

Minutes

School of Economics

Student-Staff Liaison Committee

Date	28 May 2025	Chairperson	Dominique Leong
Time	10:00am – 11:00am	Notetaker	Nishay Bhikha
Venue	R629, School of Economics Boardroom, Colin Clark Building		

Attendees:

Name	Position
Prof Daniel Zizzo	Academic Dean & Head of School
Joe Symons	Manager, Student and Academic Administration
John Raiti	Learning Designer
A/Prof Jeffrey Kilne	Employability Officer
Dr Suzanne Bonner	Program Lead BEcon
Dominique Leong	Chair, Student-Staff Liaison Committee
Nishay Bhikha	Secretary, Student-Staff Liaison Committee
Jackie Fuller	Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Coordinator, UQ Respect
Albert Kim	Student Representative Member
Ming Yin (Daniel) Ho	Student Representative Member
Raghav Chawla	Student Representative Member
Senura Sugathadasa	Student Representative Member
William Ilka	Student Representative Member
Daniel Quill	UQPPES President

Apologies:

Name	Position
Samuel Weir	Student Representative Member
Amber Lu	UQES President

Item	Description	Action
1.	Welcome Dominique welcomed all to the second SSLC meeting of the year, and shared that Suzanne Bonner (Program Lead BEcon) and Jackie Fuller (UQ Respect Network) were joining us for this meeting.	
2.	Acknowledgement of Country	
3.	Minutes of the previous meeting held in March 2025 were found to require amendments. Joe noted that the descriptions in items 3 and 4 had been duplicated. Nishay shared that there had been formatting troubles in using a new template for meeting minutes which seems to have caused the duplication when exporting the file to PDF format.	Nishay to make amendments to meeting 1 minutes.

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Daniel Z suggested adding last name initials for members with the same name to avoid confusion in meeting minutes.	
<p>4. Business arising from previous minutes/meetings</p> <p>4.1 R Studio Resource Update</p> <p>Dominique noted that John has updated the outdated resource links for R Studio learning in BlackBoard. John noted that the resource has been implemented to aid and guide students in learning the basics.</p> <p>John shared that he added a link regarding LinkedIn Learning, which seems to be quite useful for R Studio learning and is free for students to access through their UQ accounts/credentials. He noted that he has made a video for students on how to access LinkedIn Learning which has been added to the resources for BlackBoard.</p> <p>Joe noted that the School of Economics engagement team has been working on, and have updated the School of Economics website with new tabs for learning resources. Joe shared how to access them, and that LinkedIn Learning had been added to the website.</p> <p>4.2 Employability/Internships Event</p> <p>Dominique shared that Nishay and herself have reached out to their industry contacts from both the private and public sector for the event, and that collaborating with an economics student society, such as UQES, is in discussion.</p> <p>Nishay emphasised the event is targeted towards economics students and aims to showcase the employability and career pathways within economics.</p> <p>Jeff noted that he will talk with the School of Economics' careers team to aid with finding further industry contacts and resources.</p>	<p>Jeff to connect Dominique and Nishay with the careers team</p>
<p>5. Items for Discussion</p> <p>5.1 UQ Respect Network – Collaboration Ideas</p> <p>Jackie introduced herself and shared that she is the UQ Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Coordinator. Her role focuses on tackling sexual misconduct and gender-power imbalances. She noted that the UQ Respect team had recently rebranded and launched the 'Respect Network'. She noted that the network aims to empower UQ staff and students to contribute to the prevention of all forms of sexual violence, discrimination and harassment across the university. The rebranding aims to have the network be more student focused.</p> <p>Jackie noted that being part of the network means that participants can attend regular professional development opportunities throughout the year, volunteer at UQ Respect Events, and collaborate with other members of the network to create a respectful, safe, and inclusive environment for all. She mentioned that the UQ Respect team is hoping to have involvement from all UQ Schools and</p>	

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that she believes collaborating with the School of Economics can create safer environments.

