

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students’ Council
Student Office Bearer Reports
10:00AM, Tuesday, the 24th of September 2019
Meeting 19(19)
Location: Private Dining, Union House

Student Office Bearer Reports		x/17
President	Submitted	13/17
General Secretary	Submitted	13/17
Activities	Not Submitted	10/17
Clubs & Societies	Submitted	13/17
Creative Arts	Submitted	13/17
Disabilities	Not Submitted	9/17
Education (Academic Affairs)	Submitted	11/17
Education (Public Affairs)	Not Submitted	11/17
Environment	Not Submitted	11/17
Indigenous	Not Submitted	8/14
Media	Not Submitted	13/17
People of Colour	Submitted	14/17
Queer	Submitted	12/15
Welfare	Not Submitted	13/17
Women’s	Submitted	14/17
Burnley	Submitted	8/17
Southbank	Not Submitted	6/17

All Office Bearer Reports are presented as they were received, with only formatting changes.

Late reports are not considered valid.

**President
Molly Willmott**

I have been on leave for the past week so this is a short and sweet ob report. Congratulations to all 2020 representatives elected last week, I hope you the best and remind you to use this year to the your fullest advantage.

Special Consideration

This is a biggie. Last Monday, while most of the union has been on leave, the university announced a suite of changes to special consideration. As outlined in my statement, these changes are draconian and would create a tremendous amount of risk to all those needing special consideration.

To outline, there are two main changes proposed. Firstly, that all special consideration claims must be put no less that 4 days in advance to assessment. This means that there is no special consideration after the fact. If you find out that you are ill afterwards or something happens in that assessment, your options are limited. They are also getting rid of special-on-special provisions meaning that you cannot receive additional help on an ongoing claim.

The backlash has been quite large, and very promising. On Wednesday, we released a statement outlining these changes and the reach of that is in the thousands. We released a subsequent survey on the Thursday that has already received 1100 responses. Additionally, I have received about 150 emails from students voicing their concerns.

I attended academic board last Thursday to discuss these changes. The university outlined that they have introduced these plans to streamline special consideration and SEDS. They said that they had not undertaken risk assessment and will be going into that in the consultation process. There was academic support for these changes, unfortunately.

Consultation is open until the start of October, and we are preparing a report to the university using the Reponses from students.

I am confident we will be able to run a substantive campaign and beat these changes.

Precinct

We attended a meeting outlining the plans for the student pavilion. We raised some concerns about storage and the RWL. Those are back with the architects

There was also a meeting about Dougy Mac plans. Finalisation of those are immanent.

Elected Reps

There is an elected reps meeting this week. Will update as soon as possible.

No Action Points

No Expenditure

**General Secretary
Reece Moir**

Not an awful lot has happened since the last Students’ Council, so this will be brief.

Key Activities

Special General Meeting

THIS HAPPENED. A quorum count was called, but we also had quorum. NEW CONSTITUTION, WOOH! I will be sending out finalised regs soon for your consideration at the next scheduled council meeting.

Ethical Sponsorship

I’m going to ask that the working group for this be reconvened. As there are some other aspects of the policy that I think would be really important to add.

Tribunals

There has been some commotion re: the tribunals, so just working this into my schedule has been a big thing recently

Elected Reps

It was cancelled. Another will be very soon!

Web Development

Had a meeting about this. Office Bearer will have the opportunity to participate in an interview soon about their use of the site, any difficulties, anything they like etc. This will be a long process, and it’s very exciting to be involved in its early stages.

Progress on Action Points from Last Report

1. **Catch up on what I’ve missed in the past week**
I think I’ve done this.

Action Points to be Completed by Next Report

1. **Student Media Policy**
2. **Convene the Ethical Sponsorship Working Group**
3. **Give notice of changes to regulations to Council (at least 14 days)**
4. **Start editing handover document**
5. **Look into translations of key policies (as per my election policy and the incoming’s election policy)**
6. **Have fun**

Expenditure

N/A

Activities

Liam O’Brien

No report submitted.

Clubs & Societies
Jordan Tochner & Christopher Melenhorst

The last two weeks have been an interesting time, with Jordan on leave I have been a sole office bearer. It has also been crunch time for my assignments which has meant a reduced capacity for club related activities.

Primarily when I’ve been in, I’ve been approving constitutional changes which requires a thought and Fiona’s consultation and co-approval. There have also been numerous petitioned meetings to make up for a recent lack of quorum and ratification of decisions, which has resulted in a lot of time-consuming minute writing.

Outside of those two tasks, the remaining hours have been me being available for club consultations and responding to emails.

Lots of Love,
Christopher Ryan Melenhorst

No Action Points

No Expenditure

Creative Arts
Eloise Hamill & Lucy Holz

Key Activities

Mudfest

Mudfest may be over, but the aftermath lives on. Lucy has been doing all the invoicing for employees, caterers, photographers, receipt reimbursements, mentor payments. We also held three days of debriefs last week, which involved individual exit interviews and group team debriefs. Here we discussed what went well in the festival, what could be improved, and what should go in everyone’s reports that will be helpful for the next Mudfest team. Some team members have already begun sending in their reports, and the meetings were very constructive and cathartic.

