

Minutes for 3rd 37th NUSSU Council Meeting

Date: Saturday, 7th November 2015
Time: 1000hrs
Venue: LT29, Faculty of Science

Attendance:

Present:

Council Representatives (27):

Marissa Chang	Arts & Social Sciences Club, Honorary General Secretary
Sarah Chew	Arts & Social Sciences Club, Marketing Director
Wong Jun Jie	Bizad Club, President
Tan Yong Ming	Computing Club, President
Thenaesh s/o N Elango	Computing Club, Vice President (HR and Development)
Andrew Koh Zheng Kang	Computing Club, Vice President (External Relations)
Ng Zi Kai	Computing Club, Vice President (Operations & Projects)
Lim Jia Min	Design & Environment Club, President
Choo Chia Jean	Design & Environment Club, Vice President (Internal)
Tan Li Dan	Design & Environment Club, Honorary General Secretary
Hamza Naqvi	Engineering Club, President
Eu Xuan Lin	Engineering Club, General Secretary
Alexander Noronha	Engineering Club, Secretary of Student Affairs
Liu Guiliang	Law Club, President
Teo Siu Ming	Law Club, Vice President
Tan Kian Wei Alvin	Medical Club, Honorary General Secretary
Tan Li Ting	Science Club, President
Ng Aik Loong	Community Service Club
Lim Shiao Wei	Community Service Club
Camille Zhao Yi	Cultural Activities Club
Ong Shi Jie Jocelyn	Cultural Activities Club
Glen Anthony Ooi	Cultural Activities Club
Shen Jiayi	Political Association
Jia Haolin	Political Association
Loh Yi Chin	Political Association
Yeo Eng Way	Political Association
Cedric Lim	Sports Club

Exco Representatives (16):

Chia Sheng Hui	Arts and Social Sciences Club
Chua Khai Shing	Arts and Social Sciences Club
Megha Verma	Science Club
Kenji Ong Shao Qiang	Law Club
Lim Sin Yang Edmond	Business Club
Toh Wen Jun	Business Club
Loo Weng Heng	Engineering Club
Javier Leong Lu Sheng	Computing Club
Tan Zheng Jie	University Scholars Club
Clement Eu Chun Kian	Sports Club
Goh Him Ling	Sports Club

Claire Ann Lois Abraham	Cultural Activities Club
Goh Suen Rong	Cultural Activities Club
Alvin Poh Leong Ann	Community Service Club
Manali Mehta	Community Service Club
Low Yi Yun	Political Association

Observers (11):

Phua Han Siang	Engineering Club
Siong Li Qing Jeannie	Arts and Social Sciences Club
Eric Poon Chinn Wey	Engineering Club
Nguyen Dang Hoang Yen	Science Club
Ng Jun Ting Shirley	Business Club
Kong Xiao Wei	Engineering Club
Khwang Jia Ying	Business Club
Ang Yen Ling	Science Club
Michelle Loke	Arts and Social Sciences Club
Lee Chun Chuan	Science Club
Goh Zhen May	Engineering Club

Absents with Apologies (16):

Toh Xiao Wee	Arts & Social Sciences Club, President
Wei Yi Chen	Bizad Club, Vice President
Richmond Lee	Bizad Club, Vice President
Sandra Chen Ming Shu	Dental Club, President
Toh Wei Ni	Design & Environment Club, Vice President
Wong Wen Kai	Medical Club, President
Chua Sin Hui Melissa	Medical Club, Vice President
Lim Cheng Lei	University Scholars Club, President
Chua Zhe Xuan Royston	University Scholars Club, Vice President
Chia Ren Bin	Community Service Club, Vice President
Cindy Handjaja	Cultural Activities Club, President
Gordon Wong Wei Jie	Medical Club
Lai Wen Shen	Medical Club
Hazel Tan Xin Wei	Design and Environment Club
Tan Wee Bian	Engineering Club
Ong Zi Hao	Political Association

Absents without Apologies (0)

Meeting Agenda:

- 1 Election of the Finance, Welfare and Publications Standing Committee
- 2 Online Council Poll
- 3 Amendments to Council Meeting Dates
- 4 President's Updates
- 5 Any Other Business (AOBs)

The 2nd Council Meeting was called to order at 1015HRS by Mr Tan Kian Wei Alvin, Chairperson of the 37th NUSSU Council.

