

Students' Council (General Representative)	Yong Wen Hao	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Annalyce Wiebenga	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Joshua Davis	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Shirley Killen	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Georgia Burke	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Mietta Stephens	No
Students' Council (General Representative)	Nate Hollis	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Ngairie Bogemann	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Zachary Kaplan	Yes

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Sophie Nguyen	Yes
General Secretary	VACANT	
Activities Officer	VACANT	
Activities Officer	VACANT	
Clubs & Societies Officer	Benito Di Battista	Yes
Clubs & Societies Officer	Eleanor Cooney-Hunt	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Marcie Di Bartolomeo	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Prerna Aggarwal	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Prachi Uppal	Yes
Disabilities Officer	Shuyan (Betty) Zhang	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Ethan Georgeou	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Moira Negline	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Benjamin Jarick	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Ruby Craven	Yes
Environment Officer	Chelsea Daniel	Yes
Environment Officer	Zachary Matthews	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	Yes
Media Officer	Charlotte Waters	Late – Arrived 4:30PM
Media Officer	Jasmine Pierce	Yes
Media Officer	Joanna Guelas	Yes
Media Officer	Nishtha Banavalikar	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Hibatallah Adam	Yes
People of Colour Officer	Kyi Phyu Moe Htet	Yes
Queer Officer	Rook Davis	Yes
Queer Officer	Rose Power	Yes
Welfare Officer	Shuyan (Lynne) Bian	Yes
Welfare Officer	VACANT	
Women's Officer	Aashi (Kraanti) Agarwal	Yes
Women's Officer	Lauren Scott	Yes
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	Yes
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Alex Birch	Yes
	Nina Mountford	Yes
Southbank Activities Officer	Jack Doughty	Yes
Southbank Education Officer	Xiaole Zhan	Yes

Other: Phoebe Churches (Interim CEO), Nancy Ciara Griffiths (minute-taker), Pat Bunney (proxy for Scarlett Padden), Sam Rathnaweera (observer), Briana Symonds-Manne (observer), Jesse Gardner Russell (observer), Jordan Di Natale (observer), Bella Henry (observer), Raphael Duffy (observer).

1.4. Apologies

Office Bearers: Charlotte Waters

Councillors: Scarlett Padden, Georgia Burke, Mietta Stephens

1.5. Proxies

Scarlett Padden to Pat Bunney

Georgia Burke to Ngaire Bogemann

Mietta Stephens to Zachary Kaplan

Motion 2: To accept the proxies

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.6. Membership

Anisha Bunsee, Jennisha Arnanta, Yuvhashni Suganan Pillai, and Sami Zehir have resigned from Students' Council.

1.7. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 3: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. Minutes 17(21)

2.1.1. A typo was noted in the OB Report discussion.

2.2. Minutes 18(21)

2.3. Minutes Special Meeting 1(22)

2.4. Minutes 1(22)

Motion 4: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record with amendments.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

Amelia Bright declared a Conflict of Interest for Item 9.2, Motion to Appoint a Temporary General Secretary. If appointed as General Secretary, Amelia Bright will resign from Students' Council.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Chair addressed Council etiquette over Zoom. Unless unable, attendees and members of Students' Council are to keep their cameras on for transparency with attendance, quorum and in camera sessions. Reminded Students' Council to be mindful of the speaking list.

5. Correspondence

6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Sophie Nguyen	<i>Submitted</i>
General Secretary	VACANT	
Activities Officer	VACANT	
Activities Officer	VACANT (Sami Zehir)	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Benito Di Battista	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Eleanor Cooney-Hunt	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Marcie Di Bartolomeo	<i>Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Prerna Aggarwal	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Prachi Uppal	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Shuyan (Betty) Zhang	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Ethan Georgeou	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Moira Negline	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Benjamin Jarick	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Ruby Craven	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Chelsea Daniel	<i>Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Zachary Matthews	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Charlotte Waters	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Jasmine Pierce	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Joanna Guelas	<i>Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Nishtha Banavalikar	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Hibatallah Adam	<i>Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Kyi Phyu Moe Htet	<i>Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Rook Davis	<i>Late</i>
Queer Officer	Rose Power	<i>Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Shuyan (Lynne) Bian	<i>Late</i>
Welfare Officer	VACANT	
Women's Officer	Aashi (Kraanti) Agarwal	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Lauren Scott	<i>Submitted</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Kaitlyn Hammond	<i>Submitted</i>

Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Alex Birch	<i>Submitted</i>
	Nina Mountford	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Jack Doughty	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Xiaole Zhan	<i>Submitted</i>

Briana Symonds-Manne addressed the Education and Environment reports. All OBs in question attended the CARF rally. Set good precedent for UMSU Elected Representatives. Wanted to flag that there are going to be refugee protests every Friday, would like to see OBs and Councillors attend!

Councillor Annalyce Wiebenga, to the Queer Officers asked after the recent No Cops at Pride campaign. Understand UMSU has a contingent to MidSumma. Asked after the stance with the police marching in pride, any statements in the works? Queer Officers responded, the matter is not to be taken lightly and the Department is in discussions with People of Colour. Queer Department will be pulling out of MidSumma and issuing a statement. Looking to write an open letter, with hopes to get some UMSU faces to sign as well.

Motion 5: To accept the OB Reports

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move in camera at 3:20PM

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 3:20PM

7. CEO Report

Motion 6: To accept the CEO's report and note the 2021 Budget Memorandum.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To move out of camera at 3:30PM

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved out of camera at 3:32PM

8. Other Reports

9. Operational Business

9.1. Operations Sub-Committee

Motion 7: That nominations now be opened for the Operations Sub-Committee, and be closed at 5pm on the 4th of February, with nominations being submitted to the interim General Secretary.

Moved: Ethan Georgeou

Seconded: Zachary Matthews

CARRIED

9.2. Appointment of Temporary General Secretary

Allen Xiao spoke to the motion.

Motion 8: That Students' Council elect Amelia Bright to the position of General Secretary until such time as a by-election can be run.

Moved: Allen Xiao

Seconded: Ngaire Bogemann

CARRIED

10. Motions on Notice

10.1. Burnley Motions

Procedural Motion: to vote for the Burnley Motions en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Chair opened for seconders to the motions – Annalyce Wiebenga seconded.
Chair invited Kaitlyn Hammond and Annalyce Wiebenga to speak to moving rights.
Annalyce Wiebenga – I love Burnley!

Motion 9: To accept the proposed motions en bloc.

Moved: Kaitlyn Hammond

Seconded: Annalyce Wiebenga

CARRIED

11. Motions without Notice

11.1. Halal Food Policy

Mohamed Hadi spoke to his moving rights.

This motion was passed last year, to increase accessibility to students and students of faith. However, the minutes were lost for this meeting – so passing this motion again. Also serves as a note to Office Bearers and Student Reps to keep this motion

in mind for events this year. Encouraged Officers to reach out if they have any questions.

Motion 10: To accept the proposed motion and actions.

Moved: Mohamed Hadi

Seconded: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

11.2. NUS President Summit

Due to conflict of interest, Sophie Nguyen ceded the chair.

Motion 11: To appoint Joshua Davis as chair.

Moved: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Joshua Davis

CARRIED

Sophie Nguyen spoke to the motion.

Motion 12: To pass \$700 from the Council – National Union of Students budget line for President Summit 2022 tickets x2.

Moved: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Amelia Bright

CARRIED

Joshua Davis ceded the chair.

Motion 13: To appoint Sophie Nguyen as Chair.

Moved: Sophie Nguyen

Seconded: Aashi Agarwal

CARRIED

11.3. UMSU Endorses the Campaign to Stop the Menzies Institute 2022

Chair opened for movers.

Raphael Duffy moved; Sam Rath seconded. Spoke to their moving rights.

Indigenous Officer raised concern with the second action point of the motion – that we (UMSU) commit to attending all protests. There could be potential issues with committing to all possible protests without knowing what that entails – e.g., infection risk, BIPOC safety. Proposed amendment to the motion to remove action point 2.

