

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNION

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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 13 April 2010.

Chair: Melissa Brooks

8/06/10 Date

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Committee Members	Melissa Brooks (Chair), Courtney Tight (Vice President), John 'Scott' Brownless (Chair of Faculty and Affiliated Sites Societies Committee)
	Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne, James Flynn, Marina Lauer, Ross Leedham, Winey Suen.
USU Staff	Angela Vogiatsoglou (Clubs and Societies Manager), Alistair Cowie (Director of Student Programmes), Bryce Williams (Committee Secretary)
Visitors	Steven Contos, Jenny Kyung Jin Lee, Ye Rin Ha, Sai Ganesh Vaheisvaran, James Paik, Un-Ai Jo, Jarrah Sastrawan.
No#	Details
	The Chair opened the meeting at 3.05pm.
	1. Apologies And Leaves Of Absence
C&S 047/10	Resolved that apologies be accepted from Courtney Tight, Michael Buckland and Joss Engebresten, and that a request for early departure be accepted from John 'Scott' Brownless, James Flynn and Winey Suen.
	Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / James Flynn
	2. Minutes Of The Meeting Held 13 April 2010
C&S 048/10	Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held 13 April 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.
	John 'Scott' Brownless / James Flynn
	3. Business Arising From The Minutes
	Melissa Brooks (the Chair), addressed the meeting's visitors and welcomed them to the meeting.
	Ms. Brooks said that the Beer Brewing & Music Appreciation Society (Brewsical) application which had been tabled was based on a resolution of the last meeting of the C&S Committee, in which a number of constitutional amendments had been requested of the Society. Ms. Brooks noted that they had rectified the issues the Committee had with the Society's Constitution.
	Winey Suen entered the meeting.
	Winey Suen noted that NoodleSoc had been turned down on the basis that it was the same people getting involved in a similar society.
	Ms. Brooks said that the reason for NoodleSoc's rejection was that its primary aim in practice was for the members to experience executive positions.
	Ms. Suen noted that no non-engineering students were involved in the



since 1874

Brewsical application, and that there were a number of other engineering societies that had similar beer appreciation aims.

Ms. Brooks replied that the aims of this society were substantively different from engineering-based clubs.

## C&S Resolved that the amended new club application of the Beer Brewing & 049/10 Music Appreciation Society be approved.

#### Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Winey Suen

4. General Business <u>4.1 SU Golden Key</u>

Alistair Cowie requested that the meeting move in camera.

C&S Resolved that the meeting move *in camera* and that USU staff members be invited to remain.

John 'Scott Brownless / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne

C&S Resolved that the Golden Key Honour Society be informed that the 051/10 Union will henceforth require the Society to comply with C&S Regulations 4.a and 4.b.(i-ii) in order to maintain its Registration Status.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Marina Lauer

C&S Resolved that the meeting move *out of camera*.

#### 052/10

James Flynn / Winey Suen

#### 4.2 Status of the Clubs and Societies Fund

Angela Vogiatsoglou (Clubs and Societies Manager) said that there was a problem with the report, in that the report from the database doesn't work. She noted that she had spoken to IT and that they were going to fix the issue after the Union elections. She said that the grants line was \$6000 underbudget.

Winey Suen asked whether people were still funding for O-Week.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou replied that the figures were year-to-date figures.

#### 4.3 Clubs and Societies Manager's Report

Ms. Vogiatsoglou spoke to her report and asked whether the Committee had any questions about the report.

Ms. Suen asked whether the response to the C&S Training Sessions had been good.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou responded that she was monitoring the outcomes of the Sessions on a week-to-week basis. She noted that the dates of the meetings



had already been publicised and thus would not be changed. Adjustments, Einching the student experience future, would be based on analysis of participation in the current Sessions. She noted that the Secretary's Training Sessions were not working based on time issues.

Melissa Brooks said that new executives would come in second semester, which would possible explain the low numbers for current sessions.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou said that the Auditor's training session had been running for four years, but that they had altered the sessions for the first time this year. She said that this year, to date, 46 students had attended, representing 30 clubs, which was more than last year. She said that the auditor training sessions were working really well.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou said that she had introduced a funding training session so that forms would be submitted on time.

Ms. Brooks noted that there was a possibility for marketing training, but that the relevant staff member had left. She said that she would recommend to the next chair that it be implemented next semester.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou said that the C&S Office's operating hours had changed, and that the changes had been publicised the week prior. Nevertheless, six enquiries had come outside the new hours. This Friday, she would be locking the door and requesting that forms be submitted to the Access Desk.