S/No.	Agenda	Action By
1	<p>Elections of Finance, Welfare & Publication Standing Committee</p> <p>Alvin (Med) proposes a 5 minutes presentation and 10 minutes Q&A for each nominee for the elections.</p>	<p>Elections Procedure No Action Required</p>
1.1	<p>Elections for Publications Standing Committee</p>	
1.1.1	<p>The Council Chairperson went through the roles and responsibilities of the Publication Standing Committee.</p>	
1.1.2	<p>Opening of nominations proposed by Alexander (Engin).</p>	
1.1.3	<p>Nominee: Tan Li Ting (Science) Proposer: Claire (CAC) Seconder: Alexander (Engin)</p>	
1.1.4	<p>Nominee: Andrew (Computing) Proposer: Weng Heng (Engin) Seconder: Zi Kai (Computing)</p>	
1.1.5	<p>Closing of nomination proposed by Jiayi (PA).</p>	
1.1.6	<p>Li Ting (Science) made her elections speech to the 37th NUSSU Council.</p>	
1.1.7	<p>Opening of Q&A session proposed by Hamza (Engin).</p>	
1.1.8	<p>Jiayi (PA) Q: In addition to the existing job scope, what additional initiatives do you wish to implement? Ans: Rather than implementing additional initiatives, I would see my role in the Committee as to make sure that different parties come together and there is a fair representation so that they get to voiceout what they wish to publish on a common platform. I also understand in the Communications Cell, there are 2 magazines they are supposed to work on and others such as the U-booklet and the Ridge. I think, even these are not in the job scope, we can also look upon to value add as a Publication Standing Committee.</p>	
1.1.9	<p>Han Siang (Engin) Q: Would this mean that other clubs have the opportunity to get onto the publicity initiative that you might have? Ans: I understand that the commencement booklet and Kick-start will involve the general students and for commencement, each constituent club will be given a few pages to write about their graduating students. While for Kick-start, we will reach out to the incoming freshmen so I believe, if all the clubs are willing to participate, we can definitely work on that to get each club to write for their incoming freshmen.</p>	

- 1.1.10 Han Siang (Engin) Q: So you will be leaning towards having each club contributing rather than having everyone coming together to collaborate?
Ans: I am leaning towards that because as council members ourselves, we are very busy so it is very difficult to get everyone together to achieve a collective work but I believe, as Publication Standing Committee members, we will want to work together as a representating body and will want to listen to your views. So if everyone is willing to feedback, we will take them into consideration for the Union but I believe, it is tough to get everyone together.
- 1.1.11 Closing of Q&A session proposed by Zi Kai (Computing).
- 1.1.12 Andrew (Computing) made his elections speech to the 37th NUSSU Council.
- 1.1.13 Opening of Q&A session proposed by Jiayi (PA).
- 1.1.14 Jiayi (PA) Q: You mentioned that branding is an important, so would be able to go into the details of how would you contribute to the branding of NUSSU?
Ans: I have just ended my internship in a creative and branding industry from there I was inspired that branding is a very important investment so from there, I would like to take that experience that I gained from my internship to contribute to this Committee.
- 1.1.15 Wen Jun (Biz) Q: So what is your proposed branding strategy for NUSSU?
Ans: For me to say a branding strategy right now will be a bit audacious because I need to understand more on the activities we have and I did not participate in all the activities that NUSSU has. So I am not in the best position to propose any strategy.
- 1.1.16 Aik Loong (CSC) Q: Maybe you can share with us one of the skills learnt from your internship that you could apply to the NUSSU branding?
Ans: My role was project manager and software engineer so I get to work on website and I proof read their content to make it consistent for their activities, broadcasts and announcements. With that, I could help value add with this experience.
- 1.1.17 Closing of Q&A session proposed by Yong Ming (Computing).
- 1.1.18 Vote Results:
Total Strength: 36

Li Ting (Science)
For: 34
Against: 2

Andrew (Computing)

For: 25

Against: 11

Invalid: 0

1.1.19 Li Ting and Andrew are elected as members of the Publication Standing Committee.

1.1.20 Him Ling (Sports) and Cedric (Sports) arrived at 1040HRS.

1.2 Elections for Welfare Standing Committee

1.2.1 The Council Chairperson went through the roles and responsibilities of the Welfare Standing Committee.

1.2.2 Opening of nominations proposed by Jiayi (PA).

1.2.3 Nominee: Ng Zi Kai (Computing)

Proposer: Yi Yun (PA)

