

MINUTES

MEETING: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD ON: 24 September 2021

TIME: 1:04pm to 3:06pm

LOCATION: Online via Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Prudence Wilkins-Wheat | President, Chair | Present via audio visual link |
| Ruby Lotz | Vice President | Present via audio visual link |
| Benjamin Hines | Honorary Treasurer | Present via audio visual link |
| Kailin (Vikki) Qin | Honorary Secretary | Present via audio visual link |
| Belinda Thomas | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Telita Goile | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Isla Mowbray | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Cole Scott-Curwood | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| David Zhu | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Du Du | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Nicholas Comino | Director | Present via audio visual link |
| David Wright | Senate Appointed Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Marie Leech | Senate Appointed Director | Present via audio visual link |
| Irene Ma | Immediate Past President | Present via audio visual link |

USU STAFF

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Andrew Mills | Chief Executive Officer | In attendance via audio visual link |
| Oliver Harding | Assistant Board Secretary | In attendance via audio visual link |

OBSERVERS

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Emily Graetz | Pulp | In attendance via audio visual link |
| Marlow Hurst | Honi Soit | In attendance via audio visual link |

MINUTES

| |
|---|
| 1. Opening |
| 1.1 The meeting opened at 1:04PM The Chair delivered the Acknowledgement of Country. |
| 1.2 Apologies and Leaves of Absence There were no apologies or leaves of absence. |
| 1.3 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest There were no disclosures of conflicts of interest. |
| 2. Meeting Administration |
| 2.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting Resolved B089/21: That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS approves the minutes of the previous meeting en bloc. Mover: Belinda Thomas Secunder: Ruby Lotz 13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain |
| 2.2 Business Arising from the Minutes Not Addressed Elsewhere No business arising from the Minutes not addressed elsewhere. |
| 2.3 Motions on Notice <u>Recommendation:</u> <i>That the Board approves the recommendation to delay the Values Project until the first quarter of 2022.</i> The rationale behind delaying the Values project is due to the potential that the current COVID-19 climate may negatively skew staff sentiment. Resolved B090/21: That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS approves the above recommendation. Mover: David Zhu Secunder: Marie Leech 13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain |
| 3. Matters for Discussion |
| 3.1 CEO/Secretariat Report |

Andrew Mills gave an update on the following:

Student programs

Pride Fest stats

- 10 clubs held events

Language Exchange

- 596 registrations, over half have received a language buddy

P&C Headlines

- Staff newsletter – 45% open rate for August
- Online staff self-care sessions running mid-month
- COVID-19 vaccination questionnaire was sent out to gather data on who has been vaccinated or has an appointment
- Delivering training through Employment Hero

Marketing & Digital Headlines

- Rewards merchandise sale completed
- USU Website redesign on track
- Recruitment of a graphic designer ongoing

A Membership Activity 2021 Plan was presented detailing the major milestone dates for Membership activities for the rest of the year.

Event & Membership headlines

- Total members – 35,269
- Gained 994 members in August
- Planning for 2022 projects ongoing

2022 Apparel – mechanise (hoodies) will incorporate materials made from recycled plastic bottles

In response to a question raised about the future of holding in person events, USU's hospitality venues in particular will have to followed public health order advice around capacity constraints.

USU spaces being available to booking for the wider university committee will be dependent on the University's policy on on-campus student activity.

Resolved B091/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS notes the Report.

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read and tabled.

Mover: Isla Mowbray

Secunder: Ruby Lotz

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.2 Finance and IT Report

August's revenue was higher than expected due to the early payment for the special venue hire, reduced costs due to staff receiving COVID-19 Disaster payments, and USU receiving Job Saver. USU's cash position is sitting at a healthy \$5.5m.

Resolved B092/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read and tabled.

Mover: Ruby Lotz

Secunder: David Zhu

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.3 USU Activity Report

Resolved B093/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

Mover: Ruby Lotz

Secunder: Marie Leech

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.4 Report of the Honorary Secretary

It was noted that the proposed Constitutional Amendments by the Civil Engineering Society may need to be discussed at the next meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS as the proposed changes do not meet the USU's standards of democracy or accessibility.

Resolved B094/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

Mover: Isla Mowbray

Secunder: Du Du

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.5 Report of the Honorary Treasurer

Resolved B095/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

Mover: Ruby Lotz

Secunder: Du Du

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.6 Report of the Vice President

It was flagged that a Committee Review will be conducted shortly to discuss what measures should be used to assess the efficiency and relevance of the various committees and their operations.

Resolved B096/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

Mover: Belinda Thomas

Seconder: Marie Leech

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.7 Report of the President

Motion: That the Chair moved to Ruby Lotz.

Mover: Cole Scott-Curwood

Seconded: Du Du

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

The President noted that the USU is working hard to improve relationships with the CSA, the Con and their respective student associations. A pop-up gallery at Wentworth is an example of this collaboration with SCAS and we are working with the CSA to develop a SSAF application.

Additionally, Student Programs are developing Code of Conduct and Grievances policies to create more transparent guidelines for Clubs and Societies.

Resolved B097/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

Mover: Cole Scott-Curwood

Seconded: Marie Leech

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

Motion: That the Chair be moved back to Prudence Wilkins-Wheat.

Mover: David Zhu

Seconded: Isla Mowbray

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

3.8 Other Matters for Discussion

International Student Portfolio

- International Fest was well received
- Ongoing engagement with international around important information such as vaccinations

Wom*ns Portfolio

- Weekly meetings with Wom*ns Collective to continue work on Radical Sex and Consent Week

Environment Portfolio

- USYD Sustainability event occurring in the next few weeks, following on from the University Sustainability policy.

4. Matters for Decision

No matters for decision.

5. Open Question Time

Honi Soit

- What will be included in PULP and Manning Building reforms?
 - The Board noted post COVID-19 there will be an emphasis on USU's active role in creating a revitalised campus life experience.
- Will the Pulp editor position vacated by Mia be replaced, and will there be a multi-lingual editor?
 - The Board noted that they are currently conducting a reviving of Pulp and Pulp roles for 2022.

PULP

- Has the USYD adopted any policies/ or a roadmap for getting USU staff back to campus?
 - The Board responded that this is a weekly and ongoing matter in line with the Public Health Order and University requirements
- Will USU be changing their position on ACNC?
 - The Board stated that no USU firm position on the matter as of yet as the matter is still being discussed in parliament. USU will be watching the space carefully.
- Is the free coffee for vaccination offer still available?
 - The Board responded by saying it is on pause due to the lack of students on campus but will honour the promotion when students are allowed back.

5.1 Confidential Business

Resolved B098/21:

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS moves in camera.

Mover: David Zhu

Seconder: Cole Scott-Curwood

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

6. Matters for Noting

David Wright left the meeting at 3:01pm

Resolved B099/21:

Pursuant to resolution B098/21, the Board moved out of camera at 3:05pm.

Mover: Belinda Thomas

Seconder: David Zhu

12 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

7. Close of Meeting

7.1 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS is held on Friday 29 October 2021 at 1:00pm via audio visual link.

The meeting closed at 3:06pm.