

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the USMU Sexual Assault and Harassment Working Group
Minutes
29th of September 10 AM
Meeting 5(20)
Location: Zoom, link will be sent out prior to the meeting

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: *To elect Naomi Smith as Chair*

Moved: Naomi

Seconded: Nicole Nabbout

CARRIED WITH DISSENT

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Custodians

So acknowledged.

1.3 Attendance

Voting Members: Putri Shafira, Nicole Nabbout, Hayley Stanford, Hannah Krasovec, Hayley Kebbell, Shanysa McConville, Thonya Deverell, Jordan Di Natale, Aira Sunga.

Non-voting members: Naomi Smith, Patrick Tidmarsh, Sarah Peters

1.4 Apologies

1.5 Proxies

Hope Kuchel to Shanysa McConville

1.6 Membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: *To adopt the agenda as presented*

Moved: Naomi Smith

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion 3: *To confirm the previous mentions*

Moved: Naomi Smith

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

3. Conflicts of Interest Declaration

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

5. Correspondence

6. Office Bearer Reports

6.1 Report Back on the Respect Taskforce

Naomi verbally gave her report.

The Respect Taskforce universally agreed with the recommendations of the report, especially on the issues raised about the multiple reporting pathways at the University.

During the taskforce we also gave a verbal review of the consent modules, the Women's Department will be supplying.

We also raised concerns about the Student Participation in Study proposed policy, which poses significant risks to survivors of sexual assault and harassment.

Jordan: I do have a question for Patrick regarding those reports, were those papers sent out for this meeting.

Naomi: I can answer that, the grading system that Patrick has created based on Our turn and the Priorities were all sent out with papers.

7. Other Reports

7.1 Patrick Tidmarsh, UMSU Sexual Harm and Response Coordinator

Patrick verbally gave his report.

Report went into the Respect Taskforce and Naomi and Aria did a great job at presenting the report. There was respectful silence and some discussion, but that discussion will continue in the next Respect Taskforce. Requested that the members read the prioritises list that had been circled and ensured that it aligned with the recommendations of the UMSU report and their own views. Has re-written the scoring requirements for the Our Turn Campaign asked representatives to review those. Naomi and Aria were working on collaborating with the NUS on the making this a national campaign.

Motion 4: *To accept the reports as given*

Moved: Putri Shafira

Seconded: Jordan Di Natale

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

8. Operational Business

8.1 Our Turn Scoring System, Patrick Tidmarsh

Naomi: We have talked a little bit about using the Our turn system from Canada, and Patrick has updated it for an Australian context. Patrick can you explain how you did that?

Patrick: I changed it for things I am aware of our context which should be available in for students, such as reporting pathways, and legal issues.

Patrick went through the document and highlighted key changes he had made. He highlighted that one of the changes he made was to emphasis the need for an institution wide reporting

pathway. He highlighted some changes he had made that he was worried about and wanted the working groups feedback on.

Jordan Di Natale: My question is in regard to prioritises, are they numbered 1 to 10 in level of importance or are they equally important.

Patrick: I just numbered them so you could see what was differently, not necessarily to weight them.

Aria Sunga: Requested that it be noted in the minutes for the members to come back to the Working group to come back with feedback on the Our Turn scoring system and the priorities for next time.

Hayley Stanford: I was wondering if the points if that was just going off the Canadian model or if you had changed it.

Patrick: I have based it mainly off the Canadian system, but there were some things that I changed and weighted more heavily. For example, I emphasised alternative justice pathways more.

8.2 C&S Initiatives, Jordan Di Natale

Jordan Di Natale gave a summary of the work he had be doing with Patrick and Fiona around Clubs. Explained that they had sent out a survey to all clubs around their procedures around alcohol, safety and sexual assault and harassment. The policies and regulations are currently being reviewed by Fiona and that will be discussed soon. Fiona is making a camp activity timeline, basically camps must tell us what activities they are doing, and this has been approved in advance. Patrick, I, and Fiona, are gathering resources and are developing a training which will look at four to five areas which will cover areas of safety and alcohol. The format of the training will be an online module, followed by a face to face training, followed up by a camp activity timeline.

Hayley Stanford: Which leaders will undertake these training sessions, for example, for the bigger clubs you might have fifty leaders who go to the camp.

Jordan Di Natale: Within in those clubs are there leaders of the leaders?

Hayley Stanford: Like the Executive?

Jordan Di Natale: In that case it would be the executive of the club.

Hannah Krasovec: How closely is alcohol consumption monitored?

Jordan Di Natale: We say that people have to follow their RSA requirements.

Patrick Tidmarsh: We are trying to move to model where all the leaders undertake training. Which as many people can undertake the training as possible. We have also found people who organise camps don't really know what they are doing, that's why we are trying to develop more of an structure for activities and then the activity just ends up being drinking.

Naomi: I have a question about what the consent and sex ed section will look like?

Jordan: We are still working on the details for that and are in the development process.

Patrick: We are also trying to see what will come out of the work your doing, with the critique of the University consent modules, we can't have different messaging. We want to have a focus on prevention and disclosing.

Naomi: Just as a note, UMSU Women's is doing a review of the University Consent modules. And what has come out of that so far is that online modules by themselves aren't very effective, there should be a conversational element of the training where you can learn from others and have an opportunity to develop your own ethical framework.

8.3 UMSU Safety on Campus Priorities

Jordan stated that he felt that point 6 was very important, and that he felt that some staff did not know the proper procedures and actions. He also highlighted that this should be included the Our Turn Scoring System.

Hayley Kebbell: I just wanted a clarification about number 7 the investigative process of all complaints. Was that because the University says they cannot do that because there are multiple parts of the organisation?

Patrick: Yes, for example if a student makes a complaint about a staff member it will go to HR and then it will be externally investigated. Whereas when a student makes a complaint about another student it will go through the University misconduct process. Additionally,

depending on what colleges you live at students have to follow different processes. Ideally, we should have our own independent complaints team that any case that is complained about should go there.

Aria: Is it like a standardisation of a good process over all the different communities within the University?

Patrick: Yes. Maybe it is better as two points one is about having the same model across the University, and other point asking why there is a different process between staff and students.

Patrick: I think a part of it is that there is a much clearer line of accountability when there is staff, but there isn't when there are students. It appears to me there is a double standard about severity and there is an implication that it is not as serious if it student to student behaviour.

Naomi: I wanted to noted is that some of the points are good, but we need to me more explicit. For example, point three references that resources should reflect our diverse community, but I think we should explicitly say what communities should be represented.

Aria: Just on that, I feel like these priorities are to orient ourselves on what we should be doing, I don't think we would be giving the University these priorities. I see them as more to keep us on track. But when we are going to the University, clarity is necessary.

9. Motions on Notice

10. Motions Without Notice

11. Other Business

12. Next Meeting

13. Close

10:50 AM

