



*Office Bearers*

<b>Department</b>	<b>Full name</b>	<b>Attended?</b>
<b>President</b>	Hiba Adam	<i>Yes</i>
<b>General Secretary</b>	Disha Zutshi	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Activities Officer</b>	Tvisha Purswani	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Activities Officer</b>	Arya Kushwaha	<i>On Leave</i>
<b>Creative Arts Officer</b>	Abbey Crowley	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Creative Arts Officer</b>	Savier D'Arsie-Marquez	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Clubs &amp; Societies Officer</b>	Renee Thierry	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Clubs &amp; Societies Officer</b>	Kimmy Ng	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Disabilities Officer</b>	Jaryd Clifford	<i>Resigned</i>
<b>Education (Academic Affairs) Officer</b>	Carlos Lagos Martin	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Education (Academic Affairs) Officer</b>	Mary Kin Chan	<i>Leave Request</i>
<b>Education (Public Affairs) Officer</b>	Taj Takahashi	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Environment Officer</b>	Emma Dynes	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Environment Officer</b>	James Gallagher	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Indigenous Officer</b>	Harley Lewis	<i>No</i>
<b>Media Officer</b>	Weiting Chin	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Media Officer</b>	Xiaole Zhan	<i>No</i>
<b>Media Officer</b>	Josh Davis	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Media Officer</b>	Carmen Chin	<i>No</i>
<b>People of Colour Officer</b>	Mohamed Hadi	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Queer Officer</b>	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	<i>Yes (On Leave)</i>
<b>Queer Officer</b>	Sum To Leslie Ho	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Ishita Ganeriwala	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Yashica Mishra	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Women's Officer</b>	Ngaire Bogemann	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Women's Officer</b>	Alessandra Soliven	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Burnley Campus Coordinator</b>	Rhys Browning	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Southbank Campus Co-ordinator</b>	Annalyce Wiebenga	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Southbank Campus Co-ordinator</b>	Jack Doughty	<i>No</i>
<b>Southbank Activities Officer</b>	Helen Shen	<i>Yes</i>
<b>Southbank Education Officer</b>	Zodie Bolic	<i>On Leave</i>

Other: Sara Pheasant (CEO), Phoebe Churches (Divisional Manager, A&L), Ciara Griffiths (Coordinator, Student Rep), Jessica Fanwong, Sam Rathnaweera, Oskar Martin, Dylan Robert Friedland

**1.4. Apologies****1.5. Proxies**

## 1.5.1. Watey Diep to Kevin Li

Motion 2: To accept the proxy.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**1.6. Leave of Absence Requests**

## 1.6.1. For this Council: Mary Kin Chan

## 1.6.2. Retrospective leave for Council 8(23): Reham Elzeiny

Motion 3: To accept all the leave requests.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

### 1.7. Membership

1.7.1. Rahul Mittal has been appointed as General Representative

1.7.2. Stefan Gavrilov has been appointed as General Representative

1.7.3. Jaryd Clifford has resigned as Disabilities Officer

### 1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 4: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

## 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

### 2.1. Minutes 7(22)

Update the surname of the seconder in Motion 7

Motion 5: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record, with corrections.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Secunder: Luv Golecha

CARRIED

## 3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

## 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

## 5. Correspondence

## 6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Hiba Adam	<i>Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Disha Zutshi	<i>Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Tvisha Purswani	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Arya Kushwaha	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Abbey Crowley	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Savier D'Arsie-Marquez	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Renee Thierry	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kimmy Ng	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Jaryd Clifford	<i>Resigned</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Carlos Lagos Martin	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Mary Kin Chan	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Taj Takahashi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	James Gallagher	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Weiting Chin	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Xiaole Zhan	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Josh Davis	<i>Submitted</i>



## 10. Motions on Notice

### 10.1. Media Motions

Motion 8: To pass \$400 from Period 4 of the Contractor Fees >Speakers budget line of the Media Department's budget to pay for a facilitator for our second Farrago workshop.

