

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Constitution, Regulation and Policy Working Group
Agenda
Meeting 1
13th of March 2017
Location: OB Space, Level 1, Union House

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Attendance
- 1.4 Membership

Membership of these meetings is open to all students

2. Correspondence

- 2.1 Correspondence about VCA from VCA Coordinator Nicholas Lam

3. Items for Discussion

- 3.1 Working group Terms of Reference
- 3.2 Working group schedule of items for discussion

Week – Meeting	Document	Discussion Item
Week 3 – Meeting 1	Constitution & Electoral Regulations	Victorian College of the Arts
Week 5 – Meeting 2		
Week 7 – Meeting 3		
Week 9 – Meeting 4		
Week 11 – Meeting 5		

4. Other Business

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Constitution, Regulation and Policy Working Group is on the 27th of March 2017, at 1pm.

6. Close

2.1 Correspondence about VCA from VCA Coordinator Nicholas Lam

From: Nicholas Lam

Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:09 PM

To: Yasmine Luu; Student Union OB - Secretary mailbox

Subject: Recommended constitutional changes on behalf of the VCA

Dear Mdm Secretary,

The below are some of the recommended changes proposed by the VCASA in light of certain events coming to light.

Preamble:

It has recently been brought to light that the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM) will be moving over to the Southbank Campus by early 2019. As such, I would like to propose some changes to the current UMSU constitution in anticipation to the move. These changes are aimed to not only to allow both communities to better interact with each other, but to ease the transition process for current students who will have to make the move to Southbank.

A more immediate effect would be to allow MCM students and the VCA Music School students (Interactive Composition / Jazz & Improvisation Students), both of whom are listed as 'Parkville' students, to be covered under the VCASA's jurisdiction. This allows us to provide services to them, protect their rights, and accept them into the VCASA Committee. It makes little sense that students who will move to Southbank, and who currently spend the majority of their contact hours in Southbank, to not have a voice on the UMSU campus department.

I propose the following changes:

- To expand the current and responsibilities of the VCASA from the current geographically based definition of "Southbank Campus" as implied the UMSU Constitution to also encompass students listed in the MCM until their transition to Southbank Campus is complete. This may involve changes to the following:

-71.9 "The voting Representatives of the Victorian College of the Arts Department Committee are elected from Members who are enrolled in a higher education course at the Southbank Campus, and subject to the additional restrictions set out in Rule 71."

-72.9 "The voting Representatives of the Victorian College of the Arts Department Committee are elected from Members who are enrolled in a higher education course at the Southbank Campus, and subject to the additional restrictions set out in Rule 72. "

-92(b) "to provide for, protect and develop the interests of Students with regard to financial, social, educational, professional and welfare matters and encourage interest groups and clubs and societies on campus."

-130.7 *"The Co-ordinators and Committee representatives of the Victorian College of the Arts Department must be Members who are Students at the Southbank Campus."*

-178.10 *"The Students' Council, in making Policy regarding the Victorian College of the Arts Department, or Students enrolled in the Faculty of the VCA and Music, must take into account any recommendations from the Victorian College of the Arts Department Committee "*

- To have an additional Campus Co-Ordinator in the VCA Department to assist in, and maintain, the current output the department is producing. As it is, several members of the committee are helping me, the current co-ordinator, for no monetary compensation. With the incoming MCM department, workload is only expected to increase. This may involve changes to the following:

-55 JOINT OFFICE, 55.1 *"Any Officer position may be held by two persons jointly except the positions of President, General Secretary, Campus Co-ordinator Victorian College of the Arts Department, Campus Co-ordinator, Burnley Students Department, and Media Officer."*

-57.2 *"All Officers, with the exception of Campus Co-ordinator, Victorian College of the Arts Department, and Campus Co-ordinator, Burnley Student Department, holding an office individually shall be remunerated an honorarium in the same amount irrespective of the office held."*

-57.3 *"The Campus Co-ordinator, Victorian College of the Arts Department and the Campus Coordinator, Burnley Students Department shall be remunerated with an honorarium being 50% of the honorarium received by Officers holding an Office individually."*

- As the VCA Department is moving from a geographically located department to more of a faculty-related department, we will be willing to forego the following privileges:

-68(d) *"The Creative Arts Committee consists of: (ii) two voting Representatives elected by and from the voting members of the Victorian College of the Arts Department Committee, of whom at least one must be a Woman. If at least one candidate for each position is not a Woman, those places not filled by Women may be filled by other candidates".* I question the rationale why VCA / MCM students are afforded such spots reserved for them when they can otherwise run as a general member of UMSU, which is stated in:

-Rule 14.1 *"If the Membership Fee applicable to a Student is zero, then that Student is a General Member of UMSU (unless they have resigned their membership subject to Subrule 19.2)." and*

-Rule 16.2 *"Subject to restrictions imposed elsewhere in this Constitution (but not to any restrictions imposed by Regulations), every General Member is entitled to: (j) nominate and stand for election to the Students' Council (as an Officer or a voting Member), or to any Committee; "*

Please take the above into careful consideration.