Grants

We have had our largest grant applicant round ever! Which means lots of consultations. We are having committee next week where the successful applicants and the amounts they receive will be decided.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

1. Arrange consultations for next round of Creative Arts Grants

We have met with the applicants, and are having committee this week so decide on who will be successful

2. Continue payment of Mudfest invoices

A never-ending task, but is chugging along

3. Debrief with the Mudfest festival team next week

Individual and team debriefs were held with all team members, who will now commence writing their reports

Action Points to be completed by next report

1. Hold committee and facilitate the discussion around grant applications (for our largest round yet of 7 applications)
2. Continue payment of Mudfest invoices
3. Begin writing our Mudfest report

NO NEW BUDGET EXPENDITURE

**Disabilities
Lucy Birch**

No report submitted

**Education (Academic Affairs)
Elizabeth Tembo & Dominic Ilagan**

Key Activities

1. **Committees**

Academic Programs Committee (APC)

The committee meeting held on the morning of the 20th September was not very contentious. I flagged to the committee that our Survey on the proposed changes to Special Consideration had received over 2000 responses from students and that the GSA, UMSU, and UMSU International will be working through that data to release a response on behalf of students. This was noted.

I also flagged the release of the Design Student Survey and had a positive response from Architecture Building and Planning representatives who requested to have the data shared with them so we can work together.

The Uni is in the process of developing a new Breadth Explorer Student Tool that will help students to better explore their breadth option. Aside from a user-friendly interface, additional filter options such as “degree of similarity” are being proposed. This particular feature is designed to allow students to see how closely their breadth subject is related to their course.

Discussion about anomalies caused by subjects or majors that overlap with multiple fields was contentious, the necessity of this tool was also questioned. Despite this the tool will likely continue in its development with pilots being trialled semester 1 2020.

2. Special Consideration Campaign

The Special Consideration Survey has received over 2000 responses! Molly’s inbox is inundated with messages and there’s been much talk regarding the proposed changes amongst students.

Advocacy, The GSA President and Education Officer, Molly and Elizabeth met on Thursday 19th for a debrief and discuss the issues surrounding the Proposal, the progress we’ve had on our various committees in discussing this, concerns for students, the progress of the survey, and most importantly to plan our next steps. It was quite a productive meeting and I am quite pleased that the GSA, and UMSU are all in agreement. Tackling this issue from different angles will better our chances of not only successfully repealing the contentious changes, but also, implementing more changes that better serve students and staff.

The survey will be closed on Monday 23rd and the raw data will be distributed to UMSU and the GSA. From there we will liaise to put together reports and submit them by the 4th of October

3. Meeting with Student Success

Dom met with the Student Success Team on 20th September to discuss State Government Funded Internships.

Actions to Be Completed by Next Meeting

1. Draft Special Consideration response with Molly
2. Finalise prizes and release the Design Student Survey

**Education (Public Affairs)
Charli Fouhy & Charlie Joyce**

No report submitted

**Environment
Will Ross**

No report submitted

**Indigenous
Laura Brown & Jordan Holloway-Clarke**

No report submitted.

Media
Stephanie Zhang, Carolyn Huane, Ruby Perryman

No report submitted

People of Colour
Farah Khairat & Mark Yin

Key Activities

Be Here Be Heard

We collaborated with the Faculty of Arts on a picnic this week. This was with a view of promoting the conference event which aims to restructure teaching and learning in the Arts faculty. The event was hosted on South Lawn and we had Connect 4, deckchairs, whiteboards with suggestions, and food! We’re looking forward to the event and hope to see people of colour registered at the main event on October 4th. We’re also going to help organise some caucuses regarding POC for the event and help connect the Arts faculty with more students of colour.

Anti-Racism Workshops

We’re finished! Super proud of the range and depth of workshops we had throughout the year - they’ve been really great, informative, and beneficial to both us, the attendees, and the presenters. We had one person cancel their workshop but otherwise, all were successful.

Myriad

We held a proofreading session during the last PoC x Media Collective that ended up going on for quite a few hours extra - thanks to everyone who came and was able to help out. The magazine has been laid out and we’re talking to printers now!

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Myriad

Proofread and just about ready to send to print - we’re looking at a week 11 launch.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Book a venue for Myriad launch

We’re looking to grab the research lounge again this year to have the launch on October 17th.

Start planning final special events

We’re looking to do an Open Mic Night and an Asylum Seeker Awareness event before the end of our term.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
2(19)	24/01/2019	Collective	\$7,200	Collectives	Spent \$613 since last council
4(19)	13/03/2019	Media Collective	\$360	Collectives	Spent \$85.18 on latest 2 poc x media collectives
8(19)	19/08/2019	Anti-Racism Workshop Catering	\$850	Special Events	Spent 137.50 since last council

Queer
Andie Moore & Raph Canty

Key Activities

Emails & newsletter

The newsletter last week was the biggest it’s ever been and we’re publicising a lot of great events and initiatives. Raph and Andie are both doing much better with emails.