Jeff mentioned that he has completed a large number of the UQ Respect modules and that he believes it would be very beneficial for the modules to be compulsory for staff.

Daniel Z expressed his support for the Respect Network and noted that he would be happy to be part of it. He noted that it would be helpful for Jackie to email his EA, Andrea, and that Andrea would be able to create a section in the School newsletter regarding the network. He also mentioned that it would be helpful to get in touch with the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and that it operates at the top level of the BEL faculty.

Daniel Q noted the UQ PPE Society is looking to create a new wellbeing policy and that Jackie would be very helpful for the process. Jackie said that she and the Respect team would be happy to help.

Dominique to connect Jackie and Andrea.

5.2 Course Feedback Sources

William noted that he is currently collating student feedback from his peers regarding a range of economics courses held in semester 1, to provide an alternative form of feedback that can be used in accompaniment to SECATS.

Daniel Z noted that this would be very helpful for review of courses, and would provide a holistic form of feedback.

5.3 Communication of BPPE Program Plan Changes

Daniel Q noted that the capstone course POLS3803, which is part of the BPPE program plan (2022 commencement), was no longer offered. The course is administered by the School of Political Science & International Studies. The course however remained on the program plan for students as a compulsory course. Daniel Q noted that there was inadequate communication with students regarding this change in the program plan, and which course would replace POLS3803.

Daniel Z suggested contacting the BPPE Program Lead (Marco Faravelli) to resolve the issue.

Joe noted that the School of Economics is notified regarding these changes, but has no control on POLS coded course offerings. He noted that the BEL Faculty can be made aware of these issues and conduct a review. Daniel Z emphasised that further changes between faculties should be communicated effectively.

Daniel Q to contact Marco.

5.4 Feedback Regarding PPES3101

Daniel Q shares feedback regarding PPES3101 that he has collated from student feedback. The feedback noted that the course content felt disjointed with no clear course goals or theme, assessment

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requirements were extremely vague and not clearly conveyed, and that the heaviest weighed assessment item (research report) did not link to course content.

Suzanne noted that there is a failure in course structure and suggested that someone discuss with the course coordinator to resolve these issues for future iterations. Daniel Z noted that the Director of Learning and Teaching should follow up on this. Jeff noted that he will contact the course coordinator to communicate this feedback, and will reach out to the BPPE program lead for greater communication.

Dominique noted that 90% of the course assessment, through two items, was due within one week. John noted that this is not ideal as students are not receiving adequate feedback on how their progress in the course, and is not conducive to students' achievements.

Jeff to share feedback with PPES3101 course coordinator.

5.5 Attendance Numbers at Lectures and Tutorials

Dominique shared that the SoE Teaching and Learning Committee were interested in understanding why there has been a decline in student attendance at both lectures and tutorials—and that they are looking for ways to improve.

Daniel H noted that guest lectures are extremely popular, and normal lectures are less attractive.

Daniel Q noted the implementation to tutorials with assigned market has increase tutorial attendance greatly.

Daniel Z noted a number of first year students are still attending lectures and tutorials. He noted that cohorts heavily impacted by COVID-19 may have a different routine regarding in-person attendance. He noted cohorts are not a homogenous body and individuals have varying needs.

Nishay noted that attending lectures in-person may be more attractive when the lecturers speak beyond what is written on the PowerPoints.

6. General Business

6.1 ECON2460 Course Feedback

Dominique raised some concerns regarding ECON2460, noting that an assessment item had been set to be due during the SWOTVAC period. Suzanne noted that this violated UQ assessment policy, as no assessment items are to be due during SWOTVAC period.

John noted that the course also lacked a rubric for the group presentation assessment, and that he had aided the course coordinator in creating one a few weeks ago. Dominique noted that the rubric for the essay in the course was also extremely vague.

Suzanne and John to notify course coordinator, and adjust due date.

7. Meeting Closed 11:08am