



PRESENT:

Tom O'Grady (President), Kyran Mellor (Vice President), Alexander Nott (Cairns Campus Officer), Emily Mulroy (Townsville Campus Officer), Rei Asai (Postgraduate Student Officer), Aminah Khan (Equity & Diversity Officer), Kimberly Thornley (Staff Representative), Theresa Priddle (Council Secretary)

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://jcu.zoom.us/j/95952475722?pwd=aHNTaTh6SEJwY1NFTldeleJF6WmZudz09>

IN ATTENDANCE:

Maria Edmondstone (Observer)

Madelaine Keogh (Observer)

Meeting opened at 11.40 am Thursday 27th August 2020 by Thomas O'Grady (President, Chair)

Maria Edmondstone entered at 11:52 am

Acknowledgment of Country

1. Apologies and Proxies

Alison Edwards (General Manager)

Kang Ning Tan – No Proxy accepted as Secretary did not receive proper written authorisation prior to start of meeting

Maree Dinan-Thompson – No Proxy given

2. Declaration of Conflicts Of Interest

Nil

3. Approval of Unstarred Items

Nil

4. Confirmation of Minutes & Flying Minutes

4.1 Minutes of the 6th Ordinary Meeting of the 50th Student Association Council – 3rd August 2020

Moved TO
Seconded RA
AK Abstained

4.2 Flying Minute Affiliation of Club GPSN & Saints Student Association 28/07/2020

Moved TO
Seconded AK
KT Abstained

4.3 Flying Minute Affiliation JCU Pacific SA 04/08/2020

Moved TO
Seconded RA
KT Abstained

4.4 Flying Minute Affiliation JCU Pharmacy SA 09/08/2020

Moved TO
Seconded AK
KT Abstained

4.5 Flying Minute Amendments to the Election Guidelines 18/08/2020

Motion withdrawn due to motion being invalid due to a breach of the Regulations timeline

TO withdrew the motion due to this breach.

4.6 Flying Minute Club Affiliation Christian Union 18/08/2020

Moved TO
Seconded AN
KT Abstained

5. Legal Matters

Nil

6. Reports

- 6.1 Finance Officer Report
Reports presented to Council. Questions to be directed to KG (Finance Officer)

Moved TO
Seconded AN
All in Favour

- 6.2 President's report

As the only report to be submitted was the Finance report KT put forward a motion to push all reports to the next meeting as no reports were submitted before the meeting

Moved KT
Seconded AN
All in Favour

- 6.3 Vice President report
6.4 Cairns Campus Officer report
6.5 Townsville Campus Officer report
6.6 International Student Officer report
6.7 Equity & Diversity Officer report
6.8 Postgraduate Student Officer report
6.9 Sport and Recreation Officer report
6.10 Advocacy report

7. General Business

- 7.1 Camilla Strom has been appointed the role of Electoral Officer 2020

- 7.2 Motion to amend Constitution (Bullsheat) 21/07/2020

Moved TO
Seconded KM

Motion to the James Cook University Student Council

DATE: 21/07/2020

FROM: Thomas O'Grady (President)

Motion to Council:

That Part 13.1.(b) of the James Cook University Student Association Constitution be amended from

"notice of amendment has been published on the Association's Official Notice Board and in two (2) consecutive editions of the Association's weekly publication; and"

to

"notice of amendment has been published on the Association's Official Notice Board, Website and in two (2) consecutive weeks on the Association's primary social media account; and

Issue:

The Bullsheat is no longer a weekly publication, and has not been for some time.

Background Information:

The Bullsheat is no longer the primary source of news distribution from the Association's, that role now falls on the Association's social media accounts. Therefore it stands to reason that the constitution be amended to reflect the current reality.

Motion was passed 6 for KT abstained so will now got to JCU Council to be ratified

7.3 Motion to amend the Constitution (Preferential Voting) 21/07/20

Moved TO
Seconded AK

DATE: 21/07/2020
FROM: Thomas O'Grady (President)

Motion to Council:

That Part 8.3 of the James Cook University Student Association Constitution be amended from

"All elections, including Annual elections, shall be conducted as an electronic election and in accordance with the "first past the post" voting system."

to

"All elections, including Annual elections, shall be conducted as an electronic election and in accordance with the "Preferential" voting system.

Issue:

First past the post can lead to situations where an Office Bearer could be elected with less than a majority of votes cast.

Background Information:

In 2019 the President was elected with 45.69% of the vote, meaning it is possible that that president was not the president preferred by the majority. First past the post voting is a less democratic form of voting where to have a candidate elected that candidate can require just $1/n + 1$ of the vote, where n is the number of candidates. In effect this means that in a large field of candidates one could win an election despite not even being close to having a majority.

By contrast preferential voting allows a more fair election where each voter is able to rank candidates from most preferred to least preferred. This system is widely used in Australia, for example the Federal Election for the House of Representatives and the Queensland State election both use this system. In order for a candidate to be elected under this system, that candidate must take over 50% of the vote when preferences are accounted for.

