



|   |                          |     |
|---|--------------------------|-----|
| <b>Students' Council (General Representative)</b> | Senaya (Sam) Rathnaweera | Yes |
| <b>Students' Council (General Representative)</b> | Watey Diep               | Yes |
| <b>Students' Council (General Representative)</b> | Conor Barnes             | No  |
| <b>Students' Council (General Representative)</b> | Kunal Dewani             | Yes |

### *Office Bearers*

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

Other: Phoebe Churches (interim CEO), Ciara Griffiths (Coordinator, Student Representation), Naomi Smith (SHRC Staff), Amaya Castro Williams (Observer), Frankie Sunday (Observer), Jessica Fanwong (Farrago Reporter), Joel Duggan (Farrago Reporter), Leon Paratz (Observer), Lucinda Chapman-Kelly (Observer), Luke Verhoeven (Observer), Oskar Martin (Observer), Patrick Irwin (Proxy for Conor Barnes), Rahul Mittal (Proxy for Edison Ngu), Rhoda Louis-Miller (Observer).

#### 1.4. Apologies

*Office Bearers:* Josh Davis, Annalyce Wiebenga, Ngaire Bogemann, Renee Thierry, Zodie Bolic, Xiaole Zhan, Helen Shen, Jack Doughty, Kimberly Ng.

*Councillors:* Conor Barnes, Bella Beiraghi, Edison Ngu, Edward Wu, Nan (Nora) Jiang

#### 1.5. Proxies

- 1.5.1. Conor Barnes to Patrick Irwin
- 1.5.2. Bella Beiraghi to Sam Rathnaweera
- 1.5.3. Edison Ngu to Rahul Mittal
- 1.5.4. Edward Wu to Enzhe (Kevin) Li
- 1.5.5. Nan (Nora) Jiang to Divyanshi Sati

#### 1.6. Leave of Absence Requests

- 1.6.1. *For Council 5(23):* Josh Davis, Annalyce Wiebenga, Ngaire Bogemann, Renee Thierry, Zodie Bolic, Kimberley Ng.

Motion 2: To accept the leave requests.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

#### 1.7. Membership

#### 1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 3: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

#### 2.1. Minutes 4(22)

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

Moved: Kevin Li

Seconded: Arya Kushwaha

CARRIED

### 3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

### 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

### 5. Correspondence

## 6. Office Bearer Reports

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

Question raised by Council how many reports an Officer can miss before honoraria is at risk.

Phoebe Churches referred to Council Charter requirements, if any reports are missed, it is at Council's discretion.

Luv Golecha raised that Council may need to have this discussion as a few Office Bearers have been not submitting reports.

Hiba Adam requested that if Councillors are concerned that OBs aren't submitting reports, that they first reach out to OBs personally to check in on their

circumstances, rather than bringing it directly to the forum of Council and make a judgement to withhold honoraria.

Environment Department gave update and reminder about the National Day of Climate Action occurring next Friday. Asked if Hiba has received the copy for distribution in a President's News.

Hiba confirmed that she has responded to the department this morning, comms will go out to students on Monday.

Motion 5: To accept the OB Reports.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

## 7. CEO Report

Council raised questions regarding the outstanding clubs' lockers and mailboxes, as well as other various issues, headaches, and inadequacies that have been raised following the move from Union House.

Phoebe Churches spoke to the meetings held with the University addressing the variety of issues and roadblocks. UMSU staff have been working hard to pursue the University to fulfil their promises and satisfy their undertakings. Whilst the University has promised they are doing what they can, there have been several roadblocks regardless.

All students were reminded of the power of collective voice. The best motivator for the University is public pressure from the student body. Utilise UMSU as a public platform – speak out on social media, write into the Farrago.

Motion 6: To accept the CEO's report.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

## 8. Other Reports

### 8.1. Asset Policy

### 8.2. UMSUi Update

### 8.3. UMSUi Honoraria

**Procedural Motion:** To move in of camera for item 8.3.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Council moved in camera at 3:10pm**

**Procedural Motion:** to defer item 8.3 to Council 6(23).

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Procedural Motion:** To move out of camera.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Council moved out of camera at 3:12pm**

## 9. Operational Business

### 10. Motions on Notice

#### 10.1.

**Motion:**

To open nominations for the Student Media Dispute Panel on 10th March 5 pm and close the nominations on 15th March 5pm.

