

NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
26th Students' Union Council
Fifth meeting of the 26th NTUSU Council

Date: 16th January 2017
Time Started: 2115H
Venue: Hive Lecture Theatre

Present On Time	Club Represented/ Position Held
<p>Non-Academic Constituent Club</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lim Sze Chi 2. Billy Ng Chee Wan 3. Keh Zhao Xi 4. Lim Qiu Li Cherie 5. Ong Kwok Kiang 6. Ooi Jing Ting Florence <p>Academic Constituent Club</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Leonard Chan Jun Wei 8. Wesley Chan 9. Go Li Jia 10. Dong Yiwen 11. Chan Tuck Ging 12. Nicholas Lee 13. Justin Seow Zhu Yeow 14. Johan Ezran 15. Jolene Lee Wei Ling 16. Richard Chan Wing Hong 17. Juden Hoo Hong Xiu 18. Lim Xuan, Nicole 19. Kong Zhong Han <p>NTUSU Executive Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Gan Rui Yun 21. Low Choon Chye 22. Yosua Nathanael Santoso 23. How Yijie, Darren 24. Lim Strahan 25. Lynnette Chng Jiamin 26. Auginia Natalia 27. Goh Yu Xian, Jayden 28. Ong Jiamin Amanda 29. Caroline 30. Edward Lim Xun Qian 31. Goh Zhi Xian, Jacob 32. Bess Tay Qi Wen 33. Samuel Salim 34. Por Hui Fang 	<p>President – WSC Vice-President – WSC President – CAC Honorary General Secretary – CAC President – Sports Club Vice-President – Sports Club</p> <p>President – SPMS President – ADM President – ASE President – CEE President – EEE President – HSS President – MSE President – NIE President – SBS President – LKCSOM President – NBS President – WKWSCI President – SCSE</p> <p>President Vice-President (WSA) Vice-President (BCC) Honorary General Secretary Honorary Financial Secretary Human Resource Executive Welfare (Student Life) Executive Welfare (Development) Executive Operations Executive Business Projects Executive Corporate Liaison Executive Orientation and integration Executive Student Engagement Executive Corporate Communications Executive Financial Executive</p>
<p>Observers</p>	

35. Wang Jiawei	Hall 7 President
36. Soh Jia Wei Sean	Hall 8 President
37. Tham Ren Jie	Hall 13 President
38. Phua Guanyuan Aaron	Pioneer Hall President
39. Tan Yi Pin Bryan	Student Engagement Associate Executive
40. Chia Angela	Orientation Associate Executive
41. Zheng Ruoming	Corporate Communications Associate Executive

Late with apologies	Position Held
1. Marsel Mauricius	President – SCBE
2. Dominique Yeo Zong Xiang	President – MAE

Absent with apologies	Position Held
1.	

Absent	Position Held
1.	

