

Singapore Management University Students' Association

80 Stamford Road, Singapore 178902

Email: smusa@sa.smu.edu.sg

Web: www.smusa.sg

Instagram: @sgsmusa

Office Location: SMU Students' Association, SMUSA Student CCA Office, Basement 1, School of Information Systems



Meeting Minutes

17th SMU Students' Association (SMUSA) Council

Date	28 February 2021	Time	0847 - 1345
Chaired by	SMUSA President	Location	SOL SR 2-04
Convened by	SMUSA Honorary General Secretary (HGS)		
Attendees	SMUSA President - Lim Jia En SMUSA Vice-President - Valliapan Arunachalam SMSUA HGS - Shaurya Jain SMUSA Academic and Welfare Secretary - Nicolette Ang Sher Nyn SMUSA Communications Secretary - Nurul Azimah SMUSA Corporate Relations Secretary - Lei Wan Yu SMUSA Events Secretary - Gayathri Ghandi SMUSA International Students' Secretary - Rhea Singhania SMUSA Operations Secretary - Sylvia Aw Su Wei SMUSA Safety and Strategic Operations Secretary - Udbhav Dalmia ASoc President - Heng Wei Shin Bondue President - Yasirah Umar Ellipsis President - Toh Wei Xiang The Bar President - Tan Choon Hwa Lenvin ACF President - Remus Chan SSU President - Thi Ha Thet Tin Dylan		
Absentees	Society President - Christine Ganaban		
Latecomer(s)	SMUSA HFS - Joanne Ng Yun Ting SICS President - Jeslynn Loo Oikos President - Wong Rui Heung Glen SMUX President - Macus Lim		

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1.	<p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p>The meeting started at 0847</p>
2.	<p><u>Team Charter : Vice-President</u></p> <p>The SMUSA Vice-President commenced the meeting by asking the Council members to choose in conjunction three values that the Council should aim to embody throughout their term. Each Council member stated three values that they individually feel are important for the Council to focus on. Following this, a poll was conducted to finalise the top three values for the Council, and the following were selected through the process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Communication and Collaboration2. Accountability and Trust3. Respect <p>Some Council members were concerned that the whole process could potentially be futile as it is impossible to ensure that everyone works towards the three values. Furthermore, a Council member also stated that most people are swamped with their own responsibilities and work. As such, not all people may wish to subscribe to the values highlighted unless there is a vested interest. In response to that, some council members said that although these values are immeasurable and hard to implement, the act of the Council collectively highlighting the importance of these values will ensure that everyone is aware of each others' basic expectations. The President and the Vice-President reiterated that it is imperative for everyone to involve these values in every action they take during their tenure.</p> <p>Some council members also added that these values might not be noticeable on a day-to-day basis. However, they will be tested and will</p>

	<p>become more important during a crisis when the team dynamics are more crucial. The role of being an SAC member can be very seasonal. However, these values will be imperative in specific situations – like dealing with external parties etc.</p> <p>Before the presentation segment, the Honorary General Secretary urged everyone to be punctual in the Council meetings. He also highlighted that lateness is tracked in the meeting minutes which are sent to OSL.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Presentation by SICS President: Jeslynn Loo</u></p> <p>The CBd President started her segment by talking about the recently concluded SICS week. She thanked the SMUSA Communications Secretary for her support during the event. The CBd managed to get a high level of publicity and awareness during the period.</p> <p>She moved on to talk about the upcoming SICS camp. She mentioned that the structure of the camp was being revised so as to include the special interest clubs, and not solely focussing on the community service clubs. The event is going to be conducted in a virtual mode, with a hybrid plan as backup. She also talked about the SMOO Challenge, and how SICS is working closely with the Office of Advancement to mitigate the previously-faced problem of strain in the organising committee which was faced due to attracting a significant number of student population. The problem was solved by depending on external help.</p> <p>SICS is also working on improving the Purple Challenge. The initiative aims to teach life skills to beneficiaries, and conduct lifestyle lessons for them. Different methods are being explored to actively engage beneficiaries, and improve in accordance with the previous year’s feedback. She also highlighted that the SMU Challenge will not be taking place this year.</p> <p>Recruitment for the two aforementioned initiatives is currently underway. The secretary highlighted that there would be internal recruitment focussing on the interested associates initially so as to give them an opportunity to showcase their newly learnt skills as well as to develop a pool of candidates for succession.</p> <p><u>Presentation by SSU President: Thi Ha Thet Tin</u></p> <p>The SSU President kicked-off his segment by stating that the recruitment process for the Organising Committee as well as</p>	<p>All to note</p>

