University of Melbourne Student Union Meeting of the Students' Council Minutes Friday 8 March 2024, 10am



Meeting 4(24)
Location: Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room; Zoom

https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/83577377727?pwd=M0lGbnJmM0tlaGh3NmU2Z0tJTHRJUT09

Meeting opened and quorate at 10:09am

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Kevin Li be elected as Chair

Moved: Kevin Li

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

Students' Council (General Representative)	Natalie Sinicka	No
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
Activities Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	Resigned
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	Yes
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	No
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	Yes
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	Apology
Disabilities Officer	Adam Whitehead	No
Disabilities Officer	Anishaa Jeyakumar	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	Yes
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	Yes
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	Yes
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	Leave of Absence
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	Yes
Indigenous Officer	Hamish Rose	Yes
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	Apology
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	Yes
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	Yes
Queer Officer	Ryan Mittal	Yes
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	Yes
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	Yes
Women's Officer	Akanksha Agarwal	No
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	Leave of Absence
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Jake Duyvestyn	Yes
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	Yes
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Amy Rogers	Yes
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	Yes
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	Yes

Other: Sara Pheasant (CEO), Phoebe Churches (Divisional Manager, Advocacy & Legal), Mary Kin Chan (minute taker), Yueyao (Chloe) Wang (observer), Angus Clark (observer), Ibrahim Muan Abdulla (observer)

1.4. Apologies

Office Bearers: Joel Duggan, Hanny Teja, Lucy Rachman Vascotto

Councillors: NA

1.5. Proxies

- 1.5.1. Alessandra Ward to Rachael Hynds
- 1.5.2. Penelope Scacciante to Lucy Kelly

Motion 2: To accept the proxies of Alessandra and Penelope for this Council en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.5.3. Hugo Collins to Oskar Martin

The Chair (also General Secretary) received another proxy request while the first two proxies were being discussed.

Motion 3: To accept Hugo's late proxy request for this Council.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.6. Leave of Absence Requests

- 1.6.1. Emma Dynes
- 1.6.2. Micaela Rynne

Motion 4: To accept the leave of absence requests for this Council en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

1.7. Membership

- 1.7.1. Hayley Cheung has resigned from Council
- 1.7.2. Mehul Gopalakrishnan has resigned from the position of Activities Office Bearer

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 5: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Procedural motion: To move agenda item 7 (CEO Report) to the end of the meeting, after all Motions of Notice have been discussed.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. Minutes 18(23)

Motion 6: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Chair CARRIED

2.2. Minutes 3(24)

Motion 7: To accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Chair

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

5.1. OpSub Minutes & Update

Chair spoke to the first Operations Sub-Committee meeting. Money was passed to pay for OBs' business cards. Invited Councillors to ask any questions.

6. Office Bearer Reports

Department	Full name	Submission
		Status?
President	Disha Zutshi	Submitted
General Secretary	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Submitted
Activities Officer	Amy Peters	Submitted
Activities Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	Submitted
Creative Arts Officer	Shravya Akkapeddi	Submitted
Creative Arts Officer	Jiajie Zheng	Submitted
Clubs & Societies Officer	Azalea Rohaizam	Submitted
Clubs & Societies Officer	Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	Submitted
Disabilities Officer	Adam Whitehead	Submitted
Disabilities Officer	Anishaa Jeyakumar	Late
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Julian De Marco	Not Submitted
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Not Submitted
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Raphael Duffy	Submitted
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Bella Beiraghi	Submitted
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	Submitted
Environment Officer	Jaan Schild	Not Submitted
Indigenous Officer	Hamish Rose	Submitted
Media Officer	Joel Duggan	Not Submitted

Media Officer	Gunjan Ahluwalia	Submitted
Media Officer	Kien-Ling Liem	Submitted
Media Officer	Jessica Fanwong	Submitted
People of Colour Officer	Denzil Minnaar	Submitted
People of Colour Officer	Ying Kwan Jania Lam	Not Submitted
Queer Officer	Binderiya Batzorig	Submitted
Queer Officer	Rahul (Ryan) Mittal	Submitted
Welfare Officer	Joshua Stagg	Submitted
Welfare Officer	Divyanshi Sati	Submitted
Women's Officer	Akanksha Agarwal	Not Submitted
Women's Officer	Micaela Rynne	Not Submitted
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Jake Duyvestyn	Submitted
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Ariel Teo	Submitted
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Amy Rogers	Not Submitted
Southbank Activities Officer	Justine Light De Guzman	Not Submitted
Southbank Education Officer	Felicity Patrice Liston	Not Submitted

Jaan noted that he submitted his report late, Chair noted it will not be accepted if not found in the Teams folder.

