 Clubs and societies Manager's Report

Ms. Vogiatoglou reported that the C&S office would be presenting its annual report to the Board. She also said that C&S conferences are to be held on the 17th and 21st of February, which will be mandatory for at least one executive from each club to attend. She added that attendance at the conferences are mandatory for clubs to secure O-week stalls and that the

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executives would be informed of the changes such as to USU branding and funding regulations.

Mr. James Sin then asked what would happen to clubs that had executives who worked full time and were thus unavailable to attend the conferences.

Ms. Vogiatoglou stated that the C&S office would acknowledge such situations and allow a normal member to attend as long as they relayed all the information back to their clubs. She also emphasised that only one executive from each club would be required to attend and that PowerPoint presentations and other information from the conferences would be made available online.

C&S
***3/11**

The committee recommended accepting the Clubs and Societies Manager's Report.

James Flynn / James Sin

Ms. Sarah Nguyen arrived at 3:50pm.

4.2 New Club applications

Ms. Sibella Matthews then called upon the representatives from The University of Sydney Chapter of the Australia China Youth Association (ACYA USyd) to present their appeal against the decision to reject their new club application which was made at the previous committee meeting.

Ms. Libby Lin stated that ACYA (USyd) was a new club that tried to register in 2010 but was declined by the C&S Committee. She said that the group had now proposed changes to their constitution and that they were in attendance at the meeting to request for an O-Week stall.

Ms. Lin said that the club aimed to create career and education opportunities for Australian students in China, and that it could act as a channel between Chinese and non-Chinese students. She added that the club would aim to work with other Chinese orientated organisations in the university such as Confucius Institute and the China Studies Centre.

Ms. Lin then went on to speak about how the club is part of a national network, which would be beneficial due to its contacts in China. She emphasised that the club would stay independent and not be funded by the national network.

Ms. Lin said that the reason for the club's application rejection was due to its similarity to existing societies. She said that the club's previous goals included social and cultural events and that the society would now instead focus on career and educational events in order to differentiate itself from existing societies.

Ms. Lin gave three key reasons for the proposed society's uniqueness from existing societies.

The first reason Ms. Lin gave was that the membership of ACYA (USyd) is largely English-speaking. She said that other societies such as SUCSA often hold meetings in Mandarin and that ACYA would be able to better cater for Australian students.

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The second reason Ms. Lin gave for the proposed club's uniqueness was that the members wanted different things from those provided by other societies – namely to know about education and career opportunities, whilst other societies such as Chopsticks are mainly social.

The last reason Ms. Lin gave was that the society was not faculty based and that it would be able to create an inter-disciplinary careers guide.

Ms. Lin then went on to detail the different activities that the club planned to have including speaking events and lectures. In addition to a careers guide, she said that the club hoped also to create a scholarships guide.

Ms. Lin stated that due to these proposed changes to the society, it was the club's opinion that the registration would likely be approved at a later committee meeting. In light of this, she said that the group wants an O-Week stall due to three reasons.

Ms. Lin stated that the first reason the group would need an O-Week stall is to fill a gap in student experience and secondly that it was in the interests of the university to provide a global and dynamic experience to its students. Lastly she said that the group would need an O-Week stall in order to be viable in 2011, as it is a significant recruiting opportunity.

Ms. Matthews then thanked Ms. Lin for her presentation to the committee. Ms. Matthews then asked for committee members to pose questions to the representatives from ACYA (USyd).

Ms. Sarah Nguyen asked the representatives from ACYA (USyd) whether they had approached other societies to talk about their careers and education aims.

Ms. Lin said that the group had already spoken to the other societies and said that there was no conflict between their aims. She added that there was in fact some crossover in the executives in the societies and thus the group was able to have good dialogue with other Chinese orientated societies on campus.

Mr. Michael Shiraev stated that there were two main societies that the club was seen to be overlapping and that the executives from both societies had been spoken to. He added that these executives were happy to support that the activities of ACYA (USyd) would be distinct from their own.

Ms. Lin added that the groups proposed activities such as weekly speaking events and other talks could not be so easily achieved by the other clubs.

In response, Mr. James Flynn asked why other clubs would not be able to achieve such activities.

Ms. Lin replied that the activities that ACYA (USyd) hoped to focus on would require a significant amount of time, and that the groups association with ACYA would give it significant help.

Mr. Shiraev added that the demographics of the different societies would mean that the aims of the careers guides would be significantly different.

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He said that the group would be focussing more on Australian students seeking careers outside of Australia. To elaborate on what he meant by this, Mr. Shiraev said that SUCSA's activities often involved getting local real estate agents to talk to international students about finding accommodation, or getting local business people to give presentations. Mr. Shiraev said that these sorts of activities were not the focus of ACYA (USyd) and that the stated aims of existing organisations were different.

