PUBLIC MINUTES

USYD STUDENT UNION LTD
ACN 688 637 818

Minutes of Meeting of Directors held on: Thursday 28 May 2026
Location: Cullen Room and online via Zoom
Chairperson: Phan Vu

Meeting opened: 10.04am **Meeting closed:** 12:34pm

Present - Board of Directors

Phan Vu (PV)	President, Chair
Shirley Zhang (SZ)	Honorary Secretary
Michelle Choy (MC)	Director
Noah Rancan (NR)	Director
Layla Wang (LW)	Director
Annika Wang (Awa)	Director
Archie Wolifson (AWo)	Director (joined online)
Michael Bromley (MB)	Senate Appointed Director (joined online)
Tiffany Donnelly (TD)	Senate Appointed Director
Bryson Constable (BC)	Immediate Past President

USU Staff

Janina Jancu (JJ)	Chief Executive Officer
Jane Coles (JC)	Director of Marketing
Peita Lane (PL)	Director of People and Culture
Steven Moore (SM)	Director of Operations
Tania Maiolo (TM)	Director of Finance
Helena Millard (HM)	Company Secretary

Late Arrivals

Georgia Zhang (GZ) arrived at 11:19am	Vice President (joined online)

1. **Attendance and Quorum:** Attendance was recorded as set out above. The Chair noted that a quorum was present.

2. **Opening and Acknowledgement of Country:** The Chair opened the meeting at 10:04am (AEDT) and acknowledged Country.

3. **Apologies and Leave of Absences:** GZ was noted as a late arrival and joined the meeting at 11:19am. GZ was present for the Board's discussion and consideration of items 7.1 and 7.2 only and was not present for any other items of business.

4. **Disclosure of Interest:** No new interest disclosed.

5. **Previous minutes and actions arising:** AWo noted that the minutes did not clearly differentiate between AWa and AWo where the abbreviation "AW" was used.

   Resolution: *That the Board approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2026 as circulated, as a true and accurate record of that meeting subject to the corrections raised.*
   Moved: PV; Seconded: Awa

The Board discussed the actions arising.

6. **Executive Reports**

6.1 Honorary Secretary Report: SZ advised that the second round of discretionary funding is now underway, as outlined in the report.

6.2 Vice President Report: In GZ's written report, it was noted that she has commenced discussions with individual stakeholders regarding governance reform. Consultation with the University will also be undertaken to ensure the next Board can continue these discussions in good faith.

6.3 President Report

- The President advised that, following incorporation, work is continuing to transition to new systems and finalise arrangements for the new entity ahead of 30 June 2026.
- The University has novated all agreements to the new entity.
- Congratulations were extended to the five successful election candidates.
- The President noted that a key focus following the election will be identifying opportunities to improve the electoral process, particularly in relation to voter harassment. A debrief will be conducted with the Returning Officer.
- Executive elections are scheduled for the following Tuesday, and handover documentation is being prepared.
- A Board induction session will be held, with attendance required for both current and incoming directors.
- The President reported on the recent Safe Spaces consultation, noting it was well attended and generated constructive discussion regarding communication between the space and its users. As a result, options are being explored to integrate the service into a centralised service model to improve management and follow-up processes.
- Thanks were extended to the outgoing PULP team, and the new team was welcomed.
- The President wished students well for their examinations and thanked all staff, with particular recognition given to the Returning Officer for their work during the election period.

Resolution: That the Board note all executive reports.
Moved: PV; Seconded: LW

7. **Verbal portfolio Updates**

The Board noted the updates from the Portfolio Holders:

- AWo provided an update regarding Austral trials. PV suggested exploring a survey to gather feedback from colleges and students.
- AWa acknowledged the Operations team, particularly SM, for taking a more proactive approach to complaints management. AWa also noted ongoing work relating to disability inclusion and the Disability Action Plan. No significant updates were reported regarding women's initiatives.
- An update was provided on international student engagement, including development of a marketing strategy and the recruitment of two new marketing staff members.
- LW advised that discussions had been held with the SLC Environment team and noted an upcoming event at Hermann's Bar. Work is continuing on equity-related initiatives and a

student savings proposal, with a plan expected by the end of June.
Resolution: That the Board noted the portfolio updates.
Moved: PV; Seconded: AWa

8. **Any Other Business**
Nil.

