

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Clubs & Societies Committee



Confirmed Minutes Meeting 5

10 am Tuesday March 24, 2026

Meeting 5/26

**Location:
Room 201, Building 168 and Zoom (details available on request)**

Opened at 10:07 am by Alex Gwynn

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: To elect Alex Gwynn as chair.

Mover: Alex Gwynn Second: Seamus Donnellan

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Acknowledged.

Meiqi Liu & Tarish Kadam arrived at 10:08 am

1.3. Attendance

C&S Committee: Maximillian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Yunyi Chan, Yifan (Roger) Cao, Joshua Solomon, Meiqi Liu, Tarish Kadam

OB: Alex Gwynn, Seamus Donnellan

Staff: Fiona Sanders, Melanie Gunton

Clubs: CSSA (Peilin Feng, Zhaohui Wu, Yuchen Luo, Chengqian Fu, Changhao Li, Ming Jui Li)

Others: Alyssa Shaw, Sara Pheasant, Patrick Bolton, Ronglin Hou, Zhengheng Huang.

1.4. Grant speaking rights to Coordinator (Standing Order 21.2)

Procedural Motion 1: To grant speaking rights to Melanie Gunton and Fiona Sanders (Standing Order 21.2).

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.5. Apologies

Nil

1.6. Proxies

Nil

1.7. Membership

Nil

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Add discussion of 6.1.a New Club correspondence.

6.2.2. Yaoi & Yuri Club

Procedural Motion 2: To adopt the agenda as amended.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes (March 10)

There was an error with the petition to formal warning which has a mover and seconder instead of Petitioners for MBSports.

Motion 2: To confirm the minutes as a true and accurate record of the 10 March meeting with amendments.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

3. Conflicts of interest

Name	Conflicts of Interest declared
Tarish Kadam	Language Exchange Club
Joshua Solomon	Society for Astronomy at Melbourne University, Jewish Students Society, Society for Transportation Enthusiasts at Melbourne
Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick	Film Society, Pirates
Lucia Flynn	Arts Students Society
Meiqi Liu	Drawing and Painting Club
Yifan (Roger) Cao	Student Institution of Mihoyo Players
Yunyi Chan	Hispanic Culture and Language Society, Language Exchange, Habitat for Humanity, Chocolate Lovers Society
Alex Gwynn	Swifties Society
Seamus Donnellan	Beer and Cider Society

Changes to conflicts of interest: Joshua Solomon is no longer on Society for Astronomy at Melbourne University committee, Max is on the Pirates committee.

4. Matters deferred and arising from the previous minutes

4.1. Discipline

4.1.1. Chinese Students and Scholars Association Audit

The club was instructed to provide documents which indicate transactions made for the club on the treasurer's bank account after the money was moved out of the club account. The club only came in and highlighted transactions at 4:30 yesterday. No finances were provided from the incoming treasurer. The former treasurer told Melanie the money was moved out to avoid income taxes. Transfers were not properly accounted for as club income/expenditures.

The club also indicated transactions which were AGM/SGM refunds. These were treated like renewals which they want to renew for free but there was no correspondence with department about setting up free renewal. They want the "committee" to renew memberships for free, with a single purchase.

Lucia Flynn arrived at 10:27 am

It was very unclear about income tax avoidance. As the two signatures to spend requirement was unable to be used with money that was transacted through the treasurer's account, they stated that the executive made those decisions together.

Procedural Motion 3: To go in camera with Melanie Gunton and Fiona Sanders.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

In camera 10:35 am

Procedural Motion 4: To admit strangers into the meeting.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

11:12 am Chinese Students and Scholars Association came back without Changhao Li who left between from camera Ming Jui Li (current treasurer) arrived in camera

Petition made last meeting: Petition to disaffiliate Chinese Students and Scholars Association for failure to provide documents and misappropriating funds (R7.1.c, 6.3.b, 6.3.c., 6.3.j).

Petitioned by Meiqi Liu, Tarish Kadam

Petition made last meeting: Petition to suspend Chinese Students and Scholars Association grants for 12 months for failure to provide documents and misappropriating funds (R7.1.c, 6.3.b, 6.3.c., 6.3.j).

