

**University of Melbourne Student Union**

**Meeting of the Activities Committee**

**Agenda**

**(Tuesday, 14, February, 2022, 6:00 pm)**

**Meeting #3(23)**

**Location: zoom**

Zoom meeting on Feb 14, 2023, 06:00 PM Australia/Melbourne

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81059999478?pwd=Z3EvN2I1KzJWTlNFbDFMYkxiMDJJZz09>

Password: 310307

1. **Procedural Matters**

**Meeting starts at 6:00pm**

* 1. Election of Chair

**Motion 1:** **That Arya Kushwaha be elected Chair**

**Mover**: **Seconder**:

* 1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians
  2. Attendance
  3. Apologies
  4. Proxies
     1. Safije Meka has proxied to Angelina choi

**Motion 2:** **That the proxies be accepted**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* + 1. Jimmy has proxied to Luv Golecha

**Motion 2:** **That the proxies be accepted**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* + 1. Sarocha Yang has proxied to Divyansh Jain

**Motion 2:** **That the proxies be accepted**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* 1. Membership
  2. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion 3:** **That the Agenda as presented be adopted**

**Mover:**  **Seconder:**

1. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**
2. **Conflicts of Interest Declaration**
3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
4. **Correspondence**
5. **Operational Business (Motions on Notice)**
   1. **Budget for SoUP Food vendors.**

**Motion 6: To pass $2000 for expenditure related to Start of Uni Party Food Vendors from the budget line 03-60-600-3839.**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* 1. **Budget for Summerfest Security Team.**

**Motion 6: To pass $2000 for expenditure related to Start of Uni Party Security Team from the budget line 03-60-600-3839.**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* 1. **Budget for Summerfest Printing.**

**Motion 6: To pass $1000 for expenditure related to Start of Uni Party Volunteer Name tag, Participants Hand bands, print out for signage from the budget line 03-60-600-3839.**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* 1. **Budget for Summerfest Southbank.**

**Motion 6: To pass $500 for expenditure related to Summer Fest Southbank from the budget line 03-60-600-3839.**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

* 1. **Motion for Weekly bands and brunches:**

**Motion 6: Bands and Brunch Program Amendment Proposal: Weekly Scheduling**

**Current plan: That a Bands and Brunch program (aka Bands, Bevs and BBQs), involving free food, beverages and live music or other live entertainment, be run fortnightly for students on Tuesdays during both semesters of 2023.**

**Proposal: That we increase the scheduling of the Bands and Brunch program to run weekly during teaching weeks of both semesters, with free food and beverages at least, and with live performances for as many weeks as the budget allows or, to the extent it does not, with recorded music/entertainment (eg. spotify playlist tunes) filling any gaps.**

**Reasoning: Historically, Bands, Bevs and BBQs was run (mostly) weekly in 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013 and 2012 (as far back as Facebook records go), as well as in an online format in 2021 and 2020. While traditions should be examined critically, this storied history has shown that running a Bands and Brunch program weekly is both a popular policy amongst students and more than achievable. This year brings with it new logistical challenges that past years did not, such as a reduced departmental budget and the absence of Union House as a venue, but there are nonetheless several reasons why running a weekly program again would still be in the interests of students, and worth aiming for over a fortnightly program:**

1. **Having a regularly scheduled free brunch with free entertainment provides a reliable, easily accessible and fun source of food and social security for students. Doing this fortnightly is good, doing it weekly is twice as good. Uni does not take a week off during semester (apart from the mid-sem break), and neither should this program ideally. Going two weeks between Bands and Brunch is a long time.**
2. **The more events that are run on campus, the more of a reason there is for students to be on campus outside of classes. If we want to revitalise the vibrant and healthy in-person culture from the time before lockdowns, it is important that we give students popular activities that they can attend every week. A rising tide lifts all boats in this case: if someone stays on campus or comes to campus because of Bands and Brunch, they are more likely to also do something else on campus that same day.**
3. **Running Bands and Brunch weekly provides a level of consistency in scheduling and presence that makes it easier to know when it’s on, and increases the profile of the Activities Department in general that bit more.**
4. **Even with a reduced budget, the minimum costs required for Bands and Brunch are more than affordable. Barbecues are cheap and easy to organise and set up, as is playing recorded music, something which has itself been done at times in the past, and which students could potentially have input into curating.**

**Cost breakdown: Most of the expenses incurred by Bands, Bevs and BBQs are, of course, related to the first of the Bs: the hiring of bands or other acts to perform live, and providing them the infrastructure to do so. To appreciate how relatively cheap the catering part of the program is, consider that in 2019 the Activity Department’s Tuesday Bands and Lunch Program was budgeted at $235,320** [**(see page 121 here)**](https://unimelbcloud.sharepoint.com/teams/UMSUBUDGETSITE2023/Shared%20Documents/3.%20Handy%20docs/UMSU%20Budget%20Memorandum%202019.pdf?CT=1669302130874&OR=ItemsView) **for 12 times during both semester 1 and 2, while in the same year the Activities Department’s additional weekly Lunch Program was budgeted at $36,600, or just ~15.5% of the preceding figure. This is just an example for comparison to be clear, but one that points to how cheap the costs of running a brunch with any entertainment program could be at the extreme.**

**Considerations: Two points of concern to keep in mind were raised at the January 30th Committee Meeting regarding this idea. The first: that we should avoid competing with the Welfare Department’s Thursday lunch program. So long as we stick to scheduling the Bands and Brunch program on Tuesdays, this should not be a problem. The second: that we should avoid overlapping with Clubs & Societies related lunch events. Again, so long as we stick to a consistent schedule, and so long as we make the general schedule clear to other departments and students in advance, this should not be a problem. In the past, there has existed the sentiment that it is possible to get free food and events from departments and clubs most days of the week during semesters. Adding sensibly to the UMSU cornucopia once again should not be viewed as competition but rather contribution.**

**Summary: If we can afford it, which we can, and if it is feasible, which it is, there is no good reason not to try running the Bands and Brunch program weekly, and many reasons in the interests of students to do so. As they say, it is better to aim high and fall short than to aim low and hit even shorter. Which of these would you rather be the legacy of the Activities Department for 2023?**

**Mover:** **Seconder:**

1. **Other Business (Motions without Notice)**
2. **Next Meeting**
   1. When to meet link to be circulated in the messenger group chat for a meeting in March.
3. **Close**