



**University of Melbourne Student Union**  
**Meeting of the Students' Council**  
**Agenda**  
**11:30AM, 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2019**  
**Meeting 6(19)**  
**Location: Private Dining, Union House**

**Council opened at 11:42am**

**1. Procedural Matters**

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Reece Moir be elected Chair.  
 Mover: Reece Moir                      Second: Amelia Reeves  
 CARRIED

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

1.3 Attendance

Councillors

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attended?</b>	<b>Councils attended this year (including this one)</b>
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Ari Sandler	Did not attend	3
Indigenous Representative on Students' Council	Indiah Money	Did not attend	0
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Jonas Larsen	Did not attend	1
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Amelia Reeves	Attended	6
Students' Council General Representative	Georgia Walton Briggs	Attended	4
Students' Council General Representative	Lucy Turton	Attended	2
Students' Council General Representative	Conor Day	Attended	2

Students' Council General Representative	Eva Addinsall	Attended	1
Students' Council General Representative	Tim Lilley	Attended	6
Students' Council General Representative	Gurpreet Singh	Attended	5
Students' Council General Representative	Catriona Smith	Attended	5
Students' Council General Representative	Jessica Miller	Attended	4
Students' Council General Representative	Anneke d'Emanuele	Attended	3
Students' Council General Representative	Terence Taylor	Did not attend	4
Students' Council General Representative	Worapitcha Laichant	Attended	2
Students' Council General Representative	Emma Parkinson	Attended	5
Students' Council General Representative	Melinda Suter	Did not attend	3
Students' Council General Representative	Nick Reich	Attended	3
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	Lalatuai Grogan	Did not attend	1
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Jacinta Dowe	Attended	3
Students' Council General Representative	Kaimon Wong	Attended	3

Office Bearers

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Attended?</b>	<b>Councils attended this year (including this one)</b>
President	Molly Willmott	Attended	6
General Secretary	Reece Moir	Attended	5
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Elizabeth Tembo	Did not attend	0

Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Dominic Ilagan	Attended	2
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Cameron Doig	Did not attend	1
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Charlotte Fouhy	Did not attend	2
Welfare Officer	Ashwin Chhaperia	Attended	3
Welfare Officer	Natasha Guglielmino	Attended	6
Women’s Officer	Criselda (Aria) Sunga	Did not attend	2
Women’s Officer	Hannah Buchan	Attended	4
Media Officer	Katherine Doherty	Attended	4
Media Officer	Stephanie Zhang	Attended	5
Media Officer	Carolyn Huane	Attended	3
Media Officer	Ruby Perryman	Did not attend	1
Environment Officer	Will Ross	Did not attend	2
Queer Officer	Andie Moore	Attended	6
Creative Arts Officer	Eloise Hammill	Did not attend	5
Creative Arts Officer	Lucy Holz	Did not attend	2
Activities Officer	Liam O'Brien	Did not attend	4
Activities Officer	Olivia Panjkov	Attended	3
People of Colour Officer	Farah Khairat	Did not attend	2
People of Colour Officer	Mark Yin	Attended	5
Disabilities Officer	Lucy Birch	Attended	3
Clubs & Societies Officer	Christopher Melenhorst	Attended	5
Clubs & Societies Officer	Jordan Tochner	Attended	3
Indigenous Officer	Jordan Holloway-Clarke	Attended	1
Burnley campus coordinator	James Barclay	Did not attend	1
VCA Campus Coordinator	Hilary (Lily) Ekins	Did not attend	4

**Other:** Justin Baré, UMSU CEO; Sarah Black, Administration Officer; Alice Smith; Raphael Canty;

1.4 Apologies

*Councillors: Ari Sandler, Melinda Suter, Lucy Turton, Terence Taylor*  
*Office Bearers: Will Ross, Elizabeth Tembo, Dominic Ilagan,*

1.5 Proxies

*Ari Sandler to Alice Smith, Melinda Suter to Anneke d’Emanuele, Lucy Turton to Amelia Reeves*

1.6 Membership

*No changes to membership*

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda be adopted.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

2.1. Minutes of Students' Council, Meeting 5(19)

Motion 3: To accept the minutes of meeting 5(19) with the amendment of noting Catriona Smith as having a conflict of interest in NatCon.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

**3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration**

None.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**5. Correspondence**

None.

