

University of Sydney Union

The University of Sydney NSW 2006

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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 17 July 2012.

Acting Chair: Zac Thompson

23/8/2012 Date



Committee Members	Zachary Thompson (Chair), Karen Chau (Deputy Chair), Astha Rajvanshi (President, ex-officio)
	Alexandra Brown, Cameron Creigh, Ganesh Vaheis, Peta Blundell, Victoria Grimshaw
USU Staff	Gayda de Mesa (Acting Committee Secretary), Pamela Wade (Clubs and Societies Officer), and Alistair Cowie (Director of Student Programs).

Visitors	Oliver Pase, Andrew Kim, Peter Rolfe, Samantha Alcantara, Thu Tha Hwong,
	Anthony Sandler, An Tran

Details
The Chair opened the meeting at 3:04pm
Mr. Zachary Thompson introduced himself as the new C&S Committee Chair, taking over from Ms. Jacqui Munro. He stated that Ms. Karen Chau is now the C&S Committee Deputy Chair, who will be assisting with the chairing responsibilities.
Mr. Thompson declared that his highest priority is to ensure that the Committee is fair, consistent and efficient. He explained that he considered his role to be to facilitate debate and to make sure that meetings were run as efficiently as possible.
Mr. Thompson then introduced the Conflict of Interest register for the Committee Members to complete. He stated that the register was an item that had been implemented to ensure that he and Ms. Chau would be aware of any conflicts of interest that would affect decision making. He further explained that the register would institute better accountability and, should any action be called into question, the Committee would have a stronger case in defending decisions.
Mr Alistair Cowie asked Mr. Thompson to clarify what items would be appropriate to note on the register.
Mr. Thompson made the suggestion of membership of a political party or a religious group, an executive position of a Club or Society, and put it to the Committee to extend it to anything that would affect decision making.
Mr. Thompson also reminded the Committee members of the email he has sent through pertaining to the Committee members' availability for semester 2.
Resolved that apologies be accepted from Alexander Hanbury-Brown, Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne and Angela Vogiatsoglou.
Victoria Grimshaw / Cameron Creigh
2. Minutes
2.1 Minutes from the previous meeting, held 19 th June
Ms. Peta Blundell drew attention to the point that the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Magazine is spelt ROAR and not RAW.



C&S 120/12	Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held 19 June 2012 be amended to reflect the correct spelling of the Sydney University Sport and Fitness publication, ROAR.
	Peta Blundell / Ganesh Vaheis
	4.1 Clubs and Societies Manager's Report
	Ms. Pamela Wade spoke to the C&S Manager's report. She stated that the C&S Conferences were on the 23 rd and 27 th of July and that the C&S Office had received RSVPs for at least a hundred executives per session. She informed the Committee that C&S training sessions would be conducted before and after the main conference.
	Ms. Wade then stated that the C&S Office was starting to organise the C&S Awards Night, in October and reminded the Committee that the theme is masquerade. She said that the nominations had been updated with further terms and conditions, and further criteria. She confirmed that the nominations have been open all year, but that the office have not received many to date. She then stated that the USU Annual Dinner is to be held on the 23 rd of November.
	Mr. Cowie informed the Committee that the Best Club Awards were being renamed after former Board member Dave Burnett. He confirmed that the two awards would now be named The Dave Burnett Award for Most Successful Club with over or under 100 Members.
	Pamela Wade also introduced the new award for Best Promotional Video which is to sit under the Marketing and Communications category.
C&S 121/12	Resolved to accept the Clubs and Societies Manager's Report.
121/12	Cameron Creigh / Peta Blundell
	4.2 Constitutional Amendments
	Mr. Vaheis raised a concern surrounding the SU Bushwalkers minutes meeting not reflecting the changes made to their constitution. He stated that although the changes regarding Access Card Holder membership expiring would therefore not be considered, the club should be informed as they will likely attempt to make the change again.
	Ms. Brown stated with regards to the French Society, the contentious election clause was inserted several years prior and was only recently picked up. She confirmed that the club are fine to deal with the processes in the neatest way possible and that the club was not bound by the clause.
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Mr. Cowie suggested that the clause be removed as it would be redundant.

