Establishment of Constitutional Working Group

Thursday, 2nd April 2015

On March 24th, Students’ Council passed a motion enabling me as the General Secretary to establish a Constitutional Working Group. The Constitutional Working Group will be a forum open to all students to discuss the UMSU Constitution, particularly any issues within the Constitution and ideas for possible changes. The Working Group will meet regularly during semester, with a view to suggesting Constitutional changes where the Group sees necessary. Proposed changes involving autonomous groups will also be discussed in a separate forum comprised of students who identify with the relevant autonomous group if necessary. Any proposed changes to emerge from the Constitutional Working Group will first be taken to Students’ Council, and if endorsed, will be put to a Special General Meeting.

The Students’ Council motion directing me to establish the Constitutional Working Group appears below:

Preamble: Students’ Councillors, Office Bearers and other students have expressed concerns to me about issues in the UMSU Constitution and ideas for other changes. These issues and ideas include inconsistencies in formatting and grammar, and the possible inclusion of an Ethnocultural Department or similar. Establishing a Constitutional Working Group is an important way of airing and discussing these concerns and ideas in a constructive environment, with a view to proposing changes to the Constitution if and where the Working Group sees fit. The Working Group would meet regularly, with meeting details posted on the website, and would be open to all students.

Motion 6: That Students’ Council directs the General Secretary to establish a Constitutional Working Group, to meet fortnightly, with meeting details posted on the Secretariat page of the UMSU Website.
Mover: Hana Dalton Seconder: Rachel Withers
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Every University of Melbourne student is invited to be a part of the Constitutional Working Group, and anyone can attend any of the meetings, regardless of prior involvement. If you would like to be involved, please email me at secretary@union.unimelb.edu.au, or come along to the first meeting on Thursday 16th April at 12pm in the OB Space, level 1, Union House.

Hana Dalton