



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE STUDENTS' UNION

NUSSU Secretariat, Yusof Ishak House, 31 Lower Kent Ridge Road, #05-01, Singapore 119078
Telephone: 6601 1345 | Website: www.nussu.org.sg

Minutes for 4th 39th NUSSU Council Meeting

Date: 26th January 2018

Time: 1915 - 2200

Venue: LT33, Faculty of Science

Meeting Agenda:

Updates

1. New Pro-Tempore Committee for NUS Student's Medical Club
2. People's Association Community YOUthCare Festival (CYF) 2018
3. SLC 2017 – AAR
4. SLC 2017 – Discussion Topics
5. Renovation Plans @ YIH
6. NUSSU Exam Welfare Pack Semester 1 AY17/18
7. Sheltered Walkways
8. Student Wellness Report

For Discussion

1. Policy on Organisation of Bazaar by Students
2. Student Leader's Recognition
3. Alumni Engagement
4. Opening a store to better Improve Union Identity
5. Student Lounge
6. NUS Internal Shuttle Bus

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Attendance:

Present:

Council Representatives: (28)

Lim Jun Heng	Law Club, President
Soo Guo Sheng	Law Club, Vice President
Tan Wei Tao	Science Club, President
Xavier Chan	Science Club, Sport Director
Jeremy Chew Xuan Yu	Engineering Club, President
Lo Ka Chun Marcus	Engineering Club, Vice President (Internal)
Lester Foo Shi En	Engineering Club, Vice President (External)
Samantha Chang Shi Min	Engineering Club, Vice President (Student Affairs)
Sia Xin Rang Sophronia	Design and Environment Club, President
Raelyn Lee Yi Ling	Design and Environment Club, Vice President (External)
Joel Lim Hee Heng	Computing Club, President
Amanda Tan Qian Ling	Computing Club, Vice President (Internal)
Sim Teng Juan Joel	Computing Club, Vice President (Student Life)
Elysia Tan Ziyi	Computing Club, Vice President (Student Development)
Shannon Tan	Business Club, President
Tham Jun Han	University Scholars' Club, President
Jeremy Jee De Sheng	University Scholars' Club, Hon. General Secretary

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Elston Foo	Political Association, President
Chan Wei Jun Sean	Political Association, Hon. General Secretary
Shermin Chia	Sports Club, President
Ng Ling Ying Vernice	Sports Club, Vice President (Internal)
Ho Shi Xuan Sherrilyn	Sports Club, Vice President (External)
Seah Hui Rong Sebastian	Sports Club, General Secretary
Joscelin Ong	Community Service Club, President
Xiong ChengJie	Community Service Club, Vice President (Regular Programmes)
Soong Tse Kiat	Medical Club, President
Lee Jing Hua	Dental Club, President
Cassandra Yeo	Cultural Activities Club, Vice President (Internal)

EXCO Representatives (16):

Lee Zi Quan Jeffrey	President	Science Club
Hakeem Bin Zuhairi	Deputy Welfare Secretary	Science Club
Kaung Mon Thu	Deputy Student Life Secretary	Engineering Club

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Ivan Fenzely Yang	Student Life Secretary	Engineering Club
Seah Yan Xiang	Communications Secretary	Community Service Club
Ng Jun Ting Shirley	Financial Secretary	Community Service Club
Toh Wei Cai	General Secretary	Political Association
Caitlin Celestine Fernandez	Assistant Secretary	Political Association
Edwin Tung Keng Wee	Welfare Secretary	Sports Club
Yu Shibin	Deputy Welfare Secretary	Sports Club
Khow Yong Zhi	Deputy Welfare Secretary	Medical Club
Lee Boon Hui Desmond	Vice-President	Business Club
Isabella Mariska Liem	Deputy Financial Secretary	Business Club
Jacob Li PengCheng	Director of Alumni Relations	Cultural Activities Club
Tan Pei Lin, Rena	Deputy Student Life Secretary	Arts & Social Science Club
Chotiga Tiwanna	Deputy Student Life Secretary	Arts & Social Science Club

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Observers (6):

Seah Zi Quan	Science
Lim Wee Khim	Business
Lim Si Min, Charmaine	Business
Chen Yiqi	Arts
Hong Hoon Seock (Arts)	Arts
Tay Ying Hui	Engineering

Absent with Apologies (5):

Ng Li Ying	Political Association, Vice President
Raymond Thien	Arts & Social Science Club, President
Wang Ziyi	Arts & Social Science Club, Vice President
Ang Liqing	Cultural Activities Club
Fennie Wong	Community Service Club, Vice President (Special Projects)

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Absents without Apologies (5):

Yeo Jun Jie	Business Club, Vice President (Internal)
Kevin Darmawan	Business Club, Vice President (External)
Clemon Ho	Business Club, Vice President (Student Life)
Peh Zhi Rui	Political Association, Hon. Financial Secretary
Bryan Ong	Cultural Activities Club, President

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Meeting Agenda

The 4th Council Meeting was called to order at 1915 by Mr. Elston Foo, Council Chairperson of the 39th NUSSU Council.

The opening of the 4th Council Meeting and updates segment is proposed by Jeffrey Lee (Science) and seconded by Desmond (Business).