Motion to amend constitution to change voting system from first past the post to preferential – this was the second time the motion was raised as it must pass 2 consecutive council meetings and be passed at a JCU Council meeting.

The Motion was defeated with 3 for, 3 against and 1 abstained
For TO, EM,AK
Against AN, KM,RA
Abstain KT

7.4 Motion to Join the CISA

Motion to the James Cook University Student Council

DATE: 20/08/2020
FROM: TAN KANG NING (INTERNATIONAL OFFICER)

Motion to Council:

That the James Cook University Student Association become a member of the Council of International Students Association (CISA)

Issue:

JCUSA was formerly a member of the CISA, but a previous JCUSA Council ended that membership.

Background Information:

CISA is recognised as the national peak student representatives body for international students studying at the postgraduate, undergraduate, vocational and educational training (VET), English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) and foundation levels. CISA is a not-for-profit, non-politically and non-commercially aligned incorporated association that is independently run by international students, for international students. It is formed in response to the need of a unified voice among international student.

Motion was passed 6 for KT abstained

Moved TO
Seconded EM

7.5 Motion to discuss further election changes

Motion to the James Cook University Student Council

Date: 20/08/2020

From: Alex Nott

Motion to Council:

That council does not finalise or approve any motions made that effect the voting system and/or process, until the sitting of the 2021 JCUSA council.

Issue: Insufficient time and thought has been given to both the cost and effects of these changes, and therefore must be postponed until the necessary investigation and examination of them, along with the calling of a management community meeting.

Background Information:

Over the last month it has become apparent there have been multiple rushed attempts to modify the voting system and constitution, without sufficient prior aforethought. These must be prevented from passing, to prevent potential negative impacts on our processes.

AN withdrew this motion when the motion to make changes to the voting system failed

7.6 Motion to Affiliate with CAPA

Moved TO
Seconded RA
KT Abstain

Motion to the James Cook University Student Council

DATE: 20/08/2020

FROM: Rei Asai (Postgraduate officer)

Motion to Council:

That JCUSA affiliate with the Council of Australian Postgraduate Association Incorporated (CAPA) through the third option (Option C): The Fee Remissions process, available in CAPA's 2020 affiliation fee model.

Issue:

That JCUSA isn't affiliated with an organisation, such as CAPA, where we can have a say, where they (the organisation) can back our campaigns and effectively provide information on current and ongoing issues that are occurring within tertiary education institutions at a national level.

Background Information:

Previously, JCUSA was affiliated with CAPA.

Reported in the 2018 JCUSA Annual Report, a preceding Postgraduate officer "[Liaised with CAPA \(Council of Australian Postgraduate Councils\) regarding JCU's affiliation status and explored the possibility of re-establishing financial affiliation which affords JCUSA voting rights in CAPA decisions](#)" p.15.

Currently, JCUSA is not affiliated.

Affiliation was discussed with CAPA, on August 13th 2020, and they are willing to consider our affiliation through the Fee Remissions Process.

It was also discussed that JCUSA can make contributions by, for example, being the host for the CAPA special meeting that occurs in May or their Annual meeting that occurs at the end of the year.

TO suggest to negotiate the fee to join. RA will forward the amended motion. Motion Passed
Motion passes 6 for 1 abstained pending amendments to the motion

Amended Motion

DATE: 27/08/2020

FROM: Rei Asai (Postgraduate officer)

Motion to Council:

I motion that, JCUSA affiliate with the Council of Australian Postgraduate Association Incorporated (CAPA) through the third option (Option C): The Fee Remissions process, available in CAPA's 2020 affiliation fee model.

Also, I motion that, the JCUSA Postgraduate officer will be the representative on the CAPA.

Issue:

That JCUSA isn't affiliated with an organisation, such as CAPA, where we can have a say, where they (the organisation) can back our campaigns and effectively provide information on current and ongoing issues that are occurring within tertiary education institutions at a national level.

Background Information:

Previously, JCUSA was affiliated with CAPA.

Reported in the 2018 JCUSA Annual Report, a preceding Postgraduate officer "[Liaised with CAPA \(Council of Australian Postgraduate Councils\) regarding JCU's affiliation status and explored the possibility of re-establishing financial affiliation which affords JCUSA voting rights in CAPA decisions](#)" p.15.

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Motion passed 6 for 1 abstained KT

Moved RA
Seconded TO

8. Question Time

Members of the Student Association may direct questions in writing to officers of the Student Association through the Secretary. Questions may be put on notice.

Meeting Closed at 12:49 pm

**Minutes confirmed by Thomas O'Grady
President, Chair**

**Minutes Prepared by Theresa Priddle
Secretary to JCUSA Council**

Theresa Priddle
Secretary to JCUSA Council