

# President's Report

So this time last year, Limao and I adopted the very over-achieving and high maintenance UQ Computing Society into our care. When we first attended the Welcome Trivia Night in 2021 (go green team!) I never would have thought that we'd be here, two years later, as your outgoing president and secretary. For this – I blame the members of the green team who up-sold this club and the late night presidential ambush at the 2022 Hackathon: you know exactly who you are.

Despite being labelled the “2023” committee, our term well and truly started in October 2022 - being thrust into the deep end having to rapidly tighten our Discord moderation strategy, ensuring our bar tab at End of Sem drinks did not run out too quickly (it was gone by 7:30pm) as well as completing a great overhaul of our sponsorship prospectus.

Firstly, being the president of UQCS is a massive responsibility and very daunting task which, I would argue is one of the most intensive presidential positions one could hold within UQ C&S. Not because of the role itself on paper, but because, as a size 7.5, each president of committees past have left massive shoes to fill in terms of the level and quality of leadership, hard work and dedication to the club. The fact that, at the end of tonight, we could have three ex-presidents as life-members is really representative of this. So I want to personally apologise to committee emeritus, for silently retiring The Router Podcast, not releasing a bespoke hoodie line for sale and completely ripping off the matte-black mug design and claiming it as “new”. But hopefully, how this year has gone has done you guys proud.

## 1 2023 Objectives

### 1. **Fostering a closer relationship with school (EECS) and faculty (EAIT)**

This year, one of our goals was to work closer with the faculty (EAIT) and school (EECS). Through attending a couple forums, it was immediately obvious that the feeling was mutual as the uni wants to engage better with students and there was no better way than to collaborate with student societies. The EAIT faculty realised that they have been very ‘E’ focused and sort of left out the ‘IT’ so they were keen to support CS and IT has best as they could this year. I encourage the next committee to keep this conversation going on how we can further improve the student experience for CS and IT students.

With the School of EECS (formerly ITEE), we’ve been working together to strengthen and solidify our competitive programming group, I would like to especially thank UQCS alum, Brae Webb as well as Dr. Peter O’Shea, Director of Student Experience for really putting in the effort to strengthen the relationship between the school and UQCS.

### 2. **Solidifying and Establishing the Competitive Programming Group (CPG)**

Every year, UQCS has run the competitive programming group differently. This year, we tried to frame the group around each of the ANZAC and ICPC competitions, but established the group as more social to try and attract as many first year and less competitive students as possible. After all, it takes time to train and get good, so “starting them young” would lead to some really effective competitive programmers later down the track. I think it’s worth reaching out to students and schools in other universities with more established programming groups (like UNSW, UWA, UniSA) to learn how they train their groups and retain interest.

It was great to see UQ’s name on those ANZAC leaderboards - at our our first sprint we entered 7 teams and had one team reach the top 10 which was awesome. So I’d like to say thank you to all of you who participated in the sprints and showed interests in the fulls - and I hope that it was an enjoyable experience and you’d be interested in continuing next year. I’d also like to extend the thank yous to Brae Webb and Ashley Richardson who took time out of their nights to supervise the sprints, print out problem sheets and liaise with the ANZAC organisers. Without you guys none of this would have been possible.

And of course, a massive thank you to Iain Jensen who has led CPG for the most part, since the portfolio was given to him he’s hit the ground running, organising the meet-ups and sprints from the UQCS end. The enthusiasm, dedication and consistency that he’s given this group has been instrumental in solidifying the group’s existence and relevance but within UQCS and outside of UQ.

### 3. **More community-focused events**

Thanks in part to the tumultuous year that the tech industry has had - resulting in fewer sponsorships including the loss of major UQCS graduate employers, Google and Canva - we’ve been able host more talks and social events like games, movie and study nights and BBQs (shoutout to MAMA for letting us borrow them!). This, in my opinion, has lead to a greater sense of community within the club offline. It’s great to give CS students an excuse to touch grass or move from one air-conditioned room to another.

Admittedly, we did try to organise more industry tech panels, however with the current tech climate, it was very difficult to get more than two sponsors at the same place at the same time, promoting their company

to students. So I would recommended leaving these off the sponsorship prospectus this year. However, we had a small but consistent number of sponsors who turned up to our various social networking events. We also had some really interesting and meaningful workshops run by sponsors that were more social in nature.

Hopefully, next year, we'd be able to further strengthen these relationships with our existing sponsors and maybe re-ignite relationships with old ones.

#### 4. **Club does not burn down in flames**

Well there's money in the bank (more on that from Sonja) and the club isn't being disbanded so I guess this has been achieved.

## 2 Highlights of the Year

I'll let Limao go over the numbers in detail but I'm happy to say that our club is growing. With more paid members and a general increase in attendance at all our events this year, it's a really exciting time to be part of UQCS.

Between October last year to now, the UQCS Infrastructure has been very busy. Jimmy refreshed the UQCS website. Paul and Jimmy built the better QPay alternative, UQCSPay over the summer, who's skeleton was originally developed by ex-President, Taylor, overhauling large swathes of the website, resulting in us getting our first "customer", SMACK. Many features were added to the UQCS discord bot, including the beloved starboard, snail race and haiku bot. Which, I may add, you too can contribute to the UQCS discord bot by PR'ing the public repo.

