

NUPSA Executive Meeting Minutes –2019

A meeting (2019/3) of the Newcastle University Postgraduate Students’ Association Executive, was held at 1pm on 27th March 2019 in HA158, Hunter Building.

Attendance list:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ash McIntyre (President) ▪ Barrie Shannon (Vice President) ▪ Tanika Koosmen (GLBTI Representative) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kirsty Richards (Satellite Representative)- <i>Via Phone</i> ▪ Shamaila Khurshid (International Representative) ▪ Nikhil Saini (Coursework Representative)
Minute Taker:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Georgia Killick (SRSO) 	

Meeting opens: 1.11 pm

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Pambalong clan of the Awabakal people and pay my respects to the elders both past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australia.

I would like to acknowledge the loss of lands, cultures and treasures, acknowledge the consequences of this loss for the people, communities and nations.

We meet today, believing we can walk together to a better future.

1.2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received by the Research & Equity Representatives

1.3. QUORUM

The chair confirmed that quorum is established.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting the chair calls on the Executive to declare any conflicts of interest regarding:

- A. Any matters on the agenda
- B. Any matter that may impact NUPSA
- C. Any matter that may impact their performance of duties as a NUPSA Executive member

Are there any declarations?

No declarations were made.

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS NUPSA MEETING

Motion: To approve the minutes from the previous meeting

Moved by: President

Seconded: GLBTI Representative

In favour: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

ACTION	ASSIGNED TO	STATUS
International Student Mentors	President SRSO	Ongoing

Executive goals	SRSO & President	Ongoing.
Student Communications Officer Working Party	President, Equity Rep & Research Rep	Ongoing. Application closing date was pushed back until 20/03. Dates need to be set to review applications and conduct interviews.
Universities Australia Conference	President	Done and report submitted
IWD, SHAG week, Harmony Day	SRSO, PO, Equity Rep, Vice President, Coursework Rep	Done
AGM	SRSO	Ongoing. WSC has commenced audit and room HB13 booked for the 3 rd May.
Hunter Valley Zoo Trip	PO, SRSO	Ongoing. Coach and Zoo booked for trip on 11 th April.
Graduate Gamers Club Funding Request	Senior Executive	Passed by Flying Minutes

The President advised that the Equity Representative had participated in stalls at IWD, SHAG week and also attended Harmony Day as well and said they deserve a special thanks for all of their work this month.

5. STUDENT ENQUIRIES LIST

Student enquiries list as of 27/03/2019

The SRSO advised there have been some enquires from students regarding personal or academic issues, however the majority of recent enquiries have been about upcoming workshops or events. Some of these enquiries have been about workshops/events NUPSA has advertised on behalf of other entities.

6. REPORTS

- 6.1. President- No questions
- 6.2. Vice-President- No questions
- 6.3. Coursework- the President advised the Coursework Representative that it is important to itemise goals and steps that can be taken towards achieving these. Goals need to be measurable for each executive member so that the executive can be transparent and hold themselves accountable.
- 6.4. GLBTI- No questions
- 6.5. International- Amended report received, no questions
- 6.6. Research- Amended report received, no questions
- 6.7. Satellite - Amended report received, no questions
- 6.8. Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander (Vacant)
- 6.9. Equity- No questions
- 6.10. Project Officer- No questions
- 6.11. Student Representative Support Officer- No questions
- 6.12. President's Universities Australia Conference Report- No questions

Motion: To accept all reports that have been received.

Moved by: President

Seconded: Vice President

In favour: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried

7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Budget tracker as of 14/03/2019

There were no questions regarding the budget tracker or current expenditure.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1. Family Film Night

The SRSO advised that it might be good to run a family film night again, however this needs to be passed by the Executive as the catering can be quite expensive. The President informed the Executive that these events have been very successful in the past and this student cohort can often feel not engaged or included.

Motion: To approve the running of another family film screening.

Moved by: President

Seconded: GLBTI Representative

In favour: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried

SRSO requested Executive input regarding the choice of movie and it was decided that a Facebook poll could allow students to choose between Ferdinand and Wreck-It Ralph.

8.2. MOU and Restructure update

The President advised the MOU has been signed and NUPSA will be provided with additional funding so that it can obtain legal advice regarding the dissolution of NUPSA as part of the student entities restructure. At the upcoming AGM students will be asked to vote on dissolving NUPSA and we will need to provide documents regarding the restructure 21 days before the meeting. The President advised NUPSA will be running 2 workshops in collaboration with the Student Entities Restructure Project Officer and strongly encouraged Executive members to attend one of these workshops as it is important they understand what is happening in case a student asks them questions about it. There was some general discussion regarding the restructure.

8.3. AGM Catering and attendance

The President reminded the Executive it is essential they attend the AGM. The SRSO advised that she had been hoping to present catering quotes however these had not been received yet and apologised to the Executive. It was suggested the SRSO could contact Fast Fuel to obtain a quote and she agreed to do this. It was discussed that the final catering choice will need to be decided by the Senior Executive due to time constraints.

8.4. Meeting with Vice Chancellor- Executive input

The President and Vice President will be meeting with the Vice Chancellor on the 5th April and the President requested the Executive consider any items they feel could only be addressed by the Vice Chancellor and to please let her know. Currently they are planning or raising the issue that no senior University staff were available to come and speak to students at this event, even though it was not long after the Christchurch tragedy. It will also be raised that some students expressed dissatisfaction with letter that was sent out regarding the tragedy. The new PhD scholarships that have been announced will also be discussed. There is currently no one from the Arts currently new University Strategic Planning committee and this is a concern. We will also be discussing the restructure and student engagement around this. The President encouraged the executive to reflect and please let her know if there are any additional items they would like placed on the agenda. The President identified they would really love to hear from the Satellite Rep as it is important this cohort are heard from and represented.

8.5. Frontier Film Club (Sydney) Affiliation Request

Motion: To approve the affiliation request submitted by the Frontier Film Club which will be based on Sydney campus.

Moved by: President

Seconded: GLBTI Representative

In favour: 6

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion carried

ADDITIONAL GENERAL BUSINESS

The President advised that there is an upcoming meeting (online) between NUPSA and one of the two postgrad students currently based on the Tamworth campus to discuss them coming for a visit to the Newcastle campus and being able to participate in some activities with NUPSA.

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The President reviewed the upcoming meetings and events list and advised the Executive of when/where we will need representatives to attend.

10. NEXT MEETING

Monday 29th April 10am

Meeting closes: 1.44pm