

## UCSA Annual General Meeting 2014 Confirmed Notes

Date: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
 Time: 1pm  
 Venue: The Foundry, Events Centre  
 Present: 226 students

The President welcomed the student body to the Annual General Meeting and it was noted that BDO, auditors and KPMG accountants were present to assist with any queries if required. The Chief Executive, Dave Hawkey was introduced; Dave joined the Association last November.

1. Minutes of the previous AGM

**MOVED**

**That the minutes of the 2013 AGM held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be approved as a true and accurate record**

**Simon Bell/Miria Scott-Toft**

**CARRIED**

2. The annual report of the 2013 UCSA President

The 2014 UCSA President, Sarah Platt highlighted the following key points from the 2013 UCSA President's report:

- The proposed change in legislation regarding the makeup and constitutions of student representation on university councils
- Three international acts played for UC students – Macklemore, Flume and Netsky
- The launch of the UCSA Subsidised Dental Scheme - first and only subsidised dental scheme for university students in NZ
- First ANZAC Day Memorial Service in living memory
- 3,802 students used UCSA Advocacy and Welfare services in 2013, including over 700 class reps and over 1500 students used the subsidized dental care program
- 121 clubs were affiliated to the UCSA and 433 student focused activities and events were held with student attendees at over 100,000 (accumulative)
- Commercially the decision by the 2013 Executive to exit the Compass Group agreement which saw the delivering of food and

beverage back in-house was a decision not taken lightly; to increase offerings, flexibility and price range

- The Association sold the Forestry block and Lyall Lodge due to the lack of use, the cost of maintenances and state of disrepair of the land upon recommendation from the Chief Executive at the time and the Advisory Board
- The lack of progress with the UCSA building due to earthquake damage from 2011 seismic activities was the one regret of the 2013 Executive. It was noted that point 6.4 of Erin's report stated that testing would be carried out in December; this did not take place.

The 2014 UCSA President opened the floor for questions regarding the 2013 UCSA President's annual report and none were asked.

### **MOVED**

**That the 2013 UCSA President's annual report be accepted**

**Cameron Bignell/Luke Gillespie**

**CARRIED**

3. The 2013 Annual accounts

Financially the UCSA is in good shape with a strong balance sheet. The UCSA has \$1.6m in the bank and conservative investments of \$1.3m, which are available at short notice if required i.e. for the reinstatement of existing facilities or new ones. 2013 made a loss of \$214,468 however that included depreciation costs a lot of which was attributed to the UCSA building which it is not occupied. The UCSA is operating at a cash surplus.

It was noted that the related parties' transaction in the accounts that highlights the relationship between Fatty and Skinny Limited and the UCSA no longer exists. The UCSA no longer uses this company to book acts.

An update on the UBS Bookshop was given with the UCSA as a 50% shareholder, a number of changes have been made recently. The Chief Executive now sits on the UBS Board to prove continuity and the Finance Officer sits in attendance to provide student representation. It was noted that a recent dividend payment of \$30,000 has been received. There has been a change in management and staff at the Bookshop and an online presence has been established. Overall the UCSA has a much healthier and stronger working relationship with the UBS Bookshop and UBS Board.

The 2014 President noted that Executive expenditure costs included Advisory Board fees, Te Akatoki funding, insurance, legal fees and wages and salaries for the Executive as well as the President and Chief Executive's assistant.

The 2014 UCSA President opened the floor for questions regarding the 2013 financial accounts and none were asked.