Procedural to move to Motions Without Notice first.

Mover: Anneke d'Emanuele

CARRIED

**11. Motions Without Notice**

**11.1. Activities Expenditure**

Olivia Panjkov said they tried to pass funds but were unable to due to inquorate meetings.

Catriona Smith: Do it, sounds good.

Jessica Miller: I like how you've listed everything.

Motion 4: To accept attached Motion Without Notice 11.1, points 1 & 2, en bloc.

Mover: Olivia Panjkov

Seconder: Catriona Smith

CARRIED

**11.2. UMSU Response to Christchurch Hate Crime**

Mark Yin spoke to the motion: this hate crime was felt heavily around the world.

Anneke d’Emanuele: It’s excellent that People of Colour have already responded with posters that Council could support.

Motion 5: To accept attached Motion Without Notice 11.2.

Mover: Mark

Seconder: Anneke

CARRIED

### **11.3. Solidarity with Christchurch! Solidarity with Muslims!**

Nick Reich: I’d like to reiterate some of the things already said. Nick emphasised the violence and brutality in it, that it was politically premeditated and fostered by political Islamophobia.

Nick: There is a dominant political culture of demonising Muslims, fostered by a culture and system built around these sentiments. It’s important to respond in a collective way.

Anneke: It’s important to reflect on the normalisation of Islamophobia. Our politicians have played a key role in this. Action points are the key. It would be good if Molly could send a list and OBs promote the demonstration.

Amelia: I’m glad that the language is just to encourage people to attend.

Emma: I support this motion. It’s on everyone to call out racism when you hear it.

Motion 6: To accept attached Motion Without Notice 11.3.

Mover: Nick Reich

Seconder: Anneke d’Emanuele.

CARRIED

Procedural to defer item 10.2 to next Council.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

### **11.4. March 15 Was Historic. So where was the university?**

Brief discussion around this.

Motion 7: To accept attached Motion Without Notice 11.4.

Mover: Anneke d’Emanuele

Seconder: Andie Moore.

CARRIED

## **6. Office Bearer Reports**

President	Submitted
General Secretary	Submitted
Activities	Not submitted
Clubs & Societies	Submitted
Creative Arts	Submitted

Disabilities	Submitted
Education (Academic Affairs)	Submitted
Education (Public Affairs)	Not submitted
Environment	Submitted
Indigenous	Not submitted
Media	Submitted
People of Colour	Submitted
Queer	Submitted
Welfare	Submitted
Women's	Submitted
Burnley	Not submitted
Southbank	Submitted

*Emma Parkinson left at 12:01pm*

Amelia asked about the Southbank Women's Collective.

Hannah Buchan said that not many people attended and there were building access issues. She noted that Womens has many resources to provide.

Olivia said that Activities Department has been preparing for St Patty's Day. She said she attended the Responding to Sexual Assault course as well.

Amelia asked about ticket numbers for St Patty's Day.

Olivia: We'd like to get to 600.

Conor Day to Lucy Birch: How are Disability events going?

Lucy said that Collectives are at 5 people.

Alice volunteered her services to play the tin whistle at St Patty's if needed.

*Dominic entered at 12:07pm*

Catriona to Lucy: Having beer at a Disability event may cause accessibility issues.

Lucy: The beer was optional and there were other drinks on offer. We haven't had any comments about accessibility issues.

Catriona: The location being Ida Bar may cause accessibility issues as it's a loud venue.

Lucy: The accessibility in the area was really good.

Catriona suggested to make the Disability Space an option for people if they want to leave a loud event.

Molly Willmott: This is the first time we've run an event at the Ida Bar since Sleepover. 200 showed up when they were expecting 20.

Christopher Melenhorst: Ida Bar is pretty dead on weeknights.

Conor Day agreed but enquired how so many more people than expected turn up to the event.

Lucy explained that they went hard on recruitment at Orientation.

