

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Queer Committee Minutes

Thursday, 27th April 2023

Meeting 6(23)

Location: Queer Office, Level 3, Building 168, Student Precinct/ Zoom

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81815393843?pwd=T0hiTitpK1ZlQndnbStrc0E5QnFNUT09>

Password: 464937

Meeting opened at 15:13.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion: That Mehul Gopalakrishnan is to be elected Chair.

Mover: Mehul Gopalakrishnan Seconder: Natasha

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

1.3. Attendance

Theo Purchase, Inderpreet, Toby Mills, Natasha, and Madeline Brown are in attendance.

1.4. Apologies

Al Lin sent in their apology.

April Kelly sent in her apology retroactively.

1.5. Proxies

There are no proxies.

1.6. Membership

Madeline Brown has joined the Queer Committee as a new member.

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: That the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Mehul Gopalakrishnan Seconder: Toby Mills

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Natasha left 15:15

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the minutes for Queer Committee Meeting 5(23) be accepted as an accurate and true representation of the meeting.

Mover: Mehul Gopalakrishnan Seconder: Inderpreet

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
5. Correspondence

Leslie reported on the email they received from the Advocacy Department regarding concerns about the Feminism subject (PHIL20046). They mentioned that they will move on with the issue and take the advised actions of 1) raising awareness through writing up a Farrago article and; 2) presenting the petition made from the Queer Department in previous years again to the new Academic Board president Karen Farquharson. They've also received two emails from Pride in Action Network and Diversity and Inclusion about the new LGBTIQ+ Action Plan and the Network's status and operations. Leslie mentioned that the Action Plan was signed off by the University Executive before consulting student representatives, and that there are many problematic points in the document that they will comment on to the Diversity and Inclusion department.

Mehul reported on two emails they responded to, both from MU Sport. The first one is regarding to a party that is to be held to celebrate International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia. The addresser was interested to see if UMSU Queer would like to promote the event, but since there wasn't much information in the email, Mehul requested more details on the party. The second email was from Matt Roseby, the newly appointed Vice President of the Melbourne University Basketball Club. They reached out to us hoping for a consultation on their plan to set up a position of a Diversity Officer and to introduce an Inclusion Outlook for the club's near future. They also wanted to draft an article about the treatment of trans athletes to be published in a department newsletter. Mehul responded to the latter suggesting that the article should be published in Farrago instead (due to its larger general audience, who may not know about these issues, as opposed to our department audience, most of whom are intimately familiar with them), and that it would have our support. He also listed more problems with MU Sport's policies and facilities that contribute to an unsafe environment for trans and gender diverse people.

6. Office Bearer Reports

Leslie mainly mentioned the events that had been going on for the past weeks and the events that will be held in between the current meeting and the next one. Apart from the regular events that have mostly been run smoothly, they reported on an event organised in collaboration with UMSU Media and UniMelb Book Club that they needed help with on the day, but otherwise there wasn't much to report that wasn't already said in the correspondence section.

Mehul reported on the progress of setting up QPAC and QQSG, that they would book a room so the collective could still happen before the designs are made. They will also be taking leave for two weeks so nothing much was to be reported in terms of future events.

Toby asked about the status of Queer Ball, whether the planning has started for the flagship event.

Leslie mentioned that since Queer Ball is in Semester 2, there wasn't much concrete planning that has been done yet (mostly due to the amount of immediate workload that they have).

Mehul asked the Committee for venue suggestions for Queer Ball, as Brunswick Ballroom, the venue from last year, was slightly inaccessible due to the steep stairs from the entrance to the main floor (although it had a wheelchair lift, there were no other ways for people who couldn't use the stairs but weren't in wheelchairs to head up, and it also posed as a major and serious safety hazard for drunk attendees to leave). He will start looking for good potential venues for Queer Ball and also asked committee members to keep an eye out as well.

7. Other Reports

There are no other reports.

8. Operational Business (Motions on Notice)

9. General Business (Motions on Notice)

<p>Motion 9.1: That the Queer Committee approves the expenditure of \$150 from the Consumables budget line for the purchase of trans tape for the queer space.</p>

<p>Mover: Toby Mills</p>

<p>Secunder: Inderpreet</p>

Mehul Gopalakrishnan proposed an amendment.

<p>Proposed Amendment:</p>

<p>To change wording of "trans tape" to "safe space supplies".</p>
--

<p>Motion 9.2: That the Queer Committee accepts the proposed amendment of the motion.</p>
--

<p>Mover: Toby Mills</p>

<p>Secunder: Inderpreet</p>

<p>CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT</p>

<p>Motion 9.3: To accept motion 9.1 with proposed amendments.</p>
--

<p>Mover: Toby Mills</p>

<p>Secunder: Inderpreet</p>

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

- **Other Business (Motions without Notice)**
- **Next Meeting**

The meeting is closed at 3:32.