Facilitators has almost concluded. He went on to talk about how the CBd is working towards having most operations and events at the club level rather than in a top-down fashion. This would be facilitated by having a club class system which would ensure that the events come from the club level. The SSU Management Committee is actively trying to encourage the various clubs to undertake their own initiatives as well as push out their own events. The Council member was also happy to share that three clubs – badminton, netball, and rugby – are in the process of undertaking their own sports events. He also shared that if all events were to go virtual, SSU Policies would be further strengthened. He went on to mention that SSU is leveraging digital marketing tactics so as to raise awareness, and showcase themselves as an outlet to be fit.

The CBd President went on to mention that C4SR had resumed physical CSP for individuals. In the CBds' previous meetings, it was decided that the CSP hosted by the SSU clubs will be open to the members first, and any left seats would be then open to the rest of the SSU population. Netball, for instance, plans to start a project wherein the volunteers would teach netball to engage beneficiaries.

The SSU President reiterated the point of how the clubs in SSU receive a level of standing on the basis of what they have done in the previous years, and are given manpower and financial support accordingly.

He also went on to share that a lot of freshmen still feel a disconnect from their peers as well as the school. They look at sports as a way to mitigate the problem and make new friends. He shared that there are some sports that can be organised recreationally – but plans are still being formulated so as to devise a way to engage the less committed, but nonetheless athletically inclined students. He also shared that SSU has to coordinate with the rules laid out by 33 different NSAs, and how most of them are not giving a lot of information at the moment. He also shared that sports at SMU can be decentralised, and if any CBd feels the need to incorporate sports, they can approach any of the SSU clubs.

The SSU President shared that IFG will take place later in the year when hopefully restrictions lessen. He also shared that SSU are planning to have a physical networking event – which is something that has not happened off late – with the assistance of the SMUSA SSO Secretary. In the past, alumni would come down to play games, and the clubs facilitating the same would be rewarded. However, such is not possible anymore amid the current NSA guidelines.

Finally, the SSU President stated that the recruitment for Sports Camp had concluded. However, he highlighted that the camp wouldn't take place if the regulations made it mandatory to have events online only. The people recruited in the recruitment drive were made aware of this. However, if the camp were to be cancelled, a lineup of activities have been planned to empower them and help them succeed.

Presentation by ACF President: Remus Chan

The ACF President started by talking about their welfare which concluded a few days back. More than four hundred welfare packs were distributed. He also advised the rest of the council to source for food items before coupons when preparing for any future welfare drives – this would enable giving the welfare packs to more people. He went on to mention that the recruitment for the organising committee and facilitators for the summer camp had concluded, however the team is still unsure about the mode of event and is preparing to have it online given the current restrictions.

The CBd has also started auditing the clubs in regular meetings. The meeting also serves to inform the various club presidents on the CBd updates and plans, and constitutional changes. The ACF President also stated that there is uncertainty on what will happen if a camp was to get cancelled, and how the school managers would react to this.

The Council members enquired whether performances were permitted amid the current regulations. The ACF President responded that performances like singing were still not allowed according to the guidelines laid out by MOE, and he also advised the school CBds to consult their respective Deans about this.

The Council members also asked whether ACF clubs are allowed to train in the open area around the staircase at Level B1. The ACF President responded that there is no training permitted. However, he also acknowledged that people training on their own in that area cannot be prevented. The CBd has discouraged all the clubs from wearing any clothes indicating affiliation with any SMU club if training in such areas. The SSU President intervened and mentioned that some SSU clubs also use that area for their own training.

