

**University of Melbourne Student Union  
Meeting of the Students' Council  
Minutes**



**Thursday 16 April 2026, 12pm  
Special Meeting 1(26)**

**Location: Room 202, Building 168; Zoom (on request)**

**Meeting opened at 12:12 pm**

## 1. Procedural Matters

### 1.1. Election of Chair

Motion: That Lushy Chinganya be elected as Chair

Mover: Daniel Motika

Seconded: Catherine Duong

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

### 1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

### 1.3. Attendance

#### *Councillors*

Representatives on Students' Council	Full name	Attended?
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	Marc Khor	Yes
Students' Council Indigenous Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Catherine Duong	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Binderiya Batzorig	Yes
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Prayag Sethia	No
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Chengmin Shi	No
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	Matteo Bonson	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Bhavin Garg	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Amaya Castro Williams	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Riley Shepherd	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Hannah Roseman-Gannon	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Siddhant Subbaiah Belliappa	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	James Duncan	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Toby Putland	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Khush Shah	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Yasmeen Atieh	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Holly Kalns	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Somaya Qasimi	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Devashree Kathale	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Felicity Bayne	No

<b>Students' Council (General Representative)</b>	Mathilda Stewart	Yes
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*Office Bearers*

<b>Department</b>	<b>Full name</b>	<b>Attended?</b>
<b>President</b>	Lushomo Chinganya	Yes
<b>General Secretary</b>	Daniel Motika	Yes
<b>Activities Officer</b>	Saasha Vohra	Yes
<b>Burnley Campus Coordinator</b>	Ian Adams	No
<b>Creative Arts Officer</b>	Ethan McNeil	No
<b>Creative Arts Officer</b>	Yashesvi Verma	Yes
<b>Clubs &amp; Societies Officer</b>	Seamus Donnellan	No
<b>Clubs &amp; Societies Officer</b>	Alex Gwynn	No
<b>Disabilities Officer</b>	Maehula Datta	No
<b>Education (Academic Affairs) Officer</b>	Corbin Afanasyev	No
<b>Education (Academic Affairs) Officer</b>	Hesheya T Anandan	No
<b>Education (Public Affairs) Officer</b>	Hridey Kapoor	No
<b>Education (Public Affairs) Officer</b>	Rutvi Tolani	No
<b>Environment Officer</b>	Bella Beiraghi	Yes
<b>Environment Officer</b>	Kay Pritchard	No
<b>Indigenous Officer</b>	<i>Vacant</i>	
<b>Media Officer</b>	Maria Carolina Lourenco Quartel	No
<b>Media Officer</b>	Ruby Weir-Alarcon	No
<b>Media Officer</b>	Sabine Pentecost	No
<b>Media Officer</b>	Chiaki Chng	No
<b>People of Colour Officer</b>	Anyang Wal	No
<b>People of Colour Officer</b>	Chengyang (Eason) Gu	No
<b>Queer Officer</b>	Lytton Namawanda	No
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Tsun Ying (Cynthia) Wong	No
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Alexander Hams	Yes
<b>Women's Officer</b>	Manika Birmiwai	No
<b>Women's Officer</b>	Eya Takrouni	No
<b>Southbank Campus Co-ordinator</b>	Caleb Jarcevic	No
<b>Southbank Campus Co-ordinator</b>	Charlotte Dickinson	No
<b>Southbank Activities Officer</b>	Tirion Luff-White	No
<b>Southbank Education Officer</b>	Elizabeth Victoria Pardallis	Yes

Other: Sara Pheasant (UMSU CEO), Hana Arai (Student Representation Coordinator), Mary Kin Chan (Student Representation Coordinator, minute taker), Lachie James (Head of Student Impact), Maya Schildkraut (observer), Nathan Ben-David (observer), Martyn Cherian (proxy for Prayag Sethia), Corey Perkins (observer), Aidan O'Reilly (proxy for James Duncan), Zuhair Mobasshar (observer)

**1.4. Apologies****1.5. Proxies**

1.5.1. James Duncan to Aidan O'Reilly

1.5.2. Prayag Sethia to Martyn Cherian

**1.6. Leave of Absence Requests**

## 1.7. Membership

## 1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

## 2. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

## 3. Correspondence

## 4. Motions on Notice

### 4.1.

Platform:

That the UMSU Students' Council endorses the upcoming Students for Palestine Nakba Day Rally on Wednesday the 13th of May at 12pm at South Lawn.

Action:

- UMSU will promote the Nakba rally through the UMSU channels; the Presidents newsletter, the official UMSU Instagram account and the UMSU President's Instagram account.
- At the rally UMSU, in collaboration with UMSU Environment, will supply a sound system.

Bella Beiraghi, Environment Officer, exercised speaking rights as the mover. She gave context to the Nakba Day Rally, which marks the day of 15 May 1948 where many Palestinians were displaced from their homes, without the right to return.

Lushy Chinganya, UMSU President, ceded seconding rights as she could not participate in the discussion as Chair of the meeting.

Amaya Castro Williams, Council member, became seconder of the motion, but waived speaking rights.

Maya Schildkraut, representative of the Jewish Students' Society, exercised speaking rights. She spoke to the lived experience of Jewish Students' Society members and the Jewish student community on campus. These included reports of being harassed at, as well as being unsafe, unwelcome and insecure at the university. She emphasised that these are not subjective feelings but come from reported incidents. She acknowledges the intention of the motion, but noted that it does not dictate the motion's impact, particularly on Jewish students. She asked whether there are safeguards to protect students, and whether due diligence has been made before endorsing the rally.

Bella Beiraghi, Environment Officer, responded that the Nakba Day Rally is an anti-racism rally, meaning it is against all forms of racism including islamophobia and antisemitism. The focus of the rally is on acknowledgement of the displacement of

Palestinians, and human rights violations that have occurred in Gaza, West Bank, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory more broadly. There will be a disclaimer to explain this at the beginning of the rally.

Chair closed the speaking list.

Motion: To adopt the motion as presented.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Amaya Castro Williams

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

**5. Close**

**Meeting closed at 12:20pm**