

University of Melbourne Annual Student Election

5 – 9 September 2016

Report of the Returning Officer

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Summary

Appointment

Charles Richardson of Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd was appointed Returning Officer for the University of Melbourne Annual Student Election on Friday 15 July 2016. Stephen Luntz and Jaimie Adam, also of AQE, were appointed Deputy Returning Officers.

The Electoral Tribunal at the time of the appointment consisted of Mr Michael Gronow, Ms Saveria Dimasi and Ms Kylie Gould. This was unchanged from 2015. Ms Dimasi, who was the nominee of Students' Council, subsequently left the University and resigned her position; it is understood no replacement has yet been appointed.

Nominations

Nominations opened on Monday 25 July for positions on the following bodies:

- University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU), including office-bearers, Students' Council and all committees (including VCA and Burnley)
- An UMSU by-election to fill several positions for the remainder of 2016
- Delegation to the National Union of Students (NUS)
- One student member of University Council
- Two student representatives on MU Student Union Ltd Board

The notice of election appears on page 14. This notice was posted in Union House and on the elections website, and a version was also e-mailed to all students.

Nominations closed at midday on Friday 12 August. Following a change to the Regulations made on the recommendation of last year's Returning Officer, an electronic system of lodgement for nominations was implemented, although students retained the option of nominating on paper if they preferred. Considering its novelty the electronic system performed well, and the Returning Officer believes that this year's experience will enable some useful modifications to be made to it to improve functionality next year.

A total of 417 nominations were received (the large majority using the electronic system), compared with 315 in 2014 and 427 in 2014. Four nominations were found to be invalid. All candidates were notified by e-mail of the receipt of their nominations; one of the advantages of the electronic system was that this process could happen automatically.

Once again a number of students missed out on nominating, or on nominating for their intended positions, or on having their policy statements published, due to avoidable errors that could have been corrected if they had begun the process earlier. The widespread practice of leaving nominations until the last minute means that it is often impossible to correct these errors.

Another change to the Constitution and Regulations removed the ability for the Returning Officer to rely on University records to ascertain the names of female candidates when

implementing affirmative action on committees. Candidates were therefore asked on their nomination forms whether or not they identified as women; one who had neglected to answer this question later had to email the Returning Officer to confirm that she did in fact identify as a woman when this became an issue during counting for her committee.

Farrago in conjunction with the Returning Officer again provided a photographer to attend on several occasions to take photos of candidates in a standard format for publication with their policy statements.

The complete list of nominees appears on page 18, in ballot paper order where applicable. The draw for ballot paper positions was conducted on Monday 15 August, witnessed by scrutineers from the various tickets.

Tickets

Applications for ticket registration also closed at midday on Friday 12 August. An information session for prospective tickets was held on Tuesday 2 August to inform organisers of the requirements.

Seventeen applications were received, all of which were found to be eligible, compared to 15 in 2015. The following tickets were therefore registered, with the indicated students as authorising officers:

Activate (Alston Chu)
Cheaper Textbooks (Anna Morrison)
Create (Andrew O'Shea)
Halal Snack Pack (Jamiel Sabbagh)
Hard Memes (Louka Ewington-Pitsos)
Independent Media (Mary Ntalianis)
Left Focus (Jade Eckhaus)
Liberal (Michael Sabljak)
More Beer (Marcus Sultani)
More Pokémon Go on Campus (Robin Wang)
More! (Itsi Weinstock)
Smore! (Akira Boardman)
Stand Up! (Adriana Mells)
Students Against Hanson (Alastair James)
The Biggest Blackest Ticket (Tyson Holloway-Clarke)
Universal (Ezgi Bridger)
Whigs (Lee Ellison)

Withdrawals

The following candidates who appear on the list on page 18 withdrew their nominations prior to the printing of ballot papers:

Arun Bharatula, Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council, Activities Committee, Disabilities Committee, Education Committee, People of Colour Committee, Queer Committee, Welfare Committee
Leo Fincher, Burnley Co-ordinator and Burnley Committee
Pauline Liu (Stand Up!), Welfare Committee
Yifan Mu (Stand Up!), Welfare Committee
James Sutherland (Create), Disabilities Committee

Another three candidates withdrew after ballot papers had been printed, as follows:

Matthew Schaffner, Activities Committee
 Xu (John) Zhang (Stand Up!), Welfare Officer
 Danmei Ren (Stand Up!), NUS

Notices were posted at polling places to alert voters to the first two of these withdrawals. The third was made only on the Friday of polling week, too late for this to be done.

