



**University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students' Council
Minutes
7th December 2022, 12pm
Meeting 1(23)
Location:**

<https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/85781118624?pwd=STJWbTUvY0JGemROWGNOUXdnUzIPUT09P>
Password: 695025

Meeting opened at 12:07pm

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Disha Zutshi be elected as Chair.

Mover: Disha Zutshi

Seconded: Mohan Kwatra

CARRIED

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

Procedural Motion: To move immediately to items 10.1-10.4, and vote on the motions en bloc.

Moved: Harley Lewis

CARRIED

Council moved to items 10.1-10.4

10.1. Student Initiative Grants

Council noted the SIG reports attached in papers, from the students who were successful in their applications and received grant money from UMSU in 2022.

10.2.

Motion:

To pass up to \$2000 from the activities and events budget line to purchase a new pool table for the SAB.

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond

10.3. Indigenous Motion

Motion:

That council approves expenditure from the Indigenous Department's Special Projects & Events budget line for \$160 for a grant for sports equipment for students.

Mover: Harley Lewis

Seconded: Brittney Henderson

10.4. Burnley Garden Motion

Motion:

To pass up to \$450 from the general operations line for mulch for the student gardens at Burnley.

Mover: Kaitlyn Hammond.

Motion 2: to accept motions 10.1-10.3 as presented, en bloc.

Moved: Harley Lewis

Seconded: Brittney Henderson

CARRIED

1.3. Attendance

Councillors

Representatives on Students' Council	Full name	Attended?
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	Reham Elzeiny	Yes
Students' Council Indigenous Representative	N/A	N/A
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	Sameeksha Mudigere Keshav	Yes
Queer Representative on Students' Council	Edison Wei Long Ngu	No
International Student Representative on Students' Council	Luv Pravin Golecha	Yes
Graduate Student Representative on Students' Council	Nan Jiang	Yes
Southbank Student Representative on Students' Council	N/A	
Students' Council (General Representative)	Benjamin Cronshaw	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	N/A	N/A
Students' Council (General Representative)	Divyanshi Sati	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Edward Wu	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Evelyn Thompson	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Inderpreet Singh	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Isabella Beiraghi	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Isioma Ogwu	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	N/A	N/A
Students' Council (General Representative)	Marcie Di Bartolomeo	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Mohan Kwatra	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Raphael Duffy	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Senaya (Sam) Rathnaweera	Yes
Students' Council (General Representative)	Watey Diep	Yes

Office Bearers

Department	Full name	Attended?
President	Hiba Adam	<i>Leave Request</i>
General Secretary	Disha Zutshi	<i>Yes</i>
Activities Officer	Tvisha Purswani	<i>Yes</i>
Activities Officer	Arya Kushwaha	<i>Yes</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Abbey Crowley	<i>Yes</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Savier D-Arsie-Marquez	<i>Yes</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Renee Thierry	<i>Yes</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kimmy Ng	<i>Yes</i>
Disabilities Officer	Jaryd Clifford	<i>Yes</i>
Disabilities Officer	Shuyun (Betty) Zhang	<i>Leave Request</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Carlos Lagos Martin	<i>Yes</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Mary Kin Chan	<i>Yes</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Taj Takahashi	<i>No</i>
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	<i>Yes</i>
Environment Officer	James Gallagher	<i>Yes</i>
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	<i>Yes</i>
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	<i>Leave Request</i>
Media Officer	Weiting Chin	<i>Yes</i>
Media Officer	Xiaole Zhan	<i>Yes</i>
Media Officer	Josh Davis	<i>Yes</i>
Media Officer	Carmen Chin	<i>Yes</i>
People of Colour Officer	Mohamed Hadi	<i>Leave Request</i>
Queer Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	<i>Yes</i>
Queer Officer	Sum To Leslie Ho	<i>Yes</i>
Welfare Officer	Ishita Ganeriwala	<i>Leave Request</i>
Welfare Officer	Yashica Mishra	<i>Yes</i>
Women's Officer	Ngaire Bogemann	<i>Yes</i>
Women's Officer	Alessandra Soliven	<i>Yes</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Rhys Browning	<i>No</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Annalyce Wiebenga	<i>Yes</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Jack Doughty	<i>No</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Helen Shen	<i>Yes</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Zodie Bolic	<i>Leave Request</i>

Other: Phoebe Churches (interim CEO), Ciara Griffiths (Coordinator, Student Representation), Tim Lippis (Coordinator, People & Culture), Oskar Martin (Observer), Lucas Spaleta (VCESS), Thomas Leadbetter (Observer)

1.4. Apologies**1.5. Proxies****1.6. Leave of Absence Requests**

1.6.1. Mohamed Hadi, Hibatallah (Hiba) Adam, Harley Lewis, and Ishita Ganeriwala request leave for this council

1.6.2. Betty Zhang is requesting leave from 5th December to 10th January

1.7. Membership

- 1.7.1. Sophie Baylis and Ze Ming have resigned from council
- 1.7.2. Kyi Phyu (Moe) Htet has resigned as People of Colour Officer
- 1.7.3. Jemilla Kleinitz Lister has resigned as Education Public Officer

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Councillors noted some errors in the OB reports.