Petitioned by Meiqi Liu, Roger Cao

Petition made last meeting: Petition to put Chinese Students and Scholars Association on probation for 12 months for failure to provide documents and misappropriating funds (R7.1.c, 6.3.b, 6.3.c., 6.3.j).

Petitioned by Tarish Kadam, Roger Cao

Procedural Motion 5: To consider all the petitions for Chinese Students and Scholars en bloc.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 3: To uphold the three petitions for Chinese Students and Scholars.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Roger Cao

For: 0 Against: 7

LOST

Committee reassessed the grounds for discipline, and now feel that there are significant and systemic issues with the financial management and record keeping of the club.

Petition to disaffiliate Chinese Students and Scholars Association for financially mismanaging club funds and failing to fulfill financial record keeping obligations. (R6.3.a (7.1.c & 5.5.ii), 6.3.c.).

Petitioned by Tarish Kadam, Roger Cao, Lucia Flynn

Petition to bar Changhao Li from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Petition to bar Chengqian Fu from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Petition to bar Mingzhu Li from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Petition to bar Peilin Feng from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Petition to bar Steven Luo from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Petition to bar Zhaohui Wu from being on the executive committee of any club for 12 months (R6.3.c)

Petitioned by Maximilian McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Joshua Solomon

Procedural Motion 6: To move to 7.1 Standard Grants.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

7.1 Standard Grants

Motion 3: To approval all standard grants except CSF26926.

Mover: Yunyi Chan

Second: Tarish Kadam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 4: That all grants that only have the issue of missing a room booking be approved conditional on submission of room booking.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

Second: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Defer all remaining grants.

Patrick Bolton arrived at 11:34 am

Alex addressed the committee to ensure a more efficient meeting.

Procedural Motion 7: Go to item 8.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

8. Other Business

8.1 Membership Audit

Petition to disaffiliate the Cambodian Students Society for not having at least 30 student members (R6.3.h)

Petitioned by Joshua Solomon, Lucia Flynn

8.1.1 Chinese Calligraphy Club

No further action

8.2.1 Rotaract Club

The Rotaract Club included the words "Student Union" in their name change, however they cannot use Student Union implies they are an arm of UMSU.

Motion 5: To approve the name change to "Rotaract Club of The University of Melbourne."

Mover: Joshua Solomon

Second: Tarish Kadam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

8.2.2 Islamic Society

Is a responsibility afforded by the University

Motion 6: To approve the change to Aim c of the Islamic Society's constitution.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

5. OB Reports

Motion 7: To accept the OB Reports.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

Second: Tarish Kadam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

6. New Clubs

6.1. Applications

Anthropology Society

Motion 8: To grant initial approval to the Anthropology Society.

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Second: Roger Cao

For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

Artificial Intelligence Prototyping Studio

Discussion around the aims overlapping with Responsible AI Development. The committee believes it does not have 4 distinct aims. Aim 2 overlaps with RAID Aim 4 and Aim 3 overlaps with RAID Aim 1.

Motion 9: To reject Artificial Intelligence Prototyping Studio under R4.2.b.vi.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Patrick Bolton left at 11:50 am

Association of Enthusiasts in Unimelb for Gundam (AEUG)

Discussion around name being only for a specific type of miniature but aims are broader and do not mention Gundams.

Defer for resubmission with a new name.

The committee decided to discuss the appeal process for the applications as there is no existing formal procedure.

“Appeals” historically clubs push back on rejections and the Committee reconsiders their application with added information.

The committee discusses that there is a need for equitable access to information. Rather than inviting “appeals”, the Committee makes a statement that the department will receive any additional information or questions before Monday morning for consideration next week.

Before continuing, Joshua Solomon declared a Conflict of Interest for the new application for the Furry Club.

10 Minute break under Standing Orders at 12:02 pm

Meeting resumed at 12:17 pm

BL Theatre (BLT)

The committee discusses their affiliation being more relevant to UHT theatre groups.

Motion 10: To reject the BL Theatre (BLT) on grounds of R4.2.b.xiv.