Despite the record number of stress-induced breakdowns I had over that weekend, the Hackathon is the event that I am the most proud of this year. I'm glad we followed in the footsteps of last year and made it a 24/7 Hackathon again, despite the literal mountain of paperwork Jackie had to do, Faith becoming the unofficial UQCS security guard and Andrew and Iain becoming safety officers. Also, a huge shout out goes to Jimmy who helped with organising 20 or so people into functioning Hackathon teams, presented a "How to Git and Tooling Recommendations" talk and consequently, became the git expert answering pretty much all of the technical questions that came to the committee table. The energy in 49-301 for the showcase was electric - it was not only awesome to see everyone's projects but also to see the excitement and genuine interest everyone had in other people's projects. To me, that makes all the running around - and the flu afterwards - all worth it.

But some of the most interesting moments of this year aren't from big organised events and were often found on online on our discord server. See Figure 1 which outlines some of the UQCS 2023 lore. Some of my favourite moments include when the UQCS discord server surpassed SMACK as the largest UQ club discord server with 1373 members (at the time), the starboard, the provision of the pink role to Hackathon Overall Prize Winners, which was my first act as president and the discord server invite regex that stopped bots from advertising their "Desertion" services.

## 3 Conclusion and Thanks

I remember there was one day Tom, our ex-president from last year asked me if I regretted becoming president. While this year has been most certainly challenging, it's been a great year and I'm glad that I did it. And I don't doubt that I'll be suffering from committee withdrawal like many other ex-committee members who are still active. Contrary to popular belief, I study electrical engineering, not computer science so despite being in my third year, I will not be graduating at the end of this year and will be here for another two years. So, as is ex-presidential tradition, I will continue to lurk and will be happy to assist the incoming committee in any way I can next year.

So, to continue with my long list of thank yous: Thanks everyone for letting me be your president this year and not raising a coup. Thanks to ex-Presidents Tom and Jimmy and the members of the infra sub-jimmittee - Jimmy, Andrew and Paul, who became an un-official advisory board, turning up and supporting many of our events despite it being literally not your job. And finally, thanks to 2023 committee - those of you who are still here. We made it! It's been great working with you guys and you should be really proud of what we've been able to achieve this year.

Rachel Chiong  
*UQCS President*



Figure 1: UQCS Iceberg 2023

## Secretary's Report

I would like to begin with a quote from Bradley Stone from 7th October, 2022: "Today was the first time a secretary has been reelected". I am here to let you know that this will not happen again today.

I'm proud to say that this year has yet again been a year of tremendous growth for the society. As of this week, we have 642 paying members for the year of 2023, which breaks last year's record of 622 paying members. The UQCS Discord server also surpassed the SMACK Discord server in member count, which is perhaps our greatest accomplishment this year.

We kicked off the year with our Welcome Trivia Night, which was attended by over 120 members, giving our dear President quite a lovely panic, in fear that she may have undercatered our very first event of the year. Thankfully, all was well, and our term did not start with pitchforks and a coup. At the Welcome BBQ with ITEE just a few weeks later, we got a horrible feeling of déjà vu as we were told that Paul Vrbik was advertising the event to his overflowing lecture hall with over 200 CSSE1001 students. Then our next big event of the semester was CodeJam. As is tradition by now, we left question-writing to the week of CodeJam (some may say intentionally, something something "committee bonding experience"). We managed to pull through, largely with the help of Bradley, who wrote many of the questions this year, and to my knowledge has already started on writing questions for next year's CodeJam (personally, I think he enjoys it a bit too much).

On to semester two – and our premier event of the year, Hackathon. It was again a massively successive event this year – it was amazing to see that there was so much excitement and hype for the event even before it was released. So much so that, within the first few seconds of launch, we temporarily sold out of tickets (which was definitely not a mistake on the committee's behalf). I think that Hackathon is always the largest challenge for the UQCS committee, but also the most rewarding – and I want to take the chance to thank this year's committee for the wonderful work they did, before and during the event, to keep it running as smoothly as it did. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did organising the event. A special mention as well goes to the several ex-committee members who helped us immensely that weekend as well – Andrew, Jimmy, Tom, and Bradley – who are all clearly suffering from withdrawal symptoms being away from committee duties. We then finished our last of the big events of the semester, HFN. While it was a bit smaller than previous years, it was still a great experience, both for our members to meet our sponsors and sponsor reps, and for our society to collaborate with LIT and EBESS again, clubs with whom we've had a long-standing relationship.

Now for some fun stats from the committee for our term, starting from 6th October 2022:

- 16 minutes for our shortest meeting, 151 minutes for our longest meeting (yes, it was the handover meeting), and a combined 1,705 minutes in meetings (that's 28 hours and 25 minutes);
- 7 "assignment help" spam bots were blocked by our Discord regex;
- 71 PRs merged into uqcsbot;
- 126 "I have rebooted!" messages from uqcsbot;
- At least 473 :lgtm: reacts sent in committee channels;
- 166,226 total messages in the Discord server.

