



University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students' Council
Minutes
Friday 21 October 2022, 11AM
Meeting 17(22)
Location: Zoom

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/84758138245?pwd=TkRKSU5hOVh0WTlpYUdJVWZBNnItZz09>

Password: 168517

Meeting opened at 11.15AM

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Millie Macwhirter be elected as Chair	
Mover: Millie Macwhirter	Seconded: Marcie Di Bartolomeo
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	Mohamed Hadi	Yes
Students' Council Indigenous Representative	VACANT	N/A
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Jaryd Clifford	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Chaitanya Rhaguvanshi	Yes
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Aakash Chandak	No
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Haotian (Allen) Xiao	No
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	Zodie Bolic	Leave Requested
Students' Council (General Representative)	Imogen Senior	In Apology
Students' Council (General Representative)	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Ishita Ganeriwala	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Rebekah Kelly	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Scarlett Padden	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Terry Zhu-Xin Wang	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Yong Wen Hao	Yes

Students' Council (General Representative)	Annalyce Wiebenga	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	VACANT	N/A
Students' Council (General Representative)	Shirley Killen	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Georgia Burke	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Toby Glover	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Nate Hollis	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Ngaire Bogemann	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Zachary Kaplan	No

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Sophie Nguyen	Yes
General Secretary	Millie Macwhirter	Yes
Activities Officer	VACANT	N/A
Clubs & Societies Officer	Eleanor Cooney-Hunt	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Marcie Di Bartolomeo	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Prerna Aggarwal	No
Disabilities Officer	Shuyan (Betty) Zhang	No
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Ethan Georgeou	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Moira Negline	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Ruby Craven	Yes
Environment Officer	Chelsea Daniel	Yes
Environment Officer	Zachary Matthews	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	Yes
Media Officer	Charlotte Waters	Yes
Media Officer	Jasmine Pierce	Yes
Media Officer	Nishtha Banavalikar	No
People of Colour Officer	Hibatallah Adam	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Kyi Phyu Moe Htet	No
Queer Officer	Rook Davis	Yes
Queer Officer	Rose Power	Yes
Welfare Officer	Disha Zutshi	Yes
Women's Officer	Aashi (Kraanti) Agarwal	No
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	No
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Alex Birch	Yes
Southbank Activities Officer	Jack Doughty	Yes
Southbank Education Officer	Xiaole Zhan	No

Other: Phoebe Churches, Tim Lippis, Ciara Griffiths, Frankie (Socialist Alternative), Caitlin Kane (VCESS), Toby Glover (VCESS), Lucas Spaleta (VCESS), Monica (Socialist Alternative)

1.4. Apologies

Councillors: Imogen Senior

1.5. Leave of Absence Requests

Zodie Bolic is requesting leave for this council.

Moira Negline is requesting leave from the 7th until the 20th of November.

Moe Htet is requesting leave from the 19th of October until the 2nd of November

Motion 2: To accept the leave requests

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.6. Proxies

Shirley Killen would like to proxy to Monica Sestito.

Imogen Senior would like to proxy to Terry Wang

Aakash Chandak would like to proxy to Ishita Ganeriwala

Motion 3: to accept the proxies.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.7. Membership

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 4: To adopt the Agenda as presented, with Item 6.1 struck.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3.1. Minutes 16(22)

N/A

3.2. Minutes for Special Council 2(22)

N/A

4. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

6. Correspondence

7. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Sophie Nguyen	<i>Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Millie Macwhirter	<i>Submitted</i>

Activities Officer	VACANT	N/A
Clubs & Societies Officer	Eleanor Cooney-Hunt	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Marcie Di Bartolomeo	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Prerna Aggarwal	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Shuyan (Betty) Zhang	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Ethan Georgeou	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Moira Negline	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Ruby Craven	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Chelsea Daniel	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Zachary Matthews	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Charlotte Waters	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Jasmine Pierce	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Nishtha Banavalikar	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Hibatallah Adam	<i>Not Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Kyi Phyu Moe Htet	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Rook Davis	<i>Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Rose Power	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Disha Zutshi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Aashi (Kraanti) Agarwal	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Alex Birch	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Jack Doughty	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Xiaole Zhan	<i>Submitted</i>

Chair noted that Jasmine Pierce did submit an OB Report.

There were no questions of the OB Reports.

Motion 5: To accept the OB Reports

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move in camera.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 11.18AM

8. CEO Report

Motion 6: To accept the CEO's report

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move out of camera.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved out of camera at 11.34AM

9. Other Reports

9.1. UMSU International Update

9.2. CEO Recruitment Sub-Committee

Mohamed Hadi spoke to the review of the candidates; Sub-Committee has selected a longlist of 9 candidates. Perrett Laver will interview the longlist and provide a recommended shortlist of 5 candidates.