This was not amenable to the mover.

Councillor Amelia Bright raised concern with the wording of 3.1, who is being actioned? The language and implications are very broad – implying a very broad control over UMSU's social media presence.

Education Academic Officer echoed same concerns – it is an organisational risk to unconditionally commit to all actions presented. Multiple Councillors agreed to this point, that we need to withhold from committing to actions and activities before we know what they'll entail.

Motion: To amend the actions of the move to remove action point 2.

Moved: Brittney Henderson

Seconded: Amelia Bright

Council discussed the proposed amendment. General agreement was that Council agreed with the spirit of the motion, it is the wording and broad commitment to all future protests without knowing the context or circumstances that pose issue.

Movers raised concern that by removing the action point, the lack of UMSU's endorsement for protests would gut the motion and the campaign would not work. Councillors responded to this point that this was not what was being proposed, merely that UMSU cannot commit to attending all protests without further detail than what is provided.

Foreshadowed Motion: Amendment to the action point 2 of the motion, UMSU commits to endorse future protests and events called by the Stop the Menzies Institute campaign, where approved by the Education Department.

Moved: Joshua Davis

Procedural Motion: to vote on the amendment

Moved: Moira Negline

CARRIED

Motion 14: To amend the actions of the motion to remove action point 2.

Moved: Brittney Henderson

Seconded: Amelia Bright

CARRIED

Foreshadowed motion lapsed.

Procedural Motion: To adjourn Council for a five-minute break.

Moved: Amelia Bright

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 4:08PM

Council readjourned at 4:13PM

Discussion on the rest of the motion resumed. Education Department noted that they were barely consulted regarding the motion, as it was sent to them only an hour prior to Council.

Education Academic Officer, Moira Negline, stated for the record: Only finding out about the motion through an updated Agenda, and only being asked to second the motion at 12:43pm on the day of Council is devoid of procedural politeness required for consultation with UMSU departments. The Education Department has a right to act with agency and autonomy in deciding which campaigns we participate in on behalf of the students the Union represents. The insinuation that the Education Department is not wanting to cooperate on this campaign because we disagree with the action point amended is incorrect and frustrating for the Education Office Bearers.

Interim CEO, Phoebe Churches, made a point of clarification – worth for Council to consider what UMSU is being bound to do, when committing to endorsing a motion and/or action.

Motion 15: To accept the proposed motion with amendments.

Moved: Raphael Duffy

Seconded: Sam Rath

CARRIED

11.4. UMSU Stands for Social Solidarity and Public Health, Not Business as Usual

Chair opened to seconders for the motion – Sam Rath seconded.

Sam Rath spoke to the motion – UMSU should be pushing for prioritising student and staff safety.

Councillor Jaryd Clifford -as the Disabilities Representative- emphasised and reminded everyone the impact COVID has had on everyone in the disabled community. There is a reality for some people that there is a fear attached to leaving the house, due to the risk with current case numbers. Agree with the sentiment in the motion that we cannot comply with the idea of 'survival of the fittest' as this will inordinately impact the disabled community. Proposed amendment, a fourth platform to the motion:

4. UMSU calls on University management to assure students that online classes will remain an option for all students in 2022.

This was amenable to the mover.

Education Academic Officer sought clarification, who is being actioned? Mover responded, whoever is handling communications and posting to social media.

Movers were asked would this motion not contradict the previous motion. Previous motion was arguing for protests regardless of COVID, whereas this motion condemns the University for operating business as usual during COVID. Shirley Killen responded that there are contextual differences. Where the University is wanting to operate business as usual with high infection risks, the Stop the Menzies Institute motion refers to protests that might be called – and those protests would go through the rigorous COVID-safety strategies.

Moira Negline noted again that it would be more appropriate if the Education Department was consulted before the motion is submitted to Council papers. Education has already been in discussions with the GSA, plans to regularly communicate with students, and will be hearing back from the University soon regarding ventilation.

