

CONSTITUTION OF THE GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY UNION OF STUDENTS1.0 NAME

- 1.1 The name of the body shall be the Student Representative Council, and will be known as Griffith University Union of Students, hereinafter referred to as the Union.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objectives of the Union shall be:

- 2.1.1 To promote the interests of the students of the Griffith University both inside and outside the University;
- 2.1.2 To represent the views of the students to other persons and groups within and outside the University;
- 2.1.3 To provide a forum for the discussion of matters of interest to the students;
- 2.1.4 To encourage the participation in political, cultural, social and recreational activities of the students and of groups formed among the students;
- 2.1.5 To give support to such groups and causes, both within and outside the University, as the students shall at any time consider it to be in their interests to support;
- 2.1.6 To appoint representatives to such Boards, Committees and other elements of the University, as provided from time to time by the Statutes and Rules of the University;
- 2.1.7 To provide such other services to the students, or to categories of students, or to such individual students as its members shall from time to time determine.

3.0 MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 All students of Griffith University shall be eligible for membership of the Union and shall become members upon payment of the prescribed charge to the University for transmission to the Union.

4.0 PROCEEDINGS

- 4.1 The Union shall meet at least twice a month during the autumn and spring semesters at such times and places as in the opinion of the executive officers are most reasonably convenient to the members of the Union.
- 4.2 The quorum for any such meeting shall be 100 members of the Union.
- 4.3 All decisions of the Union shall be made by the vote of a two-thirds majority of those present at a general meeting, unless otherwise specified in this constitution. When a vote has been taken, the Chairperson shall announce whether or not the motion has been carried.

- 4.4. Not less than seven days notice shall be given on such notice boards as may be determined by the Union for each regular meeting of the Union, provided that notice of motions and agenda items may be posted at any time up to the commencement of the meeting.
- 4.5. An extraordinary general meeting of the Union may be called at any time on the requisition of thirty members. The requisition must be in writing and handed to the Secretary. The Secretary shall call the meeting at a reasonable place on the campus, within 7 days. The quorum for any such meeting shall be 100 members. Notice of not less than 3 days shall be given on such noticeboards as may be determined by the Union for any such meeting. The business of an extraordinary meeting shall be restricted to the matters referred to in the requisition.

5.0 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

5.1 The Union shall elect the following executive officers:

- 5.1.1 A Chairperson;
- 5.1.2 A Secretary;
- 5.1.3 A finance committee of two persons;
- 5.1.4 One representative of the part-time students;
- 5.1.5 One representative of the students of each School;
- 5.1.6 Two editors of the student newspaper;
- 5.1.7 Three activities convenors;
- 5.1.8 Such other officers as the Union shall from time to time determine.

5.2 The responsibilities of the Chairperson shall be:

- 5.2.1 To take the chair at all meetings of the Union;
- 5.2.2 To co-ordinate the day-to-day operations of the Union;
- 5.2.3 To act as a point of contact between the Union and other interested persons and bodies.

5.3 At any meeting which the Chairperson is not present or declines to take the chair, the Secretary or the person acting as Secretary shall call for nominations of an Acting Chairperson to act at that meeting. The Acting Chairperson shall be elected by a two-thirds majority of those present at the meeting.

5.4 The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation and circulation of the minutes of general meetings, and shall conduct the correspondence of the Union.

5.5 The finance committee shall prepare an annual budget in each year as the Union directs and shall be responsible for general supervision of expenditure of Union funds. Any two of the Chairperson, and the members of the Finance Committee shall have power to commit or expend Union funds in accordance with the policies and directions of the Union provided the same are within the budget of the Union.

5.6 Executive officers shall at all times act only under direction from the Union. No executive officer shall have the power to determine Union policy or to make major decisions of an administrative nature, unless the Union so directs.

5.7 All executive officers except those covered in 5.1.4 and 5.1.5 above shall be elected by a show of hands at a general meeting. Part-time and school representatives shall be appointed by the members of their respective constituencies.

5.8 Subject to clause 8.2 hereof, the term of each executive officer shall be twelve months, commencing on the first day of teaching after the mid-semester break in the autumn semester, and expiring on the last day of mid-semester break in the autumn semester of the following year.

5.9 Any executive officer may be removed from office at any time by a two-thirds majority at a meeting of the constituency which elected the executive officer.

5.10 Where the position of any executive officer falls vacant through any cause whatsoever, the vacancy shall be filled at the next regular general meeting of the Union following the same procedures set down in 5.7 above, except that where the said position is that of a part-time or school representative, the vacancy shall be filled as soon as practicable by the appropriate constituency.

6.0 WORK COMMITTEES

6.1 The Union at each meeting shall appoint a work committee of 15 members to carry out the day-to-day business of the Union in the period up to the next regular general meeting.

6.2 No member may serve on two successive work committees, unless expressly approved at a general meeting.

7.0 BANK ACCOUNT

7.1 The Union shall have a cheque account and such other accounts as the Union from time to time determines at the University branch of the National Bank of Australasia. The cheque account shall be operated on cheques signed by two members from among the Finance Committee and the Chairperson, any one of whom may endorse cheques payable in favour of the Union. Other accounts shall be operated on by signature of two members from among the Finance Committee and the Chairperson.

8.0 CONSTITUTION

8.1 Subject to section 21.5 of the Griffith University Act of 1971-1973, this constitution may be amended or rescinded at any time, in part or in whole, by the vote of a two-thirds majority at a general meeting.

8.2 This constitution shall have effect from the conclusion of the meeting of the Council at which it is approved, and cease to have effect on the first day of the autumn semester in 1976, unless previously re-adopted by a general meeting of the Union.