Presentation by SMUX President: Macus Lim

The SMUX President kicked off his segment by saying that his CBd had concluded recruitment for the organising committee of SMUX Summer camp. He also highlighted that it is important to manage the

expectations of the Organising Committee members. During the interviews, they were all asked what they were getting out of being part of the team – and most people mentioned things revolving around learning. The CBd also made sure to give them a disclaimer that the camp could possibly go online. If the guidelines in the future prevent any form of physical/hybrid events, the CBd would not be having the summer camp at all. This is because – due to the nature of the CBd – it is very hard to organise the camp online, and the value proposition of the CBd would be lost while interacting in such a setting as well. Furthermore, the SMUX President added that if such a situation was to arise, the team has a ‘SMUX Week’ in mind as an alternative. The initiative would span over more than a week, and every group of students would experience different activities so that they can experience different sports under SMUX. The team is still figuring out the marketing and logistics aspects of the initiative.

He also mentioned that the CBd is planning to implement a new chairing system. This would not be the same as SSU, as SMUX is much smaller than the same. The Directors have come up with pointers with regards to standards in branding, finance, and safety – and they will be implementing the same without involving the clubs first.

He also shared that SMUX will have welfare on the 26th of March. They wish to give out food, and beneficiaries will be asked to not eat on site. However, he mentioned that OSL and OSS are planning to ban giving out food at all. At this juncture, he mentioned that there are a lot of inconsistencies in OSS’s safety measures, and he wishes to resolve the same with them before discussing it with his team.

The SSO Secretary intervened and mentioned that OSS’s regulations are guided neither by OSL nor by SMU, but instead the Government. The other Council members also mentioned that an alternative can be to partner with a food store to come out with vouchers which can be used by students to eat at the outlet for free. A CBd is already in the process of facilitating this, and are seeking approval from their school manager. The SSO jumped in to mention that fresh food isn’t permitted since it has to be consumed within 4-5 hours of giving out, and chances are that students will consume it on the school premises. This, coupled with the fact that many students are giving feedback that safety measures are not being followed, is what presses OSS to ban fresh food. Furthermore, MOE has disallowed consumption of food in classrooms etc.. The Secretary also addressed that there were concerns around how and why Real business were allowed to give out food. However, they handed out the food outside of Onlalu, but a lot of CCAs were in opposition to this, and this is why OSL has disallowed any further handing out of food. He also mentioned that the point of

giving out vouchers instead is what OSS has suggested, and the student leaders must come up with similar innovative ideas.

Presentation by Ellipsis President: Wei Xiang

The Ellipsis President commenced his session by expanding on the three recently concluded Ellipsis events.

The Virtual Networking event was attended by 200 students and 70 company reps. The CBd also sought IITS's guidance on exceeding the 300 Zoom limit, but they were unable to help in the matter. The CBd President also mentioned that the company reps are the most important party from the organisers' point of view – especially in an online setting with breakout rooms where they often have to repeat things. Although the students were given info booklets, many students hadn't read it and this put off a few company representatives. He mentioned that this problem can be mitigated in the future by requesting the companies to prepare slide decks indicating their opportunities so that they do not have to repeat similar things again and again.

The Valentines' day welfare was attended by over 240 students. The queues were found to be very long, as people tended to concentrate in specific time-slots.

The Chinese New Year event was conducted online via Twitch, and it was attended by around 170 participants. The number of alumni attendees was double the number compared to last year, and this was an area of focus for the organising team. Prior to the event, the team had conducted multiple dry runs to take care of the operational aspects of the event.

Going forward, the CBd will be conducting an online coding challenge that has received around 150 sign-ups, analytics workshops conducted by companies, career talks, etc. The sign up would not be opened to people with an SCIS second major as historically not a lot of people from the group have joined. Many professors were also consulted before deciding this.

Council members asked how effective Zoom was as a platform for conducting the networking events. He mentioned that networking sessions on Zoom were made more effective by having moderators in each room, who made sure to engage either parties. The council members asked whether the CBd turned people away who did not adhere to their time slot. To this, the ellipsis president responded

negatively since if people do not collect when they come, then they will never be able to do so. He also stated that taking temperature etc. is not mandatory if the school building staff has already done so. He also said that welfare must be spread across a few days, and having it on a single day gives rise to many problems.