**MOVED**

**That the 2013 annual report for the UCSA ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013 be accepted**

**Jacob Bignell/Cody Baker**

**CARRIED**

4. The Appointment of Professional Auditors and Solicitors  
The UCSA is currently using Simpson Grierson as the official solicitors and the Executive are supportive of their reappointment.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA appoint Simpson Grierson as the 2014 Association official solicitors**

**Miria Scott-Toft/Henry Marchant**

**CARRIED**

BDO are the current auditors and the Executive are supportive of their reappointment.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA appoint BDO as the 2014 Association official auditors**

**Samara Doole/Rupert Curlett**

**CARRIED**

5. Constitutional Amendments

The following constitutional amendment was put forward to ensure the UCSA is in line with other large organisations in supporting diversity.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA approve the inclusion of the following under point 1, 1.3 Objects, 1.3.2 (i) To commit to representing all student diversity, including culture, religion, gender, ability, age and sexual orientation, and to supporting equality in theory and in practice**

**Rachael Norcross/Nathalie Blakely**

**CARRIED**

The following constitutional amendment was put forward to enable the UCSA President to formally chair the Advisory Board. It was clarified that the President currently chairs the Advisory Board and it is seen as a positive move for the Association.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA approve the deletion of the word “deputy chair” and insert “chair” of the Advisory Board “except in the event of the President abdicating this role to an external Advisory Board member” under point 4. The Executive, 4.1.7 (a)**

**Sophie Beaumont/Claire Laredo**

**CARRIED**

The following constitutional amendment was to reflect the changes on campus due the 2010-2011 seismic activities with the closure of buildings and changes of building names.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA approve the following changes under Schedule 2 – Electoral Regulations, 1.2 Office booths – change word “Building” to “Office” in terms of Students’ Association Officer Foyer; delete word “Commercial Foyer” and insert “Dovedale Campus”; add word “Business/” to “Law Foyer”**

**Jenny Chiu/Michael McRae**

**CARRIED**

In line with the constitutional amendment regarding the UCSA President chairing the Advisory Board the following changes were put forward.

**MOVED**

**That the UCSA approve the following changes under Schedule 3 – 1.2 delete the word “Commercial”, 1.2 (a) delete words “the deputy”, delete point 1.6, 1.7 add “Vice” to President shall be Chair.**

**Dan Chan/Seung-wo Hong**

**CARRIED**

6. 2014 UCSA President’s update

General update

With the food and beverage back in-house last year there have been operational changes which so far include:

- a new juice bar in the Undercroft
- combo deals as well as reduction in price of pies and increase in food selections
- improvements in The Foundry with lowered prices, increase in selection, a new menu, new lights and layout, launch of the Foundry Loyalty Card Scheme which Sarah and Jared Van de Geest campaigned on in the 2012 UCSA elections, the installation of The Foundry acoustic wall which enables the two spaces Bentley’s and the Foundry to be used simultaneously.

Other new initiatives and things to note include:

- Mickle Fund
- Arts Week
- Murals around campus
- More heat and eats around campus

UC Council

Sarah Platt, UCSA President is the student representative on Council for 2014. There is the proposed Education Amendment Act – 2 which if passed would see no student representation required on University Councils. Other students’ associations do not have as strong relationships with their universities as the UCSA does with UC and they are in fear of losing their representation.

A letter from the UC Register, Mr Jeff Field was received in January 2014 reminding the UCSA that University Council undertook a governance review in 2013 and resolved to reduce its size within current provisions of the Education Act 1989. The University Council has decided to make no further changes until the proposed new constitution has been approved and the Minister of Tertiary Education makes his intentions clear. Council sought legal advice and will continue to appoint up to two representatives who are or have been students of the University of Canterbury appointed by the Executive of the University of Canterbury Students' Association Incorporated. The letter also notes that the UCSA Executive's decision in 2013 was to appoint only one member in the spirit of the Council to move towards a smaller body. Sarah Platt has been given assurance from the Chancellor Dr John Wood that the UCSA has his and Council's continued support to maintain student representation on Council. Sarah will seek further assurance from Council.

### The Living Room

This is a temporary student space located in the old Ad Lib café is being well used by students. Discussions continue with UC regarding how long the UCSA can have use of this space.

### Student awareness

One of the main focuses for the 2014 Executive was to raise student awareness. In term one 2,000 letters were sent out to first year students informing them of the services, events and support available at the UCSA.

In term one the Executive visited first year students at the Halls of Residence including Halls without Walls.

The UCSA President visited the Halls of Residence this term to provide an update and also to inform the students of the AGM.