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Seconder: Lucia Flynn

For: 6 Abstain: 1

CARRIED

Card & Mind Magic Society

Motion 11: To grant initial approval to the Card & Mind Magic Society.

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Central Asian Society

Motion 12: To grant initial approval to Central Asian Society.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Lucia Flynn

For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

Ronglin Hou entered at 12:20 pm

Chan Wisdom Lab Society

Defer and ask for them to demonstrate how they are appealing to a distinct demographic from the Buddhist Society.

Chinese Network & Leadership Association

The committee identifies overlap with a bunch of clubs and discuss the name not matching the aims. The overlapping aims are:

- Aim 1 with Chinese Students and Scholars Aim 1.
- Aim 2 with Australia-Chinese Youth Association Aim 5.

Motion 13: To reject Chinese Network & Leadership Association on the grounds of R4.2.b.vi and R4.2.b.vii.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

The committee decides to discuss the two Social Deduction clubs together.

They identify that the Chinese Social Deduction Game Club and Social Deduction Society are subsets of one another. They also ask if this a subset of Tabletop Gaming Society.

Motion: To direct the Chinese Social Deduction Game Club and Social Deduction Club to merge.

Mover: Joshua Solomon no second

Lapsed

Motion 14: To reject Chinese Social Deduction Game Club on grounds of 4.2.b.xii and direct them to the Tabletop Gaming Society.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Roger Cao

For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

Motion 15: To reject Social Deduction Society on grounds of 4.2.b.xii and direct them to the Tabletop Gaming Society.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Lucia Flynn

For: 6 Against: 1

CARRIED

Zhengheng Huang arrived at 12:44 pm

Digital Survival Lab

Defer and ask for them to show how they are providing different service to the University's IT help. Fiona will also ask insurance if there is any concern with them being liable for errors in IT help they may provide. The Committee would also like them to resubmit the Aims in a digestible format as they are currently too long.

Doughnation

Motion: To reject on basis of overlapping aims with CAKE (new club Aim 3 / CAKE Aim 1&4)

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick no seconder

Lapsed

Motion 16: To grant initial approval to Doughnation.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Lucia Flynn

For: 5 Against: 2

CARRIED

Fanworks and Media Analysis Society (FAMAS)

The committee discusses at length how Fanworks and Media Analysis occurs within other clubs, such as the Animanga Club, Student Institution of Mihoyo Players, and other fandom and media related clubs. They believe that the aims of FAMAS are already served by other clubs in reference to R4.2.b.xii.

Motion 17: To reject Fanworks and Media Analysis Society (FAMAS) on the grounds of R4.2.b.xii, and direct to the relevant club catering to their interests or fandom.

Mover: Roger Cao Seconder: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

For: 4 Against: 3

CARRIED

Alyssa Shaw arrived at 1:01 pm

Fashion Society

Motion 18: To grant initial approval to the Fashion Society.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Fate Lab

The Committee discusses the aims of Fate Lab not being distinct from one another, with Aim 2 and Aim 4 being too close to Aim 1, and Aim 2 and Aim 5 being too close to Aim 3. They also discuss that the name is too vague and does not match the aims.

Motion 19: To reject Fate Lab on the grounds of R4.2.b.iv and R4.2.b.vii.

Mover: Lucia Flynn Seconder: Tarish Kadam

For: 5 Against: 2

CARRIED

Financial Markets Collective

The committee discusses the club's Aim 1 overlapping with Financial Management Association of Australia Aim 2. They also discuss the demographic of the club overlapping with several existing commerce and finance related clubs.

Motion 20: To reject Financial Markets Collective on the grounds of R4.2.b.vi and R4.2.b.xii.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Tarish Kadam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Future Forward North American

Defer and ask the club to get a name that matches their name better.

Future Forward Foundation

The committee discusses the existing clubs which serve the same demographic as this club, including Enactus, Start Up Link and Venture Capital and Innovation Laboratories.