Moved: Josh Davis

Seconded: Annalyce Wiebenga

CARRIED

### 10.2. SIG Applications

Motion 9: To direct General Secretary to close the SIG Applications for Semester 1.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Seconded: Kevin Li

CARRIED

### 10.3. Stress Less Week

#### Preamble:

This workshop delivered by Pola Psychology will benefit students by providing incorporating an intersectional approach to wellbeing and marginalization. This workshop focuses on supporting BIPOC students to support their own and others mental health and wellbeing, it will help students understand how to advocate for self and others while engaged with mental health services and understanding the impact of a marginalised identity and intersectionality on mental health. this serves the purposes of UMSU People of Colour UMSU Welfare and UMSU Disabilities by supporting students of colour in engaging in conversations about mental health and understanding how their identities impact those conversations.

The funds will allow the workshop to go ahead as part of stress less week. People of Colour is contributing \$330, and Welfare is contributing \$330, and Disabilities is contributing \$330.

Motion 10: That Students' Council pass \$1,500 for the workshop presenter fees (Pola Psychology). That the recipients of this grant money will provide a written report back to Students' Council by 30th of May. That the recipients warrant they'll only use the grant of funds in the manner specified in this motion.

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Ishita Ganeriwala

CARRIED

Mohamed Spoke to moving rights.

Phoebe Churches reminded Council to keep track of expenditure of the Whole of Union fund, so funds are not overspent where there is not budget. We are currently on track with expenditure for the Whole of Union fund.

### 10.4. Support for Sudan

#### Preamble:

Sudan has been experiencing ongoing political and economic instability, as well as humanitarian crisis. Inflation, food shortage, inability to access banks and the internet. It was only a few days before the end of Ramadan, where countless

innocent people have lost their lives, homes, and country due to the senseless fighting of the military and Rapid Support Force militia in the country to take away from civilian rule the primary reason behind the 2019 revolution.

The ongoing crisis in Sudan is resulting in the loss of countless lives and having a devastating impact on the Sudanese people, people have no more access to medical supplies, necessities, electricity, or water.

Millions remain trapped in their homes, hundreds of bodies are scattered on the streets, many people are forced to split up their families and seek asylum in nearby countries, not knowing when they'd be able to come back home.

This is not a civil war; this is a war between two men with big egos and foreign influence that wants control and influence over Sudan's rich resources while disregarding its citizens.

Taking action to support those affected by this crisis is crucial, and the University of Melbourne is urged to stand in solidarity with the people of Sudan.

The media to no one's surprise has been focusing on evacuating diplomats and have been largely ignoring the scale of the crisis to the people of Sudan.

UMSU commits to amplifying the voices of those most affected by the crisis and recognizes the importance of advocacy.

UMSU calls on the Australian Government and the international community to take immediate action to support the people of Sudan and work towards a peaceful resolution to the crisis.

**Stances:**

- UMSU stands in solidarity with the Sudanese community and calls for an end for the war in Sudan.
- UMSU maintains that this is not a civil war as this is a conflict between military and militia.
- UMSU calls on the Australian government to provide safe passage for citizens in Sudan as well as provide humanitarian-based visas for noncitizens.
- UMSU calls on the government to work with NGOs to provide medical aid and essential items for people in Sudan.
- UMSU condemns the military and rapid support forces militia and their attempts to destabilize civilian rule and maintains that the only legitimate Sudanese government is a civilian led one.

**Action:**

1. To direct the UMSU President and POC officer to release a joint statement on the situation in Sudan and the aforementioned points.
2. To encourage OBs and councillors to raise awareness on the situation and donation avenues to grassroots organizations.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Seconded: Mohamed Hadi

CARRIED

Hiba waived moving rights. Mohamed spoke to seconding rights.

Emma Dynes and others spoke in favour of the motion. Criticised actions of the government and University

**Procedural Motion:** To move to a direct vote out of respect for members of Council potentially affected by discussion.

Moved: Annalyce Wiebenga

CARRIED

Motion 10: To accept the motion and stances as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Procedural Motion:** to suspend the Standing Orders to cede the chair to Mohamed Hadi.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

CARRIED

*Disha Zutshi cedes Chair to Mohamed Hadi. Mohamed Hadi is now Chair.*

**Procedural Motion:** To resume the Standing Orders.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

#### 10.5. Support for Indian Students

**Preamble:**

Victoria University, The University of Wollongong, Southern Cross University, Torrens University and Edith Cowan University have placed a ban on applicants from several Indian states including Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujrat. The University of Wollongong in March increased the conditions on entry requirements for students from and India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Nigeria.

The justification provided for these decisions by the Department of Home Affairs is that applications from these countries pose a high risk of being non-genuine.