In addition, Ezgi Bridger (Universal), a candidate for Creative Arts Committee, was treated as having withdrawn from that pursuant to Regulation 10.4, having already been elected to two other committees and not being constitutionally permitted to hold a position on a third. Since she had not submitted a conflict of position form, her order of preference for committees was determined by lot. (See Recommendation 7 below for discussion of this question.)

Polling

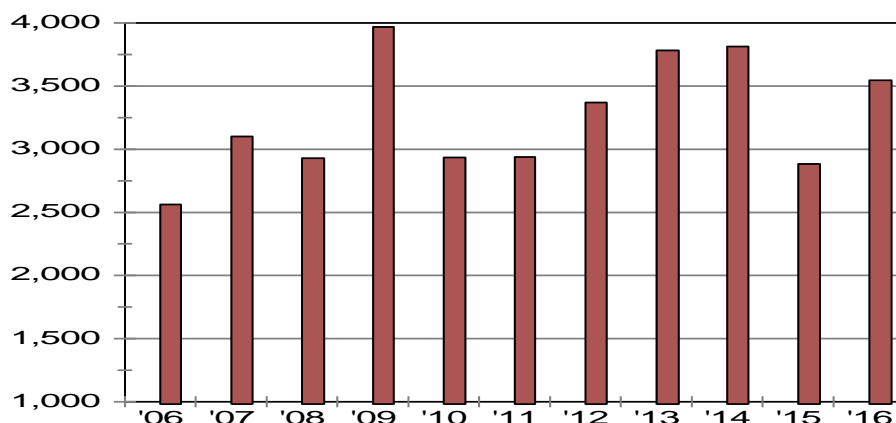
Polling took place during the week of Monday 5 September to Friday 9 September, at the following times and locations:

	Monday 5th Sept.	Tuesday 6th Sept.	Wednesday 7th Sept.	Thursday 8th Sept.	Friday 9th Sept.
Union House (The Lounge, formerly North Dining Room)	10.00am – 5.00pm	10.00am – 6.30pm	10.00am – 5.00pm	10.00am – 5.00pm	10.00am – 5.00pm
Baillieu Library Foyer	10.30am – 4.30pm	10.30am – 6.15pm	10.30am – 4.30pm	10.30am – 4.30pm	10.30am – 4.30pm
Southern Precinct FBE Building	11.00am – 3.00pm	12.00pm – 5.00pm	11.00am – 3.00pm	11.00am – 3.00pm	11.00am – 3.00pm
VCA Southbank Campus (Cafeteria)		11.00am – 3.00pm	11.00am – 3.00pm	11.00am – 3.00pm	
Burnley Campus (Student Lounge)		11.00am – 2.00pm	12.00pm – 3.00pm		

This notice was posted on the website and advertised to all students. Polling times and locations were unchanged from 2015. Since there were no contested elections for any Indigenous positions, the polling station at Murrup Barak (Centre for Indigenous Education) was not required.

Turnout for the week was 3,541, an increase of about 23% on 2015. Last year's low turnout can now be seen as an anomaly, produced by the unusual lack of competition for key positions, and this year has returned to the levels more characteristic of the early part of this decade. The graph on the next page depicts historical turnout since 2006. (Note that enrolment has increased from about 40,000 in 2006 to 54,000 this year, so a rising trend in absolute numbers still represents a proportional decline.)

Voting figures from the polling registers were checked each evening against the total of ballot papers issued, and both were checked against the physical count after the close of polling. All totals reconciled within acceptable margins of error. The table on page 21 summarises the turnout at all polling stations.



RAW TURNOUT, 2006-2016

Storage of Ballot Papers

By arrangement with the University, unused ballot papers and live ballot papers from the Parkville polling stations were stored in a secure location in the Raymond Priestly Building each evening. Ballot papers for the VCA and Burnley polling places were stored securely by AQE staff, then returned to Parkville on Thursday and Friday.

