



UMSU  
**Students  
Council**

**STANCE BOOKLET**

(Last updated 12/05/2024)

# INTRODUCTION

The following booklet comprises the political and/or ideological stances taken by the University of Melbourne Student Union from 2009 to the current. These stances act as ideological precedence that may have an impact on policy that guides the Union's political and social activism. Motions shall remain in this document until they are actively rescinded by the Students' Council.

This booklet takes its stances from the motions passed through Students' Council, which acts as the Union's highest authority on the control and management of UMSU, including the management of finances, affiliation to third parties, and the coordination of the Union's activities. This booklet also outlines the evolution of the Students' Council's involvement in public discourse and its commitment to issues that impact not only students but our wider community.

These stances in this booklet are intended to align the Union's constitutional purposes. The purposes for which the UMSU Incorporated is incorporated are:

1. To advance the welfare and interests of Students;
2. To represent Students of the University within the University and to the community;
3. To provide amenities and services, principally for Students and other members of the University community, and incidentally to the public, but in all cases not inconsistent with agreements made with the University, as the case may be, from time to time;
4. To provide an independent framework for Student social and political activity;
5. To develop, maintain and support Student clubs, societies and associational life generally;
6. To promote and defend the rights of Students to education on the basis of equality, without regard to race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, political religious or ideological conviction, or national or social origin;
7. To oppose violence and/or hatred through militarism, nationalism, or discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, religion, or national or social origin.
8. To provide a democratic and transparent forum in which Students' affairs and interests can be governed in an effective and accountable manner; and
9. To promote free and accessible government-funded education.

# ONGOING STANCES LIST

*This list includes stances that have no end date.*

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# ASYLUM SEEKERS

## Abbott Government Refugee Policies

### 13th February 2014 - Meeting 3(14)

That Students' Council condemns the Abbot government's refugee policies.

Moved: Ruby Healer

Seconded: James Crafti

CARRIED

## Park Hotel Refugees

### 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Meeting 2(21)

- That UMSU stands in solidarity with the refugees being locked up inside the Park Hotel and other facilities across Australia and offshore.
- That UMSU reaffirms its support for refugees and their rights.
- That UMSU officially endorses the United Rally on January 30th at 2pm.

Moved: Hannah Krasovec

Seconded: Emily Hope Kaji

CARRIED

- UMSU recognises that the detained refugees at Park Hotel Prison and elsewhere in this country are political prisoners and extends solidarity to them and acknowledges that this solidarity will be extended to them on a personal note.,
- UMSU condemns the deliberate cruelty of the Coalition Government against the detainees and recognises that the Labour Government's silence is complicit in the plight of refugees and asylum seekers in detention centres.
- UMSU condemns the use of excessive force by Victoria Police on peaceful protestors outside the Park Hotel Prison.

Moved: Srishti Chatterjee

Seconded: Mickhaella Ermita

CARRIED

### 12th March 2021 - Meeting 4(21)

UMSU supports the demand to settle ALL refugees in Australia permanently.

UMSU supports the demand for financial support and free housing be made available to released refugees in Victoria by the Dan Andrews Government.

UMSU recognises building protest action as an important factor in this latest victory for refugees.

#### Actions:

UMSU will provide material support to building future refugee rallies such as printing and encourage students to attend the rallies through their official UMSU social media pages and

UMSU events. Umsu will call on Melbourne University, a billion-dollar institution, to provide free education to the men released from Park Hotel with the desire to study.

## Manus Island & Nauru

### 1st March 2016 - Meeting 5(16)

That Students' Council:

- (i) Call on the government not to send any asylum seeker or refugee to Manus Island or Nauru;
- (ii) Call on the state government to not cooperate with any attempt by the Federal government to return any of the 267 to Nauru;
- (iii) Will provide appropriate moral, financial and material support for the campaign by community and refugee advocacy groups to prevent asylum seekers being returned to Manus Island and Nauru;
- (iv) Declare solidarity with the houses of worship throughout Australia offering sanctuary;
- (v) In memory of our Union's past sheltering of East Timorese refugees and anti-war activists from forcible removal, offer the Union House building as sanctuary for the 267, and are prepared to mobilize the university community to defend that sanctuary;
- (vi) Should sanctuary be required, to call on the University and colleges to offer their facilities as sanctuary.

Moved: Anisa Rogers

Seconded: James Bashford

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 20th February 2023 – Meeting 4(23)

1. Umsu condemns the Federal Labor government on its decision to re-open the Nauru detention centre.
2. Umsu condemns the Labor government's attempts to introduce Migration Amendment (Aggregate Sentence) Bill 2023, which seeks to will force people recently released from immigration detention back into detention.
3. Umsu stands in solidarity with asylum seekers and refugees in detention and calls for their release.

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Hiba Adam

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Transfield

### 12th August 2014 - Meeting 15(14)

That Students' Council reiterate our opposition to mandatory immigration detention.

That Students' Council commit to divesting from all contracts with Transfield and other businesses or funds with investments in immigration detention.

That Students' Council call on UniSuper to divest from Transfield and all other businesses or funds with investments in immigration detention centers.

That Students' Council further call on NTEU National Executive to urge UniSuper to divest from Transfield and all other businesses or funds with investments in immigration detention centers.

Moved: Madeline Clarke

Seconded: Kyle Webb

CARRIED

## Wilson Security

### 19th May 2016 - Meeting 11(16)

1. That Students' Council condemns Wilson Security's role in Australia's system of offshore detention.
2. That Students' Council condemns the University of Melbourne for providing contracts to Wilson Security.

Moved: Aneka D'emanuele

Seconded: James Bashford

CARRIED

## Rally For Refugees

### 5th October 2017 – Meeting 18(17)

- i. Condemn Peter Dutton's callous and racist treatment of refugees on Manus and Nauru, and in Australia;
- ii. call on the government to shut the detention centres and Manus and Nauru immediately and resettle the asylum seekers safely in Australia;
- iii. call on the Victorian government to go beyond its stated guarantee of temporary income support for the affected refugees, and protect them from any attempt at deportation;
- iv. reaffirm our promise to provide moral, financial and material support for the refugee campaign to bring them here;
- v. endorse the Rally for Refugees on the 8th October 2017;
- vi. resolve to host an UMSU contingent to said rally, and direct UMSU to publicise this contingent via all available channels, including hosting the contingent event on



Facebook; (vii) direct the president to release a statement to these ends.

Moved: Ella Shi

Seconded: Guong Jie

CARRIED

## Refugee Commonwealth Athletes

### 17th August 2018 - Meeting 14(18)

UMSU calls upon Home Affairs minister Peter Dutton not to deport athletes who fled the Commonwealth Games to seek protection and safety in Australia.

The athletes are under threat of being deported to countries where they face grim persecution.

Following the Commonwealth Games held at the Gold Coast in April this year roughly 250 athletes sought protection in Australia.

A number of athletes are LGBTI. If they are forced to return to their home countries where homosexuality is illegal, they face the prospect of vicious punishment including “corrective” rape. Others face persecution for having political opinions that oppose their home governments.

All of these athletes should have the right to live safely in a country which will protect them.

UMSU calls upon the Home Affairs minister to grant these athletes suitable protection in Australia.

Moved: Molly Willmott

Seconded: Amelia Reeves

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

# EDUCATION

## Course Cuts

### 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – 11(20)

- UMSU lends its solidarity to staff and students at the University of Sydney fighting against course cuts, and to all staff and students across the country facing similar cuts.
- UMSU commits to fighting against any cuts to subjects or courses at the University of Melbourne and opposes the increasing of class sizes as an alternative to subject cuts.
- UMSU recognises that it is only through the mobilisation of as many staff and students as possible that attacks on courses can be fended off.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Andie Moore

CARRIED

## Deregulation

### 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 - Meeting 13(15)

That Students' Council:

- Reaffirms UMSU's support of free and accessible government-funded education.
- Denounces the Government's plans to continue to push for the deregulation of undergraduate university fees, to cut postgraduate research programs and to reduce Commonwealth funding to students in Commonwealth Supported Places, amongst other higher education and welfare measures.

Moved: Hana Dalton

Seconded: Stephen Smith

CARRIED

### 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 - Meeting 6(16)

That Students' Council:

- i. Notes its concern about the government's higher education policy following the comments of Education Minister Simon Birmingham at the Universities Australia Conference.
- ii. Notes the danger of the government introducing a 10% hike to HECS fees alongside a 20% funding cut to the higher education sector.
- iii. Notes its concern that deregulation of university fees remains Liberal party policy (iv) Reaffirms UMSU's commitment to campaign for free and accessible government funded education.

Moved: Akira Boardman

Seconded: James Baker

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Equitable Support for Research Higher Degree Students

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 10(20)

- UMSU recognizes that all HDR students have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.
- UMSU supports that the University offer a universal six-month extension to Higher Degree Research student candidatures and stipends, including those beyond 3 years full-time, in addition to the existing duration of candidatures and stipend entitlements, for both domestic and international students.
- UMSU supports dismantling the complex bureaucratic process of applying for COVID-19 leave and agrees that the University offer paid COVID-19 leave of 60 days to all HDRs, with additional paid leave to be granted to eligible students experiencing further disruptions.

Moved: Kaitlyn Hammond

Seconded: Christopher Melenhorst

CARRIED

## Exam Spy Software

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 10(20)

- Any type of invasive invigilating software is an entirely unnecessary, Orwellian encroachment on student's privacy which UMSU, in principle, opposes.
- UMSU supports the student campaigns against exam spy software at other universities around the country.
- UMSU opposes any existing use of CADMUS or similar software at the University of Melbourne and will not stand for the lockdown being used as an excuse to extend these practices.

#### Actions:

- UMSU will investigate whether any faculty intends to use any variant of invigilating software for exams during the lockdown.
- UMSU will also investigate whether CADMUS or similar software is already in use.
- UMSU will campaign against any spy software being used on students for any assessments.

Moved: Chair (Jack Buksh)

CARRIED

## HECS Indexation

### 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Meeting 9(23)

1. UMSU supports the NUS Freeze the HECS Indexing Campaign lead by the NUS President, General Secretary and Welfare Officer.

2. To direct all OBs and Councillors to sign the petition.  
([https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/freeze-studentloanindexation?mibextid=Zxz2cZ&fbclid=IwAR13WdL5kSF5\\_aFxs4M\\_lu4HJG0X2rTrOcJ6-FHiL9jczun1Xw5LQYGo2ql](https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/freeze-studentloanindexation?mibextid=Zxz2cZ&fbclid=IwAR13WdL5kSF5_aFxs4M_lu4HJG0X2rTrOcJ6-FHiL9jczun1Xw5LQYGo2ql))
3. UMSU endorses the NUS Education campaign which is fighting the cost-of-living crisis for students demanding we abolish HECs debt completely, impose rent caps, double Jobseeker and Youth Allowance and tax the rich.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Ishita Ganeriwala

CARRIED

## Menzies Institute

### 6th August 2021 - Meeting 12(21)

1. UMSU opposes the creation of the Robert Menzies Institute, a partisan project of conservative forces to exert public and scholarly influence.
2. UMSU calls on the Vice-Chancellor, Duncan Maskell, to revoke the contract with the Menzies Research Centre. UMSU calls on the University to release relevant correspondence and papers that detail why the decision was made to support the establishment of the Robert Menzies Institute without wider consultation.
3. UMSU pledges to support the campaign against the Menzies Institute organised by GSA Education Officers and UMSU Education, with support from the NTEU, by using its promotional and financial resources to further the campaign.

Moved: Hannah Krasovec

Seconded: Monica Sestito

CARRIED

### 31st January 2022 - Meeting 2(22)

1. UMSU commits to build the campaign against the Robert Menzies Institute to be as big and engaging as possible into 2022.
2. UMSU commits to promoting the campaign and campaign events by doing the following:
  - i. Regularly posting about and sharing from UMSU's public facing social media accounts information about campaign events and news.
  - ii. Including information about the campaign, the open letter, and campaign activities in newsletters and other correspondence to UMSU members.
  - iii. Encouraging UMSU representatives to sign the campaign's open letter and participate in campaign activities.
  - iv. Leveraging its links to other student associations to build the campaign and its profile.

Moved: Raphael Duffy

Seconded: Sam Rath

CARRIED

### **11th March 2022 - 4(22)**

1. UMSU endorses the rally on Thursday 17 March, 5pm, against the new shrine to Robert Menzies at the Menzies Institute.
2. UMSU unequivocally opposes any attempt to sanitise the legacy of a warmongering, fascist-sympathising, anti-worker racist like Menzies.
3. UMSU recognises that Liberal Party figures are not welcome on our campus.

Moved: Julien Macandili

Seconded: Ruby Craven

CARRIED

### **4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – 12(22)**

UMSU Students' Council recognises and opposes the current crackdown on civil liberties, reaffirms its support for the right to protest, and expresses its solidarity with Blockade Australia activists facing state repression.

UMSU expresses its support for student activists facing fines and opposes Victoria Police's crackdown on activists protesting the bigoted Liberals behind the Menzies Institute.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Maeve Russack Riches

CARRIED

## **No Cops On Campus – Cops At STEM Fair**

### **16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Meeting 6(20)**

- UMSU acknowledges the climate crisis as one of the paramount issues of our time, being a profound existential threat that demands immediate and radical action.
- UMSU acknowledges the role of private corporations, in tandem with the state, in driving this crisis, accelerating our collective demise in the ruthless pursuit of short-term profit.
- UMSU demands the provision of green jobs and a just transition and encourages the university to be judicious in support of this goal by setting renewable targets and ensuring it only endorses employees who share this goal.
- UMSU affirms its stance that ACAB, as cops are mere thugs who brutalise any dissent against the corporate oligarchy, whose actions like that seen at IMARC last year results in state-sanctioned violence against peaceful protest in addition to the systemic racism, sexism, homophobia and ableism they uphold.
- UMSU supports the abolition of the police force.

#### Actions:

- UMSU condemns the university for their passive support of climate criminals like Rio Tinto and Exxon Mobil, and strongly recommends they cease any further promotion of the fossil fuel industry as anything other than a (literal) dead end.
- UMSU shall call out the university's hypocritical approach to sustainability, noting that

their words in support of green jobs and climate action ring hollow when they uncritically platform these vile corporations.

- UMSU condemns Rio Tinto and Exxon Mobil themselves, for so generously giving students the opportunity to participate in their own doom.
- UMSU reiterates that cops have no place on campus; their presence is unwelcome and serves only to silence legitimate criticism and re-traumatise victims of police brutality, particularly minorities who experience their oppression on a daily basis.

Moved: Thonya Deverall

Seconded: Evelyn Ranogajec

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## No Fee Hikes! No Uni Cuts!

