



2017 Special General Meeting Bateman Courtyard Friday 18th August 2017

Present

Dylan Gojak, Macy Gregson, Ana Ferreira Manhoso, Edward Blake, Rachel Porter, Sarah Dyce, Joshua Scardina, Emily Judd, Zakaria Hourani, Troy Coehlo, Courtney McManus, Emily Paskov, Heather Urry, Justine Ralph, Michael Allan, Emma Watson, Astrid Dainton, Thomas Desmond, Kiralee Coulter, Joel Sobieralski, Kavitha K Sivanganam, Claudia Cardaci, Astill Meesha, Chelsea Reilly, Tristan Wheeler, Kyle Bario, Bradley Le Guier, Ashleigh Roennfeldt, Esther Power, Alexander Komorek, Isabelle Lindsay, Robert Bartlett, Luxy Stewart, Douglas Brazil, Douglas Brazil, Holly Martin, Jayden Roberts, Ashley Carvalho, Seth Wolff, Ashani Jeyadevan, Curtis Read, Olivia Maso, Felicity Ralph, Nicola McEvoy, Rachel Finch, Natalie Veal, Ella Goringe, Kate Muir, Taryn Ahsing, Megan Packham, Lipfert Aris, Lori Nilsson, Michael Menezes, Amy Ganley, Raffaella De Pasquale-Gentelli, Ashleigh Beaman, Chloe Foglio, Megan Bradshaw, Zorana Gligor, Alannah Pennefather, Laura Stumpers, Darcy Harwood, Paige Taylor, Matej Stasak, Amy Bradley, Amy Reid, Svenja Sandammeer, Julia Pytte, Laura Watson, Nicholas Cardaci.

Proxy

Tiarna Petterson, Ashleigh Howes, Brian Cheung, Kinta Suter, Caitlin Cocks, Riley Kiddle, Annabelle Segler, Portia Gorfin, Alexander Hooper, Andrew Davies, Chelsea Kelly, Jessie Perkins, Katherine Dores, Georgia McCann, Jodilee Tangarorang, Sarah Hicks, Kristel Gorembalem, Lauren Italiano, Ellen Barry, Toby Goor, Natasha Wende, Amelia Place, Sanuri Peramunugama, Ashleigh Devlin, Christi Gildenhuys, Ciara Murphy, Claudia Gardner, Anna Separovich, Cassandra Flanigan, Daniel Ta, Giacomo Groppoli, Shakyra Baskeyfield, Bianca Jayde Grills, Ruben Proud, Georgia Cole, Angelic Betts, Patrick Wilson, Adriana Marulli, Katherine Simson, Tammy Walters, Sophie Stewart, Stephanie Treloar, Todd Moir, Valeria Grazioso, Elise Kew, Emily Moran, Madeleine Rogers-Seeley, Millie Lewis, Ash Gooderson, Mark Dorkhom, Isabelle Ramos, Sam Rundle, Michael Hussey, Savannah Marques, Leah Walker, Leah Moolman, Susana Aguilar, Natasha Kentworthy, Elly Zounis, Breanna Hollow, Matthew Tonkin, Maddison Gorman, Meg Stewart, Sophie Leopardi, Mary Dunne, Sarah Ulsser, Holly Northcott, Hannah Benaquista, Oliver Cheveralls, Clancy Micale, Janeese De Abreu Lourenco, Katy Gillingham, Nicola Bird, Alissa Maiolo, Sarah Dawson, Isaac Rowe, Ellis McCarthy, Amy Green, Mary Harris, Lorna King, Alice Dawson, Grace Parker, Lillias Z, Grace Cuddihy, Zada Ballew, Kyle Bario, Julia McAlindon, Stephanie Gilhooley, Grace Hendriks, Tom Newman, Alexander Triglavcanin, Elizabeth Tierney, Lucy Andrews, Kyle Raubenheimer, Brendan Chapman, Faith Mhembere, James Roberts, Gobind Deep Singh, Callum Wilson, Dearbhla Cooper, Amelia Wesley, Scott Olsen, Grace Underwood, Amy Salmond, Liam Godsall, Chris Beattie, Amy Bell, Carmel Mohen, Joanne Carlos, Ashwin Rajendra, Clare Thompson.

Opening

Dylan opened the Special General Meeting at 10.39am. (Dylan goes through some housekeeping before the formal opening of the SGM – registration to remain open until voting begins).

Agenda Items

1. Acknowledgment of Country

Dylan reads through the acknowledgment of Country.

2. Suspending Standing Orders

Dylan moves that Standing Orders be suspended. Ana seconds the motion. The motion is passed.

3. Passing of last minutes

The minutes had been sent out to students, and there were no issues. Dylan moves to pass the minutes. Ana seconds the motion. The minutes are passed.

4. Approving proxies

Dylan says that if you have submitted a proxy but are here now to see Macy or Teddy because that is invalid. Kyle Bario was a proxy but is now attending. Dylan reads through all the proxies. There are no issues. Dylan moves to accept the proxies. Ana seconds the motion. All attending unanimously accept.