Motion 3: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover:

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. Minutes Special Council 2(22)

2.2. Minutes Special Council 3(22)

2.3. Minutes Council 16(22)

2.4. Minutes Council 17(22)

Motion 4: To accept minutes SC 2(22), 3(22), & 4(22), and minutes 16(22) & 17(22) as a true and accurate record, en bloc.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

Marcie Di Bartolomeo declared conflict of interest with the 2022 annual OB reports, will not vote on their own report.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

Procedural Motion: To move discussion to item 11.1 (motion without notice).

Moved: Isabella Beiraghi

CARRIED

11.1. UMSU stands with climate activist Violet Coco against state repression

Preamble:

In April, climate activist Deanna 'Violet' Coco blocked a single lane of the Sydney Harbour Bridge for 25 minutes in protest against climate inaction.

Last week, Violet was handed down a 15 month prison sentence, with a minimum of 8 months, for participating in this action. She was refused bail while she lodges an appeal.

NSW Liberal Premier Dominic Perrotet said this decision was “pleasing to see” and warned of further repression for protestors who “want to put our way of life at risk”.

This is an outrageous attack on the right to protest.

Politicians and the courts have spent years defending and aiding fossil fuel companies' right to make mega-profits from mining and burning fossil fuels. They know that this is leading to the destruction of the planet, and putting billions of people's “way of life” - and lives - at risk.

But when protestors like Violet demonstrate to draw attention to this they are given massive prison sentences by the courts using laws created by politicians who support the fossil fuel industry.

UMSU stands against this latest attack on the right to protest. Cases like Violet's normalise the creeping authoritarianism of governments who want to deal with the climate crisis by jailing those who protest against them.

Importantly, there have been snap rallies called across the country to stand in solidarity with Violet and defend the right to protest. Incoming UMSU Environment Officer Emma Dynes spoke at the Melbourne rally, saying “We need to keep fighting against the people creating this crisis... and the way that we need to do that is to fight against attacks on our civil liberties and get as many people out onto the streets”

Platform:

1. UMSU reaffirms its support for the right to protest as a basic civil liberty and democratic right.
2. UMSU stands against the latest attacks on the right to protest, including the NSW government's anti-protest laws but also the Victorian Labor government's criminalisation of anti-logging protestors.
3. UMSU expresses its solidarity with Violet Coco and gives her its full support in her appeal against the unjust NSW legal system

Action:

1. UMSU will publish a statement of solidarity with Violet on social media including the title and preamble of this motion.

Read more: The Guardian, 'Wherever you stand on Violet Coco, her jailing raises the stakes for climate protest' <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/dec/05/whereveryoustandonvioletcocoherjailingraisesthestakesforclimateprotest>

Mover: Bella Beiraghi

Seconder: Sam Rathnaweera

Bella Beiraghi spoke to her moving rights, reiterated the preamble as several members of council had not received the updated agenda.

Speaking list opened for discussion.

Some members of Council raised concerns with areas of wording of the original motion.

Proposed Amendment from Kevin Li:

1. Remove the last sentence of the preamble from any UMSU releases that may result from this motion, we do not want to set the precedent of Having the appearance of OBs other than the president making statements that appears to have been endorsed by UMSU, especially when they were made outside of their role acting as UMSU council members.
2. Remove the condemnation of the Victorian government from the statement, the preamble makes a strong case for the condemnation of the NSW government, it neither mentions nor explains the condemnation of the Victorian government, the point is tacked on and unrelated.

This was not amenable to the mover or seconder.

Speaking list moved to discussion on the proposed amendment.

Those against of the amendment noted that they believed Office Bearers should be able to speak to matters such as the above. Also noted that the second proposed amendment remains relevant, as the Victorian Labour Government is also guilty of criminalisation of anti-loggers, and that there needs to be a unified front on holding all state governments accountable.

Alessandra proposed that perhaps Emma's statement be noted as coming from an Unimelb activist, rather than as coming from an UMSU representative, given that the President is constitutionally the UMSU spokesperson, or alternatively that Council votes on accepting Emma as the spokesperson on behalf of UMSU for this matter.

Proposed Amendment from Alessandra Soliven:

1. To amend the last sentence of the preamble from any UMSU releases that may result from this motion to include and identify Emma as a student activist at the Union.

Proposed Amendment from Emma Dynes:

1. Amend + add to preamble: This follows a generalised pattern In Victoria, the Daniel Andrews Labor government passed similarly anti-democratic laws aimed at anti-logging activists trying to prevent the destruction of native forests. The Sustainable Forests Timber Amendment Bill upped fines to \$21,000, jail sentences to 12 months and zones banning protest. In Tasmania, the Liberals tried for the fourth time to increase fines for individuals to \$12,975 and for organisations to \$103,800 and sentences of up to 18 months.