The Sub-Committee will interview the shortlist and select two-three final candidates to be interviewed by Council.

Flagged there will be a need for likely several Special Councils in November for the process of selection of a CEO before the end of Council's term.

9.3. Operations Sub-Committee

N/A

9.4. VCE Summer School Report

Was noted by Council

10. Operational Business

10.1. Student Initiative Grants

All these Student Initiative Grant Applications are similar in nature in terms of the benefit they offer to Students and the use for the money in bringing down the ticket prices for students. As the General Secretary, I recommend these applications be passed.

Procedural Motion: To suspend the Standing Orders and vote on motions 10.1.1-10.1.3 en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Motion 7: To accept the SIGs.

Moved: Chair

Seconded: Harley Lewis

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To resume the Standing Orders.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

10.1.1. Graduation dinner for the Northern Clinical School

They are asking for \$1,000 to help subsidise the venue costs so as to bring the prices of tickets down.

10.1.2. Graduation Dinner for the Austin Clinical School

They are asking for \$1,000 to help subsidise the venue costs so as to bring the prices of tickets down

10.1.3. Rural Clinical School MD Graduation Dinner

They are asking for \$1,000 to go towards running the graduation dinner and have emailed me the following to describe the merit of their application; "Our students have been placed rurally across different parts of Victoria for the latter three years of their degree and have formed close bonds with their colleagues with whom they have shared the experience. The nature of the rural placements has meant that a majority of our students have moved away from their support systems for their studies, but this has fostered remarkably supportive friendships among the cohort.

This dinner will be a chance for students to come together again and meet with friends and peers who they may not have seen since the earlier years of their placements. There will be opportunities to reminisce as well as congratulate and encourage each other prior to starting work as junior doctors next year. This grant will be used purely to lower the cost of tickets for our student attendees.

We will be able to place the UMSU logo on our menus, as well as have our MCs thank UMSU among our other sponsors on the night.

11. Motions on Notice

11.1. NUS Motion

Preamble:

Ah yes, the time has come. UniMelb and UMSU represents one of (if not THE) largest student bodies. As such our fees for affiliation to the NUS (National Union of Students) is significant. The NUS Gen Sec has come back with a figure after Phoebe and I filled out a form to ask for a reduction in how much we would normally have to pay as per the Constitution. Luckily, it's in our budget! Yay! For those who don't know why we pay affiliation fees (besides the fact that we aren't scabs), it's because the NUS gives all the student unions in the country a space and opportunity to meet

with one another, organise, and mobilise towards a larger goal in our student union movement. The NUS is represented by delegates who are elected in our annual elections. They all hold different votes, but at UniMelb, we hold the largest number of votes because of our student population. We're pretty important! So, it'd be epic to continue having that representation.

Motion:

That Students' Council moves \$90,000 from the NUS Affiliations budget line of Students' Council budget to pay for UMSU's annual affiliation fee to the NUS.

Mover: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Millie Macwhirter

Motion 8: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Millie Macwhirter

CARRIED

11.2. Relocation furniture and refurbishment expenditure

Preamble:

The capacity to purchase additional furniture and other refurbishment will benefit both UMSU staff and student representatives and students using our spaces more generally by increasing amenity and usability of our new spaces. The current furnishing was sourced by the builders from materials already in the building and many are not fit for purpose or are inadequate.

A central process will be put in place for student departments and staff divisions to request items or services, and to coordinate delivery and installation.

It is not anticipated that this activity will return revenue.

Motion: That Students' Council pass the amount of money reallocated from student departments into the Whole of Union Fund for the purchase of furniture and other refurbishment in building 168 and other UMSU spaces as required.

That the interim CEO will provide a written report back to Students' Council the final meeting for 2022. That the recipients warrant they will only use the grant of funds in the manner specified in this motion.

Mover: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Millie Macwhirter

Motion 9: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Millie Macwhirter

CARRIED

11.3. UMSU supports striking Knauf workers at Port Melbourne facility

Preamble:

On 15 September the managers at Knauf's Port Melbourne plasterboard factory

locked out about 70 workers without pay. In response, union members have declared an indefinite strike and have been picketing the workplace daily for the past four weeks. Workers are under increasing pressure to accept an entirely inadequate EBA offer and are demanding annual pay increases of just 6%, which is less than the official Australian inflation rate.

Workers at Knauf have endured unsafe working conditions and have been exposed to cancer-inducing silica dust. Without access to laundry services provided by Knauf, workers must wash contaminated clothes at home, endangering their families.

Knauf Management has continuously pushed for an increase in casual and labour-hire workers to undermine workplace standards and solidarity on the whole, by eroding the conditions of one shift and section at a time and weakening workers' ability to fight using collective action in the future.

Knauf is a part of a multibillion-dollar industry integral to construction. The senior management executives are paid multimillion dollar salaries, comparable to University management who take home bloated salaries while staff and education standards suffer.