S/No.	Agenda	Action By
1.	Jeffrey (Science) presents his Presidential Updates.	Information No Action Required
1.1	Soong Tse Kiat is the New Protem President of NUS Students' Medical Club.	
1.2	People's Association Community YOUthCare Festival (CYF) 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festival will kick start from 3 March 2018 till 31 March 2018. • Opening Ceremony on 3rd March (Saturday/Recess Week) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student Life Cell is following up with PA on this and will update more details ○ in the next CCube meeting ○ Estimated number of people needed on our end is 30 pax! ○ Participants will get a 'Community YOUthCare Festival 2018' T-shirt • Directions of the 'Community YOUthCare Festival 2018' are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Youth Partners to organise meaningful programmes and activities to reach out to needy and vulnerable segments in the community. ○ To show and extend care for Singapore's culture and heritage, in support of Singapore Bicentennial (SB) celebrations; and ○ Where possible, to introduce Innovation as a discipline to facilitate project planning and execution. 	

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1.3	Jeffrey (Science) ends his presidential updates.	
2.	<p>Desmond (Business) presents his Vice-presidential updates on the Student Leaders' Camp 2017.</p> <p>2.1 Refer to Appendix 1 for more information.</p> <p>2.2 SLC 2017 Discussion Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Towards Sustainability efforts • Student Leaders' Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equip with knowledge & skills set for effective management of the Union • One Union One NUS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working together to serve students better • Promoting NUS Spirit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forging a common identity • Rag & Flag <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To build OneNUS Spirit <p>2.3 Desmond (Business) ends his Vice-presidential updates.</p>	
3.	<p>Wei Cai (PA) presents his updates on Renovation Plans in YIH.</p> <p>3.1 Key Renovation Plans in YIH in 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back of Student lounge will be used as a Drone station by the office for research • Student Lounge at Yusof Ishak House will be undergoing renovation once OSA approves. • YIH façade will have a fresh coat of paint • Study room might also face some changes • Current rooms including EXCO, Committees' and NUSSU Secretariat will have chance to be relocated. 	

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3.2	Wei Cai (PA) ends his updates on Renovation Plans in YIH.	
4.	Edwin (Sports) presents his Welfare Cell Updates.	
4.1	NUSSU Exam Welfare Pack <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successfully used NUSync as the survey platform• 11563 Surveys submitted across the different faculties	
4.2	Sheltered Walkway <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The following suggestions for sheltered walkways have been submitted to OFM for follow up:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ LT 13 to opp Ventus Bus Stop○ LT 24 to MD1○ UTown ERC to Tembusu○ Back of LT 7 to Raffles Hall○ Museum Bus Stop to Raffles Hall○ Ventus to Eusoff Hall○ Eusoff Hall to Temasek Hall○ Temasek Hall to opp NUSS Bus Stop○ Opp NUSS Bus Stop to NUSS○ UTown RC4 to Dover Road Bus Stop	
4.3	Student Wellness Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new addition to the NUSSU Executive Committee Welfare Cell:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Academics○ Infrastructures○ Food & Dining○ Student Wellness• The deputy welfare secretary of the NUSSU Exco Welfare Cell will work closely together with the newly formed Student	

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4.4	<p>Support Services, known as S-Cube by Office of Student Affairs (less than 4 months ago)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The deputy welfare secretary will focus on disabilities, mental and physical wellness of the student body in NUS. <p>Edwin (Sports) ends his Welfare Cell Updates.</p>	
<p>5.</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p>	<p>Kaung (Engineering) presents the Student Life Cell Updates.</p> <p>LoveNUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LoveNUS consists of Share, Care and Thanks The theme is 'celebrating diversity' and it will be a fun-filled activity held in University Town <p>Open Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme is "Paint your journey" <p>Union Camp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconflicting meeting will be on 6th Feb Deconflict pre-camps, beach camp and so on <p>Rag and Flag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please ask your director to wait till the first Participating Bodies' Meeting This is when the sensitive details will be officially released to everyone <p>Kaung (Engineering) ends the Student Life Cell Updates.</p>	
6.	<p>The closing of the updates segment is proposed by Sean (PA) and seconded by Caitlin (PA).</p>	
7.	<p>The opening of the discussion session is proposed by Jun Hao (Law) and seconded by Jeremy (USC).</p>	

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8.	Policy on Organisation of Bazaar by Students	
8.1	Refer to Appendix 2 for more details.	
8.2	Opening of the Q&A Session is proposed by Wei Cai (PA) and seconded by Caitlin (PA).	
8.2.1	Jeremy (USC): Does this policy apply to spaces within our own faculties?	
8.2.2	A: This applies to all events by student organizations held within NUS. OSA will oversee and check on the details of all events, regardless of the spaces used. We will ask how OSA will decide on choosing which events and vendors can be allowed into NUS.	
8.2.3	Guo Sheng (Law): I understand the problem, but could you introduce us to the potential solutions mentioned during the Ccube Meeting?	
8.2.4	A: This policy was introduced because of student organizations not overseeing the vendors and moral hazard issues. There was a suggestion for there to be an exception for clubs as clubs are internal organizations in NUS. However, there are a few exemptions. For example, a club may offer a booth for sponsors during the Rag & Flag Carnival, but the bazaar organized should not be just to collect rental income. OSA will see the amount given and decide if the event can be carried out. There are grey areas with this rule and therefore we want to talk to council and hear your opinions, before voicing these concerns to OSA.	
8.3	Closing of the Q&A Session is proposed by Jeremy (USC) and seconded by Jinghua (Dental Club).	
9.	Student Leaders' Recognition	