In all cases, scrutineers were invited to witness the sealing and unsealing of ballot boxes and the transfer of votes into storage.

Electronic Roll and Provisional Voting

Wireless database access to the electronic roll was used at all polling stations, including for the first time at Burnley. MU Student Union Ltd again loaned AQE a set of laptops for use by poll clerks. The electronic system performed extremely well: upgrades to the University's network have improved wi-fi access, and the login problems experienced in past years seem to have been eliminated.

One result of the improved state of the network (including its use at Burnley) was a further reduction in the number of provisional votes required. Only 21 provisional votes were received, of which seven were accepted and 14 were reserved for further advice from Student Administration. Following that advice, a further three votes were accepted and the other 11 rejected.

Postal Votes

Applications for postal votes closed at 5pm on Wednesday 31 August. Nine applications were received by this deadline, one of whom was found not to be on the roll. Ballot papers were posted to the other eight applicants on Friday 2 September. Six sets of ballot papers were duly returned by close of polls on Friday 9 September; these voters were checked off the roll and their votes were admitted to the count.

Due to an oversight by the Returning Officer, some or all of the postal voters did not receive the separate Queer ballot paper. This was a most unfortunate error, for which we apologise. However, in light of the very clear margins in both of the Queer positions it is evident that it could not have affected the result.

Complaints and Appeals

A number of complaints, both formal and informal, were made to the Returning Officer during the election period by candidates and other interested parties. Several campaigners, and on two occasions a whole ticket, were banned from campaigning for short periods due to infringements of the Regulations. The table on page 27 summarises the written complaints that were received.

Two written rulings were made by the Returning Officer in response to complaints received. They appear in the Rulings section, and were also posted in Union House and on the elections website. In addition, a selection of standing rulings from past years was again published.

Lockup and Counting

Counting began at midday on Friday 9 September, five hours before the close of polling. A lockup was again instituted, in which scrutineers were permitted to observe the early counting but not to leave or communicate with outside prior to 5pm. The lockup again proceeded smoothly and without incident, largely due to the work of Deputy Returning Officer Jaimie Adam.

The majority of the office-bearer counts were completed on the Friday night. Counting continued all day Saturday and for a few hours on Sunday, which determined all positions apart from Students' Council, NUS (both finalised on Monday) and two committees, which were counted on Wednesday and Thursday.

An innovation this year was the regular posting of updates of results on a liveblog by the campus newspaper *Parkville Station*. Although these had no official status, the Returning Officer felt that they added to the transparency of the process and was happy to co-operate with the paper's reporters.

The full provisional declaration of results was issued on Thursday 15 September. This notice appears on page 24, and was also posted in Union House and on the elections website. The period for appeals against the results or requests for recounts expired three working days later, on Tuesday 20 September. None were received.

Full details of the count for each position appear in the Appendix. In addition, the count for President is broken down by day and by polling station.

The total valid vote of 3,527 represents approximately 6.5% of eligible voters.

Clubs & Societies Committee

The Clubs & Societies Committee is elected separately by the Clubs & Societies Council rather than by students at large. Management of that election has again been included as part of the contract for the annual election. The Clubs & Societies Council is scheduled to meet on Wednesday 12 October: results of the meeting will be published in due course as a supplement to this report.

Acknowledgements

The annual student elections are a major logistical operation, and the Returning Officer would again like to gratefully acknowledge the assistance received from very many people. The following are particularly deserving of mention:

- Deputy Returning Officers Stephen Luntz and Jaimie Adam, fellow-director Haydn Steel, and all the staff of Above Quota Elections
- The staff of UMSU and MU Student Union Ltd, especially Justin Baré, Goldie Pergl, Simon Napthine, Carolyn Bolton, Paul Durrant, Sean Keenaghan, Serge Lily, Sam Rankin, Alex Radovanovic, Fiona Sanders, Darren Snowdon, David Witteveen, the editors of *Farrago* (Baya, Caleb, Danielle and Sebastian) and the Buildings security team
- Sarah Calder (Student Services), Gioconda Di Lorenzo (University Secretary), Hero Macdonald (Baillieu Library), Natasha Smith (University Secretary's Department)
- Liz and Patrick at *Parkville Station*
- Bek for graphic design, Stephanie and the print team for printing
- Australia Post, for the mailbags
- All the candidates and campaigners for their cooperation.