On to some UQCS side-quests. Some of them saw love this year, like CPG, while others were left forgotten, like the Router podcast. I strongly encourage the next committee to consider setting up dedicated subcommittees for initiatives like these (and potentially more) for a few reasons:

- It gives society members who are particularly passionate about any one of these projects an opportunity to contribute to the society without being on the committee;
- It takes some pressure off the committee, who will inevitably find themselves hard-pressed for time, and who may not be as well-equipped for some of these initiatives. An example that comes to mind is CodeJam question-writing. Many of our committee members this year are in their second year or in a different discipline entirely, and so writing competitive programming questions can be a daunting ask. We don't want to gatekeep committee to only CS students or final-years who can write questions, so this could be delegated to a subcommittee – but I'll leave that decision to the next committee.

Finally, a sincere thank you to the committee members with whom I've shared the journey, and especially to my fellow T3, Rachel and Sonja. It's been quite a challenge, with one of the largest committees in the society's history, more society members than we've seen before, and an event calendar filled to the brim. To the next committee, I wish you all the very best. I hope that your year will be as exciting and thrilling as ours was.

I conclude with words from a very wise man: "change da world... my final message. Goodb ye".

Limao Chang  
*UQCS Secretary*

# Treasurer's Report

## 1 Finances

Hello UQCS, it is my pleasure to announce that UQCS has passed audit for the 2022-2023 financial year. However, we did dip into a substantial net loss of \$5,082.27. We opened the year with a balance of \$32,268.77 and ended with a balance of \$27,169.77. This is made up of \$37,610.42 in income and \$42,692.69 in expenses, as tracked through the society's bank account.

Income		Expenses	
Grants	\$ 300.00	Acquisition of Merchandise	\$ 5,314.86
Joint Event Reimbursement	\$ 2,612.77	Advertising and Marketing	\$ 443.48
Membership Fees	\$ 830.00	Bank Fees	\$ 10.00
Merchandise Sales	\$ 604.58	Catering	\$ 13,778.41
Sponsorship Payment	\$ 22,467.25	Computer Expenses	\$ 396.27
Ticket Sales	\$ 9,436.18	Entertainment	\$ 800.00
Other Revenue	\$ 1,359.64	Purchases	\$ 8,202.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 37,610.42</b>	Pizza	\$ 5,719.80
		Prizes	\$ 7,005.00
		Equipment	\$ 284.29
		Joint Event Payment	\$ 444.88
		Printing and Stationery	\$ 152.19
		Stripe Fees	\$ 140.87
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 42,692.69</b>

## 2 Treasurer's Comments

The spending this year was relatively similar to last year, only relatively a little more.

Sponsorship income took a hit, which is one of our main sources of income. Last year, sponsorship income was \$30,721.74. This year, it was \$22,467.25. This created a struggle for me and the rest of the committee in terms of providing the society a great experience. To combat this, we had to raise the ticket prices for most ticketed events. Last year, ticket sales were at \$3,948.60. This year, ticket sales were at \$9,436.18. This is a substantial increase, this is most likely due to the increase of ticket sales and the increase of people attending ticketed events.

Hackathon was where a lot of our expense and ticket sales came from. Total expenditure for this event was around \$17,100 (including prize costs), catering costing \$9,829 in total. There was an increase ticket sales income from last year, that being \$4,972.81, but the net loss on this event was greater than last year. I think the event went really well, so I believe it was money well spent, however I did notice there was a bit of waste when it came to the main catering, where we had a lot of leftovers for curry, subway, etc. However, our catering plan assumes everyone who buys a ticket will eat food.

To talk about the elephant in the room, the whopping \$5,082.27 net loss, I can definitely say I bit off more than I could chew. Now, does this make me a bad treasurer, maybe. But my intentions were for the benefit of the society and for the people, so how bad could I possibly be? To be fair, working around such a drop in sponsorship income was difficult, and the fact that we didn't have a net loss of the difference between last years sponsorship income and this years, which would \$8,254.49, I believe was an achievement in itself. A closing balance of \$27,169.77 is not bad at all and leaves a good buffer for the next committee.

Although the money is down, UQCS is up, and I have hope that it will only get better from here. Maybe the next treasurer will make better financial decisions than me, and get get a net profit for their financial year. I pray for an abundant sponsor season next year for the next committee. A potential change I would make for next years committee would be to raise the membership fee by 1 dollar, just to generate a bit more revenue.

## 3 Final Remarks

This has been an amazing year, and I would like to thank my fellow committee members, but specifically Rachel and Limao. These two worked wonders and miracles and spent so much time just to make everything function as smoothly as it did. Our officers also spent a lot of time into this club, and they also did so well.

I send my luck to the next year's committee, have fun!

