

NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY 25th Students' Union Council Seventh meeting of the 25th NTUSU Council

Date: 15th February 2016

Time Started: 2030H

Venue: SAC Meeting Room 1&2

Non-Academic Constituent Club 1. Mah Bin Sing 2. Guo Jian Long 3. Chiang Wei Qiang 4. Cassandra Ho	President – WSC Vice-President – WSC President – CAC Vice-President – CAC President – Sports Club Vice-President – Sports Club
 Guo Jian Long Chiang Wei Qiang 	Vice-President – WSC President – CAC Vice-President – CAC President – Sports Club
3. Chiang Wei Qiang	President – CAC Vice-President – CAC President – Sports Club
	Vice-President – CAC President – Sports Club
4. Cassandra Ho	President – Sports Club
5. Lim Zheng Peng	Vice-President – Sports Club
6. Jolene Ang Zhuo Ling	•
Academic Constituent Club	
7. Zeng Hui	Council Chairperson/President – SBS
8. Loh Yi Jian	President – SCBE
9. Henry Loh	President – HSS
10. Tan Kwang Boon	President – ADM
11. Hoh Shi Teng	President – SPMS
12. Low Choon Chye	President – MAE
13. Goh Keller	President – NBS
14. Goh Kang Shiong	President – LKCSOM
15. Tan Benjamin	President – WKWSCI
16. Neo Hui Ning, Melissa	President – NIE
17. Lim Tian Ning	President – ASE
18. Lai Sheng Lin	President – MSE
19. Jade Wee	President – EEE
NTUSU Executive Committee	
20. Gabriel Chee	President
21. Liniki	Vice-President (BCC)
22. Kwok Meng Kei	Vice-President (WSA)
23. Gan Rui Yun	Honorary General Secretary
24. Tan Yee Ru Elysia	Honorary Financial Secretary
25. Sim Xuan Wei	Human Resources Executive
26. Rachel Chee Chen Yee	Welfare Executive
27. Guo Weihao	Operations Executive
28. Aloysius Voo Xin Ping	Finance Executive
29. Yosua Nathanael Santoso	Business Projects Executive
30. Kwang Yi Jing	Corporate Liaison Executive
31. Yeo Ming En	Integration and Development Executive
32. Loh Zheng Jia	Orientation Executive
33. Grace Foo Xin Hui	Student Engagement Executive
34. Xia Minghong	Information Technology Executive
Representatives	

voice service vibrancy 25th Nanyang Technological University Students' Union Council

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35. Xue Boyang	Vice-President – SCE
Late with apologies	Position Held
1.	

Absent with apologies	Position Held	
 Kelvin Teheri 	Publications and Publicity Executive	
2. Liu Hongze	President – CEE	
3. Aryani Paramita	President – SCE	

Absent	Position Held
1.	

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Adoption of 6th Council Meeting Minutes
- 2. Constitution (1st Reading)
- 3. Tenure
- 4. Hall Allocation Scheme
- 5. Finance
- 6. U-Chat
- 7. Students' Fund
- 8. North Spine Plaza Regulation
- 9. AOB

No	Agenda	Action
1.	1.1 Proposed to proceed to the first agenda Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei	
	Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En	
	1.2 Proposed to adopt the 6 th Council Meeting Minutes	
	Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei	
	Seconder: Mr Aloysius Voo Xin Ping	
2.	2.1 Proposed to proceed to the second agenda	
	Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei	
	Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En	
	2.2 Constitution	
	Mr Gabriel Chee, President – NTUSU, mentioned that Article 1.2 has major changes. The shanges are defining Associate Members and Ordinary Members.	
	changes are defining Associate Members and Ordinary Members Associate Members refer to members who still holds office in the council after	
	graduation, with their rights defined.	
	 The term of office is defined by the Term of Office in the Constitution. 	
	 The purpose of Association Member is to provide a provision for those who 	
	are still holding office to be in the office after their graduation from University.	
	o Mr Henry Loh, President – HSS, asked whether the existence of Associate	
	Member would result in more harm than good, since he may not be physically	
	in school or will have a shift in responsibility. Mr Chee said it is up to the	