Recommendations

1. Complexity of election

Constitutional change this year added yet another office-bearer, another committee and another special representative on Students' Council – this time to address the concerns of people of color. There are now 15 office-bearers, ten committees and six special representatives (not counting the VCA and Burnley positions); when this constitutional structure was first introduced, in 1980, those numbers were four, three and zero respectively.

It is not obvious where this process of expansion might stop. Every move to provide representation for a hitherto-marginalised group, taken in isolation, seems eminently reasonable. And of course it is entirely up to the union to determine how it wants to structure its operations. Nonetheless, it appears to the Returning Officer that insufficient attention has been paid to the cumulative effect of these moves.

Expansion comes at a cost: a financial cost, obviously, but also a cost in complexity that deters potential voters. This year, at least one ticket had to be warned for trying to attract voters with the pitch "it'll only take you 30 seconds." The reality is that voting takes several minutes, and is a process that most students seem to find bewildering.

In 1980, more than one student in four voted; now it is fewer than one in 15. No-one would suggest that the ballooning structural complexity is the only thing responsible for that change, but it needs to take a share of the blame. It is particularly unfortunate that measures whose purpose is to increase representation should have the paradoxical effect of making the union less representative.

It is recommended that constitutional reform in the future should seriously consider rationalising the union's structure in some way that would permit simpler elections.

2. Democracy for international students

Although quite significant constitutional change was undertaken this year, it is disappointing to see that no move was made to address the point that we flagged two years ago as a "top priority", namely the provisions that exempt the International Students Department from the operation of the UMSU Electoral Regulations.

As we said on that occasion, "These provisions lack any reasonable justification. The rules that govern all other UMSU elections are designed to guarantee fairness, transparency and due process. If those are desirable goals (and we believe they are), they should apply across the board."

It cannot be stressed too strongly that autonomy or self-government provides no argument for an exemption from democracy. It is also worth noting that integration of the International Students Department into UMSU elections could lead to a significant cost saving.

It is recommended that revision of sections 152.1 (i) and (j) and 154 of the Constitution along these lines should be treated as a matter of some urgency.

3. Self-identification

With the increase in the number of categories that depend on self-identification for voter eligibility, the Returning Officer this year adopted a new strategy to try to ensure that voters were aware of the relevant restrictions. The ballot papers concerned were all handed out with the main pack, but bound before them in the pack was a sheet headed "Stop!" in large letters that explained the restrictions and recited the definitions of the different categories taken from section 2.1 of the Constitution.

This appears to have been a success. The numbers casting formal votes for the self-identified positions were as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Women's Officer	1,599	45.3%
Women's Committee	1,540	43.7%
Disabilities Officer	437	12.4%
Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council	621	17.6%
People of Colour Officer	1,072	30.4%
People of Colour Committee	1,062	30.1%
Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council	943	26.7%
Queer Officer	975	27.6%
Queer Representative on Students' Council	1,266	35.9%

It should be kept in mind that these are minimum figures, since no doubt some voters identified as eligible but nonetheless voted informally for some other reason. Even so, the proportions are more realistic than has been sometimes observed in past years, such as the 62.8% who voted for Queer Committee in 2013 or the 44.7% who voted for Disabilities Committee in 2014.

