

# MINUTES

## MEETING: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**HELD ON:** 29 October 2021

**TIME:** 1:04pm to 2:13pm

**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

<b>1. Opening</b>
<b>1.1</b> The meeting opened at 1:04PM  The Chair delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.
<b>1.2 Apologies and Leaves of Absence</b>  <b>Resolved B100/21:</b> That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS approves the late arrival of Nicholas Comino (arrived at 1:05pm).  <b>Mover: Marie Leech</b> <b>Secunder: Ruby Lotz</b> 13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain <b>Carried.</b>
<b>1.3 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest</b>  There were no disclosures of conflicts of interest.
<b>2. Meeting Administration</b>
<b>2.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>  <b>Resolved B102/21:</b> That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS approves the minutes of the previous meeting en bloc.  <b>Mover: David Zhu</b> <b>Secunder: Belinda Thomas</b> 13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain <b>Carried.</b>
<b>2.2 Business Arising from the Minutes Not Addressed Elsewhere</b>  No business arising from the Minutes not addressed elsewhere.
<b>2.3 Motions on Notice</b>  <u>Recommendation:</u> <i>That the recruitment freeze is progressively wound back in light of easing COVID-19 restrictions.</i>  <b>Resolved B103/21:</b> That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS approves the above recommendation.  <b>Mover: Marie Leech</b> <b>Secunder: Cole Scott-Curwood</b> 13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

Carried.

### 3. Matters for Discussion

#### 3.1 CEO/Secretariat Report

**Andrew Mills** gave an update on the following:

Student Programs Headlines

- International Fest: +720 total attendees, 28 clubs attended, 21 club events
- Language exchange: 630 registrations
- Creative awards: online exhibition launch, 12% increase in Instagram followers (5053)

P&C Headlines

- Mental Health Month (October) various online activities, speakers, and corporate volunteering activities
- COVID planning – working with all departments on roadmap to return to campus. The COVID Mobilizing Group has been disbanded due to the improvement in vaccination rates in NSW.
- Recruitment – several roles are live on the job board, or about to go out
- Chris Lowndes welcomed as USU's new in-house graphic designer

Event & Membership Headlines

- No major events for USU HostCo during September due to impact of COVID to weddings and conventions bookings
- Membership: currently -\$163k behind YTD budget

USU Eats casual staff care packages were delivered throughout the month. USU Eats supported the on-campus vaccination hub in front of the Great Hall.

Outlets 5-year revenue contribution has decreased due to the lockdowns over the last 2 years.

Refurbishments are almost completed in the USU home room, to be used by USU's clubs and societies.

USU, the Con and University Infrastructure have been working together on strategizing how to revitalise the Footbridge Theatre (FBT) area and theatre rooms. The Con will take possession of FBT from Semester 1 2022 for its new musical drama course.

SSAF Applications are open, with USU looking to make multiple applications. USU will be collaborating with SRC, SUPRA and SUSF, and Student Life in a joint student leadership training initiative

Director ID applications requirements will be clarified as to whether USU Board Directors need to apply from 1 November 2021.

It was raised whether the mental health training was done in conjunction with the University. It was noted that the same external contractor that the University utilised for their training was engaged for USUs staff resilience session. It was also noted that a Wellbeing Hub has been set up with the University, with working being done to review the special considerations requirements to assist with student wellbeing.

It was raised why the Manning Bar and Hermann's Bar spaces were only being opened to events until Feb-2022. It was noted that the anticipated student attendance on campus was the main justification for delays in a full reopening, however USU is promoting these spaces for pre-Xmas events for all registered clubs, student organisations and staff activities.

**Resolved B104/21:**

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

**Mover: Marie Leech**

**Seconder: Cole Scott-Curwood**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

**3.2 Finance and IT Report**

The Finance and IT report was taken as read.

It was noted for the Finance Committee chair to add the cash position of USU to the next committee meeting.

**Resolved B105/21:**

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

**Mover: David Zhu**

**Seconder: Cole Scott-Curwood**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

**3.3 USU Activity Report**

The USU Activity Report was delivered via a presentation from the CEO during his report.

**3.4 Report of the Honorary Secretary**

The Report of the Honorary Secretary Report was taken as read.

**Resolved B106/21:**

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

**Mover: Ruby Lotz**

**Seconder: David Zhu**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

**3.5 Report of the Honorary Treasurer**

The Report of the Honorary Secretary was taken as read.

Recommendation: *That the Board accept the recommendations of the Governance Committee and approves the implementation of the relevant policies.*

**Resolved B107/21:**

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

**Mover: Cole Scott-Curwood**

**Seconder: Ruby Lotz**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

### **3.6 Report of the Vice President**

The Report of the Vice President was taken as read.

**Resolved B108/21:**

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

**Mover: Belinda Thomas**

**Seconder: Isla Mowbray**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

### **3.7 Report of the President**

**Motion:** That the Chair moved to Ruby Lotz.

**Mover: Cole Scott-Curwood**

**Seconded: Marie Leech**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

The President noted in their report the excitement of bringing graduations back to the University and for USU. It was also noted the opening of USU spaces across the university and the benefits this will bring back to students.

**Resolved B109/21:**

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS accepts the report as read.

**Mover: Isla Mowbray**

**Seconded: Cole Scott-Curwood**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

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

**Mover: Cole Scott-Curwood**

**Seconded: Belinda Thomas**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

### **3.8 Other Matters for Discussion**

No other matters for discussion.

#### 4. Matters for Decision

**Isla Mowbray** raised a motion regarding *Clubs against the Cuts*, expressing opposition towards cuts to FASS and presented a short rationale to the position of raising such a motion. Future FASS will impact members of clubs and societies, and in many cases, the future sustainability of clubs and societies themselves. The USU plays an important role in this sphere through its commitment to students and the student voice. The USU is committed to advocate for students on every single level within the university. The Board noted that it was important to ‘ring fence’ the Cuts issue to other unrelated issues that were part of the FASS narrative.

Motion: That the USU endorses the mission of *Clubs Against the Cuts* and commits to advocating for FASS students at every level of the university.

**Mover: Isla Mowbray**

**Seconded: Prudence Wilkins-Wheat**

12 For / 0 Against / 1 Abstain

**Carried.**

#### 5. Open Question Time

##### Honi Soit

- Honi asked what the plans were to revitalise the Footbridge Theatre space?
  - **The Board** noted that The Con will be managing this space for student lectures from Sem1 2022 for the new Musical Theatre course, but other than that we are unable to provide any comments, and suggested Student Media to contact the Con for any questions.

##### PULP

- PULP asked for some clarification on the Electoral Recommendations passed.
  - **The Board** gave a response noting that the majority of the recommendations were to do with how elections are conducted.
- PULP asked what the future of PULP will look like.
  - **The Board** responded that this is an ongoing discussion with PULP being updated as decisions are made.

##### 5.1 Confidential Business

###### **Resolved B110/21:**

That the BOARD OF DIRECTORS moves in camera.

**Mover: Marie Leech**

**Seconder: Isla Mowbray**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

#### 6. Motions on Notice

No motions on notice.

#### 7. Matters for Noting

**Resolved B111/21L**

Pursuant to resolution B110/21, the Board moved out of camera at 2:13pm.

**Mover: Belinda Thomas**

**Seconder: Isla Mowbray**

13 For / 0 Against / 0 Abstain

**Carried.**

**8. Close of Meeting****8.1 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS is held on Friday 26 November 2021 at 1:00pm in person or via audio visual link.

The meeting closed at 2:13pm.