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9.1	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declining students stepping up to serve the student body• How to better encourage or attract people to step up to serve?• Is it a case of insufficient student leaders' recognition/benefits?• Or is it a case of "too scared of the amount of commitment" to step up?• Should there be more recognition or benefits to "attract" students to step up?• Or what could be done to make things easier for student leaders? And hence encourage more people to step up?	
9.2	<p>Opening of Q&A Session is proposed by Jinghua (Dentistry) and seconded by Wei Cai (PA).</p>	
9.2.1	<p>Jinghua (Dentistry): How about scholarships to recognise student leaders? Can scholarships recognise students based more on their leadership qualities instead of solely grades?</p>	
9.2.2	<p>A: We can always open this up to suggestion. For now, the school does not have any scholarship in place for student leaders. We can bring it up and see if this is viable.</p>	
9.2.3	<p>Joel (Computing): Maybe you would like to bring up some suggestions brought up during Ccube to discuss with the entire council?</p>	
9.2.4	<p>A: Jinghua suggested having a student leaders' club that comes with certain privileges. Another suggestion was that student leaders should be offered subsidized housing. Another suggestion was that student leaders be given modular credits for their term of leadership. Whatever is brought up, we will propose to the Office. Some also suggested offering an additional S/U during your term of service, to balance your workload as a student and leader in the school. There were other suggestions such as priority in SEP, NOC, funded transportation, priority in tutorial biddings etc.</p>	

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9.2.5	Shibin (Sports): Can we recognise the volunteering of hours and it can be accumulated till the student graduates? The school could then recognise the contributions made by the student when they graduate.	
9.2.6	A: That is a promising idea, which we can explore.	
9.2.7	Point of Clarification by Edwin (Sports): I don't think that it is just based on their contributions within a term, but it is for the student's entire candidature and award the student, gold, silver or bronze. For example, if the student contributes more than 300 hours, then they can receive the gold award.	
9.2.8	Point of Clarification by Shibin (Sports): The total contributions made by the student can be also be divided into different criteria such as a leadership category and a community service category and so on.	
9.2.9	Jeffrey (Science): I see. What does the Council think of the Student's Achievement Awards as some people may not know about? Let me clarify that the event is held by OSA. What do you all think of holding something like this but having an event for recognition event within your own management committees?	
9.2.10	Caitlin (PA): What is the point of having a certificate? Perhaps people do not know enough about the event as they do not see any relevance in receiving the award specially if it does not have any bearing on their future work life.	
9.2.11	A: I see, that is a point that we can consider.	
9.2.12	Isabella (Business): I think the appointment letter issued to us at the start of our term is sufficient.	

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9.2.13	Point of Clarification by Jeffrey (Science): I think the letter of appointment is only issued to EXCO members and this may not be the case in other management committees. Other clubs may have a separate way of presenting a term of service letter.	
9.2.14	Wei Tao (Science): Can I clarify if we are targeting the issue of students not receiving enough recognition or not enough students stepping up? While both issues are related, they are two different issues.	
9.2.15	A: We are trying to look at both issues. If the council feels that there are enough benefits, then we will gear our plans towards encouraging student leaders to step up. Many clubs have problems with sustainability as members are hesitant to step up. On my end, I think that there is a commitment issue within EXCO. But I want to find out what are the reasons given for not stepping up within the other clubs?	
9.2.16	Yongzhi (Medicine): I think you raised a good question as I think that increasing the recognition may create a poor motivation for students to step up as leaders. Perhaps the problem is the lack of empowerment as we face resistance from the offices especially if we want to enact new changes.	
9.2.17	A: I think this is out of my purview. However, I think we can still gather the voices of the school and voice it out to the offices. This is the bare minimum which should be met. If not, there will be a communication barrier and misunderstandings, so we should continue to bring up issue faced on the ground. Some matters are decided by the university and is a top-down approach. Nevertheless, the university is still open and willing to have discussions even with the orientation camp. Can I ask what are some of the reasons given for not stepping up within your committees?	

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9.2.18	Marcus, Samantha and Lester (Engineering) and Tham Jun Han (USC) join the meeting at 1957.	
9.2.19	Amanda (Computing): I think that it is important that people come in for the right reasons. Maybe we can introduce schemes that encourage people to stay in the club? The issue is that people drop out when they feel overwhelmed by work. I think recognition at the end is not the right approach, but rather we should devise schemes to help relieve the stress faced by students as they have a heavier workload.	
9.2.20	A: That is a fair point, and we will note it down.	
9.2.21	Kaung (Engineering): I think another issue is the lack of awareness regarding the positions available in the Club. It is also easier to get committee members, perhaps we should consider publicizing the length of the commitment and the responsibilities that they will face if they choose to join the committee.	
9.2.22	A: We will note this down as well.	
9.2.23	Joscelin (CSC): I want to add on that a lot of people do not know what the management committee does. Perhaps we should better publicise the roles and responsibilities of the committee during What is the point of putting this under recognition? For people to step up, it is not just about recognition. Therefore, I feel that recognition is just a subset of the issue. So, should we focus on the lack of people stepping up or on how student recognition could be better?	
9.2.24	A: Okay, perhaps I should clarify this point. The university wants to know how they can help further as they felt that student leaders do not receive enough recognition. During SLC, it is mentioned that there is a trend of students not stepping up. Therefore, I wanted to ask the Council if student leaders' recognition factors into their decision to step up. If everyone feels that student leaders have enough recognition,	