Mr. Thompson asked Ms. Brown what she wished to change about the recommendation regarding the SU French Society.

Ms. Brown suggested that the clause be removed.

Ms. Blundell reiterated that the C&S Office already suggested that the clause be removed.

Mr. Cowie suggested that the club just elect in persons to a vacant position in a standard General meeting, in accordance to the club's constitution.

Mr. Vaheis brought up his concerns surrounding SU Starcraft Society, and how the changes that are proposed alter the focus of the club.

Ms. Gayda de Mesa explained that the changes had been brought up at C&S Committee last year and that it was resolved that the club discuss have discussions with Sutekh to ensure that there is no overlap in objectives. She stated that the changes were all fine according to Committee, as long as it was agreed upon with Sutekh.

Mr. Cowie asked what the objects of the club were now and how they differed from Sutekh.

Ms. de Mesa explained that Starcraft was all relating to competitive gaming and that Sutekh represented an appreciation of gaming.

Mr. Vaheis raised the issue that this could open up societies starting up as a niche group and then suddenly changing their name and objectives to be something completely different.

Ms. Wade explained that this was the issue that had been discussed at the previous committee and that they found it to be acceptable in this instance, on the proviso that it be discussed with Sutekh.

C&S 122/12

Resolved that the following recommendations contained in item 4.3 Constitutional Amendments be accepted *en bloc:* SU Indian Society (Ashoka): That the constitutional amendments be approved pending the issues outlined by the C&S Office be addressed.

SU Scottish Country Dancing Society: That the constitutional amendments be approved pending the issues outlined by the C&S office be addressed.

SU DOTA Society: That the constitutional amendments be approved pending the issues outlined by the C&S Office be addressed.

Alexandra Brown / Victoria Grimshaw

Mr. Cowie questioned the insertion of the clause regarding insurance with reference to the SU Bushwalkers.

Ms. Blundell suggested that the club were perhaps attempting to be more explicit, stating that their members would be covered by insurance, within their constitution.

Ms. Wade also confirmed that the society did also purchase separate insurance through another organisation.



	Mr. Cowie suggested that the Club speak to the USU outside of Committee to see if they could resolve their insurance issues and avoid unnecessary expenses.
C&S 123/12	Resolved that the SU Bushwalkers constitutional amendments be approved pending the issues outlined by the C&S Office be addressed.
	Ganesh Vaheis / Cameron Creigh
C&S 124/12	Resolved that the SU French Society constitutional amendments be approved pending the issues outlined by the C&S Office be addressed.
	Peta Blundell / Cameron Creigh Abstention: Alexandra Brown
	4.3 Capital Expenditure Requests
	Mr. Cowie suggested that the SU Eclectic Singing Society folders should have the USU logo present.
C&S 125/12	Resolved that the Capital Expenditure request of the SU Eclectic Singing Society for \$306.60 be accepted Provided that USU branding is placed on music display folders.
	Peta Blundell / Alexandra Brown
	Ms. Blundell noted that the club's previous banner went missing and suggested that the recommendation include a proviso that the club keep a closer eye on their banner.
C&S 126/12	Resolved that the Capital Expenditure request of the SU Sydney Marketing Society for \$139.00 be accepted provided that the Club keep a closer eye on their banner.
	Victoria Grimshaw / Cameron Creigh
C&S 127/12	Resolved that the Capital Expenditure request of the SU Speleological Society for \$500.00 be accepted.
	Peta Blundell / Victoria Grimshaw
	4.4 New Club Applications
	SU Feminist Society
	Mr. Vaheis expressed his concern surrounding societies that represent a single view.
	Ms. Brown suggested that in her view, this club had been formed in response to the creation of the LifeChoices Society.
	Mr. Thompson suggested that in debating the society's application, that the Committee focus on the principles outlined in the USU constitution.
	Ms. Blundell asked if this club overlapped with the SRC's women's collective.
	Ms. Brown also questioned if the club overlapped with the Women's Portfolio of the USU.



