PUBLIC MINUTES

USYD STUDENT UNION LTD
ACN 688 637 818

Minutes of Meeting of Directors held on: Thursday 23 April 2026
Location: Cullen Room and online via Zoom
Chairperson: Phan Vu

Meeting opened: 10:03am **Meeting closed:** 12:36pm

Present - Board of Directors

Phan Vu (PV)	Chair and President
Georgia Zhang (GZ)	Vice President (joined online)
Michelle Choy (MC)	Director
Noah Rancan (NR)	Director
Annika Wang (AWa)	Director
Layla Wang (LW)	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
Janina Jancu (JJ)	Chief Executive Officer
Jane Coles (JC)	Director of Marketing
Peita Lane (PL)	Director of People and Culture
Charlotte Long (CL)	Director of Student Experience
Steven Moore (SM)	Director of Operations
Tania Maiolo (TM)	Director of Finance
Helena Millard (HM)	Governance Officer

Apologies

Sally Liu (SL)	Director
Shirley Zhang (SZ)	Honorary Secretary

Late Arrivals

Annika Wang arrived at 12:11pm	Director

1. **Opening:** The first meeting of the University of Sydney Student Union Ltd commenced at 10:03 am.

2. **Apologies:** Sally Liu and Shirley Zhang were noted as apologies.

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

4. **Previous minutes and actions arising:** The minutes of meeting held on 8 April 2026 were approved by those Directors present at that meeting and discussed the actions arising.

5. Executive Reports

5.1 Honorary Secretary Report: Directors discussed the next steps:

- PV read the report from SZ.
- The Committee discussed the Semester 1 grant timeline for grants, noting that grant application deadlines have been extended.
- An update was provided on the PULP interview process.

  Moved: *PV;* ***Seconded:*** *GZ*

5.2 Honorary Treasurer Report: There were no updates.

5.3 Vice President Report

- A large suite of policies is currently under review. The Governance Committee endorsed the policy update plan, including updates required following incorporation of USU Ltd.
- The Debates Committee did not meet; matters will be circulated at the next meeting.

5.4 President Report

- April marked a key milestone, with the formal incorporation of USU commencing on 1 April 2026 and the transition period concluding on 9 April 2026. The organisation is now moving into an operational phase.
- The name change process has been completed with the unincorporated USU now being formally renamed the Holme Annexe as part of the transition. No disruption to student service delivery was reported during the transition. Company name change for USyd Student Union Ltd is still progressing.
- Board composition changes were confirmed, with James Dwyer not continuing as Honorary Treasurer of USU Ltd due to full-time work commitments. The position will remain vacant in the remaining two months of the current Board term.
- Annika Wang has resigned as Queer Portfolio Holder. Responsibility for the portfolio will sit with the Board, with the President as primary contact. This change will be updated on the website.
- Election nominations have closed, with 12 nominations received. A Notice of Ballot will be published shortly, and a Compulsory Candidate Briefing will be conducted by the Returning Officer with all eligible candidates.
- There is ongoing discussion regarding autonomous spaces, with further meetings expected following constructive dialogue with stakeholders. Practical improvements to access arrangements have been implemented, including addressing prior cleaning concerns. Portfolio Holders are aligning on expectations regarding engagement levels with stakeholders.

- The Sydney University Debating Easters Tournament was successfully hosted, with participation from 13 universities and 513 students, including 63 from the University of Sydney.
- BC enquired about the textbook exchange project status. PV mentioned space constraints as a key issue. Further exploration will need to be undertaken, including potential engagement with the University and other stakeholders regarding alternative arrangements.

  Moved: *PV;* ***Seconded:*** *AWa*

6. **Verbal Portfolio Updates**

Annika Wang joined the meeting at 12.11pm

The Board noted the updates from the following Portfolio Holders:

Archie Wolifson – Colleges & Residential Accommodations Portfolio Holder
The report was taken as read.

Layla Wang – Equity Portfolio and Environmental Portfolio
- Progress within the Environmental portfolio has been slower, with priority currently placed on Equity initiatives.
- Ongoing communication with the President of the SRC regarding strategies to alleviate cost of living pressures for students.
- Work is underway to consolidate low-cost accommodation resources into a single document, proposed as a budget guide.

Annika Wang – Disability, International Student, and Women's Portfolio Holder
There were no further updates.

Sally Liu – Ethnocultural Portfolio
There were no further updates.
Moved: *PV;* ***Seconded:*** *AWa*

7. **Any Other Business**

Nil.

8. **Open Question Time**

Q1: How are colge events at USU venues priced? Is this standard practice?
Pricing depends on the nature of the event. Colleges are generally charged the same rates as other commercial hirers unless the event is sponsored by USU Ltd.

Q2. Are there other partnerships with colleges?
Yes, including events such as the Palladian Cup, where USU provides event delivery services.

Q3. Do colleges pay standard rates for these services?
Yes, colleges pay USU to run events, typically at standard rates unless otherwise agreed.

Q4. What is the status of the new USU event sexual violence reporting system?
The system is distinct from University of Sydney reporting processes and is currently in development, with a timeline to be confirmed and provided to the Board.

Action: Timeline to be confirmed and provided to the Board.

Q5. Why is the reporting system still in development?
It is a software-based solution requiring more time to design and implement; it cannot be completed within a short timeframe.

Q6. Do Portfolio Holders (PHs) have official communication channels?
Yes, each PH has both a work email and a dedicated PH email to ensure continuity across Board transitions. Some issues with access have been identified and are being addressed.

Q7. Do all PH roles (e.g. Equity, Environment) have active emails?
Yes. Functionality will be checked offline to ensure all channels are working effectively.

Q8. How can students raise issues (e.g. environmental concerns)?
Students can contact the relevant PH via listed email addresses on the website.

Q9. Who was President during incorporation?
Ben Hines served as President of USU Ltd during the transition period (July 2025 – 9 April 2026). The transition period has now concluded.

Q10. Has the Board responded to concerns raised by an autonomous collective regarding sponsorships and ethical considerations?
The Board has adopted guiding principles for partnerships. Sponsorship decisions are considered and approved collectively, though some information remains confidential. The Board acknowledged feedback and will consider how to improve transparency.

Q11. Are student views adequately reflected in sponsorship decisions?
Directors are elected to represent members and act in accordance with governance obligations and fiduciary duties. Feedback from students (e.g. Welcome Fest) informs decision-making, though views may vary across the student body.

Q12. Will the Board consider positions such as an "apartheid-free zone" pledge?
Individual Board members cannot commit on behalf of future Boards or candidates. Directors must act within governing documents and legal obligations.

Q13. How much notice do Directors receive for Board papers?
Typically, papers are circulated approximately 7 days in advance.

9. **Next Meeting/Close:** The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday 28 May from 10am – 12:30pm