


<p>University of Melbourne Student Union Meeting of the Students' Council Minutes Thursday 10 October 2024, 1pm Meeting 14(24) Location: Room 208, VIEPS Intensive Room, McCoy Building; Zoom (on request)</p>	
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Meeting opened at 1:14 pm

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Disha Zutshi be elected as Chair

Moved: Disha Zutshi Seconded: Leon Paratz

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT (CWD)

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	Wen Hao (Clement) Wu	Yes
Students' Council Indigenous Representative	Oskar Martin	Yes
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Sameeksha Mudigere Keshav	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Tianyi Yu	Yes
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Navyaa Jain	Yes
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Yashica Mishra	Yes
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	Hugh Collins	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Harrishman Shobanan	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	vaibhav girdhar	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Lucy Kelly	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Alessandra Grace Baggio Ward	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Leon Paratz	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Yash Sah	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Kunal Dewani	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Penelope Scacciante	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Pranav Gupta	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Anndrya Chua	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Ibrahim Muan Abdulla	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Rachael Hynds	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Giulia Massimini	No

Students' Council (General Representative)	Labdhi Gandhi	Yes
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Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Disha Zutshi	Yes
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Yes
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	No
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	No
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	Yes
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	No
Disabilities Officer	Morgan Sheather	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Della Johnston	No
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	No
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	No
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	Yes
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	Yes
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Noah Kellett	No
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	Yes
Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	Yes
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	Yes
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	No
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	No
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	Yes
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	Yes
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	No
Burnley Campus Coordinator	<i>Vacant</i>	N/A
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	No
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	Yes
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	No

Other: Mary Kin Chan (minute taker), observers * approximately 60, Fiona Sanders (C&S Coordinator), Sandy Hua (HR Coordinator), Simon Capraro (HR Manager)

1.4. Apologies

Office Bearers: Micaela Rynne, Hanny Teja

Sara Pheasant (CEO)

1.5. Proxies

1.5.1. Giulia Massimini to Lachie Eliau

Motion 2: To accept the proxy for this Council en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.6. Leave of Absence Requests

1.6.1. Office Bearers: Amy Peters, Raphael Duffy

Motion 3: That leave of absence be granted to Amy Peters and Raphael Duffy for this Council.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.7. Membership

1.7.1. Morgan Sheather and Della Johnston have been jointly appointed to the position of Disabilities Officer by the Disabilities Committee on 17 September 2024.

1.7.2. Noah Kellett has been elected to the position of Indigenous Officer as confirmed by the Electoral Tribunal on 1 October 2024.

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 4: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To discuss item 9.5 first

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

FAILED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. Minutes 13(24)

Motion 5: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Chair

Seconded: Harrishman Shobanan

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To discuss Motions on Notice first, then move on agenda items as usual

Moved: Emma Dynes

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

3.1. Kevin Li is a member of the Chinese Debating Group (CDG), the club that has submitted an appeal to this Council.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

Motion 12: To accept Luv Golecha as Tianyi Yu's proxy.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Motion 13: To accept Viraj as Labdhi's proxy.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Kevin Li recused himself from the meeting

5.1. C&S regulation changes proposed by C&S Committee (previously circulated)

Motion 13: To amend the C&S Regulations as proposed by the C&S Committee.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

5.2. Appeal against C&S Committee decision lodged under C15.1

Incoming C&S OB and current C&S Committee Member, Ewan Bezzobs, spoke to the agenda item. He explained that 16 out of 54 people should not have voted in the AGM of the Chinese Debating Group (CDG). The C&S Committee convened an emergency meeting just this past Monday, allowing CDG to void the non-compliant AGM, and to convene another AGM. Ewan noted that it would be a dangerous precedent for Council to uphold the appeal.

Motion 14: To uphold CDG's appeal.