Procedural Motion: to move to a vote.
Moved: Moira Negline
CARRIED

Motion 16: To accept the proposed motion and its actions with the prescribed amendments.
Moved: Shirley Killen Seconded: Sam Rath
CARRIED

11.5. Radio Fodder

Joanna Guelas spoke to her moving rights. Apologised for the short notice, the invoice was only just received and is due next week.

Motion: We move that \$1,500 be passed from the Radio Fodder line of the Media Department budget for licensing.
Moved: Joanna Guelas Seconded: Jasmine Pierce
CARRIED

12. Other Business

12.1. Student Initiative Grants

Council enquired after what is happening with Student Initiative Grants. Process was explained, with the appointment of a new General Secretary SIGs for 2022 can

get underway.

13. Next Meeting

14. Close

Meeting closed at 4:40PM

9.1 Motion to Open Nominations for the Operations Sub-Committee

Preamble:

Due to unforeseen circumstances, election of the Operations Sub-Committee could not happen on the 1st of December as required by the Constitution (C17.7(b)). As such, Council will need to open nominations for membership of the Operations Sub-Committee ASAP. The powers of the Operations Sub-Committee can be found in the UMSU Constitution under C17.8.

Membership of the Operations Sub-Committee will consist of 5 voting members, elected by and from the Voting Council Representatives, 2 of whom must be Women. If at least 2 Women do not stand for election, any shortfall in the number of women elected may be filled by other representatives: and the President and General Secretary, as non-voting members as per C 17.6(b) of the Constitution.

Motion:

That nominations now be opened for the Operations Sub-Committee, and be closed at 5pm on the 4th of February, with nominations being submitted to the interim General Secretary.

Mover: Ethan Georgeou
Secunder: Zachary Matthews

9.2 Motion to Appoint a Temporary General Secretary:

Preamble:

In accordance with R6.12 of the UMSU Constitution, UMSU's Students' Council has resolved that it will appoint a temporary General Secretary in this Students' Council. A by-election for this position will be held in March 2022.

Motion:

That Students' Council elect Amelia Bright to the position of General Secretary until such time as a by-election can be run.

Mover: Allen Xiao
Secunder: Ngaire Bogemann

10.1 Burnley Motions

10.1.1 To approve the BSA Budget as presented for 2022

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.2 To pass up to \$2000 from the Activities and Events Budget lines for the Burnley Welcome Back BBQ

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.3 To pass up to \$2500 from the Activities and Event budget line for weekly yoga sessions in the Burnley gardens (starting in March).

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.4 To pass up to \$1500 for monthly trivia sessions for Semester 1 (starting in March) from the Activities budget line.

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.5 To pass up to \$375 from the General Operations budget line for groceries for the Student Amenities Building (starting in February).

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.6 To pass up to \$750 from the Activities and Events budget line for the Burnley Breakfast Collective (starting in March).

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.7 To pass up to \$300 from the Workshops and Incursions budget line for snacks for the Burnley Seminar Series.

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

10.1.8 To pass up to \$200 for an instructor to lead a bike maintenance workshop for the Burnley Campus from the Activities budget line.

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

Secunder:

11.1 Halal Food Policy

Preamble:

There's a lack of accessibility for Muslim students when it comes to food options on campus, while the union has ONE halal catering food place (which isn't all that good) it really isn't enough for a large Muslim body. Our events, services and free food are the first things that come to mind when students think of UMSU but when students of faith don't see themselves catered to, they don't find a place in the union.

There has been a lack of engagement by the wider Muslim community with us BECAUSE of this. While vegetarian options are available, students shouldn't be forced to resort to alternatives when this union has the capacity to provide halal options in each of its events where meat is served, especially when a large Muslim presence exists on campus.

These small changes have a big positive effect for the Muslim community. It shouldn't be a mission to get a sausage on campus and it shouldn't be the sole responsibility of Muslim-majority clubs and societies in UMSU to bear. The actions listed below are small steps towards the right direction and are a start to becoming a more accessible union.

