



SMU Alumni Association

Meeting Minutes

Subject	SMUAA 13th Annual General Meeting	Date	1st June 2018, Friday
Location	The Alcove	Time	6.30pm
Attendees			
SMUAA Executive Committee	Deborah Wee Jeanie Lee Nicholas Wong	Allan Tan Gerald Tan Edwin Lim	
SMUAA Ground Team	Hajarah Shariff Josephine Wang Nazira Abdul Malik Nurul Hidayah Zainal Abidin		
Invited Guests	Bervyn Lee Andrew Tam Adeline Bek Jeanine Chen Sam Wu Jason Tan Vincent Tan		

Agenda
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption of Minutes from AGM 2017 2. Opening Speech by President (8th Executive Committee) 3. Personal Data Protection 4. Strategy & Vision 2018 5. Communications, Engagement & Marketing 6. Financials FY2017 7. Proposed SMUAA Constitution Reviews 8. Any Other Business 9. Closing Speech by President 10. End of AGM

S/No	Topics
1	Adoption of Minutes from AGM 2017
	<p>Gerald Tan (Honorary Secretary, SMUAA 8th Exco), Chairman of the 13th SMUAA AGM called the meeting to order at 7.25pm once the quorum of 30 was established. The notice of meeting was taken as read.</p> <p>Gerald Tan (Honorary Secretary, SMUAA 8th Exco), also pointed out the value of the meeting in terms of filtering time out when posing questions with regards to the AGM.</p> <p>Gerald Tan (Honorary Secretary, SMUAA 8th Exco), called upon members on the adoption of the previous AGM's minutes.</p>



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	<p>Proposer: Umangkumar Milan (BSc Econ, 2012) Seconder: Rei Cheong (EMBA, 2012)</p>
2	Opening Speech by President (8th Executive Committee)
	<p>Deborah Wee (President, SMUAA 8th Exco) started the opening speech with sharing the benefits of SMUAA etc. Deborah then handed over the next agenda to Jeanie.</p>
3	Personal Data Protection
	<p>Gerald addressed the PDPC incident that happened last year and clearly described what happened. Data was exposed but there was no actual loss of data as per PDPC. SMUAA was fined \$5,000 by the PDPC. Stricter rules was posed by the PDPC for data breach.</p>
4	Strategy & Vision 2018
	<p>Jeanie (Vice-President, SMUAA 8th Exco) started off the agenda on point 7 & 8 talking about last year's SMUAA AGM elections Where was SMUAA in terms of engagement, communications etc last year as compared to current year. Presence during events was occasional previously. Membership drive was insignificant. Building the SMUAA Alumni Network -all works done after are more strategic. Reaching out to alumni groups, scholars network. Strategic diagram – what are the different exco roles. SMUAA doesn't just consist of the exco but also the many different categories of alumni, alumni office and the various SMU offices. Can we harness the network to reach out to the alumni's? Professional Development Awareness Networking Opportunities – ways to leverage the alumni network B3 and alcove – opened for community engagement</p>
5	Communications, Engagement & Marketing
	<p>Communication platforms have increased significantly. Reaching out to them even before graduation seems to have bring in more enthusiastic results as compared to Cap & Gown. Partnership with SMUSA – Offering cheap student meals. Increased presence of SMUAA Reps at alumni events. Excos commitment to attend alumni events to create presence – to touch base. SMUAA Benefits increase - SMU Academy etc especially for foreign students.</p>



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	<p>Jeanie went on to explain about the improved service points on membership registration and processing. Moving forward, SMUAA plans to hold more events to create better friendship and belonging. Scholarship Program – to raise a more strategic purpose. Moving forward, to create an engaged alumnus and advocate in every SMUAA scholar. Mentoring in terms of content creation. SMUAA is continuing to build a scholars network from this current batch onwards. Fundraising events for the next 1 to 2 years. SMU Grow – reusing ugly vegetables etc. The Alcove – calendar utilisation.</p> <p>Gerald asked if anyone wishes to adopt the points above.</p> <p>Proposer: Calvin Lim (BBM, 2010) Seconder: Mok Zhi Wei (BAcc, 2015)</p>
6	Financials FY2017
	<p>Allan Tan (Treasurer, SMUAA 8th Exco) started off the financial slides with the revenue analysis for FY2017. Overall performance of FY2017 was positive. Breakdown of the major losses in previous year was staffing costs. He went on to explain the decline revenue on certain months due to the summer break. Also explained the provision of unutilised leave for the spike of staffing costs specifically. Membership revenue – new sign ups vs renewal. Breakdown of sign ups – postgrad vs undergrads. Following that, Allan showed the audited reports – BS, I/S etc.</p> <p>Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – asked the budget for the next fiscal year. He also brought up that he requested for the budget during the last previous year. Allan replied that budget is usually done towards the end of the year. Allan Foo requested again for the next time to share the budget for the current year.</p> <p>Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) – he requested for the breakdown of slides for B3 and Membership. He continued that it is not clear enough in terms of costs. Edwin included that last year slides already included this numbers. Isaac also went on to ask about the current cash position and if we are going bankrupt. Isaac asked what if the association goes under, who is going to pay off the debts/be liable. Jeanie asked why the concern for such speculative questions. Also stressed that he is not a shareholder therefore he is not liable. Isaac mentioned there is a concern if the directors who are running the society know that if the society is not going to survive, then are they going to still continue ‘trading’? Deborah also went on that we have worked out the costs and that we are able to breakeven for this year. Talks are going on with SMU that there would be a loan</p>



