

MUDS Executive General Meeting

Minutes - Meeting opens at 6:23pm

Attendance:

Returning officer (Sam Marshall), Stephanie Fehon, Alex Feofiloff,, Amit Bhattacharjee, Petr Timura, Haiping Lin, Angelene Norman, Alana Tindale, Anneleise Cooper, Andrew Fischer, David Bourke, Daniel Dummer, Jacob Rock, Nandini Bajaj, Ryan Thalari, William Gailey, Lachlan McGrath, Sarah McCabe, Mathew Duardo, Sarah Van Der Meer.

Total Attendance: 19 (19 not present for all votes)

Total Exec Attendance: All present.

Quorum was met.

Action items:

- Investigate how up to date the constitution is on the muds.org.au website
- Arrange a second EGM to declare the EGM constitutionally valid

Key for reading minutes:

- *italics* = an action e.g. *seconds the motion*
- **bold** = something important i.e. results of a vote, an action item, etc. e.g. **Coca-Cola is voted superior to Pepsi 7 votes to 1.**
- **headings** = new section of the EGM
- sub dotpoints under the same name should be treated as new points raised by the same person **except** in the Q&A section of the EGM, where nominees are questioned. In this case, sub dot points should be treated as responses to the questions asked by the person explicitly named

If you spot any mistakes in these minutes (that are substantial and not insignificant) or believe something to be misrepresentative of what you or someone else said, please feel free to email the Secretary at mat.duardo@gmail.com to have corrections noted. Please also be considerate that due to the fast pace of the meeting, it is impractical for all speeches to be represented word-for-word, and rather they aim to give effect to the speaker's intention and/or what was in 'the spirit' of what they were trying to address.

- Lachlan McGrath - opens meeting - declares not enough notice given of the meeting
 - Not enough time given for constitutional amendments
 - Not enough time for financial members to pay money and then pass waiting period before meeting
 - Fault of the executive - no good reason; **floor opened for discussion on this issue**
- Steph Fehon - Significant reason these rules are in place - in the interest of fairness
 - Unfair people don't have enough time to be present to vote or become voting members
 - Personally would have liked to propose an amendment - did not have the right to do so due to the timing constraints of this EGM
 - First year rep is not allowed under the constitution
 - Disappointing that first year amendment has not been passed after multiple years of discussion
 - Does not understand why meeting is taking place in ignorance of the constitution when it would have been so simple to draft the amendment to allow first year reps and then put it to vote
 - Many options were available to exec
 - Last year we asked only first years to stand
 - Cannot ignore the constitution
- Jacob Rock - Still possible to have first year rep within the constitution
 - Allocate on the basis of the portfolio they will hold
- Steph Fehon - Have position available but encourage only first years to run
- Daniel Dummer - How much notice was needed?
- Lachlan McGrath - 8
- Daniel Dummer - How much was given?
- Stephanie Fehon - 6
- Daniel Dummer - Are we interested in having the meeting regardless?

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- Lachlan McGrath - Results of this EGM would be retroactively approved by having a second EGM that has appropriate notice and approving this EGM
 - Sarah McCabe - Just to clarify we are waiving the waiting period for voting of financial members - people have tried to give notice of the meeting and Will has been unable to process their payments
 - Amit Bhattacharjee - People elected will not be legitimised until the next EGM?
 - Lachlan McGrath - Correct
 - Daniel Dummer - Its 'that' close to being legitimate - can we fully disclose all the ways rules aren't being met and bow to them being important principally, but doing what would be fair and legitimate
 - Steph Fehon - Conclusion is that its confusing - its the reason we have constitutional rules - everything is above board and fair. Reasonable view is that we should still hold this meeting, but there are a lot more contentious things in the constitution that help the society function. Do need to be followed by the Exec. Also - Constitution has not been amended on website since 2013.
 - **ACTION ITEM - investigate how up to date the constitution is on the muds.org.au website**
 - Amit Bhattacharjee - Strongly urge we pay attention to rules. It would be difficult to postpone the election. In light of these two points the solution is to apologise and move forward with original plans
 - Daniel Dummer - Whilst constitution has a lot of rules, but EGM is highest decision making body we have - if we effectively have one in the room it should be able to make
 - *Chair (Lachlan) proposes EGM moves forward as it would normally under the assumption EGM will be held at a later date that will retroactively legitimise this EGM*
 - Amit Bhattacharjee - *seconded*
 - **2 against, 3 abstain, majority in favour (12)**
 - **EGM will commence as planned**
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- Lachlan McGrath - Outlining the agenda for tonight
 - Open floor for first year
 - Speeches
 - Questions