Mr. Cowie suggested that the existence of these organisations and portfolios should not preclude a related club from forming, and used the example of faith based clubs existing with the USU interfaith convenor.

Ms. Brown asked if the executive of the proposed club had any overlap with the Women's Collective of the SRC.

Mr. Cowie suggested that the overlap would encourage collaboration between organisations.

Ms. Blundell expressed her concern regarding confusion over the perception of which organisation would be running the club's events.

Ms. Brown expressed concern as the club's existence would give the Women's Collective access to USU funding.

Mr. Cowie argued that regardless, being USU members would make them entitled to claim C&S funding.

Mr. Thompson suggested that the Committee be mindful of the freedom of speech argument that was brought up with the formation of the LifeChoices society.

Ms. Brown affirmed that her concern was surrounding a potential overlap with exisiting groups.

Mr. Thompson brought forward the argument that diversity within the program added to its strength.

Ms. Chau suggested that the issues were more related to the criteria that clubs cannot be influenced by another organisation.

Ms. Brown also highlighted that Committee can disallow a club from forming based on the participation of the proposed executive.

C&S 128/12

Resolved that the New Club Application of the SU Feminist Society be accepted pending the issues outlined by the C&S Office be addressed.

Ganesh Vaheis / Victoria Grimshaw Abstention: Alexandra Brown

5. Other Business

Eclectic Singing Society

Ms. Brown asked if there was any more storage space available.

Ms. Wade confirmed that there was space available to share with another club.

Mr. Cowie asked after which cage Eclectic Singing Society would be sharing.

Ms. Wade stated that there would be a couple of different options for cages that the club could share.

Mr. Cowie suggested that the recommendation should come with a suggestion of who the club would be sharing the cage with to ensure that the existing club are happy to share and that there are no issues surrounding space, access, security and safety. He



further asked if the club had justified why they need a cage

Ms. Brown answered in the affirmative and stated that the music was currently kept in lockers and at the President's residence which is no longer feasible as they are graduating.

Ms. Blundell confirmed that the volume of music could no longer fit in the available lockers.

C&S 129/12

Resolved that the Eclectic Singing Society be approved to share a storage area. Alexandra Brown / Peta Blundell

SU Fine Arts Society and SU Photographic Society

Mr. Cowie requested background information regarding both club's situations.

Ms. Blundell explained that each club had each received rejections for 3 events in 2012. She stated that Fine Arts had had an appeal rejected at the last committee.

Ms. Grimshaw asked what the club's excuses had been for the appeal.

Ms. Brown explained that the club had forgotten to upload the executive list as the executive had not changed, however, the appeal was rejected as the rejection happened in February and the appeal occurred in June and the club also had a meeting with Pamela and did not turn up to their appointment. Ms. Brown then further expressed her concern that the club would be struggling financially.

Mr. Thompson requested that the club speak to their appeal.

Mr. Andrew Kim explained that the Fine Arts Society and the Photographic Society held a joint event and that due to the fault of an individual, the pre event form was not handed in on time. He requested that the event be funded as it was the first time such an event had been held.

Mr. Peter Rolfe added that a lot of effort had been put into the event and that it had received a great response. He reiterated that it was the first time such an event had been held, he further explained that the club had also been going through a transition of roles during that period.

Mr. Cameron Creigh asked if there was a reason why a discount had not been provided to Access Card holders at the event.

Mr. Kim explained that the event was an exhibition so they couldn't charge a different price. He explained that the event did however provide an opportunity for Access Card members to submit their art works for free whereas the non-Access Card holders were charged a fee. In terms of the opening night, he explained that entry was based on donation.

Mr. Creigh asked how many artworks or how many people provided submissions.

Mr. Kim stated that for the Fine Arts Society 4 people were non Access, so \$24 was collected and from Photographic Society all participants were Access Card holders.

