

# National Executive Meeting

National Union of Students Inc.

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Minutes

### Meeting Details:

Venue: Online

Time: 7:30pm AEST

Chair: Georgie Beatty (National President)

Minute Taker: Emily Sagolj (National Secretary)

### 1. Meeting Open - 7:56pm

#### 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

#### 1.2 Attendance

##### National Office Bearers/Non-voting members

Georgie Beatty	National President
Emily Sagolj	National Secretary
Luc Velez	National Education Officer
Billy Zimmermann	National Welfare Officer
Jordy Duffey	National Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officer - arrived at 8.07pm
Ella Hickey	National Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officer
Zebadiah Cruickshank	National First Nations Officer
Georgie McDaid	National Disabilities Officer
Vacant	National Small & Regional Officer

##### State Branch Presidents/Voting Members

Isaac Solomon	SA State Branch President
Beatrice Co	Vic State Branch President
Emma Hogan	NSW State Branch President
Beatrice Tucker	ACT State Branch President
Faizan Akram	WA State Branch President

##### General Executive Members/Voting Members

Adam Steiner	General Executive Member
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Grace Hill	General Executive Member
Guleid Abdullahi	General Executive Member
Jeremy Gilchrist	General Executive Member
Kelly Cvetkova	General Executive Member
Sabrina Yassine	General Executive Member
Sinead Winn	General Executive Member
Trisha Banga	General Executive Member

1.4 **Absent**

Kedar Krishnan	General Executive Member
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1.4 **Election of Deputy Chair**

**Action**

The National Executive appoints Emily Sagolj as the Deputy Chair of the Committee.

**Moved:** Georgie Beatty (National President)

**Seconded:** Billy Zimmermann (National Welfare Officer)

**For:** 16 **Against:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

1.5 **Acceptance of Apologies**

**Action**

The National Executive accepts the apologies of the following:

- Lana Goodman-Tomsett (Qld State Branch President)
- Tiana Myers (General Executive Member)
- Akshay Jose (National Ethnocultural Officer)
- Isobel O'Dwyer (General Executive Member)
- Jacqueline Price (National Women's Officer)
- Alexander Nancarrow (General Executive Member)
- Jordy Duffey (National Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officer) - can't attend first 30 mins
- Dhruv Sabharwal (National International Officer)

**Moved:** Emily Sagolj (National Secretary)

**Seconded:** Billy Zimmermann (National Welfare Officer)

**For:** 16 **Against:** 0 **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

## 1.6 List of Accepted Proxies

The following proxies have been accepted by the National Secretary:

- Emily Sagolj (on behalf of Lana Goodman-Tomsett)
- Sabine Yassine (on behalf of Tiana Myers)
- Beatrice Co (on behalf of Isobel O'Dwyer)

## 1.7 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None received.

## 1.6 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

### Action

That National Executive acknowledges the circulated minutes of the previous meeting and the discussed amendments are a true and accurate reflection of that meeting.

**Moved:** Billy Zimmermann (National Welfare Officer)

**Seconded:** Georgie Beatty (National President)

**For:** 16   **Against:** 0   **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

## 2. National Officer Reports

- 2.1 President - submitted 1 day late
- 2.2 General Secretary - submitted 3 days late
- 2.3 Education Officer - submitted 3 days late
- 2.4 Welfare Officer- submitted
- 2.5 Women's Officer - not submitted
- 2.6 Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officer (Ella) - submitted 1 day late
- 2.7 Queer/LGBTQIA+ Officer (Jordy) - submitted
- 2.8 Small & Regional Officer - vacant
- 2.9 International Officer - not submitted
- 2.10 Disability Officer - submitted
- 2.11 First Nations Officer - not submitted
- 2.12 Ethnocultural Officer - submitted 3 days late
- 2.13 **Motion to Accept National Officer Reports**

**Action**

That National Executive accepts the submitted reports of the National Officers.

**Moved:** Sinead Winn (General Executive Member)

**Seconded:** Beatrice Tucker (General Executive Member)

**For:** 16   **Against:** 0   **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

Jordy Duffey (National Queer/LGBTQIA Officer) arrived at 8.07pm.

Grace enquired about the last part of Emily's report about the Exec's meeting with Jason Clare's Chief of Staff. Emily advised that the meeting with his CoS was mostly introductory, and noted that they were happy to hear all our recommendations and ensure we have a relationship with the department into the future.

Georgie noted that not all our asks would be possible in the immediate future, but that they want to listen to what we have to say. She touched on the importance of being in the room instead of outside it.

Luc said there's use to us submitting suggestions and then if they don't use it it proves that they don't wanna engage us. This essentially gives us propaganda to show that they aren't listening to us.

Grace doesn't think it gives us extra propaganda to help, she doesn't think it's a useful process to engage with ministers and members of parliament at all.

