

**University of Melbourne Student Union**  
**Meeting of the Clubs & Societies Committee**  
**Confirmed Special Meeting 1 Minutes**



**2 pm Tuesday August 19, 2025**

**Meeting 1/25**

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

**Petition to hold a special meeting at 2pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2025 with notice period waived to discuss the deferred agenda items of this meeting**

**Petitioned by Alex Gwynn, Doris Wang, Lenah Ankliss, Tarish Kadam**

**Meeting opened by Esther Luk at 2:02 pm**

**1. Procedural Matters**

1.1. Election of Chair

**Motion 1: To elect Esther Luk as chair.**

Mover: Esther Luk      Second: Alex Gwynn

**CWD**

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Acknowledged.

1.3. Attendance

Committee: Oliver Nassau, Alex Gwynn, Joshua Solomon, Tarish Kadam, Doris Wang, Lenah Ankliss

Office Bearers: Esther Luk, Ewan Bezzobs

Staff: Melanie Gunton, Fiona Sanders

**Fiona Sanders left at 2:03 pm**

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

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

Mover: Chair

**CWD**

1.5. Apologies

Krithi Babu

1.6. Proxies

None

**Fiona Sanders came back at 2:05 pm**

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Change 9.3 to 'More committee meetings'

**Motion 2: To adopt the agenda as amended.**

Mover: Chair

**CWD**

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes (August 13)**

Previous minutes don't say when Josh left towards the end of the meeting. Petitions against Pharmacology United with Biochemistry Students Graduate Group are not in the minutes. Defer confirmation to next meeting as committee have not had much time to read through.

**Doris Wang arrived at 2:07 pm**

**3. Conflicts of interest**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Conflicts of Interest declared</b>
Oliver Nassau	Arts Students Society
Tarish Kadam	Language Exchange Club
Doris Wang	Women in Commerce and Politics, Environmental Engineers Society, Photography Club
Lenah Ankliss	Emerging Markets Network
Krithi Babu	Postgraduate Environment Network
Alex Gwynn	Swifties Society
Ewan Bezzobs	Nil
Esther Luk	Ring of Choir
Joshua Solomon	Society for Astronomy at Melbourne University, Jewish Students Society, Society for Transportation Enthusiasts At Melbourne

Esther removes Apollo Music Society as a conflict of interest.

**4. Matters deferred August 5**

**4.1. Regulation proposals**

**4.1.1. Funding and Regulations (Oli)**

Wanted to talk about tiers and creating a working group. Can be discussed in the next agenda item.

**Lenah Ankliss arrived at 2:09 pm**

**4.1.2. Tiered clubs discussion (Josh)**

Committee discussed raising the minimum membership. Josh proposes a small clubs programme that is fundamentally different to the current programme and asks if clubs must be unincorporated associations.

Limited resources also include room bookings and staff members, not just grants. A cap would improve resourcing.

Can raise Activity Reporting requirements, as it is not hard to run 2 events.

Discussion on funding in a utilitarian way where more membership means more money, or funding to support clubs that focus on special interests. Can fund in a way where more money means more reporting, but small clubs should not be restricted from growing by not being funded enough.

**Fiona Sanders left at 2:34 pm and came back at 2:35 pm**

**Procedural Motion 2: To open the speaking list for the agenda item.**

Mover: Chair

**CWD**

Lenah thinks that there should be proposals set forth before having this discussion, as the conversation can go forever and there are other agenda items to discuss. Fiona agrees that actual ideas should be put forward to be discussed.

Josh wants to establish a C&S Regulation Working Group to hear from clubs of different sizes in order to make a decision.

Melanie mentions that solutions with constantly changing variables (membership tiers etc.) will be difficult for staff to implement and keep track of.

Ewan believes that raising the requirements of maintaining affiliation as well as implementing a cap will lead to more quality clubs. The current size of clubs does not relate to amount of grant money spent.

Alex wants to look at the affiliation process as not all of the expectations are clear to new clubs. Information is delivered in a way that makes sense to the department because we are extremely familiar with requirements and processes, but others may not be as familiar. Stricter activity reporting.

Josh wants the C&S Committee to be able to open and close applications at their discretion for more flexibility. Josh asks staff what paperwork can be reduced for smaller clubs. Semesterly food plans and risk assessments? What is legal requirement and what is UMSU requirement?

C&S staff are looking into making requirements better for all clubs, not just the smaller ones.

Oli wants more activity reporting for clubs in higher tiers and higher membership requirement to access more funding. A cap is a great idea as we will end up with too many clubs. How do we encourage new clubs applications to be creative? How can we encourage co-creation? There needs to be a standard for quality, and maybe C&S could put proposals forward. Oli also worries that if we impose a cap and there is a year where many clubs are disaffiliated, the extra spots may be filled by lower quality clubs.

**Procedural Motion 3: To close the speaking list.**

Mover: Chair

**CWD**

Tarish thinks we should have a C&S Regulation Working Group with proposals sent in beforehand. What does it mean to be an UMSU club, and what do you get from affiliation? All proposals should not overcomplicate staff work.

Fiona thinks activity reporting and tiers could be combined into another initiative. A small number of events with many attendees and a large number of events with few attendees could both fulfil the same requirement. We could look at incentivising mergers. It would be good to introduce a standard of affiliating the most unique clubs if there is a cap, and incorporating this into the regulations. Staff looked at the possibility of 'registering' clubs, which gives them access to room bookings but not funding.