[about the accessibility concerns at Beer and Ball Games] Lucy said she was greeting everyone and letting them know the location of sensory areas.

Lucy: [about the numbers of attendees] It was all person to person advertising.

Amelia: Most people were there because there was free beer, not for a disability event. I don't think that any drinking event is particularly accessible.

Jacinta said that she agrees about extra quiet space being available but that having alcohol is okay and that it doesn't treat disabled people as fragile.

Lucy: [about free beer] There is stigma around being labelled as a person with a disability. No one had to show special constituency at the door. Mental illness is a large part of disabilities and there is no way of proving that.

Amelia: that's not what I was saying.

Motion 8: To accept the OB reports.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

Procedural to exclude strangers.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

*Dale left at 12:25pm*

*Council moved in camera at 12:25pm*

## **7. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Justin delivered his report. Motions put to Council 5(19) while inquorate and in camera were ratified or rejected.

Motion 9: To accept the CEO's Report and the Financial Reports.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

*Council moved out of camera at 12:31pm*

*Catriona Smith left at 12:31*

## **8. Other Reports**

8.1. UHT End of Year Report

Motion 10: To accept the report.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

## 9. Operational Business

Procedural to defer 9.6 and 9.7 to the next Council.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

*Catriona Smith entered at 12:33pm*

*Anneke d'Emanuele left at 12:33pm*

Procedural to move to vote on items 9.1, 9.2 and 9.4 en bloc.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

- 9.1. Student Initiative Grant Report, UMMS
- 9.2. Student Initiative Grant Report, St. Vincent's Clinical School
- 9.4. Student Initiative Grant Application, Early Childhood Cohort  
Graduation Evening

Motion 11: To accept 9.1, 9.2 and 9.4 en bloc

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

- 9.3. Student Initiative Grant Application, Change x Unzipped

Alice: They haven't outlined purchase details.

Procedural to cede Chair to Molly Willmott.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

Motion 12: To reject the grant on the basis of missing a list of expenditure and to not place funds in the DUSA bank account.

Mover: Molly Willmott (Chair)

CARRIED

Procedural to cede Chair to Reece Moir.

Mover: Molly Willmott (Chair)



CARRIED

9.4. Student Initiative Grant Report, NUS NatCon

Procedural to note a conflict of interest of Amelia Reeves and Catriona Smith with NatCon.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

Procedural to defer until after item 10.1.

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

**10. Motions on Notice**

10.1. Be Heard, Not Harmed (SSDP Campaign)

Andie expressed support of this motion, saying that people die at festivals needlessly.

Amelia asked about clarification of this motion as Lucy's proxy.

Andie explained the motion.

Motion 13: To accept the motion.

Mover: Andie Moore

Seconder: Alice Smith

CARRIED

Procedural to move back to item 9.4

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

9.4. Student Initiative Grant Report, NUS NatCon

Alice: I made some public calculations, \$222.68 per person.

Motion 14: To accept NatCon reports and pass \$222.68 per person

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

#### 10.4. Careers Fair

Catriona: A lot of bad people were there who shouldn't be included in the Careers Fair.

Alice agreed.

Motion 15: To accept motion.

Mover: Catriona Smith

Seconder: Alice Smith

CARRIED

#### 10.5. Request to endorse NTEU Working with Children Check Petition – Casual Staff Count!

Dominic ceded speaking rights to NTEU representative.

NTEU representative: I represent casual staff at Melbourne University and we have put together a petition for WWCC reimbursements.

Amelia: WWCC are about \$100 and Melbourne University can afford to pay for them.

Georgia: It's good to see UMSU-NTEU collaboration.

Motion 16: To accept the motion.

Mover: Dominic Ilagan

Seconder Amelia Reeves

CARRIED

### 11. Other Business

None.

Procedural to move to a vote to cancel meeting 7(19) to then organise an unscheduled meeting

Mover: Reece Moir (Chair)

CARRIED

### 12. Next Meeting

TBA

### 13. Close

Council closed at 1pm

### **10.1. Be Heard, Not Harmed (SSDP Campaign)**

The debate around pill testing is reignited each summer in Australia. Thousands attend night-life events, multi-day festivals and other social spaces, and since August 2018, 5 young people have died as a result of illicit drug use.