### June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Meeting 12(20)

- UMSU opposes Dan Tehan’s proposed fee hikes and funding cuts.
- UMSU recognises that these reforms are an attack on all students.
- UMSU recognises these reforms are also an attack on staff conditions.
- UMSU supports the staff campaign being run against cuts to conditions.
- UMSU recognises the need to organise a student campaign to fight these reforms.
- UMSU will promote all NUS endorsed Fee Hike campaign events, including through sharing events on social media.

#### Actions:

- UMSU will promote all No Cuts at Unimelb events, including through sharing events on social media.
- UMSU will promote all NUS Student Fightback campaign events, including through sharing events on social media.

Moved: Briana Symonds-Manne

Seconded: Shirley Killen

CARRIED

### June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Meeting 12(20)

1. UMSU reaffirms its commitment to oppose cuts to the tertiary education sector.
2. UMSU reaffirms its commitment to fighting for free education in the tertiary education sector.
3. UMSU recognises the importance of cross- union solidarity and action.
4. UMSU accepts the need for a broad, grassroots campaign to challenge ongoing and future cuts from the University, beyond its traditional activist arsenals - bringing together students from across the union and the University’s faculties.
5. UMSU acknowledges and commits itself to fighting fee cuts on both a national and local

level and that effective mobilisation of student and staff forces are required to fight back against the government and university management.

### **August 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Meeting 15(20)**

UMSU condemns Dan Tehan and the Coalition Government's proposed changes to the HECS/HELP system.

UMSU reaffirms its commitment to free and fully funded public higher education system.

UMSU commits to fighting these changes and any other attacks on students.

#### Action:

UMSU will participate in and lend its platform to support the NUS-led Student Fightback campaign against attacks on students, staff and higher education.

### **11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – 19(20)**

The following demands of the No Cuts at Unimelb campaign be also demands of UMSU:

1. An immediate end to layoffs, a reinstatement of all previously dismissed staff and a transition of all casual workers to full-time employment.
2. An end to subject cuts and the reinstatement of all cut subjects.
3. Transparency of the University's true financial situation.
4. Significant pay reductions for Senior Management and a reinvestment of that money to fund fee relief.
5. A public condemnation of the Federal Government's university reforms, and a commitment to working towards their reversal.
6. The resignation of the Vice Chancellor and Senior Management should they refuse to act on the previous demands.

UMSU commits to organising with staff to win these demands, engaging in confrontational activism in order to win a university which works for us, not just the Senior Management.

Moved: Charlie Joyce

Seconded: Briana Symonds Maree

CARRIED

### **26<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 20(20)**

Dan Tehan's bill that will see an overall loss in funding to universities has passed in the senate. The decrease in government funding and changes to the cap on fees means that student fees for humanities degrees could increase by 113%. However, the University of Melbourne is not obliged to pass on these fee increases to students.

UMSU demands that the University of Melbourne, a multi-million-dollar institution, does not place the onus of decreased government funding onto its students and staff by cutting courses.

UMSU also demands absolutely no fee increases for students in all subjects. Students intend to fight for this demand and will not rely on the administration to heed our demands without a fight.

Motion:

UMSU will organise students to continue to fight against the fee increases and intends to do everything necessary to ensure that the cost of education does not increase.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Briana Symonds Maree

CARRIED

## Rename The John Medley & W.E Agar on Campus

### 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 4(20)

UMSU reaffirms its stance against racism and calls upon the university to change the name of the John Medley building and the W.E. Agar theatre and to acknowledge the links that they had to eugenics.

UMSU calls upon the University to make some formal acknowledgement of Berry's role in eugenics in the form of some sort of plaque so that the history is not forgotten.

That Umsu reaches out to Sara Wills, Arts Associate Dean, to explore opportunities in supporting her to restart a taskforce on changing building and location names.

Moved: Catriona Smith

Seconded: Jess Ferrari-Thomas

CARRIED

## Student Organising Resistance – COVID-19

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – 10(20)

- Umsu demands that students will not be forced to pay for this crisis. We demand income support and full cancellation of Semester 1 fees for domestic and international students.
- Umsu supports the demand for fully funded free education for all students.
- Umsu stands in solidarity with staff at UniMelb! Umsu demands no cuts to jobs, wages, and conditions!
- Full rights for international students! We demand access to welfare and an indefinite extension of student visas!

Actions:

- Umsu will support the Student Organising Resistance campaign against any attacks to higher education.
- Umsu will provide resources to future SOR campaigns and use their social media platforms to promote organising meetings and future events.

Moved: Chair (Jack Buksh)

CARRIED



## Turnbull Government

### 6th October 2015 - Meeting 23(15)

That the Council acknowledges that there is nothing to suggest that the Turnbull Government will be any less hostile to students and the higher education sector than the Abbott Government was.

Subsequently, that the Council reaffirms its opposition to the Coalition Government on the basis of ideological hostility, demonstrated through detrimental policies.

This affirmation extends to the endorsement of campaigns to this effect, including those which oppose specific policy measures which are detrimental to students, as well as those which focus on the electoral success of this government for as long as anti-student policies remain in place.

Moved: Conor Seron

Seconded: Steven Connolly

*ABSTENTIONS: 2*

CARRIED

# ENVIRONMENT

## Blockade IMARC

### 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Meeting 13(19)

- UMSU stands in solidarity with the high school strikes.
- UMSU calls on the University of Melbourne to revoke its sponsorship of IMARC, on the grounds that financially supporting the meeting and collaboration of major perpetrators of carbon emissions through oil, gas and coal mining ultimately contributes to the continuation of such practices.
- UMSU demands that the Australian government prevent the building of the Adani coal mine and subsequent projects of the same nature.
- UMSU calls on the Australian government to invest in 100% renewable energy.

#### Actions:

- UMSU will participate in future climate strikes, whether they be exclusively for university students, or in collaboration with the high school strikes.
- UMSU will develop and participate in a demonstration against the University of Melbourne's sponsorship of IMARC.

Moved: Briana Symonds-Manna

Seconded: Terence Taylor

CARRIED

### 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Meeting 1(20)

1. That UMSU condemns police brutality in any form.
2. That UMSU condemns the university of Melbourne for their sponsorship of the [IMARC] conference.
3. That UMSU supports the right to protest without fear of violence or excessive force.
4. That UMSU condemns the Victorian labor government of their role in allowing for such violence and their subsequent defence of police actions.
5. That UMSU offers their support to all those arrested or injured by police as they await court.

#### Actions:

1. That the contents of this motion be released as a presidents news by the 2020 president.
2. That UMSU investigate ways to support university of Melbourne students affected by the actions of police during IMARC

Moved: Molly Willmott

Seconded: Hannah Krasovec

CARRIED

### **11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – Meeting 1(21)**

- Stopping the climate crisis necessitates opposing the corporations that profit from extracting fossil fuels and other resources.
- Civil disobedience and other forms of mass protest are essential to stopping the climate crisis. UMSU condemns the repression of the IMARC blockade.
- All charges against the IMARC 25 and other climate activists should be dropped. The real criminals are the capitalists that steal indigenous land and are destroying the environment.
- UMSU opposes any restriction on the right to protest, whether in the form of civil disobedience, demonstrations, or labour strikes.

Moved: Xavier Dupe

Seconded: Hue Man Dang

CARRIED

### **Climate Change**

#### **29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – Meeting 13(19)**

UMSU endorses the National Union of Student's August 9 National Day of Action for climate action.

UMSU supports students who are walking out of class on August 9 to demand climate action.

UMSU will commit funds of \$500 from Whole of Union for printing posters and leaflets for the promotion of the August 9 National Day of Action

UMSU will promote the National Day of Action through department networks and by sending out emails to members and sharing the event on social media.

Moved: Anneke D'emanuele

Seconded: Milly

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

#### **23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 – 3(20)**

- UMSU supports protests against climate change.
- UMSU recognises and opposes the bipartisan support for the fossil fuel industry.
- UMSU opposes the actions of the Daniel Andrews government in attempting to curtail the democratic rights of protesters, and his support for the Victorian Police.
- UMSU opposes any attempt to curtail democratic civil rights and liberties.
- UMSU condemns the University of Melbourne's continuing support for fossil fuel industries, including investment into and research alongside arms companies.
  - UMSU opposes attempts by the University of Melbourne to greenwash and demands that the university transition to 100% renewables and a zero-carbon footprint.

Moved: Anneke D'Emanuele  
CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Seconded: Nick Reich

#### **4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Meeting 5(20)**

UMSU recognises that both major parties are unwilling to take meaningful action on climate.

UMSU recognises its role is to organise students to fight for their rights.

UMSU recognises the need for a mass, radical climate movement.

UMSU supports the Uni Students for Climate Justice movement.

#### Actions:

UMSU will provide material support to all future Uni Students for Climate Justice protests.

UMSU will promote all future Uni Students for Climate Justice protests, on campus and on social media.

Moved: Nick Reich  
CARRIED

Seconded: Hannah Buchan

#### **11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – Meeting 1(21)**

- UMSU acknowledges the urgency of the climate crisis by declaring a Climate Emergency.
- UMSU demands full divestment from fossil fuel industries, more transparency, and more climate action from the University of Melbourne.
- UMSU re-evaluates the sustainability of UMSU events and forms a union-wide strategy to lessen climate impact through reducing single-use waste and carbon footprint.
- UMSU and the Enviro Department work with all departments to provide resources to support them in the transition towards having more sustainable operations.

UMSU will respond to the climate emergency by supporting environmental activism and organising students to build a climate movement that stands in opposition to the "corporations, states, and other institutions destroying the planet.

First Nations voices should be centered in environmental activism. UMSU agrees to consult First Nations people where applicable in actioning climate activism.

Moved: James Park  
CARRIED

Seconded: Ann Nguyen

#### **12th March 2021 - Meeting 4(21)**

UMSU endorses the March 19 USCJ climate action.

UMSU recognises that moderate strategies such as individualist lifestyle politics and lobbying are not effective and will not bring real climate action.

UMSU sees mass movements, protest and activism as the only viable strategy to ending destructive industry and mitigating climate disaster.

UMSU opposes the role our own university plays in climate destruction by sponsoring mining conferences and partnering with fossil fuel and weapons companies.

Moved: Xavier Dupe	Seconded: Vaishnavi Ravikrishna (on behalf of Ann Nguyen)
CARRIED	

### **22nd March 2022 - 5(22)**

1. UMSU endorses the Global Climate Strike on 25th March, including:
  - a. Both the School Strike for Climate “Four Days for Future” organised climate actions, and the Uni Students for Climate Justice protest; and
  - b. Any concurrent strikes in other cities where University of Melbourne students may be present.
2. UMSU recognises that the impacts of climate change are predominantly felt by marginalised groups, especially First Nations People and People of Colour.
  - a. UMSU also recognises that the voices of these marginalised groups have historically been silenced by privileged persons and institutionalised oppression.

Moved: Chelsea Daniel	Seconded: Brittney Henderson
CARRIED	

### **23rd January 2023 – Meeting 3(23)**

- UMSU endorses the National Day of Action earmarked for Friday 17 March 2023, including its Melbourne-based component - a protest meeting outside the State Library of Victoria, at 2pm.
- UMSU endorses the University of Melbourne student contingent to the National Day of Action to be organised by the UMSU Enviro department in collaboration with other UMSU departments supportive of climate activism.
- UMSU commits to promoting the National Day of Action, including the climate rally in Melbourne, in its newsletter and social media platforms.

Moved: James Gallagher	Seconded: Carlos Lagos Martin
CARRIED	

## **Fossil Fuels**

### **22nd October 2013 - Meeting 21(13)**

That Students’ Council endorses the Fossil Free MU campaign spearheaded by the UMSU Environment Department.

Moved: Vicky Fysh	Seconded: Bridget Chappell
CARRIED	

### 1st April 2014 - Meeting 6(14)

That the Students' Council endorses the Fossil Free Melbourne University (FFMU) campaign. To signify this endorsement, that the President and the General Secretary sign the FFMU Open Letter on behalf of the Students' Council.

Moved: Alexa Thompson

Seconded: Hanna McCreath

CARRIED

### 24th March 2023 - Meeting 6(23)

1. UMSU opposes the expansion of the fossil fuel industry in Australia and recognises that if the world stands any chance of avoiding the worst impacts of climate change, then not a single new fossil fuel project can be constructed.
2. UMSU condemns the QLD Labor government for its approval of gas exploration in the Lake Eyre basin.
3. UMSU condemns the federal Labor government for its approval of coal expansion in the Bowen basin and for approving 54 years of fracking in the Surat basin.
4. UMSU condemns the NSW Liberal government for considering new coal projects.
5. UMSU opposes Anthony Albanese's claims that expanding the gas industry is the key to Australia's energy transition.

Moved: Lucy Chapman-Kelly

Seconded: Maxwell Rea

*FOR: Bella Beiraghi, Divyanshi Sati, Evelyn Thompson, Inderpreet Singh, Isi Ogwu (via Reham Elzeiny), Marcie Di Bartolomeo, Raphael Duffy, Reham Elzeiny, Sam Rath (via Raphael Cahen), Sameeksha Mudigere, Watey Diep.*

*AGAINST: Kisara Perera, Kevin Li (via Rahul Mittal), Luv Golecha, Kunal Dewani*

CARRIED

## Funding Cuts to CSIRO & Climate Change

### 17th March 2016 - Meeting 6(16)

The Turnbull government has made significant funding cuts to the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) which will prevent the continuation of critical climate science and environmental research. The University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) recognises that these cuts diminish the global climate science research effort and Australia's adaption and mitigation capacity. Accordingly, UMSU disapproves of these funding cuts and endorses the Save CSIRO Jobs Campaign and signs onto support the following public statement "Science is vital to tackling climate change. We call on Malcom Turnbull to restore CSIRO climate science and fully fund public science in Australia", approving the display of the UMSU logo on the statement and other campaign materials.

Moved: Zachary Power

Seconded: Megan Pollock

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Solidarity With School Strikers

### 29<sup>TH</sup> July 2019 – Meeting 13(19)

- UMSU stands in solidarity with the high school strikes.
- UMSU calls on the University of Melbourne to revoke its sponsorship of IMARC, on the grounds that financially supporting the meeting and collaboration of major perpetrators of carbon emissions through oil, gas and coal mining ultimately contributes to the continuation of such practices.
- UMSU demands that the Australian government prevent the building of the Adani coal mine and subsequent projects of the same nature.
- UMSU calls on the Australian government to invest in 100% renewable energy.

#### Action:

- UMSU will participate in future climate strikes, whether they be exclusively for university students, or in collaboration with the high school strikes.
- UMSU will develop and participate in a demonstration against the University of Melbourne's sponsorship of IMARC.