- electorate decides. The vote of no-confidence shall be raised to remove those Associate Members that are not performing according to the constitution.
- Mr Gabriel Chee mentioned that this provision only mentions graduation, so one cannot hold office if he ceased to be the University Student via other means. He also clarified that Leave of Absence will not cease to be a member of the Union.
- Mr Chee mentioned that Executive Committee Representative would be renamed as Union Representatives.
 - The purpose of this change is to segregate the role of Council Chairperson and Council Secretary from Council Representative and Honorary General Secretary respectively, so to reduce conflict of interest.
 - Union Representatives can run for the position of Council Chairperson and Council Secretary, in addition to Executive Committee Officers. The Council will elect the Council Chairperson and Council Secretary during the Council Election.
 - o In the future, the role of Council Chairperson and Council Secretary will be expanded in the future.
 - Mr Chee compared the role of Council Chairperson and Council Secretary to the Legislative Staff of the Parliament.
 - Mr Zeng Hui, Council Chairperson, raised that the other suggestion is that the Council Officers can be chosen from the outgoing Council.
 - Mr Chee wanted to know whether there is a need to segregate the roles and the election process for the Council Officers. He felt that they should be elected because they are representing the student population. He suggested that popular election can be done but the threshold may not be met.
 - o Mr Henry Loh mentioned that the population do not understand the purpose of Council, hence jeopardise the quality of the Council Officers elected. Mr Chee countered that the Council will still elect and article 3.6 provide a provision to counter this potential problem.
 - o Mr Henry Loh suggested that the Council could select the Council Officers from the past Councils.
 - Mr Gan Rui Yun, Honorary General Secretary, clarified the voting rights of the Council Officers.
 - Mr Goh Keller, President NBS, mentioned that being voted in does not meant that they have mandate or responsibility to their constituency. Mr Chee clarified that the Council Members should put the interest of the Union on top of their constituencies.
 - Mr Chiang Wei Qiang, President CAC, asked about the scouting process. MR
 Chee said that this should not be written in the constitution.
 - Ms Jade Wee, President EEE, asked about the pre-requisites of the Council Officers. Mr Chee said this is possible and asked for opinion.
 - Mr Chiang said that the Council Officers should be from the previous Councils.
 - Mr Low Choon Chye, President MAE, mentioned that the prerequisites will create more steps and council rally will scrutinise the candidates.

2.3 Council Regulations

 This Regulation is to define the Council and Mr Chee went through the structure of the Regulations.



- This Regulations is an add-on to whatever stated in the other Regulations stated in relation to the Council
- Section 9 mentions that "All Council members of the Union shall not make improper
 use of any information acquired by virtue of his position, whether directly or
 indirectly, to acquire an advantage for himself or for any other person in or outside the
 Union".
- Section 10 mandates Council Members to declare any potential conflict of interest.
- Duties of the Council Officers are defined in this Regulation.
- Section 15 defines the role of Emeritus Officers and the process of selection. Emeritus
 Officers shall not have voting rights in the Council and this is to ensure experience is
 passed on to the next Council.
- Mr Chee opened the floor for questions.
 - Ms Lim Tian Ning, President ASE, suggested that the Emeritus Officers could be combined with the Council Officers by selection from the outgoing council.
 - Mr Henry Loh asked whether the nominated Emeritus Officers can reject the position and mentioned that those uninterested put into the office may cause more harm. He seconded Ms Lim's suggestion.
 - Mr Chee clarified that the Emeritus Officers do not have voting rights.

2.4 Executive Committee Officers Regulations

 Mr Chee mentioned that changes were made to the role of Honorary General Secretary because of the new role of Council Secretary.

2.5 Meeting Regulations

- Mr Gan explained that the changes to the regulations are mainly to make it the proceedings clearer.
- In section 22, the procedures for vote of no-confidence is added into the regulations.
- Part II of the regulations has been segmented into more parts to make the regulations clearer. Section 35 has stated the clear procedures of absenting from the Council Meeting and Section 36 has changed the duration from 15 minutes to 30 minutes.
- Section 42 has stated that the Honorary General Secretary can appoint a member of the Executive Committee, less the Presidents and Vice-Presidents, to record the minutes.
- Section 44 and 45 have been changed to remove the right of the Executive Committee
 to repeal, amend or add any provisions to the Constitution and Regulations, less Part
 III of Meeting Regulations, by communicating to the Council and without going through
 the Council
- Section 48 has added that when a member of the Executive Committee ceases to be the Executive Committee Officers, he shall cease to be a member of the Council.
- He also mentioned that the Standing Order of Meetings has been made simpler to understand.
- Mr Gan opened the floor for questions.
 - Ms Rachel Chee, Welfare Executive, asked about the rationale for Section 42.
 Mr Gan replied that the Honorary General Secretary has a greater responsibilities and roles than the other Honorary General Secretary of other clubs. In addition, this provides a way to reduce his workload in the case if he is elected as the Council Secretary as well.