Successful programs in the US, UK, Portugal and Netherlands use GCMS machines to test for toxic adulterants, purity and to provide pathways to counselling and rehabilitation.

This is a medical treatment issue. The Australian Medical Association (AMA), the Royal Melbourne College of General Practitioners and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians have all supported on-site testing. But amidst growing pressure, NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian has urged young people to abstain from using drugs. “It’s the only safe way.”

Despite young people being at the centre of this push-and-pull between conservatism and harm reduction, our voices have not been heard. In 2019 Students For Sensible Drug Policy Australia (SSDPAUS) have launched the first, and last, campaign to implement effective drug policy.

Student Unions are and have been a critical platform for young people to organise and reflect issues that effect them. The Safer Partying Initiative of UMSU Welfare has begun a commitment from the Union to publicly support this movement.

It’s about saving lives, not condoning drug use. It’s about being heard, not harmed. UMSU won’t be on the wrong side of history.

#### **Motion:**

1. That the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) endorses the ‘Be Heard Not Harmed’ campaign.
2. That the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) encourages Officer Bearers to share materials to encourage the campaign on campus.

**Moved:** Molly Willmott

**Seconded:**

## **10.2. Safer Partying Initiative**

**Motion:** To pass \$2000 from Whole of Union for the procurement of pill testing kits for continuation of the Safer Partying Initiative in Semester 1.

**Moved:** Ashwin Chhaperia

**Seconded:**

#### **10.4. Unethical Employers At University of Melbourne 2019 STEM & Built Environments Fair**

On Wednesday 6 March 2019, the University held its 2019 STEM & Built Environments Fair to advertise graduate employment opportunities to students.

For this event, the University of Melbourne charged \$650 for each non-profit and government department employer, and \$1300 for other employers.

A number of employers were included in the graduate fair whose destructive impact on the world should exclude them from participation in our University.

A lot of international organisations have put a blanket ban on investing in these arms companies because they are unethical. The largest sovereign wealth fund in the world, the Norwegian Government Pension Fund, no longer invests in arms companies. Many other public institutions (like the Dutch pension fund ABP, and our own LaTrobe Uni) have done the same.

The University needs to place the public good above profit-seeking, and break ties with these destructive organisations.

These employers include:

- **ASIO:** Australia's domestic spying agency run by Peter Dutton; whose agents can be made immune from prosecution for the use of force; and about whose operations journalists can be restricted from reporting.
- **Aurecon and GHD:** two companies providing infrastructure services to Adani in order to build the massive Carmichael Coal Mine in Queensland.
- **Boeing:** The second-largest arms producer in the world (behind Lockheed Martin, with whom the University partnered in 2017 despite protests over Lockheed's links to civilian deaths in Yemen). Not to be outdone, Boeing has also been linked to the deaths of hundreds of civilians in Yemen. Fragments of Boeing JDAM bombs were found in the debris of a 2016 attack on a marketplace near the Yemeni capital of Sana'a that killed 107 civilians, including 25 children. The company made USD\$26.93b in weapons sales in 2017.
- **Defence Force Recruiters:** Despite the last few years revealing that the Australian military engaged in military exercises with Saudi Arabia, that Australian troops flew a Nazi flag from an Australian army vehicle in Afghanistan, and that Australia contributed to the bombing of Iraq and Syria with a highly destructive impact on civilian populations, the University is taking money from military recruiters in exchange for access to students.

- **Loy Yang B Power Station:** one of the five dirtiest coal-fired power stations in the country; an ancient station that suffered a major failure in 2018; LYB’s owner Alinta Energy recently asked the Federal Government for public money to “upgrade and prolong the life of” this outmoded power station.
- **Shell:** or Royal Dutch Shell, is the fifth biggest oil company in the world, responsible for an overwhelming percentage of global emissions. Known for its vice-like political grip on the state of Nigeria, and has been accused of contracting militant groups to execute local anti-drilling activists. In 2008 and 2009, Royal Dutch Shell's 55-year-old pipeline ruptured and spilled millions of litres of crude oil into the Niger delta. Cleanup work only just began in the past year.