Alistair Cowie (Director of Student Programmes) noted that there would be some process of adjustment to the new hours.

#### 4.4 New Club Applications

#### Korean Cultural Exchange Society (KIMCHI)

Sai Ganesh Vaheisvaran, President-elect of KIMCHI, explained that existing Korean societies didn't cater to non-Korean students interested in Korean culture. He said that he wanted KIMCHI to be a mirror of WASABI. He acknowledged that the closest existing society was AKA, but that it did not represent people that were not Korean. He explained that the focus of KIMCHI was cultural exchange in the form of Korean dinners, dances etc.

James Flynn asked whether Mr. Vaheisvaran had approached other societies, and if he had, what their reaction had been and whether they were willing to compromise.

Un-Ai Jo, Vice-President elect of KIMCHI, responded that they had received recognition from AKA that there was a difference between the two societies, in that AKA was more focused on Korean international students. She said that she had spoken to KLUSS and KESUS, but that they had their own agenda.

Mr. Vaheisvaran clarified that AKA was receptive for coordination once their society had been accepted.

Winey Suen noted that clubs should be inclusive and that the existing societies should be doing these types of activities.

Mr. Vaheisvaran and Ms. Jo responded that non-Koreans were not made



welcome at the other events and that it was exclusive by the fact that they ching the student experience could not speak Korean, the main language spoken at their events.

John 'Scott' Brownless asked whether there was any overlap with any other societies, or whether other societies were simply not fulfilling their aims.

Mr. Vaheisvaran replied that the existing societies (KISUS, KLUSS, KESUS) were targeted to Koreans and that this was an ingrained problem that was difficult to change.

Mr. Jo noted that she had attempted to reform the societies, but that the whole executive opposed the reform, on the basis that if non-Koreans were allowed in the society, the clubs would lose their distinctiveness.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne asked the KIMCHI representatives whether they could think of an example where there are two similar clubs operating concurrently: one a culture-based society and the other a society for people of that ethnicity.

Mr. Vaheisvaran replied that KIMCHI was designed to include all, and that a suitable example could be found in the concurrence of the Chopsticks society and the CLSS.

Marina Lauer expressed her concern that two matters were critical to the success of a new club or society: firstly that the executive works well together and secondly, that there is sufficient membership interest.

Mr. Vaheisvaran replied that 50-60 people had handed in their Access IDs, and that 140 people had expressed their interest on facebook. He said that he had received considerable support from executive members of related societies, and that KIMCHI had been requested to become involved in the Inter-society cruise despite its status.

Mr. Cowie requested clarification of 'Korean dancing'.

Mr. Vaheisvaran replied that Korean dancing was a part of Korean popculture, with a focus on choreographed hip-hop.

#### Resistance

Ms. Brooks noted that no representatives from Resistance were at the meeting.

#### Student Outreach of the World (SOW)

James Paik, President-elect of SOW said that SOW was a Christian club, affiliated with the reformed Presbyterian faith. He noted that other Christian and orthodox societies existed, but suggested that SOW was distinct from these groups. He explained that SOW had a focus on providing volunteer initiatives, and noted that their pastoral coordinator had connections to an international mission group. He said that REAP, the society's support system, directly related to the core aims of the Union.

Ms. Suen asked the SOW representatives what made their society stand out, as a number of other groups offered volunteer and outreach opportunities, like the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME).



Mr. Brownless asked whether AIME was religiously affiliated.

Ms. Lauer said that AIME was not religiously affiliated.

Jenny Kyung Jin Lee, Vice-President-elect of SOW, said that SOW was more focused on missionary-based work, including an outreach visit to Alabama. She noted that similar societies exist at UTS and UNSW, and that it is a multi-campus initiative.

Mr. Cowie asked what affiliation SOW had with James Jung, the director of SOW.

Mr. Paik responded that the SOW club at Sydney University was not controlled by an external organisation and that it was autonomous in its decision-making. He noted that Pastor Jim acted as a consultant to the club.

Mr. Cowie requested clarification on the role of the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Lucerne Covenant.

Mr. Paik responded that the Westminster Confession of Faith forms part of the Westminster Divines, a response to the Protestant Reformation. The Confession was a statement of beliefs under the principles set out in the Bible.

James Flynn noted that all other religious societies have partnerships with external pastors.

Ms. Brooks noted that the group was specifically protestant and asked whether they had a narrower focus than other non-denominational groups.