Moved: Anneke D'emanuele

Seconded: Terence Taylor

CARRIED

## Stop Adani

### 12th July 2017 - Meeting 12(17)

That Students Council publicly endorses the campaign to Stop Adani.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

# ETHICALLY CONSCIOUS

## Arms Manufacturers

1. Students Council reiterates its commitment to opposing violence through militarism and denounces the collaboration between the University of Melbourne and Lockheed Martin in respect to the establishment of the STELaRLab and in defense research.
2. Students Council declares that research conducted at the University of Melbourne should be considered against the highest ethical standards and that until demonstrated otherwise that military research conducted in partnership with defense companies like Lockheed Martin are not ethically sound.
3. Furthermore, Students Council declares that research conducted at the University of Melbourne should be conducted in the interest of a better and more peaceful society. Students Council emphasises in the strongest terms that the power of science and education should be harnessed for the betterment of all people and not in the interest of militaristic outcomes, especially not those of a foreign military force or national interest.
4. To call on Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) James McCluskey to clarify the ongoing relationship Lockheed Martin and the University of Melbourne share and the exact nature of their collaborations. Additionally, to demonstrate that research and development stemming from this collaboration will not be responsible for ending the lives of any persons or facilitating an ongoing military technology race.
5. To call on the Vice-Chancellor Glyn Davis to speak to the University of Melbourne's position in respect to the development of weapons technologies and involvement in the weapons industry. Additionally, to show cause for the engagement the University has with the ongoing U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Innovation Initiative by proxy of an ongoing relationship with Lockheed Martin. Finally, to consider and speak to the risk that the University of Melbourne takes in further developing automated weapons systems that will not be accountable to us but we will be accountable to.
6. To call on the Honourable Premier for Victoria Daniel Andrews to clarify how research and investment in military research and development in Victoria is ethically sound and in the best interests of both the Victorian and University of Melbourne community. Additionally, how supporting the Defense Innovation Initiative by proxy of endorsing the University of Melbourne and Lockheed Martin collaboration came to be decided and the reasoning behind such a move.
7. To call on the Honourable Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science Greg Hunt to explain and provide insight into the strategic necessity for Australia to opt into working with the U.S. D.o.D on the DII. Additionally, to provide clarity as to how such an apparent necessity is balanced against the ethics of weapons manufacturing and the research and development of these technologies. Finally, to answer to what extent will the University of Melbourne be complicit in the development of technologies that Australia will not control and that will be used to inflict death and destruction.



Moved: Dominic Cernaz

Seconded: Anneke D'emanuele

ABSTENTIONS: Xavier Boffa

CARRIED

### **12th March 2021 - Meeting 4(21)**

1. UMSU, standing in the tradition of the student union movement, opposes all forms of militarism.
2. UMSU calls on the University of Melbourne to immediately cut all ties with weapons manufacturers.
3. UMSU calls for the STElarLAB to be immediately closed.

Moved: Xavier Dupe

Seconded: Archit Agarwal

CARRIED

### **12 January 2024 – Meeting 2(24)**

#### Platform:

The UMSU students' council denounces the university for any and all collaboration with Lockheed Martin.

#### Actions:

The students' council calls on the university to cut its ties with all weapons manufacturers such as Lockheed Martin.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Lucy Rachman Vascottoss

CARRIED

## **Caged Eggs**

### **28th July 2009 - Meeting 15(09)**

That Students' Council joins with the Cage Free Campus Society in calling for all University of Melbourne eateries to go "cage-free" and that a Students' Council representative presents a resolution to the University Council and to MUSUL calling for a complete cage-free egg policy on campus.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## **Corkman Pub**

Due to the significance of this building, both to the residents of Carlton and the students of this University, Student's Council resolves to:

- i. Condemn the actions of the developers who ordered the demolition as unlawful and

in violation of Council protections.

- ii. Express its support for the coalition of Melbourne University students and concerned citizens who have begun a campaign to resurrect the Corkman pub, and to encourage UMSU departments to circulate the petition that this group has produced.
- iii. Call upon the Melbourne City Council to order that the developers pay for the full restoration of the building, and that no further development of the site in violation of Council protections should be allowed to take place.
- iv. Call for the Melbourne City Council to launch a public inquiry into the demolition of this building for profit and the need for stronger protections of Melbourne landmarks in general.

Moved: Gulsara Kaplun

Seconded: Harry Adam

CARRIED

## Fair Trade University

### 8th May 2012 - Meeting 8(12)

That UMSU supports Fair Trade products on campus. That UMSU supports the University's decision to seek accreditation to become a Fair Trade University and will assist in meeting the requirements for accreditation.

Moved: Mark Kettle

Seconded: Ayesha Cain

CARRIED

# FAIR WORK

## Carlton United Breweries Workers

### 13th September 2016 - Meeting 16(16)

UMSU condemns this vicious attack on workers and their unions and demands that CUB immediately reinstate the 55 on their original pay and conditions. UMSU supports the picket and is heartened by the support it has received from fellow workers and the community.

Moved: Jason Wong

Seconded: James Bashford

*ABSTENTIONS: Xavier Boffa*

CARRIED

## Casino Workers

### 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Meeting 19(19)

UMSU stands in solidarity with the workers at Crown Casino in their ongoing dispute.

UMSU expresses its disappointment in the Biomed Students' Society for moving their Biomed Ball to Crown Casino after the large public rally.

UMSU Students Council believes that engaging in businesses where workers in industrial action undermines the industrial strength of already vulnerable workers.

UMSU Students Council, the Clubs & Societies Officers and the President will investigate ways in which to educate the student population about industrial actions to ensure that no UMSU resources are used in unethical businesses or where workers in a dispute are undermined.

Moved: Gurpreet Singh

Seconded: Josh Harmer-Ross

CARRIED

## Centre For Cultural Partnerships

### 6th October 2016 - Meeting 17(16)

UMSU opposes the cutting of the CCP as:

- Cutting CCP guts the arts.
- The Dean is erasing the future of socially engaged art.
- VCA is losing Australia's only centre for community and socially engaged art -We lose an institutional home for socially engaged and transdisciplinary artists.
- Cutting CCP severs ties between artist/researchers and the wider community UMSU condemns the behavior of the university administration:
- Misconduct in cutting the CCP -Failing to meet with and consult with students.

- Disregarding the emotional, financial, and academic repercussions that students will face.
- Misleading international students who have only recently moved to Australia to take part in the course.
- Failing to provide secure employment to the teaching staff at CCP.

Action Points:

- UMSU commits to supporting any and all actions taken by the Save CCP campaign.
- UMSU departments and offices are strongly encouraged will share and promote the Facebook page and take every effort to attending any actions called by Save CCP
- Students Council will take a photo of solidarity to send to the CCP students.
- UMSU will give financial support of up to \$750 to the Save CCP campaign from the Education Department Budget Line.
- All departments and offices will sign and share the online petition found here.

Moved: Anneke D’emanuele

Seconded: Frances Connors

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Dominos

### 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 – Meeting 3(20)

1. That UMSU stands in solidarity with all victims of wage theft.
2. That UMSU condemns Domino’s for the mistreatment of their workers.

Actions:

1. Students’ Council and any relevant departmental committees will not approve any expenditure for Domino’s Pizza.
2. UMSU Student Representative and Staff Departments will not use Domino’s pizza at any events, collectives, or functions.
3. The UMSU Clubs & Societies officer will communicate this information to all UMSU Clubs & Societies, and direct clubs to use alternative food vendors to cater their events.
4. UMSU condemns the Fair Work Commission established by the Gillard Government for its approval of dodgy EBAs that allow underpayment to run rampant.

Moved: Hannah Buchan

Seconded: Felix Sharkey

CARRIED

## Melbourne Liquor Distribution Warehouse

### 13th August 2015 - Meeting 19(15)

That the student union support the strike action of these workers [Melbourne Liquor Distribution Warehouse] in their fight for job security and better working conditions.

Moved: Lia Vassilidis

Seconded: Patrick Dollard

CARRIED

## Knauf Port Melbourne

### 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 – Meeting 17(22)

- UMSU Students' Council condemns Knauf's aim to reduce job security by expanding the use of casual and labour-hire contracts and deliver a real wage cut to workers by offering a below-inflation pay agreement.
- UMSU Students' Council expresses its support and solidarity with the striking CFMEU workers at the Knauf Port Melbourne facility.

Moved: Frankie Kennedy

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

## Victorian Teachers

### 24th April 2012 - Meeting 7(12)

That UMSU support Victorian teachers in any upcoming industrial action.

Moved: Jeremy Gibson

Seconded: Patrick Alves

*ABSTENTIONS: 1*

CARRIED

## Victorian Public Service

### 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – Meeting 8(23)

1. UMSU stands against all cuts to Victoria's public services.
2. UMSU condemns the Victorian Labor government for placing the interests of business ahead of the working class.

Moved: Maeve Russack

Seconded: Raphael Duffy

CARRIED

## Young Workers Centre Franchise Survey

### 24th April 2012 - Meeting 16(17)

The Young Worker's Centre operates out of Trades Hall in Carlton and aims to inform young Australians below the age of 30 of their rights at work. They also assist in getting young people back pay, helping them approach their employer about issues they see at work, and generally helping to engage young people in the union movement.

In light of the recent scandals from Grill'd, 7/11, Bakers Delight, and Subway (to only name a few), the Young Worker's Centre has dedicated time to educating workers about the systematic failures of the franchise operating model so that they may begin to reform their workplace. This might take the form of terminating zombie agreements, or collectively speaking to management.

In order to take the fight to the next level, YWC has launched a survey collecting the experiences of people who have worked for a franchise. This information will be used to better inform their campaign against stores that systematically exploit young people.

1. That UMSU endorses the survey and reaffirms its solidarity with young workers, many of whom are university students attempting to make ends meet.
2. UMSU spreads the survey via its weekly newsletter and publicizes it via relevant social media channels.

Moved: Louis Devine

Seconded: Desiree Cai

CARRIED

## UMSU Supports Striking Staff

Over the early months of this year the University and College Union in Britain has executed a large scale strike to protect working conditions and pensions for University Staff. The central question of the UCU strike has been around the issue of casualisation with Universities aiming to make it easier to fire employees and leave them with virtually no benefits or secure source of income.

The strike is occurring in more than sixty universities and has been running since late February with unionists refusing to capitulate on their demands and with students unionists standing in solidarity with them, arguing with other students the importance of a picket line and why it should not be crossed.

UCU have also stated that this is a political battle between how the future of universities should be shaped. The administration desires a push to a business model of education in which students are customers who purchase their degrees at the highest rate possible meanwhile they push the conditions of the staff down in order to turn over the most profit possible. Staff and students within these universities are fighting to see education as a right, not a commodity.

These dynamics are not isolated to the UK however. Melbourne University also faces similar circumstances, with staff conditions under threat.

*Motion:*

- UMSU supports the UCU strikes and the USS campaign.
- UMSU recognises the importance of industrial action for staff trying to improve their conditions and acknowledges the importance of student unions playing a productive role in those strikes.
- UMSU recognises that when industrial action is taken by staff it is the union's responsibility to not be conciliatory to any attempt by administration to sabotage strike action.
- UMSU will make a public statement of support for the ongoing action taken by UCU and the students supporting their staff.

Moved: Melinda Suter

Seconded: Nick Reich

CARRIED

# INDIGENOUS

## Fremantle Council - Australia Day

### 7th December 2016 - Meeting 2(17)

That UMSU shows its support for Fremantle City Council in their decision to hold alternative Australia Day celebrations on a date that is more culturally inclusive.

That UMSU condemn the Federal Governments banning of Fremantle City council to hold citizenship ceremonies on the Australia Day alternative day.

The UMSU highly encourages other organisations to take a similar stance and action as appropriate to that organisation, including local councils in the Melbourne vicinity, the University of Melbourne, and Triple J.

Moved: Tyson Holloway-Clarke

Seconded: Tom Crowley

CARRIED

## Invasion Day

### 20th January 2021 – Meeting 2(21)

- UMSU condemns 'Australia' day celebrations.
- UMSU affirms the right to protest in the Invasion Day rally and stands in solidarity with First Nations people experiencing the hardship /trauma of this day.
- UMSU condemns the Victorian Government and Victorian police who have stated that protesters will receive fines for infringing upon noise restrictions.
- UMSU supports the COVID safe protest during Invasion Day.

#### Actions:

- UMSU will release a statement condemning celebrations of 'Australia' day and express its support for First Nations people.
- To share Naarm Invasion Day rally information on the UMSU Facebook page
- UMSU Office Bearers agree to delete or withhold any content related to 'Australia' day celebrations on their pages.

Moved: Brittney Henderson

Seconded: Georgia McCourt

CARRIED

### 12 January 2024 – Meeting 2(24)

#### Platform:

- UMSU endorses the annual Invasion Day rally
- UMSU stands in solidarity with Indigenous people and their fight for genuine self-determination



- UMSU condemns the current federal and state Labor governments in their racist treatment of Indigenous people

Actions:

- UMSU will advertise the annual Invasion Day rally via social media, and will encourage students to attend the rally

Moved: Hamish Rose

Seconded: Oskar Martin

CARRIED

## Keep Indigenous Housing in Indigenous Hands

### 28th July 2009 - Meeting 15(09)

That UMSU endorses the statement made by Motion 7: the Intervention Rollback Action Group.

Moved: Ruby Warber

Seconded: Tim Arnot

CARRIED

## Rio Tinto Destruction of Sacred Site

### 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 11(20)

- UMSU condemns Rio Tinto for destroying this site.
- UMSU condemns the government for giving Rio Tinto the go ahead.
- UMSU will advocate for the University of Melbourne to cut all of its ties with Rio Tinto and other destructive fossil fuel and mining companies like them.
- UMSU stands in solidarity with Indigenous communities in regaining control of their land and pushing out environmentally destructive companies like Rio Tinto.

Moved: Briana Symonds-Manne

Seconded: Anneke D'Emanuele

CARRIED

## Voice to Parliament – ‘Yes, but...’

### 22 September 2023 – Meeting 15 (23)

- On the 14th of October Australia will vote in a yes/no referendum to include an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice in the Constitution of Australia, giving First Nations Peoples a permanent platform in policy making and legislation.
- UMSU as a student union and an activist organization acknowledge that not all First Nations Peoples will be voting yes in the upcoming referendum, and the shortcoming of the Voice to Parliament. However, we also acknowledge the Uluru Statement from the Heart and First Nations Peoples who are voting yes.
- UMSU is taking the position of 'Yes, but...'. While the Voice to Parliament is a step

towards the implementation of the Uluru Statement from the heart and ensuring First Nations Peoples' voices are included into legislation, we recognize that this is not enough.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Seconded: Mohamed Hadi

CARRIED

## IN SYMPATHY

### Bushfire Relief

#### 12th February 2009 - Meeting 3(09)

That UMSU extends its sympathy and support to students and staff who have lost family, friends and homes in the bushfires.

