

**TASMANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
TUSA State Council  
MINUTES**

For the meeting of the TUSA State Council to be held at  
of June 21st 2023 at 6PM AEDT  
at the TUSA Building Boardroom, Sandy Bay TAS [with zoom access].

Chair: S Maddock & L McLaren

Meeting opened: 6.03pm

#	ITEM	APPENDIX
1.	INTRODUCTORY ITEMS	
	<b>1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY</b> S Maddock <i>We pay our respects to elders past and present, to the many Aboriginal people that did not make elder status, and to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community that continue to care for Country. We recognise a history of truth which acknowledges the impacts of invasion and colonisation upon Aboriginal people resulting in the genocide and forcible removal from their lands. Our Islands are deeply unique, with spectacular landscapes with our cities and towns surrounded by bushland, wilderness, mountain ranges and beaches. We stand for a future that profoundly respects and acknowledges Aboriginal perspectives, culture, language and history; and a continued effort to fight for Aboriginal justice and rights paving the way for a strong future.</i>	
	<b>1.2 WELCOME</b> Chair – S Maddock & L McLaren	
	<b>1.3 ATTENDANCE</b> L McLaren, S Maddock, L Castelletti, T Hoare, R Stanaway, A Lamont, Z Sabapathy	
	<b>1.4 APOLOGIES</b>	

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	<b>1.5 ABSENT</b> N Naz	
	<b>1.6 GUESTS &amp; OBSERVERS</b> Executive Assistant - E Knuckey State Council Campaign Coordinator – C Harris Tas Ethical – S Barry	
	<b>1.7 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST</b> State Council members are reminded of the requirements of clause 6 of the TUSA’s Conflict of Interest Policy (instituted on 28 November 2019) which requires members to identify and disclose any conflicts of interest including gifts.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</b>	
	<b>2.1 AMENDMENTS</b>	
	<b>2.2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b> <u>Motion:</u> that the minutes of the TUSA State Council held on <b>May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023</b> be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting, and approved for upload to the TUSA website.  <i><b>MOVED:</b> A Lamont <b>SECONDED:</b> T Hoare</i>	APPENDIX A
	<b>2.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See action items table</li> </ul>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
	<b>3.1 INWARDS</b> DVCA Letter to L McLaren <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We’ve been sent through a ToR for a student partnership committee by I Anderson and C White which needs revision across month of June, especially regarding membership list.</li> </ul>	APPENDIX B

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	ACTION ITEM: L McLaren and E Knuckey to draft by end of week.	
	<b>3.2 OUTWARDS</b> <b>3.2.1 To C White – SSAF savings</b> - Discussion of productive conversations had with C White.  <b>3.2.2 To Office of VC – SSAF Campaign</b> - Official response to VC relating to SSAF Campaign.  <b>3.3.3 Statement for Socials – Reconciliation Week</b>  <b>3.3.4 Statement for Socials – Times Higher Education Rankings</b> - Quality education was UTAS' worst performing SDG.	APPENDIX C1, C2, C3
4.	COUNCIL REPORTS - Not for this meeting	
	4.1 Projects Register Updates C Harris <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For discussion of items for update/creation in project register</li> <li>Reminder for state council to progress any new items with Chloe for the website/socials.</li> </ul>	VERBAL ONLY
	4.2 SSAF Campaign Update L McLaren <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is following on from above discussions</li> <li>D Sutton has met with R Black, I Anderson, C White –pushing for 2.5 million funding in 2024.</li> <li>Blue skies thinking about our role and services – for example, should TUSA have a role in student complaint processes as an external body in a formal sense (in conjunction with our existing advocotes)?</li> </ul> <b>4.2.1 SSAF Petition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan is to have it during semester 2 orientation</li> <li>For students and interested staff to sign</li> <li>Make an online version as well</li> <li>State Council prefer the initial draft. Shorter = better.</li> </ul> ACTION ITEM: SSAF petition for follow-up at next SC meeting	APPENDIX D  15 mins