The thin veneer of legitimation this supposed risk provides in no way justifies the overreaction. Excluding students based simply on where they come from is racist, students have a right to education regardless of their circumstances and cultural background.

UMSU has always stood against discrimination and racism and will continue to do so.

**Motion:**

1. That UMSU condemns the behaviour of the universities named in the preamble for the discrimination against Indian students.
2. UMSU stands in solidarity with the students who are victims of these scams conducted.
3. UMSU urges the university to not adopt these measures and to call on other universities to stop the racist measures.

4. To direct the President, General Secretary and POC Officer to release a statement on this issue.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

Disha Zutshi spoke to her moving rights. Hiba waived speaking rights.

Bella Beiraghi spoke in support of the motion.

Motion 11: To accept the motion and its stances as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

#### 10.6. Support for Freeze the HECS Indexing NUS Campaign

##### **Preamble:**

We are currently facing a significant issue in the Australian higher education system that is affecting a large number of students across the country. The government's decision to increase the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) debt by 7% is very concerning for students. This increase will exacerbate the financial burden on those who are already struggling to make ends meet. This issue disproportionately affects women and low SES students who take longer to pay off their loans and are thus having them compounded over longer periods of time, especially when wage increases have been and remain stagnant while cost of living increases. Moreover, the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) not only affects domestic students but also impacts the increase in university fees for international students, which are already ridiculously high, making higher education even more inaccessible for those who are already disadvantaged. In this context, the NUS Freeze the HECS Indexing NUS Campaign has been instrumental in starting the conversation around the HECS indexing. The campaign has brought attention to the negative impact of HECS indexing and has galvanized support from students and other stakeholders across the country. It is crucial that we continue to advocate for fair and accessible higher education for all and urge the government to reconsider their decision to increase HECS debt. We must work towards a system that ensures equitable access to education for all students, regardless of their socio-economic background or gender.

##### **Motion:**

1. To move that UMSU supports the NUS Freeze the HECS Indexing Campaign lead by the NUS President, General Secretary and Welfare Officer.
2. To direct all OBs and Councillors to sign the petition.  
([https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/freeze-student-loanindexation?mibextid=Zxz2cZ&fbclid=IwAR13WdL5kSF5\\_aFxs4M\\_lu4HJG0X2rTrOcJ6-FHiL9jczun1Xw5LQYGo2ql](https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/freeze-student-loanindexation?mibextid=Zxz2cZ&fbclid=IwAR13WdL5kSF5_aFxs4M_lu4HJG0X2rTrOcJ6-FHiL9jczun1Xw5LQYGo2ql))

Moved: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Ishita Ganeriwala

Disha Zutshi spoke to moving rights. Ishita waived speaking rights.



Members of Council spoke in favour of the motion. Several students spoke to the need to abolish HECS and University fees altogether, to make tertiary education free.

Emma Dynes proposed an amendment to the original motion.

Proposed Amendment: To add an additional item to the motion *"UMSU endorses the NUS Education campaign which is fighting the cost-of-living crisis for students demanding we abolish HECS debt completely, impose rent caps, double Jobseeker and Youth Allowance and tax the rich."*

Moved: Emma Dynes

This was not amenable.

Disha Zutshi asked which campaign of NUS this is referring to. Emma said it is regarding the "Get a Room" campaign. Disha asked if this could be identified in the amendment. This was not amenable to Emma. Disha stated the amendment is not amenable to her if the campaign is not specified.

Council discussed the amendment.

**Procedural Motion:** To end the speaking list go to a vote on the amendment.

Moved: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

Motion 12: To accept the amendment.

Moved: Emma Dynes

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

Motion 13: To accept the motion with amendment.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

## 11. Other Business (Motions without Notice)

### 11.1. IDAHOBIT

Rose Power raised IDAHOBIT which will occur the day before the next Council meeting. The Queer Political Action Collective (QPAC) is planning to run an event on the day to stand up for queer rights and against the rise of terf politics on campus. Asked Councillors to please come, show up for the queer and trans community in support.

### 11.2. Council Zoom Link

Disha Zutshi reminded members of Council that if they require the Zoom link for Council to please request it within the timeframe provided, she will not keep handing it out last minute.

## 12. Next Meeting

## 13. Close

Meeting closed at 3:36pm