Moved: Goldie Pergl

Seconded: Katherine Klaus

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

# NATIONAL TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION

## Baillieu and ERC Staff Cuts

### 16th June 2011 - Meeting 8(11)

The University of Melbourne Student Union opposes the planned staff cuts at the Baillieu and ERC libraries. Students value the service provided by staff at these libraries. We support the NTEU campaign to prevent these cuts from taking place and will support the proposed action during second semester. If library management want to respond to changes in library service, they should do so by actually consulting with staff, students and unions first.

Students Council endorses the NTEU campaign opposing staff cuts at the Baillieu and ERC libraries, and will invite the NTEU to place the UMSU logo on any posters and other materials that are part of this campaign, after consultation with the Education Public Affairs Department.

Moved: Liam Byrne

Seconded: Dominique Ottobre

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Campus Alliance

### 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Meeting 4(20)

That the UMSU Students Council endorse the creation of a campus alliance between students and workers to facilitate co-operation between the NTEU and the UMSU in organising towards common goals at the University of Melbourne.

Moved: Charlie Joyce

Seconded: Noni Bridger

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## No to NTEU Enterprise Agreement Variations

### 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 11(20)

That UMSU Students' Council condemns the University of Melbourne for seeking to alter the Enterprise Agreement and water down worker's rights, and calls them on to withdraw the variation;

Stands in solidarity with the University of Melbourne NTEU Branch, in calling all University staff to vote no to variations to the enterprise agreement on June 9.

Directs all office-bearers to send communications, developed in liaison with NTEU student workers and the Education Public office urging workers to vote no to variations to the enterprise agreement;

Encourages UMSU office bearers to collaborate with the NTEU in promoting a no vote to the variation, advertising opportunities for students to get involved in their campaign;

Strongly recommends all University staff to join the National Tertiary Education Union (and

for all students to join UMSU);

Resolves to defend every job, every subject, and every student service;

Recognises that solidarity, is indeed, the best medicine.

That:

- UMSU opposes the proposed pay cuts.
- UMSU rejects the notion that pay cuts save jobs.
- UMSU opposes all other cuts to staff and students, including budget cuts to the Sustainable Campus program.
- UMSU expresses solidarity with the rank-and-file NTEU campaign being run against cuts to universities.

Moved: Andie Moore

Seconded: Lucas Brunning-Halsall

CARRIED

## NTEU Solidarity

### 29th August 2017 - Meeting 16(17)

That UMSU stands in solidarity with the NTEU on the issue of academic freedom at the University of Melbourne. The 'number one' University in Australia should not be afraid of critical enquiry, intellectual discourse, or public controversy. These qualities are fundamental to the role of universities in the public sphere; it is through rigorous intellectual discourse that academics contribute to public dialogue.

That UMSU stands in solidarity with the NTEU on the issue of staff cuts. Cuts to staff are cuts to students. UMSU condemns large scale and unjustified cuts to staff.

Moved: Sinead Manning

Seconded: Daniel Beratis

CARRIED

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 10(20)

- UMSU rejects the idea that staff should be made to pay for the COVID 19 crisis.
- UMSU condemns attempts by the university to undermine wages and working conditions for staff.
- UMSU stands with University staff and rank and file union members who want to fight to defend their conditions.

Action:

- UMSU will use its social media platforms to condemn attacks on university staff and working conditions and support staff fighting to keep their working conditions.

Moved: Chair (Jack Buksh)

CARRIED

## NTEU National Day of Action

### 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 10(20)

That UMSU supports the NTEU Vote No campaign (no concessions on pay or conditions) and condemns the VC on commencing negotiations on changing the EBA to whittle away staff pay and conditions.

That Students' Council:

- Endorse and promote the NTEU's public and online actions to #SaveHigherEdJobs and promote actions that students can take on May 21st.
- Assist in planning a joint action with a joint list of demands focused on staff working conditions and staff job losses as well as student fees and student learning conditions. An action that is being proposed this week to the NTEU branch committee will be a University Assembly. NTEU and UMSU could jointly call its membership to meet and form a University Assembly of staff and students to vote on demands.

Moved: Noni Bridger (on behalf of Annette Herrera) Seconded: Charlie Joyce

CARRIED

## Support Of NTEU In University Staff Cuts

### 19th May 2009 - Meeting 12(09)

The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work and supports the National Tertiary Education Union.

Moved: John Shipp (Chair)

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 12th August 2014 - Meeting 15(14)

Students' Council will support all actions called by the National Tertiary Education Union to fight job cuts to University of Melbourne Staff as a result of the BIP.

Moved: Zoe Efron

Seconded: Stephen Smith

*Dissent: Patrick Clearwater*

CARRIED

### 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Meeting 14(20)

UMSU rejects the neoliberal model of higher education.

UMSU expresses its support for staff members who will be affected by these cuts and resolves to fight for their continued employment at the university.

UMSU rejects the assertion that the University of Melbourne does not have the funds to maintain current staffing levels.

Action:

UMSU will release a statement supporting staff and condemning the University over these job cuts and other stand downs that have occurred through the university's mismanagement of the COVID 19 crisis.

UMSU commits to supporting the NTEU's Financial Transparency campaign regarding the University of Melbourne's finances in its own right and through the No Cuts campaign.

UMSU commits itself to organising a restructure of the tertiary education system that upholds democracy, transparency, and the prioritisation of student and staff needs over profits. Only a confrontational, and militant campaign against The VC and Uni management can win this.

Moved: Noni Bridger

Seconded: Emma Dynes

CARRIED

## UMSU Supports the NTEU Strike

### 19th May 2009 - Meeting 12(09)

Since February 2017, negotiations have been taking place between University of Melbourne management and local National Tertiary Education Union over the creation of a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA). These negotiations have yielded little results, in no small part due to University obstructionism and an inability for their representatives to bargain in good faith. One of the many actions from the University that displays this is their refusal to offer staff a small pay rise as is customary during such a drawn out negotiation process.

The University is clearly motivated to reduce the bargaining power of the NTEU on campus—this is best exemplified by their demand to split the current EBA into one for academic staff and one for professional staff. This divide-and-conquer mentality to bargaining will serve as a pretext to the University being able to rearrange services such as Stop 1 at will with little regard to the job security of people in those areas, before coming for academic staff, who will have little support left.

It's important to recognise the effect that some of the changes proposed by the University will have on students, too. The removal of student-to-student ratios, for example, will result in increased class sizes, which means more work for teachers and less time for students to interact with them. Here we can see that there is a clear link between the interests of students and the interests of staff, which are currently on the line.

With that in mind, NTEU members recently voted in favour of stopping work from 9am- 1pm on May 9th, (and attending the Change the Rules rally instead) as a beginning to pressure the University to back off from their more insidious demands, as well as to begin considering more suggestions from the NTEU. This strike action needs to support of both staff and students if it is to succeed.

#### Actions:

1. Umsu supports the NTEU and University staff in fighting for fairer conditions at the University of Melbourne.

2. UMSU will stand in solidarity with all NTEU industrial action that is taken to improve the terms of their EBA.
3. Students' Council directs Office Bearers and Councilors to attend and participate in the NTEU action on Wednesday the 9th, 9am, at gate 4 (Monash Road Entrance), and join the NTEU/UMSU contingent to the Change the Rules Rally (from 10am-1pm that same day) unless they have work, significant personal reasons, or classes for which both their attendance would be marked and attendance is required under the handbook.
4. Student's Council directs office-bearers to use their department social media channels, opportunities at events, and other means within their responsibilities to publicise and inform students about why we should stand in solidarity with staff in their industrial action, and encourage them not to attend classes, and to attend rallies or picket lines.

Moved: Conor Clements

Seconded: Toby Silcock

CARRIED

### **10th March 2023 - Meeting 5(23)**

UMSU recognises the importance of a strong and supportive university community, where students and staff members can work together to achieve shared goals and outcomes.

UMSU acknowledges the university will create a false dichotomy between the interests of students and staff members, by framing the industrial action as detrimental to students.

UMSU recognises that this narrative seeks to pit students against our comrades at the NTEU and undermines their collective efforts to achieve fair and just outcomes for both students and staff.

#### Action:

UMSU will play an active role in the NTEU's decision to strike at the University of Melbourne and commits to communicate the importance of fair working conditions and job security for university staff members to the student body.

Lastly, UMSU will encourage students to support the NTEU's industrial action to achieve fair and just outcomes for all members of the university community.

Moved: Carlos Lagos Martin

Seconded: Kevin Li

CARRIED



# POLITICAL ISSUES

## Donald Trump Presidency

### 7th December 2016 - Meeting 2(17)

1. UMSU stands firmly opposed to President Elect Donald Trump.
2. UMSU recognises and opposes the array of right-wing forces in Australia, including the Liberal government, Pauline Hanson and fascist groupings like the United Patriots Front, who have gained a confidence boost out of Trump's election.
3. UMSU recognises the positive role a protest against Trump can play in countering those forces and making sure a new right-wing consensus doesn't become mainstream.

Moved: Anneke D'emanuele

Seconded: Alice Smith

CARRIED

## Jacinda Ardern Re-Election

### 26<sup>TH</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 20(20)

1. UMSU student's council congratulates Jacinda Ardern and the Labour Party on their reelection;
2. UMSU student's council calls on the incoming Labour government to make strong moves to honour Te Tiriti O Waitangi, uphold the sovereign rights of Tangata Whenua, and address systematic injustice in the New Zealand detention and criminal systems via decarceration;
3. UMSU student's council stands in solidarity with Aotearoa's trade union movement, and calls on the incoming government to amend legislation to give unprecedented power to unions to fight for working people in their workplaces;
4. UMSU's student's council calls on the incoming government to take a proactive approach on housing to ensure everyone has the right to a safe, healthy and affordable home;
5. UMSU's student's council directs the UMSU President to write to the Prime Minister's office, expressing congratulations, and encouraging her to take up the following priorities.

Moved: Andie Moore

Seconded: Srishti Chatterjee

CARRIED

## Military Spending

### 8<sup>TH</sup> July 2020 – Meeting 13(20)

UMSU opposes the government's proposed military spending.

UMSU recognises that the University of Melbourne is complicit in the research and development of weapons manufacturing and demands that the university terminates all

programs and projects of this nature.

Actions:

UMSU will state their opposition to the government's military spending announcement on their social media and in their email correspondence with students.

Moved: Briana Symonds-Manne

Seconded: Sophie Kerrigan

CARRIED

**24th March 2023 - Meeting 6(23)**

1. UMSU opposes the imperialist war drive of the Australian ruling class and the Labor government.
2. UMSU calls for the withdrawal of Australia from the AUKUS deal, and for Australia to end its alliance with the United States, the primary purveyor of war and destruction on the planet.
3. UMSU affirms its anti-imperialist position, siding with neither China nor the United States in their global imperialist ambitions.
4. UMSU opposes all attempts to direct university research and students into collaboration with the Australian Defence Force and the war industry and will campaign against the University of Melbourne should it take any part in the AUKUS deal.
5. UMSU opposes the media push calling for Australians to psychologically prepare for war with China, brought forward by Peter Harcher through 'Red Alert' piece on SMH and The Age."

Moved: Rhoda Louis-Miller

Seconded: Benjamin O'Donnell

CARRIED

**Oppose The Far Right and Its Sympathisers, Boycott Arcadia**

**7th December 2016 - Meeting 2(17)**

1. That this student council reasserts its constitutional commitment to standing in opposition to militarism, nationalism, and discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, gender identity, religion, and national or social origin.
2. This student council` notes that the aims, and ideals of far right, and fascist groups are in fundamental opposition to the aforementioned constitutional commitments.
3. That this student council condemns the Australian Liberty Alliance (ALA)'s far-right politics,
4. That this student council condemns the ALA's choice to nominate for the seat of Caulfield an associate of far-right figures including a man convicted of the antisemitic harassment of a Rabbi, gangs associated with far-right ultraviolence, figures who have called in public fora for pictures of Hitler to be displayed in every Australian classroom, as well as self-professed neo-nazis.
5. That this student council notes the owner of the Arcadia Hotel in South Yarra has noted

public sympathies for the ALA, and its politics, and has routinely hosted events for the ALA.

6. That, due to the Arcadia Hotel's links to far-right groups, this student councils imposes a rolling boycott upon any future association with or use of the facilities of the Arcadia Hotel, and calls upon its constituent clubs, and societies, and all students to take the same stance in principled opposition to the far-right, and in solidarity with all students under threat from the spectre of racism, antisemitism, sexism, queerphobia, transphobia, ableism, and militarism.

Moved: Daniel Beratis (Chair)

CARRIED

## Oppose The Global Far Right

### 12 January 2024 – Meeting 2(24)

1. UMSU condemns the growth of far-right figures and movements globally.
2. UMSU will support and promote anti-fascist actions aimed at opposing and fighting the growth of the far right.

Moved: Penelope Scacciante      Seconded: Hugh Collins

CARRIED

### 16 February 2024 – Meeting 3(24)

That UMSU commits to no longer display symbols of Nationalism, which promotes violence, hatred, racism or are co-opted by the far-right, in an Australian context or otherwise.

Moved: Raphael Duffy      Seconded: Oskar Martin

CARRIED

## Right To Protest

### 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 17(20)

UMSU affirms that protest is a fundamental democratic right and opposes laws restricting the right to protest.

UMSU endorses the campaign “Democracy is essential: Restore the right to protest in NSW.”

UMSU calls for socially distanced protest activity to be exempted from the restrictions imposed under the Public Health Act (NSW)

UMSU condemns the repressive measures used against protesters on the spurious grounds of controlling COVID-19.

Moved: Raphael Duffy

Seconded: Charlie Joyce

*DISSENT: Joshua Bruni*

CARRIED

### **20<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Meeting 2(21)**

1. UMSU affirms that protest is a fundamental democratic right and opposes laws restricting the right to protest, while supporting health measures such as restrictions on businesses, requirements to wear masks etc.
2. UMSU endorses the campaign “Restore the right to protest” in Victoria and a strategy of mass defiant protest as the best way to achieve this.
3. UMSU calls for the removal of the ban on outdoor gatherings “for a common purpose”.
4. UMSU condemns the repressive measures used against protesters on the spurious grounds of controlling COVID-19, while opposing the reactionary anti-lockdown protests held earlier this year.
5. UMSU calls for the cancellation of all fines and charges against protestors, including Warriors of Aboriginal Resistance, the Djab Wurrung Embassy, Refugee Action Collective as well as individuals targeted at protests.

Moved: Xavier Dupe

Seconded: Brittney Henderson

CARRIED

### **15th August 2022 - 13(22)**

UMSU condemns the Victorian Labor Government for passing legislation that criminalises peaceful protests.

UMSU deems these laws – Sustainable Forests Timber Amendment (Timber Harvesting Safety Zones) Bill 2022 – as an an-democratic law.