5. Resolution debate

Dylan says the main debate will be open soon, and says he has 3 minutes to speak. Repliers will have 2 minutes. Dylan moves to open debate on the resolution. Ana starts timing. Dylan says the NDSA needs to adapt to fit the needs of our students, and the council has developed our vision for the structural change to the NDSA to increase efficiency of our council. The NDSA has grown over the last 21 years, and we need to take the next step. Dylan says that these changes are not political, but are about identifying gaps of delivery in our university and to give voices to the vulnerable in our community. Ana is the seconder, and waives her right to speak. Debate is now open.

Sarah Dyce is the first speaker. She acknowledges the proposed International and Residence Officer, as this has been a large part of her experience at Notre Dame. She notes that International students do not feel accepted in our ND community, as they are kept segregated by class structuring. She thinks that this officer will be instrumental in helping make sure these students are included in our events and to make them feel like part of our community. She concludes.

Courtney McManus now speaks. She supports the changes to the structure of the NDSA, and believes in the division of welfare officers to bridge more gaps on campus. She thinks that the Women's Officer is instrumental to the advocacy of women and working to eliminate discrimination. She concludes.

Tristan Wheeler now speaks. He acknowledges the hard work of the council this year, but raises his concerns about the ill definition of terms and what is being proposed. He believes that there is identity politics at play, and asks those present to think about this before voting. He asks if it is necessary to have a women's officer given the large percentage of women on campus, as he is not sure about the statistics of sexual harassment on a female-majority campus. He concludes.

Justine Ralph now speaks. She says that there is a higher percentage of women in the world, but still face discrimination. She believes we need to have these conversations, as all students will soon enter the workforce. She cites the Respect. Now. Always report, and believes that we should fight for something that affects all women. She concludes.

Olivia Maso now speaks. She supports the role of the NDSA, and likes some of

the changes. She doesn't support the women's officer given the description. She says that the Respect. Now. Always was faulty, and as an economics student she does not think that the gender wage gap exists. She does not believe that women are oppressed. Time is paused. Dylan says that people may call out but are not points of order. An audience member has countered what she has said. An audience member asks about her employment history, and asks because she does not think she has had the life experience of being a victim of the gender wage gap. The audience member says it is clear in the corporate sector. Time is finished.

Laura (audience member) is in full support of the changes and believe they are well-overdue. She believes there is a gender pay gap and thinks we need to become passionate about it and advocate for change. She finishes.

Rachel Porter speaks. She advocates the Sponsorship and Discount Officer, and sees it as necessary to develop our discount program. She notes the time and energy needed by ordinary council members, and supports the changes to the NDSA. She finishes.

Darcy Harwood speaks. She advocates the addition of a Deputy Events Director to assist in the smaller events. She says to vote yes to have more events like our upcoming ball. She finishes.

Ashley Carvalho wants to propose an amendment, to include the role of a Faith Officer. Dylan says that there is a proposed amendment, and says that as standard practice is to hold a separate debate (an amendment debate) to our resolution debate currently being held. He limits the speakers to 4 people so that we do not take up too much time. He moves to open debate the role of Faith Officer as moved by Ashley Carvalho and seconded by Esther Power.

Ashley speaks to the changes. She says this would sit under Welfare Director. The purpose of this role is to be a voice for students of faith on campus. She apologizes that the way it was defined at the last meeting. She says that all faiths will be eligible to nominate for this role. This amendment will allow faith students to be advocated. Rachel Porter asks for clarification about the role. She says that the current structure does not explicitly work to fulfill the Objects of the Student Association. She answers Rachel's question by saying that they will hold events and create safe spaces for people of faith to talk. She believes that her time as President reflected the gaps to advocate for the students of faith. She says that now there will be no OCMs, if a faith issue came up there would be no one to take control of these issues. Time finishes. Esther waives her right to speak.

The debate is now open.

Tristan speaks to this debate. He thinks that if we introduce a Faith Officer allows a chance to bring people of all/no faiths together to reconcile some differences and will be a positive representation. He supports having a Faith Director.

Rachel Porter speaks. She says that she is not entirely sure about the role of a Faith Officer. She says the development of our new changes has taken many months, but we only heard about the Faith Officer for 2 weeks. The SA has had meetings with these groups and has suggested that we could discuss this more effectively at our AGM. This allows more time to think and to not rush any amendments. She addresses Ashley's concerns about faith issues, and says that this would come under Welfare. Justine has extensively spoken to Campus Ministry this year as Welfare Director, and advocates more time to think about this proposal.

Alannah now speaks. She agrees that we need some representation for faith issues, but questions whether we can ensure a completely unbiased agenda throughout their term as Officer. She says that there are some minority groups and is not sure how we can represent all of them with just one faith officer – to make sure we do not bias one group. She finishes.

An audience member asks for clarification about who is eligible to run, but it is confirmed that it is now open to all faiths.

Ashley uses her right of reply. She believes that ideally this role wants to be

accepted before the election so it can be voted in at the same time as all other officers. Time is finished.

Dylan says that the voting for this proposal is by a show of hands. They need a 75% majority. 11 yes. Overwhelming majority no. The amendment fails.

We now move back to the original debate. Dylan moves that voting be opened at 11.15am.

Dylan says voting will close at 11.30. Dylan closes the voting. Edward and Ana was count. Macy will preside over the count.

178 yes, 12 no. Dylan reads through the resolution in full and says it has passed.

There is no general business.



Dylan closed the meeting at 11.39am.

