Griffith University Student Representative Council
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 26 March 2025
Location: N72_-1.18 / Microsoft Teams
Chair: Sara Cunningham

Attendees
- Sara Cunningham
- Evelyn Erdenebat (until 12.51pm)
- Spencer Holzheimer
- Mariska Simpson
- Kore Opie
- Anna Brandon (until 12.52pm)
- Kyle Low

Observers
- Cory Everdell - SRC Board Secretary
- Jenna Corby - Advocacy and Engagement Coordinator

Meeting Commenced 12.03pm

Acknowledgement of Country
- Kyle gave Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies/Proxies
- Apologies received from Simarjot Kaur – proxy assigned to Sara Cunningham.

Previous Minutes
- Motion: To approve the previous meeting minutes from 17th February 2025 as being true and correct.
    - Moved: Kore
    - Seconded: Spencer
    - Carried

Register of Actions and Matters Arising

- Cory to follow up with Mutual Aid Society to confirm registrations closer to the event and request board approval for catering.

Agenda Item 1: Formalising Acknowledgement of Country & Commissioning Artwork

- Sara introduced the importance of finalising the SRC Acknowledgement of Country and commissioning artwork and establishing a plan for this process. The board discussed consulting with the Griffith Indigenous Students Association and/or the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Indigenous) team and stressed the importance of involving students in the process in developing the Acknowledgment of Country.
- Sara suggested the Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art Collective be consulted to discuss next steps once the Acknowledgment of Country has been finalised.
- Motion: For the SRC board to consult with the Griffith Indigenous Students Association in developing the SRC's Acknowledgement of Country.
    - Moved: Spencer
    - Seconded: Evelyn
    - All in favour
    - Carried
- Motion: For the SRC board to consult with the Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art Collective to develop artwork.
    - Moved: Evelyn
    - Seconded: Kore
    - All in favour
    - Carried

Agenda Item 2: Subcommittee Workshop Update

- Jenna summarised the SRC sub-committee workshop held in February. The board discussed the recommendation to establish 2 subcommittees - Policy Review & Accommodation.
- It was discussed that the reason the recommendations from the workshop involve these specific subcommittees and didn't include a First Nations subcommittee is the capacity of students, and having an existing club to liaise with. In the workshop, it was discussed that First Nations students voice can be achieved in a more productive way compared to a formal subcommittee.
- The intention is to test these subcommittees first and assess if there is a need for further student involvement. There is a goal to include more student voices, moving

away from one specific representative role as seen in the previous SRC board structure, by building relationships with existing student clubs like GISA.

- Motion: To accept the recommendations from SRC Sub-Committee Workshop as presented.
    - Moved: Spencer
    - Seconded: Sara
    - In favour: 7
    - Against: 0
    - Abstain: Mariska
    - Carried
- Spencer volunteered to be caretaker chairperson of the Policy Review Subcommittee to be involved in writing terms of reference and other establishing documents.
- Motion: For the SRC Board to appoint Spencer as the caretaker chairperson of the Policy Review Subcommittee.
    - Moved: Spencer
    - Seconded: Sara
    - In favour: Spencer, Sara, Evelyn, Anna, Mariska
    - Opposed: Nil
    - Abstained: Kyle, Kore
- Actions: Spencer to draft outlining documents for the Policy Review Subcommittee.

Agenda Item 3: DVCE Meeting Summary

- Motion: To discuss matters related to agenda items (such as DVCE meetings) within agenda items, rather than being summarised in General Business.
    - Moved: Kore
    - Seconded: Kyle
    - Carried
- Sara summarised the meeting with the DVCE held Tuesday 25th March. 3 subjects were discussed:
    - Intercampus bus - discussed the future of the inter-campus bus that links the busway to the Nathan campus after the MG campus closes. It was mentioned that there will be an increase in Brisbane City Council buses running every 15 minutes from June that will link Nathan to the busway.
    - Petition & Restructure – discussion was largely focused on the changes to the Bachelor of Arts program and the lack of communication and consultation with students. Phillip Stork (Vice President, Future Students & Strategic

Communications) will follow up with head of school regarding communications to students.

- Griffith Accommodation Feedback
    - Cost/Value for money - it was mentioned that Griffith aren't receiving government funding for new buildings and need to balance the cost of new accommodation vs keeping accommodation affordable for students. The board discussed this response and reinforced that the university needs to be responsible for the upkeep of buildings and shouldn't let facilities get to such poor conditions, and that the focus appears to be on the business and profit of the university rather than student focused services.
    - Student Safety / Incidents - comments regarding student safety were taken seriously – DVCE has discussed this with the Chief Operating Officer.

