Ordinary General Meeting for UniSFA Thursday 5th September, 5:30pm Guild Council Meeting Room

Agenda

1. Reports

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Librarian
- f. First Year Representative
- g. OCM Merlin, 'Screenings Wizard'
- h. OCM Annique
- i. OCM Theo

2. Appeal of James Blacker's expulsion

- a. James' statement
- b. Committee's statement
- c. Relevant statements by others
- d. Q and A
- e. Vote:
 - i. Those in favour of confirming the expulsion (ie no change)
 - ii. Those against the expulsion (ie to reinstate membership)
- f. Review the permanent dooring
- 3. Ratification of appointed committee positions
 - a. Appointment of Emma Troncone as First Year Representative, subsequent election if ratification fails
 - b. Appointment of Theo Vickery as Ordinary Committee Member, subsequent election if ratification fails

4. Reestablishing UniSFA

- a. UniSFA as a club has a number of ongoing issues, such as declining membership, poor member retention, burnt out committees, and low engagement with the library. This section is here to discuss the idea of and ideas for re-orientating the club to the wants of current, potential, and future members. See addendum 2.
- 5. Constitutional Amendments (if any)
- 6. General Business

Addendum 1 to agenda:

James Blacker's appeal on the decision by the committee to expel him from the club is as follows:

Dear Members of the 2019 UniSFA Committee

This is my formal letter of appeal regarding my dismissal from UniSFA, per the committee's July 1, 2019 decision. I would like to say that this letter is in no way an attempt to mitigate or erase the harm that I have caused during my time with the club. To each and every member I have hurt, I am truly, deeply sorry for my actions, and I offer my sincerest apologies. This letter shall discuss the reasons cited by committee for my dismissal, and why I do not believe said reasons were adequate grounds for my dismissal. Please also note that for the sake of privacy, I have not included the names of club members involved with the issues discussed below.

Reason #1: Serious breach of complaint etiquette during your zero-tolerance period. In regards to discussing the formal complaint I made on the 11th of April in the clubroom, I take full responsibility for my actions. I understand that this was inappropriate behaviour and unacceptable within the bounds of the clubroom. As for the questioning of committee members regarding the outcome of the formal complaint, it was never my intention to violate the privacy of the subject of said complaint. I was under the impression that I would be receiving more information about the member's response to my complaint, which I realize now was not the case. After repeatedly requesting updates on the situation, I approached two committee members in an attempt to clarify what was going on. I had no intention of harassment or violating privacy – this was an honest case of miscommunication, and thus, I do not believe was adequate grounds for my dismissal.

Reason #2: Prior history in UniSFA of unacceptable behaviour over the last three years that led to your zero-tolerance policy.

With respect, I do not agree with committee's decision here. The prior history cited consists of incidents that occurred during late 2016 to early 2017. With the exception of one incident that occurred outside the clubroom and thus does not fall under committee jurisdiction, I am not going to disavow these incidents. However, given that these incidents occurred over eighteen months prior to the warning I received on the 17th of March, I believe placing my membership on probationary status after such a long period without complaints was excessive and unjustified.

Reason #3: A complaint that has been made against you during this zero-tolerance period, the details of which are confidential.

I respect and understand the rights of any club member to keep their complaint anonymous. It has never been my intention to try and violate that privacy, and I apologize if I have given that impression. However, I cannot in good standing agree with committee's decision on this matter. Without any details of the complaint, it is impossible for me to give any sort of accurate response to said complaint. More importantly, I believe citing a complaint while providing no details whatsoever as grounds to cancel my membership is unjust.

In summary, I believe that as committee has provided insufficient grounds for the cancellation of my membership, that decision should be reversed. I understand that with the incidents cited and recent events in Unigames, some may draw the conclusion I am exhibiting an unchanging pattern of behaviour. While I cannot stop anyone from forming that opinion, I would like to point out that in every instance that I have had a complaint lodged against me, I have cooperated with committee and worked diligently to improve my behaviour. I have repeatedly demonstrated both the willingness and ability to change my behaviour for the better. While I cannot erase what has happened, I am more than just the sum of my mistakes, and I am dedicated to learning from them in order to keep growing as a person.

If committee requires any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. Sincerely, James Blacker