



UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY UNION

University of Sydney Union
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006

T 1800 013 201
(02) 9563 6000
F (02) 9563 6216
E info@usu.usyd.edu.au
W www.usydunion.com

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 6 June 2010.



Chair: James Flynn

Date 10/6/2010

**Meeting of the Clubs and Societies Committee
3.00pm, 08 June 2010, The Loggia, Manning House
MINUTES**



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Committee Members Melissa Brooks (Chair), Courtney Tight (Vice President), Michael Buckland (Deputy Chair), 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 Vogiatoglou (Clubs and Societies Manager), Zinah Tam (Committee Secretary)

Visitors Emma Bacon, Alex Macfarlan, David Webb, Eleni Schumacher, Houston Ash, Patrick Massarani

No#	Details
	The Chair opened the meeting at 3.05pm.
	1. Apologies And Leaves Of Absence
C&S 068/10	Resolved that apologies be accepted from Jehan Kanga and Alistair Cowie, and that a request for early departure be accepted from Michael Buckland.
	<i>John 'Scott' Brownless / Winey Suen</i>
	2. Minutes Of The Meeting Held 11 May 2010
C&S 048/10	Resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held 11 May 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.
	<i>James Flynn / Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne</i>
C&S 070/10	Resolved that standing orders be suspended and the meeting proceed to item 4.3 then 5.1.
	<i>John 'Scott' Brownless / Ross Leedham</i>
	4.3 New Club Applications
	<u>I Heart Usyd</u> Mr David Webb, President-Elect of I Heart Usyd spoke to the application of I Heart Usyd to become a new club. Mr Webb communicated that I Heart Usyd would serve as a multi-university forum to bring students career advice, sporting events and other events on campus. Sponsorship would also be sought for this proposed society. Mr Webb communicated his belief that societies that focus on holding parties for members such as Snowball, do not exist on campus. However, Mr Webb emphasised that I Heart Usyd is not purely focused on holding parties and that it is a multifaceted society that is guided by the needs of its members. Mr Webb added that there have been over 600 students who have

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expressed interest in the proposed society.

The Committee questioned how the proposed society differs from the aims, objectives and activities of the USU.

Michael Buckland asked whether the proposed society is a branch of an overarching interuniversity society.

Mr Webb replied that I Heart Usyd is a separate society to other societies with the "I Heart" name such as I Heart UNSW and I Heart UTS. He emphasised that accounting procedures will be different and funds will not be given to these other societies.

Mrs Angela Vogiatoglou asked how many of the members of the proposed society are Access Card Holders.

Mr Webb replied that fifty percent of these members are Access Card Holders, with the other half consisting of students from other universities.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne commented that it appears impractical to attempt to achieve the proposed range of objectives and carry out so many different activities.

Mr Webb assured the Committee that the executives-elect of the society will be able to achieve the proposed aims and objectives.

The Chair requested Mr Webb to address the claim that he refused to declare any affiliation with the "I Heart" brand despite the fact that the brand supports the proposed society, and that the executives-elect of I Heart Usyd have been distributing the magazine associated with the "I Heart" brand.

Mr Webb replied that the "I Heart" brand acts as a sponsor.

The Chair informed Mr Webb that this constitutes an affiliation.

The Chair also informed Mr Webb that it is inconsistent with the objectives of the USU to distribute magazines with pictures of objectified women.

Mr Webb clarified that the "I Heart" component establishes and identifies a community/

The Chair asked Mr Webb to explain the fact that the executives-elect of I Heart Usyd refused to stop distributing the aforementioned magazine and continued to present I Heart Usyd as an approved club.

Mr Webb replied that he agreed that this should not have continued but he was not personally involved in the matter.

Mr Webb informed the Committee that the I Heart brand had allocated 200 tickets for a party to be sold to Usyd students and thus he and the executives-elect felt that they had no option to refuse.

John 'Scott' Brownless expressed his concern that external parties were forcing I Heart Usyd to perform tasks.

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James Flynn asked Mr Webb about the structure of I Heart Usyd within the framework of the greater "I Heart" brand.

Mr Webb replied that I Heart Usyd simply sells tickets of the "I Heart" brand and that it has been made clear to members and the "I Heart" brand that I Heart Usyd is a Usyd run society and is not controlled by external parties.

John 'Scott' Brownless asked Mr Webb to explain why executives-elect of I Heart Usyd continued to be pressured to sell tickets by the "I Heart" brand despite being asked to stop selling tickets on multiple occasions.

Mr Webb replied that the pressure arose due to the short period left before the event. He claimed that the external party wished for Usyd students to simply be aware of the event.