Ms. Brown asked how many people from either society who submitted artworks were Access Card Holders.

Mr. Rolfe replied that they had a little over thirty that had been accepted into the exhibition, but about fifty had been received.



Mr. Creigh asked if that was the amount of people the societies noted on the event form, or if the clubs were claiming all the attendees the entered the exhibition.

Mr. Kim explained that at they noted the attendance from the register that was placed at the entry for people to write down their names and Access card numbers.

Mr. Creigh asked what the attendance was noted on the Post Event form.

Mr Kim stated that there were 43 Access and 38 Non-Access.

Mr. Creigh asked if that matched what was noted in the registry.

Mr. Kim replied in the affirmative and stated that there were more people who attended but many did not record their details.

Ms. Brown noted that on the Joint Post Event form that the club had stated that attendance was free for Access Card Holders and \$2 for Non-Access Card Holders.

Mr. Kim explained that this was for the opening night and that they were originally going to charge \$2 for Non Access Card holders, however, they decided to change it and just have donations.

Ms. Brown clarified with the club that there were other nights for the exhibit and that the donation procedure was in place for those nights.

Mr. Kim replied in the affirmative and reiterated that the Joint Post Event was just for the opening night. He further explained that the collections from the other nights would be noted in the club's cashbook, but that the information supplied was just for the opening night.

Ms. Brown asked after the financial state of the society, as she was concerned as the club has had a number of funding appeals rejected.

Mr. Kim stated that the society was doing okay, but could definitely do better. He stated that the society had about \$400-\$500 in the account.

Ms. Brown asked if the club had paid off all the costs relating to the event.

Mr. Kim replied in the affirmative.

Ms. Brown then asked if the clubs had done anything to rectify the problems surrounding the reasons why the clubs' previous events had been rejected.

Mr. Kim stated that the O-Week funding form was different from normal events where pre-event forms had to be submitted. He stated that the event in question was part of a joint event which was the first time they had had such an event and so none of the executives knew what was required.

Mr. Vaheis asked after the financial state of Photography Society.

Mr. Rolfe stated that the club was not doing too badly, but that it had been one of their worst years as the club had lost some money due to some problems they had in earlier years. He stated that the club had restructured the processes so that one person is responsible for handling forms and that everything is by the books and handed in on time.

Mr. Vaheis clarified with Mr. Rolfe that the club were okay and had paid off their



expenses.

Mr. Rolfe replied that they are okay but that acceptance of the appeal would be helpful.

Mr. Thompson thanked the executives for their time and stated that the committee should discuss their appeal further.

Ms. Brown stated that the club definitely required financial training and that under normal circumstances she would reject the appeal however her concern is the financial states of the club and so was unclear as to whether the appeal should be rejected.

Ms. Blundell stated that she would be in favour of rejecting the appeal.

Mr. Cowie stated that he would be happy for the committee to reject the appeal as the clubs failed to comply with the rules, however he suggested that perhaps the focus be educational and that funding be approved pending the club's attendance of compulsory training sessions within a particular amount of time. He further stated that these conditions would be necessary should the appeal be accepted.

Ms. Blundell stated that she agreed with Mr. Cowie's suggestion, however, expressed the concern that the Fine Arts Society had attended the relevant training and had not listened.

Mr. Creigh stated that it depended on which executive attended training. He suggested that the resolution be to accept the appeal provided that the presidents of each society meet with the Acting C&S Manager and both presidents and treasurers of each society attend treasurer's training.

Ms. Brown asked how much money would be provided in funding.

Mr. Creigh confirmed that it would be a lower amount of funding than what the club were trying to claim as it would be based on the submission numbers and not attendance.

Ms. Blundell expressed her concern over the mindset of allowing the appeal to be accepted.

Mr. Cowie suggested that the funding be withheld until training is undertaken as it is the club's membership that will suffer as a result of executive mismanagement.

