

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION

UMSU ANNUAL ELECTIONS

2026 CANDIDATES GUIDE

VOTE ON-CAMPUS 7-11 SEPT 2026



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Farrago's UMSU Election Guide was produced and published on the stolen lands of the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung people of the Kulin Nation. Sovereignty was never ceded. The team at *Farrago* pay our respects to the Traditional Owners and Elders past and present, who have and continue to be the first storytellers on this land. It is the responsibility of all writers, readers and students to consider the colonial ideologies that remain upheld and unquestioned in so-called Australia, and to resist these structures through education. This always was, and always will be Aboriginal land, and we encourage all readers of *Farrago* to nurture an understanding of the Indigenous histories from the places you call home.

WHAT IS THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION?

The purposes for which UMSU is incorporated are:

- (a) To advance the welfare and interests of Students;
- (b) To represent Students of the University within the University and to the community;
- (c) To provide a democratic and transparent forum in which Students' affairs and interest can be governed in an effective and accountable manner;
- (d) To provide amenities and services, principally for Students and other members of the University community, and incidentally to the public, but in all cases not inconsistent with agreements made with the University, as the case may be, from time to time;
- (e) To provide an independent framework for Student social and political activity;
- (f) To develop, maintain and support Student clubs, societies and associational life generally;
- (g) To promote and defend the rights of Students to education on the basis of equality, without regard to race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, political religious or ideological conviction, or national or social origin;
- (h) To oppose violence and/or hatred through militarism, nationalism, or discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, religion, or national or social origin; and
- (i) To promote free and accessible government-funded education.

In order to achieve these purposes, but for no other purpose and subject always to the terms of any agreements with the University, as the case may be, the Association has all the powers of a natural person.

All Students, One Union.

University Of Melbourne Student Union

Graduate | Undergraduate | Research | Coursework | Domestic | International

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note from the editors

According to the Constitution of the University of Melbourne Student Union, *Farrago* is required to publish an election supplement containing the names of all candidates and their submitted speeches and photographs. These statements were submitted by candidates to the Returning Officer. Any candidate who missed the deadline will have no statement in this supplement. The word limit for candidate statements was 300 words for Officer Bearer positions and 100 words for Students' Council, Committees and other positions. If a statement ends abruptly, it is because it was over the word limit and cut in accordance with the University of Melbourne Student Union's Electoral Regulations. We have not edited any of the following statements in any way, including statements and grammar. Statements are listed in ballot order, randomised by the Returning Officer and provided to us.



PRESIDENT



HARRISON KEMP
PROGRESS

UMSU holds \$9 million of student money, and the only question I want this election decided on is what you have actually seen of it. I am Harrison (he/him), running for President with Progress, an independent ticket from every faculty, with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union. We are not asking you to believe in a movement. We are asking you to check our arithmetic.

The first thing we will push for is a \$50 food credit for every student, loaded in the first week of semester rather than in Week 12, or after another review, or sometime next year. Monash students already have this, and there is no honest reason Melbourne students should go without it. Beyond it we will fight for an annual cost of living allowance of \$50, push to expand UniMart credits to 75 items a week, and campaign for concession myki for international students.

We begin with ourselves. Every representative on Students' Council is paid out of your SSAF, which is why every candidate on this ticket has committed to advocating to redirect it for students. Turning up to represent students should be a labour of love rather than a monthly perk billed to the very students you are there to represent.

Then we go after the inequality nobody currently in UMSU seems willing to name. The Vice-Chancellor is paid roughly \$1.5 million a year, close to three times the Prime Minister, while students skip meals to make rent. One million dollars redirected from executive pay would put \$20 in the hands of every student on this campus tomorrow.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



LOTTIE JENKINS
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! ¡Hola a todos! 各位同学好, I'm Lottie (she/her), I'm studying Environmental Science and Chinese, and it would be my absolute joy to be your 2027 UMSU President.

I'm running because I love being a uni student.

Having grown up learning 3 languages in 4 different countries, I feel I've found my place amongst students from around the world. So I want to make sure UMSU looks out for people living away from home- we need a bad landlord registry and financial counselling services to back students, and to push the uni to act as well.

As a queer person, I've seen the strength of friendships formed in Queer space in the UMSU building. I want the Queer, POC, Women's, and Disabilities spaces wholeheartedly supported, so they can deliver vital campaigns and change for marginalised groups.

On UMSU's Environment Committee and Students' Council these last two years I've witnessed incredible work by student organisers, but with \$10 million to work with, I see that our elected student leaders could deliver so much more.

For over 100 years our union has had a fighting, caring presence. Student draft dodgers hid in Old Union House in the Vietnam War.

The Gaza Solidarity Encampment two years ago showed that same spirit, but the union did not give it the same support.

As your UMSU President, I will always stand with students who protest for the world we want to live in, against corporate greed, racism, and the violence and destruction of weapons, fossil fuels, and genocide.

We can work for real cost of living relief from our wealthy university, like emergency food vouchers for every student.

We can achieve common sense fixes to our education, like speedy assessment returns.

You just have to vote for it.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

PRESIDENT



DANIEL MOTIKA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! My name is Daniel (he/him) and I am a third year Bachelor of Arts Student. In 2024 I moved to Melbourne from the regional town of Lara, spending my first year in student accommodation. The support services provided by UMSU were the reason I was able to get through my first year, including UnionMart and the Advocacy and Legal Service. Since I got back on my feet, I have fiercely defended these important services and relentlessly advocated for greater support for students from the University Administration. I want to continue this fight, and build on the wins I have achieved over the last few years, that's why I am so excited to be running to be your next UMSU President!

I currently serve as your UMSU General Secretary and Undergraduate Representative on the University Council. These positions have provided me with the platform and a team to fight for the things that matter to everyday students. I've worked with the UMSU Welfare Department to expand capacity and places for students and defended against cuts to the Frozen Meals Program from the University, ensuring students had access to over 20,000 free meals in Semester One of this year.

I am committed to continuing this fight into 2027, I want to secure more funding for student support services but also advocate for systems which place students at the centre of consideration, whether that be for special consideration, SEDS or CAPS. I understand first hand what it's like to navigate such unfamiliar systems and I want to fight to make it work for you.

To make UMSU and the University work for students, Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

GENERAL SECRETARY



CORBIN AFANASYEV
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU



PERCIVAL TAYLOR
PROGRESS

As your 2026 Education (Academic) Office Bearer, I have been at the forefront of student advocacy for the Student Union all year. Building on the efforts of Community office bearers before me, I have overseen the rollout of document-free 3-day extensions across every faculty, as well as a host of other improvements to the special consideration and extension processes at UniMelb. I have also pushed the University to allow students to have their preferred names printed onto their student cards, and got free replacement cards for gender diverse and First Nations students.

I'm Corbin Afanasyev (he/him), in my third year of a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Linguistics. Community has offered me the opportunities to be the best student representative I can be. I have sat in on countless meetings, panels, committees and working groups and been a voice for all students every step of the way. None of these achievements could have been made possible without the support and guidance of the student unionists who have been a part of this movement before me, and I am so proud to have the honour of continuing this project to push to improve the experience of every single student on our campuses.

As your Community General Secretary candidate, I have incredibly huge shoes to fill. The role involves so much hard work and diligence to keep the Student Union functioning smoothly and serving every student. I hope to continue my work in UMSU and make sure the Union backs students, defends student rights, and has its priorities aligned. I promise to stand for good process, and give this position the care and dedication it requires.

UMSU is stronger with Community at its helm, so make sure to vote [1] COMMUNITY FOR UMSU in every position.

The General Secretary signs off on how \$9 million of student money moves, and I think that job should be done with the door open.

I am Percy Taylor (he/him), running with Progress, an independent ticket with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people currently running your union.

If I am elected, UMSU's finances stop being something you have to go looking for. The budget will be published line by line, in plain language, every semester, rather than buried on page sixty of a report nobody reads. Every partnership, sponsorship and commercial arrangement this union enters into will be published alongside it, including who we are working with and what they get out of us. Agendas and minutes will go up promptly and be written so that a student who has never sat in a Council meeting can follow what happened at one.

I will argue for the first line of that budget to be a \$50 credit for every student in Week 1, the same thing Monash students already have. Beyond that, we will push for a continuing annual allowance of \$50, UniMart credits at 75 items a week, and concession myki for international students.

Students' Council meets monthly and pays every representative around that table out of your SSAF. I am refusing it, as is everyone on this ticket. I will also move to create dedicated representation for rural and regional students, who currently have none at all.

This is the minimum you should expect.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

GENERAL SECRETARY



KHUSH SHAH TOGETHER FOR UMSU

I don't think a student union should just give you an answer when something goes wrong. It should leave you with a few more options the next time it does.

I'm Khush, an international student and writer, and since arriving at Unimelb I've found myself in clubs, volunteering, Farrago, Students' Council and all the ordinary corners of uni where people are just trying to get through the week. I've seen students teach each other, share what they have and build communities with very little, and that's probably why the things that don't work bother me so much. I care about this union because I've seen what it can be when students make it their own.

That's why I'm running for General Secretary with Together. I want to bring back the "Food Co-op", make secondhand textbooks, lab coats and calculators easier to access, and build a "Student Tutoring Network" where students who need academic support can pay less while students struggling to find work can earn from what they already know. We'll push for a THREE-WEEK STANDARD for returning assessment and feedback, create a BAD LANDLORD REGISTRY, and fight for emergency MYKI support and grocery vouchers when students need practical help.

When 'racism or discrimination' happens in class, IT HAPPENED IN CLASS should give students somewhere to document it, somewhere to take it, and a real mechanism for action.

I also want UMSU to be able to look after itself. SSAF should support our union, not decide whether services survive or staff keep their jobs. I want to build sustainable non-SSAF income so UMSU can keep doing good work without becoming financially fragile.

Being elected is not an achievement; doing the job is the baseline. I want UMSU to stop celebrating the minimum and start expecting more.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

EDUCATION (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS) OFFICER



NIKOLAI ZARUBIN
PROGRESS

The way you are assessed at this university is built for the convenience of faculties rather than the reality of student life, and that is the thing I intend to change.

I am Nikolai Zarubin (he/him), running for Education (Academic Affairs) with Progress, an independent ticket of students from across every faculty, with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union.

Failing one piece of assessment should not cost you a semester, a subject fee and a year of your degree. I will campaign for a genuine right to resubmit failed assessment under a 45 per cent rule, so that a student who comes close gets a second attempt.

I will push for the three-day no-documentation extension policy to be standardised across every faculty, instead of applying in some faculties and not others depending on which building you study in. And I will fight for more Commonwealth Supported Places in postgraduate courses, starting with Medicine and Law, where the cost of entry has quietly become a wall that only wealth can climb.

Academic policy is a cost of living issue too. Compulsory textbooks, unpaid placements and subject fees are money out of your pocket, and I will treat them that way. Progress will campaign for a \$50 credit for every student in Week 1, for UniMart credits expanded to 75 points a week, and for an annual allowance of \$50.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



PRANAY MAHETA, RACHEL FYSH
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Every student at Melbourne University deserves the opportunity to study to the best of their ability. Together for UMSU advocates for your right to do this!

We are Pranay (he/him, biomedicine) and Rachel (she/they, science), and we are passionate about improving student experiences and creating equitable opportunities. We unite our UMSU Education background, including the 24/7 library campaign, with experience across Environment and Activities Committees, Strive Student Health Initiative, Chemistry and Biology Society, and subject representative programmes.

After assessing UMSU and GSA reports, these are the issues we know matter and can realistically address:

Extended library hours: Our advocacy in 2025 led to the first 24/7 Library trial in Baillieu over SWOTVAC and exam Week 1. Building on this work, we will push to extend after-hours access across major libraries, including Southbank, during key assessment periods, so everyone has a safe space to study.

Timely feedback: We know firsthand how frustrating it is to approach mid-semester without any meaningful feedback from staff, so we will advocate for results to be returned before your next assessment, or within 3 weeks.

Employability dinners: Networking opportunities shouldn't depend on which clubs or societies you join. We will establish a program connecting students with alumni, faculty staff and partner organisations so you can build professional networks and discover graduate opportunities.

Centralised support: We will advocate for central bodies overseeing Academic Adjustment Plan implementation, and ensuring Graduate Researchers have access to adequate, accountable, and actionable supervision. Students should not have to navigate inconsistent support options between faculties.

Studying at UniMelb doesn't have to be this challenging. As Education Officebearers, we will use diplomacy, negotiation and advocacy to hold the University accountable and make your academic journey as smooth as possible.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

EDUCATION (ACADEMIC AFFAIRS) OFFICER



SATVIK GULATI, YASHESVI VERMA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

We're Yashesvi Verma (she/her), a third-year Bachelor of Commerce student majoring in Finance and Management and Satvik Gulati (he/him), a second-year student majoring in Architecture. We're running for Education Academic Office Bearers because we know firsthand how much the systems around our education can shape our university experience. This year's Community Education department has already delivered a 24/7 library trial, preferred names on student cards, and 3-day no-document extensions. These are changes that make a real difference to students' everyday university experience, and we will continue these projects and more. We will keep pushing the University to make the 24/7 library a permanent fixture on campus. We will work to get exam timetables released earlier in the semester, push back morning exams to 9AM, install universal assignment submission time for 11:59PM, and offer students the ability to sit a special exam if they have 2 exams on the same day. We will advocate for at least two practice exams in every exam subject. Moreover, we will push the university to provide students with Adobe Creative Cloud and Canva Pro for free. Your access to academic resources won't be dependent on your faculty or your co-ordinator. We will also fight to revive the Counter-Course Handbook, giving students access to genuine peer perspectives when choosing their subjects. We are running to strengthen academic support, eliminate unnecessary inconsistencies and put students at the centre of university decision-making. Your degree should not be made harder by the system around it. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your Community is fighting for you.

EDUCATION (PUBLIC AFFAIRS) OFFICER



AIDAN HAWE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Aidan and I'm running for the Education Office. I'm a socialist activist who wants to fight for a corporate free university, for Unimelb to end their complicity in the oppression of the Palestinian people, and to rebuild a left-wing student union. Capitalism today is a horror show, from the rise of Pauline Hanson and One Nation, to the Gaza genocide, to the cost of living crisis - there is no shortage of issues to be angry about it. But it's not enough to just be angry, we need to put our energy into building movements that can challenge all of the injustices of the system. That's why I've spent my time on campus and in the student union mobilising students to support Palestine - from fundraising for the Gaza Freedom Flotilla to organising nation-wide student strikes for Palestine. I've campaigned to make our university a fascist-free zone, advocated for free education for all students and demanded that our university end their dirty ties with weapons companies. We need more socialists in UMSU who will organise students to challenge the injustices and inequalities of capitalism today.



ANTHONY JOHNSON
PROGRESS

A union that will not defend its own members when the administration comes for them is not a union.

I am Anthony Johnson (he/him), running for Education (Public Affairs) with Progress, an independent ticket with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running UMSU.

This University has violated students' personal freedoms and tracked student movements through the campus wifi network. I will campaign to have wifi tracking scrapped entirely, and I will defend the right to protest on this campus without qualification. Not conditionally, not once the legal advice comes back, not after a working group reports in Week 12. Your rights are not a talking point to be traded away for goodwill with the administration. Public affairs also means going after the money. The Vice-Chancellor of this University is paid roughly \$1.5 million a year, close to three times the salary of the Prime Minister, at a time when students are skipping meals to make rent. One million dollars redirected from executive pay alone would put \$20 in the hands of every student on this campus tomorrow, and I will campaign relentlessly to force the University to do exactly that. I will campaign for concession myki access for international students, who pay the highest fees at this university and the highest fares in the country to get to it, alongside the \$50 credit in Week 1, the annual cost of living allowance, and UniMart credits at 75 points a week.

This is the minimum you should expect.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

EDUCATION (PUBLIC AFFAIRS) OFFICER



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



MINH HA, TOBY PUTLAND

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Our Union has a long history of bold activism but under Community this legacy has been forgotten, it's time for that to change. Ed Pub is THE activist department of our Union, YOUR fights should be OUR fights.

We're Minh (She/her) and Toby (He/him) and we are running to be your Education Public Officers in 2027!

Unimelb is currently run like a business prioritising profits over student experience and staff welfare. It's time for our Union to start acting like one and fight back. Every full-time student at this uni must pay \$373 a year in student services and amenities fees, 37.5% of this money goes to UMSU. It is YOUR money and YOU deserve a say on where it goes.

From its ties to Israel, weapons manufacturers and fossil fuel companies to its track record of cracking down on student protest and exploiting staff there is a lot wrong with how our University is run right now. We want a Union that isn't afraid to take on the big issues, working with the University when we can and fighting when we must.

Our key goals for 2027 would be:

- Expanding the UMSU legal department to set up a wage theft clinic to stop students from being exploited at work.
- Setting up a registry of local landlords so students aren't in the dark when they sign their lease. Bad landlord practices should be made public and you deserve to know your rights.
- Ending protest bans and Wi-Fi tracking on campus to restore the rights to free speech and assembly.

You are NOT a cash cow

You are NOT just a student number

You are NOT a criminal for protesting

It's time our Union says enough is enough.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

WELFARE OFFICER



MYSHA SIDDIQUI, YUN YI CHAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, we're Yunyi (she/her) & Mysha (she/her), and we're running to be your next Welfare Officers with Together for UMSU! Yunyi studies Physiology and is a Clubs & Societies Committee member, while Mysha studies Psychology and is a People of Colour Committee member. We're in Welfare because we care about students.

Having volunteered with the Welfare Department, we've seen the struggles at Union Mart. Students are skipping meals, struggling to afford essentials, juggling work alongside studies, and facing loneliness and poor mental health. These aren't just statistics; they're students we've met and cared about.

That's why tackling the cost-of-living crisis will be at the heart of our Welfare Department. In 2025, Together OBs expanded Union Mart to five days a week, 200 students daily. We'll fight to open Union Mart every day, including weekends, increase fresh food and expand essentials: medicines, period products and diapers. We'll advocate for longer Campus Canteen hours with more diverse options. We'll push to revive the Food Co-op and introduce cooking workshops with Welfare brunches, giving students food and spaces to connect.

Welfare is about more than putting food on the table. It's about making sure students don't face university alone. We'll introduce Welfare Collectives as welcoming, judgement-free spaces along with weekly free play where students can share experiences, find others who understand them and build their communities. We'll advocate for increased CAPS access because reaching out for help shouldn't mean waiting until you're already at breaking point. We'll help students feel more confident entering the workforce through free resume and mock interview workshops, networking opportunities, and advocacy for cheaper certifications like First Aid and Barista training.

Welfare should be practical, accessible and built around all student's needs. That's the Welfare Department we'll fight to build. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



HOLLY KALNS, MARTYN CHERIAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! We are Holly (she/her) and Martyn (he/him) and we're running to be your 2027 Welfare Officers with Community for UMSU! We're second years, from Manchester in the UK and Kolkata in India, respectively.

Community knows that for many students, a free meal can mean the difference between getting through the week or going hungry. We understand how difficult it is to balance funds while studying, especially for students who have moved away from home, like us.

In 2022, Community established Union Mart, and we'll continue building on that legacy by expanding its capacity to support 1,500 students each week, alongside increasing Welfare Brunch to four days a week, and working with FareShare to provide over 100,000 free frozen meals in 2027. Community has successfully fought against cuts to the University's Frozen Meals Program, ensuring it remained available for students who rely on it and delivered over 20,000 free meals in Semester One alone. Beyond food relief, we've listened to student concerns about mental health, bringing much needed attention to Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Mental health support should be there for every student, especially for international students, who can't access Medicare rebated sessions. Too many times are appointments impossible to receive, and students are left without adequate support. We will start tracking demand for counselling and student awareness of the CAPS service, so the University can no longer deny funding to make services meet demand, alongside a comprehensive review into student mental health. We'll also push for a new booking system to help make appointments more readily available. Further, to help tackle loneliness, particularly among international students, we'll introduce multilingual speed-friending events that foster connection, belonging, and community across campus. Vote [1] for Community in all positions; your community is fighting for you!

WELFARE OFFICER



JAMIE EDWARDS

PROGRESS

Welfare should mean money in your hand this week, not bureaucratic delays.

I am Jamie (he/him), running for Welfare Officer with Progress, an independent ticket of students from every faculty, with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people currently running your union.

UMSU holds \$9 million of student money, and here is what I will push for from it. A \$50 credit on campus for every student, loaded in the first week of semester rather than in Week 12, or after another review, or sometime next year. Monash students already have this. It is the single fastest way to move money from the union's accounts into the pockets of students who need it, and it should not require a working group, a trial, or a year of consultation to deliver.

Then we push to make the foodbank work. UniMart credits should expand to 75 points a week, so that what you pick up on Monday still stretches to Friday. We fight for an annual cost of living allowance of \$50 for every student, and we campaign for concession myki access for international students, who pay the highest fees here and the highest fares in the country to get here.

The Vice-Chancellor is paid roughly \$1.5 million a year while students skip meals to make rent, and one million dollars redirected from executive pay alone would put \$20 in every student's hand tomorrow.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

WOMEN'S OFFICER



LIA HANDA

We all know it's hard to be a woman in this world, or in fact to be part of any minority group. And while there are many amazing people in the world who work for the social benefit of these groups, there is still plenty to be done to ensure that everyone is treated and cared for with the respect and dignity they deserve. That is why I want to be a Women's Officer for the University of Melbourne Student Union. I want to contribute to and be part of the amazing culture we have at the University of Melbourne, and I will work for the betterment of women's experiences here where this culture needs to be improved. As your elected Women's Officer, I will listen to the voices and experiences of women and strive to work towards solutions that the student body actually want, and I will serve as a point of contact within the student body to share these voices and experiences and for anyone who needs support. It is my hope that the University of Melbourne is a place where everyone feels safe and supported, and I would be honoured at the opportunity to represent the student body and continue the work of the Student Union.



ELIZABETH SHEEZEL

PROGRESS

Safety and money are not separate problems.

I am Elizabeth (she/her), running for Women's Officer with Progress, an independent ticket with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union.

I will campaign for the University to publish plain-language timelines for how sexual harm reports are handled and how long students are made to wait, because a process nobody can see is a process nobody can be held to. I will fight to keep the Women's Room properly resourced and genuinely accessible, and to make campus lighting, late-night transport and security response times a better funded budget item.

I will defend the right to protest on this campus without qualification, and demand the University scrap wifi tracking entirely. Surveillance is a women's issue. Being tracked across a campus you are told is safe is not a neutral policy.

And I will fight for the money, because it is the same fight. A \$50 credit for every student in Week 1. UniMart credits at 75 points a week. An annual cost of living allowance of \$50.

Concession myki for international students.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

WOMEN'S OFFICER



KEERTHI RUDDRARAMKER, MELO NICHOLSON TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! We are Keerthi (she/her), a Bachelor of Commerce student, and Melo (she/her), a Bachelor of Arts student, and we're running for Women's Office Bearers with Together for UMSU. At a time when women's rights are being challenged around the world through attacks on bodily autonomy, equality and women's participation in public life, we cannot assume the rights women fought for are permanent. Hence, representation must also matter in students' everyday lives. That's why our platform is built around three commitments: Support, Empower and Represent. Support means making the Department useful when students need it most. We want stronger support for women facing cost-of-living and housing pressures, better access to quality period products, clearer safety resources, consistent women's health programming and collectives that genuinely build community. Empower means creating opportunities that help women move forward. We want to expand employability beyond a handful of short discounted courses through mentoring, industry-specific networking, career development and education about workplace rights. We also want more opportunities for women to create, publish, lead and participate unencumbered across campus. Represent means ensuring students are heard and informed. We will strengthen collaboration across UMSU and student groups, improve representation of women from diverse backgrounds, increase consultation, communication and transparency about what the department is delivering and advocating for. We are not running simply to maintain what already exists. We are running to build a Women's Department that is more visible, more ambitious and more connected to the students it represents. Representation is not just about having a voice, it is about having influence over the decisions that shape our education, safety, work and future. Together, we can build a Women's Department that belongs to all of us. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



NAYA IKRAM, YUQI MA COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Being a woman has never been easy, but we'll fight to make it easier. We are Naya Ikram (she/her) and Yuqi Ma (she/her), your Womens' OB candidates. This year, Community's women's department worked tirelessly to improve life for women on campus, from free self defence classes to upskilling workshops. We also expanded access to free period products in both the Kwong Lee Dow and Union Mart. We even launched the very first Women in Sports Collective, creating a dedicated space to advocate for representation in sport. These initiatives have built upon Community's long-standing commitment towards promoting equity, removing barriers and ensuring women are supported, both in and outside the classroom. But we have more work to do. Every woman should feel empowered to succeed at university, and we will strive to make that happen next year by hosting regular women-only social events— not just for building communities, but networks and pathways for future careers. We also recognise how often women's health is overlooked. So, we will expand free period products across every building, provide free pregnancy and UTI test kits in the Women's Space, and run more workshops educating on women's health. And we don't just want to help women on campus. For the first time, we will be partnering with women's shelters and domestic violence organisations next year in order to make the process of volunteering easy and accessible for students who want to help out. Women shouldn't feel unsafe on or off campus. While we will continue free self defence classes, we'll also advocate for a safer campus by improving safety measures, expanding emergency infrastructure, and ensuring the SafeZone app is accessible to all—including students without Australian phone numbers. Vote [1] for Community in all positions. Your community is fighting for you.

CREATIVE ARTS OFFICER



FELICITY BAYNE

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hello! I'm Felicity, aka fels (she/her).

I'm a film and creative writing honours student, and I'm super excited to be running for Creative Arts OB. Photography and theatre are my main sh*ticks, but I love all types of art. I've been involved in nine student theatre shows across six student companies. I've sat on three committees, including the executive for Moving Pieces. I've ASM'd, SM'd, PM'd, Produced, dabbled in lighting and dried loads of paint in the workshop. I also love photography and videography (except the editing...); I've worked on documentaries and written fiction scripts; I like to draw, exclusively to relax, not because I'm any good. I was even in school choir/band for 10+ years.

I highlight my experience because I believe that Creative Arts at UMSU is underserving students—the department must show up for students and, as part of this, passionate artists should be in charge. I'm not new to advocacy. I've served as independent UMSU councillor, UMSU Media Office Bearer (2026), and was even the Minister for Arts in Youth Parliament at school.

I started the Independent Artists ticket to platform on-campus creatives to oversee decisions that affect us. Here's a brief overview of my policies—see our ticket for more info!

ENSURE ARTS REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES ARE A SAFE SPACE. Improve intimacy training, create better access to anonymous reporting and review current accountability measures. LOBBY FOR MORE STUDENT ACCESS TO SPACES IN BUILDING 168. Let's get that microwave room...

INVEST IN STUDENT ARTISTS & SUPPORT MORE PERFORMANCES such as Battle of the Bands and open-style dance competitions.

MAINTAIN FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN ARTS SPACES. Art is always political, and students must be free to speak up. We support a free Palestine.

DELIVER A QUALITY MUDFEST

COLLABORATE WITH UMSU, ESPECIALLY SATELLITE CAMPUSES
SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY IN ARTS



JINRUI (JIMMY) GUO, PRISHITA SHETHIA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello and 你好, we are Jimmy (he/him), a 2nd year Bachelor of Music student, and Prishita, a Bachelor of Arts student, running to be your 2027 Creative Arts Officers! We believe everyone deserves a space to express and to create, whichever campus you are based at or degree you study. We're passionate because over our time at Unimelb we have experienced struggling to find rehearsal spaces on campus, opportunities for cultural performances and genuine opportunities to connect to like-minded peers.

In 2026, Community has brought the Creative Arts department's focus to making events welcoming to students from all corners of the University. We have been running Creative Arts events, such as Art Therapy, at Southbank for the first time, allowing Fine Arts students easy access to the department. We have also held cultural art workshops so that international and culturally diverse students can find art and express themselves, including through our current project, Tastings. We have also held regular collaborations with the Welfare department to fund events for student wellbeing, such as Art Therapy and Karaoke.

In 2027, we are committed to enhancing the Creative Arts Department at UMSU by holding more cultural art workshops which are catered to the diversity represented amongst the student body, pushing the university to provide students with more and better-equipped rehearsal spaces and returning MudFest to celebrate student creativity and provide real and workforce experience for UniMelb students. Moreover, we want the work of Fine Arts students to be appreciated, so we will organise a UniMelb Fashion Week, and finally we will invest in karaoke equipment in Ida Bar, available to all UMSU departments and student clubs to use.

Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

CREATIVE ARTS OFFICER



**MANHAR ARORA,
NOELLE LIANG**
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello everyone!! We're Manhar (he/him) and Noelle (she/her), pursuing Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts degrees, respectively.