2.6 Proposed for 15minutes Break Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan



2.7 Proposed for resumption of the meeting

Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan

3.1 Proposed to proceed to the third agenda

Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan:

3.2 Change of Tenure

- Ms Yeo Ming En, Integration and Development Executive, proposed changing the term of officer to follow the calendar year.
- Ms Yeo gave the background of the change and this will enable incoming committee to understudy the outgoing committee.
- Ms Yeo mentioned the rationale of the change
 - To ensure that freshmen have a more wholesome university experience before committing
 - o To facilitate and smooth out the handover procedure
 - Better succession planning
 - To provide opportunity for incoming committee to learn from the outgoing committee
 - o To ensure that the newly elected committee are up to the task
 - o For better planning and more vibrant events in semester 1
 - \circ To provide more time for Union Election Committee to plan for elections
 - o The summer break between academic year can be better utilised
- Ms Yeo mentioned the implications
 - This will likely to result in the loss of 1 year of leadership experience for the students
 - o The change will affect 1 term of outgoing committee once implemented
- Ms Yeo opened the floor for questions
 - Mr Kwang Yi Jing, Corporate Liaison Executive, asked whether this change would be applied to Halls. Ms Yeo said she would seek Hall JCRCs' opinion on Thursday.
 - o Mr Keller Goh, President NBS, said this will affect NBS students the most, hence there is more to ponder.
 - o Mr Gan Rui Yun, Honorary General Secretary, reiterated what the email sent out stated, which is to add vibrancy and smooth out succession.
 - Mr Gabriel Chee, President NTUSU, stated that the process of change is a long one and stated the reason for the change from the Management's perspective, which is to ease the succession problem of student leadership. The trade-off between quality of leadership and the opportunity need to be balanced.
 - Mr Lim Zheng Peng, President Sports Club, said that the Council to seek the opinion of the Management, instead of discussing internally. Mr Chee added that the change would be brought forward, instead of waiting for the Management's decision.
 - Mr Gan stated that that the incoming committee will be able to understudy the outgoing committee and this will help to add vibrancy because summer break will not be wasted in preparing to step down.
 - Mr Lim stated that it is still up to the individual outgoing committee to guide.



- Mr Gan mentioned that this is also in preparation of the change in structure of the Orientation Programme.
- Many stated about the administrative issues will be big issues and may prevent the true restart of the committee.
- Mr Chee explained that the change would be throughout the University, so to prevent complications, if passed by Council. He also stated that the vote would be casted in the next meeting and more discussion can be held.
- Council Members can send in their suggestion to the Honorary General Secretary.
- 4 4.1 Proposed to proceed to the fourth agenda

Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En

4.2 Hall Allocation Scheme Review

- Mr Gan Rui Yun, Honorary General Secretary, briefed the Council about current system and current situation.
- Mr Gan listed down the issues
 - o Inaccuracy in distance point
 - o Justification for 9 points
 - Limited tiers in Campus Involvement Points
 - o Recommended List
 - o International Students' Hall Placement
 - Freshmen's Guaranteed Hall Placement
 - Student Leader Scheme
- Mr Gan listed down the approach of review
 - Surveys
 - Town Hall Session
 - Review Formulation
 - Proposal Submission
- Mr Gan listed down the focus of review
 - o Recommended List
 - o International Students and Freshmen
 - Distance Point
 - Constituent Clubs
- Mr Gan encouraged Council Members to join him in the review and mentioned that Mr Loh Zheng Jia, Mr Kwang Yi Jing, Ms Rachel Chee and Ms Yeo Ming En are assisting him in the review.
- Mr Gan opened the floor for discussion.
 - Mr Henry Loh, President HSS, stated that since the distance point issue lies with the Office of Housing and Auxiliary Services (HAS), the issue should be brought up to higher management like the University President. Mr Gan replied that the Council is planning to have a dialogue session with University President and if it materialises, the issue will be brought up.
 - Mr Low Choon Chye, President MAE, agreed that the distance point system needs to be changed and asked why HAS does not want to update the system, despite recognising its fault. Mr Gan replied that it is due to the inconvenience on their side and pointed out that the current system uses the first 4 digits of the postal code, which is inaccurate.
 - Mr Xia Minghong, Information Technology Executive, pointed out that it is possible to come up with a program that is capable of producing a more



- accurate distance point. In addition, he stated that it should not be the job of the Union, which the Council agrees.
- Mr Gan asked for the Council's opinion about the yearly deduction of 1 point from the International Student's distance point. Mr Kwok Meng Kei, Vice-President (WSA), asked if any reasons are provided for the deduction. Mr Gan replied that the rationale given by HAS is that this will help to ensure fairness of local students as HAS does not want to segregate local and international students. HAS views both groups as just NTU students.
- Mr Gan pointed out the issue of Freshmen's delay in moving out of halls due to the 2 months deposit and the HAS refused to penalise them because they may not like where their halls are situated.
- Mr Gan asked the Council members to email him any comments they have about the review.