Resolved that the rejection of the Photographic Society and the Fine Arts Society be upheld and that the President, Treasurer and Secretary of each club meet with the Director of Student Programs and the Clubs and Societies Manager before any further funding will be considered.

Victoria Grimshaw / Peta Blundell

C&S Awards Committee

Mr. Thompson asked which Committee Members were to sit on the C&S Award Committee.

Ms. Blundell stated that it had been decided.

Mr. Creigh established that it was to be Alexander Hanbury-Brown and Karen Chau.

Mr. Thompson confirmed that that now had to be changed.

C&S 130/12



- Mr. Creigh stated that he could not sit on the panel as he participated last year and he and Mr. Hanbury-Brown could not be involved together.
- Ms. Blundell expressed her interested.
- Mr. Thompson confirmed that Ms. Blundell would now be the other Committee Member to sit on the C&S Award Committee.

SU Jewish Revue

- Ms. Wade explained that the remaining clubs had been on Probationary Status for a six month period and that they were now coming to Committee for review. She further explained that the Committee had the options to give clubs full registration, continue to keep them on Probation or to revoke their registration as a club.
- Mr. Creigh asked if the Jewish Revue were in the Revue Season.
- Mr. Cowie confirmed that they had completed their show run. He also stated for the Committee's information that the Jewish Revue has asked to be moved into the main revue season for next year.
- Mr. Vaheis asked if there had been any issues with the Jewish Revue from the C&S Office.
- Ms. de Mesa replied in the negative.
- Mr. Thompson greeted the Jewish Revue executives with 'Shalom'.
- Mr. Oliver Pase and Mr. Anthony Sandler introduced themselves.
- Mr Thompson requested that they speak on behalf of their club regarding their probationary status.
- Mr. Pase stated that the revue was more of a success than expected and that although it was a bit of a risk especially with patronage, it has done really well, and that based off this information it would be good to move from probationary status to full registration.
- Ms. Blundell asked to clarify what the revue meant by patronage.
- Mr. Pase stated that they were referring to the audience but especially referring to cast and crew recruitment.
- Ms. Brown asked how many tickets the revue performances sold.
- Mr. Pase stated that of the two nights that were held at Sydney in the Seymour Centre, both sold out.
- Ms. Grimshaw asked which theatre the revue utilised.
- Mr. Pase answered the Reginald Theatre.
- Mr. Cowie asked how the revue performed at the University of New South Wales.
- Mr. Sandler stated that they had sold approximately three quarters of the theatre.
- Mr. Pase confirmed that this was less than what was sold at the Seymour Centre.
- Mr. Cowie asked if the theatre was bigger than the Seymour Centre.



Mr. Pase confirmed that it was bigger but that also that revue culture was different at UNSW. He stated that this was another reason to make the revue part of the overall season at Sydney University.

Ms. Blundell asked if the executive had attended the relevant training and C&S Conferences.

- Mr. Pase replied that he had attended treasurer's training and that the entire executive had attended the relevant training.
- Mr. Cowie asked after the club's finances.
- Mr. Pase stated that when the club had formed a number of meetings were conducted with the C&S Audiors to work out how the finances would work and a document was signed off clearly stating how the finances would be separated between the Sydney and New South Wales revues. He stated that the finances were clear and transparent which would be reflected in the audit.
- Mr. Thompson stated that the application would be discussed and thanked the Jewish Revue executive for coming to speak to the committee.

Vietnamese Dynamic Student Club

Mr Thompson requested that the executive of the Vietnamese Dynamic Student Club speak to their probationary status.

Ms. Thu Tha Hwong stated that an email was sent to the club stating that their probationary status was up for discussion at C&S Committee.

Ms. Wade confirmed that the club were invited to request full registration within the C&S program and that the Committee wished to know if they club had been fulfilling the objectives of the club's constitution, signed up new members, and had a clear plan for the future.

Ms. Hwong stated that they had signed up 20 members at the last Orientation, and expected another 20 more, as another group from Taylors College will have graduated and would be coming to Sydney University. She stated that the club would also be participating at a Vietnamese festival where they would receive more members.