Moved: Chair

Seconded: Viraj

CARRIED

6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Disha Zutshi	<i>Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	<i>Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	<i>Late</i>
Disabilities Officer	Morgan Sheather	<i>Late</i>
Disabilities Officer	Della Johnston	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	<i>Submitted</i>

Indigenous Officer	Noah Kellett	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	<i>Not Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	<i>Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	<i>Not Submitted</i>

Kevin Li returned to the meeting

Motion 15: To accept the OB Reports en bloc and waive the reporting requirement for Noah
 Moved: Chair Seconded: Harrishman Shobanan
 CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move in camera for the CEO Report
 Moved: Chair
 CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 3:45pm

Ivy Pierlot and Ewan Bezzobs left the meeting

7. CEO Report

7.1. CEO Report

7.2. Draft EBA

7.3. Flexible Work Policy

Motion 16: To accept the CEO's report
 Moved: Chair
 CWD

Motion 17: To endorse the EBA and Flexible Work Policy.
 Moved: Chair Seconded: Luv Golecha
 CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move out of camera

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved out of camera at 3:49pm

8. Other Reports

8.1. OpSub

Not discussed.

9. Operational Business

10. Motions on Notice

10.1. NUS Affiliation

Disha spoke to the purpose of NUS affiliation. NUS offers a platform for student representatives around Australia to speak on national policies. The amount sought for affiliation is the same as last year.

Joshua waived speaking rights as seconder.

Motion 6: That Students' Council authorise expenditure of \$80000 from the NUS budget line for payment of the NUS affiliation fee invoice with waiver.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Joshua Stagg

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

10.2. Condemnation of the Labor Government's Proposed International Student Caps and Affirmation of the University of Melbourne Student Union's Support for International Students

Preamble:

The University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) recognises the invaluable contribution that international students make to the academic, cultural, and social fabric of our university. International students not only enhance the diversity of our student body but also contribute significantly to the local and national economy. Any policy that imposes caps on international student enrolment risks undermining these contributions and sending a damaging message of exclusion.

The Labor Government's proposed international student caps threaten to restrict access to Australian education for many prospective international students, creating barriers to entry and reducing the global standing of Australian universities. These caps may also increase financial strain on universities, forcing a reduction in available resources for all students.

UMSU stands in solidarity with our international student cohort, affirming that they are a valued part of our university community and deserve to feel welcomed and supported.

Platform:

That UMSU Condemns the Labor Government's proposed international student caps as detrimental to the diversity, inclusivity, and quality of higher education at the University of Melbourne and in Australia more broadly.

That UMSU Affirms international students are a vital and valued part of the University of Melbourne community, contributing to the academic excellence and cultural diversity of our institution.

That UMSU Calls on the Australian Government to reject any policy that imposes restrictive caps on international student enrolment, and instead to promote policies that encourage global engagement and the equitable treatment of international students.

That UMSU Commits to advocating for the rights and welfare of international students, ensuring that their voices are heard in all relevant discussions and decision-making processes at the university and national levels.

Action:

- That Students' Council call on the UMSU President to communicate this stance to the relevant university bodies, government representatives, and media outlets, ensuring that our opposition to international student caps is publicly known
- That Students' Council will advocate for students and staff to join in solidarity with international students in opposing this harmful policy, publicly reinforcing our message that international students are always welcome here.

Jayde exercised moving rights.

Luv waived speaking rights as seconder.

Emma proposed an amendment:

Proposed Amendment:

To delete from the Preamble:

“These caps may also increase financial strain on universities, forcing a reduction in available resources for all students.”

Moved: Emma Dynes

This was amenable to the mover.

Jayde exercised right of reply.

Chi exercised speaking rights.

Motion 8: To accept the motion as amended.

Moved: Jayde East

Seconded: Luv Golecha

CARRIED

10.3. Oppose Israel's war of aggression on Lebanon

Preamble:

Israel is waging war on Lebanon. IDF attacks have killed over 2000 civilians and displaced 1.2 million in just two weeks. On 17th September, the IDF exploded handheld pagers and walkie-talkies across Lebanon in a coordinated terror attack that killed 42 people (including children and medics) and injured at least 3,500. This shocking act of state terrorism was the prelude assault to the ongoing aerial bombardment of South Lebanon and the capital, Beirut. Israel has dropped US-designed 900-kg “bunker-buster” bombs on densely packed civilian areas. These bombs can penetrate 30m below ground or through 6m of concrete – dropping them on cities is banned by the Geneva Convention. On 1 October, Israel launched its ground invasion of South Lebanon to continue terrorising Lebanese civilians and occupying territory.