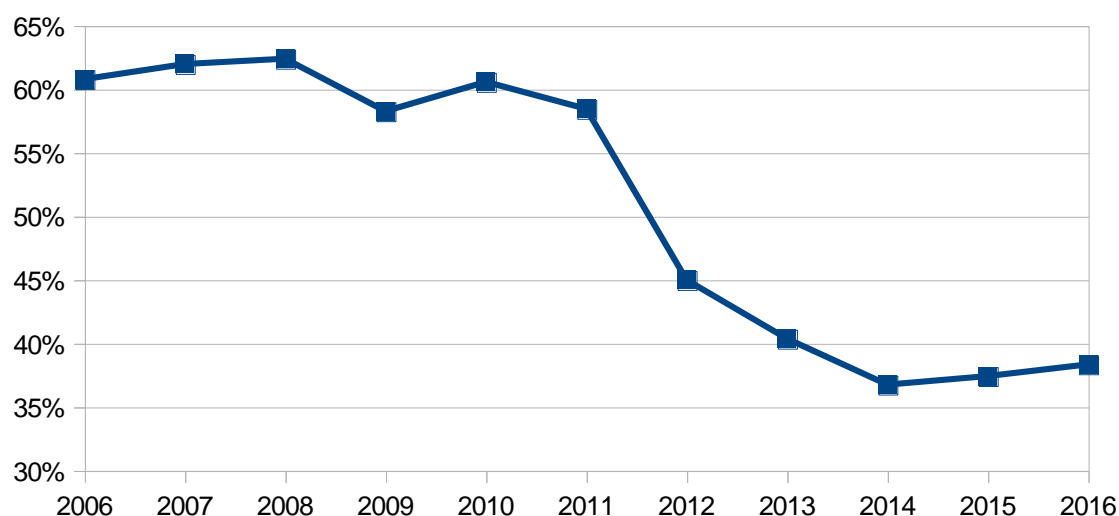
A continuing inconvenience, however, was the fact that Regulation 32.4, introduced two years ago in an earlier attempt to address this issue, prevents the Queer ballot paper(s) being attached to any others. This meant extra work for polling staff and resulted in many voters leaving their Queer ballots behind in voting booths.

It is recommended that, a better solution having been found to the original problem, Regulation 32.4 be repealed.

4. Location of polling places

The shift of voters away from Union House, remarked upon in past reports, seems now to have stabilised a little, with slightly less than 40% of votes being cast there in each of the last three years (see graph below). This is at best, however, a temporary respite, since the University plans to shift UMSU and related services to the south-eastern part of campus over the next two or three years.

PROPORTION OF VOTES CAST AT UNION HOUSE



In light of this shift it would be prudent for the Union to again consider the establishment of a polling place near the corner of Grattan and Swanston Streets. Despite the expansion of campus southward, the FBE polling place has not really lived up to its early promise, taking only 396 votes this year – fewer than in 2013.

It is recommended that the location of polling places should be reviewed during the first half of 2017; and that in any event Regulation 29.5, which specifies polling times, should be redrafted to eliminate ambiguities and give the Returning Officer more flexibility in organising polling.

5. Authorisation of material

Regulation 28, which requires election material to be pre-authorized, was originally written for a simpler era, in which most electioneering happened by way of leaflets and posters. Recent amendments have not fully kept pace with the rise of the internet and of social media. A great deal of the Returning Officer's time is taken up with the authorisation of material that is often repetitive, usually uncontroversial, and in the event that it is likely to lead to controversy, does so in ways that the Returning Officer cannot possibly be aware of in advance.

Moreover, the definition of "election material" in Regulation 28.1 is extremely broad, not confined to what would ordinarily be thought of as electioneering. This year the appearance of an independent student newspaper, *Parkville Station*, raised the question of the status of its election coverage, and while the editors were very co-operative in dealing with the Returning Officer's concerns, it is inherently undesirable for the Returning Officer to be put in the position of a media censor.

In the Returning Officer's opinion it is time to consider cutting this particular Gordian knot and abolishing the requirement for pre-authorization, or perhaps retaining it for only a specified class of material (rather than having it as the default and specifying exemptions). Instead, the onus would be on the publishers of material to comply with the Regulations or face penalties. The Returning Officer would, of course, still be able to give advice on the

likely acceptability of material, and indeed would be better placed to do so if no longer forced to deal with the current volume.

Regardless of one's view on this question, the practice of keeping a physical file of authorised material for inspection (as per Regulation 28.5) has become anachronistic, not to mention burdensome to students who are not regularly on the Parkville campus. Almost all material is now submitted electronically, so it would make much more sense for it to be simply posted on the elections website.

