Griffith University Postgraduate Students Association
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 1 May 2025
Location: N79_3.07N & Microsoft Teams
Chair: Tracy Meehan

Attendees:

- Cassidy Winter	LGBTIQ+ Officer
- Nilay Sarker	Sustainability Officer
- Tracy Meehan	Online Officer
- Adel Abdelfattah	International Officer
- Wajiha Sarfraz	Research Officer

Observers

- Cory Everdell	GUPSA Secretary
- Michael Carden	Support and Events Coordinator
- Chantelle Hollenbach	Student Associations Officer

Apologies/Proxies

- Irene Leshore	Women's Officer
- Susan Teather	Disability Officer
- Chantelle Hollenbach	Student Associations Officer

Meeting Commenced at 1.06pm

Acknowledgment of Country
- Tracy gave acknowledgement of country.

Previous Minutes
- Motion: To approve the previous meeting minutes from 20 March 2025 as being true and correct.
    - Moved: Cassidy
    - Seconded: Nilay
    - Carried

Agenda Item 1: Carers Officer Position Appointment
- Discussion was held regarding the appointment of the Carers Officer position. 2 nominations had been received for this position and a poll was send to the GUPSA board on 8th April. To date, 6 out of a possible 8 votes had been cast and the votes are tied at 3 votes for each nominee. The board agreed to vote in the board meeting to break the tie.

- Motion: To appoint Ashiya Dhankhar as the GUPSA Carers Officer for the remainder of the 2025 board term.
    - Moved: Cassidy
    - Seconded: Tracy
    - Carried

Agenda Item 2: 2025 National Postgraduate Survey

- Michael introduced the 2025 National Postgraduate Survey organised by the Monash Graduate Association, focused on health, family & finances. The 2024 GUPSA board supported sending the 2024 version of the survey focused on student satisfaction to Griffith postgraduate students (including Gold Coast postgraduate students with approval from GCAP).
- Discussion held by the board in support of sending the survey, and to incentivise this to encourage more participation.
- Motion: To send the 2025 Monash Postgraduate Survey to HDR and Coursework students.
    - Moved: Cassidy
    - Seconded: Nilay
    - Carried
- Motion: To approve 10 x $50 vouchers to use as an incentive for students to complete the survey.
    - Moved: Nilay
    - Seconded: Tracy
    - Carried
- Actions:
    - Michael to clarify survey landing place with Monash Graduate Association to check if this can be made specific to Griffith students
    - Michael to liaise with GCAP to send survey to Gold Coast postgraduate students

Agenda Item 3: CAPA Opposes Increases to International Visa Costs

- Michael introduced latest Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations media release which opposed the election proposals by both major parties to increase the costs of student visas to $2,000 and $2,500 for international students. A petition has also been organised for postgraduate students to sign.
- Discussion held in support of the media release and for GUPSA to share the petition on the GUPSA website and socials.
- Motion: To promote the CAPA petition against increases to International student visa costs on the GUPSA website and socials.
    - Moved: Cassidy
    - Seconded: Nilay
    - Carried

General Business

- Education for Overseas Students Training

  - Kiri Bishop (Manager, International Student Experience) has offered ESOS training for GUPSA board members and staff, and to give an overview of the International Student Advisory on Thursday 15th May.
- National Student Ombudsman Information Session
  - Michael encouraged GUPSA board members to attend the National Student Ombudsman information session for student unions and associations held on Thursday 15th May.

Next Meeting

- Thursday 29th May, 1pm.

Meeting closed at 1.51pm

Signed _____ Date: 6/6/2025