We've always had a keen interest in learning and trying everything at least once, whether it's a sport, musical instrument, adventure, or painting. We're always up for it! We see art in everything, from the obvious to the things you'd least expect. That's exactly why we want to bring a more vibrant and accessible creative culture to campus. Our vision is to introduce 5 PM-9 PM after-hours creative events, making it easier for students to attend without having to choose between a workshop and a class. We'll also create a Student Marketplace & Gig Registry, giving student artists, photographers and performers opportunities to showcase their work and get paid for campus and local gigs. Finally, we want to make campus busking and street performances easier to organise, bringing Union Lawn to life through student music, live art and open mics. We want creativity at Melbourne to be something you can participate in, not something you have to squeeze into your timetable.

We have noticeable differences, but we share a love for creative arts that knows no limits. We have a right to express ourselves, but without the proper resources and opportunities it becomes harder to suppress your artistic nature.

We know that creative arts are what bring people together, the way they have been for centuries, and that when managed properly, they can give back further and foster that same connection with all of us here at UniMelb. And if you give us a chance, we would love to continue embracing your passion and togetherness through ways like hosting more events and supporting your interests and clubs. Remember, we're in this together!! :)

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



WILLIAM MAIN
PROGRESS

Student artists on this campus are routinely asked to work for exposure by an institution with a \$9 million student union and a Vice-Chancellor on roughly \$1.5 million a year.

I am Will Main (he/him), running for Creative Arts Officer with Progress, an independent ticket with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union.

My commitment is a simple one. If UMSU asks a student to make something, UMSU pays them. I will campaign for a published minimum rate for the student artists, performers, writers and technicians this union engages, and for the creative arts grants process to be published in full, including who applied, who received funding, how much, and on what basis. Grant decisions made behind a closed door are how patronage happens.

I will also fight for space. Rehearsal rooms, studios and exhibition space on this campus are underused and difficult to book, and I will campaign for a transparent booking system that does not depend on knowing the right person.

Artists are students first, so I back every plank of our cost of living platform: a \$50 credit in Week 1, UniMart credits at 75 points a week, an annual allowance of \$50, and concession myki for international students. I will campaign for a binding target that more on-campus jobs go to currently enrolled students, and defend the right to protest, artistic protest included, without qualification.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

ACTIVITIES OFFICER



LEWIS REGAN
PROGRESS

I am Lewis (he/him), running for Activities Officer with Progress, an independent ticket from across every faculty, with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union.

Most students here are broke, working, commuting, or all three. That is the real constraint on campus culture, and no amount of programming fixes it if a student has to choose between lunch and turning up. So my activities platform begins where our cost of living platform does, with the fight for a \$50 credit for every student, loaded in Week 1, before the first event of the year rather than after the last one.

After that, free food at UMSU events as a standard rather than a bonus, events timed so that students who commute, who work weekends, or who are only on campus two days a week can actually attend one, and an activities budget published in full so that you can see what your money bought.

This university employs thousands of people to run a campus built for students, and students should be getting those jobs. I will campaign for a binding target that a higher proportion of on-campus employment goes to currently enrolled students.

Alongside that, Progress will campaign to expand UniMart credits to 75 points a week, for an annual cost of living allowance of \$50, and for concession myki access for international students.

I will move to abolish the monthly Students' Council payment funded by your SSAF, and every candidate on this ticket will vote for it. Turning up for you should be a labour of love, not a perk you are billed for.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



JINYU GUO

I have experience serving as student union president at Liaoning University during my undergraduate studies in China. My core duties included planning, organising and coordinating art performances and diverse campus cultural events. As lead organiser for a university level international innovation forum with more than 2000 participants, I took charge of volunteer scheduling, on site coordination and material logistics support to ensure smooth event delivery.

I also volunteered at a local welfare institution, designing and running creative activities that benefited over 2000 children. These practical roles have built my capabilities in event management, cross team communication and problem solving. If elected as Activities Officer, I will represent international students and bring their needs into UMSU's activity planning. I aim to develop more inclusive campus events, expand accessible volunteer opportunities, and strengthen two way communication between students and the union. I hope to create engaging, well organised activities for students from all backgrounds.

ACTIVITIES OFFICER



**NATHAN VAN LANGENBERG,
YANYAN ZHANG**
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! We are Yanyan (she/her), currently studying BCom, and Nathan (he/him), a Bachelor of Science student, and 'Together' we are running to be your next Activities Office Bearers for UMSU.

Surviving uni is not easy, and trying to balance the social side of it makes life even harder. We believe that social life at uni should be free; free of charge and free of stress.

Yanyan is the current Events Director at Asia-Australia Youth Association. Just like any first-year student, she found that the transition from high school to uni was not perfectly smooth, which gives her an incentive to make meaningful changes for new and returning students. Nathan has served on the Activities Committee this year, and has experience in how the department is run and how to best serve students.

We want to keep the things you know and love (like weekly Bites and Bustles), but if elected:

We want to reduce barriers for students by:

- Ensuring free drinks at every Bites and Bustles
- Making sure students can attend events with friends and make new friends along the way

Events we run should be worth your time and be fun to attend, so we will:

- Value YOUR feedback on how to improve existing events
- Embed student voices in the creation of new activities

It's 2026; we will make sure you are up to date about events through:

- An event calendar, with all the events in one place
- More notices for events and freebies, so you don't miss out

We want activities that are accessible and stress-free; we want activities that are actually fun to attend, and we want activities that bring people Together.

To help us make sure that our campus has these events, Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU.



MICHELLE ZHU

As an international student majoring in Media and Sociology at the University of Melbourne, I am running for Activities Officer to build accessible, inclusive campus events for students from all backgrounds. My previous work in both the education and events teams at MLC gave me practical experience organising activities and promoting events to student communities. Having dealt with overseas study stress, busy timetables and cross cultural barriers, I recognise that many students find it hard to locate events matching their budget, schedule and interests.

If elected, I will focus on three goals. First, I will develop varied, low cost social, hobby based and cultural events, offering relaxed spaces for domestic and international students to connect, with extra consideration for newly arrived students with few campus connections. Second, I will collect student feedback on event timing, cost, venues and formats, and relay these views to UMSU to deliver real world changes to activity planning. Third, I will host skill building workshops covering media creation and event coordination, creating volunteer roles so students can take part in running campus activities themselves.

With an open minded attitude, I will listen carefully to suggestions from every student and run events responsibly, making campus activities welcoming and enjoyable for everyone. Thank you for your trust and support.

ACTIVITIES OFFICER



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



JAMES DUNCAN, SHIFA IKRAM
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

We are James Duncan (he/him) and Shifa Ikram (she/her), your 2026 Activities Office Bearer candidates running with Community for UMSU. This department is the lifeblood of activity on campus, and we are extremely excited to take a very hands-on approach and improve student's university experience. Next year, we will bring our experience in clubs and other areas to make sure everyone is considered and included at our events. 2026 was a big year for Activities, with Community continuing to deliver the biggest and best events on and off-campus. We've run Bites and Bustles every Academic Tuesday of 2026, feeding thousands of students for free while creating a space for meaningful shared experiences. In addition, this year SOUP and UMSU Ball were bigger than ever, with hundreds attending and having the time of their lives. While our events were massive and super fun, they were also super safe with our Party Smart with Tobias Trunke initiative that introduced UMSU-branded drink covers to help prevent drink tampering and explored drink-spiking detection strips, giving students extra peace of mind while they enjoyed the night. Community believes that finding your people is crucial to success at University, which is why Activities will do everything it can to combat student loneliness on Campus. We will refresh O-Week by turning it into a week-long party, finally giving students a reason to come to O-Week after the negative impacts COVID years had on campus life. We know how many students feel lost moving to a big new city, so Community will also give students the chance to Explore Melbourne with UMSU, providing another way for students to connect with new communities and see what Melbourne has to offer. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

QUEER OFFICER



MABEL SHELLEY, RONGLIN HOU
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi Queer friends! We are Mabel (any pronouns), a third-year Gender Studies student, and Ronglin (they/them), a third-year Biochemistry student, and we're running to be your Queer Officers to ensure that our diverse body of Queer and Trans students feel safe, supported, and celebrated at this University. For many students, University is one of the only places that people can be openly Queer, and often acts as a vital lifeline for Queer students to find support and friendship. Through the Queer department, clubs, and independently, we both have experience running events for Queer students on campus large and small, and know intimately the power they have in aiding Queer students to thrive. We commit to continuing events and collectives that bring Queer students together, as well as introducing even more opportunities for Queer expression and joy.

We have seen firsthand how transphobia has driven students away from both this university and engagement with our union, and know the potential that a supportive Queer department has to fight this. Amidst a time of rising transphobic violence, we seek a serious inquiry into transphobia on our campuses and within the University, so we can act to ensure safety for Queer students, make University an enjoyable environment for Queers, and to truly end University deadnaming, including on UMSU emails and the UMSU website.

As Queer Officers, we will also prioritise that resources for diverse Queer needs are provided and accessible, producing material outcomes for those who need it most. Our Queer Department has the power to offer vital support in assisting student sexual health and safety, gender affirming care, and menstrual care, as well as fighting for the introduction of informed consent for HRT at the University of Melbourne Health Service.

We are in this Together!

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



NANDI RATHORE, VIBHA AMIT
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone! We are Nandi (they/he) and Vibha (she/her)! Supporting all Queer students, especially those who've felt excluded or pushed out, has always been a priority for Community. Having been in UMSU's spaces ourselves, we know what it feels like to truly belong, and how gutting it is to be left outside. We care because everyone deserves to feel welcome! This year, we put Trans and Gender Diverse students at the forefront of our advocacy: winning preferred names on student cards, securing their consistent use in tutorials and class lists, and waiving the card replacement fee for Trans and Gender Diverse students, saving up to \$50 per person. Next year, we want to bring back off-campus G+Ts for the LGBTs, creating a cosy, safe space for Queer students, and CAMP magazine. We'll engage the UMSU Queer Collectives more, empowering them to strengthen UMSU'S advocacy, introduce queer mentors, and bring back the buy-a-binder program, expanding it to cover all kinds of gender-affirming wear! We'll keep advocating for all LGBTQ+ students across the University, ensuring Queer voices are heard and taken seriously as beloved members of the community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER



AMAYA CASTRO WILLIAMS
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Amaya and I'm running for the Environment Office because I want a fossil free and weapons free university. We are in a climate emergency - yet our government and our universities continue to deepen their ties with the coal and gas industry and the military industrial complex. As a socialist, I know that there is no climate justice on stolen land, that's why I've been involved in campaigns against black deaths in custody and police racism. I've also been on the front lines protesting against Pauline Hanson and One Nation because I know that the far right threat is real, and we need to get organised to fight back. For years I've organised in solidarity with the Palestinian people and against our own universities complicity in genocide. Through the student union I've helped to organise two mass Student General Meetings for Palestine; hundreds of students turned out to vote to pressure Unimelb to cut ties with all Israeli institutions on campus and divest from weapons companies. It's this type of left wing activism that I want to continue to bring into the student union.



EREN OLMEZ, SHAHANA SEYAR
INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY

Climate action at UMSU should be practical and visible. We are Shahana (she/her) and Eren (he/him) – two Master of Public Policy and Management students bringing experience in climate resilience, government relations, advocacy and policy. We are running independently because environmental leadership should be driven by outcomes, not party politics. Our commitment is simple: make UniMelb GREEN!

G - GLOBAL Representation
Fight for funded University of Melbourne student representation at COP, raising student voices on a global platform where our future is decided.

R - REAL Campus Change
More organic waste-bins, affordable plant-based food, tree-planting campaigns and accessible events, making sustainability part of everyday campus life.

E - EXPANDED Green Grants
Increase funding from \$150 to \$300 and simplify applications, opening opportunities to students and clubs beyond the usual environmental circles.

E - EMBED Indigenous Knowledge
Partner with First Nations students and organisations so Indigenous knowledge informs environmental action.

N - NO-WASTE Student Services
Push for digital student cards and opt-in physical cards to reduce unnecessary plastic and waste.

What sets us apart? We have REAL experience implementing climate action. Specialising in climate-resilient disaster management plans for Pakistan, a high-risk nation to disaster-induced displacement? We've done it. Organising ministerial events in QLD and NSW for parliamentarians and industry professionals to engage in practical policy initiatives for employment resilience when

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER



EREN OLMEZ, SHAHANA SEYAR
INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY

switching to renewable?

We've done it.

Attending COP29, the global forum for climate action as a key emissary to Pakistan, engaging in transnational climate change and climate finance strategies to ensure climate resilience?

We've done it.

Together, we combine climate expertise with the skills to negotiate, organise, communicate and deliver.

We are not running to occupy an office...WE ARE RUNNING TO USE IT!"

Vote GREEN because we promise, and we deliver.

Vote [1] INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY to represent you for the Environment Department.



**DAVID DIEPERINK,
MILLIE MOUNTFORD**
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

We are Millie (she/her) and David (he/they) and we are running with Together for UMSU for the Environment Office. The political climate we find ourselves in, on campus and beyond, demands progressive campaigning to reduce, renew and reinvest. This means reducing the footprint of our uni, renewing enthusiasm for the environment on campus, and reinvesting in positive student actions.

We will ensure that the university reduces its fossil fuel and weapons investments. Your fees should reflect your values. We know how often students staying short-term leave behind usable furniture and small appliances; we want to reduce waste through a circular furniture scheme, facilitating swaps between students moving out and moving in. We'll empower clubs to reduce their waste and footprint through green grants that subsidise plant-based food options and reusable containers.

We'll renew the department's advocacy. We promise to provide constructive input on uni strategy, projects and plans from a sustainability angle; and ensure that building materials are recovered and repurposed as our campus grows. We will provide opportunities for students to re-enliven the environment movement, inviting grassroots groups and figures leading the fight for our planet to our campus.

We want the office to give back to students; to reinvest in community, creativity and biodiversity. As a team we'll invest in a new art and design award to support innovative thinking, host art exhibitions for nature and opportunities to create artwork from salvaged materials. We'll collaborate with clubs across campus to host more enviro events for all students' interests. We will hand out native plant seeds to expand our impact to gardens beyond our campus boundaries and host cooking workshops using native ingredients.

Together, we can build a stronger, more influential & fun environment department.

Vote [1] Millie Mountford and David Dieperink, TOGETHER4UMSU!

MEDIA OFFICERS



LACHLAN CARROLL, SARIA RATNAM, TAYLAH XUEREB, THOMAS WEIR-ALARCON

INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Provisionally elected unopposed

Hi everyone! Independent Media is proud to be running Taylah, Saria, Lachlan, and Thomas as your 2027 Media Office Bearers. We have all been long-term contributors to the Media Department, and have an ambitious vision for the future of this integral part of our university.

Taylah (she/her) is Farrago's 2026 News Manager, the current Independent Media Councillor, and is hoping to continue her contributions to this department by aiding writers to pursue in-depth journalism and develop their practical media skills.

Saria (she/her) is Farrago's 2026 Features Manager, as well as a reviews writer and photographer. She hopes to encourage Farrago to explore long-form, investigative and videojournalism.

Tom (he/him) is Farrago's 2026 Archive and Radio Fodder Station Manager, and is looking to improve the accessibility of the Media Department's output for contributors and readers alike.

Lachie (he/him) is Farrago's 2026 Reviews Manager, and is wholeheartedly committed to providing the students of UniMelb with a student publication they can be proud of.

We intend to blend our diverse range of skills and experience to pursue our joint vision for the Media Department. This includes emphasis on diversifying the journalism the Media Collective is producing, with a focus on creating videojournalism, investigative journalism, and social media content. We also want to expand the Media Department's reach by connecting with more students from the Southbank campus and members of our local communities. Moreover, we aim to deliver where our degrees fail to; we want to help our peers sharpen their skills by running workshops with senior members of the media collective and industry professionals to prepare them for their careers within media industries.

Vote [1] Independent Media!

CLUBS & SOCIETIES OFFICER



RUI CAO



JOHN MCCLURE

PROGRESS

No policy statement submitted.

Ask any club treasurer what the worst part of the job is and you will get the same answer, which is waiting to be paid back. I am John McClure (he/him), running for Clubs and Societies Officer with Progress, an independent ticket with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union.

Clubs do the actual work of building community on this campus, largely for free, and they deserve an administration that respects their time. I will campaign for a published maximum turnaround on reimbursements, so that committees stop bankrolling their own events out of personal savings for months at a stretch. I will publish the grants formula and every grant decision in full, including who applied, what they received and why, because clubs should be able to plan a year rather than guess at one. And I will push for a simpler, faster room and space booking process, so that a club's first event is not lost to paperwork.

Clubs should benefit from the rest of our platform too. The \$50 credit we are fighting for would land in Week 1, exactly when clubs are running O-Week and first semester recruitment. We will push for UniMart credits to expand to 75 points a week. We will fight for an annual cost of living allowance of \$50 and campaign for concession myki access for international students.

That is not radical. It is the minimum you should expect. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES OFFICER



LEON NGUYEN VAN TRI, MEIQI LIU
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello! We are Meiqi (she/they) and Leon (he/they)! We are running to be your 2027 Clubs and Societies Officers with Together for UMSU!

Meiqi has been the president of the Drawing and Painting Club for two years now, and has also been a member of the 2026 UMSU committee. Leon has served as the Secretary of Embrace Education for nearly a year and is a current member of the 2026 UMSU Education committee. Through their experience as both a club executive and committee member within UMSU, they have developed a strong understanding of how clubs enrich student life, with a strong passion to ensure clubs remain spaces that foster a sense of belonging and enjoyment that benefit you all! We understand many key concerns of those who run clubs, namely funding; we aim to fight for greater funding for clubs, as well as make grants processes faster and more accessible. Part of what contributes to the struggles clubs and students face is the outdated UMSU website, which we aim to ensure is updated so that it is more beneficial to everyone. We also aim to improve student safety to ensure that everyone has an enjoyable time at club events!

We understand how vital clubs are as part of the uni experience and how social connections grow out of them - so we aim to improve your experience in clubs, whether you are a member, or part of a committee. We hope that we'll be able to advocate for you all!

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



**ALEXANDER HAMS,
KHADIJA FAISAL**
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone! We're Alex (he/him) and Khadija (she/her), and we're running as your Clubs & Societies Office Bearers with Community for UMSU.

We're both Commerce students who have been involved in the University's diverse club space throughout our time at Melbourne. Khadija has been involved in various finance clubs and is currently Treasurer of the Pakistani Society, while Alex has been the Treasurer of two clubs and supported many in his role as Welfare Officer Bearer in 2026. We've seen how much clubs contribute to student life and have gained experience navigating the department and running clubs.

We've found that the Clubs and Societies department is no longer serving clubs as effectively as it should. Clubs exist to give students a place to find community and pursue their interests, yet the department has lost sight of this core purpose.

We believe that the Clubs Department should treat all clubs with compassion and the respect they deserve, and not be used to punish or penalise. Additionally, the growth of unique passions, cultures, and communities on campuses has been stifled by the 250-club cap, which is merely an arbitrary numerical limit. Moreover, the Clubs Online platform and grant processes are tedious and require unnecessary paperwork.

Community will fight to:

- Put clubs first.
- Remove the 250-club cap.
- Modernise Clubs Online and cut unnecessary bureaucracy.
- Introduce emergency grants for underfunded clubs.

Community has already demonstrated that change is possible, with the introduction of centralised training for club executives onto Canvas, and the creation of grant cap allocation for Semester 2. We'll bring our experience and passion to Clubs & Societies to support clubs in building stronger communities, not hinder them in doing so. Vote [1] for Community in all positions; your community is fighting for you!

INDIGENOUS OFFICER



CATE FARDON
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Cate (she/her), and as an Indigenous Kooma woman, and an Arts student majoring in Ancient World Studies, my passion has always been in voices previously lost, or devalued in history. My primary goal as the Indigenous Officer is to empower and uplift Indigenous voices at the University of Melbourne, by getting more Indigenous students involved in leadership and by getting more non-Indigenous students involved in truly caring for, and engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and Country. I note the ongoing harms against our mob and the extreme impacts the Stolen generation has had on mob and their connection to culture and Country.

I believe we should all understand the extremely harmful histories of Australia as a settler-colonial state, and the ongoing land and culture dispossession we experience to this day. At the Indigenous Department, I plan to relaunch the Gundui Bunjil student magazine, as well as creating more events that centre Indigenous students and their stories, such as those you may have already experienced at UMSU Reconciliation week events and non-Unimelb events like NAIDOC Week. I hold the strong belief that your sense of belonging and culture are intrinsic to who you are.

As the Indigenous Officer, my ultimate goal is to uplift Indigenous voices, to ensure that mob is represented all over the University, to create opportunities for Indigenous students to show our art, culture and skill to the wider student body, and to ultimately cherish the value that Indigenous students have at our University, no matter your age, gender, or major. We're all in this Together.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



CLAIRE TRAINOR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Kaya! Or 'hello' in Wadjuk Noongar language. My name's Claire and I am your Indigenous Office Bearer Candidate for UMSU 2027, under Community!!

I'm a Kuungkari woman from Northwest Queensland, with ties to Noongar Boodja country and the Wadjuk and Yued peoples. I grew up in regional Western Australia and moved to Melbourne this year to pursue a Bachelor of Arts. So, I understand the vast upheaval that many Indigenous students face when pursuing their education here at university - regardless if they're from Melbourne and broader Victoria, Interstate, or international. If I was privileged to represent Mob here at UniMelb, I would spend all efforts making sure that the University is culturally safe, that Indigenous perspectives are heard within UMSU, and that there would be events to honour, celebrate, and share our vast and amazing cultures!

Currently the position has been vacant for close to a year, which means our voices aren't being heard. I have experience advocating for Mob at community, state, and federal levels - now I wish to advocate and support Indigenous people within the community here at University. Driving UMSU to prioritise closing the gap initiatives, inclusiveness, and the renaming of buildings whose original names are linked to known racists and eugenists. Together, I hope to give a voice to our underrepresented and underappreciated perspectives within UMSU. That's why I'm so excited to run for Indigenous Office Bearer.

Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

DISABILITIES OFFICER



**AAHNA KAMBOJ,
CLARISSA SOTHY**
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

We are Aahna (she/her) and Clarissa (she/her), and we're running with Community to be your Disabilities OBs!

We are students who've been let down by the University's inadequate support structures for disabled students, as well as a complete lack of recognition of carers. We have personally suffered from the difficulties of securing CAPS and AAP support, from the lack of solid support groups at university, and from the inadequate support for students with caring responsibilities. We believe that with Community, who have already successfully pushed for an overhaul of special consideration processes, including 3-day document-free extensions, we can do much more to better support disabled students on this campus.

As OBs, we'll expand the Disabilities Department to formally support student carers, ensuring those balancing university with caring responsibilities have dedicated advocacy and a community centred around their needs. We'll also establish more targeted disability collectives, creating spaces for neurodivergent students, students with chronic illnesses, and students with physical disabilities to connect with others who understand their experiences and advocate for the issues that matter most to them. We'll fight to make Academic Adjustment Plans (AAPs) more accessible throughout a student's degree, recognising that disabilities can arise or change at any time. Students should be able to access support when they need it, not only at the beginning of their studies. To strengthen advocacy across campus, we'll also introduce an accessibility reporting platform where students can raise the barriers they encounter at university. By creating a direct pathway between student feedback and the University administration, we'll work to ensure accessibility issues are identified and addressed. Community is committed to making disability advocacy more responsive, representative and centred on the diverse experiences of students across our campus. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



**ANGELA RANASINGHE,
JULIA GUNTHER**
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Julia Gunther (She/They) and I'm Angela Ranasinghe (She/Her), and we believe UniMelb owes Disabled students their human rights! Our university should be an accessible and supportive environment for all students, supported by office-bearers who act.

Angela is a Maths and Stats undergrad that lives with severe haemophilia, arthritis and ADHD. Julia is an Arts undergrad with ADHD, Autism and Coeliac disease. We understand the struggle to not only live with disability, but to day-in-day-out stand up for ourselves, even when ignored.

We know what this office is capable of providing and pledge to fight for it. We will fight to:

- Fund campus-wide free Flu-Vax drive for all students.
- Fund ADHD & ASD diagnoses to be included in the UniMelb Health Service.
- Increase Psychological counselling availability.
- Offer cheap, gluten-free, allergy and ARFID-friendly food campuswide.
- Fix the AAP system so that the University provides real accommodations, including reduced hurdle requirements and to reintroduce Stat Dec for special considerations. We believe in system change; not offloading the responsibility onto tutors and students.
- Advocate for fully accessible classrooms, campus, and lecture theatres, with a full incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - beginning with hearing loops in ALL lecture theatres.
- Accessibility Grants that will provide instant financial support for students that need to access healthcare and Disability services.
- Bolster the supplies, support and community that the Disabilities lounge provides, ensuring that Disabled student's voices are heard and direct change.

The government is actively defunding disability services, whilst UMSU has laid idle. We are sick of complacency. We promise you; to listen to your voices, needs and to fight relentlessly.

We Can Do Better. We Deserve Better. We Demand Better.

Vote Julia Gunther and Angela Ranasinghe for Disabilities Office. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU.

PEOPLE OF COLOUR OFFICER



LEON LU, MUNTAHA AMREEN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! We are Leon Lu (he/him) and Muntaha Amreen (she/her), and we're running to represent you in the People of Colour Department.

Human progress has never been the work of one person alone. It is built through the cooperation of people from every race, culture and background. Our university should reflect that diversity and ensure every student feels safe, represented and able to belong. This year, Leon served as an elected voting member of the department committee, helping shape decisions both in the room and on the ground at cultural events, while also contributing to this year's racism report. Amreen, as President of the Bangladeshi Students' Association, has worked to build a community where Bangladeshi students can celebrate their culture. We have seen the importance of a department that combines cultural celebration with meaningful advocacy. Community has delivered real outcomes: UMSU's first-ever Lantern Festival, alongside Holi, Diwali and Grand-Iftar, and the continued expansion of the Festival of Nations. Community also worked with the University to distribute targeted scam-awareness resources to Chinese

Next year, we will build on this work. We will expand the Festival of Nations with more performances, interactive cultural experiences and greater support for smaller and emerging communities. We will strengthen support for cultural and linguistic clubs so every community has the resources and space to thrive. We will also expand anti-racism initiatives across campus through dedicated campaigns, clearer reporting pathways and education programs. We believe diversity should be celebrated every day - but representation must also mean action. We're ready to work alongside students from every background to build a campus where everyone is respected, supported and able to realise their full potential.

Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



LUSHY CHINGANYA, YASMIN SAAB
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! We're Lushy (she/her) and Yasmin (she/her) and we're running to be your 2027 POC office bearers. As two proud students of colour from Zambia and Lebanon, we're keen to help POC students grow at university!

Lushy served as your 2026 UMSU president and as a POC committee member in 2025. She's led POC's Bla(c)k Collective and has been involved in MDHS' Diversity and Inclusion committee, actively advocating for marginalised communities. After a year of being UMSU President, she's returning back to where it all started one last time to give back to those who gave her a platform!

Yasmin has extensive experience handling grants and planning events with the University of Melbourne's Philosophy Society, Lebanese Society, and Amnesty International Club. She has a passion for racial justice, evidenced by her journalistic work with Amnesty International exploring movements surrounding so-called 'Australia Day', and her role as producer/director of an indie drama/satire short film exploring casual racism. Yasmin is excited to finally bring Arab representation to UMSU's POC office. We want YOU to be the centre of POC empowerment. We're keen to hand you upwards of \$1500 in POC grants to make YOUR projects come to life.

For the FIRST time ever, we're looking to launch a POC Creative Series, including a Multicultural film festival with films made by you. We want to showcase our diversity through music, art, and storytelling! Your favourite festivals will be back too; from the Lantern festival and Holi to Ramadan.

We'll continue fighting for anti-racism within our university, pushing for stronger accountability and anti-racism support. Your voice matters, and with us, you'll be taken seriously.

If you want experienced reps who are ready to platform and support your ideas and fight for you, we're ready to represent you!

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)

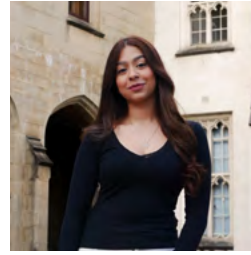


REEMA ABABNEH

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Reema and I'm running for the Students Council. As a socialist and an activist on campus I've campaigned for UMSU to support Palestine and to

mobilise students against Unimelb's ties to weapons companies. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to many nation-wide student strikes and rallies, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



ANJALI MANOJ

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hey, my name is Anjali Manoj (she/her), I'm a second year student studying a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Criminology with a minor in Psychology.