Sonja McNeilly  
*UQCS Treasurer*

## Media Officer's Report

- Discord is easily our most engaged platform.
- Facebook seemed relatively consistent, though getting response numbers for events is very unreliable.
- Members pushed for an active Instagram account with event updates. I spoke with lots of people (eg. at market day) and they all wanted our Insta over anything else.
- Instagram has been growing pretty quickly from last year with a bit more engagement.
- 2023 didn't really do LinkedIn. Some committee advise it to be picked up again next year so that is a point for consideration.
- Slack... um... I don't know, ask Jimmy.
- We had more need for moderation this year than previous. This is likely just due to growth and it's something that should be considered by next committee.
- Overall our presence over our three main media platforms is very positive and seems well received.
- I haven't provided distinct stats for you here but they are available via the platforms themselves and I'd encourage the future media officer to have a look at them once in a while to see what the trends are.

It's been a lovely year, thank you.

Faith Jones

*UQCS Media Officer*

# Event Officer's Report

I would first like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to give back to UQ Computing Society as the events officer of 2023. It was an amazing year and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the UQ Computing Society as committee as I am sure others have as well.

We had a substantial increase in the number of events this year. In 2022, the committee ran and organised a total of 36 events. In 2023, across semester one and semester two we totalled 47 events. Some notable mentions below:

1. **Barbeques:** 5
2. **Trivias:** 2
3. **Student Talks:** 11
4. **Collab Events:** 16
5. **Emails to Union:** 27
6. **Emails to EAIT:** 20

Moving onto our "flagship" events, I thought to provide a slight overview for each.

## Semester 1:

CodeJam was the first "major" event of the year with 123 total attendees. The process of organising CodeJam was a little more interesting as compared to previous years, the 2023 committee was very "fresh faced" with some committee members in their second years and/or studying non-computing disciplines such as chemistry, physics and mathematics. This gave committee some slight trouble with writing challenges but thanks to Bradley and Limao, the job was still done. The suggestion that Limao mentioned previously of introducing a sub-committee is one I am in favour of but of course - I'll leave that to the next committee to decide.

## Semester 2:

A lot of interest for Hackathon was generated this year and once again, it was a massively successful event. A total of 185 tickets were sold with 159 attendees. Personally, Hackathon for me was the most fulfilling event of the year as the time spend communicating with UQ and security was oftentimes, frustrating. Seeing all the projects created across different teams made everything so much more rewarding. I would like thank the committee as we all worked hard to make Hackathon happen. I hope everyone enjoyed the event as much as I did.

This year, High Frequency Network (HFN) was organised and ran alongside UQ Electrically Based Engineering Student Society (EBESS), UQ Ladies in Technology (LIT) and Robogals (lol). This year, approximately 80 tickets were sold with 63 attendees including committee. The event was held at Story Bridge Hotel; Martini Room and could be described as "well fit" but a larger venue should be considered next year. Overall, the event was well received from most.

A special thanks to Iain for his hard work and dedication with running and organising the majority of Competitive Programming Group (CPG). I hope to see the continued running of CPG with the next committee as well.

## Conclusion and Thanks

When I joined this club last year, I didn't think of much of it. It was only after attending First Years Panel and a few other semester one events, where I met Limao my CSSE1001 tutor. I continued to regularly attend as many events as I could regardless of what the event actually was, if I saw an events notification on my discord, I tried my best to make it, which is funny because that's how I accidentally rolled up to the last AGM and ended being on the committee member. Being on committee was daunting at first as many of my tutors were active UQ Computing Society member and seeing them at an event after practical often felt weird at times.

To conclude, I would like especially thank "madam President", Rachel and "sir", Limao as they've contributed a lot (like seriously) to committee this year. Another thank you to my fellow committee members and to the final year students, I wish you all the best after graduation. Best of luck to the next committee as I wish you all the very best.

Jackie Chang  
*UQCS Event Officer*

**UQCS Annual General Meeting**  
Held on Thursday, 5th of October, 2023

*Following these document is an Appendix containing, in the following order, the President's, Secretary's, Treasurer's, Media Officer's, and Event Officer's Report, and the audit approval.*

Meeting was **opened** at 6:15PM.  
Rachel Chiong chaired.

**QUORUM**

28 required. 46 attendees. Quorum met.

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING**

The Chair presented the 2022 AGM minutes.

Bradley Stone asked the previous treasurer, Andrew Brown, about the number of pizzas that the society purchased last year. Andrew Brown replied that the number was provided last year in the UQ Computing Society Discord server (464 pizzas).

Rachel Chiong withdrew the previously tabled **Add Pizza Clause (11.4)** motion from the 2022 AGM.

Rachel Chiong motioned to accept the 2022 AGM minutes, Iain Jensen seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

**EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

President's report was given by Rachel Chiong. Rachel Chiong motioned to accept the report, James Dearlove seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Secretary's report was given by Limao Chang. Limao Chang motioned to accept the report, Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Treasurer's report was given by Sonja McNeilly.