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<p>9.2.25</p>	<p>then the main issue that we can focus on as a union is tackling the issue of not enough people stepping up due to other reasons.</p> <p>Wei Tao (Science): Aside from academics and commitments, in Science Club, the issue is the high expectations placed on the management committee. Year 3 students who go on SEP are not accepted into the management committee. Thus, due to consideration for internships or exchange programs, many students feel that the opportunity cost is too high as the commitment to student organisations is usually a year. This is something that we should investigate if we want more students to step up in the future.</p>	
<p>9.2.26</p>	<p>Tse Kiat (Medicine): I think students may already be participating in other projects instead of joining the management committee such as community service projects.</p>	
<p>9.2.27</p>	<p>Cheng Jie (CSC) joins the meeting at 2006.</p>	
<p>9.3</p>	<p>Closing of Q&A Session is proposed by Shirley (CSC) and seconded by Tse Kiat (Medicine).</p>	
<p>10.</p> <p>10.1</p>	<p>Alumni Engagement</p> <p>Alumni Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision for the Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Connect NUS alumni together to portray an “One Union, One NUS” image ○ Connect students to different alumni communities ○ Connect Year 3 & 4 students with existing alumni to increase exposure • Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engage alumni when they are back to maintain connection and relationship with them ○ Ensure that alumni feel welcomed to be back to NUS again 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Connect student body with respective alumni to understand better about the outside world○ Allow sharing of valuable experiences by alumni● Proposed Initiative: One Union, One Alumni Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A team formed from students (in charge of Alumni Relations) from each constituent & non-constituent club○ Hold meetings once a month to update on progress and plan for activities ahead● Major Initiative: Kent Ridge Alumni Day<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Plan and connect a series of activities to portray one NUS image○ Organize booth/activities to showcase each club and complement one another○ Form one major activity together suitable for everyone to show a united NUS● Major Initiative: Day of Service<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Plan and connect a series of activities to portray one NUS image<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Different activities planned at different time of the day▪ Activities that can complement each other (health to cleaning up)▪ Collaborate with alumni to carry out the services together▪ Organize a community service event unique to each club▪ Collaborate and organize a large-scale Union event (hopefully)● Ad-hoc Role<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Collaborate with GSS and OAR to help to organize events<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ E.g. OAR: Breakfast with CEOs, Alumni Day▪ E.g. GSS: Welcome tea, engagement events○ Ensure that alumni of each club are engaged by participating alumni events	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Easier and faster dissemination of alumni information to each club ● Potential Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Combined appreciation dinner for Year 3 & 4 NUS students ○ NUSS (End of Midterms) Pool Party ○ Celebration party for all graduating students ○ Instead of a party by each club, we can combine and do a major one or we can connect different clubs together (up for discussion) 	
10.2	Ivan (Engineering) joins the meeting at 2012.	
10.3	Opening of Q&A Session is proposed by Caitlin (PA) and seconded by Jeffrey (Science).	
10.3.1	Jeremy (Engineering): Are you intending to engage alumni who have already graduated? There is an issue with PDPA as Engineering Club has had trouble reaching out to alumni, in the past. How will the committee address this issue?	
10.3.2	A: Currently, OAR has connections to the heads of each club. Alumni can join distinct groups. OAR can pass us the contact of the head who can publicise our events to the other members of each group.	
10.3.3	Follow-up Question by Jeremy (Engineering): Do you know how many people there are in each group?	
10.3.4	A: There are over 20k of people. For Kent Ridge Alumni Day, there were 10,000 people. We are trying to supplement the events carried out by the faculties, not replace them.	
10.3.5	Joscelin (CSC): What exactly is the role of the committee mentioned?	

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10.3.6	A: It is basically to plan events and participate in ad-hoc events organized by OAR. They want students present to talk to the alumni during these events.	
10.3.7	Jinghua (Dentistry): Is it possible for a society member to sit in this committee?	
10.3.8	A: Yes.	
10.3.9	Jeffrey (Science): Do you have any concrete ideas for the proposed party held for graduating students?	
10.3.10	A: Last year, OAR organized a party, but the outreach was not very good. We hope to establish a committee to do a survey among the Constituent Clubs. We will then gauge if the event is possible. OAR wants to know what students want, which is why we want to establish this committee to bridge the gap.	
10.3.11	Follow-up Questions by Jeffrey (Science): Perhaps you could consider an open-space party in U-Town Green?	
10.3.12	A: Actually, we are open to suggestions and we would like to hear your opinions.	
10.3.13	Tse Kiat (Medicine) proposes a 5-minute toilet break and the pausing of the Q&A. Wei Tao (Science) seconded the pausing of the Q&A and the toilet break.	
10.3.14	The meeting is paused at 2027.	
10.3.15	The meeting resumes at 2032.	
10.3.16	Wei Tao (Science): Currently, you do not have a committee under you, right? So, you are proposing that each club sends at least 1	