In the time I have spent on campus over the last two years, I have experienced the universities shortcomings firsthand, and I've heard the concerns of my fellow students. I want to be a voice for all students, representing student issues on council and help our proud student union fight in our interests



YASMEEN ATIEH

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Yas and I'm running for the Students Council. As a Palestinian socialist I've pressured UMSU to take a firm stance against the Gaza

genocide. I organised and chaired this year's Nakba Day Rally, commemorating 48 years since the beginning of the colonisation of Palestine. I believe in left-wing student unionism, one that organises students to fight against the far right threat, to demand climate justice, to kick weapons companies off campus and more. That's what I will advocate for in UMSU. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



DARSHITA KASLIWAL

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi guys! My name is Darshita Kasliwal (she/her). I'm a first year student studying a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Melbourne and

I'm running to be your representative on the UMSU council. I've always been passionate about advocacy and I'm excited about the opportunity to advocate on behalf students and student issues. As your representative on council, I will be a voice for all students, making sure no voice goes unheard.



ANUKI PANDITHAKORALEGE

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Anuki and I'm running for the Students Council. As an activist on campus I've campaigned for UMSU to support Palestine and to mobilise

students against the growing far-right threat embodied by Pauline Hanson and One Nation. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest anti-fascist and pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to a nation-wide student strikes against Hanson, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



LACHIE OWEN

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hey, I'm Lachie and I'm running for the Students Council. As a socialist and an activist I've stood in solidarity with Palestine and the struggle for

Indigenous liberation during my time at UniMelb. I think we all have a responsibility to oppose the racism and vitriol of the insurgent far-right in this country. I have helped to organise protests against Pauline Hanson in Melbourne in recent times, and I think UMSU has a responsibility to use its resources to support these campaigns against racism and bigotry. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



HANNAH ROSEMAN-GANNON

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Hannah and I'm running for the Students Council. I am a proud socialist activist who has campaigned relentlessly against the racism and

bigotry of the far-right. I was part of organising the massive protest against Pauline Hanson in Moonee Ponds which saw her flee the suburb with her tail between her legs. This is the type of action our Student Union must commit itself to. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



EMILY MCCROHON

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Emily, I'm a socialist activist who is running for student council to throw myself into the struggle for a fighting and truly representative student union

that doesn't shirk its responsibility to fight for a better world. Students and working class people in Australia face a grave threat in the form of Pauline Hanson and her vile racism and hatred of workers. I promise to commit myself to the struggle against the far-right and racism in all its forms. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



SAM RATHNAWEERA

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, it's Sam. I'm a revolutionary socialist activist, and I'm running for student council because I think students have a crucial role to play in the fight against

capitalism. I have organised, protests for Palestine including the Nakba Day rally in 2026, and multiple walkouts demanding an end to the genocide in Gaza. I believe UMSU can be a union that stands on the right side of history—one that uses its resources to build mass anti-war, anti-racist and anti-fascist campaigns, and supports students and workers fighting for justice. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student
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CAITLIN SPIZZIRRI

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Caitlin, I'm a STEM student who has been an ardent campaigner for Palestine because I reject that our degrees should support the US war

machine. I was part of organising both of the massive student meetings that overwhelmingly voted to condemn the genocide in Palestine and our university's complicity in it. I think our student union needs to commit itself to throwing all of its institutional weight onto the right side of history. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

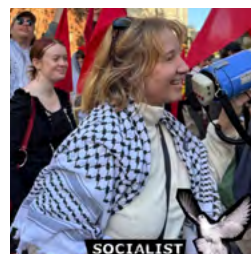


ELLI PAULDING

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Elli and I'm running for the Students Council. As an activist on campus I've campaigned for UMSU to support Palestine and to mobilise

students against our universities ties to weapons companies. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest anti-fascist and pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to a nation-wide student strikes against Hanson, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



SOPHIE CONLAN

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Sophie and I'm running for the Students Council. As an activist on campus I've campaigned for UMSU to stand in solidarity with the

Palestinian people, to kick weapons companies off campus, for free education and against racism. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest anti-fascist and pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to a nation-wide student strikes against Hanson, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



ROSE EARP

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Rose and I'm running for the Students Council. As an activist on campus I've campaigned for UMSU to support Palestine and to mobilise

students to fight for climate justice, refugee rights and against the far right. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest anti-fascist and pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to a nation-wide student strikes against Hanson, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

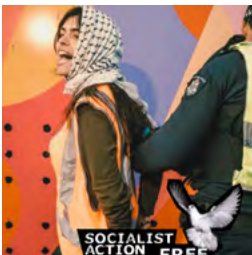


OSKAR MARTIN

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Oskar and I'm running for the Students Council. As an Indigenous socialist activist, I've campaigned for UMSU to support Palestine and to

mobilise students against the growing far-right threat embodied by Pauline Hanson and One Nation. I know that the struggle for Indigenous liberation is inextricable from the struggle against capitalism, and us students have a big role to play in building left-wing movements. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

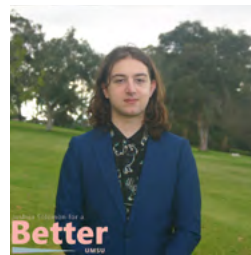


BELLA BEIRAGHI

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Bella and I'm running for the Students Council. As a long-term activist and student unionist, I've used my previous positions in UMSU to

mobilise hundreds of students for Palestine rallies, mass student meetings and nation-wide strikes against the far right. It's the socialists who have organised the biggest anti-fascist and pro-Palestine events on campus - from two mass Student General Meetings to a nation-wide student strikes against Hanson, to fundraisers for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



JOSHUA SOLOMON

BETTER

I am Josh, a Third-year science student and an active member of the Clubs & Societies Committee. I have also had the privilege serving as a President,

Secretary, and Treasurer across multiple clubs over the years. I'm running as an independent because I believe student politics should have student interests at its core, and our current leaders have become too comfortable using UMSU for playing politics and failing to follow the purpose of UMSU which is to advance the welfare and interests of students.

This election should be for students, not a proxy war between Labor factions.



KASHYAP SREEKUMAR

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone, I'm Kashyap Sreekumar (he/him), a first year Bachelor of Science Student at the University of Melbourne. When I first came to this

university, I was surprised by how often the concerns of students just went unnoticed or underserved. I am extremely passionate about advocacy and hope to ensure that no student feels their voice is not important at this university. No voice is too small to support, no minority is too inconsequential to defend. Vote [1] Community for all positions, your community is fighting for you!



VINNIE YAN

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey, my name is Vinnie Yan (he/him) and I am a first year student studying a Bachelor of Commerce in the University of Melbourne. I am

running to be a General Representative on UMSU's Students Council. I want to represent all students alike, irrespective of their background, on Students Council and bring your concerns to the student union and to the university. Whether it be academic issues, club issues or concerns around university life I will always fight to represent you. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



RYUNOSUKE HIMEDA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Ryunosuke Himeda (he/him)! I'm a first-year Bachelor of Commerce student at the University of Melbourne, and I'm running to represent YOU at

the UMSU Student Council. As a Japanese international student, I'm looking specifically to push for student-led partnerships with Melbourne's local community that raise the University's profile and influence on the world stage. For years now, we've listened to and provided for the needs of everyone. If you want a union that acts for you and your mates. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



RADMAN AMEL MONIRIAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey, my name's Radman (BSci, First Year), and I'm running for Students' Council. If you didn't know, UniMelb dropped to second in Australian

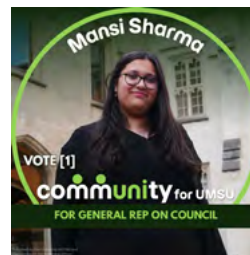
University rankings recently, and I can't let that continue any longer. I believe we can get number one back by listening to student feedback and improving student services. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



SAMUEL LICCIARDINO
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Samuel (he/him), a first-year Bachelor of Arts Student. Often, it's felt like student politics is disconnected from YOU – fighting battles for only a

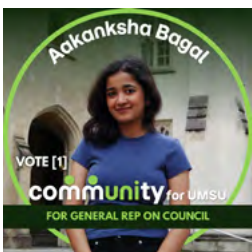
certain demographic. With Community, our goal is to keep this union an effective, proactive, and FUN platform for all. We've delivered wins, like we brought back the Ida Bar, expanded Welfare, and won preferred names on student cards for all students, and we're just getting started. I've always been a passionate advocate, and I'm ready to take on anything. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



MANSI SHARMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Mansi Sharma (she/her) a first-year Computer Science student at the University of Melbourne, running to be your UMSU Council

General Representative. As a first-year and international student, I understand the challenges of starting university in a new environment. I will advocate for better student wellbeing, stronger academic support, and a more inclusive campus where every student feels welcome. I also want to create more opportunities through clubs, events, and leadership programs while ensuring students' voices are heard. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



AAKANKSHA BAGAL
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Aakanksha Bagal (she/her), doing Masters of Data Science, and I'm running for Students Council to strengthen student wellbeing and

support services, push for fairer academic policies around assessments and exams. I believe the academic policies should work with the students and not against them. I want to make sure that equity and accessibility are built into every decision the Council makes and that there's accountability from leadership, not just promises. At the end of the day, every student should feel heard and supported. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



SAKSHI SHARMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Sakshi (she/her), I'm a first-year Master of Agricultural Sciences (Agribusiness) student at the University, running for Student Council.

Growing up in a culturally diverse space I saw how different perspectives get missed when no one stops to listen, a lesson I carried into the field, working directly with farmers on real, on-ground challenges. That same commitment now drives why I'm running: to make sure students aren't an afterthought but have real access to academic and career support. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

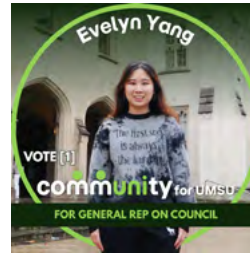
STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



OMRA SABER
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Omra Saber (she/her) I'm a first-year Bachelor of Arts student majoring in Politics and International Studies. I believe every

student deserves to feel heard, valued, and supported. Having experienced different educational and cultural environments, I understand the importance of creating an inclusive campus where everyone feels they belong. If elected to the UMSU Students' Council, I will advocate for student voices, support initiatives that strengthen our campus community, and promote transparency in the use of student resources. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



EVELYN YANG
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone, my name is Evelyn (she/her) and I'm a 2nd year student studying a Bachelor of Biomedicine. I want to represent all students alike,

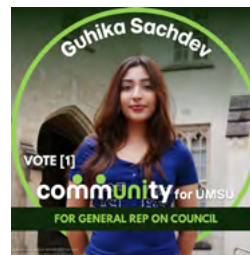
irrespective of their background, on Students' Council and bring your concerns to the student union and to the university. I am extremely passionate about advocacy and hope to ensure that no student feels their voice is not important at this university. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



HARASIS KAUR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Harasis (she/her) and I am a first year Bachelor of Commerce Student. I think university is more than just academics, and I want to take the

opportunity to get involved, challenge myself, and contribute to something that matters to the student experience. Community is about creating a better space for students, a space where everyone feels welcome, connected, and encouraged to get involved. I'd love to be part of that and help bring that into our everyday university experience. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



GUHIKA SACHDEV
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Guhika Sachdev (she/her), and I am a first-year Bachelor of Commerce student at the University of Melbourne. I am running with Community for

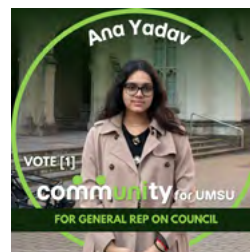
General Representative. I'm running because representation should be active, accessible and accountable. If elected, I'll listen, raise the concerns students are often expected to manage alone, and push for practical change across academics, clubs, wellbeing and campus life. Every student deserves more than a voice; they deserve to see that voice create change. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



KAASHVI SHAH
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Kaashvi Shah (she/her) and I am a third year student studying a Bachelor of Science here at the University of Melbourne. I am

running to be a General Representative on UMSU's Students Council for the year 2026-2027. I want to represent all students alike, irrespective of their background, on Students Council and bring your concerns to the student union and to the university. Whether it be academic support, mental health or campus life, I will always fight to represent you. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



ANA YADAV
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Ana, a first-year student running for Students' Council. Starting university has shown me just how important it is to have a Students' Council

that genuinely listens, stays accountable, and advocates for students in their everyday university experience. I want to help ensure that decisions are shaped by what students actually need, while keeping the Council accessible and transparent. Most importantly, I want to amplify the voices of students who are often overlooked and make sure their experiences are represented in the decisions that affect them. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions - your community is fighting for you!

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



KRITI MALANI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

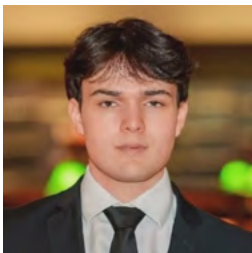
I'm Kriti, a first-year student running for Students' Council. As someone new to university life, I've quickly come to see how much of a difference an engaged

and accountable Students' Council can make to everyday student experience. I want to make sure decisions being made actually reflect what students need, and that the Council stays approachable and transparent for everyone it represents. I care about making sure student voices, especially from those who don't usually get heard in these spaces, actually shape the outcomes. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



PERCIVAL TAYLOR
PROGRESS

UMSU holds \$9 million of student money, and most students have never seen a line of the budget it sits in.

I am Percy (he/him), and on Council I will

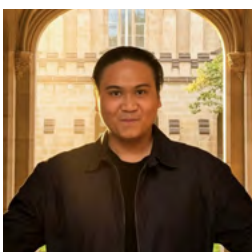
vote to publish that budget line by line, in plain language, every semester, along with every partnership this union signs. I will vote for a \$50 credit in Week 1 at the first opportunity, and I am refusing the monthly Council payment funded by your SSAF. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



ZOE WARREN
PROGRESS

Most students never find out what UMSU actually does until they need it, and by then the process is a maze. I am Zoe (she/her), and I will push for the

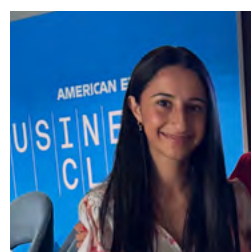
\$50 credit to land in Week 1, and for UniMart credits to 75. I will vote for concession myki for international students. I will push to abolish the Council stipend. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



FERENZ PINEDA
PROGRESS

UniMelb needs Progress. I'm Ferenz, and I'm part of a fresh new team ready to deliver for all students. We'll introduce a \$50 voucher for free food

and free gym. We'll guarantee an internship for every student. And we'll put students first every step of the way. Vote 1 Progress for all positions and let's do this.



VEDANGI KHANNA
PROGRESS

Most students never find out what UMSU actually does until they need it, and by then the process is a maze. I am Vedangi (she/her), and I will push

for support services, extensions and financial assistance to be explained in one place and in plain language, and for the three-day no-documentation extension policy to apply in every faculty. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1 and for concession myki for international students. I will vote to scrap the Council stipend. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



WILLIAM MAIN

PROGRESS

If UMSU asks a student to make something, UMSU should pay them. I am Will (he/him), and on Council I will vote for a published minimum rate for

the artists and performers this union engages, and for every grant decision to be published: who applied, who was funded, and why. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1 and for a binding target that more on-campus jobs go to enrolled students. I will vote to abolish the Council stipend.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



SEBASTIAN GLASSEL

PROGRESS

UMSU holds \$9 million of student money, and the fastest honest thing it can do with some of it is hand you \$50 in Week 1, the way Monash already

does. I am Seb (he/him), and that is the first thing I will vote for on Council, along with UniMart credits at 75 points a week and an annual allowance of \$50. I will vote to strip the monthly Council payment from the budget. Check our arithmetic.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



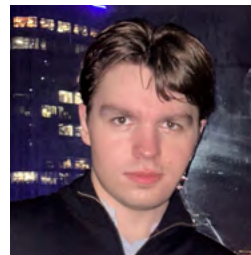
JOHN MCCLURE

PROGRESS

Club committees should not be bankrolling their own events out of personal savings while they wait months to be reimbursed. I am John

(he/him), and on Council I will fight for a published maximum turnaround on reimbursements, for the grants formula and every decision to be published, and for a faster room booking process. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1, and I will move to end the monthly Council payment funded by your SSAF.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



ANTHONY JOHNSON

PROGRESS

This University has tracked student movements through the campus wifi network, and UMSU has said almost nothing about it. I am Anthony (he/him),

and on Council I will vote to demand that wifi tracking is scrapped entirely and to defend the right to protest on this campus without qualification. I will also vote for concession myki access for international students and for the \$50 credit in Week 1. I will campaign to end the monthly Council payment funded by your SSAF.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



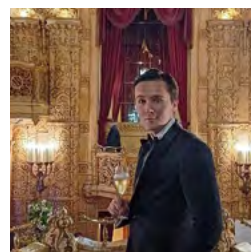
MENNO BRANDT

PROGRESS

Most students I know are working more hours than their degree can absorb, and the University is a major employer that could fix part of that. I am Menno

(he/him), and on Council I will vote for a binding target that more on-campus jobs go to enrolled students, and for UMSU to publish the pay and conditions of everyone it employs. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1. I will move to scrap the Council stipend.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



LEWIS REGAN

PROGRESS

This university employs thousands of people to run a campus built for students, and students should be getting those jobs. I am Lewis (he/him),

and on Council I will vote for a binding target that more on-campus employment goes to currently enrolled students, and for free food at UMSU events as a standard rather than a bonus. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1, and I will vote to abolish the Council stipend.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



NIKOLAI ZARUBIN

PROGRESS

Failing one piece of assessment should not cost you a semester and a subject fee. I am Nikolai (he/him), and on Council I will vote for a genuine right

to resubmit failed assessment under a 45 per cent rule, for the three-day no-documentation extension policy to be standardised across all faculties, and for more Commonwealth Supported Places in postgraduate Medicine and Law. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1, and I will push to abolish the Council stipend. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



MATTHEW WAKEFIELD

PROGRESS

The test of a student union is whether you can check what it did with your money, and at present you cannot. I am Matt (he/him), and on Council I will

vote to publish the budget line by line every semester, to publish every partnership and sponsorship this union signs, and to put agendas and minutes up promptly and in plain language. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1. I will vote to abolish the monthly Council payment funded by your SSAF. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



LACHLAN ELIAU

PROGRESS

Rural and regional students have no dedicated representation in UMSU at all, which is why so little of what this union does is designed around

a four hour trip home or a semester spent paying rent in two places. I am Lachie (he/him), and on Council I will vote to create a dedicated rural and regional representative, and for events and services scheduled around commuters. I will vote for the \$50 credit in Week 1. I will vote to end the Council stipend. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



ZEINAB JISHI

INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hello! I am Zeinab, a Farrago contributor for 2 years now! In that time, I have acted as news manager, sub-edited across multiple

departments and have written for the reviews, news and features departments. In engaging with a plethora of writers and readers alike, I am keenly aware of the power of the Media Department when it comes to facilitating the expression of student voices. As Councillor, I will advocate for the department so that it can continue to function as a creative and safe space for UniMelb students to explore their passions in various topics and get their start **[over word limit]**



JUNAE WON

INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi everyone! My name is Junae and I'm a writer/editor and reviews co-manager; I'm also often involved in the other roles Farrago offers, such

as photo-video and art-design. During my time in the Media Department, I was opened to a myriad of learning opportunities that cemented in me the value of student media. There truly is no kind of education that compares to being in the field. As your Councillor, I will further this for our student body so that we all can have a chance to explore and express our passions to make the most out of university **[over word limit]**



ANANDI GANGULY

INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi! I'm Anandi, a Features and Reviews writer at Farrago, and someone for whom student media has been one of the defining parts of university life.

I'm running for Councillor because I want our writers, editors, artists and creators to have a strong voice in the decisions that shape the Media Department. I'd particularly push for stronger contributor development, more collaboration across the collective, and greater access to workshops and industry connections where people can develop their craft. I care deeply about what student media can be and I want to make sure Farrago has the support and resources to **[over word limit]**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



EMILY MACFARLANE
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi, I'm Emily! I have been an active Media Department contributor since 2024. Some of my proudest achievements from just this year

include rewriting our Style Guide, creating Farrago's first-ever WCAG 2.2 accessible ebook, and advocating for the recognition and development of our sub-editing team. What I love the most about the Media Department is its vibrant, creative community that provides encouragement and support for any idea you set your mind to. As a Councillor, I will continue to advocate for a strong, accessible and independent Media Department where all students are welcome to create, learn, experiment and thrive.



FERGUS SINNOTT
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi all, I'm Fergus. I've been contributing to Farrago since I started at UniMelb and have had the opportunity to occupy a variety of positions in the

Features Department over the past few years. As one of the Features Managers this year, I've been able to facilitate the writing and publishing of incredible work by the Features Staff Writers. This has given me a deeper appreciation for student journalism as a mode of self-expression and skills building for our team, and for young people more broadly. I'd love the opportunity to continue my work with the Media Department as a **[over word limit]**



SYAKIRA AZZAH KAMILA SETIANANDA
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi! I'm Syakira, a first-year Politics and International Studies student and News Manager at Farrago. I joined Farrago before I even started classes,

because I already knew how powerful student media could be. This year, Farrago has become a community that reminds me why student voices matter—because no one understands university life better than the students living it. As Media Councillor, I want to help make Farrago a place where people feel brave enough to speak, curious enough to listen, and supported enough to create—protecting the independent student journalism that belongs to all of us.



BENJAMIN SHAW
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hello! I am Ben, and while I have only joined Farrago this year, I've already found myself working across reviews, creative and sub-editing departments,

as well as the Above Water Anthology. I'm passionate about student media because it represents the student experience like nothing else. Farrago is a place to meet new people, try new things, fail, sometimes, and learn. To me, this is the quintessence of university. As a councillor, I will seek to advocate for a student media where students across all faculties can find themselves represented.



DECLAN CARLTON MARK CHAN
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hey! I'm Declan and I've been with Farrago's news department since the start of my degree. As an investigative journalist, I understand the importance

of upholding a free, independent and pluralistic media ecosystem as an essential part of engaging with the world. As a councillor, I'll fight to strengthen the training, networking and industry pathways UMSU provides students, defend student editorial and artistic freedom, and support news reporters chasing difficult stories. So every student, not just those in the newsroom, graduates from a University that celebrates critical thinking, civic awareness and free expression, and equips them for whatever comes after.



PHOEBE IRISH
INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hello there everyone! I'm Phoebe, a sub-editor at Farrago. I am passionate about the Media Department and the role student media has at the

University of Melbourne in facilitating and uplifting student voices. As Councillor I would advocate for the continuation of Farrago and Radio Fodder as collaborative spaces for creativity and information.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



HARVEY GOLONKA

No policy statement submitted.



ISABELLA MCRAE MCLEOD

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Isabella McRae McLeod (she/her), a postgrad law (JD) student! I did my Bachelor of Arts at UniMelb, majoring in Philosophy and HPS. I'm a

Naarm-based activist, political organiser, election enthusiast, and occasional policy drafter - and a 2022 state election candidate. Student's Council is central to student activism on campus, as well as providing crucial support services. On the Welfare committee this year, I've seen this firsthand. The independence and self-sufficiency of student unions everywhere -including our own- are being threatened by universities. You deserve an experienced, progressive voice in the room fighting for students. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



JAKE PROCTOR

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Jake and I'm running to be a general representative on Student's' Council. The Council is a vital part of governance in the union. As a regular

student I have attended several council meetings and the AGM held earlier in the year. I am a strong believer in a progressive union that is governed with accountability to the students it represents and who it delivers for. Additionally, I believe the union should stand up against the university's cuts and regressive decisions that affect students, staff and the union. We need a union that empowers students to make change, Together!



YIFAN (ROGER) CAO

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! This is Roger, a third-year Neuroscience student in Bachelor of Science, and also one of the committee members in the Clubs and

Societies department. I believe the role of general representative on UMSU Students Council is at the heart of student benefits and wellbeing, as all decisions made from Council meetings would have a huge impact on student's life at University of Melbourne. We need real changes to be made to genuinely promote the life standard of our students and I want to represent your voice. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



PABLO PASKOS

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

The heart and soul of any university is its students, yet it's easy to feel disconnected from the place we spend so much of our time. I'm Pablo, and I

believe UniMelb should be more than a collection of individuals sharing a campus. UMSU should bring students together, represent our interests, stand up for us when the University gets things wrong, and create opportunities to connect and belong. Together, let's make UMSU more visible, accessible and relevant, while ensuring students have a genuine say in what should be some of the best years of our lives.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



SHIRLEY TANG

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Shirley (she/her). I moved to Melbourne alone a week after turning 18 - no family, no guide, and no idea how to manage tax returns or navigate

life abroad. My first two years were spent head-down in my notebooks, learning through trial and error. I made it through because of phenomenal people who helped me along the way. I'm running for UMSU student council general representative to pay that kindness forward. You shouldn't do hard things alone, and I'll be the first hand reaching for yours. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



TASMIYA HAQUE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Tasmiya (she/her) and I'm committed to advocating for more accessible wellbeing systems, community-driven efforts, and

student-focused education here at the university. We all know how demoralising it is not to feel like your thoughts matter - so I'm running for council to push for more robust student involvement and feedback channels so you can be in charge of the education you pay for. Don't forget - We're in this Together! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



BENJAMIN FREEBURN-RIEBELING
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey friends, I am Benjamin (he/him) and I am hoping to represent YOU on the UMSU Students Council with TogetherforUMSU. I am a Bachelor of Arts student. I have a lot of experience in both representing youth and young people, along with my involvement in progressive politics. From rural high school boards all the way up to parliaments, I have campaigned for voices which most often go unheard and underrepresented. This is my goal: a student union that listens, a student union that fights for YOU! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



CLAUDIA ACUNA KUROIWA
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Claudia (she/her), a third-year Neuroscience student in Bachelor of Science, heavily involved in student clubs and campus life.

Having spent three years navigating uni life and community organizing, I know how vital a strong, transparent Student Union is for all of us. I'm running for as a general representative of Student's Council to advocate for better student support, fairer representation and real campus action on the issues that matter. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



SHRIYANS MADDIKUNTA
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

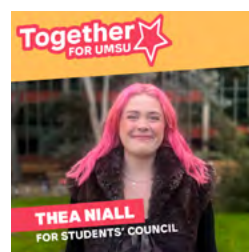
Hey! I'm Shriyans (he/him), a Bachelor of Arts student running to be one of your general representatives on the Students' Council. Through my experience as the Head of Students' Council in high school and now as a leader at my university accommodation, I know the importance of students being involved in decision-making. Having attended and spoken in the council before on issues like student's right to privacy and safety, I'm eager to push for policies that impact students positively, and would be grateful for the opportunity to represent my peers in UMSU. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ELLA DUANE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey, I'm Ella (she/her), studying Bachelors of Science. In my experience across clubs on campus, including an executive secretary role, I've seen the

issues students face in their learning journey first-hand. As part of the Student Council, I will push for transparent policies and critically review proposals so students' opinions are heard, and acted upon fairly. I'll advocate for extended library times to increase access to study spaces, expanding Union Mart so free food is more accessible to students during the cost of living crisis and make sure student voices are heard. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



THEA NIALL
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi I'm Thea (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Arts student. I'm passionate about building an accountable and transparent Student Union that fights for students on the issues that matter, including cost of living, education accessibility and equity, and the repression of students' protest rights on campus. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

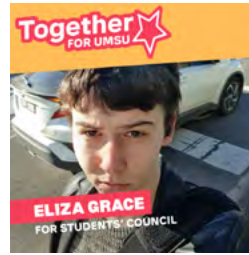
STUDENTS' COUNCIL GENERAL REPRESENTATIVES (15 TO ELECT)



SAHARSH JAIN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Saharsh (he/him), a Bachelor of Commerce student majoring in Finance, running to be your General Representative on the Students'

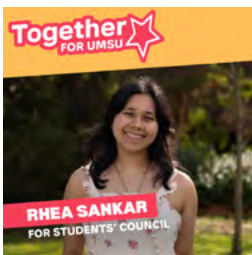
Council. Through my experience at university and involvement in student communities, I've seen how important it is for students to have a genuine voice in decisions that affect them. I want to make UMSU more accessible, transparent and represented by everyone, while advocating for issues that matter to students across campus. I'd be grateful for your support and the opportunity to represent you, listen to your concerns, and help turn student voices into meaningful action. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ELIZA GRACE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Eliza (she/her) and I'm running to be a general representative on Students' Council. I'm passionate about fighting for a progressive

Student Union that fights the University's cuts to education and repression of student activism. We need a student union governed with accountability that makes change for all students. VOTE [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



RHEA SANKAR
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello! I had the privilege of running for UMSU President alongside serving as Education Academic Officer in 2025.

With a small army of volunteers, we successfully advocated for the first 24/7 Library space to be trialled since COVID, showing the tangible impact UMSU can have on student life. Having been the exec of 3 clubs, I've also witnessed the connections UMSU can forget - but only when the right people are elected. Together may be a new ticket, but our people are experienced volunteers and leaders. In 2026, I'm fighting for a well-governed union that PRIORITISES STUDENTS ABOVE POLITICS, TOGETHER!