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<b>5.</b>	<b>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b>	
	<p><b>5.1 Investment Portfolio – Ethical Investment Discussion</b></p> <p>Tas Ethical – S Barry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A space to discuss the specifics of our investment portfolio and if these align with the State Council views for report to board of management.</li> <li>• Tas Ethical is a financial advisory business based in Hobart – purely ethical investment for 16 years. As a financial advisor it is S Barry’s philosophy that investment should not damage the environment, and that ethical investment is actually a smarter choice in terms of investing.</li> <li>• Ethical investment has grown in the last 3-4 years, but before this they were quite isolated as a practice.</li> <li>• To start building a portfolio, including TUSA’s, Tas Ethical start with ethics, returns and fees – ethics is the gatekeeper. Unless an investment or manager meets the ethical criteria they will not be considered as part of the portfolio. Once they’ve met the criteria for ethics, we look at how much the return, and how much they charge in fees for their services.</li> <li>• S Barry’s job is to find the best ethical managers in Australia, incorporate into a mix, and deliver that to Tas Ethical’s clients.</li> <li>• We use specialist managers – such as Australian Ethical and Future Super. They are examples of money managers where they can deliver pools of money to investors.</li> <li>• S Barry prefers to use specialist companies such as above as they specialise in the space. A lot of companies now claim to be ethical managers, or have one portfolio that is reasonably well screened for climate change, but many others that are causing damage – in this sense they are flogging products, not reflecting true values.</li> <li>• To check managed funds against greenwashing (which is especially common in finance with money for advertising) we use several NFPs. Market forces – Melbourne based NFP that look at big managed funds and banks comparing their fund claims against actual green impact – Tas Ethical uses this regularly</li> <li>• Australian centre for corporate responsibility – NFP based out of Canberra. Utilise legal process at company AGMs, by drafting resolutions with lawyers and ask shareholders to vote at meetings, primarily around climate change – and then publish</li> </ul>	<p><b>VERBAL ONLY</b></p> <p><b>15 mins</b></p>

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which managers/stakeholders have voted against/for these resolutions, and publically compare these voting figures.

- Ethical advisors co-op, founded by S Barry 10 years ago – on this website there is a link to leaf ratings dot org, where we source 30-50 ethically specialised organisers – managed funds get voted on by them on their investments as specialists – like dentists voting on best toothbrush!
- Ethos – goes through all portfolios and ranks against SDGs and ethical issues and gives scores comparative to a mainstream investment. Will talk through what our score is for our portfolio below.
- Takes all of the above into account when building our portfolio – want it to be the best available in Australia.
- In terms of performance – myth of investing ethically – with climate change and societal screens is that you pay more for less performance – hasn't been true for over a decade.
- Responsible Investment Association of Australia - Third party report published annually for 13 years, demonstrates every year its better to do it ethically and responsibly – ethical outperformed all data points in Australia, and internationally, at 1, 3 and 5 and 10 years.
- This financial year has been one of the best in the space since Stuart started in the space 16 years ago
- Mainstream funds are about 7% below ethical investment funds, largest gap S Barry has seen – perhaps hangover from Ukraine war where countries now investing ethically for need of energy security (as opposed to ethics of climate change)
- Our portfolio has 7 investments managed across different managers –2 in property – not really ethically focused. N products investing in properties in Australia othat are best from a society fund – one is a charter hall fund primarily in childcare centres (socially responsible, not ethically), other is Australian Unity 180 year old NFP socially minded property manager – but still not much better than other property funds.
- Remaining 5 are ethical mangers – Australian ethical (pioneer, started 30 years ago by a group of permaculturalists), 2 of the other funds are in effect future super (Beta shares, one called Fair, other called Ethi) – publically available funds, developed by future super for future supers members. Very deep green, very well screened, better than Australian ethical in S Barry's view.

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- Also invest in international funds: Impacts – managed out of London; specialised in space for over 25 years; this fund looks for global corporations that are delivering solutions to developing countries in terms of waste management, water, food security, climate change – theory is if you invest in global companies to improve developing nations system in a low resource intensity way you will also benefit financially – they provide the best return for your portfolio, 25% return.
- Stuart investors, managed out of Edinburgh – over 20 years experience in the space; heavy climate change screen resource use, low consumerism screen for their portfolio; earned over 20% this year
- Then there are also non-risk investments bank-style investments within our portfolio.
- Third party provider called Ethos mentioned above, score our portfolio comparative to mainstream – numbers: climate action ours ranks 90/100 (100 = perfect), mainstream ranks 50; sustainable resource use (waste management, conflict free minerals) - 94 (mainstream 52); inclusive economies (not investing in things like gaming that increase poverty, fair labor practices) - 90 (mainstream 50); gender equality 86 (mainstream 61); health and wellbeing 90 (38); peace and justice 90 (55); life on earth (about not destroying biodiversity and humane treatment of animals) 95 (46); education access 78 (50); clean water and sanitation 93 (46). More stats available on report.
- There's almost always one dodgy stock in an otherwise good managed fund.
- In terms of funds, also ranked against Paris agreement – 1.83 degree world – mainstream portfolio aligns to a 4 degree world – all the super fund that don't properly screen for climate change (Australia worse for mining) vs international = 3 degree world.