Secunder: Andrew (Computing)

1.2.4 Nominee: Alexander (Engin)

Proposer: Weng Heng (Engin)

Secunder: Hamza (Engin)

1.2.5 Closing of nomination proposed by Jiayi (PA).

1.2.6 Zi Kai (Computing) made his elections speech to the 37th NUSSU Council.

1.2.7 Opening of Q&A session proposed by Hamza (Engin).

1.2.8 Jiayi (PA) Q: I was wondering if you have any experience in any welfare related position?

Ans: I have no experience in academic policies but during my military, I was a brigade that was in charge of more than 400 members and they do have a lot needs and wants so we have many discussions in the office to provide the best policies for my members.

1.2.9 Han Siang (Engin) Q: Could I ask, would your focus be more on the academic side or student life?

Ans: From what I heard from Yi Yun, we will focus more on academic so I would follow that direction.

1.2.10 Aik Loong (CSC) Q: What are some of the issues the committee will be tackling when you all step up?

Ans: As I have mentioned, we would review the implementation of the

gradeless first semester.

- 1.2.11 Closing of Q&A session proposed by Weng Heng (Engin).
- 1.2.12 Alexander (Engin) made his elections speech to the 37th NUSSU Council.
- 1.2.13 Opening of Q&A session proposed by Hamza (Engin).
- 1.2.14 Jiayi (PA) Q: You emphasized on protecting the rights the students so which right would you wish to invest more energy in protecting?
Ans: As advisor of the Welfare Director, I am often questioned is Welfare all about the tangible giveaways and this gets very touchy. For me, the right that I wish to protect would be the experience our students get in NUS. They should come to university for a place to grow and learn to gain new experience such that university should not only be a place to get a degree.
- 1.2.15 Wen Jun (Biz) Q: With the focus on academic policies in this year, what skills can you bring to the standing committee for this role?
Ans: Instead of skills, I would bring time and dedication to the team. Besides, I will also bring a different perspective since I spent most of my time taking care of my welfare director to understand Engineering students' needs that I could extrapolate for the entire NUS.
- 1.2.16 Closing of Q&A session proposed by Jiayi (PA).
- 1.2.17 Vote Results:
Total Strength: 38
- Zi Kai (Computing)
For: 30
Against: 8
- Alexander (Engin)
For: 36
Against: 2
- Invalid: 0
- 1.2.18 Zi Kai and Alexander are elected as members of the Welfare Standing Committee.

1.3 Election of Finance Standing Committee

- 1.3.1 The Council Chairperson went through the roles and responsibilities of the Finance Standing Committee.

1.3.2	Opening of nominations proposed by Jiayi (PA).
1.3.3	Nominee: Hamza (Engin) Proposer: Him Ling (Sports) Secunder: Alexander (Engin)
1.3.4	Closing of nomination proposed by Alexander (Engin).
1.3.5	Hamza (Engin) made his elections speech to the 37th NUSSU Council.
1.3.6	Opening of Q&A session proposed by Aik Loong (CSC).
1.3.7	Jiayi (PA) Q: As part of the Finance Standing Committee, I am interested in the suggestion you gave to the Committee, so would you care to elaborate on its proactivity? Ans: Since the Committee is working on an adhoc basis so depending on the number of applications, they are not always active so the people within the committee could offer help to the Financial Cell. As a member of the standing committee, I would be keen to help so that we can work more closely.
1.3.8	Jiayi (PA) Q: Since your second recommendation is to improve the financial guideline or process, so what are some particular processes that you wish to improve on? Ans: As student who organise events in NUS, I feel that the way OFS approve events and provide cash advancement take too long so for many students without the financial capacity, they are not able to go ahead with the events. So this is one of the things that can be improve that I would work with OFS to find a solution to the problem.
1.3.9	Closing of Q&A session proposed by Khai Shing (Arts).
1.3.10	Vote Results: Total Strength: 39 For: 38 Against: 1 Invalid: 0
1.3.11	Hamza is elected as member of the Finance Standing Committee.
1.3.12	Khai Shing (Arts) proposes for a 10 minutes toilet break.
1.3.13	Clement (Sports) and Jocelyn (CAC) arrived at 1111HRS.