Meeting Agenda

1. Orientation Updates
2. Regulations
3. Academic Welfare
4. NTU Fest Updates
5. Food Prices
6. AOB

No	Agenda	Action
1.	<p>1.1 Proposed for speaking rights for observers Proposer: Gan Rui Yun Secunder: Low Choon Chye</p> <p>1.2 Proposed to proceed to the first agenda Proposer: Gan Rui Yun Secunder: Go Li Jia</p> <p>1.3 Orientation updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Low Choon Chye presented the orientation updates. • He went through the principles and guidelines given in the recent meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The schedule had been finalised. ○ Addressing of problems such as booking of Lecture Theatres and accountability. ○ Budget and approval of the programmes had been settled. ○ On the issue of short term accommodation, the HAS would work with a hall representative to bring up issues to HAS for seniors and on the appropriate check-in and check-out procedures. ○ They are looking into first aid certification as first aid is very important 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Johan Ezran asked if freshmen were already in their correct hall, would they need to check out again. Mr Low Choon Chye replied that it might be the case and that it would be good if everyone were to follow the system decided upon. • Mr Leonard Chan Jun Wei asked if STA would have a flat rate for each room since everyone is forced into this system. Mr Low Choon Chye replied that it would not be fair if students were to pay the same for different halls and that they were considering raising the issue that the rates for STA were already higher than they should be. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that they would be working with HAS on the issue of price. • Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu asked about the payment for freshies for STA, who would collect the payment and that it would become a big payment upfront for the freshies which might dissuade freshies from joining orientation. Mr Low Choon Chye said it would be collected by the organisers. Ms Chia Angela explained that for STA, the names and details of the freshmen would not be given, only the number of rooms required. She continued to explain that the rooms would be 21 dollars per room and it would be further split among the roomies. • Ms Lim Xuan, Nicole asked about the bridging fund and whether it would be all that the school would be giving them Nicholas asked if they would be charged for STA on the 9th which is a public holiday. Mr Low Choon Chye said that the current bridging fund amount would probably be all that they would be given for the moment but they would check and look into it. • Ms Go Li Jia asked if STA is an opt out programme. Mr Low Choon Chye said that it was. • Mr Tan Yi Pin Bryan mentioned that the 8th and 9th of August nights open up the possibility that camps would not observe the National Day holiday. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that it is a moral issue and if broken, it would result in less trust from the management in the future. • Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu asked about how key collection and payment would be done. Mr Low Choon Chye said that they would be able to collect the keys for everyone, seniors and freshies. Payment would be clocked from the drawing of the keys. • Mr Keh Zhao Xi asked how many international students would be checking in and what their participation rate was. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that it would be around 20-30% of the students checking in. Mr Low Choon Chye said that their participation rate was currently low but they would look into increasing it. • Mr Keh Zhao Xi asked about the possibility of grouping the international students together in hall. Mr Low Choon Chye said that it was not an option in the spirit of inclusiveness. • Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu asked about the case where everyone was on STA, would it be possible for the check in day to be removed. Mr Low Choon Chye said that it wouldn't be possible as they would need to have everyone on board and that this was not proposed during UOCC meeting, if they want to do so, they need to propose it during UOCC meeting. Mr Low Choon Chye added that college reps prefer the current arrangement for schools. • Ms Ooi Jing Ting Florence asked about the booking of locations clubs just need to de-conflict among themselves and also for seniors' camps during the June period. Mr Low Choon Chye said that if there are a lot of clashes, they can look into it. • Mr Ong Kwok Kiang asked about how the 2k for bridging fund was determined. Mr Low Choon Chye said that it was determined by the amount of liquidity required that was submitted by the various programmes. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Goh Zhi Xian, Jacob added that during the dialogue the conclusion was to work with the HAS on STA, that the students were supposed to work on the smooth administration of the STA and that every programme would have to send seniors to help with the administration of this. On this point, Mr Gan Rui Yun emphasised that they need to maintain the trust of the university in conducting their activities. 	
<p>2.</p>	<p>2.1 Proposed to proceed to the second agenda Proposer: Johan Ezran Secunder: Ong Jiamin Amanda</p> <p>2.2 Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented the regulation updates. Last September, a new constitution was passed and so, all regulations need to be passed once more. The current constitution allows for the council to change regulations when it is required rather than having to have an Annual General Meeting to change any regulations. <p>2.3 Council Members Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Council Members Regulations, describing the roles and responsibilities of council members. Mr Justin Seow Zhu Yeow mentioned that there was a need to clarify where council members may be used to refer to a club. Mr Nicholas Lee suggested that the three year barring period be shortened. <p>Mr Dominique Yeo Zong Xiang entered the meeting at 2204H</p> <p>2.4 Disciplinary Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the proceedings for disciplinary cases and what should be done in particular situations. <p>Mr Marsel Mauricius entered the meeting at 2207H</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Low Choon Chye asked how the 5 representatives would be appointed for the disciplinary committee. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that the council would decide but the representatives should not be involved in the case directly. Mr Edward Lim Xun Qian asked about the powers of investigation and whether they should be described specifically. Mr Gan Rui Yun said they can look into it but it is on an ad hoc basis. Mr Low Choon Chye asked about how the 72 hours of voluntary service would be tracked. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that the Honorary General Secretary would keep track. Mr Low Choon Chye asked how they would enforce the voluntary service. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that, there isn't any way to properly enforce without resorting to more serious punishments, it is mainly a moral contract. <p>2.5 Finance Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the financial regulations and protocols. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Yosua Nathanael Santoso asked about the process for the use of reserve funds. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that they would have to pass it through a vote and they would raise it to the SAO if it passes. He added that it would not be used for fixed assets. <p>2.6 Meeting Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the standing order of meetings, the definition of general meetings and the requirements of council meetings. Mr Low Choon Chye asked what kind of reasons would be accepted for latecomings or absences and that it should be more firm and set in stone. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that in absences, representatives need to be sent in, he reminded that since council meetings have been previously set in advance, council members should respect each other and make the time for the meetings. Mr Richard Chan Wing Hong raised the issue of medical students being unavailable for long periods. <p>2.7 Proposed for a 10 minute break Proposer: Edward Lim Xun Qian Seconder: Johan Ezran</p> <p>2.8 Proposed to resume meeting Proposer: Edward Lim Xun Qian Seconder: Lim Strahan</p> <p>2.9 Miscellaneous Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the resignation and vacancy procedures, dissolution procedures and the Union’s exemption from registration. <p>2.10 Standing Committee Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the compulsory standing committees. Mr Gan Rui Yun asked if there was any objection to removing point 5,6 and 7. No objection was shown. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that they would remove it. <p>2.11 Executive Committee Officers Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the Disciplinary Regulations, describing the regulations for executive committee officers. Mr Gan Rui Yun summarised that they would note the changes for all the regulations and update it for the second reading. 	
<p>3.</p>	<p>3.1 Proposed to proceed to the third agenda Proposer: Justin Seow Zhu Yeow Seconder: Lynnette Chng Jiamin</p> <p>3.2 Academic Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Gan Rui Yun presented on the academic welfare updates. They had met with Prof Tan to discuss various points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation by Academic Bodies Massive Open Online Course 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S/U Option <p>3.3 Representation by Academic Constituent Bodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are different standards for different schools, different schools engage their clubs on differing levels. This should not be the case. Prof Tan has agreed with this and said that it was the aim of the universities for the school administration to actively engage the academic clubs ● Two actions will need to be taken. Prof Tan will advise the schools to start engaging academic constituent clubs, and academic constituent clubs need to find out how they can be involved and how to engage their schools as different schools have different kinds of ecosystems. ● The Union would only be involved when there is a major curriculum review. Last time the Union was involved was during the blue ribbon commission. <p>3.4 S/U Option</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Main principle of the S/U option is to encourage people to step out of their comfort zones and to try other disciplines. ● Mr Gan Rui Yun went through the history of the option in NUS and NTU. ● University is starting to deemphasise exams, with exam weight being 60% or lower. ● Freshmen are allowed to fail 6 modules and have it be exempted from their grades but still on their transcript. ● Reasons why the University does not want to shift the option to after results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The University doesn't want students to calculate and manipulate the system. ○ There are various schemes already in place to help students to improve their grades. ○ With residential education upcoming, there will be an outlet for students to focus on soft skills. ○ It affects accreditation for courses which is especially important for engineering. ○ Administrative difficulties already being faced by NUS. ○ The University wants to encourage students to put in consistent effort and to put effort into their elective modules. ○ Don't want to cause grade inflation. They consulted with industry leaders from companies hiring graduates and they found that this little difference in CGPA does not make a lot of difference. ● However, Prof Tan is open for discussion but they need a very solid argument if they wish to push for the S/U option to be after results are released. ● Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu mentioned that although that they want to prevent grade inflation, it matters in borderline cases. Not focusing on mods due to the S/U option does not make sense as having it after results encourages students to study and put in effort. Mr Low Choon Chye said that the S/U option is for students to step out of their comfort zone and to broaden their perspectives. The CAP in NUS compared to NTU is around the same. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Zheng Ruoming said that students may feel afraid of moderation and end up exercising their S/U option on a subject that they should not have done so. • Mr Nicholas Lee said that it would help by giving more information to students about their grades, it would allow students to know how well they did as without it, there would always be a fear of failure. • Mr Marsel Mauricius added that for students to be able to step out of their comfort zone in a challenging and competitive world, they need security as CGPA is very important in this aspect. • Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu raised that the industry leaders are not the ones doing the recruitment and the human resource departments are the ones who would cut off borderline cases. • Mr Juden Hoo Hong Xiu said that they should also compare to SMU instead of just NUS. <p>3.5 CA Scores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students won't be able to exercise their S/U option properly if they don't know their CA grades. • Prof Tan would request for all the Associate chairs to give a reason for not releasing all the CA scores. <p>3.6 Massive Open Online Course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose for MOOC is about NTU branding and the experience of online learning. • University moving on to Technology Enhanced Learning. • Courses on MOOC will be put on hold and there is no plan for more courses for the time being. • Mr Yosua Nathanael Santoso asked about the possibility of night classes for students on Industrial Attachment. Mr Gan Rui Yun said that they would raise the issue. 	
<p>4.</p>	<p>4.1 Proposed to proceed to the fourth agenda Proposer: Go Li Jia Seconder: Samuel Salim</p> <p>4.2 NTU Fest Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Tan Yi Pin Bryan presented on the NTU Fest updates. • NTU Fest will be held in school to focus on internal participation and identity. • The current theme is <i>My Ntu Story, Past, Present, Future</i>. • General structure similar to previous years but with a build up along the way from Open House to Orientation to Welcome Week to NTU Fest. • Committee would be coordinating the event and advisors would be brought onboard as well so that there would be a sense of ownership in the event. • Mr Tan Yi Pin Bryan asked for advice on what would be best at garnering student interests as well as to tap into any resources to help with their event. Co-sharing by tapping on expertise but also give experience. • Advisory committee would advise the committee on direction as well as along the way • Along the semester would be doing some activities hopefully by week 8 • One way to garner participation is to have a sort of challenge trophy to involve everyone. <p>4.3 Proposed for a 10 minute break</p>	