Motion 21: To reject Future Forward Foundation on the grounds of R4.2.b.xii.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Graduate for Agricultural and Food Society

The committee discusses the club's overlap with the Agricultural and Food Sciences Society. They indicate that they do not need a graduate subset of the club when the current club already services all students, both undergraduate and graduate levels.

Motion 22: To reject Graduate for Agricultural and Food Society on the grounds of R4.2.b.xii.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Lucia Flynn

For: 6 Abstain: 1

CARRIED

Hope For Life

Committee members who were on the 2025 Committee inform the new members of the reason Hope For Life was rejected last year, which was a previous aim overlap with the women's department. This overlap no longer exists in their aims.

Much discussion is had on clubs as spaces for minority opinions.

Seamus Donnellan left at 1:25 pm

Sara Pheasant arrived at 1:28 pm

Alex addresses correspondence from the Sexual Harm Response Coordinators about a potential issue with R4.2.b.i, where 'the applicant group's activities are not consistent with the Purposes of UMSU (C12.6 (C1.5)). Specifically, constitution purpose aims of g & h.

Procedural Motion 8: To grant speaking rights to Sara Pheasant & Alyssa Shaw (Standing Order 21.2).

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Discussion of international standards and conventions on women's reproductive health, that relate to UMSU's purpose to promote equality. Further discussion on how freedom of speech is another right, and UMSU must be careful with regard to balancing these rights.

CEO also spoke to the application of resources, SSAF funds, and the use of the UMSU affiliated club logo being on publications of clubs. Discussion is had on whether a single political issue is a sustainable basis for a club.

Alex Gwynn ceded the chair to Tarish Kadam

Club's aim 1; To campaign for and justify the abolition of abortion in Australia, while upholding central principles of compassion and honesty. It is pointed out that UMSU's purpose is to oppose discrimination and promote equality and the welfare of students. It is an internationally established human right to do so.

Tarish Kadam cedes the chair to Alex Gwynn

As it is anti-choice position and attempts to change the law in relation to abortion, the impact on access to available medical care was brought up as a concern.

Motion 23: To reject Hope For Life on the grounds of R4.2.b.i & R4.2.b.viii.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Lucia Flynn

For: 6 Abstain: 1

CARRIED

Sara Pheasant left at 1:53 pm

Standing order break 10 minutes, 2:03 pm

Zhengheng Huang left during the break

Meeting reopened at 2:08 pm

Meiqi Liu proxied to Ronglin Hou

Meiqi Liu left at 2:09 pm

Procedural Motion 9: To accept the proxy from Meiqi Liu to Ronglin Hou.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Alex handed over to Alyssa to introduce herself and her role in the Student Rep division.

Ronglin Hou left at 2:12 pm

Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick and Ronglin Hou came back at 2:14 pm

Ronglin Hou declared POKEN, Hanfu Association, Yaoi Yuri Society as conflicts of interest.

Lao Student Association

Motion 24: To grant initial approval to Lao Student Association.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Roger Cao

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Launchpad for Innovation, Founders and Technology (LIFT), Melbourne Venture Club, Venture Capital Students Society

These clubs were discussed together as they all had overlapping aims. The Committee recognises that they all overlap with the existing club Venture Capital and Innovation Laboratories.

Motion 25: To reject Launchpad for Innovation, Founders and Technology (LIFT) under R4.2.b.xii and direct them to join Venture Capital and Innovation Laboratories.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 26: To reject Melbourne Venture Club under R4.2.b.xii and direct them to join Venture Capital and Innovation Laboratories.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 27: To reject Venture Capital Students Society under R4.2.b.xii and direct them to join Venture Capital and Innovation Laboratories.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Melbourne University Bey Institute

Defer and advise them to change the name to say Beyblades. Also to change Aims 1, 4 & 5 as they are too vague and do not mention anything about Beyblades.

Melbourne University Furry Society

Alex addressed the adjacent sexualised aspects, and that the club had been invited to submit regarding risk. The correspondence had been included in the meeting papers.

Motion 28: To grant initial approval to the Furry Society.

Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Tarish Kadam

For: 3 Against: 1 Abstain: 3

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

Podcast Creators Society

The Committee discussed the overlap with the media department, specifically Radio Fodder which has podcast recording facilities.

