



**University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students' Council
Minutes
Thursday 30th September 2021 2:00PM
Meeting 16(21)
Location: Zoom**

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/88572029711?pwd=ZjdOVUtQOWNVUkIvaHhMUlRlNjBzUT09>

Password: 180836

Meeting opened at 2.04pm

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Allen Xiao be elected as Chair

Mover: Allen Xiao

Seconded: Lauren Scott

CARRIED

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

1.3. Attendance

Councillors

Representatives on Students' Council	Full name	Attended?
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	Kevin Mao	Yes
Students' Council (Indigenous Representative)	Brittney Henderson	Yes
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Clea Porteous Borthwick	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Georgia McCourt	No
International Student Representative on Students' Council		
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Shreya Bhutani	Leave
Students' Council (General Representative)	Raymond Wu	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Charlotte Macpherson	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Aashi (Kraanti) Agarwal	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Ethan Alex Georgeou	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Jeremy Cameron	Leave
Students' Council (General Representative)	Harry Black	Leave
Students' Council (General Representative)		
Students' Council (General Representative)	Sophie Nguyen	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Jennifer Lui	Leave

Students' Council (General Representative)	Lauren Scott	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Xavier Dupe	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Scarlett Padden	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Catriona Smith	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Joanna Guelas	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)		

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Jack Buksh	Yes
General Secretary	Allen Xiao	Yes
Activities Officer		
Activities Officer	Phoebe Chen	Yes
Clubs & Societies Officer	Muskaan Hakhu	Yes
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kalyana Vania	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Vaishnavi Ravikrishna	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Merryn Hughes	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Brigit Doyle	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Lindsay Tupper-Creed	No
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Planning Jay Vyn Saw	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Jennisha Arnanta	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Tejas Gandhi	No
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Hannah Krasovec	Yes
Environment Officer	Lynne Bian	Yes
Environment Officer	Disha Zutshi	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Shanysa Jayde McConville	Yes
Media Officer	Lauren Berry	Yes
Media Officer	Pavani Ambagahawattha	
Media Officer	Ailish Hallinan	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Emily AlRamadhan	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Mohamed Hadi	Yes
Queer Officer	Amy Bright	No
Queer Officer	Laura Ehrensperger	No
Welfare Officer	Hue Man Dang	Yes
Women's Officer	Srishti Chatterjee	Leave
Women's Officer	Mickhaella Ermita	Yes
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	Yes
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Jamie Kim	Yes
	Leyla Moxham	Leave

Other: Phoebe Churches (acting CEO), Nancy Ciara Griffiths (minute-taker) Annalyce Wiebenga, Benjamin Jarrick, James Gallagher, Josh Davis, Marcie Di Bartolomeo, Moira Negline, Nishank Ji-Sung Jain, Renee Thierry, Shirley Killen, Alec Ferguson, Chinakila Makwaza, Jordan Do Natale, Penelope S, Raphael Duffy.

1.4. Apologies

Office Bearers: Leyla Moxham and Srishti Chatterjee for Council 16(21),

Councillors: Shreya Bhutani, Jeremy Cameron, Harry Black, and Jennifer Lui for Council 16(21)

Leave Requests:

Office Bearers: Leyla Moxham and Srishti Chatterjee for Council 16(21)

Councillors: Shreya Bhutani, Jeremy Cameron, Harry Black, and Jennifer Lui for Council 16(21)

Motion 2: To accept the leave requests en bloc

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

1.5. Proxies

Shreya Bhutani to Kevin Mao
Jeremy Cameron to Nishank Jain
Georgia McCourt to Lauren Scott
Jennifer Lui to Raymond Wu
Ethan Georgeou to Moira Negline
Xavier Dupe to Shirley Killen

Ethan Georgeou left at 2:15pm.

1.6. Membership

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 3: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes 15(21)

Requested correction for the spelling of the Women's Office from 'Womyns' to 'Womens'.

Motion 4: To accept the previous minutes as a true and accurate record of meeting 15(21) with the requested amendments.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submitted?
President	Jack Buksh	<i>Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Allen Xiao	<i>Submitted</i>
Activities Officer		
Activities Officer	Phoebe Chen	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Muskaan Hakhu	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kalyana Vania	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Vaishnavi Ravikrishna	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Merryn Hughes	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Brigit Doyle	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Lindsay Tupper-Creed	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Planning Jay Vyn Saw	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Jennisha Arnanta	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Tejas Gandhi	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Hannah Krasovec	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Lynne Bian	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Disha Zutshi	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Shanysa Jayde McConville	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Lauren Berry	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Pavani Ambagahawattha	<i>Late</i>
Media Officer	Ailish Hallinan	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Emily AlRamadhan	<i>Not Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Mohamed Hadi	<i>Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Amy Bright	<i>Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Laura Ehrensperger	<i>Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Hue Man Dang	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Srishti Chatterjee	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Mickhaella Ermita	<i>Submitted</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Jamie Kim	<i>Submitted</i>
	Leyla Moxham	<i>Submitted</i>

Ailish Hallinan asked the General Secretary why Phoebe Chen's report says she is on leave, when her leave was only approved to September 20th. Allen Xiao responded that Phoebe has been working, and that she did draft a small report of her activities for Council. The report was not distributed to Council, however, Allen offered to provide it verbally to Councillors on Phoebe's behalf. This was considered by not acceptable by some Councillors.