On Saturday 8 October at the NTEU national council meeting, councillors pledged their solidarity with the striking CFMEU workers at Knauf. To this end, they contributed \$700 in cash, alongside an untold number of additional online donations, to the strike fund. This is a public fundraising organised by the CFMEU in order to provide Knauf workers with some material relief while they continue their strike.

Unimelb students have been regularly participating in and supporting the picket at Knauf. UMSU now has an important opportunity to join these students and pledge its solidarity with the striking Knauf workers. By publicly supporting this strike and contributing to the strike fund, UMSU will maintain its standing as a student union that consistently stands on the side of the exploited and oppressed and help deepen the political culture amongst members about the fundamental principles and history of student unionism.

Contributing \$500 to the Knauf strike will not return revenue to UMSU. UMSU staff responsible for this one-off contribution will be able to transfer it directly into the CFMEU strike fund publicly accessible online.

The recipients of this donation - the striking Knauf workers - welcome the opportunity to attend UMSU Student Council to explain the significance of their industrial action and of standing in solidarity with striking workers in the face of the deepening cost of living crisis.

Platform:

- UMSU Students' Council condemns Knauf's aim to reduce job security by expanding the use of casual and labour-hire contracts and deliver a real wage cut to workers by offering a below-inflation pay agreement.

- UMSU Students' Council expresses its support and solidarity with the striking CFMEU workers at the Knauf Port Melbourne facility

Action:

- UMSU will commit \$500 from the whole of union budget as a contribution towards the lockout fund in support for the Knauf workers and as an expression of solidarity.
- UMSU will promote the Knauf lockout fund on its social media platforms to assist the Knauf workers in fundraising.

<https://knauf-lockout-fund.raisely.com/>

Mover: Frankie Kennedy

Seconder: Raphael Duffy

Frankie Kennedy spoke to their moving rights. Raphael Duffy spoke to their seconding rights.

President Sophie Nguyen expressed personal support for the motion, asked for movers outline how the motion aligns with the purposes of Whole of Union funds, specifically how it ties to the activities of two or more departments.

Monica Sestito responded, expressed that the motion reflects the values of UMSU's Education Department, as well as benefiting students of Unimelb and other campuses towards UMSU's values of unionism and support of worker rights.

Motion 10: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Frankie Kennedy

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

11.4. Media Volunteer Managers

Preamble:

There's an unbelievable amount of work by passionate unpaid students that goes into Farrago and Fodder, and some of our team managers truly go above and beyond their job description. After an extensive review with P&C, we've found we're unable to legally engage any of these volunteers as student contractors, due to the long-term nature of their roles. However, as we approach the end of the year, we'd still love to thank them in some way. We're planning to take them all out for dinner and drinks, and provide them each with a meaningful, personalised gifts.

Giving gifts to our managers will benefit students because the work they do is crucial to the functioning of student media (which, in turn, is relevant to all students). This is a token of our appreciation for this work, as well as a potential incentive for future involvement. It serves the purposes of UMSU because it targets a range of students with diverse experiences, backgrounds and skillsets, due to the many self-directed teams within media. Much of the recent addition to the Whole

of Union budget was from the Activities Department, and these volunteers have helped run events, workshops, collectives, and different activities throughout the year.

For transparency, we have 18 managers/facilitators across Radio Fodder, the Fodder blog, social media, photography, video, news, satire, and the Queer x Media collective. Allocating \$3000 to this would equate to roughly \$165 per person.

Motion:

That Students' Council pass \$3000 from the Whole of Union budget to buy dinner, drinks and gifts for all of Media's volunteer managers. That the recipients of this grant of money will provide a written report back to Students' Council by Council 18(22). That the recipients warrant they will only use the grant of funds in the manner specified in this motion.

Mover: Charlotte Waters

Seconded: Nishtha Banavalikar

Charlotte spoke to the motion, clarified how the activities of the Media volunteers are beneficial to multiple UMSU departments.

Motion 11: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Charlotte Waters

Seconded: Nishtha Banavalikar

CARRIED

12. Motions without Notice

12.1. Catering for Media event from Moonfishh

Charlotte Waters raised a motion without notice for an event this afternoon.

Motion 12: To move \$55 from Media's Special Projects line for catering for a workshop this afternoon.

Mover: Charlotte Waters

Seconded: Jasmine Pierce

CARRIED

12.2. Media Space Stationary

Motion 13: To move \$300 from Media's Special Projects line for Media Space stationary, office supplies, and storage equipment.

Mover: Charlotte Waters

Seconded: Jasmine Pierce

CARRIED

13. Other Business

13.1. Whole of Union Financial Regulations in plain language.

14. Next Meeting

15. Close

Meeting closed at 12:10PM