Mr. Paik noted that interaction was important, and said that the club already had connections with Student Life. Mr. Paik reiterated the club's emphasis on unity and diversity.

Ms. Brooks asked what the distinctive function of the club was.

Mr. Flynn responded that each club have a distinctive theological focus and that they had diverse ways of thinking. He noted that it would be impossible to merge different-thinking groups together.

Mr. de Silva Wijeyeratne asked whether the club was fundamentally different and whether a club was needed for specific denominations.

Ye Rin Ha, Secretary-elect of SOW, replied that denominations were important, and that her parents would not be pleased if she were to attend a non-denominational event.

Mr. Paik added that it mattered for every single person, in that the reasoning and motivation for action was important.

Mr. Cowie asked whether the Presbyterian Reform movement had a significant following in Korea.

Ms. Ha replied that it was very significant in Korea, and that it had its origins there in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The denomination has different ceremonies of



worship and had a different focus, on relationship building.

Ms. Lee added that even people that are not affiliated with the denomination can get involved in that they cater to everyone culturally and religiously.

Angela Vogiatsoglou left the meeting.

Mr. Cowie asked whether there was a significant proportion of non-Koreans in the Reformed Presbyterian movement.

Ms. Ha responded that the movement was one of the largest in Australia and that it was a dominant sect of Christianity.

Mr. Paik added that it was a coincidence that all three representatives were Korean.

#### Angela Vogiatsoglou returned to the meeting.

Ms. Lauer asked what support the club was seeking from the C&S committee and what motivated them to become a club under the Union. She requested clarification that there were no other missionary groups in the C&S program.

Mr. Paik replied that other clubs did not offer consistent opportunities for outreach programs, for example the Evangelical Union (EU).

Mr. Flynn added his support to Mr. Paik's statement.

Mr. Paik stressed that the reason for the application was not for funding purposes, but for the recognition of membership and other benefits like the opportunity to have an O-Week stall, photocopy benefits and the ability to book rooms.

Ms. Lee noted that their membership was growing, even though they did not currently have this support. Nevertheless, she stressed that the ability to have a stall and book rooms would be quite important.

Ms. Brooks informed the SOW representatives that they would find out the final outcome of their application after the relevant Board meeting.

C&S R 053/10 a

### Resolved that the meeting suspend standing orders and move to agenda item 4.7.

#### John 'Scott' Brownless / Winey Suen

#### 4.7 Miscellaneous

Steven Contos (Safety Officer of the Sydney University Speleological Society (SUSS)), said that the funding available to their society had been steadily decreasing. The Society had been holding many events (normally on a weekly basis), and had tried to apply for funding, but had been effectively excluded. The size of their events/trips was small for safety and environmental reasons. He noted that equipment was required for safety reasons, but the funding received was not enough to replace the safety equipment, or get new equipment for new students. This equipment included helmets, ropes and lights.



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Mr. Contos said that he was seeking an allowance for obsolescence and/orching the student experience depreciation of the safety equipment. He stressed that he did not want the allowance to be a 'blank cheque', and thus it would be based upon the number of people and the number of trips taken.

Ms. Brooks asked whether SUSS could claim the allowance under event funding. She noted that they could claim up to \$18 per member for a two-day event including \$6 for accommodation for each Access card holder.

Mr. Cowie said that the funding system was overly complex for this type of arrangement.

Ross Leedham asked whether the Bushwalking society would have similar equipment.

Mr. Contos replied that their equipment was quite different from the Bushwalking society.

Mr. Cowie noted that the Bushwalking society was not registered.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou added that they had threatened to deregister the Bushwalking society.

Ms. Brooks asked whether there was any reason why SUSS could not claim the funds under event funding.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou noted that societies could claim funding for as many minor events as they liked. There was a limitation of \$200 per event and \$4 per head, and only one event could be held per day.

Mr Contos said that accommodation and other fees would be additional.

Mr. de Silva Wijeyeratne asked how much the allowance would be and what the allowance would be spent on.

Mr. Contos replied that the money would be spent on paths and emergency equipment such as lights.

James Flynn left the meeting.

Mr. Contos noted that the lights cost \$1000 each, which was difficult as there were not many alternatives.

Ms. Brooks asked how much of the cost would come from the Union.

Mr. Contos replied that the costs would cover obsolescence, in that the equipment would be slowly replaced.

Mr. Cowie asked how much the costs would be in total.

Mr. Contos replied that it would cost approximately \$1600-2000 per year.