Marina Lauer asked Mr Webb whether the executives-elect of I Heart Usyd have experience on Clubs and Societies.

Mr Webb replied that one of the executives-elect is the Vice President of the Commerce Society. Mr Webb has also attended Clubs and Societies training workshops including that for Secretaries and Treasurers. He added that he has experience in meeting procedures and is enthusiastic to learn and very adaptive.

5.1 Other Business

Sydney University Dramatic Society (SUDS)

Mr Houston Ash spoke to the appeal of the Sydney University Dramatic Society for C&S Event Funding.

Mr Ash explained that the executives and himself understand that they should have a better understanding of C&S Regulations but there was an assumption that event forms were all automated and there were handover issues.

Mrs Vogiatoglou commented that all Clubs and Societies were notified of the change in C&S Funding procedures on multiple occasions through the C&S newsletter. She asked why this did not alert the executives of the proper rules and regulations.

Mr Ash replied that the executive did not discuss C&S Regulations and were all focused on different areas of the management of the Club.

Mrs Vogiatoglou asked what measures have been, and will be implemented to avoid repeating this mistake.

Ms Eleni Schumacher replied that it was now her responsibility to avoid the mistake and that she would reiterate at executive meetings that the C&S newsletters are being considered and followed.

Mr Ash and Ms Schumacher explained that because executive roles were delegated and so specific, it was assumed that post event forms were submitted as per the C&S Regulations. They acknowledged that the executive needed to work closer together to ensure that all executives are performing their expected roles.

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The Chair commented that there appeared to be a culture matter amongst the executives in regards to financial matters. She cited examples of financial mismanagement:

- (a) The cash box of SUDS was lost during O-Week
- (b) The executives left the Clubs and Societies Conference prior to the Treasurer's training component, which was required of all Clubs and Societies
- (c) Executives have been requested to address matters at the C&S Office, and have failed to do so

Mr Ash explained that very few executives were available for O-Week due to five of the executives assisting with a SUDS affiliated show in Adelaide. The executives also attended a Treasurer's training session as soon as possible after the Conference. Mr Ash expressed that he wished for these matters to be addressed separately from the current appeal as there have not been matters of financial mismanagement since these events.

James Flynn asked whether it became apparent that no funding was being received.

Mr Ash replied that it did not become apparent.

Political Economy Society

Mr Alex Macfarlan spoke to the application of the Political Economy Society for a C&S Funding extension.

Mr Macfarlan informed the Committee that events are closely affiliated with staff, such as weekly drinks with weekly discussion topics. There have been greater enrolment in the subject area, as well as a greater number of members, with over 150 members. Access differential pricing is applied to all events in the past few years with a total attendance of over 1000 members.

Mr Macfarlan explained that membership is free but they do not receive any show bags or other tangible benefits that other Clubs and Societies often provide during O-Week with membership. Alternatively, the Political Economy Society runs fundraising events to raise money usually gained from membership. This allows members to benefit directly from events as opposed to payment simply for membership. So far, \$600 has been raised, and it is expected that more than \$750 will be raised by the end of the year. That is, \$750 will be gained over the course of the year, as opposed to other Clubs and Societies that may receive \$750 at one point in the year (O-Week).

Ms Emma Bacon added that the executives of the society wish to create a publication which would be a good outlet for members. They will consider financial implications however, and may charge for publications.

Mr Macfarlan commented that there will be new executives and members and that he wishes for the cap extension to assist these executives and members.

Winey Suen asked where the largest percentage of expenses is located.

Mr Macfarlan replied that the largest percentage is spent on food and drink

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for events. The society has held fourteen events this semester, with a joint event with the Russellian Society.

3. Business Arising From The Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. General Business

4.1 Status of the Clubs and Societies Fund

The Committee considered the report.

James Flynn asked how the current status compared to the same time last year.

The Chair noted that the change in the C&S Regulations has allowed actual funding to be close to that budgeted.

4.2 Clubs and Societies Manager's Report

The Committee considered the report.

James Flynn asked for elaboration of "Phase 2".

Mrs Vogiatoglou replied that it involved full automation of the C&S Implementation Register. This would allow Clubs and Societies executives to see how much funding has been requested, how much funding has been received, receive reminders to submit post event forms, be aware of the status of their applications, upload membership lists and book rooms online. This will occur by Semester 2.

Mrs Vogiatoglou added that Hidden Spark is likely to be chosen.

4.3 New Club Applications

African Society

Mrs. Angela Vogiatoglou was requested to check whether a Pan African Society, or Society similar to AfroSoc existed.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne expressed his concern that Clubs and Societies appear to confuse the terms of associate and ordinary membership.