He also mentioned that they took assistance from DKHMCC and sponsors to increase turn-up rates for the networking events, who helped them publicise the same. This helped greatly.

The Council also discussed the point of inconsistency in guidelines. A Council member mentioned that OSS lays out general guidelines, and the different school offices decide how to implement it. This in turn leads to inconsistency. The CCA and school CBds are also subjected to differing levels of scrutiny, as a dean and a director are at very different posts. A Council member mentioned that if a school office gives different guidelines, it is important to let them know OSS's guidelines. This would be open for discussion later.

Presentation by Oikos President: Glen Wong

The Oikos President started by talking about Oikos week where snacks were given to motivate students before the midterm week. He also mentioned that the Economics Society of Singapore had recently organised a networking event. However, SMU students were unable to attend due to midterms. Since NTU and NUS students signed up in large numbers, the organisers proceeded with the event. As such, he mentioned that it is important for CBds to protect their own interests as circumstances can go against them.

He went on to mention that the recruitment process of Directors of UnderTheStars and Oikos Camp had concluded, however, the Organising Committee and the Facilitators will be recruited over the recess break. Since the School of Economics has a relatively small population, people were asked to apply for the Facilitator position and the Organising Committee together. He gave a few updates regarding the companies interested in sponsoring Oikos.

At this juncture, the President enquired whether the Council members would be keen to connect with equivalent portfolio holders in other local universities. All were agreeable.

Presentation by The Bar President: Lenvin Tan

The Bar President started off by saying that associates and directors of the various CBds must not be trusted blindly, and the CBd Presidents should realise that they are the ones ultimately responsible for all actions. As such, The Bar President plans to have a monthly meeting with all of them. It will be conducted in-person as he feels it is more efficient than meeting online.

He went on to talk about how the mode of summer camps is very uncertain, and it is important to let the respective teams know that there is a chance it might get cancelled. He plans to meet the committee of the Summer event every week to give them updates on any developments. He also has met the Presidents of the three events – Law Camp, Law Night, and Law Graduation Night. The Graduation Night can be replaced by a video or perhaps even a T-shirt if needed. As for the Law Camp and Law Night, people have been recruited but no roles have been allocated yet. The Directors have been given the liberty to allocate the manpower.

He went on to state that The Bar had utilised a pigeon hole and feedback sessions as channels of feedback. Even batch chats had been conducted. They also conduct polls regularly that each garner 30-40 responses. They have helped collate useful feedback pertaining to the library and also conveying it to the Dean. These initiatives have made the process of acting on students' concerns more efficient.

The Bar President also believes that over the last year, not much had been done for their sponsors. Recently, they have stopped relying on them to come up with plans, but instead coming up with ideas and going to them. They will also create vested interest for their close sponsors by creating sessions for them to interact with the students.

He also mentioned that it is important for the Presidents to go to the event-site on the ground during events, as it ensures clarity and precision on a lot of issues. This is something that The Bar President has attempted to do actively, and has seen favourable results. The Council was keen to know how this was received by the ExCo, and he replied that it was well-received and it added a human-touch, and helped them feel more connected and engaged.

Presentation by Bondue President: Yasirah Umar

The Bondue President started by sharing about Bondue's past events and learning points from them. The Friendship Week Welfare took place recently. Tote bags were also given out for people to reuse in

upcoming welfare events so as to avoid any wastage. A staycation giveaway also took place. All contents were healthy as well as vegan. A gratitude booth was also set up where people could create name tents for their friends to show gratitude. Flowers were given as well. There were almost 480 beneficiaries, and the event was organised across multiple floors. Not a lot of problems with regards to crowding were faced. The Bondue President also stated that flexibility is important in such events as people who come in different time-slots can't simply be shunned away, as this leads to unhappiness; it is imperative to be adaptable. The Bondue President has also decided to not have any welfare collection slots during class-times as it leads to wastage of manpower. Bondue also had 'buffer time' wherein students who were unable to collect the welfare packs due to other commitments could do so. The CBd also did not hesitate to redirect people who reached the wrong venue.