The Chair reminded OBs to let him know if they are still unable to open the Teams folder.

Motion 8: To accept the OB Reports en bloc.

Moved: Chair CARRIED

7. CEO Report

Moved to the end of the meeting.

- 8. Other Reports
- 9. Operational Business
- 10. Motions on Notice

Procedural Motion: To move 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3 en bloc

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

10.1. Burnley motion

Jake spoke to his moving rights, noted that the Burnley Department is yet to have its own Committee, hence Burnley motions have to go through Council.

Motion 9: That Council approves expenditure of \$8,250 from the programs (general) line of the Burnley department budget for yoga teacher fees from March 2024 through to end of November 2024.

Moved: Jake Duyvestyn Seconded: Kunal Dewani

10.2. Burnley motion

Motion 10: That Council approves expenditure of \$540 from the Events (Food and beverages) line of the Burnley department budget for Student Amenities Building groceries for remainder of Semester 1.

Moved: Jake Duyvestyn Seconded: Kunal Dewani

10.3. Burnley motion

Motion 11: That Council approves expenditure of \$300 from the Repairs and Maintenance (Venue) line of the Burnley department budget for the purchase of furniture and homewares to improve amenity of the upstairs study space in the Student Amenities Building.

Moved: Jake Duyvestyn Seconded: Joshua Stagg

Procedural Motion: To vote on 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 en bloc

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

10.4. Media motion

Procedural Motion: To move 10.4, 10.5, 10.6 and 10.7 en bloc

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Kien-Ling spoke to her moving rights. The expenditure seeking Council approval are for subscription and events purposes.

The Chair reminded Media to provide quotes for distribution to Councillors in the future.

The subscription quote from Issuu is \$108.43 over what the Media Department has budgeted for, so they are moving money around to ensure they have the correct funds. Last Council, Media passed a motion for \$720 originally for the subscription, but have since been informed that the total amount is \$828.43AUD.

Motion 12: That Students' Council approves expenditure of \$108.43 from Period 2 of the Grants > Student Initiative Budget Line to pay the remaining amount of the Issuu subscription.

Moved: Kien-Ling Liem Seconded: Gunjan Ahluwalia

10.5. Media motion

Motion 13: That Students' Council approves expenditure of \$195 from Period 3 of the Training and Development > Induction Budget Line to pay for the induction of Fodder producers, show hosts, and managers for Radio Fodder equipment.

Moved: Kien-Ling Liem Seconded: Gunjan Ahluwalia

10.6. Media motion

Motion 14: That Students' Council approves expenditure of \$260.57 from Period 2 of the Grants > Student Initiative Budget Line to fund the Radio Fodder Bites and Bustles event.

Moved: Kien-Ling Liem Seconded: Gunjan Ahluwalia

10.7. Media motion

Motion 15: That Students' Council approve expenditure of \$2700 from Period 11 of the Promotion expenses > Website Budget Line to fund the website hosting licence membership of Farrago magazine online.

Moved: Kien-Ling Liem Seconded: Gunjan Ahluwalia

Motion 16: To vote on 10.4, 10.5, 10.6 and 10.7 en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

10.8. UMSU condemns supermarket's price gouging

Preamble:

The cost of food is soaring and so are the profits of Australia's major supermarkets. An average trip to the supermarket has increased in cost by around 8 percent each year since the beginning of the pandemic, outpacing general inflation. The prices of many essential foodstuffs have risen at twice that rate. Australia's big supermarket chains, like Coles and Woolies, blame the hike in prices on higher energy costs and logistical expenses. But with both companies posting their highest profit margins in recent memory, \$1.1bn and \$1.6bn respectively, their story doesn't add up!

The Albanese government has signalled giving the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) extra powers to combat price gouging. But ordinary people are bearing the brunt of the cost of living crisis now and price hikes at the shops are only the tip of the iceberg. The student union should demand that the federal Labor government act now to implement price freezes and caps on the cost of foodstuffs to relieve immediate stress on students and workers.

Action:

- 1. That UMSU condemns the profiteering of supermarket companies like Coles and Woolworths.
- 2. That UMSU publicly calls on the federal government to implement immediate price caps on the cost of essential foodstuff.
- 3. That UMSU publicly calls on the federal government to seize the combined 2.7 billion dollars in profit from Coles and Woolies (2023) to be put into free food programs for all workers and students.