Israel is a highly militarised state with nuclear weapons, backed by billions in aid and arms from the world's superpower, the United States. After twelve months of genocide in Gaza where over 180,000 have been killed by IDF weapons or hunger and illness, Israel expanding its war and terror to a second front. The only outcome of this war will be tens of thousands more civilian deaths and millions of people forced to become refugees overnight.

In Australia, Israel's war crimes are given total impunity by the media and government. Anti-war, anti-genocide students in Australia have a responsibility to oppose these attempts to cover for this devastating war. We also have a responsibility to oppose the Australian government collaborating with the IDF and signing deals with Israeli weapons makers.

Platform:

- UMSU opposes Israel's war on Lebanon
- UMSU condemns the Australian government for supporting Israel's war on Lebanon
- UMSU opposes the media's attacks on anti-genocide, anti-war, pro-Palestine protests

Action:

- UMSU will release a statement opposing Israel's war on Lebanon and in support of anti-war protests in Melbourne

Bella exercised moving rights.

Oskar exercised seconding rights.

Procedural Motion: To move into formal debate.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To allow Muayid (non-UniMelb student) to speak for the motion.

Moved: Chair

Seconded: Lucy Kelly

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

Muayid exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Abby exercised speaking rights against the motion.

Chair refused to give speaking rights to non-UniMelb students per Chair's discretion outlined in the Constitution. Discretion was given to Muayid as their identity as organiser for Students for Palestine.

Alessandra exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Lachie exercised speaking rights against the motion.

Lachie was named by the Chair once, then twice.

Chair closed the speaking list due to lack of decorum in the room.

Gill has been named by the Chair for recording, ordered to delete the video.

Renee came to the floor to speak despite not being granted speaking rights by the Chair as a non-UniMelb student.

Motion 9: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

Seconded: Oskar Martin

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

10.4. 12 months of genocide - Oppose Israel's genocide in Gaza and violent attacks in the West Bank and support the Oct 6 National Day of Action for Palestine

Preamble:

This week will commemorate one year genocide in Gaza, one year of international struggle, one year of resistance, one year of fighting for Palestine. Disturbingly, every mainstream institution in Australia has rallied closer to Israel at the twelve month mark of the genocide, as Israel begins their new offensive into Lebanon. We must continue to stridently oppose Israel's genocide.

We have watched Israel massacre innocent people while they slept in Rafah, while they sought aid and shelter in the Flour massacre, while displaced families took refuge in Al-Shifa hospital. They have targeted journalists, aid workers and doctors, they have targeted designated humanitarian safe zones, UN schools, refugee camps and hospitals. The Lancet Medical Journal estimates that over 180,000 have died in the last twelve months and an average of 23,000 Gazans are dying each month due to starvation and disease. At every single point of this atrocity, the leaders of the world have turned their backs on Palestine.

In the West Bank, illegal settlements expanded through unprecedented violence to Palestinians. In July, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) concluded that Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories violates international law and argued that the occupation should be ended "as rapidly as possible". Instead the Israeli government has announced thousands of new settlements while settlers – emboldened by the Gaza war – established new outposts without official approval. One example of settler violence in Qusra came not even 24 hours after the ICJ ruling – the settlers, using metal pipes and wooden batons, attacked Palestinian farmers tending to their lands alongside the volunteers seeking to protect them.

Israel has received unwavering support from America, Australia and other western governments in every media outlet, every politician speech, every multi-billion dollar military aid package.

This week also marks fifty-two weeks of anti-war, pro-Palestine demonstrations. Tens of thousands of protestors have made their opposition to war and genocide known for months on end – a number unprecedented in Australia anti-war movements.

Platform:

- UMSU opposes Israel's twelve months long genocidal terror campaign on Gaza
- UMSU opposes the expansion of illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank

- UMSU supports the anti-war and anti-genocide protests that were organised on Oct 6 as a national day of action for Palestine

Action:

- UMSU will promote the Oct 13th Sunday protest against the genocide in Gaza called by Free Palestine Melbourne on social media and via a Presidents email

Procedural Motion: To move into formal debate after Jaan and Penelope have spoken.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

Jaan exercised moving rights.

Penelope exercised seconding rights.

Aidan exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Abby exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Luca has been named by the Chair once.

Bella has been named by the Chair once.

Sam has been named by the Chair once.

Matt has been named by the Chair once.

Morgan Sheather left the meeting (zoom videoconference) at 2:04pm

Frankie has been named by the Chair once.