UMSU condemns the trend of Australian state governments curbing the right to peacefully protest in this country.

UMSU recognises that these laws further endanger those already vulnerable when protesting including First Nations people, people with a disability, people of colour, and non-citizens.

Moved: Zach Matthews

Seconded: Jaryd Clifford

CARRIED

### **7th December 2022 – Meeting 1(23)**

1. UMSU reaffirms its support for the right to protest as a basic civil liberty and democratic right.
2. UMSU stands against the latest attacks on the right to protest, including the NSW government’s anti-protest laws but also the Victorian Labor government’s criminalisation of anti-logging protestors.
3. UMSU expresses its solidarity with Violet Coco and gives her its full support in her appeal against the unjust NSW legal system.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Sam Rathnaweera

CARRIED

## VicRoads Privatisation Considerations

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 4(20)**

UMSU condemns the state Labor government for even considering privatisation.

UMSU stands in solidarity with the Australian Services Union in their campaign against the privatisation of VicRoads.

UMSU affirms its stance as ideologically opposed to business.

Moved: Gurpreet Singh

Seconded: Matt Harper

CARRIED

# PUBLIC HEALTH

## ACT Legalisation of Marijuana

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 4(20)**

That UMSU congratulates the ACT in legalising the personal recreational use of Marijuana and affirms its stance that recreational drug use is a public health issue that should be legalised, with proper harm minimisation strategies implemented.

Moved: Matt Harper

Seconded: Andie Moore

CARRIED

## COVID-19

**13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 4(20)**

- UMSU recognises that this health crisis is legitimate and recognises that the Australian government should be focusing on international research and health to prevent the spread of this disease.
- UMSU opposes the contradictory and unscientific travel bans and the authoritarian quarantining of citizens on Christmas Island.
- UMSU opposes the neoliberal agenda of both the ALP and LNP who have continually underfunded the health system and deprioritised scientific research.
- UMSU recognises the lack of support from the university for international students unable to return to Australia, and vows to fight for material and financial support from the university for any students affected.
- UMSU recognises and opposes the anti-Chinese racism seen in response to this outbreak and recognises the role that both major parties play in kindling antiimmigration and xenophobic views in popular discourse.
- UMSU agrees to fight against any attempts by the University of Melbourne to respond to the outbreak at the expense of student welfare.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Emma Dynes

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**17th September 2021 - Meeting 15(21)**

1. UMSU endorses the Health Before Profits campaign and supports an elimination strategy that aims for zero COVID transmission in the community.
2. UMSU opposes the Morrison and Berejiklian campaign - supported by Daniel Andrews - to open up the economy according to the national four-phase plan and 'live' with the virus.
3. UMSU recognises that the University of Melbourne Chancellery has had counterproductive messaging and that the University of Melbourne has provided

inconsistent and inadequate support for students and staff throughout the pandemic.

4. UMSU recognises that COVID circulation in the community is the key threat to the health, wellbeing and lives of marginalised and oppressed communities.
5. UMSU supports a lockdown in Victoria that closes non-essential businesses including construction and non-essential retail, and keeps schools and universities closed until it's safe.
6. UMSU demands an increase in the amount and accessibility of support payments, regardless of visa status. We need to pay people to stay at home.
7. UMSU demands a massive increase in health funding, hospital and ICU capacity, and staffing levels.
8. UMSU demands immediate measures to raise vaccination levels across Indigenous and migrant communities, and for children, which is necessary to bring the pandemic under control.
9. UMSU recognises that striving to eliminate COVID transmission in Australia puts us in the best position to fight the virus internationally, freeing up health resources for deployment in other countries and establishing a precedent of putting health over profits.
10. UMSU demands purpose-built, Delta-proof quarantine facilities, which can prevent the constant outbreaks caused by leakages, while allowing citizens, migrants, international students, and refugees to enter the country.

Moved: Julien Macandelli	Seconded: Winnie Zhang
CARRIED	

### **30th September 2021 - Meeting 16(21)**

1. UMSU stands with unions like the Nurses' Union (ANMF) in condemning the far right anti-lockdown protests.
2. UMSU reaffirms support for public health measures like restrictions on non-essential business, PPE and ventilation, which have saved thousands of lives.
3. UMSU opposes the government's 'national roadmap' which proposes an unsafe reopening of non-essential business before sufficient levels of vaccination are achieved to protect the population.

Moved: Shirley Killen	Seconded: Raphael Duffy
CARRIED	

### **31st January 2022 - Meeting 2(22)**

1. UMSU condemns the 'let it rip' strategy adopted by the federal government, with endorsement from many Labor premiers and the National Cabinet.
2. UMSU condemns University management for its inactivity and reticence to adopt necessary public health measures beyond mandatory vaccination, as well as for the continual lack of transparency that surrounds its response to the unfolding COVID-19

crisis.

3. UMSU recognises that community groups with heightened vulnerability to the effects of COVID-19 should not be framed as expendable, an encumbrance, or an outlier from the societal norm. UMSU stands for social solidarity, not the survival-of-the-fittest logic of personal responsibility.
4. UMSU calls on University management to assure students that online classes will remain an option for all students in 2022.

Moved: Shirley Killen

Seconded: Sam Rath

CARRIED

## Harm Reduction

### 13th September 2016 - Meeting 16(16)

The students' council resolves to implement this drug harm reduction program in the lead-up to the summer festival season and endorses the distribution of packs of relevant information and reagent test kits at the Union House information desk. Students' Council understands the limitations surrounding this testing and affirms that all distribution will be accompanied by a verbal discussion.

The students' council acknowledges the limitations of reagent kits as a test method for drug purity and adulteration and will therefore work toward making more accurate and effective tests available.

The students' council therefore calls upon the University of Melbourne to explore providing access to gas chromatography facilities for this purpose.

Moved: Gulsara Kaplun

Seconded: Yasmine Luu

CARRIED

### 4th April 2017 - Meeting 7(17)

1. That UMSU affirms its commitment to holistic, judgment-free and evidence-based approaches to drug harm reduction.
2. That UMSU implement a series of education sessions, available to all students at no cost, outlining steps that they can take reduce the harms associated with drug use
3. That UMSU run a campaign calling for high quality pill testing facilities such as gas chromatography mass-spectrometry to be made available to the public.

Moved: Gulsara Kaplun

Seconded: Molly Millmott

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT



## Vaccines

### 14th October 2021 - Meeting 17(21)

The following motion was passed by a members meeting of the University of Melbourne NTEU branch on 7 October:

*The University of Melbourne NTEU branch notes the unusually risky situation of a return to campus and face-to-face teaching in the midst of a surge in case numbers. We therefore support a vaccine mandate for university staff and students. But we note major concerns with the way the announcement has been made at the University of Melbourne, in particular the lack of consultation with staff and students. We call on the University to immediately:*

- *Begin discussions with staff and student representative bodies about the implementation of the mandate, and a memorandum of understanding on the safety protocols supported by the NTEU University of Melbourne branch.*
- *Ensure that the burden of enforcement is not placed on individual frontline and teaching staff.*
- *Ensure that the mandate is used in conjunction with all other OHS measures to reduce the risk to the community as far as possible.*
- *Ensure that the mandate is implemented alongside measures to provide access to vaccination for staff and students (especially from vulnerable groups and those without Medicare cards).*

UMSU endorses this motion by the NTEU.

UMSU acknowledges that the university to take measures in addition to vaccine mandates, such as proper ventilation and air purifiers, to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Moved: Hannah Krasovec

Seconded: James Gallagher

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 19th November 2021 - Meeting 18(21)

UMSU endorses the 'PROTEST: Oppose the Anti-Vax, Far Right - Melbourne' demonstration on the 20th of November.

Moved: Shirley Killen

Seconded: Sam Rath

CARRIED

# QUEER

## Conversion

### 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 17(20)

1. UMSU condemns any sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts to queer students and commits to offering material solidarity and support to any survivor who should request it.
2. Directs the UMSU President to affirm the SOGICE (sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts) survivor statement on behalf of UMSU.  
(<http://socesurvivors.com.au/wpcontent/uploads/2020/07/SOGICE-Survivor-Statement-v4-July-2020.pdf>)
3. Directs the UMSU President to share this motion and the text of SOGICE survivor statement through the Presidents News.
4. Directs the Queer Officers to raise the issue of conversion practices with CAPS and form a plan for concrete, tangible support at the University for survivors.

Moved: Ciara O’Sullivan

Seconded: Srishti Chatterjee

CARRIED

## Darlington Statement – Intersex Rights Are Human Rights

### 4<sup>TH</sup> December 2019- Meeting 2(20)

1. That UMSU stands in solidarity with the Intersex community,
2. That UMSU condemns the violation of intersex rights,
3. That UMSU offers solidarity and support to intersex students at the University of Melbourne.

#### Actions:

1. That UMSU officially affirms the Darlington Statement (linked above).
2. Directs the President to write to the Vice-Chancellor Duncan Maskell, encouraging the university to affirm the statement, and requesting they distance themselves from correction surgeries.
3. Directs the President and the Queer Officers to release a joint statement on the rights of intersex students.

Moved: Ciara O’Sullivan

Seconded: Andie Moore

CARRIED

## Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020

### 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 19(20)

1. UMSU condemns the Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020 introduced by Mark Latham in its entirety.
2. UMSU condemns the NSW police for their brutality and crackdown on peaceful protests.
3. Directs the UMSU President to share this motion, as well as the Community Action for Rainbow Rights (CARR) Fighting Fund (basically, a gofundme to help protestors pay fines) through the Presidents News. ([https://www.gofundme.com/f/73xau-community-action-forrainbow-rights-fightingfund?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link&utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_campaign=p\\_lico+hare-sheet](https://www.gofundme.com/f/73xau-community-action-forrainbow-rights-fightingfund?utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_lico+hare-sheet)) and donate \$500 from Whole of Union to this.
4. Asks all members of Students Council to sign the CARR petition against the Bill <https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/support-lgbtq-kids-stop-mark-latham-s-bill>

Moved: Ciara O’Sullivan

Seconded: Thonya Deverall

CARRIED

## Gender Affirmation

### 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – Meeting 1(21)

That Students’ Council:

- Reaffirms that one’s pronouns cannot be assumed from just their name or appearance;
- Provides space for trans, intersex, and gender diverse (TIGD) people to share their pronouns without fear of judgement;
- Produces a non-cisnormative and binary-normative environment where they/them pronouns and neopronouns are normalised; and
- Reaffirms that everyone has pronouns, not just TIGD people.

#### Actions:

1. UMSU reaffirms the position that all people, regardless of gender identity, have pronouns.
2. UMSU will make it the policy that all email signature templates provided by the university will include the pronouns of the person/s signing the email alongside their names. The person/s signing the email may have the discretion to change or remove these.
3. UMSU OBs and Councillors are encouraged to apply these principles to other forms of personal introduction, such as names displayed on Zoom and other online meeting platforms.

Moved: Amy Bright  
CARRIED

Seconded: Laura Ehrensperger

### **2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 – Meeting 14(21)**

- Re-affirms its support for Transgender and Gender Diverse rights and its absolute opposition to transphobia.
- Calls upon the University to remove [clause 4.7 of the Gender Affirmation Policy], and further consult with the UMSU Queer Office Bearers, the National Tertiary Education Union, the GSA LGBTI+ Officer, and the Pride in Action Committee on appropriate implementation planning.
- Strongly believes that a Gender Affirmation Policy is necessary, and condemns criticism of the policy that is predicated on implications to the contrary.

Moved: Amy Bright  
CARRIED

Seconded: Laura Ehrensperger

## **Monash Council cancelling Drag Story Time**

### **19 May 2023 – Meeting 10(23)**

- UMSU calls upon local and state councils to develop more rigorous safety protocols for LGBTQIA+ workshops.
- UMSU condemns the cancellation of queer events, including but not limited to those cancelled by Monash City Council and the City of Casey Council, as it gives into the demands of alt-right bigots.
- UMSU Stands in solidarity with drag performers and demands that they be paid in full despite cancellation of these events
- UMSU recognises the importance of anti-fascist and queer activists counter-protesting far right bigots.

Moved: Rhoda Lewis Miller  
CARRIED

Seconded: Lola Bowers

## **Religious Discrimination Bill**

### **13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Meeting 4(20)**

- UMSU opposes the religious discrimination bill.
- UMSU supports the Rainbow Rebellion movement.
- UMSU recognises that the Australian political system upholds the oppression of LGBTQI people, and that political parties, as well as the system itself are subject to criticism.

Actions:

- UMSU will provide material support to all future Rainbow Rebellion protests.
- UMSU will promote all future Rainbow Rebellion protests, on campus and on social media.

Moved: Lucas Brenning-Halsall

Seconded: Jack Buksh

CARRIED

## Safe Schools

### 17th March 2016 - Meeting 6(16)

UMSU's student council supports the Safe School Coalition and recognises its important role in working with staff and students in creating a safe and inclusive environment for same sex attracted, intersex and gender diverse students, staff and parents.

Moved: Akira Boardman

Seconded: James Bashford

CARRIED

## Sex Workers and Trans People

### 25th May 2017 - Meeting 10(17)

That the President release a statement reaffirming UMSU's commitment to including sex workers and trans people in decision making that affects them, supporting their right to bodily and political autonomy and condemning any activism or ideology on or off campus that does not include, support and respect these communities.

Moved: Cassandra Prigg

Seconded: Lizzie Nicholson

*Against: Jesse Krause*

*Abstained: Gavin Sittampalam*

CARRIED

## Same-Sex Marriage Postal Survey

### 15th August 2017 - Meeting 15(17)

1. In recent days, after a second failed attempt to move a plebiscite on marriage equality in the Senate, the Coalition government has authorised a postal survey asking Australians on the electoral roll for their opinion as to whether the law should be amended to allow marriage equality.
2. This policy--a policy that nobody wants--asks a question nobody (except conservatives in the government) believes should be answered by the public. It will deliver a result that will sway nobody and have no legal authority to implement marriage equality in Australia.
3. Instead of simply allowing a free vote in the Parliament, the government has instead persisted with this policy--a costly, unnecessary ballot with massive consequences for a vulnerable community.

4. The pain this survey will cause LGBTI Australians and LGBTI young people especially can already be seen. Lyle Shelton, the head of the Australian Christian Lobby, is calling children of LGBTI Australians "the stolen generation". Politicians such as Pauline Hanson and George Christensen are implying unfounded and malicious slippery slopes,
5. linking marriage equality to polygamy, bestiality, and pedophilia. This has happened, and will continue to happen throughout this process, causing direct harm to LGBTI Australians young and old, as studies of the Irish experience have shown.
6. In recent days, the prospect of a boycott to delegitimize the postal survey has been raised in several quarters. Polling indicates that, in the event of a postal survey or plebiscite, that 15% of LGBTI Australians would prefer a boycott, whilst more than half would prefer a 'yes' campaign. Given the community's preference, UMSU should seek to bolster the yes case, rather than pursue a boycott that may play into the hands of 'no' advocates.
7. Aims 1 and 7 of this student union are clear as to what our position must be. This postal survey has already unleashed and will continue to unleash hatred and trauma upon a vulnerable community. We must do everything in our power as a student union to ensure that we beat back the tide and ensure that a resounding vote of yes is returned, so that marriage equality may become law in this country.