ALEX GWYNN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey, I'm Alex (she/they) and I am running to be a general representative on Students' Council! As the current Clubs and Societies Office Bearer, I

have been involved in developing and passing regulation and policy changes, as well as advocating for Students' Council to improve the governance of UMSU. As a Students' Councillor, I would fight to restore the good governance standards of UMSU and refocus Council on student activism, so we can fight for what YOU care about. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



NICHOLAS KOPPELMAN

As a General Representative, I will advocate for every student by focusing on these priorities:

- * Pushing for greater student access to study rooms - many classrooms are often

unoccupied and could serve as a fantastic zone for collaboration. We all know library study rooms are almost always booked out!

- * Push for clearer grading rubrics, fairer assignment extensions, and recorded lectures for all subjects.

- * Expanding opportunities for students to relevant gain real world experience.

- * Fair AI Policies: Advocate for clear, consistent rules on generative AI tools so students aren't wrongly accused of misconduct.

Vote for a fairer and more supportive UoM!



NATASHA THILAKASIRI

I am running for this position as I believe everyone should have their voice heard. I will ensure there are opportunities for students to submit ideas and vote for what they believe is

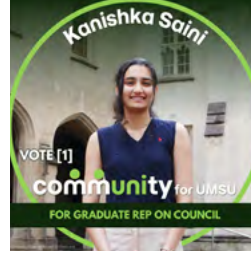
best for the university. Matters taken to Council will be shaped by you. Common concerns that I will fix if elected include more affordable and a greater variety of food and drink options on campus. I will also ensure more transparent communication between Council and students because everyone deserves to know what may impact them. Furthermore, I will vouch for unique approaches to improving the social scene.

GRADUATE STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



DEVESHI SHARMA
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Deveshi (she/her), studying Masters of Biotechnology. I'm running to be a Graduate student representative who listens and follows through. Being a class representative for 200+ students shaped me into someone who knows leadership means hearing people's needs and acting on them. As a graduate student, I know how hard university life can be for everyone and how we all need real support along the way. I want to create a safe space where every student feels comfortable expressing themselves by advocating for mental health, spreading kindness and building student welfare through genuine community effort. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



KANISHKA SAINI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello! I'm Kanishka Saini (she/her), a first-year medical student running for Graduate Representative on the Students' Council. Graduate life can feel demanding when deadlines and exams all stack up together. During this busy time, it's natural to feel frustrated when students' concerns go unheard. I want to ensure our experiences, concerns and ideas are heard and represented in the decisions that affect us. I intend to listen, advocate for change and take action to address issues so that students feel more connected and supported. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



XIANGLONG LIN

As a Master of Education student with a background in IT, AI, and accessibility projects, I am dedicated to championing graduate students' needs across all campuses. Graduate life demands a balance of intensive academics, research, and career growth. If elected to Students' Council, I will advocate for enhanced digital academic resources, better flexible study support, stronger career transition initiatives, and inclusive campus facilities. I will ensure graduate voices are heard in council decisions and drive practical solutions to improve our everyday academic and student experience. Vote Ronaldo Lin for Graduate Representative!

INDIGENOUS STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



NEVE RINGK

Neve Ringk (she/her)
Decisions that impact mob should be made by us, not for us.



DALLMYN KELLY
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I am Dallmyn Kelly, a First-Year student studying a Bachelor of Arts running for Indigenous rep on council. I am a proud Noongar man from the South-West of WA who is from Ballardong, Wadjuk, widandi and Yuet boodja (Country). I'm looking forward to pushing for more Indigenous voices to be heard as well as pushing for more Indigenous Students Intake to further help close the Gap. Also looking forward to a successful push for Indigenous perspectives and involvement in all spaces of the university in 2027 as well as getting the opportunity to lead on behalf of my peers.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



XIANGLONG LIN

Having lived and studied in Australia for 10 years, I deeply understand the unique academic, cultural, and career challenges international

students face. As a Master's student with a background in IT and AI, I will advocate for stronger language and academic support, better career transition resources, transparent tuition policy awareness, and inclusive campus integration. My goal is to ensure UMSU actively protects international student rights and provides practical, tech-driven solutions to enhance our university experience. Vote Ronaldo Lin for International Students' Representative!



RAIESA KHUTEL

Good intentions don't make change. Good specificity does. Molecular-level advocacy leads to organ-level change. And when enough organs are working,

the body; our student body thrives. (I can't help it- I am a science geek). But here's what that actually means: when you say 'students are stressed about money,' decision-makers are guessing what the problem is. Food insecurity? Fees? Rent? Decision makers throw resources everywhere and barely reach the target. But when you say, 'students can't afford takeout when they're too tired to cook,' suddenly the problem is visible. Suddenly there's a fix. That's the specificity that matters. **[over word limit]**



PATRICIA (TRISHA) TEOH

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi all! I'm Trisha (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Biomedicine student running for International Student Representative. Having lived in 4

different countries, I understand how overwhelming it may feel to move somewhere new. New faces, new systems, and on top of that, juggling a language that may not be your first. I want to make your journey easier and less lonely, from your first week on campus up to navigating uni life as it goes, by advocating for stronger support where it's needed most. Let's build a space that feels like home away from home! We're in this Together!



FÉLIX MICHEL

I'm an international Master of IT student who recently moved to Melbourne. I know how much of university life happens outside class: finding your

footing, understanding the system, meeting people and trying to build a future here.

I'm running because I want the international student experience to feel less confusing and less isolating. My focus would be practical: clearer access to support, better work and career opportunities, and more ways to feel part of campus life. I would listen first, then represent those concerns clearly and honestly in Council.



RYAN MISHRA

I'm running for Students' Council because university should be more than lectures, assignments and exams. I want to help build a stronger campus

community where students have more opportunities to meet people, get involved and feel connected to university life. I will advocate for better student events, greater variety in activities and stronger engagement across the student community. I want events to be accessible, welcoming and genuinely worth attending, while creating more opportunities for students from different backgrounds and courses to connect. I'll listen to students, bring their concerns to Council, and work towards a more active and connected campus.



YICHEN YANG

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Yichen (He/Him), a second-year BSc student focusing on Health Geography, and I'm running to be your International Students' Representative.

As an international student myself, I understand the challenges of studying far from home, navigating unfamiliar systems, managing rising costs, and finding opportunities in Australia. I want to make university life more accessible, supportive and connected for international students, with stronger representation, clearer support and fairer opportunities. I'll make sure our concerns are heard and reflected in the decisions that affect us. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

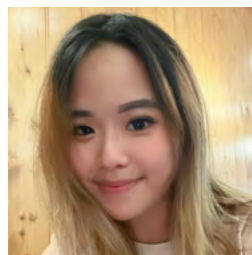
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



THAO NGUYEN (SUNNY) TRAN

Hello, my name is Sunny. I am an Science International student running for the International Students representative position. By nominating

myself, I acknowledge that I have the responsibility to improve the life of University of Melbourne students, and international students, in specific. I am a down-to-earth person, coming from an ordinary background, which makes my experiences as an international student very realistic - full of ups and downs. Studying abroad can be sweet and bitter at the same time. Therefore, I want to share this journey with my fellow international students, to help my peers enjoy more sweet than bitter.



DION LIM

As an international student, I understand how overwhelming it can feel to adjust to a new university, city and community while trying to find your place. I want

international students to feel genuinely represented, heard and included in the decisions that shape student life. As International Students Representative, I would bring forward concerns around belonging, accessibility of information, opportunities and support, while encouraging stronger connections between international and domestic students. I want UMSU to feel approachable to students who may not know where to turn, and to make sure international student experiences are part of wider conversations about university life.



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.

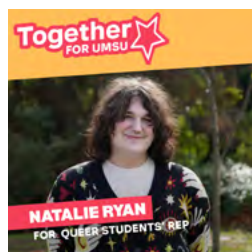
QUEER STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



ALEJANDRO LARA ALLENDE

I'm keen to rep queer graduate researchers via the Queer committee with my PhD thesis in one hand and an iced latte in the other. I believe we

need more queers to keep the fab lineup of events that already support our community going, but also a voice for engaging with the fabulous queer soon-to-be doctors across Faculties. I'll bring peak detective skills and spreadsheet jockey energy to gather and organise the input of my fellows, as well as unmatched vibes; I'm here for uplifting and hyping covered in feathers and glitter.



NATALIE RYAN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Nat (she/her), and I'm looking to fight for queer and trans voices in our student council with Together. As a trans student, I'm very familiar with how

a union that doesn't prioritise trans and queer students crumbles. In a world where trans rights are under attack, our union should be standing up and fighting back with us, rather than standing on the side of bigotry and ignorance. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

QUEER STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE



CHAR PALMER

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Char (they/them), a first-year Bachelor of Science student. I believe our education should include equal opportunity. I will fight to ensure

queer people are not left out of the conversation, and that our issues are prioritised at the highest level of UMSU. I want to ensure students can live our lives to the fullest without being overwhelmed by challenges. With Community, I'm going to fight for increased funding to welfare campaigns and advocacy on issues that impact students the most. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

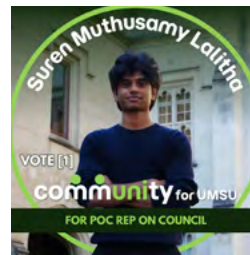
STUDENTS OF COLOUR REPRESENTATIVE



AKSHITA SHARMA

Hi, I'm Akshita. I'm running as a candidate for the People of Colour Committee. I am a second year student studying Criminology/

Sociology. I am aiming to work towards an inclusive space for people of colour to feel empowered, heard, respected and valued. As a first-generation immigrant, I have experienced firsthand the racism that occurs on campus and how alone that can make a person feel. With your help, we will work hard to increase support services, promote opportunities for cross-cultural exchanges, and fight racism on campus. I hope to work with you soon!



SUREN MUTHUSAMY LALITHA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Suren Muthusamy Lalitha (he/him), a third-year Biomedicine student from South Asia, and I'm running for the People of Colour Rep on Council. I

know what it feels like to walk into a room and wonder if you truly belong, and I want every student of colour to feel seen. Through my role at Melbourne University Tamil Sangam, I've tried to make sure everyone feels included at our events, even if they don't speak the language. Culture should bring people together, never create barriers. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



JOEY VUN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Joey (she/her). As a Chinese-Malaysian and Biomedicine student representative, I understand the importance of feeling heard, supported

and represented in the university setting. Therefore, I want to build a university where everyone, regardless of their background, feels safe, included and able to access the same opportunities as their peers. I will challenge the barriers that create inequity and celebrate diversity, because it is a privilege to connect with people from different backgrounds and learn from their experiences.

Together we can create an inclusive university where everyone feels belonged and has the chance to thrive. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REPRESENTATIVE

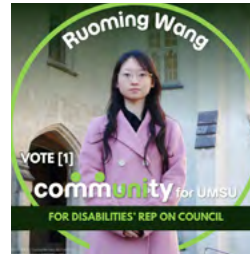


LACHIE TEMPLEMAN-HUGHES

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Lachie (he/him). I'm a first-year Commerce student planning to major in economics. I have high functioning autism, diagnosed when I was 4. I am

incredibly grateful for the support I received, and considerations made for me so factors such as handwriting wouldn't be a hindrance to me being able to have the same academic opportunities as others. It is important that we make sure that all students with disabilities are supported by this University, and ensure the rhetoric of leaving the most vulnerable behind being advocated increasingly within the broader Australian political discourse be resoundingly rejected. TOGETHER4UMSU!



RUOMING WANG

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Ruoming Wang (she/her), a first-year student studying Electrical Engineering. Have you ever come across something that didn't

make you angry, but just made you wonder, "Why does this still exist in 2026?" I have. To me, representing students with disabilities means listening to their experiences, advocating for their needs and making sure accessibility is first priority. I want to make university easier to navigate and create a space where students feel heard. I'm ready to listen and speak up. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE



RICHELLA LOUIS

No policy statement submitted.



EDWARD IAGER

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

We often come to the Uni with the expectations of a vibrant social life to be found, and yet, all we find is a life swamped with assignments. I'm

Edward Iager, and I'm running to be a part of your UMSU's activities committee, so we students can ascertain the social life that we always wanted! As part of the committee, I will push to open more opportunities where you'd bump into a random person and eventually go for lunch at the Ida! All students deserve a chance at having a more memorable time on our campus.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU.

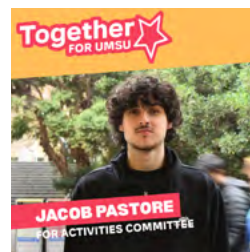


FRANK NGO

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

FRANK THE TANK? Yes I am. As someone who makes people dance and feel something for a living, I know how important it is to host events that bring

people together and create memories that last beyond the night. Now imagine bringing that same energy to campus, making events more exciting, diverse, and welcoming for everyone. Sounds like peak to me. Let's make UniMelb a place where there's always something to look forward to, because it's more than just assignments and exams. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



JACOB PASTORE

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

University should be more than lectures and assignments; it should be a place where students can meet new people, build connections and make lasting

memories. I want to bring more engaging events and activities to campus that students genuinely want to attend, while creating more opportunities for student artists to showcase their work, perform and connect with others. I want to help foster a campus culture where everyone feels there is something for them to get involved in, whether through social events, creative opportunities, student-led activities or simply having more reasons to stay on campus after class. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Together
FOR UMSU



RACHEL TRAN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello! My name is Rachel (she/her) and I'm studying Science, running for an activities committee position. My interest stems from wanting to

take part in events that build a strong student culture. I have a background in event hosting and am keen to involve myself in a team that shares my passion for bringing students together. I would love to see more festivals, parties, and games open to all students and I believe I can make that happen! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU to see our student culture grow.

Together
FOR UMSU



SHIVANK THAKUR

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Your university experience shouldn't be just lectures, tutorials, assignments and exams. It should actually be a random Tuesday night that you didn't

expect to enjoy, an event where you met your closest friend, and the unforgettable campus lore you'll still talk about years later. And that is exactly why I'm running for Activities, because I want to create more of those moments, bigger, better and more inclusive events that give everyone a reason to get involved. Let's make campus something you experience, not just somewhere you study. Vote [1] for TOGETHER4UMSU!

Together
FOR UMSU



ELIZA GRACE

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Eliza (she/her) and I'm running to contribute to UMSU's Activities Committee. I know the importance of social events that connect students

with each other and fight the loneliness crisis on campus. I'd love to see more live music festivals that feature Unimelb student musicians rather than expensive cover bands, and events that are safe and inclusive for students from diverse backgrounds. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

Together
FOR UMSU

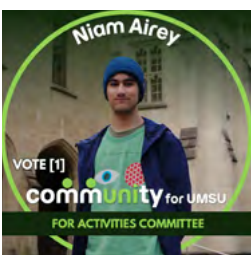


LINA LI

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

If it sounds fun, I'm in. I'm Lina, a finance student running for the Activities Committee because I genuinely love doing things and going out - clubbing,

board games, mahjong, stayovers, house parties, thrifting, livehouse, hiking, city walks, you name it. There was even a point where I was barely home at night for almost two weeks. I'd love to bring that energy to Activities and help create more fun, random and actually exciting things to do on campus. Less "go home after class" AND MORE "wait, what's happening tonight?" Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

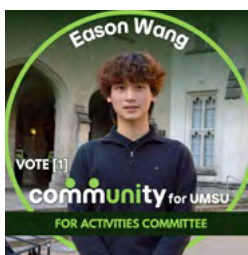


NIAM AIREY

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Niam Airey (he/him), a 1st year French student. I am running to be on the Activities Committee because I want to fight for more events where

students can go to relax and unwind on campus. I believe that all activities run by UMSU should be fun and accessible for everyone. I want to make sure that the events run by the Activities Department are accessible and as fun as possible. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



EASON WANG

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

My name is Eason Wang (he/him), and I am running for the Activities Committee! The Activities Department matters to me because university

should be more than attending classes and going home. Activities held by Community give students a chance to take a break from studying, meet new people and feel connected to the wider university community. I want to bring energy, creativity and a student-focused perspective to the committee, while listening to what students actually want from their campus experience. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

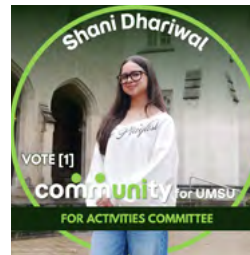
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE



AARIKA SHARMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone, I'm Aarika Sharma (she/her) and I am studying a Bachelors of Commerce, majoring in Finance. I believe Campus life is about making

connections, creating memories, and taking a well-deserved break from study. As a first year international student, I understand the importance of community and found family. It's incredibly important for us to have an academic and social support system. I aim to advocate for more accessible and inclusive events that bring students from diverse backgrounds together. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



SHANI DHARIWAL
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Shani Dhariwal (she/her), and I'm running for the Activities Department! As a first year international student, I know how much

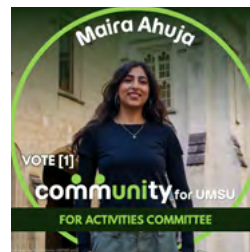
the little things, a random event, meeting someone new, or just having plans to look forward to can make campus feel like home. That's why I want to help create more of those moments, with activities that are fun & inclusive. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



SOPHIE CHEW
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Sophie Chew, a first-year Bsci student, running for the UMSU Activities Committee! Uni is more than just lectures, it's about the community

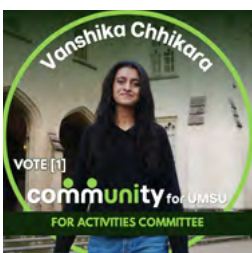
we create for everyone. Whether you're here for massive parties, casual daytime hangs, or free food, our events should cater to everyone. Having started uni under 18, I care deeply about making social life accessible, vibrant and budget-friendly for all students. I'll advocate for lower ticket costs, and more student perks across campus. Let's make campus life vibrant, accessible and budget-friendly for everyone! Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting [over word limit]



MAIRA AHUJA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello! I'm Maira Ahuja (she/her), studying Biotechnology. Being an international student myself, I can relate to the feeling of being an

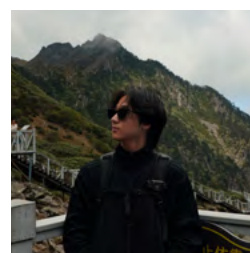
outsider in a new country surrounded by new faces. However, I made connections in unexpected ways when I attended events by the Activities Department, which gave me a different kind of life away from studying. That's why I want to provide spaces for any student who feels like an outsider. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



VANSHIKA CHHIKARA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Vanishka Chhikara (she/her). I am running for the Activities Committee because the events run by the Department provided me with the

opportunity to meet new people and find my place in Melbourne! Whether it is budget planning or making sure everything goes according to plan, I want to organise events that make give my peers the opportunity to find their place, just like I did. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



JORDAN MAXWELL LIN

Im interested in making student led activities more engaging, enjoyable and social. I know that making friends in a new campus may be difficult for some and i aim to let more students connect with each other and support more events. I'm keen to listen to what other students want and make campus life more fun.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

RUI CAO



No policy statement submitted.

CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE



EMMA GUTHRIE

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hello, I'm Emma and I am a Creative Writing student at Unimelb where I have contributed to the student theatre space, working with Above Sea

Level and UMMTA. My involvement has included Directing and Production/Stage Managing. I am passionate about making it as easy as possible for independent artists to create on campus. I firmly believe that being a student means that you should have ample tools and opportunities to learn and thrive creatively. I am well-versed in holding committee positions (UMMTA and M-ASS) and would love to combine this knowledge with my passions and serve the artists of Unimelb!



CHELSEA BROOKE WIRAMANADEN

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hi! I'm Chelsea and I'm a passionate dancer and choreographer, with a background in competitive hiphop dancing across Australia. I'm the Dance

Director for the Little Hall Arts Society, where I choreographed and directed my dance team throughout a full length show and have produced weekly dance classes and performance opportunities for students. My love for dance, teaching and events management has enabled me to create a dance community that is welcoming and accessible for all, and I believe my passion will provide the Unimelb student body with a new space to fall in love with all things creative arts.



IVAN SOKOLOV

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hello everyone, my name is Ivan (he/him) and I'm super duper excited to be running as part of the Independent Artists Co-operative ticket. Anyone who

has been involved in performing arts knows the amazing community that exists in our space. Performing has always been a part of my life, from becoming a dancer at 5 to starting the Little Hall Arts Society at university. Art is joy and I believe that our University should be a safe place for artists of all kinds to put on challenging works, experiment creatively and involve as many members of our community as possible.



SASKIA LYNZAAT

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hi, I'm Saskia, and I'm a History Honours student, but I'm also a writer published in Voiceworks and Farrago, and a visual artist published on my

friends' bedroom walls. Art is an intrinsic human practice. Making art is a part of being alive, but art and art-making is structurally inaccessible, especially to uni students juggling study, work and cooking dinner. The Independents Artists Co-operative will demand that the University prioritises students over their profit margin, and recenter student art on campus so that student artists receive actual support. Free access to creative spaces!! Redirect funding!! Students before profit!!

CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE



GABRIEL MOORE

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hello! I'm Gabriel. I have been passionately involved with student theatre for my entire undergraduate degree, particularly being the Theatrical

Director for the Little Hall Arts Society, which has produced three wonderful shows so far, of which I have either directed, written, or been a cast member in. In terms of other creative background, I hosted a comedy radio show called "The Gabb Excellent Radio Show" for a year, and am passionate about independent filmmaking and performing comedy! In running for the Independent Arts Co-Operative committee, I seek to help facilitate independent, experimental, accessible, and sustainable art-making on campus :)



DION LIM

I believe creativity should feel accessible to every student, not just those who already see themselves as artists. As a Creative Arts Committee member, I

want to support opportunities for students to experiment, collaborate and showcase their work across forms of art and media. I also want creative events and opportunities to feel welcoming to beginners and students from different disciplines and backgrounds. University should be a place where people feel encouraged to try something new, meet other creatives and build confidence. I hope to help create a community where students feel supported to make, share and celebrate meaningful work.



PABLO PASKOS

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Pablo, and I'd like to be part of a university where creative work is visible, accessible and part of everyday student life, rather than

something you only encounter if you already know where to look. As a first-year Arts student, I'd like to make Creative Arts less about waiting for things to happen and more about making them happen by creating more opportunities for students to make, share and experience creative work across campus. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ANSH JINDAL

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Ansh, a Bachelor of Commerce student, content creator, and someone who loves turning ideas into experiences people remember.

My experience in content creation, storytelling, social media, and creative collaborations has taught me how to make ideas engaging, relevant, and impactful. I bring a fresh perspective, strong creative instincts, and the ability to turn concepts into content that connects with students. I want to bring this experience into Creative Arts by contributing innovative ideas, helping create engaging events and initiatives, and giving student creativity the visibility it deserves. I'm here to add energy, creativity, and execution to the team.

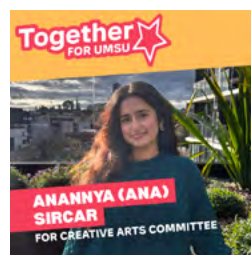


FREYA HOSKING

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Freya (she/they), a first-year Science student. Whilst my course doesn't always give me many opportunities to be creative, I'm incredibly

passionate about the arts, especially music and writing, which I have pursued through Farrago. I would love to help others find a means to express their creativity throughout UMSU, particularly in areas that their studies may not afford them to. I plan to do this by increasing accessibility to and frequency of creative arts events, ultimately fostering a stronger, more connected, and creative student culture at the University of Melbourne. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ANANNYA (ANA) SIRCAR

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Anannya (she/her), a second-year Arts student, majoring in Sociology/minoring in Media and Communications. I'm involved in student theatre and

advocate for performing, visual, literary and digital arts. I have a passion for creating art that is authentic and meaningful. I want creative arts to be accessible to everyone by advocating for more BIPOC involvement, awareness and representation. I know not everyone can find outlets to creatively express themselves, their culture, and their interests. Therefore, I want to bring PEOPLE in the forefront of this, because what's creativity and art, if not stories that bring us TOGETHER.

CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE



MANSIS KAUR
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I am Mansis, a second-year Bachelor of Commerce student. I believe creativity is a powerful way to bring people together, celebrate different

backgrounds, and express ideas through art, photography and more. As an FBE Senior Peer Mentor and Marketing Intern, I've developed experience in content creation, student engagement, event support and collaborative activities. I've created engaging content, supported events and training, facilitated competitions, and helped plan activities that encourage students to connect and participate. I'm excited to bring these skills to the committee, give back, and help build a vibrant, inclusive creative community. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

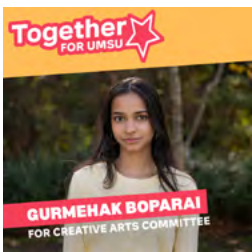


PHAIDON DICKINSON
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

I'm Phaidon (he/him), a first-year Arts student with a passion for film and theatre! I'm passionate about fostering a Creative Arts department that caters to students

with a wide array of interests and fosters connection with student creative arts clubs and societies.

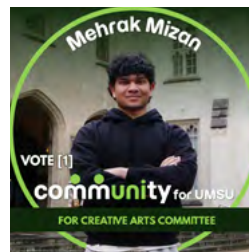
Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



GURMEHAK BOPARAI
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

YOU came to UniMelb probably expecting university life to be movie-like, or at least closer to the community that they showcase on American TV.

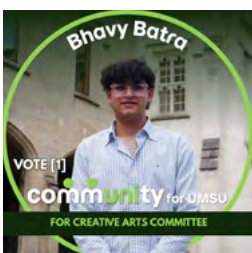
Having friends you hangout with every week, walking around on a bustling campus, wanting university spirit, doing fun events like Sports, Art, or even Festivals. This is not propaganda, it's possible. I've experienced and made that large-scale dream life happen before and I'm ready to do it again. I'm Mehak, and I'm going to bring the culture you're longing for to UniMelb, not for me, not for you, but for all of US. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



MEHRAK MIZAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Mehrak Mizan (he/him), and I'm a first year student studying a Bachelor of Science. Although I come from a scientific background, I

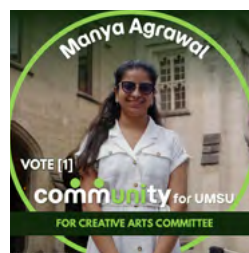
think that creativity and innovation works best when the worlds of science and art come together. Engineering helps me learn how to think logically to solve issues, and the arts give me an empathic, imaginative, and expressive side. As a dedicated member of the UMSU Creative Arts Department Committee, I hope I can develop a collaborative space for all students. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



BHAVY BATRA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Bhavy Batra (he/him). I'm a second year student studying a Bachelor of Commerce and I'm running for the Creative Arts Committee because I

enjoy participating in activities and campus life. I have worked with various student societies to plan and run events for students of a diverse range of backgrounds. I would like to share that experience and contribute to organising events that all students would like to participate in. Creative Arts should be open to everybody, whether or not they consider themselves an artist. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



MANYA AGRAWAL
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey, I'm Manya Agrawal (she/her). I'm currently studying a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Psychology in my 1st year. I believe that the

arts is built on collaboration and succeeds on inclusivity. As a member of the Creative Arts Committee, I will advocate for creative events which will allow people to explore different events and experience new things to enhance the University experience. Moreover, I aim to increase focus and funding for the department. I will fight for a creativity focused UniMelb community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

CREATIVE ARTS COMMITTEE



POOJA SRINIVASAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Pooja Srinivasan (she/her). I'm completing my first year of a Master of Biomedical Engineering. I want to champion the talented individuals

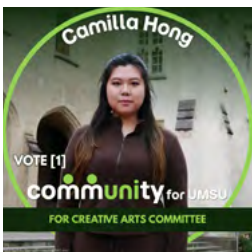
and groups within UniMelb. I believe providing the right support, whether through promotion to increase engagement or providing logistics, allows people to focus on what they do best, creating. I want to be a pillar of support, ensuring all students have the resources to succeed. I hope to contribute to an inclusive and connected UniMelb community where everyone can share their talents. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



ADVIKA PANCHAGNULA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! My name is Advika Panchagnula (she/her), and I'm a first year student studying Bachelor of Biomedicine. People sometimes assume science

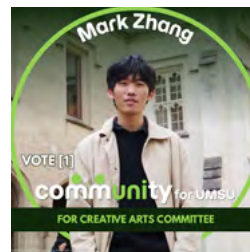
and creativity sit in separate boxes, but I believe some of the best problem-solving happens when you let curiosity and imagination lead just as much as data and evidence do. Studying biomedicine has sharpened how I approach problems methodically, while staying involved in the arts keeps me grounded in empathy, expression, and community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



CAMILLA HONG
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey, I'm Camilla! As a massive advocate of fine arts and proponent of the importance of creativity, I would fight consistently to improve the level

of attention and funding that creative arts gets. Oftentimes, we're overshadowed by other aspects of the University, despite the arts being what creates a sense of community, a sense of purpose and a sense of togetherness. Creativity and appreciation of more than surface-level ideas are what make the UniMelb community so special. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



MARK ZHANG
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey, I'm Mark Zhang (he/him), a first year Bachelor of Science student. As an advocate for the fine arts and the importance of creativity, I would

work consistently to improve the attention and funding that the Creative Arts Department gets. There are times when we're overshadowed by other aspects of the University, despite the arts being what creates a sense of purpose and togetherness. Creativity and appreciation of more than surface-level ideas are what make the UniMelb community so special. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



DIKSHITA MALHOTRA

No policy statement submitted.