Phoebe Chen arrived at 2:20pm.

Motion 5: To accept the Office Bearer Reports en Bloc

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move in camera at 2:21pm.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 2:21pm.

7. CEO Report

8. Other Reports

8.1. General Secretary's Report

Council moved out of camera at 2:46pm.

9. Operational Business

9.1. SIG Applications and reports

None received.

10. Motions on Notice

10.1. NUS Affiliation

Preamble

In the 2021 Budget Memorandum, Students' Council passed \$85000 for NUS Affiliation. To ensure affiliation, and that our elected NUS Delegates are accepted, this money needs to be sent to the NUS.

Action

Pay \$85,000 to the National Union of Students from the Affiliations budget line.

Motion 10: To accept the proposed motion as presented.

Moved: Jack Buksh

Seconded: Brittney Henderson

CARRIED

10.2. Pro-Vax, Pro-Union, Anti-Fascist

Shirley Killen spoke to their moving rights
Raphael Duffy spoke to their seconding rights.

Chair opened for questions.

Lauren Scott expressed that they did not find it appropriate that the motion asks for all Councillors to take part in a photo together, considering the poor history BIPOC members of Council have had with the Socialist Alternatives. Proposed amendment to Action Point 1, that it be reworded so that Councillors would instead be *invited* to participate in a solidarity photo.

Proposed amendment:

“To amend the wording of action point (1) to stating that a solidarity photo will be occurring and inviting councillors to participate, rather than stating that they will.”

This was amenable to the mover, actions amended to state:

New Actions:

1. Student Councillors are invited to participate in a solidarity photo to support the slogan ‘Pro-vax, pro-union, anti-fascist’ as many other workers are doing
2. UMSU will take action together with other unions to oppose a reckless, profit-driven re-opening of the economy in Victoria and in opposition to those forces such as the protestors, who seek to jeopardise this

Motion 11: To accept the motion with proposed amendments.

Moved: Shirley Killen

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

11. Motions without Notice

12. Other Business

13. Next Meeting

Thursday 14th October at 2pm

Motion 12: To accept this rescheduled meeting date.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

14. Close

Meeting closed at 3:15pm.

10.2 Pro-Vax, Pro-Union, Anti-Fascist

Preamble:

The anti-vaccine, anti-lockdown protests that took place in Melbourne last week should be condemned by all unionists.

The key demands of these protests were the complete abolition of public health restrictions and the suspension of vaccines. If these demands were realised, the result would be mass deaths and an overwhelming of the health system on a catastrophic scale such as we have witnessed in places like Italy or India over the past couple of years. The Secretary of the Victorian Nurses' Union (ANMF) correctly condemned these protests, aptly characterising them as "fighting for the right to overwhelm our health system".

These rallies had no clear organisation, but it is clear that there was a significant fascist element amongst the protesters. Chants of support for known Melbourne fascist Avi Yemini amongst the crowd, the prevalence of bigoted and anti-communist chants and slogans, and the disgraceful attacks on healthcare workers and the CFMEU headquarters were all evidence of this. These protesters weren't expressing 'legitimate concerns and grievances'. They were expressing a reactionary, individualistic and conspiratorial worldview- the toxic politics of the far right. It's important to remember that this 'let the virus rip' attitude has been stoked by business and their representatives, who want to put their profits before human life.

Unionism is about solidarity. In the context of the pandemic, solidarity means sticking together and supporting health measures which save lives, and protect the vulnerable and frontline workers. Right-wingers who want to fight to reopen business at the cost of public health need to be opposed. This means standing against the far right protesters on the streets of Melbourne, and the big business lobbyists pushing for a reckless reopening.

Platform:

1. UMSU stands with unions like the Nurses' Union (ANMF) in condemning the far right anti-lockdown protests
2. UMSU reaffirms support for public health measures like restrictions on non-essential business, PPE and ventilation, which have saved thousands of lives
3. UMSU opposes the government's 'national roadmap' which proposes an unsafe reopening of non-essential business before sufficient levels of vaccination are achieved to protect the population

Action:

1. Students councillors will participate in a solidarity photo to support the slogan 'Pro-vax, pro-union, anti-fascist' as many other workers are doing
2. UMSU will take action together with other unions to oppose a reckless, profit-driven re-opening of the economy in Victoria and in opposition to those forces such as the protestors, who seek to jeopardise this.