Mr. Sin then asked other than careers guides, what other material benefits would be delivered by the club.

Mr. Shiraev said that the idea for the careers guide came from the SULLS careers guide which collates a list of career opportunities. Mr. Shiraev said that the group also intended to create a scholarship guide catering to all faculties as well as host speaking and lecture events.

Ms. Lin added that due to the groups affiliation with ACYA, the club could be able to provide members the opportunity to participate in international events such as the Annual China Australia Youth Dialogue in Beijing. Mr. Shiraev also said that other universities in Australia already had ACYA societies.

Mr. Flynn said that a club could not be controlled by an external organisation. He asked the representatives how they intended to overcome issues of control between ACYA and ACYA (USyd).

Mr. Shiraev said that ACYA (USyd) would always be a USyd run activity and that the affiliation would only provide a brand and advice such as on how to run events. He said that the club would be essentially independent and that ACYA would not be able to make binding decisions in regards to the club.

Mr. Sin then asked who funded the national organisation and how the executive is formed.

Mr. Shiraev said that the organisations has sponsors and that he presumed the executives were selected through elections. It should be noted though that Mr. Shiraev stated that he was not completely sure who the sponsors of the organisation were and how exactly the executives were elected or appointed.

Ms. Matthews then thanked Mr. Shiraev and Ms. Lin for taking their time to attend the meeting and make their presentation.

Mr. Michael Shiraev and Ms. Libby Lin left the meeting at 4:12pm.

C&S
***4/11**

The committee recommended that the meeting move in camera.

James Flynn / Timothy Matthews

C&S
***8/11**

The committee recommended that the meeting move ex camera.

James Flynn / Cameron Creigh

C&S
***9/11**

The committee recommended that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes.

James Flynn / Timothy Matthews

4.3 Constitutional Amendments

C&S
***10/11**

The committee recommended that the applications for constitutional amendments requests be accepted en bloc from the following Clubs and Societies:

Sydney University Costume Society
Sydney University Musical Society
Sydney University Sydney Arts Students Society

James Flynn / Cameron Creigh

5. Other Business

Ms. Vogiatoglou stated that there was only one controversial item surrounding the SU Medical Society. She said that in her opinion the other clubs should be allowed O-Week stalls on the proviso that they advertise AGMs with two weeks notice. She said that this leniency should be provided as there were only small issues with advertising or quorum.

Mr. Sin then asked why the committee could be lenient with the societies, and Mr. Creigh replied that all were established societies. Ms. Vogiatoglou added that it would be a significant problem for the societies to not have O-Week stalls and that they were already not getting any O-Week funding.

C&S
***11/11**

The committee recommended that applications for O-Week stalls be accepted en bloc from the following Clubs and Societies:

Sydney University Commerce Revue Society
Sydney University Engineers without Borders Society
Sydney University Movers and Shakers Society
Sydney University Rubik's Cube & Other Puzzles Appreciation Society

Sarah Nguyen / Timothy Matthews

Ms. Matthews then directed the committee to consider the funding request from the SU Medical Society. She read out the letter from the society's immediate past president, which detailed how the club submitted a pre-event form that had the wrong date listed for the event. She added that the

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pre event form was actually submitted 2 days before the real event which is in line with the regulations.

Ms. Matthews then pointed out another problem with the funding request – that there was a funding cut off from the 20th of November. She said that the immediate past president had looked through the regulations and not found such a cut off date.

Ms. Vogiatoglou said that the society was usually extremely thorough in its adherence to regulations and that the wrong date could likely be due to human error. She also said that there were some discrepancies with the regulations outlining the funding cut offs so there could have been a miscommunication. She added that she personally believed that the committee should approve the funding request due to the past behaviour and record of the society.

Mr. Sin then pointed out that an email had been sent to all C&S executives that advised of the funding cut off date before the pre-event form was submitted. He stated that he did not think the appeal should be allowed on that basis.

Mr. Flynn added that the committee could overlook minor discrepancies as it is important to encourage faculty clubs.

Mr. Matthews added that funding request of \$408 would be a significant amount of money and that a rejection of the funding request could have severe ramifications on the society.

C&S
***12/11**

The committee recommended that the funding request from the Sydney University Medical Society be accepted. It is noted that Mr. James Sin did not support the approval.

Timothy Matthews / Sarah Nguyen

6. Date of the Next Meeting

Ms. Matthews stated that the dates of the meetings would need to be approved by board. Mr. Flynn also added that the availabilities of the committee members would also need to be known before dates could be set for the year.

Ms. Matthews suggested that a provisional date for the next meeting be Tuesday the 15th of March at 3pm.

7. Close of Meeting

The Meeting Closed at 4:45pm.