John 'Scott' Brownless left the meeting.

Mr. de Silva Wijeyeratne asked whether this allowance was essentially a

Capital Expenditure request.

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Mr. Contos replied that this was the only way to make this expenditure acceptable to the Union – by linking the level of funding to the level of activity.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou asked how many non-Union members were part of the Society.

Mr. Contos replied that all members of the Society were members of the Union.

Mr. Cowie clarified that the majority of members and event participants were Access members. He added that the purpose of the Committee was to make sure that adequate arrangements were found for clubs that did not fit the mould. He noted that SUSS was similar to the Sailing Club in that respect.

Ms. Lauer asked what the membership fees of the Society were.

Mr. Contos replied that the membership fee was \$70 per person, but that first years and students received reduced rates of \$15 and \$55 respectively.

Ms. Lauer asked whether SUSS had sought sponsorship in respect of this equipment.

Mr. Contos replied that sponsorship was limited to discounts on equipment and that there was no real scope for alternative means of sponsorship.

Mr. Cowie asked what proportion of SUSS' membership were students.

Mr. Contos replied that at least half of SUSS' membership were students.

Mr. Cowie asked when SUSS was formed.

Mr. Contos replied that SUSS was formed in 1948.

Ms. Brooks noted that she would be in contact with the club in relation to this matter.

Mr. Contos added that any allowance was unlikely to be abused.

Ms. Brooks said that such arrangements had been considered for the last review, and were potentially open to change at the next review.

Ms. Lauer said that the primary issue in this case was the miscommunication about funding. She asked whether there was some way in which it could be improved.

Mr. Contos said that they had used to use funding for major events, but that the pre-event requirements were onerous and that estimations were difficult to make.

Ms. Lauer noted that they were only estimates and that they were not required to be accurate.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou added that the pre-event requirements were primarily a

notice of intention.

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Ms. Brooks said that the discussion was not productive now, and that the matter would be given to the next chair in their consideration of funding reform. She noted the restrictions on using multiple similar receipts and stressed the need for a potential redistribution of capital expenditure and event funding.

Mr. de Silva Wijeyeratne said that the needs of clubs would depend on the equipment required.

Mr. Cowie emphasised that clubs should not be made to 'jump through hoops'.

## C&S Resolved that the meeting suspend standing orders and move to agenda item 4.9.

#### Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Ross Leedham

Alistair Cowie left the meeting.

#### 4.9 Review of Clubs Charitable Giving

Ms. Brooks introduced Jarrah Sastrawan, a representative of the Social Outreach committee responsible for policy development.

Jarrah Sastrawan said his role in respect of Clubs and Societies was focused on charities and fundraising. He said that he wanted to canvass the opinions of the committee on what needs to be changed. The first question to be addressed was what kinds of organisations clubs should be able to support.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou noted that donations were normally discovered during the auditing process, after the donation had been made.

Mr. Sastrawan asked whether the auditor could do anything about the donation.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou replied that the Treasurer could be questioned and the matter brought to the C&S Office's attention. She noted that policy changes should be discussed with auditor due to tax implications of donations.

Ms. Brooks asked whether the auditor had oversight over which charities were receiving donations.

Ms. Vogiatsoglou replied that the auditor could make sure that the charities were legitimate, but that the problem was primarily that she found out about donations after the fact.

Ms. Brooks stressed that the appropriateness of charitable giving should be determined democratically.

Mr. Sastrawan continued, and said that the second related question was how accountability and transparency could be encouraged, especially to members and to people that make the donation. He said that the third question was what level of C&S support should be given to clubs' fundraising activities. He noted that there was considerable confusion in regards to this matter from

the clubs' perspective.



Ms. Suen said that club fundraising could lead to unfair outcomes. For example, if a revue that received considerable Union funding decided to give its profit to charity. She noted that the distinction between acceptable and unacceptable events was difficult to make, especially in the case of events such as the Young Vinnies BBQ.

Ms. Brooks said that the goal of C&S was to enhance member experience and that the Young Vinnies BBQ was part of the experience. The donation in that instance was a donation of labour. She noted that that situation was different to a fundraising morning tea, if Union funding acts as a subsidy. This would be problematic especially because of the lack of donation declarations and the lack of General Meetings to approve donations. She stressed the need for greater clarity in the process, which would be discussed in Mr. Sastrawan's review.

Mr. Sastrawan asked what relationship a Union-backed charity should have to club and societies' charitable activities, and noted a distinction between clubs which have a specific cause at their core, and clubs which can fundraise on a casual basis. He stressed the need to cater to the needs of all different types of clubs.