The Executive initiative "Q & A with the UCSA" is held every Wednesday from 11.30-1.30pm during term time where the Executive are available to assist students with any queries and are usually located on C block lawn or in the Undercroft.

### Lockers

The UCSA President is working closely with UC on the installation of more lockers on campus and has identified locations in the Undercroft so it is hoped that these will be installed shortly. The lockers will be free to use and students will be required to bring their own padlock.

### UCSA Building

Progress is slowly being made with the UCSA building and a number of meetings regarding space allocation have taken place with the UCSA, staff and students.

### Student representation

There is a forum with the Vice Chancellor tomorrow at 11.30am in The Living Room, students were encouraged to attend and ask the Vice Chancellor questions.

There is a forum this Thursday regarding the proposed changes to the School of Economic and Business in Room 105, Law Building.

### Clubs

The UCSA worked with the 125 clubs to bring students Orientation and the Winterlude is in the works for the beginning of the next term.

The second ANZAC Day Memorial Service was held on campus, which was a special project undertaken by the UCSA President in 2013.

At the end of this term there will be a V sponsored party. Details will be made available on Facebook.

The UCSA President opened the floor for questions.

*Question: What is the UCSA's position on the proposed University representation on Council?*

Answer: The UCSA is strongly opposed to the fact that students should not have representation on Council. A lot of other students associations have been vocal in their objection to this proposal. The UCSA has confidence in Council and the relationship between UC and UCSA and have not made any public stance as yet, until more details are brought to light.

*Question: The UCSA should be up in arms about the proposed removal of student representation on Council. This is a matter of student representation and it seems conducive to objectives of the Constitution. If the Vice Chancellor said he would cut student representation and he said that may be the case or they were thinking about it, would you be willing to state a public opposition to those changes?*

Answer: If there is any chance that student representation would be cut from UC Council, then yes though I do not believe the Chancellor would say that.

*Question: Would you be willing to endorse a student run campaign to raise awareness in the wider student body for the proposed changes?*

Answer: 100% and I believe that the University Council would not hold this against us. We are waiting for assurance from Council.

*Question: Is there any idea when we would know about it?*

Answer: The proposed changes to student representation will be discussed at Council either at the May or June meeting.

*Question: Is The Living Space owned by UC?*

Answer: Yes UC own it.

*Question: Does the UCSA pay rent on The Living Space?*

Answer from Chief Executive: No the UCSA does not pay rent on The Living Space, only cleaning costs and UC pay utilities.

*Question: How and why was the decision made to reduce UC Council numbers in 2012/2013?*

Answer: UC Council reduced in the size of Council in anticipation of change and the Federation of Employers eliminated their representation. Positions were grandfathered to create a smaller more nimble Council still holding key representations.

*Question: Will UC Council increase the number of representatives on Council if the Amendment to the Education Bill is not passed?*

Answer: It is not up to the Executive and it would need to be discussed further. It was undertaken a couple of years ago and it would be a decision for Council themselves and if further skill sets would be required.

*Question: The prices haven't really changed that much - just the spirits and wine prices in The Foundry. Why have the hours of trading changed in The Foundry and The Shilling Club?*

Answer: The winter opening hours in The Foundry is from 4pm. If the need is there the summer the hours will be re-looked at and it may open from 1pm depending on demand. Resources can be used elsewhere if it is no uptake on these hours.

*Question: The hours have changed more than slightly with one day closed and from 1pm to 4pm opening. The Shilling Club is also only open until 7pm which is not long enough time for people to have a meal.*

Answer from The Chief Executive: Turnover at The Foundry is only 2-3% between 1pm-4pm. The UCSA is constantly monitoring trading hours at The Foundry and The Shilling Club, communicating with staff and looking at the data to best serve patrons.

*Question: Incentives need to be created to encourage students to patron the Foundry between 1pm-4pm.*

Answer: There has been a lot of change in the last 5 months with the installation of the acoustic wall, the layout of The Foundry in the attempt to create some intimate space, the introduction of three meals all for

under \$10 each, the Loyalty Card Scheme, outdoor space, fairy lights outside and other features to create more ambiance.