Actions:

1. That UMSU condemns the divisive, hurtful and unnecessary marriage postal survey as an unrepresentative and damaging policy by a government who could legislate for marriage equality tomorrow, if it so wished;
2. That UMSU nonetheless urges all students to enrol to vote, to update their address, and to vote for marriage equality;
3. That UMSU strongly encourages all Office Bearers to promote the same and enable students to do so as such at their events, in their collectives and through their communications with students;
4. That UMSU strongly promotes those events and others seeking to enrol students and update their details, and shares a link to enrol across appropriate social media platforms once immediately, and once just before or on August 24th;
5. That UMSU publicise on social media channels and at postal survey-related events resources for those affected by the postal survey, provided by either UMSU or the University, including but not limited to resources for queer students and mental health resources, as collated by the President, General Secretary, Queer Officers or other relevant Officers and Staff;
6. That these publications additionally be regularly published in the same way with accompanying reminders to vote, once every fortnight beginning on September 12th, and ending as close as practicable to November 7th; and
7. That the President direct the General Manager to ensure that these publications begin, alongside reminders to enrol or vote as appropriate, as soon as possible, but no later than September 12th for voting reminders, and no later than August 23rd for enrolment

reminders.

Moved: Daniel Beratis

Seconded: MJ Simkiss

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Transphobia

### 17th August 2016 - Meeting 14(18)

UMSU condemns the transphobic speaking tour being organised by the extreme conservative Australian Family Association (AFA).

The tour features Quentin Van Meter, who has notoriously claimed that transgender people are delusional and that surgeries to aid transition amounts to child abuse. The AFA has a history of campaigning against the rights of LGBTI people, the right to abortion, and against the Safe Schools program.

These disgusting views have no place in our society.

The growth of far-right politics in Australia can be keenly felt in this moment.

Fraser Anning has just spoken in parliament calling for a “final solution” to the immigration “problem” that right wing politicians have invented. The March For Men, organised by notorious sexist and racist Sydney Watson, will take place in Melbourne next week.

The Van Meter speaking tour is another grotesque example of this trend.

UMSU stands in opposition to transphobia and condemns the views represented by this tour.

*Action:*

UMSU will take a photograph showing opposition to this tour.

Moved: Desiree Cai

Seconded: Jacob Sacher

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 10th March 2023 - Meeting 5(23)

That UMSU:

1. Opposes the Australian and New Zealand tour of far right and transphobic British commentator Kellie-Jay Keen ‘Posie-Parker’.
2. UMSU endorses National Union of Students ‘Fight the Right: protest the speaking tour of right-wing UK transphobe Kellie-Jay Keen’ Rally.

Moved: Sam Rathnaweera

Seconded: Mehul Gopalakrishnan

CARRIED

### 24th March 2023 - Meeting 6(23)

- UMSU Condemns Victoria police for their protection of Nazis.
- UMSU condemns Victoria police for their brutality against trans activists and allies during the [Fight the Right: protest the speaking tour of right-wing UK transphobe Kelly-Jay

Keen] protest.

- UMSU opposes the far-right national socialist network and their activity.
- UMSU stands in solidarity with trans activists and allies and endorses action against 'Posie Parker'.
- UMSU condemns the far - right attacks on LGBTQI+ protestors in Sydney.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Seconded: Leslie Ho

CARRIED



# RACISM

## Black Lives Matter

### June 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Meeting 12(20)

- UMSU stands in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter protestors in America and internationally.
- UMSU condemns the US state and its police forces for their violence against protestors and the media as actions indicative of an authoritarian regime not a democracy.
- UMSU recognizes the protests as a justified and necessary response to the centuries of ongoing systematic oppression of African American people and people of colour in America.
- UMSU recognizes that we belong to an institution (The University of Melbourne) and state (Australia) built on colonialism, imperialism and white supremacy and as such have no right to criticize the ways in which oppressed people choose to protest their oppression.
- UMSU stands in solidarity with the No Deaths in Custody Protesters in Australia.
- UMSU condemns Scott Morison and all others who seek to erase the suffering and oppression experienced by First Nations people within Australia, particularly at the hands of the Australian Criminal “Justice” System.
- UMSU demands that the Victorian and Federal Government immediately put in place the recommendations of the Royal Commission 1991 into Indigenous Deaths in Custody.

#### Actions:

All UMSU departments will post this motion on their social media platforms.

Moved: Thonya Deverall

Seconded: Jessie Ferrari-Thomas

CARRIED

## Indian Student Assault

### 3rd June 2009 - Meeting 13(09)

The University of Melbourne Student Union strongly condemns the racist attacks on Indian students.

We condemn the appalling response by the Victorian Police to the attacks in denying the racist nature of the attacks and blaming the victims.

We also condemn the National Labour Party Students for not seriously addressing the real issues of racism in Australia and ignoring the demands of Indian Students.

We also condemn the federal and state governments for failing to address the concerns of Indian Students and for fostering racism through their treatment of international students.

We call on the government to provide:

- Adequate funding for support services for international students. This includes housing and employment services, counselling, translation etc.
- Affordable and livable housing for students near universities so they are not forced to live in the outer suburbs.
- Increase staff at train stations and on trains, and increased lighting and surveillance cameras.
- Transport concession cards for all international students.

Moved: Frances Lewis	Seconded: Liam Byrne
<i>For: 6</i>	<i>Against: 0</i> <i>Abstentions: 11</i>
CARRIED	

## Indian University Application Bans

### 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Meeting 9(23)

Victoria University, The University of Wollongong, Southern Cross University, Torrens University and Edith Cowan University have placed a ban on applicants from several Indian states including Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujrat. The University of Wollongong in March increased the conditions on entry requirements for students from and India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Nigeria.

The justification provided for these decisions by the Department of Home Affairs is that applications from these countries pose a high risk of being non-genuine. The thin veneer of legitimation this supposed risk provides in no way justifies the overreaction. Excluding students based simply on where they come from is racist, students have a right to education regardless of their circumstances and cultural background.

UMSU has always stood against discrimination and racism and will continue to do so.

1. That UMSU condemns the behaviour of the universities named in the preamble for the discrimination against Indian students.
2. UMSU stands in solidarity with the students who are victims of these scams conducted.
3. UMSU urges the university to not adopt these measures and to call on other universities to stop the racist measures.
4. To direct the President, General Secretary and POC Officer to release a statement on this issue.

Moved: Disha Zutshi	Seconded: Hiba Adam
CARRIED	

## Islamic Prayer Spaces

### 18th of March 2009 - Meeting 5(09)

In 2007 Melbourne University demolished the Islamic prayer space on campus without guaranteeing another space for Islamic students to practice their faith. UMSU played a key role, through the submissions process, alongside the Islamic Students Society in ensuring that a space would eventually be guaranteed on campus for Islamic Students. RMIT has taken away the Islamic prayer room on their campus and have refused to provide any other facilities for the use of Islamic Students. UMSU condemns this racist attack and supports the campaign at RMIT for an Islamic prayer room. UMSU:

1. Condemns RMIT for refusing to return the Islamic prayer room for use by Islamic Students.
2. Endorses the 'Right the Wrong, Return the Prayer Room' campaign being conducted by the Islamic Society at RMIT.
3. Endorses the Public Protest to "Give us a Fair Go, Right the Wrong! Return the Prayer Room! will be held on Monday 23rd March 2009 on Bowen St from 2pm onwards with a march to the state library and VC office.
4. Endorses any demonstrations, forums, or other actions that the RMIT Islamic students hold as a part of this campaign. Students' Council directs the UMSU President to submit this motion in a press release to all major media outlets, and to write a letter to Professor Margaret Gardener AO, the Vice Chancellor of RMIT, expressing our support for the Islamic Prayer room at RMIT to be returned to the Islamic Students.

Moved: Frances Lewis

Seconded: Liam Byme

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – Meeting 12(22)

UMSU stands with MSA and the Monash Islamic society in their fight for adequate prayer spaces for Muslim students.

UMSU supports the ongoing pray-in protests held by Muslim students at Monash until a solution is met.

UMSU condemns Monash University management actions and their failure to meet Muslim student needs.

UMSU calls on Monash university to work proactively with MSA and Monash University Islamic society to establish new and suitable prayer facilities as required.

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

## Labor Party

### 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – Meeting 4(20)

- UMSU recognises that both major parties of the Australian government perpetuate racism.
- UMSU recognises that the Australian Labor Party has a racist history and continues to uphold Australian nationalism through racist policy and rhetoric.
- UMSU condemns racism from the Labor Party under all circumstances.

Moved: Shirley Killen

Seconded: Emma Dynes

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Say No to Racism

That UMSU:

1. UMSU opposes all messages of racism, islamophobia, xenophobia, and fascism.
2. UMSU supports all Muslim students to feel comfortable to express their religion and cultural identity at university.
3. UMSU stands against antisemitism and all other forms of racism.
4. UMSU will always oppose fascist movements, on and off campus.

Moved: Lia Vassiliadis

Seconded: Molly Willmott

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## We Must Act Against Anti-Semitism

### 22nd March 2018 - Meeting 6(18)

1. Antisemitism is often dismissed as a phenomenon of the past, both in public debate and academic discourse. People mistakenly assume that anti-Semitism is merely historical. The opposite of this is true. 2017 saw a 9.5% rise\* in recorded anti-Semitic incidents and a huge increase in anti-Semitic activity occurring on campuses across Australia.
2. \*Executive Council of Australian Jewry 2016-2017 Report of Anti-Semitism in Australia (<http://www.ecaj.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/ECAJ-AntisemitismReport-2017.pdf>)
3. One such example is the incident which occurred at the University of Melbourne on the first day of the semester. Two men were seen handing out discriminatory leaflets. They allegedly called one student a “faggot” and were seen spitting in front of another student who identified herself as Jewish after she was questioned about her ethnicity.
4. In an increasingly hostile campus environment, it is becoming increasingly difficult to

ensure the safety and security of Jewish students. It is vital that the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU), the peak representative body for students at the university, acknowledges and acts to prevent the rise in anti-Semitism, consistent with the motion passed by the National Union of Students in December 2017.

Actions:

1. UMSU condemns anti-Semitism in all its forms as defined by the globally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition. This is the working definition used by both Australian and international Jewish representative bodies. This is also the definition that was adopted by the National Union of Students on 14 December 2017. It states that: “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities”.
2. UMSU commits to working with the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS), as the peak representative body for Jewish students on campus in Australia and New Zealand, to ensure UMSU activist spaces, events and protests are inclusive and welcoming of Jewish voices and perspectives.
3. UMSU will formally recognise and publicise January 27, as designated by the United Nations General Assembly, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day; and work with AUJS in either partnering or sharing material designed to educate and commemorate the atrocities of the Holocaust.

Moved: Raf Ungar

Seconded: Jacob Sacher

CARRIED

# STUDENT UNIONISM

## Adelaide University SRC

### 11th March 2022 - 4(22)

1. UMSU condemns the right-wing, anti-democratic attacks on the Adelaide Uni SRC.
2. UMSU recognizes the importance of campus activism and opposes all efforts to stifle campus activism and unionism.
3. UMSU will sign on to the Adelaide Uni SRC statement to defend student union democracy: <https://www.facebook.com/adelaidesrc/posts/255109323461311> and share this statement on social media.

Moved: Shirley Killen

Seconded: Emma Dynes

CARRIED

## Condemning NUS Motions Impinging on Freedom of Political Association

### 23rd July 2017 - Meeting 12(12)

Students' Council condemns the motions passed at the NUS Education Conference [motions included condemning representatives for visiting Israel and banning students from the Liberal Party], as being contrary to the freedom of political association, and the principles of democracy and liberty, the foundations upon which UMSU is built, and which the Students' Council as the representative body of the wider Melbourne student community are charged to uphold.

Moved: Justin Boyd

Seconded: Stephen Smith

*FOR: Matthew Lesh, James Duncan, Charlie Cartney, Chris Jermyn, Bridget Bourke, Justin Boyd (6)*

*AGAINST: Jeremy Gibson (1)*

*ABSTENTION: Adam Galvin, Hana Dalton, Sarina Murray, Annalivia Carli Hannan, Jess Evans, Belinda O'Connor, Maddee Clark (7)*

CARRIED

## Deakin University Student Association Representation

### 13th August 2015 - Meeting 19(15)

1. UMSU Students' Council reaffirms its support for the democratic and autonomous representation of marginalised student groups in their student union.
2. UMSU Students' Council calls upon the Deakin University Student Association to establish autonomously and democratically elected representatives with full voting rights on the DUSA Committee of Management, bringing DUSA into line with the majority of other student organisations in Australia.

3. UMSU further encourages the implementation of affirmative action in multi-member committees and councils.
4. Students' Council direct the President, in consultation with the Wom\*ns' and Queer officers, to write to the President of DUSA to communicate council's position.
5. UMSU also encourages DUSA to look toward establishing a disabilities department in the spirit of democratic and autonomous representation.

Mover: James Bashford

Seconded: Allison Ballantyne

CARRIED

## Enhancing Transparency, Governance, and Student Well-being in National Union of Students (NUS) Conferences

### 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023 - Meeting 12(23)

UMSU proposes the following actions to address and improve transparency, governance, and student well-being within NUS conferences:

*Enhance communication and governance:*

1. Plan the conference three months in advance of the chosen date.
2. Regularly update the NUS website with conference updates.
3. Distribute all conference information ten days prior to the conference dates.
4. Evaluate the workshop processes at the conference to encourage quality workshops that align with the aims of the conference.
5. Establish comprehensive union registration for all conferences.
6. Prepare a report summarizing key takeaways and goals after each NUS conference.
7. Establish a key contact person for all questions and concerns.
8. Publish NUS annual NUS financial reports detailing all funding streams and costs for financial transparency on NUS website.
9. Organise feedback surveys for all attendees of conferences that determine composition of conference (university, age, degree etc)

*Foster student wellbeing:*

1. Provide an overview of the reporting and enforcement procedures for student complaints.
2. Provide safe spaces for students and clearly mention where these are in all conferences.

Council requests all Factions:

1. Ensure all members are aware of the code of conduct and its consequences for violations.

*To be considered by UMSU:*

1. Improve the budgeting process by increasing UMSU office bearers' awareness of their department's objectives and how these objectives should guide their budgetary decisions.
2. To require the Education Department, provide post conference reports to council.