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	<p>representative to join this alumni committee to organize events. However, Science Club already does alumni dinners, but we face the problem of insufficient alumni turning up for the event. So, perhaps it would be better for each faculty to focus on its own alumni relations before moving on to organizing at the NUS level?</p>	
10.3.17	<p>A: Kent Ridge Alumni Day has 10k alumni, which is a good opportunity to publicise your own faculty's events. You can try to draw in alumni through this major event. We may not be able to wait for the faculties to establish stronger relations with their alumni as this can take a few years.</p>	
10.3.18	<p>Follow-up Question from Wei Tao (Science): You mentioned that it is difficult to organize these events without a committee. In Science Club, our sub-committee members are already very busy reaching out to the science alumni. On our end, we have limited manpower and we may not be able to send members to your alumni committee.</p>	
10.3.19	<p>Question from Jacob (CAC): Is Science club doing something for Kent Ridge Alumni Day?</p>	
10.3.20	<p>Answer from Wei Tao (Science): There are no active plans. Science dean's office does most of the work and Science club mostly supports. Furthermore, what is the role of OAR in this? Aren't we taking over their role?</p>	
10.3.21	<p>A: There is a difference in the job scope. OAR is basically to engage alumni to return for the events. Students organize events to engage the alumni when they return.</p>	
10.3.22	<p>Point of Information by Jeffrey (Science): We get a great deal of support from OAR. Students feel that there are not enough alumni events. Thus, OAR wants to work with us on how to engage both alumni and students. I think Jacob wants a working committee that can</p>	

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<p>10.3.23</p> <p>10.3.24</p> <p>10.3.25</p> <p>10.3.26</p> <p>10.4</p>	<p>suggest ideas to NUSS too. So, your director of alumni relations can sit on this committee.</p> <p>Joselin (CSC): I think one concern that I have is that if we send one Conclub member to the alumni committee, isn't that more workload on that person's part?</p> <p>A: To start it off, we are hoping that it is on a voluntary basis. We set the goal of having a meeting once a month, but we may not always meet every month. At the end of this month, we will send out an email to ask if one person from each of your clubs can be part of this event.</p> <p>Rena (Arts): Your KR alumni day is on the last day of Student Life Fair (SLF)? Are you planning to work with the SLF committee?</p> <p>A: Yes, we are planning to work together with the committee. After we decide on what to do, we can send one representative to inform SLF committee about our plans, I don't think that we will affect the SLF as KR alumni day is on the last day, but we will get back to you once we have more information.</p> <p>Closing of Q&A Session is proposed by Tham Jun Han (USC) and seconded by Cassandra (CAC).</p>	
<p>11.</p> <p>11.1</p>	<p>Opening a Store to Enhance Union Identity</p> <p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUSSU CommIT's PC cluster room will be freed up • EXCO thought of using that room to open a union store that sells union merchandise • Using that room as a tool to better forge a stronger union identity • Any suggestions to better utilize that room to create this Union Identity? 	

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11.2	Opening of Q&A Session is proposed by Edwin (Sports) and seconded by Ivan (Engineering).	
11.2.1	Cassandra (CAC): I would like to ask what is the objective of having this shop?	
11.2.2	A: For this shop, we thought of having the EXCO to run this shop if this is feasible. The funds received from the shop could be channeled back into supporting the bursaries. The main purpose is to forge the union identity as not many people are aware of who is part of NUSSU such as the Constituent Clubs. There was a suggestion to have vending machines instead, what do you think?	
11.2.3	Jinghua (Dentistry): Will the proceeds go to the bursary? Would it be better to have an agreement to between each constituent club on how the revenue earned from selling our merchandise can be disbursed?	
11.2.4	A: If you think that your constituent club will benefit from this idea, then sure. But the agreement stage is much later and will only happen if the concept of the shop is supported by Council.	
11.2.5	Point of Information by Jeffrey (Science): NUSSU donates up to 25k each year to the Office of Financial Aid. If this shop becomes a reality, the revenue will be given to needy students.	
11.2.6	Tham Jun Han (USC): If we want to give to charity, we may prefer giving these bursaries to our own faculties instead of central funding.	
11.2.7	A: I understand, but may I ask if anyone else has another idea besides the shop?	
11.2.8	Tham Jun Han (USC): I would prefer if we adopt the vending machine idea. The vending machines need not sell NUSSU merchandise.	

