

Constitution, Regulation and Policy Working Group (CRPWG)

Terms of Reference

1. Background and Definitions

UMSU Inc. (UMSU) is an incorporated association under the *Corporations Act (Cth)* and *Incorporated Association Reform Act (Vic)*, and associated legislation. As part of this arrangement, UMSU has a Constitution, which broadly sets out the rules of the organisation. These rules also contemplate the creation of both *regulation* and *policy* by the governance bodies of UMSU, Students' Council being empowered to create the former and both Students Council and Departmental Committees being empowered to create the latter. These additional documents allow for the regulation and management of UMSU at both a detailed and broad level, in line with the UMSU Constitution.

It is the usual practice for a Working Group considering these three tiers of governance to be established each year, and for consideration to be given to matters requiring the amending, repeal or introduction of Constitutional clauses, regulation and policy. Furthermore, representatives from UMSU International and UMSU Southbank have identified issues with this version of the constitution that impact their ability to function. In particular, an agreement was signed in 2019 between UMSU and UMSU International promising certain changes in the constitution by Semester 1 2020. Due to COVID-19, UMSU has not been able to hold an AGM or SGM, thus these changes have not happened yet. This Working Group aims to reflect on and improve UMSU's Constitution, its regulation and policy, as well as resolve the UMSU x UMSUI agreement.

2. Role of the Working Group

The role of the Constitution, Regulation and Policy Working Group (CRPWG) is:

- To provide discussion and strategies regarding the creation of policy, regulation and Constitutional clauses;
- To identify issues and matters of concern in currently existing documents, and to address them;
- To submit proposed changes to Students' Council for review;
- To examine, specifically:
 - Terms 6.3 (b), 6.5(a), 6.8(d), 10.3(a) of the Constitution, specifically noted as problematic in the UMSU x UMSUI agreement
 - Affirmative action, particularly the introduction of Affirmative action for People of Colour and non-binary students
 - The structure of the Southbank department and payment of of certain elected positions
 - The relationship between the Constitution, regulations and policy;
 - The Electoral Regulations;
 - The relationship between Students' Council and Autonomous departments
 - The impact of proposed Publishing Regulations,
 - The overall structure of the Constitution and;
- Other matters such that the CRPWG may see fit.

3. Membership

Membership of the PPFWG shall be open to all Members of UMSU, as well as all students at the University of Melbourne, and all Members may attend meetings of the CRPWG and speak.

The following shall also be members *ex officio*:

- General Secretary, UMSU (Chair)
- President, UMSU
- Chief Executive Officer, UMSU

4. Term and Frequency

Meetings of the CRPWG shall occur at least bi-weekly in semester and shall be convened by the General Secretary. Meetings shall continue until the commencement of Semester 2, 2021, or until the Working Group concludes its discussion, whichever is the later.

5. Meetings

Appropriate notice shall be given for all meetings as per the Constitution and Standing Orders, but no meeting shall be deemed invalid for lack of notice. There shall be no quorum. The agenda of each meeting shall be guided by the Role of the Working Group. There shall be no votes, and decisions will be reached by consensus, or where consensus is absent, decisions shall be made by the General Secretary, UMSU. All decisions must be approved by Students' Council to have effect, as contemplated by the Constitution.

6. Reporting and Recommendations

The CRPWG shall report to Students' Council, via the General Secretary, upon conclusion and at the request of Council. The CRPWG shall, upon completion, enable the General Secretary to compile a or several tranche(s) of changes to policy, regulation and the Constitution, to be put at the appropriate time.