DISABILITIES COMMITTEE



LACHIE TEMPLEMAN-HUGHES

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Lachie (he/him). I'm a first-year Commerce student at the University of Melbourne, planning on majoring in economics. I have high functioning

autism, which I was diagnosed with at age 4. Accessibility to disability services and considerations has been a tremendous help to my academic and personal progress. I believe it is important to ensure that support is available and accessible for everyone. For this reason, I'm a strong supporter of Together's fight for ADHD and Autism diagnosis to be included in the UniMelb Health Service.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



KENWAY SHERIDAN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello!! I'm Kenway (they/them) and I'm a second year Psych student. As a student with a disability, I know how hard it is to exist in a space that seems

to forget that students with disabilities exist. This rigid format is something that I want to change. I will ensure that our voices are heard, our struggles are seen, and the things that affect us, even the ones that others may deem mundane, are dealt with. I also believe that we deserve a community, so I'm also advocating for a better use of the disability space!

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



RAJASH KUDERU

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

My name is Rajash (he/him), I am a recently diagnosed ADHDer in a Bachelor of Arts who would love to be one of your voices on the disability committee. I

understand that uni can already be tough and having a disability can make it a struggle. I would advocate for the uni to provide ADHD diagnosis services (thru the new GP diagnosis legislation). I would like to see a more accessible campus and an increase to the number of CAPS sessions. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



FRANCES VARGHESE

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Frankie (she/her), a first-year Arts student majoring in History. Having had to navigate and overcome challenges due to dyslexia, I understand how disempowering

it can be to have your accessibility needs treated as optional not necessity. If elected to the Disability committee, I will make it my mission to advocate for the voices that have been silenced for too long. I will push for greater, fairer and more accessible assistance and lobby the Uni for increased support in the face of the large cuts to NDIS. Together we can create change!

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

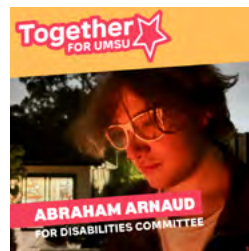


DARCY CONQUEST

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Darcy (he/him) and I'm a second-year Arts student, majoring in linguistics. I have autism and use a wheelchair, so I know what it's like

to fight for academic support and campus accessibility. As a member of the Disability Committee, I would continue this advocacy on behalf of all students, ensuring that the university hears your voices. I would campaign to improve the physical accessibility of old buildings, as well as organise more regular events and activities that bring the disability community together. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ABRAHAM ARNAUD

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Abraham (he/him) and I'm majoring in Maths and Stats! As a neurodivergent student, I know navigating Unimelb bureaucracy

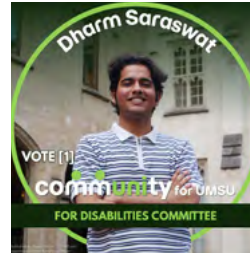
and getting adequate academic support can be difficult at the best of times. I'm passionate about advocating for fairer and more accessible academic assistance for all students affected by disabilities and mental health setbacks. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

DISABILITIES COMMITTEE



ALEX GWYNN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Alex (she/they) and I'm a post-grad Youth Mental Health student. As a student who lives with disabilities, I'm familiar with the uni's ongoing support services, and see the gaps in their accessibility. I would like to use my position on the Disabilities Committee to advocate for visibility of disability support and advocacy services so all students know where to look for ongoing support. I would also endeavour to ensure Disabilities collectives are held frequently and visibly, so more students who live with disabilities can benefit from the department. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



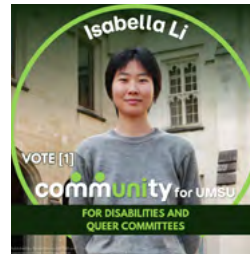
DHARM SARASWAT
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Dharm Saraswat (he/him), a first-year Bachelor of Arts student, running for the Disabilities Committee. Making the university genuinely accessible matters to me. Places like library stairs, gardens and study spaces should be accessible to everyone, not just some students. I want to help make campus easier to navigate, so everyone can enjoy university life and feel like they belong. Most importantly, I'll speak up and make sure you're heard. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



KARTIK WAGHELA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Karthik Waghela (he/him). I'm in my first year of a Master of Marketing Communications, running for the Disabilities Committee because every student deserves to feel heard, included and empowered. Accessibility should never be a second thought, it should be at the heart of student life. If elected, I'll advocate for better digital accessibility and inclusive academic, social and extracurricular opportunities. I'll listen to students, amplify their experiences and push for practical change. Collectively, we can build a more accessible, inclusive University of Melbourne community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



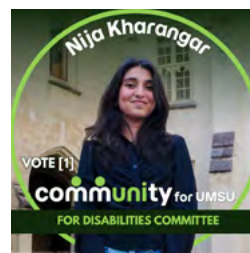
ISABELLA LI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Isabella Li, a first-year Bachelor of Science student. As someone who is neurodivergent and struggles with mental health, I understand how disability can affect university life. I want to improve academic accommodations so students with disabilities feel supported throughout their academic journey. Everyone's experiences are different, and I'm open to hearing your experiences and advocating for provisions. Without student input, we won't know how students are struggling. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



NYSSA GUPTA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Nyssa Gupta (she/her), I'm in my first-year of a Bachelor's, majoring in Psychology and International Studies. I'm running for the Disabilities Committee because I want students to feel supported, heard and understood at university. As a psychology student, I'm passionate about student mental health, especially during the transition from school to university. I want to expand student support groups beyond CAPS, so students can access the right resources when they need them. I hope to improve accessible, culturally inclusive mental healthcare for marginalised students. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



NIJA KHARANGAR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Nija Kharangar (she/her), a first-year Master of IT student, running for the Disability Committee. University has shown me how important it is to feel included and comfortable being yourself. I want accessibility as something we think about from the start, rather than addressed only when issues arise. I want to hear from students about their experiences, what they need and work towards practical changes that make university easier. I also want to build better communication with the Disability Department, so students know they're supported. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

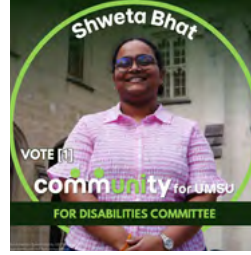
DISABILITIES COMMITTEE



ANIKSHA KATHARE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Aniksha Kathare (she/her). As a marketing student, I've developed a strong interest in understanding different perspectives and

communicating the needs of diverse communities. If elected as a Disabilities Committee, I want to focus on making accessibility more visible, approachable and inclusive across campus. I hope to create stronger channels for students to share their experiences and concerns, while also improving awareness of the academic, social and wellbeing support already available to them. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



SHWETA BHAT
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Shweta Bhat (she/her). I'm pursuing my Master's in Management, and I'm running for the Disabilities Committee because I want every

student to feel supported, included, and able to fully participate in university life. I believe accessibility should go beyond physical spaces, students should have access to the support, resources, and understanding they need to succeed. I want to work towards a more inclusive university environment where students with disabilities feel heard, respected, and empowered to advocate for themselves. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

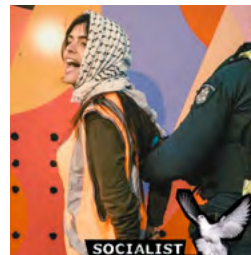


**BAMBARAWANA
LIYANAGAMAGE NESANDI
NAADITHYA**

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi everyone, I'm Nesandi Naadithya [she/her], a second-year Bachelor of Arts student, and I am running

for the education committee. As a second-year student I know that studying at the university for most students isn't an easy and smooth process as one would expect, with students facing unexpected hurdles regarding their timetables, exam schedules and assignment extensions. Therefore, I will advocate for and prioritise the best interests of students and student rights to make their time at the university a less stressful and more enjoyable experience, helping them make the most of their experience.



BELLA BEIRAGHI
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Bella and I'm running for the Education Committee. I was the Environment Officer for 2026 and the Education Officer in 2024. Through

these positions I've led a nation-wide Weapons Off Campus campaign, campaigned to get Unimelb to end their ties with weapons companies and all Israeli institutions, and mobilise students against the rise of Pauline Hanson and One Nation. UMSU should be doing much more to throw their weight behind left-wing campaigns. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist UMSU.



JASMINE ZHANG
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hello! I'm Jasmine (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Commerce student. I am running for the Education department committee because I know I can be a

staunch voice for students in the face of a University that cares about rankings more than actual student experience. I want to be able to push for meaningful and tangible change with the Education department to improve things for my peers and for everyone who enrolls in and graduates from this institution after me.



YASMEEN ATIEH
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Yas, I'm running for the Education Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I've been involved in every

social justice issue on campus - from campaigning against the Gaza genocide, to fighting for a fossil free and weapons free university to standing up to attacks on our education. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice both on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE



CAITLIN SPIZZIRRI

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Caitlin, I'm running for the Education Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the fight

for our education rights is inseparable from the fight against the entire profit driven system that's turned our universities into big businesses. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to fight against every and all injustice - Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



SOPHIE CONLAN

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Sophie, I'm running for the Education Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the

fight for our education is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - campaigning for weapons off campus, fighting for a fossil free and corporate free university and standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



WILLIAM ROUMELIOTIS

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Will, I'm running for the Education Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the fight for our

education is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - campaigning for weapons off campus, fighting for a fossil free and corporate free university and standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



RYO OGUCHI

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Ryo Oguchi (he/him), a first-year Bachelor of Science student, running for the Education Committee. I want to make studying at university as

hassle-free and enjoyable as possible. I know that studying in University can be a bit of a drag for some of us, so I want to make sure the Education Committee has our best interests in mind when deciding how to allocate resources. I want students to feel that their education is being prioritised and that their needs are being considered. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



M WARID ABDULLAH

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! My name is M Warid Abdullah and I am a first year Computer science student. Studying at Unimelb is hard enough on its

own without having to deal with the strict deadlines and rigid academic policies. On the Education Committee I will fight for fair grading and clearer assignment feedback. I will make sure academic resources are simple to access and the student voices are actually listened to by the university. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE



JIYA DHAMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Jiya Dhama (she/her), an international student from New Delhi, India, studying a Bachelor's in Data Science. On the outside, I'm passionate

about writing, public speaking and connecting with people from different backgrounds. These experiences have made me a confident communicator and active listener. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve on this committee and build on previous members' work. I'll bring fresh ideas, enthusiasm and dedication to make sure students feel heard, represented and empowered. I'm excited to work together and make a difference. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



DIAN FU
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello! I'm Dian Fu (she/her), a Master of Education student, running for the Education Committee in the upcoming UMSU election. My

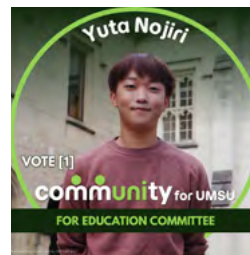
background has given me a strong understanding of student wellbeing and educational policy. With experience in student societies, I understand the importance of working together to create change. I believe the Education Committee's role is to help connect the student and the University, ensuring students' voices are heard. I want to make sure your concerns help shape the future of education at our University. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



AYAANA KUMAR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Ayaana Kumar (she/her), a first year Bachelor of Commerce student, running for the UMSU Education Committee. I'm running because I

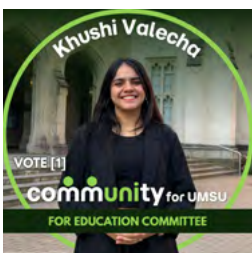
care about making sure students feel heard when decisions are made about their education. I want to push for better academic support and a university that genuinely listens to student feedback. If elected, I'll make an effort to be approachable, listen to your experiences and advocate for practical changes that make a difference. I want students to feel included and confident that their voices matter. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



YUTA NOJIRI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Yuta Nojiri (he/him), a first-year Politics student. I want to make university easier to navigate and make students feel supported throughout

their studies. I know a positive university experience depends on more than just good classes. Clear course information and fair marking can make a big difference in how secure and confident students feel. I've faced these challenges myself, and I want to make sure students' concerns are taken seriously. I'll raise these issues and push for fairer, practical solutions. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



KHUSHI VALECHA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Khushi Valecha (she/her), a first-year Master of Education student. As an international student, I know firsthand how overwhelming it can be

to navigate university life, from shifting academic expectations to balancing workloads in a whole new environment. Higher education should empower us, not exhaust us. That's why I want to ensure our university prioritises student success by listening to what we actually need. Every student deserves an education that feels rewarding, equitable, and manageable. Let's make our learning experience better together. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



DHANVI SHARMA

As a student majoring in psychology, and member of the ASAC, I understand how disconnected students can feel from decisions shaping their education,

despite discussion forums existing for the same. If elected, I will advocate for clearer communication, but more importantly, ACTION, between faculties and students that actually makes an easier change in their everyday lives. Drawing on my experience volunteering and organising events with UMSU, I know how to listen to student or staff concerns and turn them into quick and practical action. I'm committed to making university life more transparent, especially for international students navigating university for [over word limit]

EDUCATION COMMITTEE



JOEY YUN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Joey (she/her), a Biomedicine student running for the Education Committee. As the current LEC Education Officer, I've gained

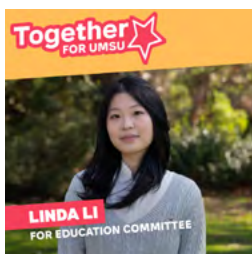
experience supporting students, supervising classes and helping students connect through language. I'm passionate about making sure students feel heard and represented throughout their university journey. If elected, I'll advocate for better facilities, accessible academic resources and more opportunities for students to have their voices heard. I want to help build UMSU Education into a department that listens to students, acts on their concerns and makes university a more supportive and accessible experience for everyone! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



BENJAMIN FREEBURN-RIEBELING
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

I'm Benjamin (he/him) running with Together for UMSU as an Education Committee. I'm studying a Bachelor of Arts. Together with your help, I want

to see 24 hour libraries during assessment period, (I mean who doesn't love a late night study), and I want to push for blanket 11:59pm submission times on your assessments (yes, I have gotten a late penalty for submitting 3 minutes past the due date). We're here to receive an education, and together I believe the student union will be the one in your corner throughout the journey. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



LINDA LI
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Linda (she/her) and I'm a second-year Commerce student running with Together for UMSU as Education Committee. I've enjoyed

getting involved at uni through projects & volunteering and I want to make uni more accessible for everyone. I'd love to see a wider range of winter and summer subjects so students have more flexibility in planning their degrees, and a free printing system where students get free printing credits each semester to reduce everyday costs. I want to make sure students' voices are heard when decisions about our education are made! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



MECCA SETIAWAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Mecca (he/him) and I'm running to contribute to and be a member of the education committee at UMSU. I'm running with TOGETHER because

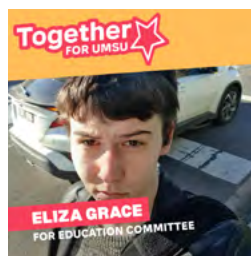
as a former Monash University student I know what it's like to have a student union that fights for you and TOGETHER is that ticket. I'll fight for universal submission times, simpler extension application processes and for a 24 hour library during assessment periods and as a Master's of public policy student, better graduate research support. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



CAMILA ECHEVARRIA BURNIE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Camila (she/her), a third-year Bachelor of Arts student. I'm the current Culture and Education Director of HCLS, helping students

learn Spanish and about Hispanic culture. This role provided me the opportunity to create a space for all students, no matter the background, to learn, share and connect, which is what I would like to recreate on a broader scale. I'm passionate about advocating for resources and spaces for students that can help with academic development, because I believe everyone should have a supported and accessible academic experience during their study here. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ELIZA GRACE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Eliza (she/her) and I'm running to contribute to UMSU's Education Committee. We know that staff teaching conditions directly affect

students' learning conditions. Students deserve a student union that fights for them and stands with staff against the University's cuts to education and attacks on staff. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE



DENNIS LEUNG
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Dennis (he/him), a third-year Bachelor of Biomedical Science student running for the UMSU Education Committee. As a Biomed student, I find myself constantly working in libraries in order to catch up with my studies. Therefore, I understand the importance of extending library hours as I often find myself working till closing hours and getting kicked out of libraries before my work is done. I am committed to extending library hours and pushing policies to further enrich our academic life! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



FLYNN SLATER
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Flynn (he/him)! I'm an Arts student, and I'm running to make sure UMSU cares about our environment! I've helped out the Environment Department this year, and I want to bring my experience to the Committee. The department had some amazing events: badge-making, free plants, thrift markets and more. It's now time to bring the fight to the University. Our University's biggest investments are with fossil fuel giants and massive polluters. This needs to end. How can universities teach the science of climate change, while accepting funding from companies who don't believe in climate change? Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ARIANA GU
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

I'm Ariana (she/her), a Bachelor of Commerce student running for the Environment Committee. Studying commerce has shown me that institutions' purchasing and investment choices shape the world around us. I'm running to make sustainable action practical, transparent and easy for students to join. If elected, I will advocate for regular e-waste collections; and clearer recycling guidance for clubs. I'll also push for reusable-cup incentives and a campus container-deposit point. I want a greener campus where every student can take meaningful action. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



OLIVER BAITCH
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everybody, I'm Ollie (he/him) and I'm excited to run as a progressive Together candidate for the Environment Committee. The climate crisis should be at the forefront of our minds as organisations tackle any issues, and I hope we can fight for effective and meaningful change within the university. In my years on the Albury City sustainability advisory committee, I have fought for young peoples' voices in the sustainability fight, and I hope that I can continue that work at UniMelb. In many cases, environmental solutions and ideas for positive steps exist, we just have to take them.



KIYONG SHIN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey y'all I'm Kiyong (he/him). I'm a science student studying environmental sciences with a focus on ecology. Studying conservation has made me deeply appreciate our native flora and fauna and I want to share that with everyone :) I want to help make this campus more sustainable and biodiverse through running fun and casual events accessible to everyone, especially to people with little to no knowledge about sustainability. Specifically I'd like to run more educational events about the importance of the stunning diversity of life we have on campus. TOGETHER we can all create a sustainable campus for our futures!

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Together
FOR UMSU



THEA BARNARD
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Thea (She/Her)
I'm studying a Master of Environmental Science and am excited to enable meaningful change to create a more

sustainable university.

It was 7 years ago that I participated in my first Fridays for Future march, and since then the climate crisis has continued, whilst fossil fuel companies increase their profits. I am currently on the SMART C committee, which has organised affordable and inclusive, sustainable events.

I hope to implement changes that reduce emissions and waste, such as a container-for-change scheme, whilst collaborating with clubs, faculties and communities so that all students can get involved!

Together
FOR UMSU



DEAN MOUTZIKIS
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Dean Moutzikis (he/him). I'm a biomedicine student who is excited at the chance to run for the environment department. I'm proud of some of the

sustainable steps that this university takes in the labs and I want to ensure that the rest of the university runs just as sustainably. However, the universities involvement with and investment in fossil fuels is disappointing and needs to end. Even the small changes that we can make, such as better recycling and reusable cups makes a big difference in terms of preserving our environment. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

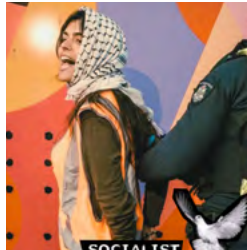
Together
FOR UMSU



ZARA ZAKIR
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Zara (she/her)! I'm a third year environmental science student running for the Environment Committee looking to make a positive impact.

Having longstanding experience in volunteer work, I have seen the dire impacts of climate change firsthand, and am thus dedicated towards forging a sustainable and environmentally friendly university experience. I've observed a knowledge gap between my major and other courses, and would like to bridge this gap in environmental knowledge through education without judgement. Through fostering a better connection between people and the environment, I believe we can forge a more sustainable future! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



BELLA BEIRAGHI
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Bella and I'm running for the Environment Committee. I was the Environment Officer for 2026 and led a nation-wide Weapons Off Campus campaign. I've campaigned to get Unimelb to end their ties with weapons companies and all Israeli institutions. Climate justice is inextricable from anti-imperialist action and anti-racist activism. That's why I've dedicated my time and resources to fighting for a weapons free and fossil free university. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



YASMEEN ATIEH
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Yas, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the

fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why i've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from Palestine to opposing racism and the far right, to campaigning for a fossil free university. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



LACHIE OWEN
SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Lachie, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the

fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why i've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from campaigning against the Gaza genocide, to fighting for a fossil free and weapons free university. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



TOM PALMER

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Tom, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know

that the fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from anti-sexist campaigns to fighting for a fossil free university, to standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



HANNAH ROSEMAN-GANNON

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Hannah, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the

fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from campaigning for Palestine, to opposing our universities ties to fossil fuels and weapons companies, to anti-racist and anti-fascist actions. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.

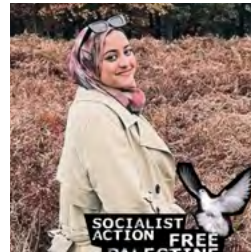


NATHAN RODIC

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Nate, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the fight

for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from fighting for womens and trans rights, to kicking weapons companies off campus, to fighting for a fossil free university. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



NASHIA NAZIM

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi I'm Nashia, I'm running for the Environment Committee with Socialist Action - Free Palestine. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the fight

for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - campaigning for weapons off campus, fighting for a fossil free university and standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for a left-wing, activist student union.



SHAHANA SEYAR

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4
SUSTAINABILITY

Climate action at UMSU should be practical and visible. I'm Shahana, a Master of Public Policy and Management student with real experience in climate resilience,

government relations and advocacy for almost 7 years. I've built climate-resilient and disaster risk finance plans for Pakistan and attended COP29 as a Pakistani climate emissary, engaging in transnational climate finance and resilience strategy. As your Environment Committee member, I'll push for expanded Green Grants, real campus change, tree-planting, organic waste bins, and Indigenous-led environmental partnerships. I'm not running to occupy a seat, I'm running to use it. Vote: Shahana INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY



EREN OLMEZ

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4
SUSTAINABILITY

Hi I'm Eren (he/him) a Master of Public Policy and Management student passionate about turning environmental advocacy into practical policy outcomes. With experience in government

relations, communications and policy advocacy, I've worked on initiatives connecting parliamentarians, industry and communities, including discussions around employment resilience through the renewable energy transition. I believe climate action must be accessible, evidence-based and embedded in everyday decision-making. As an independent candidate, I hope to bring a pragmatic and collaborative voice to the Environment Committee, championing student-led sustainability, stronger Indigenous engagement and meaningful environmental change across UniMelb. Vote [1] STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY for Environment.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



LOLA BOWERS

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi I'm Lola, I'm running for the Environment Committee. As a dedicated socialist activist, I know that the fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight against capitalism. That's why I've been involved in every social justice issue on campus - from kicking weapons and fossil fuel companies off campus, to opposing racism and the growth of the far right embodied in Pauline Hanson and One Nation. I believe that UMSU should mobilise students to challenge injustice on and off this campus.



SAMUEL LICCIARDINO

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Sam Licciardino (he/him), a first-year Bachelor of Arts student. Too often, student politics can feel disconnected from everyday student

life, with certain voices getting heard more than others. I'm running with Community because I want our union to feel like it belongs to everyone, effective and genuinely fun. We've already helped bring back the Ida Bar, expanded Welfare and won preferred names, but there's still more to do. I'm passionate about standing up for students, listening to what matters, and turning that into action. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

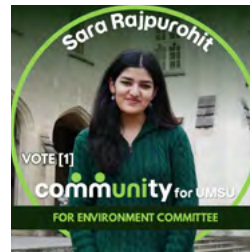


SAM RATHNAWEERA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Sam and I'm running for the Environment Committee. I'm a socialist activist who has campaigned to end our universities ties to weapons

companies and the fossil fuel industry. I know that Unimelb's dirty ties have real-world consequences - just look at the genocide in Gaza. Unimelb, like many universities in Australia, functions like the "brains behind the bombs" doing research for weapons companies like Lockheed Martin and Boeing. They also have millions of dollars in ties with fossil fuel companies and even have a lecture theatre named after Rio Tinto! UMSU should campaign to end these ties now.

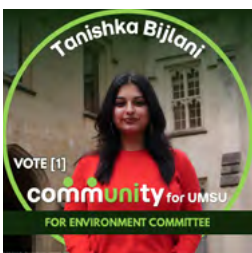


SARA RAJPUROHIT

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Sara (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Design student, running for the Environment Committee. I'm passionate about making

environmental action accessible to students. I want to help raise awareness, support campaigns and work with students, while ensuring resources are used effectively. I also hope to contribute to initiatives supporting animal welfare and protection of native habitats. Community's strong and diverse presence provides a platform to reach students beyond those already engaged in environmental action. I bring a fresh perspective, enthusiasm and willingness to contribute meaningfully. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

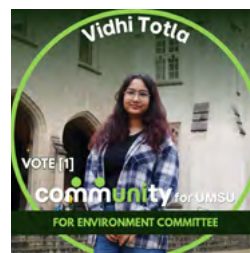


TANISHKA BIJLANI

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Tanishka Bijlani (she/her), a second-year Bachelor of Arts student, running for the Environment Committee. I'm running because I

believe caring for our planet should be a part of everyday life. I know sustainability can sometimes feel overwhelming, but I believe small, simple changes can make a real difference. If elected, I'll advocate for practical ways for students to live more sustainably, while listening to your ideas and experiences. I want to help build a greener campus and make a positive impact on our planet. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



VIDHI TOTLA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Vidhi (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Science student, running for Environment Committee. I'm passionate about making

environmental action more accessible to students. I want to help raise awareness, support campaigns and work with students to make sure resources are used effectively. I'm also really interested in supporting animal welfare and protecting native habitats. Community's strong and diverse presence is a great way to reach students beyond those already involved in environmental action. I'd bring a fresh perspective, enthusiasm and a genuine willingness to contribute. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



JONES CHUEH

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi folks, I'm Jones (he/him) and I'm very excited to be running for the Environment Committee. As a Design student, I know that students very

rarely use the reusable containers and cutlery from the vendors on campus. We need to make these more prominent and encourage vendors to use them by default. This is an easy way to make our university more environmentally friendly. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

INDIGENOUS COMMITTEE

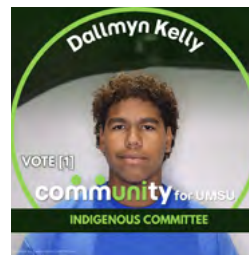


FENELLA COLLINS

Provisionally elected unopposed

As a proud Worimi person, this role would allow me to give back to the Indigenous community at UoM, whilst ensuring students continue to be

appropriately recognized and supported within their studies. I've had many roles in leadership and advocacy through my local and educational communities, and I would love to continue this role for my community at the UoM. I am particularly interested in sustainable Indigenous land management, and integrating Indigenous values into everyday life. It is extremely important both to the university and its students that Indigenous people are represented in a way that communicates pride and power.



DALLMYN KELLY

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Provisionally elected unopposed

I am Dallmyn Kelly, a First-Year student studying a Bachelor of Arts running for the Indigenous Committee. I am a proud Noongar man from the

South-West of WA who is from Ballardong, Wadjuk, widandi and Yuet boodja (Country). I'm looking forward to pushing for more Indigenous voices to be heard as well as pushing for more Indigenous Students Intake to further help close the Gap. Also looking forward to a successful push for Indigenous perspectives and involvement in all spaces of the university in 2027 as well as getting the opportunity to lead on behalf of my peers.