Bella spoke to her moving rights, noted cost of living crisis, shrinkflation, huge Woolworths profits as key issues. As a student union, UMSU needs to defend students rights, and call on the government to discipline the private sector.

The Chair dropped out of the zoom meeting briefly and came back at 10:22am.

Clement Wu proposed an amendment:

Proposed Amendment:

Amend the action to remove action points 2 and 3, and add an additional action point to read:

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 renumeration and benefits.

Moved: Clement Wu

This was not amenable to the mover.

There were further discussions regarding the motion.

The Chair dropped out of the zoom meeting briefly and came back at 10:34am.

Raphael invited Clement to exercise his right of reply by speaking to the amendment.

Silence from Clement, Chair took that as a no.

Raphael rejected the amendment.

While Raphael, Jaan, and Bella were exercising their speaking rights, Clement proposed a second amendment:

Proposed Amendment:

Amend the second paragraph of the pre-amble to read: that the Albanese government has signalled giving the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) extra powers to combat price gouging. But ordinary people are bearing the brunt of the cost of living crisis now and price hikes at the shops are only the tip of the iceberg. The student union should call on the federal Labor government act now to relieve cost of living and inflationary pressures resulting from corporate price-gouging.

Moved: Clement Wu

The Chair (Kevin) dropped out of the zoom meeting at 10:44am.

A minute later, Harrishman suggested moving a procedural motion to have a different chair.

Procedural Motion: To allow Joshua Stagg to chair the meeting in lieu of Kevin's

internet issues.

Moved: Harrishman Shobanan Seconded: Clement Wu

CARRIED

Joshua Stagg is now Chair of the meeting.

Kevin returned to the zoom meeting after the procedural motion was passed at 10:45am.

Kevin ceded the chair to Joshua Stagg.

Hamish left the meeting at 10:50am.

There were further discussions on the second proposed amendment.

Procedural Motion: To close the speaking list

Moved: Harrishman Shobanan

CARRIED

Motion 17: To agree with the second proposed amendment.

Moved: Harrishman Shobanan Seconded: Clement Wu

CARRIED

Raphael spoke to the amended motion again.

Procedural Motion: To close the speaking list after Amy Peters

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Motion 18: To move the motion as amended

Moved: Clement Wu Seconded: Anndrya Chua

CARRIED

10.9. UMSU condemns the Universities Accords

Preamble:

The Universities Accords, recently released after much anticipation, is a probusiness document with no answer to the pressing issues facing students. While the Labor party coats this project in a shallow social-democratic rhetoric, its entire framework is about 'skill shortages'. Any supportable measures are subordinated to this framework.

The problems with this framework are clear from the report's content. The report wants to fund "areas of national priority like clean energy, critical technology, minerals and defence." These are the industries key to the geo-strategic interests of Australian imperialism, and they demonstrate an approach to education that student unionists should not support.

The Accord is another entry in Labor's pattern of social justice coated reforms in the interest of big business.

The Business Council of Australia is clear on the Accords. They gloat that the document "offers a unique opportunity to reshape the higher education sector into one that is agile and responsive to industry... the BCA is very supportive of the report's emphasis".

Platform:

That UMSU condemns the pro-business approach of the University Accords, and affirms its support for education for its own sake, not for industry demands and profit.

Raphael spoke to his moving rights.

Procedural Motion: To close the speaking list after the Mover and Seconder have spoken

Moved: Kevin Li

CARRIED

Procedural Motion: To open the speaking list after the Mover and Seconder have

spoken

Moved: Bella Beiraghi

FAILED

Lucy spoke to her seconding rights (as Penelope's proxy). She criticised the Accords lack of mention of increasing government funding to university education; the HECS repayment suggestion put forward by the Accords makes students pay more for longer. Noted that students should be advocating for free education.

Motion 19: To move the motion as presented.

Moved: Raphael Duffy Seconded: Penelope Scacciante

FAILED

Procedural Motion: To move in camera for the CEO Report

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 11:41am

Muan and Chloe left the meeting at 11:41am.

11. CEO Report

- **11.1.** CEO Report
- 11.2. VCESS External Review Report

Council moved out of camera at 11:53am

- 12. Other Business (Motions Without Notice)
- 13. Next Meeting

Council will meet every fortnight, ie next meeting is on 22 March 2024.

14. Close

Meeting closed at 11:53am