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11.2.9	A: It can be a vending machine to sell other items such as stationary as well.	
11.2.10	Jeffrey (Science): I think the NUSSU shop is a great idea and it has potential if it is done properly. We could even collaborate with NUS Co-op to bring in merchandise into the NUSSU shop.	
11.2.11	Elston (PA): Clubs may want to use their own merchandise for their members. Instead of physical merchandise, could the clubs send the designs to the committee instead?	
11.2.12	A: We can consider this too. Ideally, we want to run to run this shop, otherwise the school may enact other plans to utilize this space.	
11.2.13	Jacob (CAC): How much does it cost to use a vending machine to store and dispense the merchandise? What if the operating costs are too high?	
11.2.14	A: On our part, we can look into this idea. This vending machine idea is still new, and we need to gather more information.	
11.2.15	Follow-up Question by Jacob (CAC): We should have someone at the shop who can dispense knowledge about the Union to build some sense of Union identity. We should ask clubs and societies to donate some extra shirts or merchandise for this machine.	
11.2.16	A: We need to settle an agreement for clubs that wish to donate their extra merchandise. The idea is building a better union identity. Do all of you think that selling merchandise is the way to build a stronger union identity? We would like to seek your opinions.	
11.2.17	Elston (PA): When it comes to building a brand, you may have to incur a loss at the start. You will not immediately see the profits. A vending	

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	<p>machine can help promote the brand in a more cost-effective way in the long run. Also, having a student selling the merchandise is not a very sustainable idea as the student will be paid by the union.</p>	
11.2.18	A: We will consider that as well.	
11.2.19	Caitlin (PA): If there is no one to take care of the store, could we perhaps combine the two ideas where you can dispense the smaller merchandise that help build Union identity?	
11.2.20	A: Yes, we can also look into that consideration and see the operating costs.	
11.2.21	Sean (PA): Would you consider doing a market survey if you wish to sell merchandise to see what students want before setting up a store?	
11.2.22	A: Yes, we should look at what students have to say.	
11.2.23	Sean (PA): My concern is that NUS Co-op has a lot of NUS merchandise, but students are not really buying these items. So, if we decide to sell merchandise, we should see what students prefer to spend their money on.	
11.2.24	A: We will take this into consideration. Thank you for your suggestion. Any feedback or suggestion that we receive, we will consult the council again. If the rest of the Council has any questions or suggestions, please let us know.	
11.3	Closing of Q&A Session is proposed by Sophronia (SDE), however, Edwin (Sports) rejects the closing of the Q&A Session.	
11.3.1	Shibin (Sports): Is the selling of shirts from the conclub promoting Union identity?	

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11.3.2	A: We thought of having a shop run by the Union, NUSSU shop. Inside the shop, there can be different merchandise from each constituent club. But let's not think that this shop is meant to sell shirts, we are looking to promote union identity.	
11.3.3	Ivan (Engineering): I think selling shirts can be a good idea to promote a greater sense of identity. However, we do not need to sell stuff, but we can have a gallery that showcases the history of the Union.	
11.3.4	A: We can think of doing yet. We want to put that space into effective use. We must package this gallery to appeal to students.	
11.3.5	Jeffrey (Science): While a gallery is good, the school's stand is making YIH a vibrant space. It should not just be a gallery as we should investigate the ways into drawing more people into YIH.	
11.3.6	Elston (PA): Overseas universities have even large union shops. They sell sports' t-shirts as well as the university club's merchandise. I imagine that the union store should sell merchandise for students to get a quick fix.	
11.3.7	Jacob (CAC): Maybe we can have a combination of both ideas? We should see the significant actions taken by NUSSU and the school such as the steps taken to achieve the S/U option. Perhaps this will show that NUSSU is always open to ideas and feedback to build a stronger identity.	
11.3.8	A: Thank you for all your suggestions, we will keep these ideas in mind moving forward.	
11.4	Closing of the Q&A Session is proposed by Jeffrey (Science) and seconded by Edwin (Sports).	
12.	Student Lounge	

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12.1	Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refer to Appendix 3• EXCO have already gotten over 500 Feedbacks from the students and here are some of the statistics.• EXCO will be using this information to advise the interior designers on the kind of lounge design that we are looking for.• Other than what's mentioned in the Appendix, are there are any more suggestions?• The current lounge is not representative of a student hub and the lounge should be a place to relax. The whole lounge should be upgraded to be cozier instead of becoming a place to study?	
12.2	Opening of Q&A Session is proposed by Jinghua (Dentistry) and seconded by Ivan (Engineering).	
12.2.1	Edwin (Sports): Is it possible to have a café in the Student Lounge? In polytechnics, all the student lounges have cafes. How does the rest feel about this idea?	
12.2.2	Tse Kiat (Medicine): I was in-charge of food last year. There was a Japanese café that allowed company sponsorship. This is a way to allow companies to connect with students. I agree with this idea of the café especially if the costs are taken care of by the school instead of NUSSU.	
12.2.3	Point of Information by Jeffrey (Science): However, the cost will be absorbed by NUSSU. However, if we have a café, it will be selling just beverages instead of food. Otherwise, the lounge becomes an eating place.	
12.2.4	A: We will be engaging interior designers to help conceptualize this plan. We will get feedback from the students before proceeding with any design rendered by the designers.	