Bondue will also be having an Alumni Networking Night. Remo.co would be used in place of Zoom as it offers a host of features that would be useful for such an event. These include - name cards, maximum table capacity, 'stage' feature, etc.. Furthermore, since it is hard to get sponsorship for online events, the platform allows you to put a sponsorship bot on the event itself, which makes the sponsor more evident to the attendees.

She moved on to state that the recruitment for the Bondue Camp is currently ongoing. The primary mode is still unsure, but the CBd plans to have either contingencies in place. Furthermore, they will also accommodate for the difference in capacity between an online and a physical event. The theme for the great move is yet to be determined, but it will be along the lines of releasing stress and relaxing. The event would follow a similar physical pre-collection registration format.

She then talked about deconfliction between CBds. She highlighted that there was an event that a recently concluded event closely resembled a Bondue event. She said that each CBd has unique names and unique selling points, and it is imperative to know the agenda and activities of each other and ensure that there are no such conflicts.

**Presentation by Safety and Strategic Operations Secretary:
Udbhav Dalmia**

The Secretary started his segment by stating that OSS is still trying to get in touch with MOE with regards to summer events, but have not received a reply as of yet, and this has led to the delay in getting back to the CBd Presidents. The Secretary stated that his role is a new

one, and over the last couple of months, he, alongwith the school offices and fellow council members, have been able to pencil down a more specific job scope. Going forward, the following duties have been identified as part of the Safety and Strategic Operations Secretary job scope:

- Assist SMUSA President and Office of Provost with collecting data on student sentiments for student life in general
- Assist the SMUSA President in executing the strategic plans(Surveys, Townhall Sessions)
- Assist in formation of the Critical Task Force for the SMU
- Appointed as the Secretariat of the Critical Task Force
- The incumbent will perform the role as the appointed Safety Officer (Risk Champion) for SMUSA with the view to assist in facilitating the overall physical and psychological safety and security of student-life activities and events under SMUSA. In addition, he/she will also act as the lead Safety Officer (Risk Champion) under the SAC with members from the various School and CCA CBds.
- Act as a key POC with the respective offices, specifically OSS, ODOS and OCIS on all safety and security-related matters concerning students
- Works with the SMUSA President and the SAC in communication concerns / feedback / suggestions to the staff offices on student safety and security related matters
- Works with all the CBds and ICON Risk Champions(Safety ICs) in ensuring adherence and compliance to established safety procedures, protocol and governance for student life activities and events organized for the student community
- Works with the various staff offices in periodic reviews of existing safety statistics, policies, measures for student-life activities and events and where needed, in the formulation of new safety measures.
- Championing the process of risk management within the SAC, building commitment to and support for the risk management process and raising awareness through education/outreach initiatives
- Assisting in the promotion of WSH initiatives, guidelines and culture-building for the SMUSA and the SMU student community as a whole.
- Participating and assisting in periodic safety inspections of events and activities organised by SMUSA and the student

leadership bodies as a whole

- Formulate and lead the Risk Champion Committee consisting of the Safety ICs of the CBds and ICON with the assistance of the OSS.

The Secretary also stated that 440 responses had been received for the Student Sentiment Survey, and it serves as a good feedback channel as it is anonymous.

The Risk Champion Committee would comprise 12 members including the safety ICs of all CBds and ICON. This will help create a unified channel of communication between OSS, SAC, and the various CCAs in SMU. The committee will also advise OSS on concerns around safety guidelines as and when required. The committee will also conduct safety inspections during student-led events as well as aim to create a safe environment for the students.

The Secretary went on to share that Professor Balan and his research advisor(PhD student) from SCIS are creating a platform for the students to check the occupancy status of the various popular locations around school to prevent overcrowding. The Council members were impressed by the idea. A council member raised the issue of seat-hogging, and the A&W Secretary mentioned that she has already raised this concern with the Libraries. The President also mentioned that OSS and OCIS are working towards opening up more spaces for students to study.