- Quinn Horton asked how many pizzas the society had purchased this year. The Treasurer did not have an answer.
- Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson asked what the *Entertainment* expense was. The Treasurer clarified that this was payment for the Hackathon 2023 band.
- Bradley Stone commented that the society is a not-for-profit, and so it is not necessarily a bad thing if the society ends on a loss this year. Sonja McNeilly agreed, but noted that the society would only be able to sustain this amount of loss for another few years.
- James Dearlove provided some context for why the society has so much money in the first place, which is due to a lack of expenses during the years impacted by COVID-19.
- Jay Hunter suggested that the society build a trading bot. James Dearlove disapproved of the idea.

Sonja McNeilly motioned to accept the report, Jay Hunter seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Media Officer's report was given by Faith McKay. Faith motioned to accept the report, Quinn Horton seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.



Event Officer's report was given by Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang. Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang motioned to accept the report, Jay Hunter seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Jay Hunter asked where the Design Officer's report was. Rachel Chiong replied that no report was provided.

Bradley Stone asked where the Sponsor Officer's report was. Rachel Chiong replied that no report was provided, and clarified that the reports were optional for the minor officers.

The Chair motioned to adjourn the meeting for a pizza break, Faith McKay seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Meeting was **adjourned** at 7.00PM. Meeting was **resumed** at 7.20PM.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER & DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEE**

The Chair nominated Bradley Stone for Returning Officer, Isaac Beh seconded. Bradley Stone accepted. No other nominations were made from the floor. Bradley Stone was appointed as the Returning Officer.

The Returning Officer motioned to dissolve the current Management Committee, James Dearlove seconded.

Motion passed by majority vote.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

**Creation of new officer positions.** The Returning Officer noted that the previous committee suggested creating the Events, Industry, and Media Officer positions.

Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson motioned to create an additional Design Officer position, Jay Hunter seconded. His reasoning was that one of the officer reports mentioned that the committee weren't able to create designs this year. It was clarified that the society did indeed have a Design Officer this year, but they were inactive for the vast majority of the term.

- Jay Hunter commented that this was an important portfolio to have, and that the inactions of one person should not be able to affect the output of the overall committee.
- Joshua Todd Cowper asked if anyone in the room would consider nominating for a Design Officer position. Nobody raised their hand.
- Iain Jensen commented that design responsibilities don't necessarily need to be fulfilled by a Design Officer, and that the work could be delegated to general committee members.
- Elias Blanch added to this, noting that officer positions were only introduced recently (at the 2022 AGM). James Dearlove said that, in previous committees, portfolios were allocated to general committee members, but that this portfolio system was hit-or-miss in terms of reliability, so official officer positions were introduced. Bradley Stone commented that minor officers were elected in the past, but previous committees had problems with minor officers disappearing.

Motion was withdrawn.

Elias Blanch suggested the creation of a Moderation/Welfare Officer position, noting that the society's Discord server is growing larger and that the committee has had to moderate significantly more conversations and messages as a result, and invited a discussion on whether this is a position the society would want to have.

- Faith McKay commented that a person taking on this position would be more vulnerable to personal attacks, given that they would be responsible for reprimanding members and issuing punishments. Faith further added that some committee members have already been specifically targeted on several occasions, which is largely why moderation is now done via the official

UQ Computing Society Discord account to take away the personal aspect involved with issuing warnings and/or punishments to society members.

- Bradley Stone suggested that the committee could delegate moderation and welfare responsibilities to a subcommittee. Faith McKay agreed, adding that this would also delay the creation of the position for now until the committee deemed it necessary.

Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson motioned to create two (2) Welfare Officer positions, Quinn Horton seconded. Lief asked if anyone in the room would consider nominating for a Welfare Officer position. Nobody raised their hand.

- Nicholas Lambourne spoke against the motion, commenting that moderation is a soul-sucking responsibility. He recommended that it be the responsibility of the committee as a whole, rather than the responsibility of one or two members, adding that the committee should be active enough on the society's Discord server to notice any issues that arise as they happen and bring these to the rest of the committee to action.
- Faith McKay agreed with Nicholas Lambourne, commenting that it is very hard for a single person to stay on top of all the messages in the Discord server, so it would need to be a joint effort from the whole of committee.
- Andrew Brown agreed with Nicholas Lambourne, and noted that the current moderation process is not very effective and not well laid-out, since this has only been a big problem in the past two or so years. Andrew recommended that, instead of creating an officer position, the new committee should hash out exact and specific moderation guidelines with an explicit set of rules and punishments to streamline the whole process.

Quinn Horton withdrew his second.

Motion failed without a seconder.
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Iain Jensen motioned to create three (3) additional officers of the Management Committee: Events Officer, Industry Officer, and Media Officer, Jay Hunter seconded. Iain Jensen spoke on the responsibilities of each officer position.

Motion passed by majority vote.
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**Number of Management Committee members.** Limao Chang motioned to create seven (7) members of the Management Committee, on the reasoning that this would result in a committee size of thirteen (13), which matches that of the previous committee, and is also an odd number (to prevent any ties). Rachel Chiong seconded, and commented that thirteen (13) members was a safe number of committee members as the committee could still function even if a few committee members disappeared throughout the term, which was the case for the 2023 committee.