PEOPLE OF COLOUR COMMITTEE

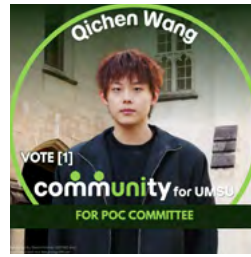


MUHAMMAD FARDEEN

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi my name is Muhammad Fardeen (he/him). I'm a first year Commerce Student majoring in Actuarial Studies. As a person of colour from Pakistan, I

understand the discrimination people face in various aspects. It is quite daunting and uneasy to evolve in a biased environment; thus, I am advocating for POC rights, their support, mental and financial well-being. I am passionate about filling the social gaps between people from different environments, exchanging cultures and creating a safe space where everyone is treated equally. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



QICHEN WANG

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! My name is Qichen Wang (He/Him) a 1st year Master of Management Finance Student. As an international student, I understand the

importance of feeling welcomed, respected and represented. I hope to help create a more inclusive and supportive campus where students from all backgrounds feel confident sharing their voices. Together with Community, I want to listen to students, advocate for their needs and bring people together through meaningful events. I would really appreciate your support. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

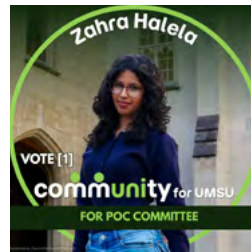


WENHAN JU

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Wenhan Ju. I am a first year postgraduate student. I hope to foster a vibrant, inclusive environment where students of colour can connect,

exchange ideas, and celebrate our rich, diverse cultures. On campus, meaningful cross cultural interaction is often limited. As a committee member, I will work to create more spaces for open dialogue and mutual learning. I want us to bring our unique cultural experiences together, support one another, and grow as a united community. Every story deserves to be heard. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

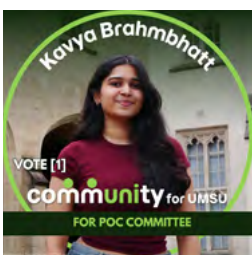


ZAHRA HALELA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Zahra Halela (she/her), I'm currently in my first year studying a Bachelor of Science student. I want to help create an environment where

students of colour feel represented, supported and included. Too often we are left out of important conversations and events, and I want to change this. As a committee member, I would ensure that all students of colour are able to bond, learn and grow by celebrating each other's cultures in our shared community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

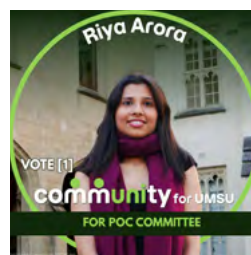


KAVYA BRAHMBHATT

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Kavya Brahmhatt (she/her). I'm in my first year of Bachelor of Arts and I'm running for the POC committee. As a person of colour from

India, I understand how important it is to feel heard, supported and included. I'm passionate about creating a welcoming and diverse environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing their experiences and ideas. I believe it is important to represent your voice, encourage meaningful conversations, help find practical solutions and build a stronger, more connected community through cultural exchange. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



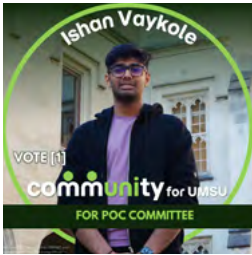
RIYA ARORA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Riya Arora (she/her), a first year Master of Information Systems student. Being away from everything familiar taught me the need to find

a sense of belonging, through familiar food, shared cultures, and finding people who understand. I want to help create that same feeling on campus. I aim to listen to students' experiences, amplify voices that aren't always heard, and build a campus where students feel seen, represented and supported. Because sometimes, finding your people makes all the difference. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

PEOPLE OF COLOUR COMMITTEE



ISHAN VAYKOLE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Ishan Vaykole (he/him), I'm in my first year of Bachelor of Science and I'm excited to be running for the POC Committee.

As a person of colour, I understand the need for a community where you feel included. I am someone you can rely on and reach out to whenever you need. I believe the best change comes from making sure everyone's voice is valued. I hope to create meaningful opportunities for diverse cultures, bringing people together and building a stronger community. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



TASMIYA HAQUE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello everyone! I'm Tasmiya Haque, a first-year Biomed student and I'm incredibly honoured to be running as your POC committee for 2027!

Growing up in a vibrantly diverse community, I thrived alongside the friends who taught me love in their language, whose food relieved my hunger and whose cultures filled my heart. To see that so contested now, in our Multicultural Australia is heartbreaking and intolerant with our values of acceptance and respect here at the University of Melbourne.

As a POC committee, I aim to organise more cultural days and markets on campus to promote inclusivity and celebrate diversity.



TJIPO MORGAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Tjiipo (she/her), a second-year Commerce student. I'm running for POC committee.

Coming from Botswana where

community is at the heart of our core values, I aspire to bring that same sense of belonging for people of colour on campus. As a member of Bla(c)k collective, I've seen how important uplifting spaces are. I aim to ensure inclusive spaces like POC rooms that reinforce a sense of comfort and freedom to exist, whether through food, books, or conversations we share. Together, we could centre that solidarity and build a collective that represents us all.

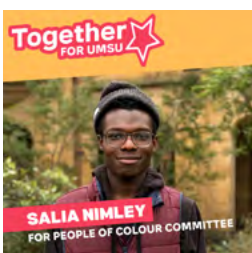


HAYLEY KENDI NJAGI
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Hayley! I'm a second-year Arts student majoring in Criminology & Spanish, running for POC committee.

After a year or so of frequenting POC

events myself, I've seen how for some it is a more comfortable environment than the rest of this big city, or for others a completely new experience. I like to see it as an entirely distinct world in the middle, where diverse cultures, experiences and conversations thrive. It's because we've created a space that's stimulating, welcoming and most of all safe. Hopefully I can contribute to this community as a committee member for the next year!

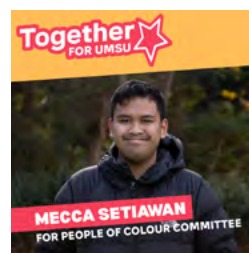


SALIA NIMLEY
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Salia (he/him) and I'm running for POC committee. I'm currently doing a Bachelor of Arts degree and majoring in Media and

Communications.

You can frequently find me at Bla(c)k Collective as a committee member helping to run our activities or occasionally hanging out in the POC lounge. I'm a creative person and am very passionate about new ways we can showcase ourselves. I'd also like to be an advocate for an overall more transparent student union, where the people affected by its choices are in some form, part of the decision-making process.



MECCA SETIAWAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi I'm Mecca (he/him). I'm running to be a member of the POC committee because as a POC and a Muslim student from the western suburbs of

Melbourne, I know how important it is to have people in the Union who understands multicultural, working class communities and listens to, empowers and works with POC. I will advocate for POC communities to be at the centre of UMSU POC office through \$1500 in POC grants to fund their projects and fight to ensure we have an anti-racist campus and ensure the University actually takes action. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

PEOPLE OF COLOUR COMMITTEE



KRITHIKA BRIET
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Krithika (she/her), a Commerce student running for the POC Committee! Having lived across three different countries, growing

up in the UAE, India, and now Australia, I deeply understand the nuances of navigating identity, belonging, and cultural transitions as a person of colour. Having co-founded an educational non-profit and led student debating, I am passionate about advocacy that translates into real community support. On the committee, I will push for stronger cultural safety across campus, expanded equity grants, and greater representation in all groups of poc. Let's build a collective where every POC student thrives!



AYAH ELMUSTAPAH
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Ayah (she/her), a second-year B-Arts student. I'm excited to be running for POC committee! As someone who's grown up in Melbourne's outer-north,

I've spent my entire life immersed within rich, diverse, multicultural communities; which is why I'm proud to advocate for unwavering respect, empowerment, and cultural diversity throughout the student body. I want to ensure that students' voices and experiences are always heard and recognised, that their needs are met and catered to, and that proper action is enforced throughout the university to maintain an inclusive, diverse environment where everyone is able to feel safe and thrive!

QUEER COMMITTEE



JAY HUANG
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey queers!! I'm Jay (they/he) and I'm running for queer committee because I want to step up my involvement with the queer scene on campus.

As a student in gender studies and a regular at the university's queer space, I bring a great passion for queer advocacy, and the knowledge & community insight to back it up! Being immersed in the queer cohort at uni has made me realise the importance of a committee that is truly connected to and cares for the queer students of our campus, and I'm so excited for us to make that a reality, TOGETHER!



WILLOW KECSKES-JUDD
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi all! I'm Willow (she/her) and I'm running for the queer committee. Queer students have been overlooked by our university for years and we

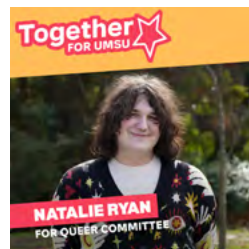
need a proper team in place to demand real, lasting change so students can feel safe and accepted on campus. I will push for equal visibility for all queer identities and the aggressive support and defense of them. This past year has made it abundantly clear that the queer students of this university have been let down, so together, let us change it for the better! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



TED KELLY
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Teddy (he/they) a politics/law student running for Queer Committee. As someone who's experienced bigotry for being themselves, I want

UniMelb to be a campus where queer students don't just survive, but belong. This means establishing anti-discrimination training that genuinely changes staff and student behaviour. It means bringing queer culture into everyday student life, so we are more visible and integrated within student society. And it means expanding queer-competent peer counselling, so students struggling with identity, family, or discrimination issues have understanding and honest support. Let's come TOGETHER for solidarity, safety, and support. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



NATALIE RYAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

My name is Nat (she/her), and I'm here to help build a union that's for and by queer students through an Together-led Queer Committee. As a trans

person, this year has demonstrated how important it is for a queer department that is proactive and aggressively supportive of queer, and especially trans, students. In a world that is growing more and more dangerous for us by the day, we deserve a union that fights for us, not against. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

QUEER COMMITTEE

Together
FOR UMSU



KENWAY SHERIDAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi there!
I'm Kenway (they/them), I am studying psychology through a Bachelor of Arts, and I'm running with Together for queer committee. As someone who has served in the queer committee previously, I know how important having spaces and events that center queer people is. As both a person of colour (PROUD FILIPINO) and a queer individual, I also know how easy it is for QPOC to be overlooked. This is something that I will ensure will not happen as I will advocate and strive to create spaces that welcome all QPOC students. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU! MAHAL KO KAYO!

Together
FOR UMSU



BEATRIX HIEP
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi queer people! I'm Bea (they/them), I'm a third year biomedicine student majoring in microbiology, and I'm running for Queer Committee. I will advocate for queer students' voices, our safety and our community. As a trans person, I rely on queer spaces and events to feel connected at this university. I will strive to further improve these events (with YOUR feedback) so more of us can meet and socialise with our fellow queers! Everyone deserves accessibility to our queer events. After all, this is OUR union! We are in this Together! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

Together
FOR UMSU



SEN PALANIYAPPAN
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi Queer!
Are you looking for fun events, a union that cares and easy ways to find fellow queers?

That's what I want too! I'm Sen (any pronouns), and as a queer of colour I know about how lonely Unimelb can be. I'm running for committee to change that!

I'll fight for events and communal spaces that bring queers together for strong networks of mutual aid, care and support. I'm fighting for the union I NEEDED as a young queer of colour navigating uni.

To get this done I'll need all of us queers to vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!!



ARYAN LALIT KALPANDE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Aryan Kalpande (he/him), a first year student majoring in Psychology, and I'm running for the Queer Committee. I want to help make UMSU

a place where every LGBTQIA+ student feels safe and genuinely part of the community. Whether that's through fun and inclusive social events, better access to resources, or making sure student wellbeing is taken seriously, I want to help create a space where people can be themselves. I'd really appreciate your support in making campus prouder, safer and more inclusive for everyone! Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



KATHRYN MCINERNEY SOTOMAYOR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello Everyone! My name is Kathryn McInerney Sotomayor (she/they) studying Production in the fine arts faculty. I'm really excited to be running

for the Queer committee as part of Community. As an active member of the queer community in Naarm I hope to be a friendly face who can advocate for members of the community from all areas, aiming to bring queer activities across campuses, pleading for the lesser heard members of our community. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



WREN BAIRD
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Wren (they/them), a second year psych student from regional Victoria. As someone who has questioned their sexuality and gender my whole life, I know how important it is to find a safe space with people who will have your back. This has driven me to run for the 2027 Queer Committee, to hopefully work alongside my amazing peers and provide a more welcoming community for those looking to find their people. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

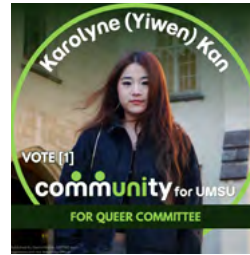
QUEER COMMITTEE



NADULI NIMSANDEE KUDAGAMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Naduli Kudagama (she/her), a second year Bachelor of Arts student running for the Queer Committee. Coming to Australia from a Sri

Lankan background has made me appreciate how important diversity and having a sense of belonging really are. I want every LGBTQIA+ student to feel seen and supported on campus. I'm passionate about making sure students who have felt let down by university support systems aren't overlooked. I want to help build a Queer community that genuinely shows up for students when they need it. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



KAROLYNE (YIWEN) KAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Karolyne Kan (she/her), a first-year Master of Management student, running for the UMSU Queer Committee. I'm running because queer

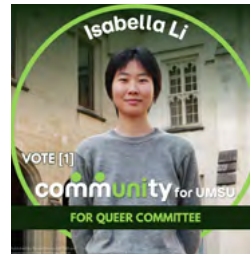
students should never have to choose between being visible and feeling safe. As a woman of colour and an international student, I understand how unfamiliar systems can make belonging harder. I want to listen to students, understand the barriers and bring overlooked experiences into decisions that shape our community. If elected, I'll support an inclusive campus and create spaces where queer students can find a connection. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



WILBER WILLMOTT
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone, I'm Wilber Willmott (he/him) and I'm in my first year of a Bachelor of Arts. I'm running to be a part of the Queer Committee as I

believe that the fundamental issues of being able to express yourself and be who you are is an extremely important pillar within our community. I will strive to ensure that every student has the right to be who they are without judgement and that our community accepts everyone while holding the University accountable as a voice for progress. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



ISABELLA LI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Isabella Li, a first-year Bachelor of Science student running for the Queer Committee with Community. I want to help make

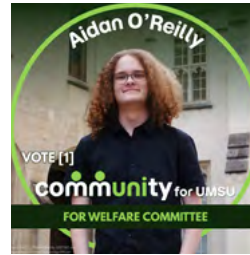
queer spaces on campus feel welcoming and comfortable for everyone. Sometimes, queer spaces can feel intimidating and I want to change that. I'd love to see more collaborations with clubs and committees, giving people more spaces to connect over shared interests. Being queer looks different for everyone, and it's only one part of who we are. I want everyone to feel seen as their whole self. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

WELFARE COMMITTEE



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



AIDAN O'REILLY
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone, I'm Aidan (he/him) As a psychology major, I'm passionate about mental health so I want to improve the university's Counselling and Psychological Services. My vision for CAPS involves having counsellors fluent in more languages, so you never have to translate your emotions, as well as more availability so you never have to wait for a session. As a Welfare volunteer this year, I've noticed how we need to improve advertising CAPS to students, so we'll make sure everyone knows about it. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



HAROLD AVINESH
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

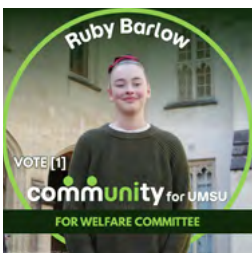
Hey everyone, my name is Harold (he/him), and I'm running for the Welfare Committee with Community for UMSU. I'm studying a Bachelor of Science

and understand how difficult it can be to balance different aspects of university and everyday life. Coming from a working-class immigrant background, I want to help make university more supportive and welcoming for everyone. I'll advocate for stronger wellbeing services and policies that reduce stress and help students get the support they need. I'm here to listen, advocate, and make a positive difference. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



ANGELA CLARK
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

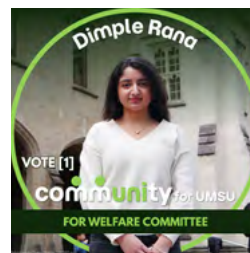
Hello, my name is Angela Clark (she/her). I'm in my first year of a Bachelor of Science and I'm running for the Welfare Committee. I am currently studying a major in psychology and running because I've seen how financial pressures can affect students' wellbeing. I want to advocate for practical solutions that improve everyday student university life, from better welfare services to stronger support networks on campus. Through the union, I want to ensure that everyone feels supported throughout their time at university. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



RUBY BARLOW
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Ruby (she/her)! I am a first-year Bachelor of Arts student and I'm incredibly excited to be running for the Welfare Committee. I first became

part of the Student Union through volunteering at Union Mart, and since then, I have been deeply passionate about ensuring students have access to essential food relief, mental health support, and the services required to thrive. We don't study in a vacuum; we live in an increasingly unpredictable world. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



DIMPLE RANA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Dimple Rana (she/her). I'm in my first year of Bachelor of Science and I am running for the Welfare Committee with Community. I'm running for this position because I know many of us are feeling the pressure of rising costs and increasing demands at university. I will advocate for initiatives that support students when they need it most, particularly with stronger mental health services and expanded welfare programs. I want to help create a campus where we can all thrive. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

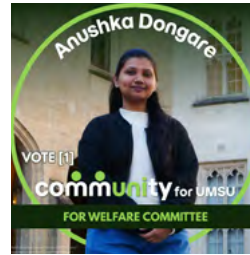
WELFARE COMMITTEE



LOH TING FANG
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! My name is Loh Ting Fang (she/her). I am a 2nd year Bachelor of Commerce student. I'm running for the Welfare Committee. I would love to contribute

through initiatives like Union Mart and Welfare Breakfast. I enjoy working with others and helping where I can, so I'd be happy to support the team through events, casual shifts and projects whenever needed. Most importantly, I want to be approachable, helpful and contribute to a welcoming and supportive campus community. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



ANUSHKA PRAVIN DONGARE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Anushka Dongare. I'm a first Year Master of Biotechnology student. I am well aware of the difficulties faced at university today - financial

struggles, loneliness and finding the balance between a busy study load. Through my volunteering experiences, I've seen how effective support can help students at difficult times. If elected to the Welfare Committee, I will be focused on stronger initiatives for food security, enhanced mental health support, and targeted assistance for students. I want every student to feel seen, supported, and never alone. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



MAX ZHANG
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Max Zhang (he/him), a Bachelor of Science student majoring in Mechanical Engineering Systems. With an international background from

New Zealand, I've witnessed and experienced the struggles of the rising cost of living and pressures faced by university students. I aim to create more opportunities for students to access essential resources, support student mental health, and work towards running Welfare Brunches more frequently. We can make this happen together! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU to see our student culture grow.



LING HAO
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Ling (she/her), a second-year Bachelor of Arts student majoring in Psychology and Sociology. As a Welfare volunteer last year, I saw

where our services could better meet student's needs. At Union Mart, fresh food options were often limited, so I hope to collaborate more with the Burnley campus. I also saw how high demand of Welfare Brunches often led to long queues. This year, I'll fight for increasing the frequency of Welfare Brunches, easing demand and making it easier for more students to access the support they deserve. For welfare that reaches every student, vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



AULIA SARAH ANDRAINA
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Did you know that 60% of students experience food insecurity? Hi! I'm Sarah (she/her), a Bachelor of Arts international student in Politics and

International Studies. Students with tight budgets are often unaware that you're considered moderately food insecure if you minimize the quality and variety of your food. If this resonates, you're not alone! My struggles with the cost of living motivate me to uplift fellow students with similar challenges. Thus, we aim to open Union Mart daily, while increasing its capacity and access to fresh produce, period products, toiletries, and medications. Let's fight food insecurity! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



DU WANG
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Dora, a third-year Bachelor of Commerce student from China, currently majoring in marketing. As an international student who

has struggled with cost of living, housing and physical health problems, I empathize with students facing similar challenges. These experiences have made me realize how much accessible and practical support matters when university life becomes overwhelming. I hope to use my marketing knowledge to better communicate current welfare resources and expand support based on evolving student needs. Let's make it happen TOGETHER! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

WELFARE COMMITTEE



CHARLIE RUSSELL

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Charlie Russell (he/him), a Bachelor of Biomedicine student. I care a lot about the welfare of ALL students and people's wellbeing is what I want

to advocate for. I will push to increase accessibility to CAPS and to create Welfare collectives, where people can come and share their experiences. I also aim to form more support groups for PrEP, birth control, and emergency contraception for students. I'm passionate about representing people's voices in the Welfare Committee and taking actions. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



VICTORIA PAN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Victoria (she/her), a third-year Bachelor of Arts student studying Psychology and Media & Communication. The volunteering

experience under the Welfare department showed me how small acts of care can make a real impact, which can be through providing essential items like medicine, period products, and diapers. But I want to do more by doing cooking workshops to make use of the products students got from Union Mart. I'm passionate about student's wellbeing and making student's life better for everyone, so let's vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



THEA NIALL

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi! I'm Thea, a first-year Arts student. Students are facing a cost of living crisis on and off campus. Students can't excel in their studies and social

development if they're struggling to get by on an empty stomach. I'm running for the UMSU Welfare Committee to help promote affordable food options on campus and more accessible mental health wellbeing support for all students from all campuses. Vote [1] TOGETHERUMSU!

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



RUI CAO

No policy statement submitted.



QING (ALISSA) CHEN

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Alissa (she/her), a second-year Commerce student majoring in Finance. I'm excited to run for the Women's Department Committee because I'm

passionate about supporting women and making sure their voices are heard. I believe women should have equal access to education, opportunities and information, and feel included and respected in our university. Recognising the challenges women can face entering the workforce, I hope to collaborate with faculty clubs to provide networking nights and career opportunities for women. TOGETHER, we can build a more supportive and empowering environment for the women at UniMelb. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



KEIYONA SHANKAR
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi guys, I'm Keiyona (she/her). I'm currently studying the JD at Melbourne Law School, and hoping to be re-elected as Women's Committee

Member. As a Committee Member, I have pushed for the availability of women's hygiene products across bathrooms on campus. I also worked with UMSU Legal to revoke a sex offender's UMSU membership and ban him from its events and spaces. This time, I want to use my law degree to continue advocating for women's safety on campus, run workshops on Women's Rights in the Workplace, and collaborate with faculty clubs to connect women with employment opportunities.



MINH HA
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey everyone, I'm Minh (she/her) and I'm here to run for the Women's Committee. I'm in my third-year of my philosophy/politics major. Women

make up a majority of this campus. Women make up a majority of Australia. Yet our voices, opinions and experiences are still treated as the minority. I deeply care about gender-based violence, PCOS and ENDO advocacy, reproductive rights and intersectionality. If elected, I hope to bring a new perspective and be part of a Women's department that directly benefits ALL women on this campus in a tangible way. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ZAHRA BATOORY
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Zahra (she/her), a first-year Biomedicine student running for Women's Committee. As an Afghan student, I deeply sympathise with

women in Afghanistan who have denied access to education and fundamental human rights. This has made me incredibly grateful to study here and strengthened my commitment to advocating for women's rights and equality. If elected, I'll push for weekly collectives where students can openly discuss their experiences, challenges and hardships while finding community and support. I also want to create more opportunities to discuss issues affecting women, amplify student voices, and work collectively towards meaningful change. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



ERLING XU
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Erling (she/her), an animal health student. I'm inspired to run by one of my friends. In her country, girls are restricted from education, speaking up

or being themselves. This is super heartbreaking, so I decided to contribute and make the world a more safe and respectful place for women. Around the world, all those movements about women, all those changes, I see it. From hiding pads, to hanging a "Feel free to borrow pads" tag. From avoiding period conversations like a taboo, to talking freely. We want to lead this change at uni so vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

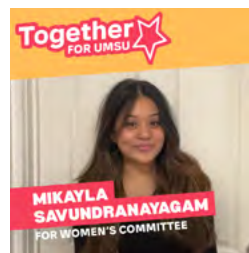


FRANCES VARGHESE
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Frankie (she/her). I'm a first-year Arts student majoring in History and I'm very excited to be running for a Women's Committee Member. Women

make up half of the population, but consistently our voices are silenced. We have the right to feel safe, heard and empowered at our university. I am determined to be a part of the change. If elected, I will push to make period products more accessible, increase women's health awareness and expand mentor, leadership and networking opportunities so that more of us can have our voices heard.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

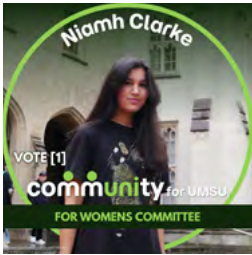


MIKAYLA SAVUNDRANAYAGAM
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

My name's Mikayla, I'm a Political Science major under Bachelor of Arts. I believe this University should be a place where women feel safe

and supported. If elected as the Women's Committee, I intend to advocate for free period products across all campus bathrooms, making them easily accessible to women who need them. I will push for increased safety measures on campus, including more Blue Help Phones and better-lit pathways after hours, so every woman can feel confident and comfortable on campus, day or night. I hope to use my voice to ensure meaningful change happens. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

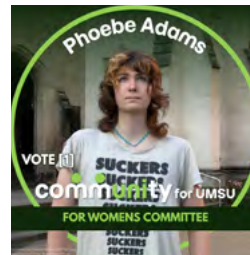
WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



NIAMH CLARKE
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello! My name is Niamh (she/they). I'm a first year B-Sci student, and I'm so excited to be running for the Women's Committee! In my introduction to

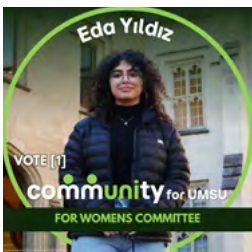
university life this year, what's stood out to me the most are the new friends I've made and the ecosystem of communities that make UniMelb whole. That's why as a Committee member, I want to support and strengthen our communities by contributing to engaging events, advocating for the safety and empowerment of women. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



PHOEBE ADAMS
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name is Phoebe Adams. I am currently a (year) year (course) student, and I am excited to be running with Community for the

Women's Committee in 2027. I am a dedicated feminist I am passionate about improving the experience of all women and girls on campus. I want to challenge stereotypes and address inequalities that women have to face so that everyone on campus can feel empowered to succeed. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions.



YAGMUR EDA YILDIZ
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Yagmur Eda Yildiz (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Science student at the University of Melbourne majoring in Chemistry, and I'm running to

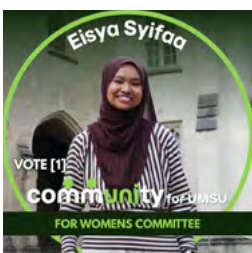
represent your voice on the UMSU Women's Committee. As a first-year international student, I understand how overwhelming it can be to find your place, build a community, and feel confident speaking up in a new environment. I want to help make campus a place where women feel safe, supported, included, and empowered. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



AVNI PANJWANI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! I'm Avni (she/her), a first-year Bachelor of Arts student, and I'm excited to nominate myself for the Women's Committee. I want to

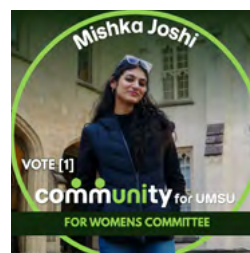
help create a university environment where women feel heard, supported and confident. I believe the committee should go beyond representation by creating meaningful conversations, engaging events and initiatives students genuinely connect with. I'd love to bring fresh ideas and use my interest in communication, marketing and student engagement to make our work more visible and accessible. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



EISYA SYIFAA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, my name's Eisia Syifaa (she/her)! I'm deeply passionate about creating a community where every woman feels supported, represented and confident

in finding her place on campus. I hope to advocate for women's wellbeing and voices, while creating meaningful opportunities for women to connect, share their experiences and support one another. I want to help foster a warm and inclusive community where women can feel safe to speak up, be themselves and thrive. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

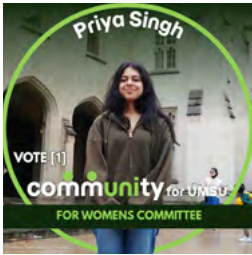


MISHKA JOSHI
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Mishka Joshi, and I'm a third-year student studying Biotechnology. I'm running for the Women's Committee because I believe every woman

deserves a safe community to thrive. As a student navigating a new place, a new city, and a new degree, I understand how terrifying this transition feels without the right support system, especially as a woman. It is this sense of safety I wish to develop on campus, so every woman knows her potential is limitless, and she gets every support to chase it fully! Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



PRIYA SINGH

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Priya Singh (she/her), a first-year student studying BA Psychology & Criminology. I'm running for Women's Committee because I want campus to

be a place where women can take up space without questioning whether they belong. I want to advocate for accessible period products, stronger sexual violence prevention, and support for women facing harassment or discrimination. I want to build community: spaces where women can speak openly, connect, and find solidarity without judgment. I know how powerful it is to feel listened to, believed, and supported. Vote [1] for Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



AKSHITA SHARMA

Hi, I'm Akshita. I'm running as a candidate for the Women's Committee. I am a second year student studying Criminology/Sociology. I care deeply

about amplifying women's voices both across campus and on larger scales. I want to work towards an inclusive environment where everyone can be respected, valued and comfortable enough to share their unique perspectives on all situations. As a first-generation Australian, I understand first-hand the struggles that women and gender-diverse individuals face in today's society and aim to advocate for more support services to provide real-world support. I hope to work with you soon!



LIA HANDA

I want to contribute to and be part of the amazing culture we have at the University of Melbourne, and I will work for the betterment of women's

experiences here where this culture needs to be improved. As your elected Women's Committee Member, I will listen to the voices and experiences of women and strive to work towards solutions that the student body actually want, and I will serve as a point of contact within the student body to share these voices and experiences and for anyone who needs support. It is my hope that the University of Melbourne is **[over word limit]**

SOUTHBANK STUDENTS CAMPUS CO-ORDINATOR



ELIZABETH VICTORIA PARDALLIS, LEYLA BOZ

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Provisionally elected unopposed

Hello! We're Leyla and Elizabeth, running to be your 2027 Southbank Campus Coordinators.