S/No.	Agenda	Action By
<p>2</p> <p>2.1</p> <p>2.2</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p> <p>2.5</p> <p>2.6</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.8</p> <p>2.9</p>	<p>Tan Kian Wei Alvin - Council Online Polls</p> <p>Alvin (Med) presented the amendments to be made on the NUSSU Meeting Regulations under Council Online Polls.</p> <p>Refer to slides and NUSSU Regulations.</p> <p>Alvin (Med) proposed for a discussion among the council members on the subject matter.</p> <p>Aik Loong (CSC): If the meeting minutes should be seen by the audience, shouldn't we provide them with the access to the meeting minutes draft? Alvin (Med): Since the last two meeting minutes were only disseminated to the council members, I agree that we should also extend this access to the audience as well.</p> <p>Alvin (Med) proposed to vote for the following subject matters; Firstly, to remove the clause in the Meeting Regulations stating "Section 21A is not in operation as of this moment". Secondly, to validate the 1st and 2nd Council Meeting minutes.</p> <p>Alvin (Med): We have to go through this procedure so as to safeguard ourselves from future questions raised on our meeting conduct.</p> <p>Zi Kai (Computing): I wish to clarify on Section 21A that if it is not operational, we are still using it? Alvin (Med): The origin of this clause is unknown and it is believed that when this part of the regulations was written, it was not in use. Given that the council online poll is not use in previous years, there is no questions raised on this matter.</p> <p>Jiayi (PA): If the council online poll is used, will this be implemented in the future batches as well? Alvin (Med): In my point of view, the council meeting should be approved online since everyone has different schedule, it is difficult to have all council members to read the minutes before attending the meeting. Besides, with this in place, council members can read through the minutes at their on pace and raise issue before council meeting. Nevertheless, this will still require EXCO or Council representatives to propose the passing of minutes through the online poll. Part 10 of Section 21A also indicates the voting matters that cannot be passed using the poll.</p> <p>Hamza (Engin): Is there a distinction between online poll done with and without the council members being present for the meeting? This question is not for council minutes but for other voting matters.</p>	<p>Information No Action Required</p>

Alvin (Med): No, since for council meeting minutes, it will be passed by council members who are present and not taking into account of their presence for the past meetings. Since there would not be any more elections at least for the EXCO for the year, so there shouldn't be a problem on this matter.

2.1 Han Siang (Engin): I have an issue with Part 9(d), since you could have just half the council members to pass the poll, should not the number be more than half?

Alvin (Med): This part was written based on the regulations for meeting whereby at least half of the members should be present to reach quorum for council meeting. Nevertheless, we can look into the regulations and suggest to the Constitution Review Committee to suggest necessary amendments.

2.11 Hamza (Engin): If we do this online poll for other matters, for those council members who are not present, are they still entitle to vote?

Alvin (Med): They will have to vote or they can choose to abstain from it if they feel uncomfortable.

2.12 Alvin (Med) proposed to proceed with the voting to remove the clause "21A is not in operation as of this moment." The vote shall be an open voting and since this is an amendment to the meeting regulations only majority vote is required.

Vote Results:

For: 39

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

2.13 Alvin (Med) proposed to approve and validate the first council meeting minutes online poll.

Vote Results:

For: 39

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

2.14 Alvin (Med) proposed to approve and validate the second council meeting minutes online poll.

Vote Results:

For: 39

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

2.15	The first and second council meeting minutes online poll is approved and validated.	
3	<p>Tan Kian Wei Alvin - Amendments to the Council Meeting Dates</p> <p>3.1 The new meeting dates for subsequent council meetings are as follow: 23/01/2016, 19/03/2016, 23/04/2016 and August 2016 (tentative).</p> <p>3.2 Alvin (Med) informed and reminded all members to check the dates for the next meeting that will not be changed. Any changes if necessary for the subsequent meeting dates will be done in the future meetings.</p>	Information No Action Required
4	<p>Loo Weng Heng - President's Updates</p> <p>Refer to slides.</p> <p>4.1 The following items are the summary for the President's update.</p> <p>4.2. NUSSU-NUS Senior Management Dialogue The discussion with the Offices was mainly about the role of higher education and how NUSSU can play a role in shaping future-ready graduates.</p> <p>4.3 NUSSU-OSA Dialogue OSA has sent out the roles and responsibilities of the staff advisors to all Clubs and OSA is developing a CCA record system for the Clubs and societies.</p> <p>4.4 NUSSU-BUS meeting Clarification on the 18MCs policy and honours reclassification because there seems to be a miscommunication between NUSSU and NUS offices.</p> <p>4.4.1 Hamza (Engin) Q: Could you explain on what the 18MCs policy is about? Ans: Students have been delaying their graduation so this policy was put in place to prevent that from happening. The school administration would want their students to graduate in 4 years.</p> <p>4.4.2 Hamza (Engin) Q: What happens if they wish to do some of their modules during special terms? Ans: The 18MCs policy mainly served as a guideline as some of the students in their final year are taking less than 18MCs and were shocked by this policy. However, it is actually flexible and it will be handled on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the Welfare Standing Committee will take on and review these academic policies.</p>	Information No Action Required