Mover: Disha Zutshi

Secunder: Hiba Adam

Motion 7: To accept motion 10.1 as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

#### 10.2. Full support for NTEU industrial action at the University of Melbourne

**Preamble:**

UMSU recognises the importance of a strong and supportive university community, where students and staff members can work together to achieve shared goals and outcomes.

UMSU acknowledges the university will create a false dichotomy between the interests of students and staff members, by framing the industrial action as detrimental to students.

UMSU recognises that this narrative seeks to pit students against our comrades at the NTEU and undermines their collective efforts to achieve fair and just outcomes for both students and staff.

**Action:**

UMSU will play an active role in the NTEU's decision to strike at the University of Melbourne and commits to communicate the importance of fair working conditions and job security for university staff members to the student body.

Lastly, UMSU will encourage students to support the NTEU's industrial action to achieve fair and just outcomes for all members of the university community.

Moved: Carlos Lagos Martin                      Seconded: Kevin Li

Carlos spoke to their moving rights. Expressed plan to meet further with the NTEU and with Office Bearers regarding how different departments of UMSU can assist NTEU in supporting Uni staff working rights.

Several students and councillors spoke in favour of the motion and its actions.

**Procedural Motion:** To suspend standing orders to accept a proxy from Marcie Di Bartolomeo to Inderpreet Singh.

Moved: Marcie Di Bartolomeo

CARRIED

*Marcie Di Bartolomeo proxied to Inderpreet Singh at 3:28pm*

**Procedural Motion:** to resume standing orders.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

*Marcie Di Bartolomeo left at 3:29PM*

Motion 8: To accept motion 10.2 as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

### **10.3. UMSU seeks to protect student democracy and unionism at the University of Melbourne**

**Preamble:**

The University of Melbourne has recently announced the establishment of a Melbourne Student Forum (MSF), a focus group that aims to listen to student voices. While UMSU supports all efforts made by the University to engage with students, we believe that the MSF has no application to all significant decisions and consultation at the University. As a well-established democratic representative body with over 55-000 member and 100 democratically elected student representatives, UMSU believes that it is the only legitimate voice of students at the University of Melbourne.

Furthermore, UMSU is concerned that the MSF has the potential to undermine the voice of students instead of amplifying them. As a university-initiated and led process, it may be used in ways that displace student led initiatives. UMSU believes that this is against the "students as partners" model that the university has

previously put forward. We welcome a statement from the University clarifying its position on this matter.

UMSU is also concerned that the establishment of the MSF may be part of a wider move in the tertiary sector to displace democratically elected student representation. We do not want the University to pick who speaks for us – we want to choose and keep democratic student representation alive.

UMSU calls upon the University to unequivocally and publicly state its respect for student democracy at the University of Melbourne and its willingness to partner with UMSU to elevate the voices of students.

**Action:**

1. Ensure student democracy is respected and maintained at the University of Melbourne
2. Enhance existing structures that are genuinely student led.
3. Consolidate or compliment the MSF with existing structures to provide genuine student-university partnerships.
4. Prevent any moves to displace democratically elected student representation and ensure that UMSU remains the legitimate voice of students at the University of Melbourne.

Moved: Carlos Lagos Martin

Seconded: Mary Kin Chan

Carlos and Mary spoke to their meeting rights. Mentioned that the Education Department is starting up 'UMSU Assemblies' to create an open forum for students to attend and raise issues to their elected representatives, asked that Councillors get involved and attend. Will set a good precedent to tell the university to "fuck off".

Councillors discussed the chances that the University's forum would be successful in the long term, however determined that regardless UMSU must contest it as it undermines the role elected representatives serve the student body.

Motion 9: To accept motion 10.3 as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

#### 10.4. Radio

**Motion:**

To pass \$180 from Period 3 of the Radio budget line of the Media Department's budget to pay for AV Melbourne training sessions for the Media Officers and Radio Fodder Station Managers to safely operate the Radio Fodder studio.

Mover: Carmen Chin

Secunder: Weiting Chen

Media officers pointed out the radio station across the hallway, they would really like to use it.

