

PUBLIC

MEETING: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HELD ON: Friday 24 November 2023

TIME: 1:00 to 3:00pm

LOCATION: Cullen Room or Online via Zoom:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nazanin (Naz) Sharifi	President, Chair
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Madhullikaa (Madhu) Singh	Vice President
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Nicholas (Nick) Dower	Honorary Treasurer
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Onor Nottle	Honorary Secretary
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Bryson Constable	Director
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Benjamin (Ben) Hines	Director
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Julia Lim	Director
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Grace Porter	Director
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Sargun Saluja	Director
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Grace Wallman	Director
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Alexander (Alex) Poirier	Director
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David Wright	Senate-Appointed Director
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Alyssa White	Senate-Appointed Director
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Cole Scott-Curwood	Immediate Past President
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USU STAFF

Andrew Mills	Chief Executive Officer & Board Secretary
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Michelle Tonge	CFO/Director of Corporate Services
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Carole McElligott	Governance Coordinator/Asst. Board Secretary
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GUESTS

Andy Park and Katarina Butler	Honi Soit – arrived at 2.59pm
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1. Opening

1.1. Welcome and Acknowledgement to Country

The meeting opened 1:11pm.

The President made an acknowledgement to Country.

1.2. Apologies and Leaves of Absence

The Board **NOTED** attendance as follows:

Present: Nazanin Sharif, Grace Porter, Grace Wallman, Sargun Saluja, Alexander Poirier, Benjamin Hines. Onor Nottle, Julia Lim, Cole Scott-Curwood, Madhullikaa Singh, Bryson Constable, Alyssa White – (left at 2.55pm).

Online attendance: Nicholas Dower

Apology: David Wright

2. Conflicts of Interest

Grace Porter will advise Carole of her updated director interests. Bryson advised that he had a conflict in relation to a proposal from a student to run an outlet. This student had a minor role in Bryson's campaign.

The reason to move into camera is to discuss confidential, tenancies and employee matters.

RESOLUTION		RB#73/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors move 'in camera'.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Benjamin Hines	Carried

3. Confidential Meeting Administration – In Camera

The reason to move into camera is to discuss confidential, tenancies and employee matters.

3.1

RESOLUTION		RB#74/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approved the CONFIDENTIAL minutes of the previous Board Meeting, 27 October 2023.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Onnor Nottle	Carried

4 Confidential Tenancy Report

RESOLUTION		RB#75/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors endorses the Recommendations 2,3 and 4, as recommended in the Tenancy Report.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Grace Wallman	Carried

5 Confidential Matters for Decisions and Confidential Motions on Notice

RESOLUTION		RB#76/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors endorses the following CAPEX requests:- CAPEX – Door Access Control and Alarm Monitoring. CAPEX – Holme Building walk-in cool room.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Julia Lim	Carried

Public Business – out of Camera session

10 Meeting Administration (Out of Camera)

RESOLUTION		RB#77/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors move ‘out of camera’.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Grace Porter	Carried

10.1 Meeting of the Previous Board Meeting (Public)

RESOLUTION		RB#78//23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the PUBLIC minutes of the Board Meeting, 27 October 2023.		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Bryson Constable	Carried

10.2 Review Public Action Item from Out of Camera Session.

Actions Arising from This Meeting – refer ***attached***.

10.3 Endorsement of Circular Resolutions

10.3.1 DSP and USU Publication, Media and Brand Protection Policy

RESOLUTION		RB#79/239
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors endorsed both the DSP and USU Publication, Media and Brand Protection Policy. (Circular Resolution #5)		
Proposed: Nazanin Sharifi	Seconded: Alexander Poirier	Carried

11 Motions on Notice /Matters for Decision / Matters for Noting.

11.1 Motion on Notice

11.1.1 Director of Debates Honorarium: Semester 2

RESOLUTION		RB#80/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the Director of Debates Honorarium of \$2,500.		
Proposed: Onor Nottle	Seconded: Grace Wallan	Carried

11.2 Matters for Decision

Nil

11.3 Matters for Noting

11.3.1 CAPEX request for BPoz integration \$25k

Andrew noted that this item is within the delegation of the CEO and is brought to the Board for transparency.