Motion 29: To reject Podcast Creators Society on the grounds of R4.2.b.xvi (UMSU Media Department).

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Tarish Kadam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

State Schools' Relief Society

Motion 30: To grant initial approval to State Schools' Relief Society.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Tarish Kadam

For: 6 Abstain:1

CARRIED

Student Clinical Ethics Committee

Discussion was had on need for a club on ethics when the university provides services, subjects and courses for ethics. The term “committee” being used in the club name also indicates them potentially acting as a board and concerns on this were raised.

Motion 31: To reject Student Clinical Ethics Committee on grounds of R.4.2.b.xvi, (University).

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Yunyi Chan left at 2:39 pm

Alex Gwynn cedes to Tarish Kadam and left at 2:40 pm

Students of Royal Melbourne (StoRM)

ACTION: Consider a regulation change to reject for multiple previous failures.

Alex Gwynn came back at 2:43 pm

Motion 32: To grant initial approval to Students of Royal Melbourne (StoRM).

Mover: Roger Cao Second: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Tarish Kadam cedes the chair back to Alex Gwynn

TAC

Concerns around the name and it’s meaning were discussed. The Committee asks if it is militaristic. Further discussion determines it is not inherently harmful and is about uniform.

Defer and ask for the club to consider a name change.

Taiwanese Student Society

Motion 33: To grant initial approval to Taiwanese Student Society.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

The Chemistry and Biology Society

Motion 34: To grant initial approval for The Chemistry and Biology Society on condition of removal of “The”.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Trade Union Society

The aims of the club are discussed and compared to the aims of existing clubs. The committee discusses the aims of the Labor Club and ALP Club, and believe the demographic being served overlaps with both of these clubs.

Motion 35: To reject on Trade Union Society on the grounds of R4.2.b.xii.

Mover: Lucia Flynn Second: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Yunyi Chan left at 2:54 pm

Tzu Ching Collegiate Association

Discussion on the club's aims not being distinct and achievable, with no defining purpose.

Motion 36: To reject Tzu Ching Collegiate Association on the grounds of R4.2.b.iv.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Lucia Flynn

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

media and communications society

Motion 37: To grant initial approval to media and communications society.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Tarish Kadam

For: 3 Against: 3

LOST

Further discussion is had around the purpose of this club overlapping with the UMSU Media department.

Motion on Notice: To reject media and communications society on grounds of R4.2.b.xvi the UMSU media department

Mover: Joshua Solomon Second: Lucia Flynn

ACTION: Alex to send to club to request further information.

Meiqi Liu arrived at 3:08 pm, Ronglin Hou relinquishes proxy

Unimelb Rover Team

Discussion around it being similar to the Robotics Club, ARES, and MUR Motorsports. The Committee believes these clubs serve overlapping demographics with the applicant.

Motion 38: To reject Unimelb Rover Team on the grounds of R4.2.b.xii.

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick Second: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

University Of Melbourne Calisthenics

Motion 39: To reject University Of Melbourne Calisthenics on grounds of R4.2.b.xiv, and direct them to affiliate to MU Sport.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Second: Joshua Solomon

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

What YouthThink

Motion 40: To grant initial approval to What YouthThink.

Mover: Lucia Flynn

Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

CARRIED

Women's Outdoor Adventure Club: Backcountry Squatters

Motion 41: To grant initial approval to Women's Outdoor Adventure Club: Backcountry Squatters.

Mover: Lucia Flynn

Second: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick

For: 3 Against: 2 Abstain: 1

CARRIED

Women's Health Society

Motion on Notice: To reject Women's Health Society on the grounds of R4.2.b.xvi (overlap with UMSU Women's department).

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Second: Lucia Flynn

ACTION: Alex to send the motion on notice to the applicants.

Yaoi and Yuri Society

Discussion regarding proximity to harmful content.

Defer for more information.

The Committee would like the applications to demonstrate how they will embed protection in their constitution and how member to member will safety be assured.

9. Next meeting

Next Tuesday 31 March at 10am.

Meeting closed at 3:37 pm