**ACTION ITEM:** Stuart to send papers through to Eloise for distribution to state council.

T Hoare: In your view Stuart does our portfolio have potential for us to go further?

Any specific concerns in the portfolio?

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Concerns in portfolio – we have exposure to 2 of 4 big banks – all finance the fossil fuel industry – commonwealth and ANZ are substantially the worst (not involved); through one of the managers – have been lobbying for years to remove it</li> <li>2. Lithium – most managers will invest in but still controversial because of labour practices and corruption in this industry.</li> <li>3. One of the other managers loves unilever – one of the largest single use producer for consumption in the world – they have strong view that it is one of the most progressive of these companies in the world – every portfolio has problematic things and it could be improved, but the best you can get.</li> <li>4. Examples to demonstrate nothing is perfect</li> <li>5. When we choose managers – they have to be 100% transparent within their portfolio, and we need to see their voting history.</li> </ol> <p>A Lamont: raised that we are still having societies bank with Commonwealth Bank. S Barry provides some advice about the specifics of entering partnership with different banks. Important to raise ethical concerns directly with Commbank to promote change.</p> <p>A Lamont – who are ethical banks? Bank of Australia is a standout (no branch in Hobart); Hobart default is Bendigo. Bank of Queensland/Bendigo okay with no fossil fuel exposures.</p>	
	<p><b>5.2 Affiliations</b> S Maddock</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b>      <b>Moved:</b> S Maddock    <b>Seconded:</b> T Hoare that the Tasmanian University Information Communication Technology Society’s affiliation be accepted for 2023, subject to fulfilling all the affiliation criteria:</p> <p>The objects and purposes of the Club shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage members to socially interact and create collaborative works.</li> <li>• To provide members with a space for collaborative works.</li> <li>• To introduce members to new and arising technologies of which they may be able to utilise.</li> </ul>	<p>VERBAL ONLY</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To foster relationships between members and potential future employers.</li> <li>To be a representative body for students studying units within the Discipline of ICT.</li> <li>To hold events that support the aforementioned objectives and aims.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>6.3 Key Messaging Document</b> L McLaren</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Including key discussion of Voice to Parliament – discussed the key points in our draft statement and stance.</li> <li>Draft letter with Voice to Parliament stance to be presented to State Council, then to Indigenous staff and students, final approval by State Council, before circulation to student-base (no public media statement)</li> </ul> <p><u>Motion:</u> that the Voice to Parliament be in principle supported by State Council for circulation to First Nations students and Riawunna for re-approval pending feedback.</p> <p><b>MOVED:</b> L McLaren <b>SECONDED:</b> S Maddock</p>	<p>VERBAL KEY MESSAGING FOR NOTING; ADDITIONALLY; APPENDIX E</p>
	<p><b>5.4 TUSA BoM Governance Subcommittee Student Member</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance committee – discussion from Alec &amp; Eloise about what would be expected, and also the importance of Student Voice at the Board/governance level.</li> <li>For decision postponed to next state council or via circular motion once students understand their commitments for the semester</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> SC to read govcom committee terms of reference and flag potential interest by July meeting.</p>	<p>APPENDIX F (CONFIDENTIAL )</p>



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	<p><b>5.5. Lived Experience Acknowledgement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of addition of acknowledgement for lived experience to SC agenda.</li> <li>• Extensive discussion of the role of an acknowledgement here – respecting the lived experience our representatives bring to the table and creating a safe and welcome environment for different perspectives at our meetings.</li> </ul> <p><u>Motion:</u> that an acknowledgement of lived experience as per Equity committee framework be adopted by State Council for future meetings:</p> <p>I would also like to acknowledge that everyone in this meeting today, has their own personal lived experience they bring to discussion. We as a committee respect and value every individual member’s lived experience and will take that into consideration during our discussions.</p> <p><i>MOVED: T Hoare SECONDED: S Maddock</i></p>	
<b>7. OTHER BUSINESS</b>		
	<p><b>7.1 Reflection on State Council term so far</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moved to July agenda</li> </ul> <p><b>7.2 Strategic direction moving forwards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moved to July agenda</li> </ul> <p><b>7.3 What we need to be successful</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moved to July agenda</li> </ul> <p><b>7.4 2024 State Council structure (positions, recommended pay format – wage vs honoraria, role capacities)</b> - Need review now to pass through board prior to elections. Honoraria vs shift to fortnightly wage discussion.</p> <p><b>7.5 O-Week Session planning – see email from S-L Ward</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roster out – smaller than Sem 1</li> </ul>	<p>VERBAL ONLY 40 mins</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noted previous difficulties with college presentations in regard to planning and communication to TUSA.</li></ul> <p><b>ACTION ITEM:</b> SC to fill roster for orientation events (especially Southern reps)</p> <p><b>7.6 Start preparing SC report for July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rep reports for next meeting out this week (reflective of two months)</li><li>• Flag if time no longer works for SC</li></ul> <p><b>7.7 UTAS AI position email recently released – raised by A Lamont</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alec flagged would be good to have a stance as a SC</li></ul>	
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Meeting Closed: 8:00PM 21/06/2023