- Secret ballot
 - Vote for general position
 - Same format as above
 - No clear majority required to win - just need more votes than anyone else nominated for election
 - In the event of a tie for first, with more than two people running, the person with least votes is eliminated and thus far until a winner is found
 - Both will be general members - with portfolios allocated to them
 - Then Dan to address EGM
 - David Bourke - After first year election can candidates run again?
 - Lachlan McGrath - Yes
 - **6:47 pm Lachlan McGrath (chair) leaves and hands over to VP, Sarah McCabe**
 - Sarah McCabe - *re-iterates the vote process for all*
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- Floor opened for First Year Rep
 - Anneleise Cooper - *nominates herself*
 - Amit Bhattacharjee - *seconds*
 - Anneleise Cooper - I have abilities, actions speak for themselves, been to internals, minis etc, attended Easters - committed, cares for society, best intentions for MUDS
 - Nandini Bajaj - What experience do you have?
 - Anneleise Cooper - Significantly involved in school leadership team - house captain at high school, leads and works in a team, has the diplomatic approach needed
 - Angelene Norman - Tell us about leadership roles currently
 - Anneleise Cooper - Volunteer at church
 - *Minute over*
 - *No one else nominates*
 - *Vote of confirmation opened up*
 - **16/16 people voting said yes**
 - **Anneleise Cooper voted as first year representative**

- Vote for General Exec Member is opened
- Alex Rex - *nominates*
- Ryan Thalari - *seconded*
- Alex Rex - Previously had experience running Russian orthodox camp
 - Reliability - a highly valuable quality
- Amit Bhattacharjee - Detail what you've done for MUDS
 - Turned up to every day at O-week, consistently turned up to everything, smaller competitions, went to easters, tried to be welcoming to first years
- Haiping Lin - how do you choose between study and debating
 - I'm a philosopher so— *cut off as time expired*
- Angelene Norman - *nominates*
- Mathew Duardo - *seconds*
- Angelene Norman - My name is Angie, MUDS member for over a year, I'm really enthusiastic about adjudication, trying to promote adj culture, wants to be on exec to fix adj culture
- Amit Bhattacharjee - Given your behaviour concerns how do you fix that and represent society in a visible way
 - Wants to raise legality as an issue - legally responsible MUDS; incredibly important
- Nandini Bajaj - Many jobs currently outside of MUDS, how will you juggle these?
 - Angelene Norman - Currently unemployed
- *Timed out of further discussion or questions*
- Andrew Fischer - *nominates*
- David Bouke - *seconds*
- Andrew Fischer - Leadership - ran a student cadet unit, has experience
 - Most people know me as a friendly person
 - Set goals well
- Amit Bhattacharjee - Your reputation?
 - Last week we accepted no drug use at MUDS events, plan to stick to that
- Angelene Norman - Why are you as a human being made for this role?

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- Believe in a moral right thing to do and that it is admirable to search for that thing
- Ryan Thalari - What can you do on exec you cant do normally?
 - Have my opinions heard and give evaluation on policies
- Angelene Norman - Anything you'd change?
 - Less bureaucratic things to do with constitution
- *Put to vote*
- **9 votes - Alex Feofiloff**
- **Alex Feofiloff elected General Member**
- *Round of applause for Alex Feofiloff*
- *Round of applause for Sam Marshall for being return officer*

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- Dan's speech on culture
 - I would like the following discussions and goals from the previous week formally minuted
 - Different opinions, goals and lifestyles should be recognised, respected and welcomed
 - Act with respect for any of us; especially when representing MUDS
 - Did not want inherent nature of society to equate to drama
 - Help others achieve their goals, recognising they are different to ours
 - Be genuine
 - Represent yourself honestly
 - Represent others well
 - 'Think of your mum'
 - Seek feedback
 - Own your mistakes
 - Offer forgiveness and a step forward
 - Make an effort to talk to new people
 - Look after yourself
 - Daniel Dummer - recognising the power of words

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- Words have real power - if you think your words have done harm, you can make real amends with the power of your words
- Principals - ideological divisions are inevitable; where possible, de-escalate tensions and look at pragmatics
- Nandini Bajaj - we decided as an exec that at each internal we took turns talking to novices; if you recognised that YAY if not, we will continue!
- Amit Bhattacharjee - would like to publicly pledge support for Dan's words
- *applause from room*
- **Meeting closed at 7:18pm**