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	<p>infusion. Isaac went on to add on that mark-up on cost of goods sales is healthy but staffing costs is way too high. Isaac also asked what are the amounts to related party pertaining to? Edwin replied that the significant amount is due to a no interest loan. Staffing costs from this month onwards have already been deducted by 30%. Isaac also requested for quarterly report for financial updates. Jeanie went on to explain about the subway model etc. And assured that the excos are not fearful, and members should not be either. Gerald mentioned that the excos and ground team are working hard to get the reports out. And therefore, not requesting for reports just based on speculations.</p> <p>Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – he would like to imagine SMUAA spending more time on various chapters. Comparing previous and this year’s AGM , we are spending too much time on one scope of the operations which is B3. He also mentioned to delink B3 from SMUAA. Forming as a subsidiary company on entity to deal with B3. He also wish to ask that when ge attends the next AGM, we won’t be distracted by the finances of B3. He also addressed that alumni facilities requires SMU funding and suggested speaking to SMU President. As an EMBA graduate, he has been very disappointed in attending another AGM where it only focuses on finances. He went on regarding the reaction from the AGM - interaction from the members and exco with regards to B3 but lesser interaction with members on other topics.</p> <p>Deborah also added on that the set-up of B3 was done with the support of OAR in the beginning and hopefully it will continue to be a viable business.</p> <p>Proposer: Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) Seconder: Umangkumar Milan (BSc Econ, 2012) Adopt the financial reports – via voting. Motion is carried due to yes votes.</p>
7	Proposed SMUAA Constitution Reviews
	<p>Total number of voters: 25 Proxies: 4 Quorum is not met as some people left. As quorum has already met at the start of the meeting, the voting for the proposed changes will continue. Gerald – voted yes to all constitution changes.</p> <p><u>Clause 5.1</u> Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – abstained from voting in the first place but changed his mind once he has confirmed that Edwin does not have voting rights as Exec Secretary.</p> <p><u>Clause 14.6</u> Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – Asked if there are any limits?</p>



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Gerald replies that it's difficult to state a limit, even if we don't have amendments to this clause.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) - Resolution to be visited. With OAR intervention the previous clause should stay.

Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) asked if a society is considered a separate legal entity. Repercussion are if any debts are due,

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) - mentioned that it's not about money but pride. SMU is a management school and should have excellent management practices.

Gerald refutes saying that the question posed by Allan is not relevant to the clause involved.

Gerald brought up to all members present to make all questions brought up to be relevant to what is being discussed. Also to pay respect to the item that is being brought up.

Allan left the venue at 9.01pm.

Clause 14.7

This clause was brought up as it was raised during last year's AGM.

This review was to make it to the interest of the association.

Clause 15.6

Umangkumar Milan (BSc Econ, 2012) - asked what does the role of non-elected members means. Are they allowed to vote?

Gerald replied that they have no voting rights but are allowed to sit on the committee. He also quoted Edwin as an example.

Allan came back at 9.05pm.

Clause 17.1 & 17.2

Allan asked on the points of 17.1 & 17.2.

Gerald asked Allan to refer to the notes that was given.

Edwin Lim (SMUAA, General Manager) - explained that the clause was due to a clarification on a grammatical error to emphasize on the appointing of the President as the Advisor Member.

Hence the next clause was reviewed to include this.

Clause 22.1 & 22.2

Old 22.1 moved to 22.2 with the new insertion as per Societies Act.

Pursuant to prior year's AGM request.

Clause 22.3

Slight editing with the change to "The Auditors" instead of "They".

Clause 22.7

Typo on members copies. Gerald read out verbally.

Motion was passed in full.



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Clause 24.3

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – voted NO.

Clause 24.4

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – voted NO.

Umangkumar Milan (BSc Econ, 2012) - asked what does the last line in the clause refers to.

Gerald explained that these terms is for the interest of the association, reasonable business practices.

Clause 24.5

Gerald proposed that the committee decides on what is political or not, quoting the Cat Welfare as an example. Political is objective and anything can be objective.

Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) - asked what is political and what is not.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) - advised the general body to vote against this clause as he opposed against giving “carte blanche” by this clause, any committee the right to determine what is political or not. The committee is a transient group which triggers according to the election . He

He also warned that we are giving “carte blanche” by this clause, the number of people the overriding power to determine what is political or what is not.

Gerald stressed on what is the definition of political and non-political. How do we decide on which organisation is political?

Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) – asked what is the rationale for this?

Gerald quoted an example from Pink Dot. Who decides the political nature?

Rei Cheong (EMBA,2012) quoted People’s Association for example.

Jeanie – replied that it is very hard to determine on what is political. Unless what is declared political.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – says that this AGM Is not to determine on which bodies are political etc but to discuss on the resolutions. The concern is that the committee is asking for authorisation on giving “carte blanche”.

Jeanie – replied Allan with the remark on if the association needs to hold an event/activity, do we need to hold an AGM just to come up with the decision or should we go ahead. Or do we decide it with the people who have been elected into office.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – wishes to remind the Exco and the general body that SMUAA is a representative of SMU. Our link with SMU is entrusted with the form of a powerful ally in the form of OAR. So why do we need to give a “carte blanche” resolution like this? If indeed there comes an issue that is so contentious and not clear cut to the OAR, then we should call for an EGM, as this constitution involves politics.

Jeanie asked who has been supporting SMUAA with funds for events. And if SMUAA are allowed to hold events without consultation? SMUAA is a separate legal entity no matter how the name is spelt out as SMU Alumni Association. Everything that we do, SMUAA have to consult the respective offices. As long as we carry the SMU name, we too are responsible for the brand name. Trust the office bearers to have a considered point of view.

Gerald - The management committee has the power to decide but by a series of voting.

Rei Cheong (MBA, 2015) suggested to reword the constitution change to avoid any confusion.



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Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) objected by saying that against and abstain is not considered the same.

Gerald added on that against and abstain is the same.

Vote count: 7 - Nos & Abstain

Gerald referred to Clause 26.1

Gerald read out the clause to all members – also mentioned that there is no difference to against and abstain. Only the YES votes are considered.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) clearly wants to be recorded as being against and not abstaining. He is objecting to the unclear directions of who is being against and who is abstaining against the constitution/resolutions changes. Any minority group is considered irrelevant.

Gerald refutes by asking who mentioned that.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) request that in the minutes of this AGM that his vote of being against should not be considered as being abstained. He said that the votes for this clause falls into 3 categories - For, Abstain and Against. And he requested for his vote to not be counted in the group of abstaining BUT against the change. He wish to be clearly recorded that he is against the change and not to be in an unknown group (abstain).

Gerald read out Clause 26.1 again.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – informed Gerald that he may get the majority votes but from a minority shareholder or interest holder that he wants to be recorded as not abstaining but clearly being **against** the change. He is objecting against the unclear definition of this AGM on the voting process of voting for, against or abstaining.

Gerald mentioned that all abstains will be treated as NOs.

Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) mentioned that when he abstains he does not have a considered opinion. And he is speaking on behalf of those who abstains against this resolution change. On record, he advises the general body that this is not the time to mess around with matters that is political or religious.

He also advises not to allow anybody the right to allow any political matters, to seek advice from Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) – to settle it amicably.

Deborah stepped in, mentioned that if there is any objections to raise the red card for clarity.

7 - No.

17 – Yes.

Gerald – Based on 2/3 of the voting members present currently or 2/3 of the voting members from the start of the meeting – 2 are not carried.

- Clause 14.6
- Clause 24.5



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	<p>Clause 29.3 Akanksha Mittal (MITB, 2018) - proposed to revote for 29.3 – addition of the Honorary to the word Secretary. Seconded by Gerald Tan.</p> <p>Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012) – he would like to ask a question: if SMUAA calls for an AGM and changes the context of the resolution, for members who did not attend this AGM and finds out that the wording for certain resolutions have been changed they might want to come. The technicality in the better judgement based on his prior experience in conducting other AGMs.</p> <p>Ernest Wee He Sheng (MSc, 2018) - requested to vote after he came in after the start of the voting process. Was issued the voting cards at 9.51pm.</p> <p>Revote to amend – 2 voted NO. Motion not carried forward.</p> <p>Gerald – mentioned that the constitution changes will be deliberated and members will be updated.</p> <p>Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) – requested for the financial reports to be sent out 10 days before AGM.</p>
8	Any Other Business
	<p>Deb asked if there are any other business. If not, to move on to the next agenda – closing speech.</p>
9	Closing Speech by President
	<p>Deborah thanked the members for being passionate and being keen on the issues regarding SMUAA. Also, encouraged members to join in alumni activities with SMUAA and OAR. Members will be updated on the points discussed. She also mentioned that 2019 would be an election AGM and urged members to come forth to join the Executive Committee.</p> <p>Gerald states that the voting has ended. The 2 clauses that did not pass.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 14.6 • Clause 24.5 <p>No objections from other members present.</p>



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10	End of AGM
	<p>Proposer: Isaac Chua (BBM, 2012) Secunder: Allan Foo (EMBA, 2012)</p> <p>The 13th Annual General Meeting ended at 9.57pm.</p> <p>Deborah Wee mentioned about Edwin's leaving. Wishes Edwin the best and thank him for his time at SMUAA.</p>