#### C&S Resolved that the meeting be extended by half an hour.

055/10

#### Marina Lauer / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne

Ms. Brooks noted that the USU Charity would provide guidance to those clubs without a specific direction. She noted the activities of SULS and the FASS Committee. She stressed the concurrent objective of raising awareness. She said that a working party may be formed to create regulations for next semester, which would be discussed at the Policy conference.

Ms. Lauer asked about the scope and consultation involved in the report. She noted her thanks to Jarrah for conducting this review.

Mr. Sastrawan replied that he would consult with the executives of relevant clubs who have fundraised or who have the potential to. He noted that some clubs have well-established systems in place and that a review should not attempt to change procedures drastically. He said that the scope of the review was multi-faceted and that he did not want to prioritise any particular aspect of the review, particularly as some aspects were connected.

Ms. Brooks agreed that clubs should be consulted, but noted that there may be a sample bias. She suggested that this could be completed at the Policy Conference. She noted that some charity-based clubs were well represented on the Social Outreach committee.

## C&S Resolved that the meeting resume standing orders and move to agenda item 4.4.

#### Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham

4.4 New Club Applications



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#### **Resistance Club**

Ms. Vogiatsoglou said that the club had handed in all paperwork, but from past experience, the club had been late in handing in auditing and other material. She noted that they had complied with the regulations. She suggested that they be put on 6 months probation.

C&S Resolved that the Resistance Club be put on 6 months probation, and 057/10 that all core executive members must attend all executive training sessions provided by the Union.

Ross Leedham / Winey Suen

C&S Resolved that the meeting suspend standing orders and move to agenda item 4.5.

#### Ross Leedham / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne

4.5 Constitutional Amendments

Courtney Tight entered the meeting.

Winey Suen left the meeting.

C&SResolved that the following recommendations contained in the059/10Constitutional Amendments Report be accepted *en bloc*:

Recommendation 1: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Alchemists be accepted.

Recommendation 2: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Australian Chinese Cultural Appreciated Society be accepted. Recommendation 3: That the Constitutional Amendments application

of SU Combined Medicine Association be accepted.

Recommendation 4: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Education & Social Work Society be accepted.

Recommendation 6: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Geosciences & GEMS be accepted.

Recommendation 7: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Science Revue be accepted.

Recommendation 8: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Shades be accepted.

Recommendation 9: That the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Vietnamese Students Association be accepted.

#### Ross Leedham / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne

Ms. Vogiatsoglou said that there had been a typographical error in respect of the 5<sup>th</sup> recommendation.

### C&S Resolved that the Constitutional Amendments application of SU Equestrian Society be accepted.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Marina Lauer

4.6 Capital Expenditure Requests



	MINUTES
C&S 061/10	Resolved that the following recommendations contained in the Capital Expenditure Requests Report be accepted <i>en bloc</i> : Recommendation 1: that the request from SU Hong Kong Club for C&S Other Funding (Capital Expenditure) of \$55.00 be accepted. Recommendation 2: that the request from SU Mandelbaum House Residents Society for C&S Other Funding (Capital Expenditure) of \$737.00 be accepted Recommendation 3: that the request from SU Movement & Dance Society for C&S Other Funding (Capital Expenditure) of \$99.00 be accepted
	Marina Lauer / Courtney Tight
C&S 062/10	Resolved that the meeting move <i>in camera</i> and that USU staff be invited to remain. <i>Marina Lauer / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne</i>
C&S	Resolved that the appeal of the SU IT Society in respect of their Week 6
063/10	BBQ application be accepted.
	Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Marina Lauer
C&S 064/10	Resolved that the SULS Law Camp Funding Application for \$544.00 be rejected and that the SULS Accommodation expenses application for \$1200.00 be accepted.
	Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham
C&S 065/10	Resolved that the motion to reject the KIMCHI new club application, and promote avenues for discussion with KESUS and KISHU, lie on the table.
	Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham
C&S 066/10	Resolved that the New Club Application of Student Outreach to the World be rejected.
	Ross Leedham / Marina Lauer Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne abstained
C&S 067/10	Resolved that the meeting resume standing orders and move to agenda item 6.
	Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham
	5. Other Business
	<ol> <li>Date of the Next Meeting</li> <li>8 June 2010, 3pm at the Loggia, Manning House</li> </ol>
	7. Close of Meeting The Chair closed the meeting at 4.58pm.