Motion 5: To consider Kevin Li's amendment.

Moved: Kevin Li

Seconded: Luv Pravin Golecha

FAILED

Motion 6: To consider Alessandra Soliven's amendment

Moved: Alessandra Soliven

Seconded: Evie Thompson

FAILED

Final proposed amendment is amenable to the mover, original motion is amended.

6.2. Office Bearer Reports 2023

Department	Full name	Submission Status?
President	Hiba Adam	<i>Not Submitted</i>
General Secretary	Disha Zutshi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Tvisha Purswani	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Activities Officer	Arya Kushwaha	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Abbey Crowley	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Creative Arts Officer	Savier D-Arsie-Marquez	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Renee Thierry	<i>Submitted</i>
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kimmy Ng	<i>Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Jaryd Clifford	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Disabilities Officer	Shuyun (Betty) Zhang	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Carlos Lagos Martin	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Academic Affairs) Officer	Mary Kin Chan	<i>Submitted</i>
Education (Public Affairs) Officer	Taj Takahashi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	Emma Dynes	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Environment Officer	James Gallagher	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Brittney Henderson	<i>Submitted</i>
Indigenous Officer	Harley Lewis	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Weiting Chin	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Xiaole Zhan	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Josh Davis	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Media Officer	Carmen Chin	<i>Not Submitted</i>
People of Colour Officer	Mohamed Hadi	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Mehul Gopalakrishnan	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Queer Officer	Sum To Leslie Ho	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Ishita Ganeriwala	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Welfare Officer	Yashica Mishra	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Ngairie Bogemann	<i>Submitted</i>
Women's Officer	Alessandra Soliven	<i>Late</i>
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Rhys Browning	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Annalyce Wiebenga	<i>Submitted</i>
Southbank Campus Co-ordinator	Jack Doughty	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Activities Officer	Helen Shen	<i>Not Submitted</i>
Southbank Education Officer	Zodie Bolic	<i>Submitted</i>

Procedural Motion: To waive reporting requirements for this Council for the incoming OBs, due to lack of time for OBs to submit reports since term commencement.

Moved: Inderpreet Singh

CARRIED

7. CEO Report

Phoebe Churches (interim CEO) spoke to her report. Raised particular attention to the progress of CEO recruitment, and advice regarding ongoing efforts. Advised Council to

appoint new members to the CEO Recruitment Sub Committee, and carry on from the recruitment stage of shortlisting candidates to take to Council interview.

Marcie asked what occurred with the final interview with the shortlisted CEO candidates, and why the interviews were delayed. Jaryd Clifford, who sat on the committee will provide report.

Motion 8: To accept the CEO's report.

Moved: Ngaire Bogemann

Seconded: Annalyce Wiebenga

CARRIED

8. Other Reports

8.1. CEO Recruitment Sub-Committee 2022

Jaryd Clifford, who sat on the committee provided a verbal report on the actions of the committee in 2022. Convened first in March, and began interviewing and shortlisting from August, with final interviews before the Council interview taking place in November. Had shortlisted to three final candidates, of which two retracted their applications. The committee determined not to interview the final candidate with Council.

Martina Smythe, P&C Manager spoke to advice that to keep the recruitment process moving along that preliminary assessment of the final CEO candidates be delegated to the President and General Secretary.

Motion 9: To delegate the responsibility of preliminary assessment of final CEO candidates in early 2023 to the President and General Secretary, with the support of the Manager, People and Culture and under the same terms of reference as apply to the CEORSC

Moved: Ngaire Bogemann

Seconded: Evie Thompson

CARRIED

9. Operational Business

9.1. VCE Summer School Program

Spoke to the Summer School progress, introduced themselves to the new Council.

9.2. UMSU Strategic Plan

Endorsed with the CEO Report

9.3. Union House Theatre Change Management Plan

Endorsed with the CEO Report

9.4. Budget Process Improvements

OBs expressed process has been good, however more structure with the written proposal would be valuable. This can be something built upon for the next year's budget.

9.5. University's Student SSAF Survey

This was noted with the CEO Report.

9.6. UMSU 2022 Election Report

This was noted with the CEO Report.

9.7. The Ida Bar Budget Submission

This was noted with the CEO Report.

9.8. Roles & Responsibilities Statements

Motion 10: To accept the Roles & Responsibilities Statements and policy.

Moved: Marcie Di Bartolomeo

Seconded: Annalyce Wiebenga

CARRIED

9.9. Rowdy discussion paper

Endorsed with the CEO Report.

9.10. Survey Results of Student Honorarium

Endorsed with the CEO Report.

10. Motions on Notice

10.1. Student Initiative Grants

Items 10.1-10.4 discussed after item 1.2.

10.2. Burnley Motion

10.3. Indigenous Motion

10.4. Burnley Garden Motion

11. Motions without Notice

11.1. UMSU stands with climate activist Violet Coco against state repression

Discussed after item 5.

12. Other Business

13. Next Meeting

19th December, Monday at 1:15PM

14. Close

Meeting closed at 1:57pm