## **MOTION**

(1) UMSU calls on the University to:

- (a) Explain why these employers were permitted to advertise jobs to students at the Careers Fair, given their destructive impact both in Australia and globally; and
- (b) In consultation with students, create a list of unethical employers to be banned from holding stalls at future Careers Fairs.

(2) Students Council calls on the UMSU President to publish a statement condemning the invitation of these organisations to the Careers Fair.

**Moved:** Cam Doig

**Seconded:** Will Ross

### **10.5. Request to endorse [NTEU Working with Children Check Petition](#) – Casual Staff Count!**

The NTEU Casual Staff of Melbourne Uni are unionised casual and sessional academic and professional staff, employed by The University of Melbourne. We are passionate about working with students and academics and we enjoy taking part in a vibrant academic community. Nevertheless, working here often means being underpaid, working in insecure work and treated like a second-class employee even when we are doing first-class work. Almost 50% of academic and professional workers at the University of Melbourne are casual workers. Many of us must re-apply for jobs every semester even though we have worked here for years. Casual workers are involved in all aspects of University activities. We are lecturers, tutors, research assistants, coordinators, lab technicians, administrators, project officers, customer service, ICT support, library workers - across every faculty and school. Many of us are also students that work at the University and straddle the line between paying student and underpaid worker.

We will continue to demand that the University meet its obligation to address job insecurity and discriminatory employment practices in our University community. We will work with all of our NTEU union members to create a university community that is inclusive for all staff and all students.

As many of us have been organising Working With Children Checks, paid for by the University, some casual (sessional) staff have been told they need to pay for their own checks. Adding to the financial impost, the University has informed staff of this out-of-pocket cost after new contracts have been signed.

We are deeply concerned that the University of Melbourne chose not to pay the \$123.40 Working with Children Check (WWCC) fee for approximately 4,000 academic and professional casual staff, while picking up the tab for continuing and fixed term staff. Application of this "policy" is uneven across the University – some faculties and departments realise the unfairness of this impost and are covering the cost of the WWCC for ALL staff. For example, we heard earlier in March this year that the Melbourne Graduate School of Education had agreed to cover all costs.

Unionised casual and sessional academic and professional staff, employed by The University of Melbourne, are organising to fight this unfair treatment.

#### **Motion:**

We demand that the University of Melbourne:

- reimburse current casual staff for the cost of the WWCC.
- reimburse the WWCC fee to those casual staff that have re-applied for roles in Semester 1 2019 that they previously held (e.g. rolling contracts) in 2018.
- pay the WWCC for all future casual, continuing and fixed term staff should they not have a WWCC at the time of their employment.

We are asking you, students of the University of Melbourne and those that represent you and your interests, to stand up for casual staff at the University of Melbourne by

signing our petition, and to endorse our broader Casual Staff Count Campaign in solidarity with our struggle.

**Moved:** Rosie Joy Barron

**Seconded:**



### **11.1. Activities Expenditure**

The Activities department need to pass some money for an event that has passed (SoUP), and an event coming up at the end of this week (St Pat's). The money should have been passed at committee, however quorum was not met. Money to be passed from Activities budget.

1. To pass up to \$2094.27 for services for Start of Uni Party in the Special Projects budget line. These include:

- 1.1 \$396 for photography
- 1.2 \$972.27 for Cleaners
- 1.3 \$726 for First Aid

2. To pass up to \$36655.00 for goods and services for St Patrick's Day Celebration in the Special Projects budget line. These include:

- 2.1 up to \$1500 for Cleaners
- 2.2 up to \$5000 for Security
- 2.3 up to \$900 for Fencing
- 2.4 up to \$7000 for AV & Lighting
- 2.5 up to \$500 for DJ
- 2.6 up to \$172.70 for Tickets and Wristbands
- 2.7 up to \$3799.40 for Plasticware
- 2.8 up to \$6000 for Beverages
- 2.9 up to \$1000 for Live Band
- 2.10 up to \$7010 for Catering
- 2.11 up to \$600 for Photography
- 2.12 up to \$1000 for Photobooth
- 2.13 up to \$2172.90 for Benches

### **11.2. UMSU response to the Christchurch hate crime**

On Friday, a terror attack on two mosques in Christchurch killed 50 people and wounded 50 more during a time of prayer. The man who was charged with the shootings was an Australian citizen, and before the attacks took place, an 87-page manifesto was posted to social media under his name. This manifesto conveyed a range of vile anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim sentiments which have no place in society today.

