

**University of Melbourne Student Union**  
**Meeting of the People of Colour Committee**  
**Minutes (Unconfirmed)**  
**12:00pm, Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019**  
**Meeting 5(19)**  
**Location: OB space, Level 1, Union House**

**Meeting opened at 12:10pm by Mark Yin**

**1. Procedural Matters**

1. Election of Chair

Mark Yin was elected as chair.

**Mover:** Mark Yin      **Seconder:** Sam Zaman

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners  
*So acknowledged*
3. Attendance  
*Farah Khairat, Mark Yin, Sam Zaman, A'bidah Zaid Shirbeeni, Maha Masroor, Gurpreet Singh, Fiona Xia*
4. Apologies  
*None received*
5. Proxies  
*None received*
6. Membership  
*No changes*
7. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda, as presented, was adopted.

**Mover:** Mark Yin      **Seconder:** Fiona Xia

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

The previous minutes were confirmed.

**Mover:** Mark Yin      **Seconder:** Gurpreet Singh

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**3. Conflict of Interest Declarations**

*None*

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

*None*

**5. Correspondence**

We've had 13 applications for Anti-Racism workshops and will be discussing this after motions.

## 6. Office Bearer Reports

### Diversity Week

This became a lot busier than we had anticipated, as we had added a range of things to the week relatively last-minute in response to the Christchurch attacks. Aside from planned events, we additionally ran a vigil on the Tuesday and an interactive campaign on Wednesday. We'd like to thank everyone who helped us with this week.

### PASS training

We're meeting the panel on Monday morning to discuss ideas and to formulate a presentation. If there's anything you'd like us to cover or might be interested in presenting please let us know. The training session itself has been pushed to week 6 owing to Diversity Week impacting both our availabilities as well as that of the Faculty of Arts. The panel consists of about 8 members at the moment.

### Anti-Racism Workshops

We're finalising a line-up of presenters now!

### Us Screening

We're doing an excursion/collaboration with UMSU Indigenous and Monash African Students Society this Friday to go see *Us*. We sold 60 tickets within a day, and are excited to be collaborating on things with other departments/groups/campuses etc.

### Southbank Collective

We're planning to run a Collective at Southbank on Thursday at 1-2pm in weeks 6 and 10. We're also planning an open mic night there on Friday evening in week 10.

### Games Night (with UMSU Intl)

This is happening this Wednesday, with AV set up from 1-4pm and the actual event running 4-8pm. Noted for future office bearers is that the timing of this event is a little unfortunate given that Night Market and UMSU Intl elections are very much on the horizon, which means resources for promotion and preparation have been somewhat limited. Still, we're very keen to collaborate and introduce more social events into the UMSU PoC calendar this year.

#### 6.1. To accept this office bearer report.

**Mover:** Mark Yin

**Seconded:** Sam Zaman

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## 7. Motions on Notice

#### 7.1. To move up to \$50 from the 'Special events' budget line to reimburse the Bollywood Club for Diversity Week events.

**Mover:** Mark Yin

**Seconded:** Fiona Xia

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**7.2. To pass \$1,150 from the ‘Special events’ budget line to reimburse Anti-Racism Workshop presenters in Semester 1.**

**Mover:** Mark Yin

**Seconder:** Fiona Xia

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Mark outlined that this was calculated at  $6 \times 150 + 1 \times 250$  as there had been precedent in the department to pay postgraduate students at a higher level. Fiona asked why this was the case. Farah clarified that it had been requested in previous years and then again this year due to a higher level of expertise, research, academic standard etc.

Mark added that in one application, instead of answering “what will your workshop be about” with just details on workshop contents, it was instead taken as an opportunity to request a certain sum of money as payment. This will be discussed at a later date, as the status of this application is still pending.

**7.3. To pass up to \$850 from the ‘Special Events’ budget line to cater Anti-Racism workshops in Semester 1.**

**Mover:** Farah Khairat

**Seconder:** A’bidah Zaid Shirbeeni

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**7.4. To pass up to \$800 from the ‘Special Events’ budget line to subsidise ticket sales for the *Us* screening.**

**Mover:** Farah Khairat

**Seconder:** Sam Zaman

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Farah explained that we won’t be spending all of the \$800 and outlined the series of calculations which had gone into this motion. After selling 68 tickets through Eventbrite for \$5 plus a \$75 voucher that we had in the office from last year, we only need to pay a little over \$400. However, some of this money will be covered by the Indigenous department. Basically, we’re moving a ceiling amount to pay for the whole thing in one go, and then we’ll internally shift some money around accordingly.

Mark and various committee members repeated this out aloud by way of clarification. We’re pretty sure we understand. We love maths.

**8. Motions without notice**

**8.1. To move \$220 from the ‘Special Events’ budget line as a donation to Robogals for their Diversity Week speaker.**

**Mover:** Mark Yin

**Seconder:** Fiona Xia

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Mark clarified that the speaker did not want to take a personal payment but asked instead for a donation, and this means of payment needs a separate motion.

**9. Other Business**

1. **Anti-Racism Workshops**

Mark has been working on the program of speakers and stated that few were prepared to present in weeks 6-7. He says he will redouble efforts to lock presenters in. He asks if committee has felt involved enough in the process and commits to posting in the Facebook group more regularly to promote opportunities and involve the committee in decision-making.

2. **Payments**

As a result of being asked by a few collective members on multiple occasions, Farah outlined the paid opportunities in the department this year as including *Myriad* (pending legal clarification), reading group facilitation and Anti-Racism workshops. We all discussed whether or not these commitments should be paid and if so, how much, given that these represent opportunities to get involved rather than substitutes for income. In particular, workshops and reading groups are intended to be casual discussions among peers rather than speaking opportunities per se. The department is also working on diversifying paid roles with more transferable skills for students. Farah also clarified that our budget increase stems from *Myriad* being budgeted more generously, so this can't be reflected in greater payments overall. Committee generally agreed that existing payment levels were very generous, given that both office bearers and many committee members are holding down other jobs and recognise that the department is not simply a source of income, but rather a place to connect, get involved and seek opportunities to develop skills etc.

3. **Games Night**

Mark asked if anyone was free to help. He received a hard no from pretty much everyone :')

At this point, Farah, Maha and Fiona left to pick up food for collective and we lost quorum. We continued discussion nonetheless.

4. **Southbank**

Mark outlined the events that were coming up there, including collectives in weeks 6 and 10, plus an open mic night on Friday night in week 10. Sam asked how big the student community there was, and Mark estimated that it was a small fraction of Parkville, but there was still demand for PoC department presence and it is important to respond to the needs of students. Gurpreet commented that the red buildings there looked questionable. Neither Sam nor Mark had seen them and so were not able to discuss this.

5. **Radical Education Week**

Mark said that we were interested in running How Privilege Manifests In Tutorials again and asked if this should happen in the tent in South Lawn or in an autonomous space setting. It was suggested that it can happen in the tent so that (white) people can listen in on discussion and be aware, with office bearers moderating the event such that white students don't dominate the space. The autonomous collective that week can then be used to debrief and have further discussion in an autonomous setting. This is a reasonable idea and we'll make a decision on how to proceed by end of the week.

In terms of a second workshop, we'd tried to collaborate with Creative Arts, but they are (understandably) very busy with Mudfest. Gurpreet

suggested a workshop on movements for social change in education and on the impact of direct action in, for instance, desegregating American schools. He also suggested contacting someone from the Chemist Warehouse action that happened recently.

**10. Next Meeting**

Proposed for after the break

**11. Close**

**Meeting closed at 12:47pm**