#### THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY UNION INC.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING No 02/2017

A meeting of the Union Board of Directors was held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Meeting opened at 4.04 pm for confidential items for non-conflicted members and opened at 4.46 for the General Meeting in the Board Room.

## PRESENT:

Mr Tom Lindenmayer Chair

Ms Jemma Cavanagh Deputy Chair
Ms Monique Blasiak Elected
Mr Nathan Kerwood appointed

Mr Lewis Pope ANUSA representative Mr Scott Joblin PARSA representative

Ms Belinda Farrelly Appointed

## IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Allan HarkinsGeneral ManagerMr Suranga AbeygunasekeraANU Bar ManagerMs Kylie WhartonMinutes Secretary

#### **MINUTES**

#### 1. FORMAL MATTERS

## 1.1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr Josh Bolitho & Ms Jillian Molloy.

#### 1.2 Directors' Interest

No new Director's Interest were declared

## 1.3 Minutes of Board Meeting No 01/2017

The Board resolves to accept the minutes of Board Meeting No 01/2017 held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

Motion accepted (BM 09/2017 N Kerwood/ S Joblin)

# 1.4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no action items to discuss

## 1.5 Chair's Report: Open discussion Items

Welcome to all members of the Board for the March meeting of 2017.

Firstly, I would like to welcome Lewis Pope to the Board of Directors as the representative for ANUSA. I thank James Connolly for his tenure on the Board, acknowledging his contribution to many meetings.

As you would all know, the ANU Bar was unsuccessful in its tender for the bar facility in the Pop-Up Village to be constructed in the second half of this year. The ANU Union is very disappointed with this decision, given the strong history the ANU Bar has of offering affordable beverages to students, and providing one of Canberra's premier music venues. Given the link between this decision and many of the legal, confidential decisions currently being made by the Board, further discussion of formal responses to this decision will be discussed during Confidential Items.

Additionally, Al provided me with a resignation letter from his position as the General Manager of the ANU Union. Al has served in this position for four years, and has made a very positive contribution to the Board in this time. I circulated a number of motions regarding his replacement, Suranga Abeygunasekera, during the period shortly following Al's resignation. I am pleased to announce to the Board that Suranga has accepted my offer of acting for this position, and in line with the motion passed over email; I have negotiated a salary with Suranga that is within the award for his position.

Suranga and Al have been having daily training exercises for a couple of hours. This is ensuring that Suranga will have received the best possible training before he begins acting in the position.

Given Al's decision to resign, the Board will need to consider possible options for a longer-term replacement. I will propose that this be discussed as the final order of business in today's meeting (prior to confidential items), and that both Al and Suranga remove themselves from the room for that discussion.

Additionally, we have discussed with our legal team the details of the arrears of Degree Café. These will be verbally discussed during Confidential Items.

The Board noted the Chairs report

## 1.6 Chair's Report: Confidential Items:

Confidential items report (confidential items report 1 – non conflicted)

## 1.7 Other Confidential items

1.7.1 Degree Café (confidential items report 2)

# 2. General Managers Report

1. 2016 Finance Report & Audit: RSM were on site from Monday 27th February to Friday 3rd March conducting the 2016 Financial Audit. The report will be

finalised over the coming weeks and ready for presentation at the next Board Meeting on the 30th March 2017.

2. Elections: The 2017 Board Elections are being conducted from Monday 20th March to Friday 24th March. ACT Elections are again running the elections with one member of the ANUSA Legal team providing the Electoral Arbiter functions. As with all other years, voting will take place in the refectory under the ACT Elections Teams supervision. Results of the poll will be known Friday 24th March, 2017. There are 3 undergraduate & 1 post graduate positions being contested.

I'd like to personally thank all outgoing Directors for the time and effort they have devoted to their Board duties during their term and the support they have provided to me. It has been much appreciated.