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12.2.5	Caitlin (PA): For the café idea, we should look into the cleaning costs of having a café. There is an idea floating around that having food and drinks in the lounge will hasten the deterioration of the lounge. Also, we should consider having the right type of floor that can handle spillage and cleaning staff on hand.	
12.2.6	A: As it stands, we already have a cleaner for the lounge. However, if we proceed with having a café, we will take all these considerations into account when we talk to the designers. In the meantime, we are checking with OFM, we are trying to see if this café is feasible. There are utility issues such as insufficient water pipes in the student lounge, which we are discussing with OFM, generally, we want to make the lounge a cozy environment for students to relax after lessons and play games with their friends.	
12.2.7	Raymond (Arts) and Ziyi (Arts) join the meeting at 2115.	
12.2.8	Tham Jun Han (USC): Can we know the estimated costs of renovation?	
12.2.9	A: The estimated costs is not out yet. OSA, OFM and NUSSU will share the costs for renovation in YIH. OSA may pay for part of the renovation, but the costs are not out yet. We are still meeting with them to determine the exact numbers.	
12.2.10	Yongzhi (Medicine): I think that we should consider whether the student lounge is well-ventilated. Is the use of the building meant to have a café?	
12.2.11	A: For this café idea, we are still not sure if OFM will agree to it. We will keep you updated.	

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12.2.12	Desmond (Business): One of my concerns is that after having a café, students may find it too cozy and treat it like a home environment. If they feel too comfortable, they will stay in the student lounge and not leave.	
12.2.13	A: We will try to take a long-run approach and try to prevent this same issue from occurring again.	
12.2.14	Ivan (Engineering): As the food choices are limited in YIH, a café could be useful. However, if we have games and food, what exactly is our theme or overarching goal for the lounge? We should have a clear goal in mind which can guide our suggestions.	
12.2.15	Raymond (Arts): Can I ask if the student lounge will be operated the same way? Will there be a booking system in the future?	
12.2.16	A: The student lounge can be booked by student organizations. But generally, all NUS students can enter and leave.	
12.2.17	Follow-up Question by Raymond (Arts): I am thinking of suggesting a purpose for the lounge such as having activities which can bond the committees. We can have a booking system for this purpose, therefore, we can eliminate the problem of students staying in the lounge for too long. For example, some spaces can be sectioned for committee bonding.	
12.2.18	A: We can think about this idea. But we would like a lounge where different activities can take place and not having sections of it fixed for a certain use.	
12.2.19	Jeremy (Engineering): Currently, there are students studying in the lounge. However, if we convert it entirely into a non-studying area, what happens to the students who come to YIH for studying purposes?	

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12.2.20	A: Thanks for your input, we will think of how to accommodate students who want to keep studying in YIH as we go over the potential designs.	
12.2.21	Kaung (Engineering): People may be resistant to this new idea of renovating the lounge into an area for relaxing. The students may see other students who are studying, and they may be unwilling to play games and have fun.	
12.2.22	A: That is a current design in mind to have low-tables to prevent students for studying. Perhaps, we can convert the space into a study area only when it is nearing final exams so that students can have a space to study.	
12.3	Closing of the Q&A Session is proposed by Cassandra (CAC) and seconded by Jeremy (USC).	
13.	NUS Internal Shuttle Bus	
13.1	Context: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are working closely with OSA and the current peak period is usually 20 minutes before the start of the class.• Any further improvements to be made?• Any feedbacks on the current shuttle bus?• Any issues with the current timing of the Internal Shuttle Bus?• Any other matters?	
13.2	Opening of the Q&A Session is proposed by Wei Cai (PA) and seconded by Caitlin (PA).	
13.2.1	Jun Heng (Law): Can we make the BTC bus more frequent? This is difficult for students who miss the bus and have to wait 30 more minutes. Students would have to take Grab during the peak hour.	

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13.2.2	A: What is the usual peak period?	
13.2.3	Jun Heng (Law): The timings of classes are not fixed as it can be 9am, 10am and 11am.	
13.2.4	A: Perhaps, I can recommend to OCA to increase the bus frequencies. Currently, which route requires greater bus frequency?	
13.2.5	Jun Heng (Law): I think the issue is that when the shuttle bus leaves NUS, there should be greater frequency. There is less rush in the case of students leaving Bukit Timah Campus to go to NUS.	
13.2.6	Yongzhi (Medicine): After speaking to OCA, we are thinking of extending the shuttle buses to other MRTs such as Clementi to reduce the bottleneck and congestion at just Kent Ridge MRT. We want to fully utilise the nearby MRTs. What does the rest of council think about this?	
13.2.7	Hakeem (Science): This is a good idea. We will explore this idea in the coming weeks with OCA.	
13.2.8	Jeremy (USC): We have quite a few law students. May I ask if it is possible for the BTC bus to come into U-Town as the law students have to walk quite far from their residence to Museum to catch the BTC bus?	
13.2.9	A: Unfortunately, U-Town is not very keen on the idea of the BTC bus travelling around U-Town.	
13.2.10	Tham Jun Han (USC): I think he is referring to the commonly used U-Town bus stop near Town Plaza.	
13.2.11	A: Oh, I see, we can bring this up to OCA.	