4.4.3 Zi Kai (Computing) Q: Can I clarify on what are the problems with the honours reclassification?
Ans: Due to the lower CGPA for honours qualification, more students have opted to do honours which led to an over-demand on some modules. Consequently, students have to take less prefer modules due to the insufficient class size.

4.5 **Meeting with CFG**

CFG is introducing the "Roots" and "Wings" and the Future-ready Leaders Programme.

4.5.1 Jiayi (PA) Q: During the meeting with Senior Management, there is a proposal to allow first year students to shape their curriculum so is the proposal going to be materialised?
Ans: The "roots" and "wings" programme will roll out in January 2016 and the participants who went through this programme will be requested to be facilitators for the future-ready leaders programme.

4.6 **UCI Meeting**

UCI is hoping to develop a mini-Utown in the Faculty of Science and in addition, AS8 near the central forum is expected to complete next year. If anyone wishes to receive development updates for your respective faculties, Weng Heng will be able to assist you by linking up with the relevant officers.

4.7 **Meeting with Development Office**

There will be an increase in the quantum for NUSSU Students' Fund BABG Awards and the Office will also give back more to the community by raising funds for future needy students. Slides by the Development Office will be sent out for all Council members perusal.

4.8 **Promotion of Integration in NUS**

Weng Heng propose to arrange a suitable time to discuss on how to promote intergration and interaction between our local students and international students.

4.9 **PAYM Funding**

Weng Heng reminded the council that the submission for the funding is by 13th November 2015.

4.9.1 Jiayi (PA) Q: In addition to the template, do we need to submit any other documents?
Ans: You can just fill up the template and submit. However, if you have any proposals, do attach it together although it is not compulsory.

<p>4.10</p> <p>4.11</p> <p>4.11.1</p>	<p>NUSSU Council Funding NYC is currently NUSSU strategic partner and the application for the Council and NYC fundings are on a rolling basis.</p> <p>Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) & Union Action Committee (UAC) CRC will be headed by Alvin Poh (CSC) and it will consist of 3 EXCO representatives and 4 council representatives. A background on Adjudication Committee was given and the election process will be updated accordingly.</p> <p>UAC will be headed by Manali with 3 EXCO representatives, 4 Council representatives, 2 NUSSU Committee Chairpersons and 2 Hall Presidents. At the end of the term, we hope that UAC can achieve something concrete.</p> <p>Jiayi (PA) Q: May I know why was the UAC renamed since it was previously called the Strategic Planning Committee? Ans: Strategy involves more long term planning so it was renamed.</p>	
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.1.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p>	<p>AOBs</p> <p>Claire - Briefing on AskNUS</p> <p>Claire (CAC) shared that AskNUS is a one week publicity event to raise awareness of NUSSU and also a platform for students to find out more about the Union. There will be an exhibition for this event portion to encourage students to be concerned about the Union and to facilitate the Q&A session with students. The event will commence in Week 1 or 2 in the next semester.</p> <p>Alvin (Med) reminded the council members to dress appropriately such that the attire for the meeting is T-shirt or shirt with long pants and shoes.</p> <p>Alvin (Med) reminded the council members that the next meeting will be on 23rd January.</p>	<p>Information No Action Required</p>

With no other outstanding matters to discuss, Mr Tan Kian Wei Alvin (Med) proposed to close the meeting at 1244HRS.

Prepared by,

Alvin Poh Leong Ann
General Secretary
37th NUSSU Council

Vetted by,

Tan Kian Wei Alvin
Council Chairperson
37th NUSSU Council

Loo Weng Heng
President
37th NUSSU Council