Motion passed by majority vote.
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The Returning Officer explained the method of election, which was done by instant runoff voting for the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and minor officer positions (Events, Industry, and Media) and single transferable vote for general members of the Management Committee. No questions were asked about the method of election.

**President.** Two (2) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Iain Jensen and Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang. Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang withdrew his nomination. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- James Dearlove nominated Nicholas Lambourne, Nicholas declined.
- Isaac Beh nominated Rachel Chiong, Rachel declined.
- Rachel Chiong nominated Limao Chang, Limao declined.
- Will Barnett nominated Bradley Stone, ruled out of order (as Bradley was the Returning Officer).
- Connor Geissmann nominated Andrew Brown, Andrew declined.
- Luke Kelly nominated Nazeef Hamid, Nazeef declined.

- Ganesh Srinivasa nominated Jay Hunter, Jay declined.

Nominee:

- Iain Jensen

Iain Jensen gave a speech.

<b>Elected unopposed:</b> Iain Jensen.
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**Secretary.** Four (4) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Iain Jensen, Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang, Mengqi (Richard) Yu, and Mehr Chawla. Iain Jensen was removed from the nominees list as he had been elected President. Mengqi (Richard) Yu and Mehr Chawla withdrew their nominations. Limao Chang gave a brief explanation of what the responsibilities of the role were. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Rachel Chiong nominated Limao Chang, Limao declined.

Nominee:

- Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang

Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang gave a speech.

<b>Elected unopposed:</b> Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang.
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**Treasurer.** Two (2) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Mengqi (Richard) Yu and Mehr Chawla. Mehr Chawla withdrew her nomination. Sonja McNeilly gave a brief explanation of what the responsibilities of the role were. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Connor Geissman nominated Andrew Brown, Andrew declined.
- Iain Jensen nominated Andrew Brown, Andrew declined.
- Ganesh Srinivasa nominated Jay Hunter, Jay declined.
- JunHyuk (John) Kim nominated himself.
- Quinn Horton nominated Limao Chang, Limao declined.

James Dearlove reminded everyone that it was now 7.58PM.

Nominees:

- Mengqi (Richard) Yu
- JunHyuk (John) Kim

Both nominees gave a speech (in the above order).

<b>Elected:</b> Mengqi (Richard) Yu.
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**Events Officer.** Seven (7) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Bahareh Khiabani, Iain Jensen, Jia-Jie (Jackie) Chang, Mengqi (Richard) Yu, Mehr Chawla, Jesse Wang, and Aayushi Patel. Iain Jensen, Jia-Jie (Jackie) Chang, and Mengqi (Richard) Yu were removed from the nominees list as they had been elected President, Secretary, and Treasurer respectively. Bahareh Khiabani and Mehr Chawla withdrew their nominations. Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang gave a brief explanation of what the responsibilities of the role were. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Connor Geissmann nominated Harsha Varma, Harsha declined.

Nominees:

- Jesse Wang
- Aayushi Patel (not present).

Jesse Wang gave a speech.

<b>Elected:</b> Jesse Wang.
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**Industry Officer.** Four (4) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang, Mengqi (Richard) Yu, Mehr Chawla, and Aayushi Patel. Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang and Mengqi (Richard) Yu were removed from the nominees list as they had been elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Connor Geissmann nominated Harsha Varma, Harsha accepted.

Joshua Todd Cowper won the 2023 AGM Bingo.

Nominees:

- Harsha Varma
- Mehr Chawla

Both nominees gave a speech (in the above order).

<b>Elected:</b> Harsha Varma.
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**Media Officer.** Four (4) valid nominations were made prior to the AGM: Bahareh Khiabani, Mengqi (Richard) Yu, Mehr Chawla, and Jesse Wang. Mengqi (Richard) Yu and Jesse Wang were removed from the nominees list as they had been elected Treasurer and Events Officer respectively. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Jay Hunter nominated Faith McKay, Faith declined.
- Quinn Horton nominated Ganesh Srinivasa, Ganesh declined.
- Jia-Jie (Jackie) Dinh Chang nominated Marjet, Marjet declined.
- Connor Geissmann nominated Luke Kelly, Luke declined.
- Ganesh Srinivasa nominated Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson, Lief declined.

James Dearlove reminded everyone that it was now 8.33PM.

Nominees:

- Mehr Chawla
- Bahareh Khiabani

Both nominees gave a speech (in the above order).

<b>Elected:</b> Bahareh Khiabani.
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**General Members of the Management Committee.** The nominations were comprised of a mix of nominations made prior to the AGM and from the floor. The following nominations were received from the floor:

- Yixin (Amy) Hu nominated herself.
- JunHyuk (John) Kim nominated himself.
- Quinn Horton nominated Rachel Chiong, Rachel declined.

Nominees:

- Yixin (Amy) Hu
- Mehr Chawla
- Thomas Horsey
- Roxie Cunningham
- John Kim
- Anshul Dadhwal (not present)
- Sathustigan Eswaran (not present)

- Aayushi Patel (not present)

The nominees gave speeches (in the above order). Connor Geissmann spoke in place of Anshul Dadhwal.