As passionate members of the Southbank campus since 2023, we've been involved in a range of extra-curricular projects such as Muse Festival and the Peer Mentoring program. As a team, we bring UMSU experience with Elizabeth having been the 2026 Southbank Education Officer but also the fresh perspective of Leyla; who's been a strong presence on campus across departments through the Dance BFA. Together, we plan to build on the work done in Caleb and Tirion's terms: advocacy, connecting Southbank to Parkville resources and fostering a sense of community through food-related events.

We will ensure that breakfasts and BBQs remain ongoing, that support for Southbank-based clubs and extra-curricular activities like Muse Festival increases and that our team can deliver events that reach a wider range of students in a more impactful way.

In 2026, we collaborated with Welfare to continue bringing you the frozen food and welfare market program, with Women's to increase the accessibility of free pads and tampons on campus and the list of collaborations goes on with Farrago, the Queer Department and the President. Next year, we promise to increase the presence of Clubs and Societies, recreate the Thrift Market program developed by the Environment Department and increase the presence of the Southbank perspective in Media. But most importantly, we will use our time to improve the quality of your university experience and education through advocacy on course-specific issues and holding the university accountable for maintaining our spaces. Because that's what we believe you

deserve.

It starts at showing up, having conversations and taking action on what's most important to our students. And we'll probably make you smile through it all with the silliest social media presence.

SOUTHBANK ACTIVITIES OFFICER



REUBEN STRENTZ

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Provisionally elected unopposed

Hi! I'm Reuben, currently in my 3rd year, studying a Bachelor of Music (Jazz and Improv.) and I'm running to be your 2027 Activities Officer for Southbank!

After being integrated in the uni lifestyle for the last 4 years, I've seen how much passion there is towards our craft in the creative arts, and I personally believe there is so much more potential to bring us all together to mingle and share that love for the craft with each other.

I want to create more opportunities for every student down here in Southbank to meet, collaborate and share what they love in a relaxed and integrated environment. I love collaboration with new peers as not only is it a great value to have, but when you least expect it, it makes some of the best friendships!

One of my biggest goals if I were to be Activities Officer is to organise a cross-disciplinary event where everyone can come share their talent, make friends, and work towards a well constructed event! I'm talking a project for every discipline to engage in their craft at the same time, in the same place.

I'd also love to help bridge the gap between Southbank and Parkville, working to give us down at Southbank more opportunities to showcase our work and share our Southbank energy!

As Activities Officer, I want to help Southbank feel more connected and 'human'.

SOUTHBANK EDUCATION OFFICER



MIA CHRISTIANSEN

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Provisionally elected unopposed

Hi! I'm Mia (she/her), and I'd love to be your next Education Officer at Southbank! I am a BMus student with a passion for teaching and learning pedagogy, stemming from my previous degree in psychology and love for teaching music. I am the current student representative to the FFAM academic committee, where I advocate for students in regard to curriculum design and delivery among FFAM leaders. My main focuses as education officer will be creating more casual opportunities for student feedback on academic design for their courses, and providing opportunities for students who are currently teaching outside of their studies to up-skill and get qualifications in areas like teaching pedagogy, inclusivity, universal design for learning. I will also push for further clarity and disclosure of educator's genAI usage, so students can be aware of where the content being taught to them is coming from.

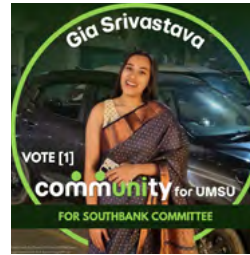
I would absolutely love to have the privilege of being your education officer, so please give me your vote and I will do right by you!

SOUTHBANK STUDENTS COMMITTEE



**KATHRYN MCINERNEY
SOTOMAYOR**
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello Everyone! My name is Kathryn McInerney Sotomayor (she/they) studying Fine arts (Production) at VCA. I'm really excited to be running for the Southbank committee as part of Community. Recently Southbank campus has been faced with a lack of welfare and little to no resources. As an involved member of the Naarm arts scene I hope I can be an advocate and friendly face for everyone! Ensuring everyone has what they need to succeed at VCA and beyond. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



GIA SRIVASTAVA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello everyone! My name is Gia Srivastava, and I'm excited to be running for the Southbank Committee. I want to help build a university where every student feels welcomed, supported and represented. Students deserve accessible welfare, strong advocacy and a community that listens to their needs. I'm looking forward to working with students to make our campus a more inclusive, connected and supportive place for everyone. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



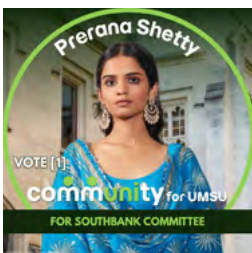
AIDAN O'SHAUGHNESSY
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi Southbank friends! I'm Aidan O'Shaughnessy, and I'm proud to be running in this year's elections. University should be a place where students can access the support, resources and representation they need to thrive. I want to help create a stronger campus community where students' concerns are heard and acted on. By improving student advocacy and supporting inclusive spaces, we can make university better for everyone. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



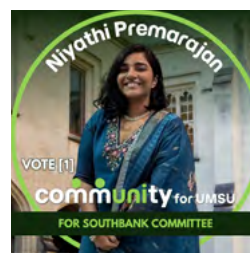
ROHIT SHARMA
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone! My name is Rohit Sharma, and I'm really excited to be running for the Southbank Department with Community. Southbank students deserve a department that understands the unique pressures of studying at VCA and the Conservatorium. I want to advocate for stronger welfare, better access to resources and more support for students working across creative disciplines. Southbank should feel like a genuine community, not an afterthought. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



PRERANA SHETTY
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hello! I'm Prerana Shetty, and I'm excited to be running for the Southbank Department. Students at Southbank face challenges that are often very different from those at Parkville, and we deserve representation that reflects that. I want to help improve welfare, access to resources and opportunities for students across VCA to connect with each other. Southbank deserves a strong student voice. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



NIYATHI PREMARAJAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi everyone! My name is Niyathi Premarajan, and I'm proud to be running for the Southbank Department Committee. Southbank is home to an incredible creative community, but students need better access to welfare, representation and campus resources. I want to make sure the Southbank Department is visible, approachable and focused on the issues that matter to VCA and Conservatorium students. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

SOUTHBANK STUDENTS COMMITTEE

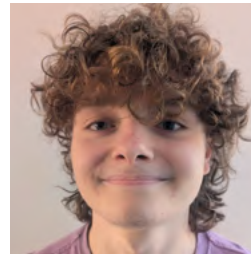


MADHURI TALIM

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey everyone! I'm Madhuri Talim, and I'm excited to be running for the Southbank Department. Southbank students deserve a

campus experience with the same level of support, services and representation available elsewhere at university. I want to advocate for better welfare, stronger student spaces and more opportunities to build community across VCA. Let's make Southbank a campus where everyone feels supported and represented. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



GUS MORRISON

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Gus is currently a 2nd year Bachelor of Music student majoring in jazz and improvisation. He is currently a Southbank campus committee

member and is wishing to re-run for a second year.

Gus is very passionate advocate for mental health and knows that a friendly accommodating environment at Southbank can have an immense positive impact for those affected. He wishes to support this friendly environment through Southbank's many events and the food relief programs.



HADYN COLLIER

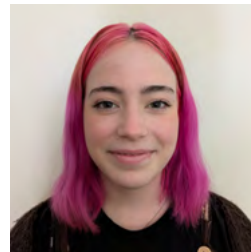
INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hi! I'm Hadyn a third year B-MUS student here at Southbank.

I am committed to ensuring that students at Southbank receive the

same opportunities and support as our counterparts in Parkville. This involves continuing on the work of advocating for services to come to Southbank more often and exploring the opportunity for these university services and experiences to cater to the specific needs of all Southbank students.

I look to continue the tradition of hard work and bespoke care our Southbank representatives have become known to reward our campus with.



JUNIPER SALT

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hey! I'm Juni (they/he) a BFA Production student focused on stage management, lighting & costume. I'm running for this position because I want

to continue UMSU's hard work in improving student's experiences at the Southbank campus. I love our tight-knit community and our students deserve to feel supported and cared for in our wonderfully diverse, creative endeavors. Creative arts are the backbone of our society, they provide joy, understanding and freedom of expression in ways nothing else can, & I wholeheartedly believe giving Southbank the resources we need is the gateway to providing all artists with what they need.



MACKENZIE HAWKINS

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hi! I'm Mackenzie, a first year BMus student studying performance in Clarinet! I'm running for this position because I am passionate about the

importance of the arts. I believe we should be supported in our creative practices by the wider university community. With such a fine line between what we do in our free time and in our degrees within the creative industry, I think that we should be free to feel comfortable at our campus and have facilities and support that are adequate for the arduous nature of our courses. Lets keep Southbank out of Parkville politics!



MIRANDA ZABEL

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Currently a second year Production student at Southbank, I am passionate about increasing accessibility of quality food relief for students and

creating event spaces for students to connect on campus. At Southbank, students spend an increased amount of time on campus, and as such, the campus should reflect students' needs throughout the day. I look forward to the opportunity to help make Southbank a welcoming hub for creatives at all hours.

SOUTHBANK STUDENTS COMMITTEE



NATASHA MCBAIN

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hi! I'm Tash (they/them), a BMus honours student studying performance (saxophone). I'm running for this position because I care, and

I want us to have a campus environment that fully supports our creative pursuits. Our degrees are some of the most demanding at this university, but our facilities and services are well behind those provided on Parkville campus. Independents for Southbank want to keep Parkville party politics off our campus in order to continue making tangible improvements to material conditions here, so that we can all focus on our various disciplines unhindered.



TIRION LUFF-WHITE

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hello! I have been the Southbank Campus Coordinator for 2 years and have had a wonderful time providing food and advocacy services for the

Southbank Students. I have learnt so much about our community and feel there is still much to be done to improve our campus. I am running for committee to continue supporting Southbank students by pushing for the university to provide us the services our Parkville peers have. Southbank deserves more from the Uni and from UMSU.



ZORIANA KRUPA

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Hi! I'm Zoriana, a third year Bachelor of Music student here at Southbank.

As a committee member at Southbank, I'll continue to support Southbank

students through initiatives that actually make a difference. I look forward to strengthening our campus community, ensuring every Southbank student feels connected, valued, and heard.

VOTING STUDENTS' COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED BY SOUTHBANK STUDENTS



MATTEO RAFAEL BONSON
INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

I as part of the Independents for Southbank am determined to improve on our legacy from 2025 and 2026 into 2027. As a non-partisan faction

devoted to the betterment of Southbank, the past 2 years have seen our success through the Frozen Meal Programs, the Campus Canteen, radio shows, kitchenettes, sponsorship of the Southbank Ball, student advocacy, and all our events and programs.

We'll maintain at least 2-3 Breakfasts a week.

BBQs every Tuesday with music and many sauces.

Pantry initiative, Southbank Survival Station 2 times a week with easier anonymous ways to contact us for help.

Delivering more variety [**over word limit**]



TOM PALMER
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Tom and I'm running to be your Southbank Representative on the Students Council. As a socialist activist I've been involved in anti-

fascist actions including protesting Pauline Hanson and One Nation when they tried to come to Melbourne for a fancy fundraiser. I've advocated for Palestine consistently inside UMSU, even when it means standing up to threats from university management. It's this type of fighting politics that we need to imbue in our student union. This is the type of advocacy that I'll be bringing if elected as your Southbank representative.

BURNLEY CAMPUS CO-ORDINATOR



REBECCA GRAY

Provisionally elected unopposed

I'm standing for the role of coordinator of UMSU Burnley, because I want to bring practical, hands-on experience and genuine care to how our union looks after its members. Before living in Melbourne, I served as a local government Councillor in New Zealand, where I learned how to turn community priorities into real outcomes through chairing meetings, balancing budgets, and making sure decisions were made with people, not just for them. That experience shapes how I think a student union should run: through consistent presence, honest communication, and actually following through. I'm currently studying towards a Masters degree in Urban Horticulture. I'm on campus at Burnley full time, so if you're studying there, chances are you've already bumped into me. One of the projects I'm involved with is the Lunch Boxes: small garden beds on the Citriodora lawn growing fresh, free food for the good folks of Burnley.

As a neurodivergent and queer woman, I know what it's like to navigate systems that weren't built with individual needs in mind, and I bring that awareness to how I advocate. I work inclusively and collectively, and with an eye for the details that get overlooked. Fully meeting the needs of our Union members takes time and energy, and I'm willing to put both in.

Above all, I'm approachable. I'm easy to talk to, genuinely interested in what you have to say, and no question or concern is too small to bring to me.

If elected, I'll bring the same hands-on, practical, people-first approach to the Coordinator role, and I'd be honoured to have your support.

BURNLEY STUDENTS COMMITTEE



NINA MIDDLETON



RORY CROFTS

I am a Master of Environment student, majoring in urban ecology and horticulture (90% based at Burnley) and care deeply about advancing the interests of my fellow students, promoting fun UMSU activities that engage my peers and ensuring that all students at Burnley feel welcomed, safe and supported during their studies.

Lets build a microforest at Burnley!

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENT DELEGATES

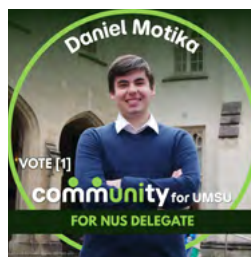


GOBI JEGARAJASINGHAM

As a Graduate level Artificial Intelligence student with a background in cybersecurity, engineering and public service, I understand the opportunities

and challenges emerging technologies create for students.

As your National Union of Students Delegate, I will advocate for responsible AI policies in higher education, stronger protections for student data and privacy, and greater investment in digital capability, research and innovation. I will also champion affordable education, meaningful mental health support and genuine student consultation in national policy. I believe students should help shape the future of Australian universities, not simply respond to decisions made without them.

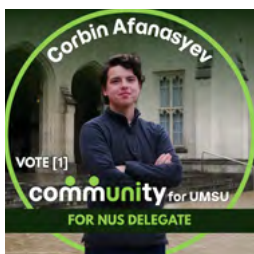


DANIEL MOTIKA

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Daniel (he/him) and I'm a third year Bachelor of Arts student. I'm running for to be an NUS Delegate because I believe students deserve a

national body that fights for the things that matter to them, such as greater funding towards welfare programs from the federal government. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

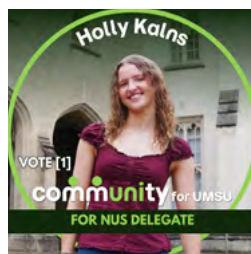


CORBIN AFANASYEV

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

I'm Corbin (he/him), running to be one of the UMSU delegates for the National Union of Students. I want to use this opportunity to represent

the interests of University of Melbourne students on a national stage, and contribute to the student union movement at its peak representative body. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



HOLLY KALNS

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Holly (she/her) and I'm running to be an NUS delegate this year! I'm passionate about advocating for students who come from working-

class backgrounds like myself, to have the university experience we deserve. I'm also a strong advocate for making Universities really care about the lived experiences of women on campuses across Australia.

Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



JAMES DUNCAN

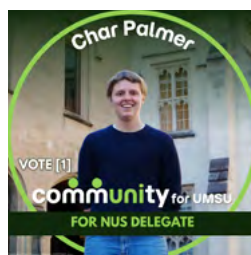
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm James (he/him) and I'm running to be an NUS Delegate this year!

I'm passionate about making sure students from all backgrounds have

a university experience where they feel supported, represented and heard. I'm committed to advocating for a student union that puts students first and fights for the issues that matter to us.

Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



CHAR PALMER

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Char Palmer (they/them) and I'm running to be an NUS Delegate this year! I'm passionate about making sure students' voices are heard

beyond campus and advocating for a university experience that is accessible, inclusive and genuinely centred around students.

Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENT DELEGATES



KASHYAP SREEKUMAR
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Kashyap Sreekumar (he/him) and I'm running to be an NUS Delegate this year! I'm passionate about making sure students have a real

voice in decisions that affect their university experience, and I'm committed to fighting for a stronger, more inclusive and student-focused university. Vote [1] Community for UMSU in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



VINNIE YAN
COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Vinnie Yan (he/him) and I'm running to be an NUS Delegate this year! I'm passionate about making sure students' voices are heard and

represented, both on campus and nationally. I want to help build a university experience where every student feels supported, included and empowered to have their say. Vote [1] Community in all positions, your community is fighting for you!



JOSHUA SOLOMON
BETTER

Last year, over \$300,000 of student money was wasted because political infighting led to half the conference being inquorate. For over 2 days,

elected delegates stood outside the room, unproductively arguing all whilst spending your money on their lunches. If elected, I vouch to actually show up and do my job. Above all else, I will represent the interests of the student body and UMSU, and I will not simply give away my vote to increase the numbers of a political faction.

Vote for me for actual representation of your interests, and to cut back on disgraceful wastage!



MELO NICHOLSON
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Melo (she/her), and I'm running to be a NUS Delegate with Together For UMSU. I attended the NUS Education Conference at UTS in Sydney. Hearing

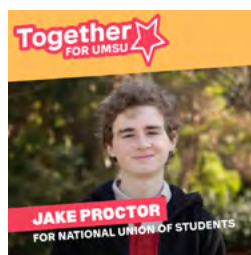
from student activists and organisers from across the country really inspired me and reinforced why student unionism matters. I'd love the opportunity to represent UMSU at the National Conference and work alongside other left-wing students to fight for strong, progressive policy. I'm passionate about defending quality, accessible education, standing up for student rights, and making sure our union at the University of Melbourne is part of broader campaigns for social justice.



TOBY PUTLAND
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

I have extensive experience and understanding of the NUS, I went to NatCon last year and EdCon this year. I've seen it at its best as a highly

effective vehicle for student advocacy and its worst as a place for meaningless infighting and I think with my experience I'm well placed to work to improve it. I would proudly sit with the Student Left at Natcon, the only national faction dedicated to an effective progressive political program for the NUS. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



JAKE PROCTOR
TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hello, I'm Jake. I'm a true believer of strong student unionism. The NUS is a key organisation for coordinating across universities to push for the

interests of students at our uni and across the country. I strongly believe that we need to push for change. Students are suffering the impacts of high fees, high cost of living, rising injustice and poor university governance. The NUS is our tangible means for pushing for necessary change. Empowering students to make a change. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENT DELEGATES



ISABELLA MCRAE MCLEOD

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hey! I'm Isabella McRae McLeod (she/her), a postgrad law (JD) student! I did my Bachelor of Arts here at UniMelb, majoring in Philosophy and HPS.

Students are drowning in debt, facing a cost of living crisis, and in desperate need of support from their government, their university, and their union. The independence and self-sufficiency of student unions across the country are being threatened. Our university would rather surveil students than truly support us.

A strong, progressive presence on the National Union of Students gives us as students the opportunity to demand meaningful change from our university! Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



KHOA NGUYEN BAO LE

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Khoa Le (he/they), a double master's student in Property and Design. I have been interested in student representation and progressive

change since 2025, and I am running to help build a fairer, more inclusive university community. If elected, I will prioritise stronger cost-of-living support, better housing and renters' advocacy, improved access to mental health and wellbeing services, and fairer conditions for student workers. I will also support practical climate action, accessible education, and transparent consultation so students from all backgrounds have a meaningful voice in decisions that affect them. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



LACHIE POWER

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi everyone, my name is Lachlan Power (he/him) and I'm running to be a NUS delegate with Together. I'm a Masters of Electrical Engineering student, and

am passionate about fighting for students and student unionism on a national level. Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



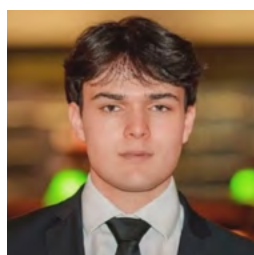
FRANCES VARGHESE

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

Hi, I'm Frankie (she/her), a first year Arts student! Students in 2026 face renewed attacks from the far right, rising cost of living, and cuts from

corporate universities who value profit over education. Working together through the National Union of Students, we can fight for students against Job Ready Graduates and advocates for all students. This is my first year running for a position as an NUS delegate but with experience on student councils in Highschool, I am determined to listen to all students and fight with you to create a better university.

VOTE [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!



PERCIVAL TAYLOR

PROGRESS

NUS delegations too often come home with a communiqué instead of a result. I am Percy (he/him), and as your delegate I will push the national union to campaign

on what students here actually face, which is the cost of living, unpaid placements, concession travel for international students, and more Commonwealth Supported Places in postgraduate courses. I will report back publicly on how I voted and what the trip cost. Vote 1 Progress in all positions.



AIDAN HAWE

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Aidan and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. Our NUS could mobilise hundreds of thousands of students against all the

injustices of capitalism today; the neoliberalisation of our education, the Gaza genocide, the rise of the far right and the destruction of our planet. Unfortunately, the NUS is currently an irrelevant institution because it refuses to lead the kind of activism that students care about. I want to help turn that situation around. Vote for the socialists in this election, vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine.

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENT DELEGATES

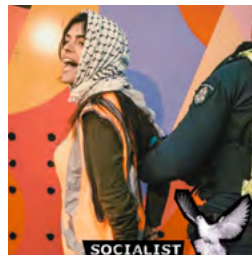


AMAYA CASTRO WILLIAMS

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Amaya and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. Our NUS could mobilise hundreds of thousands of students against all the

injustices of capitalism today; the rise of the far right, the climate crisis, the oppression of the Palestinian people, the attacks on women and LGBT+ groups. Unfortunately, the NUS is currently an irrelevant institution because it refuses to lead the kind of activism that students care about. I want to help turn that situation around. Vote for the socialists in this election, vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine.



BELLA BEIRAGHI

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Bella and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. I'm a socialist activist, convenor of Students for Palestine Australia and

want to fight for our NUS to stand with Palestine. We need to challenge the attacks on our free speech and right to protest on campus. These are fundamental rights, some of which have already been taken away by our university under the new anti-protest rules. The NUS has a duty to challenge the repression of the Palestine movement - Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine to help us do that.



REEMA ABABNEH

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Reema and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. Our NUS has millions of dollars and represents hundreds of

thousands of students across the country. They have a duty to mobilise students against the injustices of capitalism today - the Gaza genocide, the rise of Pauline Hanson and One Nation, the cost of living crisis and more. Vote for the socialists in this election to help us make that happen. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine.



PIPPA JACKSON

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Pippa and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. I've campaigned against the Liberal Party's attacks on abortion rights,

opposed Pauline Hanson and One Nation when they came running to Melbourne and stood in solidarity with the Palestinian people. I want an NUS that stands against racism, transphobia, the Gaza genocide. I want an NUS that fights against every injustice created by the capitalist system and that's why you should vote Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine.



ADA PASCOE

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Ada and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. I'm a staunch anti-imperialist and socialist and I've been fighting to get

Unimelb to divest from weapons companies and cut ties with Israeli institutions. I think that our NUS should be doing far more to advocate for the Palestinian people. Our universities function like the "brains behind the bombs" doing research deals with major weapons companies who aid and abet Israel's genocide in Gaza. Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for an NUS that stands on the right side of history.



HEATHER MALTBY

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hi, I'm Heather and I'm running to be your National Union of Students delegate. I've been involved in anti-sexist, anti-fascist activism for years

on this campus. From campaigning against the Liberal Party attacks on abortion rights, to fighting Pauline Hanson and One Nation when they came running to Melbourne. I want an NUS that stands against racism, transphobia, the Gaza genocide. I want an NUS that fights against every injustice created by the capitalist system and that's why you should vote Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine.

TICKET INFORMATION

BETTER

It's time student politics was Better!

The priority of UMSU should be to advance the welfare and interests of students - this is not an opinion, but rather literally what the first purpose of UMSU is as outlined in the constitution. The constitution goes on to list 8 other purposes, all of which pertain to supporting all students through means such as activities, amenities and representation. It is not the purpose of UMSU, however, to use its governance like a miniature parliament for playing politics and serving self-interests.

We believe that students deserve Better; that our elected leaders should engage in student politics with emphasis on the students rather than politics. This Union should be governed by a representative sample of the student body, all independent leaders in their own right, bringing their own ideas and skills to build and contribute to constructive debate. The current system, however, provides an unfortunate contrast to this: student elections are treated as half a proxy war between the real political parties, and half an outlet for infighting amongst different Labor factions.

I will not claim that I'm somehow better than everyone else - that I, one person, can magically represent every single student. What I can promise, however, is that if elected I hope to open the flood gates for more independents to run and win, and thus restore faith and favour in student democracy.

Better is for students who don't like student politics; who want to see a Union that works for them and not itself; students who avoid coming to campus on campaign week, and perhaps hardly know anything about UMSU if at all. I am convinced that many of these students would make great leaders, such as those who become club committee members or volunteer their hard work and time to make a meaningful difference for their community, but sadly feel as if there is no space in student politics for them to express their views without first having to go through the systematic factionalism and self-interest that has plagued the union for years.

It's time student politics was Better, that it began to be viewed in a positive light by the wider university community, and that it became a healthy democracy that empowers all student voices, not just those of the ones holding megaphones.

Better stands for and will aim to achieve the following:

Better education:

Advocate for increased support for 24/7 libraries during exam season, a later start to morning exams and more consistency in updating past exams in the library for study purposes.

I will also push for easier-to-find resources on how to replace Okta verify with standard 2fa or biometrics (because you can do that, it's just not advertised!).

Better culture and policies:

Prioritize the welfare and interest of all students when considering and making UMSU policy.

Ensure Student Council consults with relevant student groups and collectives when considering policy relevant to them, so student voices are heard.

Make Student Politics more approachable and friendly, and make it easier for independents in particular.

Better activities and campus life:

Push for upgrades to the UMSU website, particularly the event calendar, so it's easier to find out what is happening on campus and to make the most of your university experience. Add google calendar syncing!

Advocate for as much free food as possible :D

Better clubs:

Support the adoption of tiered affiliation for a fairer distribution of funds amongst clubs. (This is something I am actively involved in currently).

Push for the creation of a working group to review the new club process with the aim of increasing UMSU support for more student-lead communities, whilst keeping it sustainable for the clubs department. (Currently, new club applications are closed as there are too many clubs - This closure hopefully should only be a temporary solution, but removing the cap will take a lot of work and planning).

Review the UMSU website to allow existing but disabled MSL features like selling merchandise or ticket surveys.

Better Elections:

Introduce a binding code of conduct for campaigners with potential monetary fines for rule breakers.

Introduce financial disclosure rules for tickets.

Add an LMS banner urging students to vote to increase turnout and participation.

Better Governance:

Call the Constitution, Regulation & Policy Working Group (CRPWG).

Encourage participation in the democratic process.

TICKET INFORMATION

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

Students need support. Students need representation. Students need community.

We are Community for UMSU, a grassroots movement of students from almost every faculty and background, whether domestic or international, undergraduate or postgraduate.

Already, Community has delivered:

3-day document-free extensions

Union Mart, now serving 1250 students per week

20,000 free meals in semester 1, via the Frozen Meals program Bites and Bustles, which bring vibes, free food and the university experience we deserve

Preferred names on student cards, with fee waivers for Trans and Indigenous students

More student representation on University committees

Expanded Welfare Brunch to three days a week

Increasing staffing in the Clubs and Societies Department

Fought against the Ramsey Centre for Western Civilisation

Delivered an overhaul to SEDS

Over the years we have made huge strides in increasing UMSU's prominence and accessibility. But the challenges before us remain, and your voice is critical to tackling them. We're running in this election because we want to:

Keep student money in student control. UMSU is funded by \$10 million of student's money (your money!). We want to make sure the students who need support the most can access it. This year, we have significantly increased Union Mart's capacity to record levels, supporting students who need cost-of-living relief the most, and we want to continue this work next year.

Truly represent the University of Melbourne's diverse student body, cultural and linguistic communities, clubs, societies and collectives. A majority of our 115 candidates this year are international students, who make up such a significant proportion of the student population. Our candidates are also from a diverse range of cultures, faiths, languages and identities. Bring experience and passion to the Student Union. Community Office Bearers have an exceptional track record of pushing for meaningful change and delivering. All the achievements above speak for themselves, we are a team of both experienced student representatives and fresh minds with ambitious ideas - we know what needs to be done, we know what's possible, and we know exactly how to make it happen.

Next year we will fight for:

A great education that sets up students to succeed:

The exam schedule published earlier in the semester, letting students book flights and plan their trips well in advance

A permanent 24/7 study space on-campus

If 2 exams fall on the same day, giving students to opt-in to sitting one of them during the Special Exam Period instead

Morning exams that start no earlier than 9AM

A minimum of 2 practice exam papers for all subjects with central

exams

An accessible University and campus:

An accessibility reporting platform, allowing students to flag issues and have them be addressed as quickly as possible

Equitable Academic Adjustment Plans, which are simpler to get and provide meaningful personalised support

Explicit and targeted support for student Carers

A truly inclusive campus:

We want to celebrate diversity in all its forms by delivering more specific and engaging collectives and events across our Autonomous Departments: Disabilities, People of Colour, Queer, and Women's.