Mr. Creigh asked if the club had held any events on campus.

Ms. Hwong stated that the club held a welcome lunch at the beginning of the semester and that they hold regular barbeques.

Mr. Cowie made reference to the club's finances and asked why tuition fees had been paid into the club account.

Ms An Tran stated that had no idea where the money had come from and that the club were checking with the bank.

- Mr. Cowie asserted that the club need to follow the transaction up with the bank.
- Ms. Blundell asked if the executive had attended the relevant training sessions.
- Ms. Hwong replied in the affirmative.
- Ms. Brown confirmed with Ms. Hwong that she was the previous president and asked



for the whereabouts of the current president.

Ms. Hwong stated that the current president was overseas and would be returning for next semester.

Mr. Thompson thanked the executives for their time.

C&S 131/12

Resolved that the Jewish Revue Society be granted full registration.

Alexandra Brown / Peta Blundell

Ms. Brown wished to clarify if there were issues with the Vietnamese Dynamic Students.

Ms Blundell stated that the club had been to committee regarding a funding rejection.

Mr. Creigh confirmed that the club had remained on probationary status for a lengthy amount of time.

Ms Blundell asked if there was still an issue of overlap between the two Vietnamese societies.

Mr. Cowie confirmed that there were differences in the origin of each club's members, which allowed for both clubs to exist.

Ms. Grimshaw stated that she liked how the past president was staying on to help to society.

Ms. Brown agreed and stated that she approved of how the society was holding events with other universities.

Mr. Cowie stated that it was also good that the society was working with Taylors College.

Ms. Brown asked after Taylors College.

Mr. Cowie explained that it is an English as a Second Language college.

Mr. Thompson asked the Committee about the option of placing the club back on probation.

Ms. de Mesa stated that the club had been on probation for 2 years

C&S 132/12

Resolved that the Vietnamese Dynamic Students be granted full registration.

Victoria Grimshaw / Cameron Creigh

Mr. Thompson then circulated the resolutions and recommendations that came from the committee discussion.

Mr. Creigh clarified with Mr. Thompson that the documents were the resolutions made at the previous committee.

Mr. Cowie stated that there had been some amendments.

Mr. Thompson confirmed that the amendments to the regulations were being passed by



circular resolution as they had to be implemented by the C&S Conference. Ms. Brown wished to clarify which resolutions had been passed and asked after the manner in which the resolution would be made. Ms. Astha Rajvanshi explained that the resolutions would be emailed around to the members of Board and be resolved by Special Circular Resolution. Ms. Brown asked if there had been any major changes put in place. Ms. Blundell replied that there had been changes to the Branch Stacking policy. Mr Thompson summarised the changes regarding elections and membership, the Board have decided to return Section 7 back to Committee. Ms. Rajvanshi explained that there was an inconsistency with the Model Constitution and the C&S Regulations and that Board decided it would be up to committee to decide the changes would fit into both documents. She then confirmed that the other recommendations remained the same except for the one relating to branch stacking. Ms. Brown asked for clarification on what changes had been made to branch stacking. Mr. Thompson stated that the Board decided to insert the policy on branch stacking as a clause under principles rather than as a separate section. Mr. Thompson then moved on to ask about the availability of Committee Members for second semester. Ms. Brown stated that she would be on exchange the next semester. Ms. Brown stated that she had a clash with a lecture. Mr. Thompson then asked after Mr. Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne Ms. Brown stated that Mr. de Silva Wijeyeratne would also be on exchange the next semester but would be present at the next Committee Meeting. 6. Date of the Next Meeting Tuesday 21st August , 3:00pm in The Faculty Presidents' Room, Ground Level, Manning House 7. Close of Meeting The Chair closed the meeting at 4:29pm.	
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The Chair closed the meeting at 4:29pm.	7. Close of Meeting
	The Chair closed the meeting at 4:29pm.