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13.2.12	Yiqi (Observer): If we extend to the other MRT stations, I think that the frequency will be longer. We should ask the students whether students prefer shorter frequencies or more buses stopping at MRT stations outside KR MRT, albeit with a longer waiting time. Also, I think that a lot of us realise that the U-Town to CLB bus is no longer around.	
13.2.13	Jacob (CAC): There used to be bus that connected U-Town to CLB and Computer Centre to U-Town.	
13.2.14	A: For Yiqi, we mentioned your idea to the office. Therefore, the office prefers reducing waiting time at the KR MRT station instead of extending the shuttle bus services to other MRT stations.	
13.2.15	Hakeem (Science): Maybe we could do a welfare survey to convince OCA that students are supporting some of the plans that we proposing? This will help pressure the office into realising the needs of students.	
13.2.16	Point of Information by Jeffrey (Science): I agree with Hakeem; however, I ultimately feel that NUS have finite resources and we should keep encouraging students to take the shuttle bus services. This why the U-Town to CLB bus route was stopped as it was very empty during non-peak hours. There is a contract in place for the ISB, so that we do not expect major changes to take place as soon as next semester. Rather, it will take some time before changes can be felt and seen by students.	
13.2.17	A: I want to ask all of you if students are waiting more than 20 minutes for buses?	
13.2.18	Jeremy (Engineering): During peak hour, people are not able to board the bus at Computer Centre to U-Town as SDE, Engineering and FASS are using that stop. We should look into this especially since it is very congested.	

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13.2.19	A: Thank you for your input, we will bring this up to OCA and discuss this further with them to continue this bus route during the peak period.	
13.2.20	Brent (CSC): Going back to the BTC bus, could we ask the school to stop the bus at Botanic Gardens and pick up students to go to KR MRT? Currently, the bus is under-utilised when students are coming from Law to NUS, and the bus only passes by and does not stop at Botanic Gardens MRT.	
13.2.21	Jun Heng (Law): I think that he trying to say that students should stop at Botanic Gardens and take the internal shuttle bus to NUS instead of taking the bus at KR MRT. However, the BTC bus already stops at Botanic Gardens. Students usually do not want to board that bus as the frequency is very long like 45 minutes.	
13.2.22	Point of Information by Wei Cai (PA): Can we ask the bus to stop at Farrer Road since it is already on the way?	
13.2.23	A: I asked if we can loop this bus service. For example, if law students want to go to BTC, they will just stop at Botanic Gardens and then go back to NUS. This is because BTC does not have a bus interchange. We are suggesting that law students, who want to go to NUS, take public transport to KR MRT and then take the internal shuttle bus there.	
13.2.24	Jun Heng (Law): However, that suggestion means that students will have to pay for transport to go to NUS.	
13.2.25	A: That is a valid concern that we have to consider before starting any new initiative.	
13.2.26	Yongzhi (Medicine): It is a chicken and egg issue. We should think of ways to increase the number of students using the Botanic Gardens MRT so that the shuttle bus is not too empty.	

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13.2.27	Jeffrey (Science): I agree that this could help reduce congestion at KR campus, but this means that the BTC bus must increase its frequency, otherwise students would rather go to KR MRT to take the shuttle bus. So, we should take time to explore this issue.	
13.2.28	Jeremy (USC): Students have noted that D2 goes to Carpark 11 at Business. However, D2 refuses to pick anyone at Carpark 11. Thus, I cannot board the bus at Business to go to Kent Ridge.	
13.2.29	A: That point is new to me and we will pick up that point for further discussion.	
13.2.30	Joel (Computing): There have been plans to remove COM2 bus top. What is the progress on that plan?	
13.2.31	A: There are no plans to tear down that bus stop as it is still utilised. We will keep getting updates from them on this issue.	
13.3	Closing of the Q&A Session is proposed by Cassandra (CAC) and seconded by Jeffrey (Science).	
14.	AOB	
14.1	Elston (PA): We are already having our 4 th Council Meeting. Thus, we are close to selecting the Union Election Committee. We have two placeholder dates such as 9 th March and 15 th April. Likely, we will choose the April date instead so that we accumulate agenda along the way. We will use that meeting to discuss the Union Election Committee again.	
14.2	The Council Chairman, Elston Foo, explains the roles and responsibilities of the Union Election Committee (UEC).	

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14.3	Council Chairman, Elston Foo, finished his presentation on the UEC and opens the floor for any remaining announcements.	
	Announcements	
14.3.1	Edwin (Sports): I am currently collecting feedback on the Welfare Survey. If anyone has questions that you wish to ask the student body, please let your presidents know so that they can forward it to me.	
14.3.2	Jeffrey (Science): The EXCO representative, Sheng Yu, has left the EXCO due to some unforeseen circumstances. If you were working with him, please note that he is no longer part of the EXCO. (NB: Sheng Yu has left the 39th NUSSU Council as he is no longer part of NUSSU EXCO).	
15.	Caitlin (PA) proposed the use of an informal online poll to collect responses and review the minutes of this Council Meeting.	
16.	The closing of the 4th Council Meeting is proposed by Jeremy (USC) and seconded by Cassandra (CAC).	

With no other outstanding matters to discuss, Mr. Elston Foo proposed to close the meeting at 2200hr.

Prepared by,

Caitlin Fernandez
Deputy General Secretary
39th NUSSU Council

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Vetted by,

Elston Foo
Council Chairperson
39th NUSSU Council

Jeffrey Lee
President
39th NUSSU Council

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