Motion 10: To accept motion 10.4 as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

### 10.5. Oppose the Far Right

#### **Preamble:**

Kellie-Jay Keen aka 'Posie Parker' is one of the most recognisable and active anti-trans activists in the UK and she has recently announced a speaking tour of Australia and NZ. Keen insists she is not part of the right – cloaking her vile politics with a veneer of "women's rights" with one of her key slogans being "let women speak".

Her far-right positions become obvious when her associates are revealed; Keen has given interviews with, posed for photos with, or appeared on the podcasts and shows of:

- Proudboy activists, including one participant in the January 6th capitol hill riot.
- Far right Hungarian politician, Holocaust denier, and Islamophobe Hans Lysglimt Johansen
- Canadian white-supremacist Jean-François Gariépy
- American right-wing talk show host Tucker Carlson

She actively campaigns against transgender people having their gender recognised by the state, against drag performances and against trans people using public bathrooms aligning with their gender. She compared schools letting trans kids use the correct bathroom to social engineering and called trans people and their supporters a 'cult.'

So evidently, she is a far-right bigot who needs to be opposed along with her links to the right. Figures of the political right claim their transphobia is motivated by concern for women and children and claim to represent majority opinion – which is why protests which oppose the proliferation and emboldening of right-wing ideas and their perpetrators.

The protest called by the National Union of Students Queer department is an important event for all left-wing people who want to fight transphobia and the far-right. It's happening at 12pm on Saturday, March 18th at the State Library. This Facebook event is here: <https://fb.me/e/3c2jZz3RZ>. UMSU as a political body that represents students should endorse and put resources into building this rally.

#### **Platform:**

1. Opposes the Australian and New Zealand tour of far right and transphobic British commentator Kellie-Jay Keen

2. UMSU endorses National Union of Students 'Fight the Right: protest the speaking tour of right-wing UK transphobe Kellie-Jay Keen' Rally

**Actions:**

1. UMSU will share the event for the protest against Kellie-Jay Keen on the UMSU page.
2. Office Bearers and Departments should share and promote the rally on their respective social media pages.

Moved: Sam Rathnaweera

Seconded: Mehul Gopalakrishnan

Sam and Mehul spoke to their moving rights. Raised the importance of protest, to demonstrate that the far right can't be defeated by just ignoring them, but by raising student voices in defence of minorities and against extremist rhetoric.

Motion 11: To accept motion 10.7 as presented.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**10.6. UMSU endorses the NUS 'Get a room - students for affordable housing' campaign.**

**Preamble:**

The National Union of Students Education Office has called for immediate action to fix the rental crisis that students and young people face across Australia.

Students in Australia are feeling the brunt of the cost-of-living crisis, and in this crisis, housing is becoming more inaccessible. The latest census revealed a million empty dwellings across Australia, yet students and other renters are struggling to find a place to live or pay the rent. Governments have created this crisis by refusing to build adequate public housing and allowing landlords to buy up investment properties that then sit empty. Our universities have made things worse by selling off their accommodation to private providers that take advantage of students, who are forced to pay through the roof for inadequate shared accommodation.

The NUS Education Office has launched a campaign "Get A Room - Students for Affordable Housing". UMSU should endorse this campaign as a nationwide effort to fight for housing as a human right, and not something that is to drain the pockets of students.

In Melbourne, rents have and will continue to increase. For example, there has been a 21.1% increase in rents in Carlton in the past month to \$534.23 a week. This is accompanied by a 20% increase in the median weekly cost of renting an apartment in Melbourne, while in inner Melbourne rents have reached a weekly median of \$490 a week. With the spike in rents, property developers see this housing crisis as an opportunity to cash in - Yugo, a global provider for student accommodation, says

there are real opportunities for investors to get into the growing Purpose-Built Student Accommodation sector in Australia.

Property developers are not on the side of students, and neither are the University management and Vice-Chancellors. The University of Melbourne has \$10.59 billion in assets, while Vice-Chancellor Duncan Maskell has a \$1.5 million salary. While students are barely able to pay rent whilst studying, University Management and Maskell are making up towards millions and billions of dollars within their various assets, investments and salaries.

The "Get A Room - Students for Affordable Housing" national campaign opposes those who exploit students through the increasing of rents, demands an end to rent hikes through a two-year rent freeze and rent reductions, capping student housing at 30% of income, abolishing the market in private student accommodation, and building public housing.