The University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) People of Colour Department condemns these sentiments and the attacks in which they culminated. We express our deepest sympathy to the families, friends and loved ones of the victims.

As the attack was felt so deeply by our community, most particularly Muslim students on campus, we feel a responsibility to administer an organisation-wide response as soon as possible. As this week is also Diversity Week, we feel it is necessary to provide space for healing, as well as drive a message of solidarity and support throughout the week.

We will be distributing posters and chalking relevant messages around the University during the week. We will also be running a vigil on Tuesday evening and looking to distribute flowers among students on Wednesday morning with a message along the lines of “love conquers hate – give me to a stranger.”

We ask for UMSU’s support this week in delivering our message and taking a stance against islamophobia and racism in our community.

#### **Motion:**

1. That UMSU condemns racism in all its forms, including islamophobia, xenophobia and far-right extremism.
2. That the UMSU president publish a statement to this end.
3. That \$3,000 be passed from whole of union to cover costs relating to the UMSU response to the Christchurch attack, administered by the People of Colour department.

**Moved:** Mark Yin

**Seconded:** Farah Khairat

### **11.3. Solidarity with Christchurch! Solidarity with Muslims!**

On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, an Australian white supremacist slaughtered 50 Muslims in a Christchurch mosque. This heart-wrenching, tragic event shook many across the world with its brazen brutality, and especially shook Islamic communities across the world. The most insidious element of this act was not its senselessness, but the political premeditation on the part of the shooter. Just before the attack the man posted on social media and emailed to the New Zealand Prime Minister an 87 page manifesto of Islamophobic, white supremacist platitudes railing against immigration, Muslims and calling for the defence of the white race.

His rhetoric and worldview mirrored that of the internet fascist right which has grown in countries like Australia, America and New Zealand. He cites Donald Trump as “a symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose”, highlighting the confidence fascists like him get from the hastening rightward drift of mainstream politics around the world. The same spirit emboldened the fascist who shot and stabbed Jo Cox in Birstall three years ago, it guided the Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville two years ago when Heather Hayer was murdered, and it has increasingly heightened the frequency and severity of anti-Muslim hate crimes across New Zealand and many other countries where Islamophobia is a key political tool of politicians and the media. The institutional islamophobia of the Australian state (embodied in its sharpest form in the inhumane refugee policy) and the islamophobic rhetoric of our politicians in both the Labor Party and the Liberal Party, in league with the disgustingly negative portrayal of the Muslim community in most mainstream media outlets, are exactly what normalises and propagates the kind of ideas that led to the Christchurch attack. Such a tragedy is sickening but not surprising precisely because it is an obscene outgrowth of institutional racism. After the attack, the response of Australian Senator Fraser Anning was blatant apologism and further propagation of the very ideas which motivated this attack. He declared that “[t]he real cause of the bloodshed on New Zealand streets today is the immigration program which allowed Muslim fanatics to migrate to New Zealand in the first place”, ending his statement by saying that “those who follow a violent religion that calls on them to murder us cannot be too surprised when someone takes them at their word and responds in kind”, all but endorsing the act entirely. There has been a righteous outpouring of public anger at the Senator since his disgusting statement.