Ryan exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Jaan exercised right of reply.

Motion 10: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Jaan Schild

Seconded: Penelope Scacciante

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

10.5. Student forum with West Bank activists from the Ni'lin Popular Committee

Preamble:

The Education and Environment Department will host a Week 12 student forum with three speakers from the West Bank.

Ni'lin is a West Bank town seventeen kilometres from Ramallah. The 1993 Oslo Accords designated it part of "Area C", where Palestinians live under Israeli control. Ni'lin is surrounded by the West Bank Apartheid Wall to its west, an Israeli military base to its south, two Israeli settlements—Nili and Na'ale—to the north and a settler-only road to its east.

Ni'lin made international headlines during the construction of the Apartheid Wall—a wall dividing Palestinian settlements from Israel—in 2008. In response to peaceful protests, Israeli border police shot and killed 10-year-old Ahmed Moussa, spurring on the campaign. Israel continued to respond with violence: rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas canisters, the uprooting and burning of olive trees and even “skunk”, a sewerage water designed for crowd control that causes vomiting when inhaled.

Today the violence is even worse. Since Israel's genocide in Gaza, illegal settlers have been emboldened to attack Palestinian villages more frequently.

The Ni'lin Popular Committee is an activist organisation in the West Bank. They are dedicated to grassroots campaigning against illegal Israeli settler aggression. A large part of what they do is aid including food and legal support to the local community. Its work is critical to the day-to-day survival of many Palestinians.

University of Melbourne students are clearly motivated by the Palestinian cause. Student engagement for Palestine at Parkville and Southbank this year has been phenomenal. 600 UniMelb students voted for at the student mass meeting, many attended the Gaza Solidarity Encampment and the uni walkouts for Palestine and every week UniMelb students attend the Sunday Palestine demonstrations. There is clearly vast support for the issue amongst the student body.

This is why our departments are hosting a forum to hear from Palestinians in the West Bank—some of the most heroic activists fighting apartheid and ethnic cleansing. It would be an opportunity for more student enrichment, building international links and solidarity with Palestinians from the West Bank and students in Melbourne.

More information:

[Info on the Ni'lin Popular Committee's work: https://palsolidarity.org/tag/nilin/](https://palsolidarity.org/tag/nilin/)

[Saeed Amireh's blog](https://saeedamireh.com/) about life in Ni'lin and work of the Popular Committee: <https://saeedamireh.com/>

Action:

- That Council approve expenditure of \$15,000 from the Events and Grants budget lines of the Education department and the Events budget line of the Environment department budget line for the purpose of paying three speakers at our educational forum.

- That Council approve expenditure of \$3000 from the Printing-external budget line of the Education department budget for the speakers to access satellite connection for the duration of the event
- That Council approve expenditure of \$3000 from the Consumables and Supplies, the Printing and the Promotions budget line of the Environment department budget for the speakers to access international internet connection and any other required technology for the duration of the event

Procedural Motion: To move into formal debate after Emma and Bella have spoken.

Moved: Chair

CWD

Emma spoke to moving rights.

Bella spoke to seconding rights.

Chair clarified that the action items do not comply with UMSU's SSAF Agreement with the University, but also the SSAF Legislation, which says that SSAF money must go to enrolled students through services. UMSU may be defunded by the University after a 14-day notice. This motion was accepted by the General Secretary to allow a debate.

Hannah exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion. Then waived speaking rights to Emma.

Procedural Motion: To move to a 5-minute break between 2:53pm to 2:58pm.

Moved: Chair

CWD

Chair reopened the meeting at 3:07pm

Emma exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Riley exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Penelope exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Tess exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Sophie exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Camden exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Lucy exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Frankie exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Muayid exercised speaking rights in favour of the motion.

Ivy exercised speaking rights against of the motion.

Kevin (General Secretary) raised a Point of Order.

Luca exercised right of reply.

Disha cautioned against engaging UMSU in a lawsuit again, as well as risking defunding UMSU under the University's 14-day notice.

Frankie has been named for a second time.

Motion 11: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Emma Dynes

Seconded: Bella Beiraghi

FAILED

11. Other Business (Motions Without Notice)

12. Next Meeting

13. Close

Meeting closed at 3:50 pm