In presenting this motion, UMSU aims to foster an inclusive, transparent, and respectful environment within the NUS and its conferences, promoting the best interests and well-being of all students across Australia. We hope that by implementing these actions, the NUS will be better equipped to serve its constituents effectively and responsibly.

Moved: Carlos Lagos Martin

Seconded: Mary Chan

CWD

## National Day of Action

### 7th April 2022 6(22)

1. UMSU supports the National Day of Action called for by the National Union of Students and the Naarm contingent co-organised by the UMSU Education Department.
2. UMSU endorses the five key demands of the NUS National Day of Action:
  - a. Oppose the corporate university- Stop course and staff cuts, stop the commercialisation of research funding.
  - b. Free Education- No fees for students, abolish all HECS debt and provide a livable income to students.
  - c. Secure Jobs for All University Staff- offer all casual staff conversion to permanent contracts, increase per-student time allocated for marking and lesson prep, and offer all academic staff the opportunity to work within the 40/40/20 model.
  - d. Leave our unions alone! - full, autonomous, democratic student control over student affairs and funding - no corporatisation or management moonlighting as student advocates/service providers.
  - e. Support staff industrial action- Support staff demands and abolish antistrike laws which prevent university staff from taking industrial action.

Moved: Benjamin Jarick

Seconded: Ngaire Bogemann

CARRIED

## Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Student Guild

### 22nd March 2021 - Meeting 5(21)

The University of Melbourne Students Union (UMSU) condemns QUT's decisions to continue online content delivery and stands in solidarity with the QUT Guild and QUT students.

QUT students have called a protest to demand the university provide quality education. Protests like this are essential to defending and improving student conditions, and they should continue until students' demands are met.

Moved: Sristhi Chatterjee

Seconded: Allen Xiao

CARRIED



## SDA

### 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Meeting 18(20)

UMSU condemns the leadership of the SDA union and its reactionary politics.

Moved: Charlie Joyce

Seconded: Gurpreet Singh

*DISSENT: JOSHUA BRUNI*

CARRIED

## Student Support Staff Strikes

### 19 May 2023 – Meeting 10(23)

#### Platform:

- UMSU endorses the Students Support Staff Strikes campaign, which aims to bring together as many students as possible to build support for the staff strikes campaign.

#### Action:

- UMSU will actively raise awareness about the Student Support Staff Strikes Campaign among the student body. This will include disseminating information through various channels, such as social media platforms, public forums, sending emails before every strike action, printing posters and leaflets, and other measures to ensure that students are informed about the objectives of the campaign and how they can support it.

- UMSU will organize and participate in solidarity actions to demonstrate support for the staff Student Support Staff Strikes Campaign. UMSU will place particular focus on mobilising students on the days of staff strikes.

Moved: Carlos Lagos

Seconded: James Gallagher

CARRIED

## Sydney College Of the Arts

### 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 - Meeting 16(16)

UMSU expresses its solidarity with the students at SCA and roundly condemns Vice Chancellor Michael Spence and USyd administrators for pressing this neoliberal attack. It is evident that no lessons have been learned after VC Spence and his ilk were made to back down on fee deregulation after massive student opposition.

The Council resolves to:

- i. support the LET SCA STAY campaign and its demands, and stands in solidarity with the occupiers and their supporters;
- ii. communicate this support publicly on social media, including Facebook and the weekly UMSU email digest;

- iii. donate a proposed \$200 to the occupation fund;
- iv. call upon the National Union of Students to affirm the LET SCA STAY demands and provide financial support;
- v. remain vigilant against similar tactics employed by UniMelb administrators in the Business Improvement Program, the Flexible Academic Program, and the impending demolition of Union House under the Student Precinct development project.

Moved: Akira Boardman

Seconded: Anneke D'emanuele

CARRIED

## Transparency At the National Conference

### 12th November 2015 - Meeting 26(15)

1. That Students Council reaffirms our commitment to accountability, transparency, and accessibility for all events, including off campus organisations we financially contribute to.
2. That Students Council calls on our elected delegates to, if a motion comes up, to oppose any motion which would prohibit student journalists from covering the NUS National Conference.

Moved: Pat Dollard

Seconded: Andrea Bozic

*FOR: Itsi Weinstock, Danielle Bagnato, Pat Dollard, Lachlan Gell, Steven Connolly, Lachlan McCall, Joshua Rose (for Stephen Mitas) (7)*

*AGAINST: Nil (0)*

*ABSTENTIONS: Destan Dikbas (1)*

CARRIED

# TRANSPORT

## Concession Cards

### 28th July 2009 - Meeting 15(09)

That the University of Melbourne Student Union Students' Council endorses the Melbourne wide Concession Cards Coalition and its demands for transport concession cards for international and postgraduate students.

Moved: Tim Arnot

Seconded: Josh Schmidt

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## East West Link

### 17th December 2013 - Meeting 23(13)

That Students' Council formally oppose the construction of the East West Link and call on the Victorian Government to invest instead in public transport, and that the UMSU President advocate to the University that it adopts a similar position.

Moved: Alexander Sheko

Seconded: John Lester

CARRIED

## Fares Fair PTV Campaign

### 21st April 2016 - Meeting 6(16)

Victoria is the only state in Australia where full-time post-graduate students are not entitled to a public transport concession card. The Graduate Student Association is currently running a campaign, Fares Fair PTV, to get the Victorian Government to entitle all full-time postgraduate students to a public transport concession card.

The University of Melbourne Student Union recognises the basis of this entitlement is inconsistent with the rules applied to other students and is unfair.

The University of Melbourne Student Union endorses the Fares Fair PTV campaign and commits to actively promoting it.

Moved: Kelly Smith

Seconded: Zachary Power

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Public Transport Amendment Act Of 2007

### 31st March 2009 - Meeting 6(09)

UMSU recommends the abolishment of section 2.20DA of the 'public transport amendment act of 2007' on the grounds that it unfairly discriminates against postgraduate and international students.

Moved: Tristan Clack

Seconded: Frances Lewis

CARRIED

## University Station

### 25th August 2016 - Meeting 15(16)

UMSU supports the University of Melbourne's proposal to name the new Melbourne Metro Train Station located on Grattan Street the aptly named 'University Station'. That Students' Council establishes the principle that we include the name Union or a derivative of in the new Student Precinct.

Moved: Tyson Holloway-Clarke

Seconded: Daniel Sango

CARRIED

# UMSU SERVICES

## Bar

### 30 July 2015 - Meeting 18(15)

1. That Students' Council reaffirms its commitment to student control of student affairs/services.
2. That Students' Council recognises UMSU's reliance on its allocation of SSAF from the University, and the vulnerability this creates for a post-SSAF environment; Students Council recognises that we ought to be working towards alternative revenue streams/commercial outlets, as many other unions have.
3. That Students' Council recognises that the most effective way to run a popular bar for students is to allow students to make key decisions around its operation.
4. That the Students' Council approves, in principle, an UMSU-run café and bar in Level 1 space overlooking North Court.

Moved: Rather Withers

Seconded: Hana Dalton

*Abstentions: Steven Connolly*

CARRIED

## Book Co-Op

### 28th July 2009 - Meeting 15(09)

That Students' Council endorses and supports the establishment and operation of the UMSU Book Cooperative.

Moved: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Seconded: Adelaide Rief

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Clubs & Societies Endorsements

### 30 March 2010 - Meeting 5(10)

That both the Socialist Alternative Club affiliated to UMSU, and the Socialist Alternative Organisation be informed that they may not put up posters or distribute material that states that they are supported or in any way endorsed by UMSU without following due process of seeking approval of Students' Council or relevant departmental committees.

Moved: Shaun Khoo

Seconded: Kon Moisisdis

*For: 11*

*Against: 5*

CARRIED

### **30 March 2010 - Meeting 5(10)**

That no club or group or society should ever say 'supported by UMSU' if not supported via due process.

Moved: Esther Bohmer

Seconded: Joshua Anderson

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## **Events**

### **8th May 2012 - Meeting 8(12)**

That UMSU supports the right of departments to run social and educational events for the benefit of students.

Moved: Anna Morrison

Seconded: James Baker

CARRIED

## **Office Bearer Conduct**

### **30 March 2010 - Meeting 5(10)**

That the UMSU Constitution exists to:

*'Promote and defend the rights of Students to education on the basis of equality without regard to race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, political, religious or ideological conviction, or national or social origin'*

As such, the office bearers of UMSU are reminded that they, as holders of office, have a duty to operate under these values.

In this we recognise that:

- all UMSU Office-Bearers have a right to a workspace in which they are not subjected to bullying, discrimination, harassment;
- the UMSU Office should be a safe space for Office-Bearers and their guests, free from intimidation;
- UMSU Office-Bearers are responsible for the behaviour of their guests while in the UMSU Office;

Students' Council compels that UMSU Office-Bearers:

- treat each other with respect and courtesy at all times;
- undertake to ensure that the UMSU Office is a space that is free of bullying, discrimination and harassment; and uphold the values of UMSU as outlined above;
- ensure that any guests to their Offices behave in a way that does not compromise the above;

- make every possible effort to resolve any issues that arise due to incidents in the UMSU Office by opening a dialogue with the other Office-Bearer(s) involved in the matter.

Moved: Lydia Bevege

Seconded: Jesse Overton-Skinner

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Melbourne Student Forum

### 10th March 2023 - Meeting 5(23)

The University of Melbourne has recently announced the establishment of a Melbourne Student Forum (MSF), a focus group that aims to listen to student voices. While UMSU supports all efforts made by the University to engage with students, we believe that the MSF has no application to all significant decisions and consultation at the University. As a well-established democratic representative body with over 55000 member and 100 democratically elected student representatives, UMSU believes that it is the only legitimate voice of students at the University of Melbourne.

Furthermore, UMSU is concerned that the MSF has the potential to undermine the voice of students instead of amplifying them. As a university-initiated and led process, it may be used in ways that displace student led initiatives. UMSU believes that this is against the “students as partners” model that the university has previously put forward. We welcome a statement from the University clarifying its position on this matter.

UMSU is also concerned that the establishment of the MSF may be part of a wider move in the tertiary sector to displace democratically elected student representation. We do not want the University to pick who speaks for us – we want to choose and keep democratic student representation alive.

UMSU calls upon the University to unequivocally and publicly state its respect for student democracy at the University of Melbourne and its willingness to partner with UMSU to elevate the voices of students.

1. Ensure student democracy is respected and maintained at the University of Melbourne.
2. Enhance existing structures that are genuinely student led.
3. Consolidate or complement the MSF with existing structures to provide genuine student-university partnerships.
4. Prevent any moves to displace democratically elected student representation and ensure that UMSU remains the legitimate voice of students at the University of Melbourne.

Moved: Carlos Lagos Martin

Seconded: Mary Kin Chan

CARRIED

## Satellite Campus Events

### 1st December 2015 - Meeting 1(16)

That all UMSU Departments are required to have at least one event or a specific campaign at a non-Parkville campus per semester.

Moved: Martin Dittmann

Seconded: James Baker

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## SSAF

### 15th July 2015 - Meeting 17(15)

That UMSU Students' Council:

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the SSAF as a means of supporting student representation, student centered services and student activities on campus.
2. Expresses its qualified support for the University's plans to use a portion of its unallocated SSAF funds to create and upgrade study spaces, with the following conditions.
  - a. That the University provides for adequate student representation on any decision-making body relevant to the planning of study spaces funded by SSAF. Such student representation shall involve UMSU representatives including, but not limited to, the President, General Secretary, Education (Academic Affairs) Officer/s and Welfare Officer/s.
  - b. That the University commits to establishing guidelines for the distribution and use of unallocated SSAF funds in future, ensuring that UMSU is represented in this process.

Moved: Hana Dalton

Seconded: Rachel Withers

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 6th October 2015 - Meeting 23(15)

That the Council reaffirms in the strongest possible terms its wholehearted support for the SSAF and endorses any campaigns seeking to raise the profile of, and support for, both the SSAF and student unionism more broadly.

This includes the endorsement of campaigns from the National Union of Students and other student organisations to this effect.

Furthermore, the Council condemns any move to return to a system of VSU, which saw student organisations, and by extension student life, welfare, advocacy, and campus culture, suffer throughout the Howard era.

Moved: Conor Serong

Seconded: Rachel Withers

CARRIED



### **1st December 2016 - Meeting 1(16)**

1. UMSU Students' Council reaffirms its support for the Student Services Amenities Fee and declares its opposition to any moves that would require annual ballots to approve the existence of SSAF and the catastrophic uncertainty this would cause.
2. UMSU reaffirms its commitment to student control of student affairs.
3. UMSU Students' Council believes that student organisations should directly receive a large percentage of SSAF to ensure students have maximal say over how the SSAF is spent; students should always be consulted on the breakdown of the SSAF between organisations.
4. UMSU commits to work with the National Union of Students, National Tertiary Education Union and Universities to campaign in defense of the SSAF.
5. Students' Council directs that all publications (including Farrago), designs and communications from across the organisation, including student representative and staffing departments, are to clearly display a "Funded by SSAF" logo or slogan where relevant, to ensure students are informed of the benefits of their SSAF contribution.

Moved: James Bashford

Seconded: Akira Boardman

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### **27<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – Meeting 11(20)**

- UMSU opposes cost cutting methods that sacrifice staff and student conditions.
- UMSU recognises that the purpose of student unions is to fight for student rights, and therefore views funding cuts as attacks on the ability for students to organise against further attacks.
- UMSU vows to oppose and fight against cuts to funding of all student services, particularly cuts to UMSU itself.
- UMSU recognises voluntary student unionism was an attack on student unions, and that SSAF is not an adequate solution to this political problem. University administrations should not control student funds. UMSU reiterates its support for Universal Student Unionism.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Briana Symonds-Manne

CARRIED

## **Expanding Halal Food Options at UMSU**

### **31st January 2022 – Meeting 2(22) (first passed in March 2021 and reaffirmed in 2022)**

That Students' Council direct:

1. Direct all UMSU Departments (except Clubs & Societies) who intend to hold events expecting 15+ Attendees that serve primarily meat-based catering to have halal meat options for Muslim students.

2. Direct all UMSU Departments to establish a food labelling policy where food of ‘special dietary requirements’ (vegetarian, vegan, halal etc.) is clearly labelled as so, and this should extend to event promotional material, example, a BBQ poster having “vegetarian, vegan and halal options available” on it.

A grill be purchased to be solely used for halal food only (and be properly labelled as such).