Next Meeting: 9am July 10<sup>th</sup> 2023

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**ACTION REGISTER**  
 as at 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

#	Date of Meeting	Action Item	Responsible Party	Action	Progress to Date or Further Action Required	Status
1.	03.04.23	Rozelle TUSA FB Group	L Castelletti		Created and ready to go – for start after exams. Concerns about oversaturation of Facebook groups.	Ongoing
2.	01.05.23	Security Issues Paper	L McLaren, R Stanaway	L McLaren requested R Stanaway to draft a letter to deliver with L McLaren to I Anderson.		Closed
3.	01.05.23	Housing Crisis Forum	Z Sabapathy	Z Sabapathy to coordinate with Anya Hilkemeijer regarding housing crisis forum development	Zac meeting with Anya next week.	Ongoing
4.	21.06.23	Student communications committee ToR	L McLaren, E Knuckey	L McLaren and E Knuckey to draft by end of week.		Open
5.	21.06.23	SSAF petition	L McLaren	SSAF petition for followup at next SC meeting		Open
6	21.06.23	Tas Ethical investment messaging	T Hoare	Develop Tas Ethical messaging		Open

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7	21.06.23	Lived experience acknowledgement	E Knuckey	Add lived experience acknowledgement to future SC minutes		Closed
8	21.06.23	AI – SC Stance	A Lamont	Develop key messaging in consultation with L McLaren, T Wienker, M Parsell, and student advocates		Open
9.	10.07.23	Development of security unit for accommodation	R Stanaway			Open

**TUSA STATE COUNCIL**  
**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REGISTER**  
as at 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

#	Date of Meeting	Relevant Parties	Conflict of Interest	Comments	Status (Open/ongoing/closed)
1.	02.02.23	L McLaren	Former President;  Ongoing committee member of Tasmanian University Environment Society		Ongoing – 2023.
2.	02.02.23	L McLaren	Former TUSA Experience Leader of the College of Science & Engineering	Role ended December 31 <sup>st</sup> 2022	Closed

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3.	02.02.23	Z Sabapathy	Treasurer of TULS 2022	Role ended December 31 <sup>st</sup> 2022	Closed
4.	02.02.23	Z Sapabathy	Researcher to Rick Snell	Role ended December 31 <sup>st</sup> 2022	Closed
5.	02.02.23	Z Sabapathy	Assistant Director Masterpiece Fine Art Gallery		Ongoing
6.	02.02.23	T Hoare	Member of the Greens Tasmania since 2020		Ongoing
7.	02.02.23	S Maddock	Jane Student Club Committee, Vice-President		Concluded
8.	02.02.23	L Castelletti	First year representative for Student Paramedic Rozelle Society (SPURS)	Current	Ongoing
9.	02.02.23	L Castelletti	Current student ambassador for the University of Tasmania		Ongoing
10	02.03.23	T Hoare	Individual member of Landcare Tasmania	Current	Ongoing
11	02.03.23	T Hoare	Tasmanian Young Greens Southern Co-Convener	Tasmanian Young Greens Southern Co-Convener (Role ended January 2023)	Closed

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12	02/03/23	T Hoare	Tasmanian Young Greens Clark Branch Co-Convenor	Current	Ongoing
13	02.03.23	T Hoare	Pride Society of TUSA Advocacy Coordinator	Role ended January 2023	Closed
14	20.06.23	T Hoare	Hobart City Welcoming and Inclusive City Committee Member	Ongoing	Open
15.	21.06.23	A Lamont	R Pike (TUSA staff) hiring A Lamont through his separate self-owned business for a TUSA event in Launceston.	Ongoing	Open