### **Doris Wang left at 3:11pm**

Josh thinks the merge regulation is not feasible for bigger clubs and should be looked at. Josh would prefer for the committee to be able to close new club applications at their discretion. We would have to lower the funding cap if we created tiers.

### **Doris Wang came back at 3:15pm**

Ewan said making tiers based on membership would be something that changes as membership changes every year. Tiers could work but the clubs need to be on board. Increasing activity reporting may decrease the quality of unique events. Could try to add the power for committee to open cap alongside having a cap.

Oli thinks we could put more money toward subsidised tickets for clubs.

## 4.2. Regulations

### 4.2.1. Proposals

#### 4.2.1.1. Promotional Events category / Promotional obligations (ongoing)

Ewan was directed to write and submit the regulation proposal by the 13<sup>th</sup> of August meeting. He thought that he would have 2 weeks after the 5 August meeting to complete it, but the next meeting had been scheduled for the week after. Ewan advised that the proposal would be ready by the next meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August. Defer.

#### 4.2.1.2. Notice requirement for elections

Josh says the standard constitution should be amended alongside this regulation.

**ACTION: Josh to add notification of constitutional restrictions to positions in Regulations, and to add both in the standard constitution.**

#### 4.2.1.3. Grant Category Name Changes

Esther created new names for the categories as clubs are sometimes confused about the different 'Purchase' categories. Ewan thinks Events (Per-person) and Events (Fixed Costs) may be equally confusing as a replacement instead.

**ACTION: Staff to add the grant category calculation table to the front page of Clubs Online.**

Defer.

#### 4.2.1.4. Off Campus Exemption

Remove from the regulations.

**Motion 3: To recommend the removal of the Off Campus Exemption regulation to Students' Council.**

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Seconder: Oliver Nassau

**CWD**

### 4.2.2. Progress of amendments recommended to Council

There is no Students' Council meeting currently scheduled for August, but regardless, the next Students' Council will be to discuss the budget. The next

Council that regulations can feasibly be discussed at is the September meeting.

#### 4.3. Policies

##### 4.3.1. Activity Reporting

Policy has been edited again to cover more situations. Clubs who didn't hold events but request a chance to improve should have probation for 12 months. The requirement to mention which constitutional aim an event aligns with, and therefore the Activities Report form, has been removed.

**Motion 4: To adopt the Activity Reporting Policy.**

Mover: Tarish Kadam                      Seconder: Alex Gwynn

**For: 5                      Abst: 1**

**Carried**

##### 4.3.2. Expo Policy

Changes include provisions regarding damage to tablecloths, outstanding financial penalties, the means to accept membership, sustainability, and pack up time.

**Motion 5: To adopt the changes to the Expo Policy.**

Mover: Tarish Kadam                      Seconder: Lenah Ankliss

**CWD**

#### 4.4. Email white-listing / Global "from" address

MSL has said that a global from address will affect the entire website. Esther will manually add the email address to all clubs, but MSL also responded recently saying they can do it for us.

### 5. OB Reports

OBs gave an update about Awards Night. Awards have been finalised and certificates are being designed.

**Oli Nassau left at 4:02 pm**

**Motion 6: To accept Esther Luk's OB report.**

Mover: Tarish Kadam                      Seconder: Alex Gwynn

**CWD**

**Procedural Motion 4: To suspend Standing Orders to continue with the meeting without taking the required break.**

Mover: Chair

**CWD**

**Joshua Solomon left at 4:04 pm**

### 6. Correspondence

#### 6.1. Music Students Society Aims

**Motion 7: To approve Music Students Society's proposed aims.**

Mover: Doris Wang                      Seconder: Alex Gwynn

CWD

6.2. Thai Students Association membership collection question

The attendance list has a column named 'TSA Member: \$8', which looks like the club is accepting memberships outside of the UMSU website. Staff have asked for an explanation multiple times but have not received a response. Membership amount and all recently advertised ticket amounts are not \$8.

**Joshua Solomon came back at 4:05 pm**

**Lenah Ankliss left at 4:05pm**

**Petition to give a formal warning to Thai Student Association for not responding to a formal request for documents (R6.3.j)**

**Petitioned by Joshua Solomon, Tarish Kadam**

**9. Other Business**

9.1. Committee Meeting Schedule (change 28 Oct to 29 Oct)

**Motion 8: To change the scheduled 28 Oct meeting to Wednesday 29 October.**

Mover: Tarish Kadam

Seconder: Alex Gwynn

**CWD**

9.2. Budget / Increasing the Grants Cap

Projected club spending will not reach the budget cap, so the grant cap can be increased. Fiona suggests it would be prudent to clarify any UMSU funding redistribution before the grant cap is amended.

**ACTION: Officers to seek clarification on budget redistribution.**

Defer.

9.3. More Committee meetings

Instead of having longer meetings fortnightly, have shorter meetings weekly.

Fiona says meeting every week doubles the administrative burden. It is also a higher expectation on committee members to meet every week.

Josh discusses the opportunity for a discipline to be up to 24 months rather than 12 months. Committee think that if a club may be disciplined for 24 months it is more appropriate that they be disaffiliated instead.

**Fiona Sanders left at 4:30 pm**

**10. Next Meeting**

Tuesday 26 August, 2pm

**11. Close**

**Meeting closed at 4:32 pm**