Last year, in consultation with the Islamic Society at UMSU we worked on a few action points to begin mitigating this issue. Starting with establishing a policy for all large UMSU events to have options accessible to Muslim students, encouraging clubs and societies to do the same and the purchase of a grill to be used by any entity for grilling halal sausages, patties etc.

This motion is introduced again for officers and staff to keep in mind while planning events as we're returning to campus, in addition, the minutes where this motion was passed were lost and so it's reintroduced in this council.

Actions:

- 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.
- 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.

Mover: Mohamed Hadi

Secunder: Hiba Adam

11.2 NUS President Summit

Preamble:

The NUS is hosting the annual President Summit at RMIT and online for 2022. It's an important forum for other Presidents, Gen Secs, and the NUS team to meet and organise the student union movement for the upcoming year. As UMSU is a massive contribution to the NUS, it will be important for the UMSU President and Gen Sec to have a presence. The tickets are \$350 each which includes catering.

Motion:

To pass \$700 from the Council – National Union of Students budget line for President Summit 2022 tickets x2.

Mover: Sophie Nguyen

Secunder: Amelia Bright

11.3 UMSU Endorses the Campaign to Stop the Menzies Institute in 2022

Preamble

From June 2021, the Graduate Student Association (GSA), the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU) and the National Union of Students (NUS) have led an activist campaign against the RMI as a part of a fight both for publicly funded higher education under the democratic control of students and staff, and against the broader set of reactionary, anti-union and environmentally destructive politics embodied in this Liberal Party project.

On November 18, the Robert Menzies Institute (RMI) opened in the historic Old Quad at the University of Melbourne. This institute is a front for the Liberal Party, bankrolled by the Federal Liberal Government to the tune of \$7 million, embraced by University Chancellery without the consent of staff and students, and led by conservative culture warriors like Peta Credlin.

This campaign has gained considerable support. Over 1,000 people - mostly staff and students at the University of Melbourne - signed the open letter against the RMI. Cumulatively, hundreds of people attended campaign organising meetings and public forums, and, in spite of campus being online for semester 2, over 100 students protested against the RMI's opening on 18 November. In addition, the campaign has solicited widespread media coverage and drawn attention to the crisis of university corporatisation and the hypocrisy of the Liberal Party regarding higher education funding.

With the RMI already organising further conferences and exhibitions designed to whitewash Australian history and attract high profile Liberal Party politicians, university managers, and business moguls, the campaign against the RMI should be a priority for all student unions and left-wing student unionists moving into 2022. As the federal election nears, the COVID

pandemic continues to expose the barbaric privileging of business profits over the lives of workers and oppressed people, and industrial action becomes a concrete possibility at the University of Melbourne, the political stakes of opposing the RMI will only intensify. For this reason, it is incumbent on UMSU to continue to support this campaign into 2022 and thus demonstrate its ongoing commitment to fighting back against the rich and powerful.

In testing circumstances, the campaign against the RMI has provided a glimpse of the kind of radical politics needed to build a student movement capable of fighting back, not only against the ongoing, savage cuts to higher education funding and staff, but against the very system of entrenched oppression and exploitation that made the RMI possible in the first place.

Platform

1. UMSU endorses the campaign against the Robert Menzies Institute in 2022, as an expression of its commitment to building mass, student activist movements.
2. UMSU recognises that the fight against the Robert Menzies Institute is inextricably connected to resisting the increasing influence of rich and powerful corporations and political parties on tertiary education.