The Secretary mentioned that the main principle behind OSS's guidelines for photo-taking is to keep masks on and maintain a 1 metre distance. The secretary also urged the various marketing departments to keep the following in mind:

- Masks off only while taking the picture and immediately must be put back on
- 1-m safe distancing to be maintained
- Not more than 8 people in a group
- Disclaimer under each and every post is a must

He mentioned that SICS's recent post is a good example of how group pictures should be clicked while adhering to OSS's guidelines.

The Secretary also stated that he was creating a group with all Safety ICs. Some Presidents were curious if they could be included in the group as they have their own concerns to raise as well. The Secretary ended off by saying that all guidelines will be officially released in a written form very soon.

Presentation by Events Secretary: Gayathri Ghandi

The Events Secretary commenced her segment by sharing that she had met with the Office of Student Life recently to draft a tentative schedule for the summer events. She displayed that calendar on the screen for the entire Council to see. There were a total of 18 days assigned to Freshman Orientation, while the CBds and ICON had 23 days to deconflict and organise their events if they wished to do so in a Hybrid mode. She mentioned that the school offices are still in the process of receiving approval from MOE, and if it is not approved, all camps will have to be organised online. As such, more dates will be freed up and everyone will have more options. She mentioned that it is important for all CBds to have an online camp in mind as a back-up plan.

A solution proposed by the Secretary was to incorporate the activities of the different CBds in Freshmen Orientation, instead of having a completely separate event for them. This is even more important as the 23 days might not be enough for all ICON camp 10 CBd camps to take place.

Many CBd presidents opposed the idea of prioritizing Freshmen Orientation over the CBd camps, and claimed that most students find their own school orientation more important than Freshmen Orientation. This is partly because the students get to meet other students that they would spend most of their time with over the coming four years. **Some CBd presidents also mentioned that the number of FO runs can be reduced. They added that the main aim of Freshmen Orientation is for people to get to know other students from different faculties, but this aim will not be realised considering that there are only 7 freshmen per group.** The CBd Presidents also mentioned that the school and CCA CBd Camps are more important in representing SMU and what the freshmen's coming years will entail. **They also mentioned that their CBd may not be represented accurately if incorporated in Freshmen Orientation. The CBd Presidents also mentioned that it is slightly unfair that there are 9 runs for a single camp (FO), while there is not a single one for the others.** They highlighted that multiple camps are important because they give the freshmen a chance to pick and choose, and possibly go for their own school camp and multiple CCA camps. However, such is not possible in the given proposal. They were not keen on the idea of having 9 runs of the same thing, but not enough for the others. Furthermore, **some Council members enquired whether the Freshmen Orientation facilitators would really be interested in the idea of having as many as nine runs.**

At this juncture, questions were raised on the mission of Freshmen

Orientation, and the point of having them do ‘a little bit of everything’. Some points raised include – helping students get to know their way around the school, getting to know people from other faculties etc.

Some Council members asked whether the camps can be organised in June – earlier than the earliest date proposed by the Events Secretary – as matriculation could possibly be confirmed by then. However, the Event Secretary clarified that July is the earliest the camps can be organised based on the information received from the Registrar’s office.

A CBd President reiterated that the number of days available is too little for the number of events if all events were to happen in a Hybrid mode. Furthermore, it was highlighted that **standardization is important. If some camps are online while some are in a hybrid mode, students will draw comparisons and judgements between the different CBds.**

A Council member enquired whether it would be possible for the different school CBds to have their events simultaneously. This idea was shot down as Double Degree students have to be given the option of attending the camps of both their faculties.

The CBd Presidents enquired whether it would be possible for Freshmen Orientation to take place online. The Events Secretary mentioned that such is not possible because last year’s feedback had found that people find it hard to make friends and be properly inducted in an online setting. **A CBd President asked if the purpose of FO is to induct the students in the school, and help them with things like how to get to an SR, the school camps will be more relevant as they are specific to the students’ school and what they will be doing for the coming year.** Furthermore, he mentioned that if FO takes place online, **it will allow all other 11 camps to take place, and this will give the students an opportunity to try multiple things instead of just one, and also help them do what they are specifically interested in.** The council member also went on to mention that the school camps can encompass the diversity and inclusion aspects of Freshmen Orientation. Furthermore, he also stated that many **students might not be interested in getting to know about other faculties.** In addition to that, **it is harder to integrate and bond students with different interests,** while in a school camp, everyone has the same interest and can bond more easily.