**3. State Officer Reports**

- 3.1 Victorian State Branch President - not submitted
- 3.2 NSW State Branch President - submitted 4 days late
- 3.3 SA State Branch President - submitted 4 days late
- 3.4 WA State Branch President - not submitted
- 3.5 ACT Branch President - submitted 4 days late
- 3.6 QLD Branch President - not submitted
- 3.7 **Motion to Accept State Officer Reports**

**Action**

That National Executive accepts the submitted reports of the State Officers.

**Moved:** Georgie Beatty (National President)

**Seconded:** Billy Zimmermann (National Welfare Officer)

**For: 16    Against: 0    Abstain: 0**

**Carried Unanimously**

#### **4. Matters for Discussion**

##### **4.1 Profit & Loss**

Emily advised that the P&L for the financial year and year to date was attached for members to view. There were no questions.

##### **4.2 National Conference Dates**

Emily gave an overview of the rules for the date of NatCon. She confirmed it is from the 12th to the 15th of December. She mentioned that we traditionally go monday-friday but this year it may be monday-thursday due to our new platform model.

Grace Hill asked about whether we need to constitutionally vote on the date of NatCon and asked if there had been any progress on location.

Emily clarified that we don't have to vote on it as we are not changing the dates from the constitution. Emily mentioned that she was going to reach out to Fed Uni and Deakin as options. She raised RMIT and La Trobe Bundorra as potential options as well.

##### **4.3 EthnoCon Update**

Emily reminded everyone about EthnoCon and gave a shout out to Akshay Jose, Nayonika Bhattacharya (UNSW SRC President), and UNSW SRC for organising it.

#### **5. Matters for Decision**

##### **5.1 Election for National Small & Regional Officer Vacancy**

Emily advised that there is a vacancy in the National Small & Regional Officer position, in turn a by-election needs to be conducted.

##### **Action**

1. The National Executive appoints Emily Sagolj as the returning officer for the by-election for the position of International Officer.
2. That the by-elections be conducted in accordance with the NUS rules.

**Mover:** Georgie Beatty (National President)

**Second:** Sinead Winn (General Executive Member)

**For: 16 Against: 0 Abstain: 0**

**Carried Unanimously**

## 5.2 **2022/2023 Budget Approval**

Emily raised the 3 options drafted for the next financial year. She advised that:

- Budget draft 1 depicts one National Queer OB being removed and the remaining OB being given 0.75 FTE - projected profit of \$2,249.00
- Budget draft 2 depicts National Queer OBs remaining the same and no other budget lines being amended - projected loss of \$7,977.00
- Final Budget depicts National Queer OBs remaining the same and other minor budget line adjustments - projected profit of \$183.94

The final 2022/2023 budget has all amendments highlighted to ensure changes are clear to the National Executive and the Budget Review Committee.

She advised that the NX should approve the Final Budget document.

### **Action**

The National Executive adopts the circulated 2022/2023 Final Budget document for the Financial Year 2022 to 2023.

**Moved:** Emily Sagolj (National General Secretary)

**Seconded:** Billy Zimmermann (National Welfare Officer)

**For: 15 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 (Grace Hill)**

**Carried**

## 5.3 **ALSA DDA Position Statement**

Georgie McDaid advised that the Australian Law Students Association (ALSA) Disabilities Officer has written a position statement and research report, largely expanding on the 2020 NUS Submission to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (the Disability Royal Commission or DRC). This research report focuses on Disability & Higher Education.

She asked for NX to approve the NUS as a signatory to the Position Statement written by ALSA.

### **Action:**

1. National Executive approves NUS as a signatory to the Position Statement written by ALSA.
2. National Executive accepts there may be final minor editing to come as further signatories join.

**Moved:** Georgie McDaid (National Disability Officer)

**Seconded:** Georgie Beatty (National President)

**For:** 16   **Against:** 0   **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

#### 5.4 **University of Sydney Strike Motion**

Grace Hill introduced her motion with the context that USyd are entering another strike soon. Zebadiah said that UTS is holding a strike tomorrow (21 September). He raised that the NUS should also be endorsing that.

Discussion ensued about potential amendments to the motion to endorse other strikes. The consensus was to leave the motion as is.

**Motion:**

1. NUS supports the 48-hour strike and recognises that escalating strike action is necessary, in order for the union to win against management, including strikes of increasing frequency and longer duration.
2. NUS supports escalating student solidarity actions alongside the strike campaign.

**Moved:** Grace Hill (General Executive Member)

**Seconded:** Kelly Cvetkova (General Executive Member)

**For:** 16   **Against:** 0   **Abstain:** 0

**Carried Unanimously**

**6. Meeting Close - 8:32pm**