	Proposer: Lynnette Chng Jiamin Seconder: Caroline	
5.	<p>5.1 Proposed to resume meeting Proposer: Gan Rui Yun Seconder: Lim Sze Chi</p> <p>5.2 Proposed to proceed to the fifth agenda Proposer: Ong Jiamin Amanda Seconder: Johan Ezran</p> <p>5.3 Food Prices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Gan Rui Yun presented the food prices updates. • The Executive Committee has travelled across the island to gather statistics on the food prices in other institutions. • They would submit their findings at the CLC meeting. • Prof Lok would be setting up a meeting with CHASO. • They found that NUS has lower food prices than NTU. • They want to find out whether food prices can be lowered by changing of the operating model. • Tender process should involve students and faculty so as to ensure transparency in the tender process. • The Union has not been part of the tender meetings for one year, during which, many new tenants were brought in. 	
6.	<p>6.1 Proposed to proceed to the AOB Proposer: Johan Ezran Seconder: Chan Tuck Ging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No AOB matters raised 	
	Mr Leonard proposed the end of the meeting. Mr Darren seconded the motion. The meeting was called to an end at 2358H, 16th January 2017.	

Minutes prepared by:



Mr. How Yijie, Darren

Honorary General Secretary

26th NTUSU Council

Minutes vetted by:



Mr. Leonard Chan Jun Wei

Council Chairperson

26th NTUSU Council