The CBd Presidents also mentioned that if all camps were to take place, **there would be a huge overlap in terms of the activities, which could possibly disengage and disinterest participants.**

They also questioned the feasibility of having Hybrid camps at all. The participants will not get to interact or play games with a lot of other students, but will only interact with their other 7 groupmates throughout the duration of the camp. One President also questioned the idea of bringing them to school, as they will be keen to interact across groups which could possibly lead to safety hazards.

The SMUSA President stressed that it is important to discuss the main objective of organising Freshmen Orientation. If it has a unique selling point when compared to the CBds, then it makes sense to have it. Otherwise, she proposed the idea of moving away from the tradition of Freshmen Orientation incorporating the CCA CCAs into it, and instead have a small SMUSA segment in every CCA and School CBd camp. She acknowledged that incorporating entire CCA CBds into Freshmen Orientation might not represent their true value proposition, and their variety of clubs and activities. The Events Secretary mentioned that the main purpose of organising Freshmen Orientation is to learn more about the SMU campus, meet people from different Faculties, and get a gist of SMUSA Experience.

Some Council members enquired **whether it would be possible to reduce the number of runs for Freshmen Orientation by having some parts of the camp online.** The CBd Presidents pointed out that the last few proposed runs can be removed as they might have higher attrition rates. This idea was shot down as international students tend to come closer to the start of the academic year, and as such are only able to attend the last few runs of Freshmen Orientation.

The discussion once again moved to the likelihood of the events taking place hybrid mode and whether it is permitted. A CBd President shared that on interacting with the student council of other universities during the inter-uni dialogue event, **it was brought to light that their school managements have committed to let them have a day of physical activities. If SMU is not permitted to have their events in a hybrid mode, it will be a huge inconsistency on the part of MOE.**

The options shortlisted were as follows:

- 1. To remove Freshmen Orientation and to incorporate small elements of SMUSA into the CBd camps.**
- 2. To have Freshmen Orientation online with less number of runs**
- 3. The number of runs for Freshmen Orientation is cut down and the CBds are allowed to have a hybrid event**

The council members also raised questions about the **itinerary of Freshmen Orientation, and whether it could possibly have no**

CCA involvement and be completely run by OSL. They also asked whether there was a **chance to get matriculation details from RO more quickly.**

The school CBd presidents did not wish for their camps to take place on weekends. They also wished to have **at least 2-3 runs (1 run = 2 days) each rather than just 1.** While discussing the idea of collaborating with the Freshmen Orientation team to organise a camp together, most CBd Presidents were uninterested. They stated that it is harder to combine SSU and SMUX, since they are activity based and require spreading out. They stated that the experience of **focussing on an activity and incorporating an activity into something else can never be equivalent.** Furthermore, many have already recruited their organising committees, and it would not make sense to retain them all if collaborating. Furthermore, the CBd Presidents added that the CBds have a host of clubs under them, and not all are represented well in Freshmen Orientation – some freshmen may also get confused between SSU and SMUX CCAs. The CBd camps, however, are able to encompass all CCAs and also showcase how each of them is unique and different. They also felt that the school CBds should take precedence in things like showing students around school. They also stated that if Freshmen Orientation takes place in a hybrid mode, they will settle for nothing less than their own camps being hybrid as well. The CBd Presidents also felt that the matter should be discussed in greater depth with their respective Events Secretaries as well.

The school CBd presidents agreed to have their runs overlap in a way such that Double Degree students are still able to attend both their faculties' camps. When questioned on whether they are estimating the number of participants and in turn the number of runs required, the CBd Presidents said that they are taking into consideration the historical numbers from online camps. The International Students' Secretary said that considering that International students tend to come close to the start of the semester, **it is important for ICON camp to be the last camp to take place.** Another suggestion given by the CBd Presidents was to decentralise things like showing around school to the school CBds, and instead focus on the fun aspect.