Stalls for All

We had an organising meeting for the Stalls for All this week, to plan a demonstration in Week 11. We’re thinking of organising a union house bathroom take/makeover, to raise awareness about the lack of all-gender bathrooms on campus, and what an accessible, inclusive bathroom looks like.

Cross-Uni Queer Party

Representatives from Monash, La Trobe, Swinburne, Deakin and RMIT Universities have been working to put together a cross-uni queer party event, which has been moved from Union Hall to an external venue, now held Thursday October 3.

Queer Ball

Queer Ball is getting really close now, Raph has been communicating with Bobby McGee’s as well as photographers and DJs. Over 150 tickets have been sold and we’re expecting up to 300 attendees. We’re currently in the process of getting volunteers on board for welfare roles.

Queer Collaborations

Raph and QCOC have been putting together a budget for a funding proposal from the University for the conference. Colleges are in contact and we’re hoping to have a walkthrough of their facilities soon to lock in where delegates will be staying.

Queer Gals Movie Night

The first Queer Gals movie night of the semester was a great success and Raph is currently planning for two more in weeks 10 and 12. Films to be screened are Bound (1996) and Rafiki (2018). Queer, Women’s and Rowden White will be sharing the costs of the screening rights

Regular events

Week 8 saw a dip in attendance of regular events such as Queer Lunch and G&Ts with the LGBTs. Numbers were still good though, and we’re ecstatic with the attendance all semester.

Pride in Sport

Andie and Raph attended the Pride in Sport Rainbow pledge evening, where sport clubs pledged to be inclusive of LGBTQIA+ students and it was a very positive night. The Pride in Sport initiative is bringing a lot of value to queer UniMelb students.

Stress Less Week Dog Picnic

Raph has reached out to PAWS about holding another Stress Less Week Dog picnic like last semester. This will happen on Monday 14 October and money has been passed for snacks.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Cross-Uni Party

This has been effectively cancelled, with Monash mainly coordinating the moved event during break

UMSU Queer Ball

More tickets have been sold and more planning has been done to prepare for it

Run Queer Gals Movie nights

One has already been held, with two to go!

Stress Less week

Monday 14 October has been confirmed as the date for this event.

Action Points to be completed by next report

UMSU Queer Ball

Continue planning for the event which is only a few weeks away.

Stress Less week dog picnic

Continue work on the event

Stalls for All

Continue planning for demonstration in week 11

Welfare
Ashwin Chhaperia & Natasha Guglielmino

No report submitted

**Women’s
Aria Sunga & Hannah Buchan**

Not a lot has happened since our last report a week ago but here’s what we’ve been up to.

Key Activities

Respect Taskforce Meeting

The Respect Taskforce meeting was held on 18/9/19. We got an update about the Respect campaign and the anonymous register for inappropriate behaviour. Most of the information is confidential, but there is progress happening.

Queer Gals Movie Night

She’s back. The Queer Department have taken the lead on it this semester, and the first movie screening was Disobedience. Attendance was great and it’s sure to continue to be a great event for the rest of the semester. We’re on the lookout for queer women movies that are actually good because a lot of them unfortunately are not.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Mid-year budget review

Submitted!

Judy’s Punch launch (Wed 9th Oct (W10))

The Ida is booked, we’ve gotten a quote from printgraphics about costs and we’re on our way to getting these mags printed!!! Huge thank you to our editors for being so lovely and dedicated. Preparations for the Launch are underway!

Women’s Room Maintenance

Passing a motion for expenditure on the 20/09/19.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Buy pads, tampons, and condoms

For the Women’s room

Organise catering and decorations for the Judy’s Punch launch

Gonna be lit

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment

2	31/01/19	Week 7 Collectives	\$4800	Collectives	Spent \$242.78
2	31/01/19	Week 8 Collectives	\$4800	Collectives	Spent \$256.19

**Burnley
James Barclay**

Key Activities

Powertool Workshop

The Burnley Student Association hosted a workshop on Power tool maintenance Dr Chris Williams. The workshop was a major success, students from Burnley’s Channel SSEN captured the entire event for mass distribution to the campus.

BGANZ Climate Resilience

The BSA sent a delegation of students to the BGANZ Climate Resilience meeting on Aug 28th. There student learn how the RBG and Melbourne as a whole is preparing for increased heat and plant failure.

Burnley Mushroom Club

The BSA is supporting a student group founded through the mushroom workshop to meet regularly for inoculation and discussion on all things fungi.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
2	06/02/2019	Powertool Workshop	\$5,000	Workshops	Spent \$2,210 so far
3	13/08/2019	Mushroom club Catering	\$10,000	On Campus Activities	\$136.99
1	17/01/2019	BGANZ Tickets	\$10,000	Off Campus Activities	\$300

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	17/01/2019	Yes, Confirmed
2	06/02/2019	Yes, Confirmed
3	13/8/2019	Yes, Unconfirmed

**Southbank
Hilary Ekins**

No report submitted.