#### **Motion**

1. UMSU shares our deepest sympathies with the Muslim population of Christchurch suffering the worst tragedy imaginable. We offer solidarity to them and all Islamic communities around the world who have watched this attack and feel less safe in their own homes, streets and places of worship.
2. UMSU condemns the attacker as fascist murderer
3. UMSU also condemns the Islamophobia peddled by both major parties of Australian politics, their bipartisan support of racist policies like Australia’s refugee policy or the War on Terror which played a key role in normalising and endorsing in practice the ideas that motivated the Christchurch shooter.
4. UMSU calls condemns the statement of Senator Fraser Anning and calls on him to immediately resign

5. UMSU recognises that a staunch and united response to such a tragedy is important to show solidarity to our Muslim brothers and sisters

**Action**

1. UMSU will add our name to the growing list of institutions endorsing the Campaign Against Racism and Fascism demonstration “Stand Against Racism and Islamophobia: Fraser Anning must resign!” and supports a Melbourne University contingent to meet at 4:30 out the front of the Sydney Myer Asia Centre
2. This will be promoted on UMSUs social media channels
3. The President will email through all available email lists to let students know about the demonstration and the Melbourne University contingent and encourage them to attend
4. Students council encourages all UMSU office bearers to attend and directs them to promote the demonstration

Moved: Nicholas Reich

Seconded: Terence Taylor

#### **11.4. March 15 Was Historic. So where was the university?**

1. We are in a climate crisis. According to the landmark Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report issued last year, we have 12 years to limit temperatures rising to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels. At this threshold, we are heading toward a mass extinction of coral, extreme weather events, sea-level rise, destruction of whole ecosystems and the collapse of vital crops. At the current trends there is little hoping of even reaching the more conservative 2 degree target. According to the IPCC, a 2 degree temperature rise would be far worse than 1.5 degrees, with all the effects mentioned earlier greatly magnified.
2. It is incumbent upon UMSU, as the democratic organisation of Unimelb students, to take a position on this question. Not only do a majority of Australians consider climate change a serious and pressing problem (59 percent according to the latest Roy Morgan poll), but we represent university students – among whom there is even greater concern regarding the climate crisis (see Wachholz et. al. 2014). What the members of the unimelb community say and do regarding climate change matters, and can help strike a chord in the rest of society, particularly with a federal election in the pipeline.
3. This previous Friday saw 1.5 million primary, secondary, university students and supporters skip school and strike for climate justice around the world. This included almost 50 000 in Melbourne alone. It was enthusiastically received by the media and almost all quarters of society, save for a few curmudgeons down in Canberra. The effect has been that discussion of the climate crisis has increased and there is mounting pressure on politicians to commit to a real response in the lead up to the federal election. This highlights an important reality – the way forward to prevent environmental destruction on apocalyptic levels is mass action.
4. UMSU brought a contingent along to the demonstration, first meeting with all Universities at the state library and contributing important broader numbers to the protest and standing in support of the demands of the protest.
5. Because of this movement many universities sent out emails offering support or at least no opposition to the demonstrations. This occurred in several universities in Australia including but not limited to Sydney University, the University of Wollongong, and Flinders University. Internationally a number of University administrations even closed down the facilities of the institutions due to the numbers which were attending the strike. This occurred in places like France where the entire University of Bourgogne was directed to attend the strike.
6. This makes the actions of The University of Melbourne's administration particularly egregious. When a number of students messaged the acting Vice Chancellor, Mark Considine asking to promote the strike his only response was "The University has agreed protocols which govern the use of these channels and I can confirm this request falls outside those guidelines."

Platform

1. The University of Melbourne Student Union congratulates the 1.5 million people who took part in the global actions of the previous days, recognising the important role of mass participation in holding those responsible for climate destruction to account.

2. The University of Melbourne Student Union will support any future demonstrations called for climate justice through the groups involved in the action if another one is to be called. This includes the SS4CA, UMSU enviro department, NUS, etc.

3. The University of Melbourne Student Union condemns the University Administration for inaction and active abstention on such a vital question like climate justice.

Motion:

1. The UMSU President will advertise the passing of this motion with a press release

2. The statement will congratulate those who went out on strike and those who supported them and will expressly state that UMSU supports the demands to “Stop Adani, No New Coal Projects, and 100% renewable energy by 2030”

3. The press release will call on the University to reconsider its protocols and guidelines as well as to issue a public statement and apology for being on the wrong side of history

**Moved:** Mindi Suter

**Seconded:** Will Ross