9. **Open Question Time**

Q1: On the USU Board 2025–26 disclosures register, Tiffany Donnelly has declared a conflict of interest. Given that Tiffany attends Board meetings, has the Board passed a resolution in accordance with the relevant legislation?
Directors actively disclose interests and conflicts are managed through the Board's disclosure processes. The current register records declared interests, but not all disclosures require mitigation measures or specific resolutions.

No additional resolution has been passed in relation to the declared interest. Directors are required to identify and disclose material interests, and where a conflict arises in relation to a specific matter, it is addressed at the relevant meeting. Potential management actions may include a director absenting themselves from discussion or decision-making where appropriate.

The resolution relevant to Tiffany's appointment was passed at the time of her appointment to the Board. No constitutional requirements had been breached and disclosures are considered on an ongoing basis at Board meetings.

Existing reporting processes are in place to manage issues and Tiffany's appointment reflected expertise relevant to her role as a college principal.

Q2: A sexual harassment policy was previously publicly available but appears to have been removed. Is the policy still in use?
The policy remains in effect. The document is currently being reviewed and updated to ensure alignment with current regulatory requirements and organisational policies.

Q3: Are there any internal documents relating to this matter that are not publicly available?
There are no additional internal documents relevant to the matter.

Q4: Are the relevant policies available to club members and executive committees?
The applicable policies apply to members and are intended to be available to all members of the organisation.

Q5: The policy could not be located online. Why was the unrevised version removed?
Efforts will be made to upload the document to the website as soon as possible.

Q6: Now that the USU has incorporated, what is the Board's view on disclosing the terms of major sponsorship agreements?
Directors owe fiduciary and governance duties to act in the best interests of the organisation, regardless of whether the USU is operating through an incorporated or unincorporated structure. While election candidates may campaign on a variety of platforms, directors must make decisions consistently with their legal and governance obligations once elected. The Board also noted the importance of director induction and awareness of fiduciary responsibilities.

Q7: Can the Board confirm whether there are any current sponsorship arrangements with companies identified by the BDS movement?
The Board regularly considers a wide range of commercial proposals and partnership opportunities as part of its ordinary business activities. Management undertakes significant assessment and due diligence regarding potential partnerships.

Q8: A new centralised ticketing system has been introduced in Manning House. Some representatives from Ethnocultural groups have submitted requests but have not received responses. What is the purpose of the system?
The QR code-based ticketing system was introduced to assist in triaging and managing requests more effectively.

Q9: Is there an expected response time for requests submitted through the system?
Requests are addressed as promptly as possible; however, response times depend on the nature and complexity of the request received.

Q10: There have been requests for deep cleaning of furniture in autonomous spaces, but no progress updates have been provided. What is the current status?
Cleaners attend the spaces daily. Previous discussions had identified challenges relating to personal items stored within the spaces. A broader review is underway to determine the most appropriate and sustainable approach to cleaning and maintaining all autonomous spaces.

Q11: The Board has previously expressed uncertainty regarding BDS-related positions. Does the Board still hold that view?
The Board considers a wide range of views, pressures, opinions, and stakeholder perspectives when making decisions. BDS-related matters have been discussed by the Board and these considerations form part of the Board's broader decision-making process. Community members care deeply about these issues and such views are taken into account when decisions are made.

Q12: There is limited information available regarding support for survivors of sexual violence in Manning Bar. Why is there no clearly identified complaints process?
Students may make disclosures or reports of sexual violence to any USU staff member. Staff working within venues, including bar staff, have responsibilities to respond appropriately and connect students with support pathways.

Reporting processes are most established in relation to clubs and societies; however, support mechanisms also apply within venue spaces. Survivors are able to disclose incidents to staff members across the organisation, who can then assist in directing them to appropriate support and reporting channels.

Q13: There appears to be limited information on the website regarding reporting options, and some of the language may create barriers for students seeking support.
Concerns were raised regarding the accessibility and visibility of information available to students seeking support following experiences of sexual violence. This matter has been noted for further consideration, including the accessibility of reporting information and the language used in communications and support materials.

10. **Next Meeting/Close:** The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday 25 June from 10am – 12:30pm.