Bradley Stone nominated James Dearlove, Paul Clarke, and Andrew Brown to be Assistant Returning Officers to help in counting the votes for general committee. There were no objections. James Dearlove, Paul Clarke, and Andrew Brown were appointed as Assistant Returning Officers.

Bradley Stone motioned to adjourn for 15 minutes while the votes were being counted.

Motion passed by majority vote.
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Meeting was <b>adjourned</b> at 8.51PM. Meeting was <b>resumed</b> at 9.00PM.
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<b>Elected:</b> Aayushi Patel, Yixin (Amy) Hu, Anshul Dadhwal, JunHyuk (John) Kim, Mehr Chawla, Roxie Cunningham, Thomas Horsey.
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Rachel Chiong resumed the chair.
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## GENERAL BUSINESS

**Add meeting attendance requirement for active committee members.** The Chair presented the proposed constitutional amendment, which was authored by Bradley Stone.

Rachel Chiong moved, Isaac Beh seconded.

- Bradley briefly explained that this clause would remove a member from committee if they have not attended at least one meeting every three months (where a meeting has been held in each of those months). Bradley noted that this is a very low bar of participation for committee members, and that anybody removed by this clause should either have resigned or have been removed via sections **9.3** and **9.4** long before this can come into effect. This amendment would act as a safety valve for when either alternative fails.
- Rachel spoke in favour of the motion, and commented that this helps in avoiding conflicts of interest, by taking away the personal aspect involved in removing a committee member (e.g. in the event that the committee has other relationships with a removed committee member outside of UQCS).
- Jay Hunter spoke in favour of the motion as someone running a society that has had multiple committee members disappear, and agreed with Rachel's comment about taking away the personal aspect from removing a committee member from the committee.
- Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson asked whether exceptional circumstances should be taken into account, e.g. if a committee member is sick for 3 months. Bradley questioned whether a committee member who is sick for 3 months should be on committee.
- James Dearlove spoke in favour of the motion, and commented that it becomes a compounding effect when more and more committee members disappear, noting that he and Nicholas Lambourne were pulling 20 hour weeks in 2020 to keep the society alive when committee members disappeared.
- Nicholas Lambourne spoke in favour of the motion, commenting that the 3 months threshold is an improvement over waiting for an SGM or AGM, and that this sets a good expectation for committee members.
- Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson asked about whether attendance was recorded at meetings, to which Rachel replied yes. Bradley and James noted that this was a Union requirement.
- Faith commented that this clause is not directed at committee members who have exceptional circumstances, but rather those who are not putting in their fair share of effort, and clarified that the society would be accommodating towards its committee members in the event of any exceptional circumstances.
- A question was asked about vacancies on the committee, to which Bradley clarified that:

- In the event of a resignation from an officer position, it would become a casual vacancy and could be filled by any general committee member at the discretion of the committee (which could include duelling); and
- In the event of a resignation from a general committee position, a casual vacancy is not created, but can be at an SGM. To this point, Bradley further explained the provision for online elections for general committee.

Motion passed by 2/3 vote.
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**Grant Life Membership to Taylor Manderson.** The Chair presented the proposed special resolution, which was authored by Bradley Stone.

Bradley Stone moved, Jay Hunter seconded.

- Bradley provided some brief context on Taylor, who was president of UQCS for several years, one of the judges at the 2023 Hackathon, and someone who has continued to do good work after her years on committee.
- James Dearlove spoke in favour of the motion, and mentioned that UQCS would not be where it was now without all the work she put in back in 2015.
- Bradley Stone commented that, while 2019 was the golden age of UQCS, Rome wasn't built in a day, and Taylor did the building for the society.
- Nicholas Lambourne spoke in favour of the motion, and provided some more background on Taylor. Taylor took on the society under very stressful circumstances, and was elected president after the previous president was ousted mid-term for inappropriate conduct. She led that year, the following year, and the year after, and built the society into what it was today: a society with 1-2 events a week, and a large and active online community which was originally on Slack but transitioned over to Discord. She also built our original membership system, the UQCS website, and a lot of the UQCS infrastructure. Nicholas said that, if anyone deserves to be a life member of the society, that it would be Taylor.
- James Dearlove noted that a lot of her code is still around in the UQCS infrastructure, and has just been updated and improved upon.

Motion passed by 2/3 vote.
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**Changes to Election Process.** The Chair presented the proposed constitutional amendment, which was authored by Bradley Stone.

Bradley Stone moved, Isaac Beh seconded.

- Bradley gave some context on the amendment, which would require an Electoral General Meeting a few months before the AGM to appoint the returning officer and to create the minor officer and general committee positions. Bradley had printed the ballots before the meeting, but was not appointed until the meeting. He commented that this wasn't an issue but could be in the future. Bradley noted that this would shorten the length of the AGM, but that the downside is that another general meeting would need to be conducted every year.
- James Dearlove spoke against the motion, commenting that general meetings were a pain for the committee to run and that adding another general meeting to the calendar doesn't make the process simpler. James suggested that the minor officer positions could be added to the constitution itself. This would let the committee figure out which officer positions they would want permanently, and would also let future committees change it if they see fit at a general meeting.
- Isaac Beh spoke against the motion, commenting that while this is an important point, it is something that may require some more deliberation and thought. Isaac suggested the motion be tabled for the next general meeting so the idea could be fleshed out more.