The Events Secretary informed the Council that she would approach OSL with the key pointers and suggestions from the discussion, and update the Council on any developments.

Presentation by ASoc President: Wei Shin

The ASoc President commenced his segment by talking about their recently organised mini welfare. He highlighted that they had very strict time slots of 10 minutes each to avoid clusters, and it was found to be effective. They also asked the students to bring their own bags so as to reduce wastage and carbon footprint. He also mentioned that the previously ordered fresh food had been donated to the needful.

The ASoc President went on to share that the CBd made a filter – something like a lottery – which helped the sponsors get wider coverage.

The ASoc team is working on the upcoming Seniors' Night. The event will be in a Hybrid mode wherein the participants have an online team and the organising Committee will meet in person. Virtual games and pre-recorded videos will be used so as to make the session more engaging. Goodie Bags will also be distributed using a time-slot system.

The ASoc President asked the ACF President more about his experience conducting a welfare drive at SMU Connexion. In particular, he wished to know whether having a single entrance leads to clustering. The ACF President responded that his team faced no such problems while conducting their welfare drive there.

The ASoc President also shared that the recruitment for ASoc Camp and ASoc Night is currently ongoing. The plan is to have 2 runs of 2 days each for the former. The event would resemble an amazing race contest wherein students will be required to go around Singapore. He was unsure how OSL would react to the idea. On the one hand, students are being spread across Singapore so interaction between them is less likely, and on the other hand, there will be many more GPDs to prepare. The team will continue planning once more information is received from the SMUSA Events Secretary.

He also mentioned that for Project Moolah, the school principals required an formal letter from the school endorsing the event, and not C4SR. He urged all Council members to keep that in mind.

Lastly, The ASoc President shared that the virtual open house had very low turnout rates and as such, was not very effective.

Presentation by International Students' Secretary: Rhea Singhania

The ICON President shared that their integration department recently organised an event called Iconversations. The event followed the theme of a human library wherein human books (people with interesting stories) shared their stories in small groups. The topics were limited to ones relevant to international students. The event was found to be very meaningful. She further shared that with mainstream topics, there is no worry unlike this event, where sensitive topics were being discussed. Nonetheless, the end outcome was positive and everyone found the conversations to be useful. When asked, the organising committee stated that they stepped-up so as to experience ICON.

The ICON President also shared that the recruitment process for ICON Camp and Diverse-city had finished recently, and the final list would be prepared by the end of the week. A second welfare drive will be conducted in Week 11.

Presentation by SMUSA Academic and Welfare Secretary: Nicolette Ang

The A&W Secretary started her segment by giving a brief overview of the A&W events for the year. The Double Major/Degree Programme would serve to inform students about the different permutations of Degrees and Majors that can be taken. She would be liaising with different CBds with regards to the same. A guidebook similar to the BOSS guidebook is also in the works. An internship readiness event will also be conducted to help freshmen prepare for internships. The mindfulness seminar is yet to be confirmed, but it is in line with the Mental Health focus of SMUSA for the year. She also reiterated that the deadline for sending questions for the SMUSA Student Survey is the following Monday.

The Secretary also shared a document indicating all available and unavailable Seminar Rooms for the weeks close to finals. She mentioned that the document is still not complete, but it will be finished soon. The Seminar Rooms will be divided amongst all the CBds by the A&W Secretary.

The Council asked that all the school CBds together cover the entire school population already, and as such what is the need for CCA CBds to have Seminar Rooms. In response to that, some council members said that even though there are two affiliations, some students would prefer to choose one of them. The CBd Presidents

	<p>also enquired if the initiative could be open to the entire school under SMUSA's name. The Council responded that they want the students to stick to their school building. A possible collaboration wherein the logos of all CBds are included in the email sent by SMUSA will be discussed after the meeting. The A&W Secretary added that The school offices are in favour of centralising the system. It is hard to have a decentralised system wherein people go to their own School.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>The meeting ended at 1345</p>	
	<p>Minutes written by: SMUSA Honorary General Secretary Minutes vetted by: SMUSA Safety and Strategic Operations Secretary Minutes approved by: SMUSA President</p>	