*Question: Would it be possible to open Bentley's Bar from 1pm?*

Answer: It is a possibility that the UCSA will explore.

*Question: What is the UCSA doing to address the drinking culture amongst students?*

Answer: The UCSA is doing a lot of things to address the drinking culture in particular the following:

- Work with the Police, St John Ambulance and other organisations at events at O week,
- Emergency tents at events for students who are intoxicated with free food, first aid, security and students are never removed from events and sent home unaccompanied.
- Widely advertise the drinking ban
- Involvement with the Good One Party Register with the Police and LUSA where high risk parties are registered with the Police who will meet with the hosts and provide practical advice to ensure the party is a success. Approximately 40 parties have registered on the Good One site and none have been closed down.

*Question: Do you sit on the Community Alcohol Board like Erin did last year?*

Answer: Yes I do.

*Question: Regarding student representation on Council, the UCSA would want to take a public stance in solidarity with other students associations and also to future proof ourselves?*

Answer: As previously stated if the UCSA does not get the assurance we need from Council, then we will protest and take a formal public stance. Going to the media now could be counterproductive. The proposed bill gives Councils the opportunity to remove student representation; it does not state they have to remove student representation.

*Question: Executive awareness is great; however there is a lack of awareness from students regarding student representation on Council so it needs to be made public. The UCSA should use Facebook, Canta and publicly post the results of important issues with the Q & A initiative to create more awareness and keep students informed.*

Answer: The UCSA will look into it.

*Question: The UCSA does not wish the relationship with UC Council to turn sour when at present there is a strong relationship.*



Answer: Currently the UCSA does have a strong relationship with UC and at present we are comfortable with our situation of student representation on Council. However that does not mean that the UCSA is 'yes men' to UC. If the UCSA does not get more formal assurance then that is another story. It would take a number of Executives over a few years to destroy the current relationship and the UCSA does have the Advisory Board and the Chief Executive to keep this relationship on track and provide continuity.

*Question: What measures are being taken to support other students' associations regarding student representation on university councils because if they fail then we will eventually fail.*

Answer: Just because other students associations do not have good relationships with their universities like the UCSA does, does not mean that the UCSA will fail as well. At the moment the UCSA has not done a huge amount to date to publicly support the other universities.

*Question: Just because the UCSA has a positive relationship with UC, is the UCSA prepared to give up student representation on Council and it seems that the UCSA has already given in?*

Answer: The UCSA is in no way prepared to give up the student representation on Council. In 2012 discussions started and all members of Council slowly reduced their numbers, a couple of organisations eliminated themselves. We have not lost all student representation.

*Question: What are the merits of reducing the size of representatives on university Councils?*

Answer: The decision was made because of the proposed amendment. It was a pre-empted move was made in case it happens.

*Question: Cash in hand in 2013 is \$1.6m, are investments being made?*

Answer from Chief Executive: The funds are kept on fixed term deposit just in case we need it for the UCSA building and they are earning interest for us.

*Question: The cost of replacement student cards is \$35 especially when CPIT cost is \$10. Can the UCSA help to reduce this cost?*

Answer: The UCSA will see what can be done.

*Question: Pies prices have dropped and with food and beverage going back in-house why haven't other food prices dropped?*

Answer: While I cannot remember off the top of my head, reduced food prices can be seen on the link from the last VC forum which can be found on Facebook.

*Question: The Vice Chancellor has stated that he would like to turn the UCSA building into a gymnasium. What are your thoughts on this?*

Answer: The UCSA own 65% of the building, while UC own 35%. While it has been part of the UC Grand Masterplan to have a gym, recreation centre, teaching facilities etc and The Foundry is not a permanent building there may well be a number facilities on the one site including the UCSA. If need be, the UCSA will fight it.

The UCSA President announced that the winners of the silent disco with the most first year students attending at 77%, was Rochester and Rutherford Hall of Residence.

The meeting closed at 2:17pm.