Agenda Item 3: Accommodation Feedback

- Kyle presented a summary of feedback received from students regarding their experiences living on campus at Nathan – 67 responses received. Feedback confirmed that accommodation issues outlined in the feedback also align with the concerns raised by students previously raised to the SRC board and are not isolated incidents. The feedback represents over 9% of the current college capacity, which is significant.
- Whilst the issues were presented at the most recent DVCE meeting, Kyle put forward a proposal for the SRC to release a press statement summarising the issues and to hold the University accountable. Students will be invited to send photos to the SRC to illustrate the conditions.
- Discussion was held regarding the safety & incidents summary which raised concerns regarding culture and how incidents are handled, and that staff need to follow up and create a safe space for students to report issues with the Accommodation Office.
- Motion: For the SRC to draft a press release regarding the Griffith Accommodation issues.
    - Moved: Kyle
    - Seconded: Sara
    - Carried
    - Actions: Kyle to draft wording for a press release to present to the board for approval.

Agenda Item 4: Cuts Campaign Forum

- Kore summarised the SRC Restructure Petition -1,047 signatures on the petition is a huge success and there were reports of students thanking the SRC for addressing this issue. Kore put forward a proposal for SRC to hold a forum in week 8 to invite ideas from students to assist with building a campaign.
- Feedback has been received from students regarding poor communication about changes. The university should be explaining the reasons why in more detail so that students don't have to search for the details themselves. Students should be able to study what they want regardless of University's finances. Kore has discussed with the QUT Guild Education Officer regarding their forum held at Garden's Point.
- Spencer raised an issue regarding students who sit on various University committees and not being able to share this with students due to confidentiality – especially when issues that impacts students are discussed.
- Motion: To approve the cuts campaign forum proposal
    - Moved: Kore
    - Seconded: Sara
    - Carried
- Actions:
    - Kore to finalise proposal for the SRC board's approval

Agenda Item 5: Vacant SRC Board Position

- Sara noted V's resignation from the SRC Board due to needing to prioritise paid work. The board noted that losing V is a huge loss for the board and discussed why student representatives need to be financially compensated for their time, so they do not have to resign from boards/committees.
- Discussion was held regarding ways to fill the vacant position. The preference was for the SRC to put out an expression of interest to all students, asking them why they want to join the board and what they want to achieve during their time in office, with the board to appoint based on these applications.
- Motion: To appoint the new board member via expression of interest process.
    - Moved: Kore
    - Seconded: Spencer
    - All in favour
    - Carried
- Actions:
    - Cory to create SRC Board expression of interest form for approval by the board

- Sara & Spencer to table student payments at the next Student Experience Subcommittee

Other Business

- SRC Events & Services summary - Cory spoke to events & services summary and explained the reasons behind the decision to hold the virtual trivia night on 10th March.
- Cyclone Impacts – Sara & Jenna raised that there is likely to be a lag in the impact to students (advocacy & welfare issues).
- Spencer thanked the board for their support in the Policy Review Subcommittee caretaker chairperson role.

Next Meeting

- Week beginning 28th April (Mon-Wed). Date/time to be decided in Microsoft Teams via poll.

Meeting Closed 1.47pm

Meeting Chair: ______________________________ **Date:** 12/05/2025

Summary of Motions

Motion Moved	For	Against	Abstained
To approve the previous meeting minutes from 17th February 2025 as being true and correct.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Anna Brandon Kyle Low	-	-
For the SRC board to consult with the Griffith Indigenous Students Association in developing the SRC's Acknowledgement of Country.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Anna Brandon Kyle Low	-	-
For the SRC board to consult with the Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art Collective to develop artwork.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Anna Brandon Kyle Low	-	-
To accept the recommendations from SRC Sub-Committee Workshop as presented.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Kore Opie Anna Brandon Kyle Low	-	Mariska Simpson

For the SRC Board to appoint Spencer as the caretaker chairperson of the Policy Review Subcommittee.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Anna Brandon Mariska Simpson	-	Kyle Low Kore Opie
To discuss matters related to agenda items (such as DVCE meetings) within agenda items, rather than summarised in General Business.	Sara Cunningham Evelyn Erdenebat Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Anna Brandon Kyle Low	-	-
For the SRC to draft a press release regarding the Griffith Accommodation issues.	Sara Cunningham Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Kyle Low	-	-
To approve the cuts campaign forum proposal	Sara Cunningham Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Kyle Low	-	-
To appoint the new board member via expression of interest process.	Sara Cunningham Spencer Holzheimer Mariska Simpson Kore Opie Kyle Low	-	-