



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 25th August 2016

4.45pm

Unibar Function Room (N71) Nathan Campus, Griffith University

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**
- 3. Apologies/Proxies**
- 4. Motions to be voted on**

Motion 1:

That the GUPSA By laws adopted in July 2003 be repealed.

Motion 2:

This meeting authorises the GUPSA Executive Committee to make whatever by laws are necessary for the organisation in the lead up to constitutional change.

- 5. Meeting Close**
- 6. Briefing - Draft of new Constitution**
- 7. Social**



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
HELD 4.45 PM, THURSDAY 25TH AUGUST 2016 UNIBAR, NATHAN.**

1. WELCOME

The meeting was opened at 4:50pm

Present:

Lisa Durnian, Mateja Mihinjac, Shirley Kaupa, Lesedi Mashumba, Heidi Tran, Lucas Aidar, Moses Amaunya, Fisher Grubb, Lese Coulter, Jo Ruksenas, Andres Pazmino Jaramillo, Andrew Smith, Kuljeet Singh, Sarwan Kumar, Rajinderpal Singh, Hartinder Singh, Abdul Al-Zeweeti, Kapeel Kumar, Pooja, James Onsarigo, Vikran Khangebam, Chau Giang Tran, Daniela Cox.

Guests: Chantelle Hollenbach, Ross Symonds, Michael Connelly

Total: 26 (23 Students)

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land past, future and emerging.

3. APOLOGIES AND PROXIES

Apologies: Michael Carden, Nayeth Solorzano, Eduardo Jordan

Proxies: Andres Pazmino Jaramillo for Nayeth Solorzano

Andres Pazmino Jaramillo for Eduardo Jordan

Mateja Mihinjac for Tamera Jenkin

Mateja Mihinjac for Ethan Pai

Mateja Mihinjac for Masahiro Suzuki

4. MOTIONS VOTED ON:

Motion 1:

That the GUPSA By laws adopted in July 2003 be repealed.

Rationale: The bylaws are out of date and either contradict current operations of both the organisation and the university or are irrelevant to current organisational and university procedures, while some contradict the constitution itself.

The rationale was explained and people asked questions for clarification on the process of making new bylaws. It was noted that there would still be a veto for students at the next meeting.

Attendees voted by raising their hands.

YES – Unanimous

NO - None

ABSTAIN - None

Motion 2:

This meeting authorises the GUPSA Executive Committee to make whatever by laws are necessary for the organisation in the lead up to constitutional change.

Attendees voted by raising their hands.

YES – Unanimous

NO - None

ABSTAIN - None

MEETING CLOSE

There being no further official business, the meeting was closed at 5:11pm

5. BRIEFING – DRAFT OF NEW CONSTITUTION

Michael Connelly explained the draft of the newly proposed GUPSA Constitution as well the Executive Committee (that would be known as the Board of the association after changes are implemented.) Below is a brief summary of that explanation.

- The Board of the association would consist of a research officer, coursework officer, campus coordination officer, equity officer, international students officer, and secretary (non-voting).
- The chair of the Board is to be elected by the board, not by the students. The election of the chair of the Board is to occur at the first Board meeting of the new Board.
- Communications and media officer is not needed on the Board, as this is an operational role, performed by the GUPSA office.
- The secretary of the association will be the Clubs Coordinator and SRC Liaison Officer or equivalent of the University.
- GUPSA volunteers will not be required to manage the finances of the association, the position of treasurer will be removed.
- All students are automatically members of the association, reference to 'members' will be replaced by references simply to postgraduate students.
 - There will therefore only one class of membership, so there will no longer be any mention of financial members, associate members, honorary members, life members or suspended members.
 - Membership will be known as Postgraduate Student Rights.
 - The position of Patron will be removed.
 - Patron: The association may appoint a Patron by resolution at a general meeting of the association.
 - A Patron may be a past or current postgraduate student of the University.
 - The role of the patron is to support the association and to promote the values and aspirations of the association at every opportunity.

- A patron of the association may be removed by special resolution at a general meeting of the association, or by resignation.
- To be able to remove members, GUPSA would need to maintain a register of members separate from the roll of students. As this would prove difficult to administer, termination of a student's membership of GUPSA will be removed from the constitution.
- As the association does not charge membership fees, references to fees will be removed.
- The ability of the secretary to attend, speak and move motions at a Board meeting will remain.
- The chair will not have a casting vote at Board meetings.
- The ability for students to share positions on the Board will be removed.
- Casual vacancies will be filled by appointment only (i.e. no by-elections).
- Financial matters will be simplified as the association's responsibility for financial management is limited, with the University controlling the finances.
- The proposed constitution will no longer provide for shared positions on the Board

6. SOCIAL

A social was held with food and drinks provided by GUPSA.