Noted

12 CEO Report – Strategic, Governance & Operational updates

12.1 CEO Report

12.1.1 CEO's PowerPoint presentation and verbal update. Andrew run through his PPT. He highlighted:-

- The P&C recent update which covered a variety of ongoing initiatives and policy updates.
- Andrew attended 3-day SEN (Student Experience Network) Conference earlier this week with 14 team members. USU won three silvers on the SEN Awards night.
- Level 4 renovations are underway. Teams have been temporarily relocated to Manning. Levels 5 and 6 will follow.
- The UE Education Committee review of SSAF applications will be communicated on Monday.
- There will be a supplementary Board meeting on 8 December to endorse the Final 2024 USU budget.
- The ATO have made a new ruling concerning the tax liabilities of clubs and societies which will be implemented 1 July 2024. USU will now be required to check that all C&S

have a MyGov sign up and ABN etc. There is no minimum funding threshold so all C&S will need to be audited for this information. USU does not have to report, we are a charity registered with the ACNC and do not have to meet this new requirement.

Noted

13 Finance Reports and Recommendations

13.1 Board Finance Report

The Finance Report was taken as read.

Michelle thanked David White for his input into the budget and will use the principles for budgeting purposes in 2024. Andrew noted that there were losses in USU's investment portfolio due to market volatility. Additional investment reporting will be included in future reports to the Board. Michelle confirmed that requested information from KODA does not cost USU more.

Action: Michelle will provide further detail from KODA on the nature of these investment losses.

Noted

13.2 USU Compliance Report

Noted

13.3 Finance Dashboard

Noted

14 **STRATEGY REFRESH** – the link to the Strategy Refresh on Monday.Com was noted.

15 **Draft Risk Registry USU Risk Register [DRAFT] (monday.com).**

16 Exec Reports

16.1 Report of the Hon. Secretary

The Board NOTED the Hon. Secretary's report as taken as read.

16.1.1 Motion on Notice

RESOLUTION		RB#81/23
It was RESOLVED that the Board of Directors endorse the change to the USU Regulations on page 49. (A2.4.1), that there is a Debates Committee, appointed by the Board, comprising from up to twelve ordinary members and appoint from it's members the position of Ethnocultural Officer .		
Proposed: Onor Nottle	Seconded: Madhullikaa Singh	Carried

16.2 Report of the Hon. Treasurer

The Board NOTED the Hon. Treasurer's report as taken as read.

There was no report from Nick due to video conferencing technology dropping out.

16.3 Report of the Vice President

The Board NOTED the Vice President's report as taken as read.

16.4 Report of the President

The Board NOTED the President's report as taken as read.

Naz noted that the Constitution & Regulation Review Working Party had completed the set of amendments to the Regulations. These will be submitted to the first Governance Committee in 2024 for endorsement. Naz also noted that there is a supplementary Board meeting on 8 December for Final Budget approval.

17 Other Business

17.1 Reports of Portfolio Holders – Verbal updates

Ethnocultural Portfolio:

- Thank you to Onor for her work with the Student Safety Conference.
- Julia has been working with Onor to secure we are the mainstream (an organisation led by women of colour) for the Student Safety Conference panel discussion.
- That even if that arrangement were to fall through, the WP would be wanting to ensure there are diverse voices in the panel.
- Congratulating the Debates Committee on now including an Ethnocultural Officer position.

Disability Portfolio: Grace thanked Onor for arranging for a speaker to present on domestic violence at the Student Safety Conference.

Wom*ns Portfolio: Grace P will ask Onor for the names of the speakers at the Student Safety Conference. She will promote invitations to the conference. She also highlighted the importance of the discussion on digital consent.

International Students: There was no report.

Queer: Alex noted that last week was Transgender Awareness Week. Thanks to Cole on his work on free period products all USU bathrooms. He will be having a discussion with QUAC to promote diversity on campus.

18 Open Question Time

Naz thanked Honi Soit for their attendance and contribution to the USU Board meetings over the past year.

19 Next Meeting of the Board of Directors

Friday 8 December, 1 -3.30pm – Final 2024 USU Budget

20 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 3.30pm.