Actions

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 endorsing all future protests and events called by the Stop the Menzies Institute campaign.
3. UMSU commits to promoting the campaign and campaign events by doing the following:
 - Regularly posting about and sharing from UMSU's public facing social media accounts information about campaign events and news.
 - Including information about the campaign, the open letter, and campaign activities in newsletters and other correspondence to UMSU members
 - Encouraging UMSU representatives to sign the campaign's open letter and participate in campaign activities
 - Leveraging its links to other student associations to build the campaign and its profile

Mover:

Secunder:

11.4 UMSU Stands for Social Solidarity and Public Health, Not Business as Usual

Preamble

'Living with COVID,' instead of the return to normalcy promised by governments, has marked an unprecedented deterioration of living conditions in Australia. 'Code Brown' has been declared in multiple hospitals across Victoria, a situation usually reserved for natural disasters and mass casualty events. There have been eight-hour long queues for PCR tests, price-gouging of Rapid Antigen Tests, empty shelves in grocery stores, and the indefinite suspension of life-saving elective surgeries throughout the country. This shows that the policy adopted by the Liberals, with the support of the National Cabinet and many Labor premiers, is a deliberate strategy to let COVID-19 rip through the community and diminish expectations of government intervention. The results are already devastating, with 814 people dead from COVID-19 in 2022 alone (as of 22 January), thousands more unable to access necessary health care, and many people facing the prospect of long COVID. The most vulnerable in society - elderly people, people with disabilities and Indigenous communities - are being forced to pay the price.

A rational response to the threat posed by the highly contagious Omicron variant would have necessitated a range of public health measures. Federal and state governments have instead chosen to wind back these measures, starting with the cessation of contact tracing in NSW last December. More recently, the National Cabinet changed the definition of 'close contacts' to exclude people who test positive while at work or engaging in commercial activity. They also scrapped isolation requirements for newly defined 'close contacts,' effectively coercing people to attend work while they are infectious. What's more, even [COVID positive workers](#) have been forced back to work. Such decisions are directly counterposed to public health interests. They only make sense when understood as attempts to minimise fetters to businesses' profit-making, even if that means forcing sick and infectious workers back to work. An ongoing, public health-orientated response to the pandemic is, from the perspective of the government and the business world, unprofitable and unstrategic.

University students and staff are not immune from the effects of the unfolding COVID-19 crisis. Young adults, who are the main constituency within the student body, are catching COVID-19 more than any other age group. And with young adults likely to remain only double-dose vaccinated, university students are being increasingly exposed to serious and potentially chronic illness due to COVID-19. This is leaving aside the needs of the many vulnerable communities making up the student and staff body. What's more, university workers may be declared essential and subject to the same reductions in isolation requirements that now apply to other essential workers (for instance in transport and logistics). This could create a situation where university campuses are sites of mass COVID-19 infection.

In the face of this current, mass Omicron outbreak, UMSU stands for a governmental and university-level response guided by the principles of public health and equity. It's clear that vaccines alone are insufficient in preventing COVID spread, particularly with the highly infectious Omicron strain. A return to campus without a series of public health measures in force would therefore make our university a major site of transmission. Yet, University

management has so far done nothing to protect our health and safety aside from mandating vaccination, and its plans remain shrouded in secrecy. If, as the University management appears to assume, campuses will be open for classes in semester one, then it should be taking every step possible to protect students and staff. Anything short of this would be reckless.

Platform

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.

Actions

1. UMSU will work with the NTEU and GSA in order to develop a united strategy for demanding that staff and student health and safety is prioritised throughout the COVID crisis - instead of University management's 'business as usual.' It will support any campaigns that emerge from this collaboration
2. UMSU will publicly call on University management to release the details of the ventilation audits they apparently conducted last year.
3. UMSU will work with GSA to release a joint public statement condemning the 'let it rip' strategy adopted by the federal government and National Cabinet.
4. UMSU will regularly communicate with students through all its channels about the management of the COVID crisis on campus and its plans to advocate for students.

Mover: Shirley Killen

Secunder:

11.5 Radio Fodder

Preamble

AirTime Pro is the software Radio Fodder uses to broadcast online. We have just received the invoice for the Media Department's annual subscription to AirTime Pro today, with its due date being 6 February which is why we have delivered with without noticed. It is important for the Media Department to pay this invoice on time so Fodder can, in Xain from AVMelbourne's words, "continue flawlessly".

Motion:

We move that \$1,500 be passed from the Radio Fodder line of the Media Department budget for licensing.

Mover: Joanna Guelas

Secunder: Jasmine Pierce