**Platform:**

1. UMSU endorses the National Union of Students' 'Get a Room - Students for Affordable Housing' campaign
2. UMSU condemns the for-profit private student housing providers, all of whom take exorbitant amounts of students money for poor-quality housing
3. UMSU condemns the ridiculous prices of the University colleges, which put an upward pressure on the cost of student housing.

**Action:**

1. Office Bearers and councillors are heavily encouraged to support the "Get A Room - Students for Affordable Housing" campaign by signing onto the open letter: [https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/get-a-room-students-for-affordable-housing?fbclid=IwAR21LU2rlbdjywVk3zOdTJei4YfrCoFHUeI5fDMJ6WRPK8CZkW48laYM\\_Uk](https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/get-a-room-students-for-affordable-housing?fbclid=IwAR21LU2rlbdjywVk3zOdTJei4YfrCoFHUeI5fDMJ6WRPK8CZkW48laYM_Uk)
2. UMSU will share the campaign's posts on its social media pages.

*Weiting and Carmen left at 3.58PM*

**Procedural Motion:** to move to a five-minute break.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Council adjourned at 4:01pm**  
**Council re-adjourned at 4:06pm**

*Mehul Gopalakrishnan left at 4:06pm*

James Gallagher proposed an amendment:

**Proposed Amendment:**

To add to the platform:

4. UMSU stands in solidarity with Cherish Kuehlmann, UNSW Education Officer, who was arrested for leading a student housing protest at the Reserve Bank. UMSU calls for the NSW state government to drop all charges against her.

Replace action point 2 with:

2. UMSU will share the following statement via social media:

**UMSU stands with Cherish Kuehlmann. The right to protest is an essential part of free speech.**

UMSU stands in solidarity with Cherish Kuehlmann, UNSW Education Officer, who was arrested for leading a protest for affordable student housing at the Reserve Bank of Australia and faces heavy penalties. UMSU calls for the NSW state government to drop all charges against her.

Students everywhere should oppose the repression of activists and the creeping removal of democratic rights. UMSU condemns those in the UNSW SRC who have refused to back Cherish.

Students are encouraged to sign the open letter here in support of Cherish:

[https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/drop-the-charges-against-cherish-kuehlmann?fbclid=IwAR2kB2klW4qrBK7i5rf47shyeuX\\_z5zBWHWrNnJTilI00ehKSs2FFIjJlfo](https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/drop-the-charges-against-cherish-kuehlmann?fbclid=IwAR2kB2klW4qrBK7i5rf47shyeuX_z5zBWHWrNnJTilI00ehKSs2FFIjJlfo)

Moved: James Gallagher

*This was amenable to the mover.*

Kevin Li proposed an additional amendment:

**Proposed Amendment:**

To remove the sentence, "UMSU condemns those in the UNSW SRC who have refused to back Cherish."

Moved: Kevin Li

*This was not amenable to the mover.*

Motion 12: to accept the proposed amendment by Kevin Li.

Moved: Kevin Li

Seconded: Luv Golecha

CARRIED

**Procedural Motion:** to cede the chair to Hiba Adam.

Moved: Disha Zutshi

CARRIED

*Hiba Adam is now chairing.*

Disha spoke in favour of Kevin Li's amendment.

Motion 13: to accept motion 10.6 with proposed amendments.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

**Procedural Motion:** to cede the chair to Disha Zutshi

Moved: Hiba Adam

CARRIED

*Disha Zutshi is now chairing.*

## **11. Motions without Notice**

## **12. Other Business**

Luv Golecha raised noted issue at the Holi event held on Wednesday 8 March, that the Environment Department set up a stall uninvited and leafleted to students, to much complaint from participants and organisers. Raised complaint that the department acted disrespectfully during a cultural event.

Councillors debated the matter at length.

*Jaryd Clifford arrived at 4:29pm*

**Procedural Motion:** that the speaking list be closed after Emma Dynes.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

## **13. Next Meeting**

Disha Zutshi proposed the following schedule for Council in Semester 1, 2023:  
24th March, 6th April, 21st April, 5th May, 19th May, 2nd June, 27th June at 2:30pm

Motion 14: to accept the proposed schedule.

Moved: Chair

CARRIED

## **14. Close**

**Meeting closed at 4:55pm**