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

# WELFARE

## 2023 Budget

### 19 May 2023 – Meeting 10(23)

Platform:

1. UMSU condemns the budget as inadequate to solving the cost-of-living crisis facing workers and students.

Moved: Julien Macandili

Seconded: Sam Rathnaweera

CARRIED

## Affordable Housing

### 10th March 2023 - Meeting 5(23)

2. UMSU endorses the National Union of Students' 'Get a Room - Students for Affordable Housing' campaign.
3. UMSU condemns the for-profit private student housing providers, all of whom take exorbitant amounts of students' money for poor-quality housing.
4. UMSU condemns the ridiculous prices of the University colleges, which puts an upward pressure on the cost of student housing.
5. UMSU stands in solidarity with Cherish Kuehlmann, UNSW Education Officer, who was arrested for leading a student housing protest at the Reserve Bank. UMSU calls for the NSW state government to drop all charges against her.

Moved: James Gallagher

Seconded: Amaya Castro Williams

CARRIED

## Cost-of-Living Crisis

### 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – Meeting 8(23)

1. UMSU endorses the National Union of Students May Day 'The People Versus The Rich' campaign.
2. UMSU condemns the state and federal Labor governments for their abandoning of students and workers during this current cost of living crisis.
3. UMSU condemns the federal Labor government's tax handouts to the wealthiest Australians, in the form of the stage 3 tax cuts and negative gearing offsets.

Moved: Lucy Kelly

Seconded: Bella Beiraghi

CARRIED

## Australian Unemployed Workers Union (AUWU) Support

### 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Meeting 14(20)

UMSU supports maintaining the current rate of Job Seeker, Youth Allowance, and other payments accessed by students.

UMSU supports the extension of welfare payments to permanent residents and international students permanently.

UMSU rejects the model of employment services in Australia as one dominated by for profit businesses who have no interest in providing employment services to those on welfare payments.

UMSU condemns the decision by the federal government to lower the rate of payments at the end of September.

UMSU condemns classism and the portrayal of welfare recipients in Australian media.

UMSU encourages other student and industry unions to support the campaigns of the AUWU and encourages them to fight for unemployed workers.

#### Action:

UMSU endorses the AUWU Mutual Obligations strike and will release a statement on their social media.

Moved: Noni Bridger

Seconded: Felix Sharkey

CARRIED

## Condemning Price-Gouging

### Friday 8 March 2024, 4(24)

1. That UMSU condemns the profiteering of supermarket companies like Coles and Woolworths.
2. That UMSU call on the government to seek closer collaboration with the relevant sector union, the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association, to ensure that retail, distribution and warehousing workers from the supermarkets are getting fair remuneration and benefits.

Moved: Raphael Duffy

Seconded: Bella Beiraghi

CARRIED

## Bendigo Street Occupation

### 25th August 2016 - Meeting 15(16)

3. UMSU stands in solidarity with the occupants of Parkville and Bendigo Street, which include victims of domestic violence, young children, and LGBT+ people. The majority of occupants have been battling homelessness for years due to lack of resources and

public stigma.

4. UMSU condemns both Victorian Housing Minister's actions in calling the police and trying to forcibly displace these people without offering them alternative accommodation, and the Housing Minister's current inaction that have led to a housing crisis where the incidents of homeless have increased by 74 percent in two years.

Moved: Lotus Ye

Seconded: James Bashford

CARRIED

## Condemnation Of Joe Hockey's Speech

### 24th April 2012 - Meeting 7(12)

That UMSU condemns Joe Hockey's statements [about welfare] and calls for a maintenance and expansion of student income support and the welfare state. That the Student Union lobby federal members in the lead up to the Federal Budget on Student Income Support and the Welfare State.

Moved: Carl LaRosa

Seconded: Jade Eckhaus

CARRIED

## Dignity For Public Housing Residents

### July 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Meeting 13(20)

UMSU stands in solidarity with these residents, whose mistreatment is reprehensible given that they are themselves the frontline workers hailed as heroes in a more naïve time.

UMSU advocates for more public housing, especially given the fact that the high incidence of transmission in these blocks was due to the cramped conditions and poor maintenance of facilities (a consequence of overcrowding) in the first place.

UMSU (once again) affirms that ACAB and all those who support them are too. Thuggery should not be the go-to response for public crises, and we instead call for the abolition of the police whose functions would be better performed by social workers in this case.

#### Action:

UMSU shall issue a statement expressing support for these residents and deplore this needlessly hostile response, signed, and shared by every department. Just as we condemned cops for invading our campus so too shall we defend the communities on our doorstep.

Students Council shall allocate \$5000 out of Whole of Union expenses to The Venny, a “free communal backyard” for vulnerable children in Kensington and is working directly with the families affected by the lockdown.

Students Council encourages all departments to find meaningful ways to take action on this issue – a union is nothing if it does not find ways to engage with and enrich its community.

Moved: Max Dowell

Seconded: Tejas Gandhi

CARRIED

## Living Incomes for Everyone (Life) Campaign

### 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020 – Meeting 14(20)

UMSU supports the following list of demands of the LIFE campaign:

1. Keep the Rate! NO cuts to JobSeeker and JobKeeper payments. JobKeeper direct to workers.
2. No-One Left Behind! Raise all other allowance payments and pensions (Aged Pension, Disability Support Pension, Youth Allowance and Carers Pension) to a minimum \$1100 per fortnight. Extend the JobSeeker and JobKeeper allowances to recent migrants, overseas workers and international students. Increase the minimum wage. Keep free childcare. Massive new investment in public and affordable housing.
3. End Harassment! For Social Security with Dignity. Abolish Mutual Obligation. End the Community Development Program (remote Work for the Dole) and forced income management provisions such as the Cashless Welfare Card and Basics Card. No return to Robodebts. Stop harassment by dodgy Job Providers. Public ownership and control of Social Security and Employment Services.

#### Action:

UMSU will communicate with LIFE its endorsement of the campaign and its demands. UMSU will post on its social media its endorsement of the LIFE campaign.

Moved: Charlie Joyce

Seconded: Noni Bridger

CARRIED

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS

## Abortion

### 3rd June 2009 - Meeting 13(09)

The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the right of all women to choose what happens to their bodies. UMSU stands with pro-choice protestors in Brisbane who are calling for the charges to be dropped. UMSU condemns these charges and demands they be dropped immediately, and abortion be decriminalised.

Moved: Chair

*Abstentions: 1*

CARRIED

### 17th December 2013 - Meeting 23(13)

1. That Students' Council congratulates and supports pro-choice activists for their lively counterdemonstration defending every woman's right to control their own body.
2. That Students' Council condemns those who attended the anti-woman, anti-choice 'March for the Babies'.
3. That Students' Council condemns the Melbourne University Liberal Club for attending the sexist, anti-choice 'March for the Babies' and reaffirms that UMSU stands against sexism.

Moved: Jade Eckhaus

Seconded: Jeremy Galvin

CARRIED

## Argentinian Legalisation of Abortion

### 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Meeting 5(20)

1. UMSU stands in solidarity with the activists of the abortion rights movement as it continues in Argentina.
2. UMSU fully supports the struggle for abortion rights in Australia including struggles against the Religious Exemptions Bill which will make it more difficult for women to have access to abortions.
3. UMSU stands against police brutality, state violence, and structural sexism around the world.

Moved: Hannah Krasovec

Seconded: Hannah Buchan

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## International Working Women's Day

### 20th February 2023 – Meeting 4(23)

- UMSU endorses the International Working Women's Day March on the 8th of March, 2023 as organised by We Are Union Women.
- UMSU commits to organising a contingent to the International Working Women's Day March to be led by the UMSU Women's Department.
- UMSU will promote the International Working Women's Day March on its social media and newsletter.
- UMSU acknowledges the increase in harmful TERF and SWERF presence at recent IWWD rallies, and reaffirms that UMSU stands against transphobia and discrimination against sex workers both at this event and within the femme liberation movement.

Moved: Alessandra Soliven

Seconded: Ngaire Bogemann

CARRIED

## Sexism

### 12th March 2021 - Meeting 4(21)

1. UMSU condemns the sexism entrenched by the Liberal Party and other institutions of the capitalist class, such as private schools and colleges.
2. UMSU calls for Christian Porter to be sacked as Attorney-General for his long history of sexist behaviour.
3. UMSU endorses the Women's March 4 Justice

Moved: Xavier Dupe

Seconded: Sian Tjia Hennessey

CARRIED



# WORLD ISSUES

## Chilean Students' Movement

### 24th April 2012 - Meeting 7(12)

That UMSU send a letter of solidarity and support to CONFECH and encourage NUS to do the same.

Moved: Patrick Alber

Seconded: Jeremy Gibson

*Abstentions: 2*

CARRIED

## Hong Kong Protests

### 29th July 2019 – Meeting 13(19)

1. UMSU expresses solidarity with the Hong Kong protestors, and with all Chinese people who face oppression and subjugation at the hands of the Chinese Communist government.
2. UMSU condemns the Chinese Communist government for its ongoing human rights abuses and efforts to undermine Hong Kong's independence, and the Carrie Lam Hong Kong government for betraying its own constituents.
3. UMSU will publish a notice expressing support for the Hong Kong protestors and students from Hong Kong who study at UniMelb in the next edition of Farrago.

Moved: Tim Lilly

Seconded: Joshua Bruni

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 8th July 2020 – Meeting 13(20)

UMSU condemns the University of Melbourne for advertising the Probationary Inspector job for the Hong Kong Police Force.

UMSU condemns the police brutality and crushing of pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong.

UMSU reaffirms its commitment to the freedom to protest, and opposition to all police brutality.

UMSU reaffirms its position of ACAB.

#### Actions:

UMSU calls on the University of Melbourne to remove the job listing, as it acts against the interests of democracy and human rights.

UMSU calls on the University of Melbourne to not advertise jobs in foreign police forces or militaries in the future.

Moved: Hannah Krasovec

Seconded: Gurpreet Singh

CARRIED

## India

### 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 – 3(20)

UMSU stands in solidarity with the students of Jamia Millia Islamia and Jawaharlal Nehru University at this time when they are being persecuted and attacked for raising their voices against injustice, and with the JNU Students' Union, for showing the continued courage of standing up for their rights in the face of intimidation and opposition.

UMSU condemns the violence being perpetrated against students on these campuses and calls for a systematic and unbiased investigation into the people and institutions responsible.

Moved: Andie Moore

Seconded: Lachlan Hines

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 – 1(21)

UMSU stands in solidarity with Indians across the world who are continuing protesting the tyrannical and bigoted Government of India.

UMSU extends solidarity to the present general strikes and marches across the country by Sikh and Dalit farmers, protesting against the corporatisation of land and crop revenue.

UMSU retracts the [23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 – Meeting 3(20)] motion calling the state of India oppressive and claiming that it is built on apartheid and genocide. UMSU recognises that the Union of India has a rich and diverse history and is built by hundreds of communities who worked together to achieve independence.

UMSU recognises the xenophobic nature of its earlier stance and apologises to all Indian students who were made to feel unsafe because of an ignorant decision made by the members of that Students' Council.

UMSU recognises that the present government of India is in no way equivalent to the Indian state and denounces all individuals who attempt to conflate the two.

UMSU condemns the actions of the ruling party which is a right-wing party in India, the actions of PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah condemning the actions and blatant and divisive political tactics that they have created in the largest democracy on earth. The recently passed law of Citizen's amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of citizens act (NRC) are dangerous, offensive and is based on xenophobic and Islamophobic attitudes and is a divisive and blatant attack on the minorities of India. India's current political standing and ruling party BJP is based on social oppression and racial injustice.

UMSU condemns Hindutva and all other form of Hindu Indian nationalism.

Moved: Archit Agarwal  
Chatterjee)

Seconded: Muskaan Hakhu (on behalf of Srishti

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Iran

### 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 – 3(20)

1. To unconditionally oppose war on Iran and further imperialist wars wherever they are.
2. To endorse the January 25<sup>th</sup> No War On Iran protest, organised by the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network and the Worker Student Alliance.
3. To commit to taking further action should war be escalated.

Moved: Gurpreet Singh

Seconded: Matthew Harper-Gomm

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 – Meeting 3(23)

UMSU stands in solidarity with the nationwide rebellion in Iran, recognising it as a popular democratic struggle of the masses of ordinary Iranians against the regime. We stand in solidarity with the efforts of student activists on campuses and condemn the state's brutal repression of protests. UMSU also stands in solidarity with workers across the country who are organising in independent trade unions and striking to fight for their demands. The struggle in Iran is an inspiration to everyone fighting against exploitation and oppression and we champion their demand for "women, life, freedom!"

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Sam Rathnaweera

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

### 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009 - Meeting 12(09)

The University of Melbourne Student Union condemns Israel's war on the population of Gaza. The University of Melbourne Student Union calls for Israel to lift the blockade of Gaza's borders and allow the passage of all food, fuel, and medical supplies. The University of Melbourne Student Union condemns the Australian Government and Western governments around the world for ignoring the plight of the Palestinian people.

Moved: Sadia Schneider

Seconded: Liam Byrne

*FOR: Josh Schmidt via Phoebe Kelloway, Phoebe Kelloway, Liam Byrne, Onagh Bishop via Dominique Ottobre, Dominique Ottobre Taylor Kendall and Dan Musil (7)*

*AGAINST: Goldie Pergl, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Kyle Dadleh, James Smith via Clinton Markwell, Clinton Markwell, John Shipp (6)*

*ABSTENTIONS: Brendan Thomas-Noone, Sisi Ying via Goldie Pergl and Rudolph Hosri (3)*

CARRIED

## Myanmar

### 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 - Meeting 3(21)

- UMSU affirms its solidarity with the citizen led government of Myanmar.
- UMSU stands against the military coup executed by Myanmar’s army and any form of militaristic and anti-democratic governments.
- UMSU urges the military to follow the rule of law, and to release those detained.
- UMSU supports all the civil servants who are participating in civil disobedience protest in Myanmar.

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Muskaan Hakhu

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## Sudan

### 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Meeting 9(23)

- UMSU stands in solidarity with the Sudanese community and calls for an end for the war in Sudan.
- UMSU maintains that this is not a civil war as this is a conflict between military and militia.
- UMSU calls on the Australian government to provide safe passage for citizens in Sudan as well as provide humanitarian-based visas for noncitizens.
- UMSU calls on the government to work with NGOs to provide medical aid and essential items for people in Sudan.
- UMSU condemns the military and rapid support forces militia and their attempts to destabilize civilian rule and maintains that the only legitimate Sudanese government is a civilian led one.

Moved: Hiba Adam

Seconded: Mohamed Hadi

CARRIED

## Wet’suwet’en Struggle in Canada

### 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Meeting 5(20)

UMSU recognises that the fight for environment is tied up with the fight for indigenous struggles particularly land rights.

UMSU recognises that the environment is an important mobilising issue for young people all around the world and commits to supporting and promoting climate activism in Melbourne.

UMSU stands in solidarity with the Wet-suwet-en struggle.

Moved: Nick Reich

Seconded: Emma Dynes

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