We will create a safe and cozy space for Queer students with the return of off-campus G+Ts with the LGBTs

Great events that cater for all students' interests and needs:

Community will run day trips off-campus, showing students more of Melbourne and Victoria, connecting with new communities and experiencing more of what the city and state have to offer.

More cultural and cross-cultural events: Community over the years has already run more new and recurring cultural events, this year introducing a massive Festival of Nations and running the first UMSU-led Lantern Festival on campus. We will continue to bring cultural celebrations to the University, showcasing student talent and diversity with the flair it deserves.

We will remove the limit on new club affiliations, letting new student groups form and make their ideas into reality.

We will improve Clubs Online and provide more admin support to the C&S department, so club execs can spend their time running events for members, rather than wading through paperwork.

Truly inclusive advocacy:

Demanding accountability from the University for its inaction on campus sexual harassment and assault. We will advocate for increased funding and staffing for the Sexual Harm Response Coordinators, as well as improved sexual harm training for club executives.

Defending Queer safety and belonging on campus, focusing on Transgender and gender-diverse students, by fighting transphobia in classes, coursework and at events.

Continuing the yearly UMSU Racism Report, holding our fingers on the pulse of the needs of the student body and fighting racism in all its forms. Students deserve a University experience where they feel safe and welcome in every space and conversation. A Community-led UMSU has always put the students welfare and interests first, fighting for a university experience where no student is left behind. That means strong and meaningful advocacy, ensuring the University can't ignore student voice when it's inconvenient to them, as well as efficient and effective support services from a Union which has its priorities aligned with those of its students.

Working with the broader University community, we will

TICKET INFORMATION

COMMUNITY FOR UMSU

ensure the delivery of real, tangible change for all University of Melbourne students, including modernisation of University support services and facilities, and ensuring our education keeps pace with the cutting edge of today's fast-paced world.

That might be all we have space for, but our community has bigger plans for 2027.

To find out more, check out our socials or chat to any of our amazing candidates.

Voting is open between the 7th and 11th of September. Show up to one of the in-person polling booths at your campus and remember: Vote [1] for Community in all positions, YOUR community is fighting for you!

For more information check out our Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/communityforumsu/>

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Hi! We are the Independent Artists Co-operative, also known as the Creative Co-op. We are a collective of artists across theatre, dance, writing and visual art, fighting for the Creative Arts department at UMSU. We believe UMSU must better serve and show up for students involved in the arts and, as part of this, passionate artists should be in charge.

The Creative Co-op is a grassroots ticket unaffiliated with any political bodies. Our members are drawn from active artmaking spaces on campus, and we will always prioritise funding students to go further and do more. As part of supporting artists, however, we also recognise that other UMSU departments such as Welfare, Advocacy, Media, UMSUi, constituencies and satellite campuses are all vital to the function of our Union and student wellness. We endeavour to continue Creative Art's longstanding collaborations such as Above Water and working alongside Clubs and Societies. UMSU operates best when our departments collaborate for the good of the student body, and as an independent voice we will always work in the best interests of all students.

Running in the Creative Co-op this year we have one Office Bearer candidate, Felicity Bayne, and five Creative Arts Committee candidates: Emma Guthrie, Chelsea Brooke Wiramanaden, Ivan Sokolov, Saskia Lynzaat and Gabriel Moore. Felicity is a writer, photographer and theatre-maker who has previously represented students at UMSU as an independent councillor and Media Office Bearer; Emma works in student theatre and musical theatre spaces as a director and manager, alongside sitting on STG and arts committees. Chelsea is a passionate dancer and choreographer, who has competed competitively across Australia and currently volunteers as a student dance director, choreographer and teacher. Ivan is a theatre-maker and former dancer committed to making challenging, experimental and inclusive works. Saskia is a Voiceworks and Farrago published author and visual artist, who deeply values art as part of community and prioritises access to artmaking. Finally, Gabriel is a student theatre-maker, comedian, and budding filmmaker, fully invested in independent, experimental and sustainable art-making on campus.

Here, we've listed a brief overview of our policies, but please remember we are always open to learning more and consulting with student artists. Students who operate in creative spaces every day are the ones most qualified to make the system better—we're committed to working with you to fix what matters most.

1. ENSURE ARTS REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES ARE A SAFE SPACE. Improve intimacy training, create better access to anonymous reporting and review current accountability measures. This includes creating clearer reporting & support guidelines for students unfamiliar with UMSU & Advocacy, a common position for artists and Student Theatre members.

2. PLATFORM STUDENT ARTISTS & SUPPORT MORE PERFORMANCES. UMSU has a massive reach that could be used to uplift our student creatives. Did you know Battle of the Bands used to be hosted regularly across semester? Are you interested in more open dance competitions, across styles and crews?

We've seen the movements by student clubs and societies to keep creative culture on campus alive and are committed to working with students to take this even further. As part of UMSU, the Creative Arts department also has a broader reach than many individual student organisations—we will further expand and utilise the department's influence for the betterment of student artists through initiatives such as partnerships and sponsorships.

3. MAINTAIN FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN ARTS SPACES. Art is always political, and students must be free to speak up. We believe in a free Palestine and support the cutting of University ties. The Independent Artists Co-operative will fight to defend artists against the rise of AI and a subsequent dismissal of creative voices. We are also passionate about revitalising and reinvigorating Theatre Council as part of the Creative Arts department, platforming STGs and other creative groups to platform their perspectives on all matters relating to the Creative Arts department.

4. DELIVER A QUALITY MUDFEST. MUDfest is a biennial student arts festival held by UMSU to celebrate all things creative arts. Our ticket brings a wealth of student theatre experience, including logistics and management experience that translate across arts administration. We commit to running an inclusive, well-organised, and well-advertised MUDfest that will platform student artists whilst also drawing in the greater student body.

5. LOBBY BETTER STUDENT ACCESS TO SPACES IN BUILDING 168, ESPECIALLY OVER BREAKS. Together we can pressure the University to address issues with DiBS such as double-bookings, alongside campaigning to make more spaces available to students. Let's get that microwave room...

6. SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY IN ARTS ON CAMPUS. Discussions around waste, resource management and sustainability are rightfully common across various student arts communities. We understand that logistics can be tough. Pursuing more potential communal resources and storage for creatives on campus is an accessible and reasonable measure to immediately improve sustainability in student arts. We will further investigate environmental initiatives the Creative Arts department could be leading amongst student artists, in a bid to help creatives support the fight against climate change.

7. COLLABORATE MORE WITH ARTS & CULTURAL DEPARTMENTS (George Paton Gallery, ArtsLab, UHT) AND UMSU DEPARTMENTS, PARTICULARLY SATELLITE CAMPUSES. Parkville has the lion's share of UMSU Creative Arts support. UMSU's artist in residence's recent work with Burnley and an expansion of Above

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE

Water to Southbank have seen increased satellite campus support from Creative Arts, but there is still room for much more.

For instance, the Creative Arts Committee is constitutionally required to have two representatives from the Southbank Committee, ensuring fine arts voices are represented in the department. Obviously, we aren't experts on everything, but the Independent Artists Co-operative are one hundred percent behind expanding community outreach and consultation to improve our services to all students, on all campuses.

Thank you for reading, thank you for voting, and thank you for investing your time for the good of your student union. If you want to see the UMSU Creative Arts department better serve students across all UniMelb campuses, remember to VOTE [1] FOR THE INDEPENDENT ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE!

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Hi everyone! Lachie, Saria, Taylah and Thomas are our names and we're running as Independent Media's Media Officer candidates for 2027. With a renewed focus on providing more diverse forms of journalism, industry-based experience and increasing engagement across the board, we aim to bring a Media Department that's more in tune with the needs and wants of the modern UniMelb student.

Saria (she/her) is Farrago's 2026 Features Manager, and has been a reviews writer, features staff writer and photographer for the past two years. She also has experience as an intern and opinion writer at The Age. She hopes to expand Farrago's journalistic scope, experimenting with new and innovative forms, including exploring long-form and investigative journalism, as well as producing video content across all departments at Farrago.

Thomas (he/him) has juggled roles across the entire Media Department, though is currently in his second year as an Archive Manager and his first as a Radio Fodder Station Manager. Accessibility is his primary goal for the Media Department next year, both to enable greater student access to media-based upskilling as well as to improve reader contact and engagement with Farrago and Radio Fodder output.

Taylah (she/her) has contributed to the Media Department as the Independent Media Councillor, Farrago News Manager, and as a writer. She aims to help members of the Media Department apply their skills in practical ways by creating work that not only builds up their portfolios, but efficiently engages our student cohort and local community. This collective should also focus on growing its presence on campus to make our existence known to more students across all corners of this University.

Lachie (he/him) will be culminating three years of engagement with the Media Department with this election. Having spent two years as a staff writer and this year as a Reviews Manager, he has only the best interests for our audiences in mind. He is eager to serve the student body as a Media Officer, providing them with a magazine that truly represents their needs and interests.

We also have a fantastic team of councillors for this year, comprising Zeinab Jishi, Junae Won, Anandi Ganguly, Emily Macfarlane, Fergus Sinnott, Syakira Setiananda, Ben Shaw, Declan Chan and Phoebe Irish. All of them also cover a wide range of experience and expertise across the entirety of the Media Department's output, and are as intent as we are to fight for students' rights to an independent student media body.

This year, we have a strong vision for the department which focuses on three key areas:

1. Diversifying journalistic forms

We believe that journalism can be so much more than words on a page. We want to broaden Farrago's horizons and take it in new directions, modernising and diversifying the forms of journalism we produce. This includes producing compelling videojournalism

and graphic visual content, and thinking creatively about how these multimodal forms could be incorporated into our creative, feature, review and news departments. We also want to experiment further with written forms, particularly through long-form and investigative journalism.

2. Increasing external engagement

We want more people to read Farrago, and more people to write for Farrago. This includes branching out beyond the Media Collective by engaging with the Southbank campus and the local community across Melbourne to produce more hyperlocal journalism. Furthermore, we will increase our outreach through our website and social media accounts.

3. Training and preparing contributors for the industry

Farrago should prepare its contributors for careers in journalism and other industries. We want to run workshops with senior members of the media collective as well as industry professionals to upskill our writers, editors and artists. We also aspire to foster collaboration between departments to diversify and broaden contributors' skills, as well as their ability to work collaboratively with one another.

We have this and much more in store for next year's editorship so stay tuned and prepare your applications early.

Don't forget to vote [1] Independent Media!

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY

Hi, we are Shahana (she/her) and Eren (he/him), domestic and international graduate students completing our Masters of Public Policy and Management, who are focused on integrating our climate knowledge into the UMSU Environment Department! Our focus? To run as joint Environment Office Bearers and make UniMelb GREEN!

Why are we a ticket? Simply put, we understood the best way to win an election is to increase visibility; a ticket allows us to have a name, a logo and a group of friends we trust to help get our message out. We are not here to play party politics, we are here with a passion for climate action!

What you need to know is... we promise, and we deliver.

Our focus is on making an impact and we believe positions should be won based on merit. Our combined experience beyond university makes us the most distinguished candidates for the role; providing impartiality and an independent outlook through our non-partisan domestic and international student experience - our independence is focused on advancing the climate agenda, regardless of party patronage.

According to Mrudula Satla from the University of Oxford, Climate change is a silent crisis which does not interrupt your daily life and that's precisely the problem. The problems which do not interrupt life, feel like systems that work...

We are running for Environment Office Bearers because we believe the system needs work; our student body could be doing more to foster climate innovation and improve small-sustainable practices in solidarity for a green world.

Climate action should be practical, not just symbolic; our GREEN priorities for the Environment Office are as follows:

G - GLOBAL student representation in the United Nations Conference of the Parties (COP).

Increase funding and visibility of UniMelbs partnership with Global Voices, a non-profit organisation that takes students to international conferences like COP that shape our future.

We aim to:

G.1 Negotiate with university delegates to increase funding and student representation for COP.

G.2 Increase visibility by providing student support with information sessions on the application process for COP and Global Voices.

R - REAL campus sustainability you actually notice.

Big-picture advocacy matters, but we also care about day-to-day climate conscious decisions to improve our planet.

We aim to:

R.1 Install new compost bins in high-traffic zones.

R.2 Negotiate more affordable plant-based catering options at Union Mart and Campus Canteen food outlets.

R.3 Run visible, low-barrier events to make sustainable choices easy and social, not preachy. This includes plantation campaigns, climate change information sessions and climate expert talks in

partnerships with Melbourne Climate Futures.

E - EXPANDED Green Grants: Make the money move!

Funds are available but are under-utilised.

We aim to:

E.1 Publish simple eligibility criteria and application template.

E.2 Run a "how to apply" info session each semester available to all students.

E.3 Actively reach out to non-Environmental clubs so funding isn't just going to the same circles.

E.4 Increase the funding amount from \$150 to \$300 depending on the proposal submitted by groups.

E.5 Make funding accessible to groups of students working on meaningful environment related projects.

E - EMBEDDED Indigenous partnership

Building on the University of Melbourne's 2030 sustainability plan, we aim to mobilise knowledge for action, calling upon Indigenous students to consult the Environment Office on strategies and activities through the sharing of ancient knowledge.

We aim to:

E.1 Build a stronger partnership with SEED - A movement of young First Nations organisers working on grassroots campaigns affecting Indigenous environment related issues nationwide.

E.2 Collaborate with The UMSU Indigenous Committee to promote Indigenous knowledge into climate practice.

N - NO-WASTE student services

Digitising UniMelb to push for digital student cards and opt-in physical cards to reduce unnecessary plastic and waste.

We aim to:

N.1 Provide students with the choice to opt-in for a physical student card to reduce plastic consumption.

N.2 Digitise student cards on students' personal devices to improve accessibility to student services while cutting down on waste from the production of plastic physical cards.

If the Victorian Public Transport system can...why can't we?

About us:

Shahana is a climate resilient specialist with more than seven years of experience supporting humanitarian preparedness, resilience-building, disaster risk financing and climate adaptation within Pakistan's government institutions. Shahana was the youngest member involved in the development of the Climate/Disaster Risk Finance strategy for Pakistan.

She also represented Pakistan's Prime Minister's Office at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. She is experienced in programme design, humanitarian coordination, risk assessment, proposal development, policy support, stakeholder engagement and evidence-based decision-making. Extensive experience working with government agencies, development partners and international organisations to strengthen disaster preparedness, early warning systems and climate resilience.

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY

Eren completed his undergraduate with a focus in Media and Communications and wanted more. Having worked closely with the government through one of Australia's leading boutique government relations and corporate advisory firms, he developed skills integrating in-depth research and creative thinking through a youthful lens into structured policy and market analysis. He has extensive experience hosting and organising events with parliamentarians, which he is certain will aid in successfully organising the many events the Environment Office pledges...if elected. Beyond commercial objectives, Eren has volunteered for advocacy groups proposing actionable and meaningful legislative change through policy briefs nationwide. Together, with Shahana's deep knowledge of environmental issues, Eren aims to provide his knowledge in government relations to work alongside the university to create meaningful change and champion Indigenous voice in environmental practice; improving the green grants system; waste-management practice; and the digitalisation of student services. Vote [1] INDEPENDENT STUDENTS 4 SUSTAINABILITY for the Environment Office Bearers and members for the Environment Committee.

TICKET INFORMATION

INDEPENDENTS FOR SOUTHBANK

Independents for Southbank is determined to continue and improve on the legacy of your Office Bearers for 2025 and 2026. As a non-partisan faction devoted to the betterment of Southbank, the past 2 years have seen the success of this group from Frozen Meal Programs, the Campus Canteen, radio shows, kitchenettes, sponsorship of the Southbank Ball, student advocacy, and all our events and programs throughout the sem. You may already be familiar with our faces as some of us are hopeful to return next year. We're equipped with an existing understanding on how to run the union specifically for us - Southbank.

We are committed to keeping Parkville politics off Southbank as political factions in Parkville seek total majority within council.

We are holding ourselves accountable on maintaining and improving the current standards of our Programs and Events by: Hosting at least 2-3 Breakfasts a week, every week of each semester.

Providing BBQs every Tuesday with good music and many sauce options.

Our pantry initiative, Southbank Survival Station 2 times a week with easier anonymous ways to contact us for help.

Ensuring Parkville UMSU departments rightfully pay for/run collectives at Southbank.

Delivering more variety in Southbank Breakfasts and the Frozen Meal Program.

Strengthening connections with Unimelb staff to collaborate on more.

Advertising and making our advocacy services more accessible.

More of our commitments for 2027 are:

A push for more funding for the Southbank department.

Introducing more and better lounge spaces for students throughout the campus.

Re-establishing the Southbank Clothing Collective.

Support Southbank specific collectives and spaces.

Thank you for putting your trust in us as we focus on this little home of ours and continue filling the gaps in services and help on Southbank <3 Lets keep Southbank from Parkville politics!

TICKET INFORMATION

PROGRESS

PROGRESS. Because \$9 million should reach you.

UMSU holds \$9 million of student money. It's worth asking what you've actually seen of it. Progress is an independent ticket of students from across this university, from every faculty and every background, with no factional loyalties and no debts to the people who have been running your union. We're not asking you to believe in a movement. We're asking you to check our arithmetic.

\$50 in your hand, in Week 1

Monash students already have this. There's no good reason Melbourne students should go without it. Under Progress, we will fight for every student to get a \$50 credit for food on campus, loaded in Week 1 of semester. Not Week 12. Not after another review. Not sometime next year.

\$50!!! In Week 1!!!

That's the beginning of our cost of living platform, not the end of it. We will advocate for an annual cost of living allowance of between \$50 and \$100 for every student. We will push to expand UniMart credits to 75 items a week, so the foodbank actually stretches to the end of the week. And we will campaign for concession myki access for international students, who pay the highest fees at this university and the highest fares in the country to get to it.

Paid for by the people who can afford it

We start with ourselves. Students' Council meets monthly, and every representative around that table is fed and paid for out of your SSAF. That's why every candidate on this ticket is committed to voting to end this. Turning up to represent students should be a labour of love, not a monthly perk billed to the very students you're there to represent.

But that's not where the real inequality is.

Did you know the Vice-Chancellor is paid roughly \$1.5 million a year? That's close to three times the salary of the Prime Minister, at a time when students are struggling. One million dollars redirected from executive pay would put \$20 in the hands of every single student on this campus. Progress will advocate relentlessly for the University to make that happen.

A fair go on assessment

The way you're assessed at this university is built for the convenience of faculties, not the reality of student life. Progress will advocate for a genuine right to resubmit failed assessments under a 45 per cent rule. And we will push for more Commonwealth Supported Places in postgraduate courses, starting with Medicine and Law, where the cost of entry has quietly become a wall that only wealth can climb.

A campus that works, and jobs that go to you

This university employs thousands of people to run a campus built for students. Those jobs should go to students. Progress will advocate for a binding target so that between 25 and 50 per cent of on-campus employment goes to currently enrolled students.

Your rights are not a talking point

This University has violated students' personal freedoms and tracked student movements through the campus wifi network. Progress will call on the University to scrap wifi tracking, entirely.

A union that won't stand up for its own members when the administration comes for them isn't a union at all.

Changing who runs your union

We will push for dedicated representation for rural and regional students, who currently have none. And we will publish our finances and our partnerships openly, rather than burying them in reports nobody reads.

Progress is telling you what we will fight for, with numbers attached, so you can hold us to it in twelve months. That's not radical. That's the minimum you should expect.

Vote 1 Progress in all positions.

TICKET INFORMATION

SOCIALIST ACTION - FREE PALESTINE

Hey! We are Socialist Action - Free Palestine, a group of radicals, activists and socialists running in this year's student union elections.

Capitalism is rotten. It's delivered us a world of injustice, inequality and war, all the while the rich and powerful rake in profits. We stand against every atrocity of this sick system: the genocide in Gaza, the rise of fascism embodied in Pauline Hanson's One Nation party, entrenched inequality, cuts to our education, climate destruction - the list is endless.

We think that students and student unions have an important role to play in challenging inequality and oppression in all of its forms. We don't just have radical ideas, we have a fighting track record.

Socialist Action - Free Palestine is proud to have led the Palestine solidarity movement on our campus. Through our positions in the student union, we've organised historic Student Mass Meetings to vote to pressure Unimelb to end all contracts with weapons companies, the US military and Israeli institutions. These were the biggest anti-war meetings on our campus since the anti-Vietnam war movement.

It was our ongoing Weapons Off Campus campaign that forced Unimelb to delay the construction of a 2 billion dollar research campus that would have hosted some of the worst weapons companies like BAE systems, as well as the Australian Military. It was members of Socialist Action - Free Palestine who were instrumental in building the historic protests against Israel's war criminal President, Isaac Herzog, when he dared to tour around Australia earlier this year. We've used our positions in UMSU to organise more than a dozen national high school and uni student strikes for Palestine, as well as leading the Nakba Day rally on campus this year. We demanded that our student union fundraise for Palestinians in the West Bank, rallied in support of the Global Gaza Freedom Flotilla and fought for UMSU to join the global Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement.

Most recently, we organised for UMSU to support a national walkout of high schoolers and uni students in opposition to Pauline Hanson and One Nation because we know that the far-right threatens all of us. We're proud to have a long history in anti-fascist campaigning, from kicking neo-Nazis out of organising in multi-cultural communities, to chasing Pauline Hanson out of Moonee Ponds when she tried to organise a fundraiser there just a few months ago. Every oppressed community is under attack - student unions have a duty to stand up and fight back.

What We will do

- Make Unimelb a Fascist-Free Zone: UMSU should be on the front lines building the anti-fascist fight back. We will use the resources of the student union to organise anti-racist, anti-sexist and anti-fascist campaigns that build the strength of students against the insurgent far-right threat embodied in Pauline Hanson and One Nation. We demand that Unimelb provide full

scholarships for Indigenous students and to rename all buildings at Unimelb named after racists and Eugenacists - starting with the John Medley building. UMSU should also fight to kick the Liberal Party think tank, the Menzies Institute, off campus and demand the University provide free gender affirming and reproductive healthcare including access to abortion on campus.

- Free Palestine - We Won't Oil your War Machine, Weapons off Campus! We will continue our campaign to pressure Unimelb to cut ties with weapons companies, the US military and all Israeli institutions on campus. We also demand that our University ends it's AUKUS nuclear submarine research partnerships and related degrees, and instead puts that money toward funding scholarships for Palestinian students and refugees. We will also fight to get the draconian anti-protest rules repealed and defend our right to free speech & protest on campus. Our government has also facilitated the genocide in Gaza through political and military ties to Israel - we want UMSU to mobilise students to pressure our government to sanction Israel now.

- Fossil Fuels off Campus - Climate Justice now: We will continue to organise to kick fossil fuel companies off campus and end industry partnerships with criminal corporations like Woodside, Santos and Shell. We demand full disclosure of, and divestment from, the university's partners in the fossil fuel industry.

- Our Education is Not for Profit! Free education for all students: We will use our positions in UMSU to support the longstanding campaign to make Education free again for all students - domestic and international. We also want to advocate for our tutors because we know they make this university run. While our Vice-Chancellor gets paid 1.5 million dollars every year, our teachers are underpaid and overworked. We want to mobilise students to stand in solidarity with our staff as they fight for better wages and working conditions.

- Free meals, Free housing, Free transport: Our University administration should subsidise the cost of living for students on campus. That's why we will advocate for the University and the state government to cover the cost of housing for students in need. We need to end the predatory corporate profiteering from companies like Scape and Igloo. The University shouldn't be a playground for corporations to rake in profits - we demand a \$5 cap on all meals on campus and free meals for those in need. We will also use our positions to advocate for bringing back free public transport permanently.

Our student union should put its resources, platform and organising potential behind the struggles that matter. We will fight for a student union that is unapologetically anti-war, anti-fascist and anti-capitalist, one which helps activists organise mass meetings, protests, and solidarity actions.

Vote [1] Socialist Action - Free Palestine for an activist student union.

TICKET INFORMATION

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

A student union should not just give you an answer when something goes wrong. It should leave you with options the next time it does.

There is something strange about university: we come here to learn how to research, think critically, and question the world around us, yet we learn so quickly not to question the university itself.

UMSU should be the exception, a union that empowers us to push back.

Together was formed when GROWTH and ACTIVATE realised that we share the same values and want to solve the same problems. We are students from different degrees, backgrounds and communities, but we have seen the same thing: students joining forces, helping each other and making change, even when it's hard.

We think UMSU should make that easier.

Together we have secured an additional \$7,500 for UMSU International and additional funding for sexual harm response. We changed clubs and societies' rules to better protect clubs from being taken over by political groups. We started regular Club Mixers and IDA Bar takeovers and coordinated UMSU's first resident bar night and Women in Sports, including connecting students with Melbourne Victory. We expanded representation for satellite, graduate and residential students through working groups; secured new UMSU positions on University Council and Alumni Council, two positions on an Academic Board subcommittee; and helped establish a Graduate Research Forum.

We have also worked on things that matter for students seeking support: updating the student complaints page, supporting SAFE@ and accessibility, and contributing to UMSU's biggest racism report yet. We raised problems with Union Mart and Food Relief, pushed for more vegetarian and vegan options, including free Tofu Tuesdays, and pushed to have the IDA Bar price increase reversed.

We've stood against restrictions to student protest, spoken out about weapons ties, and formed UMSU's Pro-Palestine Working Group.

None of these changes happened because someone wrote a good policy. They happened because students had to organise, argue, negotiate and keep pushing. That has shaped what we want to do next.

First, we want to make uni life more affordable.

Students should not have to choose between a textbook and groceries or getting to campus and getting through the week. We will work to bring back the FOOD CO-OP, bring more free, fresh food and medicine to Union Mart, deliver a SWAP SHOP for secondhand textbooks, lab coats, calculators and more, and build a STUDENT TUTORING NETWORK where students can get academic support for less while students looking for work can

earn from what they know. We will campaign for \$50 COST-OF-LIVING VOUCHERS, EMERGENCY MYKI SUPPORT AND GROCERY VOUCHERS for students facing financial pressure.

For students living away from home, we will create a BAD LANDLORD REGISTRY so you can check what previous tenants experienced before signing a lease. You should not discover a landlord's history by becoming their next bad review.

Second, we want university to work better as a place to learn.

But education is also about what kind of university we are studying in. A university should prioritise learning, not treat students as customers. We will push for a THREE-WEEK STANDARD for returning assessment and feedback so students are not receiving comments after they have moved on. We will fight for EXTENDED LIBRARY HOURS during assessment periods so students have practical study spaces when they need them.

Third, we want a union that stands for social justice.

When racism or discrimination happens in class, students should not have to work out which office to contact, what evidence to collect or whether any change will happen. 'IT HAPPENED IN CLASS' will give students somewhere to document what happened, somewhere to take it, and a real mechanism for action.

Universities should work to build a future students want to live and work in. But right now, our money is being invested in weapons and fossil fuel companies; these ties endanger our future, the climate, and students like us around the world. So we will fight for DIVESTMENT, just like we'll fight to END THE PROTEST BANS on our campus. We will support autonomous groups, students living away from home and students with disabilities. No student should have to fight harder just to be heard.

We also need to be honest about UMSU itself.

UMSU is funded by students – \$10 million dollars a year. This money should be treated carefully, with transparent governance that holds representatives accountable. SSAF should support the union, not determine whether services survive or staff keep their jobs. We will build sustainable non-SSAF income so UMSU has financial security beyond a single funding cycle. UMSU staff deliver the services students use, so their working conditions affect those services. We will stand with UMSU staff and work towards a union that is sustainable for its staff as well as the students who rely on it.

Most importantly, we want UMSU to feel like it belongs to more students.

The student who spends every weeknight at a club event. The student who has never been to an UMSU event. Domestic and international students. Students living at home and students living thousands of kilometres from home. Activists, artists, volunteers and students simply trying to get to Friday.

You should not have to be an elected rep to have a say in your

TICKET INFORMATION

TOGETHER FOR UMSU

university.

That is why we have banded together. We have seen what happens when students get the resources and representation to make something better. We have also seen how quickly good ideas disappear without the difficult work after the election.

We are running because we want to do that work.

We will make ambitious promises, be careful with student money, be honest about what can be delivered, and make sure it gets done.

Doing the job is the baseline.

We want UMSU to be more, and we want students to expect more from us.

Students deserve a union that doesn't ask you to accept the way uni is but asks what it could be.

Vote [1] TOGETHER4UMSU!!!



University of Melbourne **Student Union**

🔗 umsu.unimelb.edu.au/2026-election