- 3. Bar Operations in the Pop Up Village: If you haven't heard already, the University have decided to grant Walt & Burley the bar operations in the PUV. Whilst I was really disappointed with the announcement, we just need to dust ourselves off and explore future opportunities that may present themselves. Just because we can't operate in the PUV doesn't mean that we can't research other opportunities for the Bar in the University precinct or City. Suranga will commence some research on what options may be available and report back to the Board for discussion.
- 4. PUV Commercial Licenses: I have received the draught License Agreement terms and conditions for Rosie's, Subway and our Retail Businesses from Liang & Simmons who have been appointed Managing Agents of the PUV. I along with our Legal Team have reviewed these documents and have agreed that there are a few minor changes we would like considered. We have articulated these issues to the Managing Agents for comment and discussion. We will know more in the coming weeks and Suranga will report back to the Board once resolved.
- 5. Corporate Governance Training: I would like to remind the Board that we need to organise Corporate Governance Training for the new members of the Board once the current election is complete. Traditionally PARSA has organised and paid for the training which has been extremely appreciated by past Boards. I would suggest the Chair negotiate with the PARSA Rep to see if this will be available again this year. If not, I believe this training is essential and would recommend the Board approved funding to ensure the new members are adequately trained and resourced to perform their duties.
- 6. St Patricks Day: We are keeping the St Patricks Day event in the Bar very low key this year. We don't want to expend a lot of resources and with Suranga relieving in the GM's role he won't have a lot of time to dedicate to the event. That doesn't mean it won't be successful but rather a different approach and style to what we have presented in past years
- 7. Resignation: As you should all be aware, I tendered my resignation from my role as GM of the Union to the Chair effective early May 2017. My final day of

service on site will be Friday 10th March however I have a current annual leave balance of approximately 8 weeks which will take my service through to an early May time line. I have advised the Chair that I will make myself available to both the Board and my replacement to assist in any way I can going forward. If you require input on any level don't hesitate to make contact and I will do what I can to help.

It has been a pleasure to have served both yourself and previous Boards and I can assure it has been one of the most rewarding roles of my career. I wish you all every success in the future and I am confident you will be able to work through the current issues facing the Union and develop an appropriate strategy which ensures your relevance and longevity on campus.

The board noted the General Managers report

# 3. Management Reports: Finances

The Board discussed the finances as of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

The Board resolves to accept the Management reports (Finance) for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

(BM 10/2017 T Lindenmayer/ J Cavanagh)

## 4. Finance Committee Report

No Meeting was held.

# 5. Social Committee Report

No Meeting was held

#### **6.** Strategic Planning Committee Report:

No meeting was held

#### 7. Board Authorisation for

The following motions were moved to enable Suranga Abeygunasekera for the period he is acting as the General Manager to fulfil his role as acting General Manager of the ANU Student Union.

The Board moved to approve an authority for Suranga Abeygunasekera to become a signatory on all Bank Accounts controlled by the ANU Union Inc.

Motion approved

(BM11/2017 T Lindenmayer / J Cavanagh)

The Board moves that Suranga Abeygunasekera be appointed as the Public Officer for the ANU Union Inc. to fulfil our Incorporation commitments.

Motion approved

(BM12/2017 T Lindenmayer/ S Joblin)

The Board approves Suranga Abeygunasekera to have a bank card issued on the Union Accounts to facilitate payments and purchase.

Motion approved

(BM13/2017 T Lindenmayer/ L Pope)

The Board moved to approved the authority for Suranga Abeygunasekera to be included on the list of Authorised officers with the ATO

Motion approved

(BM14/2017 T Lindenmayer/ S Joblin)

#### 8. General Business

- 8.1 Belinda Farrelly would like it noted that when circulars are sent out to the Board Members that require a response that they are sent reply all so all responses can be seen and valid questions raised. It is best practice to share all responses to all involved.
- 8.2 Employment of a new General Manager The current General Manager will cease in six weeks and we will require a replacement.

The action to be taken will be:

- A recruitment committee to be established that will include the Chair and Deputy Chair
- The position to be advertised on SEEK for a fixed term suggested 6-9 months
- Engage with some recruitment agencies to see if they have any possible candidates on their books.
- Provide the recruitment committee with a copy of the GM's job description.
- 8.3 On the list of Board Members attendance it has been requested that each of the PARSA and ANUSA reps be noted separately.
- 8.4 The Board would like to the thank the outgoing General Manager for all his hard work in the previous four years and wish him well in his future endeavours.

  (BM15/2017 N. Korrusod/ L. Covensch)

(BM15/2017 N Kerwood/ J Cavanagh)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 5.56pm