Mrs Vogiatoglou replied that in the most recent newsletter, Clubs and Societies were requested to produce proposed Constitutional amendments to the C&S Office to ensure that this was addressed.

Resolved that the application of AfroSoc to become a new club be accepted.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne / Michael Buckland

I Heart Usyd

Michael Buckland expressed his opinion that I Heart Usyd needs to find its niche to be considered a club because it attempts to accomplish too many objectives.

**C&S
071/10**

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C&S 072/10 Resolved that the meeting move *in camera* and that all Committee and USU staff Members be invited to remain.

James Flynn / Ross Leedham

**C&S 073/10 Resolved that the application of I Heart Usyd to become a new club be rejected for the following reasons:
(a) The objectives of the Club are not unique to the Clubs and Societies Program; and
(b) There has been a history of refusal by the Club to comply with 6.a.ii(b) of the Clubs and Societies Regulations.**

James Flynn / Winey Suen

C&S 074/10 Resolved that the meeting move out of camera.

John 'Scott' Brownless / James Flynn

5. Other Business

Sydney University Dramatic Society (SUDS)

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne commented that there is a difference between securing money and following policy.

Winey Suen expressed her opinion that the President should be responsible for the matter, not the society.

**C&S 082/10 Resolved that the appeal received from the Sydney University Dramatic Society for C&S Event Funding be accepted, and that the following conditions will apply:
(a) The Club is to produce a document describing the responsibilities of Executives for adequate handover, including a document of processes of the Treasurer, particularly to ensure that all documentation is submitted in a timely manner; and
(b) The Executives of the Club attend a meeting with the Clubs and Societies Manager and Chair of the Clubs and Societies Committee.**

John 'Scott' Brownless / James Flynn

Kimchi

Marina Lauer asked whether Kimchi has met with KESUS and KISSU.

Mrs Vogiatoglou replied that this had not occurred.

James Flynn expressed his concern that the matter with KESUS and KISSU had not been resolved.

The Chair replied that the matter cannot be resolved quickly and cannot be resolved until October.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne communicated his belief that accepting Kimchi would make the KESUS-KISSU matter more complicated and difficult to resolve.

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Ross Leedham, James Flynn and Winey Suen expressed their opinion that Kimchi is not significantly different from existing Clubs and Societies.

**C&S
083/10**

Resolved that the Committee accepts, *in principle*, the need for a Korean cultural exchange interest group within the Clubs and Societies Program, however, greater discussion must be made in regards to KESUS and KISSU before the Korean Cultural Exchange Society (Kimchi) can be accepted as a new club.

Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham

**C&S
084/10**

Resolved that a meeting be held between Kimchi, KESUS, KISSU, the Clubs and Societies Manager and Incoming and current Chairs of the Clubs and Societies Committee.

Marina Lauer / Ross Leedham

Political Economy Society

John 'Scott' Brownless and Melissa Brooks expressed a conflict of interest.

Anshu de Silva Wijeyeratne expressed his concern that free memberships undermine the competitiveness of the Political Economy Society.

Marina Lauer informed the Committee that the associated Department does not allow the society to charge membership fees.

The Chair added that some Clubs and Societies were not able to change their Constitution in time for membership fees to come effect at O-Week. She expressed her opinion that if Clubs and Societies are able to mitigate fees in other ways to raise the equivalent amount of funds then it should not be an issue.

Winey Suen expressed her opinion that alcohol does not add to the activities of a club. It simply facilitates and small amounts can be charged for drinks. She believed that it would be detrimental to continue to fund alcohol expenses beyond the funding cap.

The Chair commented that these decisions are to be made by the Club and C&S Regulations exist to prevent this from occurring. Purchasing drinks in the USU bars would circulate C&S Event Funding back to the C&S Program.

**C&S
085/10**

Resolved to accept the application of the Political Economy Society for a funding cap extension.

Winey Suen / James Flynn

The Committee requested that the society should report on the use of the additional funding.

Paperwork Presented to Committee

James Flynn suggested that in new club applications, that instead of producing the entire membership list, that simply the number of members and the number of Access Card Holders in the list, be produced.

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Marina Lauer commented that it would be difficult to verify Access Card Holders unless these membership lists were produced to the C&S Office in electronic form.

Chair's Farewell

The Chair announced that it was her last meeting. She commented that the Committee has changed substantially, and she was pleased to see how it has changed from an application approval committee, to a problem solving committee.

**C&S
086/10**

Resolved to thank Melissa Brooks for her work as Chair.

Acclamation

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6. Date of the Next Meeting
– 10 August 2010, 3pm at the Loggia, Manning House (TBC)
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7. Close of Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 4.57pm.