4.3 Proposed for 10 minutes break Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En

4.4 Proposed for resumption of the meeting

Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan

5 5.1 Proposed to proceed to the fifth agenda

Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan 5.2 Finance Procedures

- Mr Aloysius Voo Xin Ping, Finance Executive, wanted to know the Council's opinion in presenting every Constituent Club's budget in front of the Council.
- Mr Voo wanted to know the Council's opinion in presenting every Constituent Club's proposed budget for the next financial term in front of the Council.
- Mr Voo said the purpose of this is to increase transparency and streamline the splitting
 of subscription fees. This will help to prioritise spending and reduce unnecessary
 spending.
- Mr Voo opened up the floor for discussion
 - Mr Zeng Hui, Council Chairperson, said that the school will be funding events for Academic Constituent Clubs and hence, the clubs cannot disclose the part of budget funded by the school. Thus, it will not be a fair representation. Mr Voo clarified that the information though will not be perfect; it is to improve the information gap.
 - Ms Jade Wee, President EEE, said that this is of not much use because the subscription fee allocated is based on the number of students and every club is different in nature.
 - Mr Tan Benjamin, President WKWSCI, wanted to know the true purpose of the presentation. Mr Voo said that savings could be transferred over to other clubs to scale up the event to benefit more students.
 - Ms Elysia Tan, Honorary Financial Secretary, commented that the current allocation of the subscription might not be at the optimum level. The presentation of budget will help to improve the allocative efficiency of the subscription fee. She said that a Finance Standing Committee could be set up to help to improve the efficiency, so the first step is to increase transparency.



	 Mr Chiang Wei Qiang, President – CAC, mentioned that it is very hard to value the events and initiatives 	
	the events and initiatives. o Mr Goh Keller, President – NBS, mentioned that without a structure, it is very	
	hard to discuss on the transparency.	
	Ms Lim Tian Ning, President – ASE, suggested that this could be just limited to	
	NTUSU, CAC, WSC and Sports Club.	
	o Mr Gabriel Chee, President – NTUSU, said that the Union Council is the	
	custodian of the subscription fee, hence there is a need for the knowledge of	
	use of subscription fee. The Union Council has the role of checking and	
	balancing.	
	 Ms Tan explained that the purpose of this discussion is to help in the amendment of the Finance Regulation for the Constitution Review. 	
	 Mr Chee said that his vision for 2020 is for the Union to be fully autonomous 	
	and independent of Student Affairs Office.	
	o Mr Kwang Yi Jing, Corporate Liaison Executive, said that the Student Affairs	
	Office might have already recognised it is hard to allocate the fund efficiently,	
	hence there is not a problem with the current system.	
	The Council agreed that the allocation should remain unchanged.	
6	6.1 Proposed to proceed to the sixth agenda	
	Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Elysia Tan	
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	6.2 U-Chat Voice O service O vibrancy	
	The U-Chat on 17 th February 2016 will be about food and facilities.	
	Council Members can add in questions by emailing Ms Grace Foo, Student Engagement	
	Executive.	
7	7.1 Proposed to proceed to the seventh agenda	
,	Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei	
	Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En	
	7.2 Students' Fund	
	Ms Rachel Chee, Welfare Executive, briefed about the Students' Fund and it is a bursary	
	by the Union Council.	
	Ms Chee mentioned that the sub-committee would be disbanded next academic year. It was decided that it will remain status que and any decision regarding Students' Fund.	
	 It was decided that it will remain status quo and any decision regarding Students' Fund shall be made by the Office of Admission and Financial Aids and Finance Office, with 	
	the involvement of the President, Vice-President (WSA) and Welfare Executive	
8	8.1 Proposed to proceed to the eighth agenda	
	Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei	
	Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En	
	8.2 North Spine Plaza Guidelines	
	Mr Gabriel Chee, President – NTUSU, wanted to know whether the guidelines are	
	adversely affecting any clubs.	
	The regulations affect the whole academic complex. However, these regulations can	
	be re-negotiated and this will require evidences.	
	The non-academic clubs are most affected. O 1 Proposed to assessed to the assessed to th	
9	9.1 Proposed to proceed to the seventh agenda	



Proposer: Ms Sim Xuan Wei Seconder: Ms Yeo Ming En	
 9.2 Discussion with Halls Mr Kwok Meng Kei, Vice-President (WSA), asked Council Members to join in the discussion on 18th February 2016, if possible. 	
Mr Zeng Hui proposed the end of the meeting. Mr Gan Rui Yun seconded the motion. The meeting was called to an end at 0016H, 16 th February 2016.	

Minutes prepared by:

Minutes vetted by:

Mr. Gan Rui Yun

Honorary General Secretary

25th NTUSU Council

Mr. Zeng Hui

Council Chairperson

25th NTUSU Council