

University of Melbourne Student Union Meeting of the Students' Council Minutes Thursday 1 August 2024, 12pm Special Meeting 2(24) Location: Zoom

https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/87225902747?pwd=DgtHXTiuLMEBmmhuOprLJQZKZAWwKO.1

Meeting opened at 12:06pm

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Kevin Li be elected as Chair.

Moved: Kevin Li

CARRIED

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	
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Yashica Mishra	Yes
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	Hugh Collins	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Harrishman Shobanan	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	vaibhav girdhar	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Lucy Kelly	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Alessandra Grace Baggio Ward	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Leon Paratz	No
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	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Labdhi Gandhi	Yes

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Disha Zutshi	Yes
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Yes
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	No
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Anishaa Jeyakumar	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	No
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Vacant	
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	Yes
Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	Yes
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	Yes
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	No
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	No
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	Yes
Queer Officer	Ryan Mittal	Yes
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	Yes
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	Yes
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	No
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Vacant	
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	No
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	No
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	No

Other: Sara Pheasant (CEO), Mary Kin Chan (minute taker), Natasha Lee (EA to CEO), Lachlan McCallum (CFO & Director of Operations), Mathilda Stewart (observer)

1.4. Proxies

- 1.4.1. Alessandra Ward to Rachel Hynds (from 12:50 onwards)
- **1.5. Leave of Absence Requests**
- 1.6. Membership
- 1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Procedural Motion: To move in camera.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

Procedural Motion: To allow CEO and minute taker to be in the in camera session.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Council moved in camera at 12:09pm

Lachlan McCallum, Tash Lee, and Mathilda Stewart left the meeting.

2. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

3. Correspondence

3.1. Consultation Briefing Paper (In camera)

Procedural Motion: To move out of camera for the rest of this Council.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Council moved out of camera at 12:50pm

4. Motions on Notice

4.1. UMSU Stance on the War in Gaza

Preamble:

UMSU is an Incorporated Association and a representative body for all students at the University of Melbourne. Consequently, UMSU is bound by the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) and by its Constitution.

As a membership organisation representing all students at the University, we wish to ensure that our position aligns with our purposes and reflects the broad consensus of our membership. UMSU completed consultations to seek to gather feedback from our members on UMSU's stance regarding three key issues:

- Calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and a cessation of all bombing;
- ending the blockade of essential goods and services; and
- supporting reparations for Gaza's reconstruction.

The feedback from the consultation overwhelmingly supports UMSU's motion to stand in solidarity with Palestine.

However, some respondents felt the proposed motion was not strongly worded enough or sufficient in its reach, others raised concerns about perceived bias towards the Palestinian cause and the possible impacts on the safety of Jewish students when UMSU takes a stance such as this.

These concerns need to be considered, both in the immediate context of the proposed motion, but also more broadly in UMSU's approach to the issue going forward.

Accordingly, to address the feedback received through the consultation process, we have added a call to condemn all forms of violence against civilian populations in line with our Constitutional purpose.

It may be helpful to request the assistance of the Jewish Council of Australia, Australia Palestine Advocacy Network (APAN), and other community organisations in formulating separate stances on these matters in the near future.

Action:

- UMSU supports an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.
- This means stopping the bombing, a permanent withdrawal of Israeli troops, an end to the 18-year long blockade, and reparations to be paid for the reconstruction of Gaza.
- UMSU is constitutionally opposed to all forms of violence and/or hatred through militarism, accordingly, we condemn all violence committed against civilian populations by Hamas and the IDF.

Motion 3: To accept the motion as presented.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Kevin Li

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

5. Close

Meeting closed at 12:52pm