Motion tabled.
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**Special Resolution Clarification.** The Chair presented the proposed constitutional amendment, which was authored by Bradley Stone.

Bradley Stone moved, Jay Hunter seconded.

- Bradley gave some context on the amendment, which would clarify ambiguities in the constitution around special resolutions and the requirement for two weeks notice and bring it closer in line with the definition given by the Union.
- Elias Blanch commented that Union regulations aren't always the best written. Bradley agreed, but noted that this was the default.

Motion passed by 2/3 vote.
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**Grant Life Membership to James Dearlove.** The Chair presented the proposed special resolution, which was authored by Quinn Horton.

Rachel Chiong moved, Quinn Horton seconded.

- Rachel Chiong provided some context on James, who was the UQCS president in 2021, and has contributed significantly to the society during and after his time on the committee. James has also been a helpful advisor to the 2022 and 2023 committees, and is someone whose opinion the committees have valued tremendously. At the 2023 Hackathon, James offered to do the Git and tooling talk on very short notice, and helped organised 20 participants into teams without being asked to. Rachel commented that this year would absolutely not have been possible without James.
- Thomas Malcolm spoke (remotely) in favour of the motion, and mentioned that James has been a part of the society for as long as he can remember. James has been retired from committee for a few years now, but is still very active within the society. Thomas reaffirmed that James helped the 2022 committee greatly.
- Quinn Horton mentioned that, even as an outsider, James' contributions to the society were clear.
- Bradley Stone spoke against the motion on procedural grounds, noting that proper notice was not given for the resolution.
- Will Barnett asked what the benefit of notice was, to which Bradley replied that it is not only constitutionally required, but is also a resolution that changes the society forever.
- A few members noted that, while the PR for the special resolution was closed, it was reopened at least 14 days prior to the AGM, and so fulfills the requirement of notice. Iain Jensen mentioned that sufficient notice was given for the AGM, and that this notice also included a link to the GitHub repository where constitutional amendments were proposed. Bradley argued that this was not notice, but just asking people to seek out the notice themselves.
- Nicholas Lambourne mentioned that he has valued Bradley's pedantry in the past but that there is little point in blocking this resolution further. Faith McKay agreed, commenting that she could appreciate Bradley's sentiment and perspective, but would still vote in favour of the motion in this meeting.
- Lief Lundmark-Aitcheson asked for clarification around whether granting life membership is a special resolution, to which Rachel and Andrew replied that, as the constitution currently stands, this is ambiguous. Bradley argued that there was no notification on the UQCS Discord server when the special resolution PR was re-opened. Andrew objected that the notification is irrelevant as the main source of notice is on the GitHub repository. Bradley argued that this does not count as notice being given. Jay Hunter commented that it is up to attendees to keep up to date with and read the special resolution PRs in the repository before the meeting.
- James Dearlove reminded everyone that it was now 9.55PM.
- Joshua Todd Cowper commented that the worst-case scenario, if this motion were to be passed but thrown out in the future, would be the invalidation of James' life membership. Lief argued

that it was more about the precedent we would be setting. James objected and said that the precedent has already been set when past life memberships were granted.

Bradley Stone proposed a vote for whether the special resolution was valid before a vote on the motion.

Vote for validity of special resolution passed by majority. One (1) against.
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Motion passed by 2/3 vote.
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**Remove constant from General Meeting Quorum.** The Chair presented the proposed constitutional amendment, which was authored by Bradley Stone.

Bradley Stone moved, Jay Hunter seconded.

- Bradley Stone explained the amendment, which was to drop the 125 constant from the formula for calculating quorum for a general meeting, currently given by the formula  $\lceil \sqrt{125 + n} \rceil$ , where  $n$  is the number of financial members in the society. The main motivation is to simplify the formula. At this year's member count of 642, this would lower the quorum requirement from 28 to 26 members. In the past, the Union has been strict about the minimum possible quorum at the minimum possible club size (30 members), but they have become more relaxed in recent years. Bradley commented that this was a minor change, and if the society continues to grow, the effect will lessen further.
- Jay Hunter spoke against the motion, noting that the current quorum requirement is already lower than UQMARS', which is 30, even though UQMARS is a smaller society.

Quorum was lost during the discussion of the proposed constitutional amendment. The chair dismissed the remaining members, as it was getting late and quorum was unlikely to be regained.

Motion tabled.
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Quorum was lost at 10.04PM. Meeting was <b>closed</b> at 10.04PM.
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#### LIST OF PROXIES

- Thomas Malcolm to Limao Chang
- Yutong Ji to Kevin Luo
- Ryan McNeilly to Sonja McNeilly (during the first adjournment)
- Nazeef Hamid to Iain Jensen (after the secretary ballot)
- Luke Kelly to Connor Geissmann (during the second adjournment)