It is therefore recommended that:

- (a) The requirement that election material be authorised by the Returning Officer before distribution be abolished, perhaps with the exception of how-to-vote material being handed to students at polling places;
- (b) *Bona fide* media coverage of the election be excluded from the definition of "election material"; and
- (c) The Regulations be clarified to ensure that the Returning Officer can maintain a file of campaign material in electronic format, rather than the present hard copy version.

6. Front tickets and group preference voting

Previous Returning Officers' reports have remarked on the prevalence of "front" or "feeder" tickets – that is, tickets that have no real existence independent of a major ticket but exist solely to feed preferences to them and foster voter confusion. A variety of remedies have been proposed to deal with the phenomenon, but they have not been adopted.

This year, between seven and nine of the 17 tickets fitted this description, most of them having only one candidate but all of them adding to the complexity of the election and therefore adding to the burden on voters (not to mention the costs of administration, design and counting). There is no evidence that they work to the advantage of any political group, but no group wants to abandon them while others are using them.

There are a number of possible ways of addressing this, but the simplest is also independently desirable, namely the abolition of group preference voting, or automatic "above-the-line" preferencing, as established by Regulations 22 and 35.5. This is the step taken for Senate elections earlier this year. Melbourne University has always been at the cutting edge of electoral reform; it is believed to have been, under the aegis of the present Returning Officer, the first jurisdiction in Australia to implement above-the-line voting (copied from the Senate system in 1984, but before it had actually been used in a Senate election). It would greatly assist voter education if student voting and Senate voting were again brought into alignment (although we suggest that UMSU's more liberal formality rules be retained).

Indeed, the case is stronger than that, because the chief arguments made against the federal changes do not apply to UMSU. There have always been significant numbers of exhausted votes in the UMSU system; there is no risk of increasing informal voting for single-member positions (because of optional preferential voting); and the rapid turnover in voting population means that the confusion caused by changing rules is much less pronounced.

Allowing voters to determine their own preferences might lead to a small increase in counting time, but that would probably be offset by the disappearance of front tickets, which would no longer be able to harvest preferences for their parent group. In any case, it would be outweighed in terms of cost by the saving from no longer having to distribute and collect group preference forms and post digests of them in the voting booths.

It is therefore recommended that Regulations 22 and 35.5 be repealed and consequential amendments made to abolish the system of automatic group preference voting.

7. Conflict of positions

Another factor in the unnecessary complexity of the election is the habit of some candidates of running for more positions than they could possibly hope to win, and more than they would constitutionally be permitted to hold.

Regulation 10.4, as amended in 2008, provides a clumsy and inadequate treatment of this problem. Many candidates do not submit the conflict of position forms, and even if they do the Returning Officer still has to make judgement calls about when they should remain in a count, since counting for many positions takes place simultaneously. For those who do not submit forms, their preference has to be determined by lot; the Returning Officer has adopted the practice of only doing this when their election to incompatible positions seemed a realistic possibility, but those judgements too can sometimes be mistaken.

The whole problem could be made to go away with a simple amendment to say that no person may nominate for more positions than are constitutionally compatible, with the exception of an officer position in conjunction with committee (or Students' Council) positions, and in that case they would be presumed to prefer election as an office-bearer.

It is recommended that the Regulations be amended accordingly.

8. Timing of appointment

Despite our complaint about late appointment in the 2014 report, the problem occurred again this year: expressions of interest closed on Wednesday 13 July; we were notified of our appointment two days later and were not able to begin work until Tuesday 19 July, with nominations opening on Monday 25 July. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that this is simply not an adequate time frame for getting the logistics of such a large project moving. Only the good fortune of a late cancellation by another advertiser allowed us to get anything into the pre-election edition of *Farrago*. Other important preparatory tasks were rushed or delayed.

And this, of course, is a firm that already has the experience of having done this job for most of the last decade. Heaven help a new provider trying to work out what to do in time!

We have suggested in the past that UMSU should consider the appointment of a Returning Officer for the full calendar year rather than just the election period, as contemplated by section 123.1 (a) of the Constitution. But regardless of that question, it is vital that whoever is appointed next year should be able to start work by the first week in July.

Notice of Election

Notice of Election 2016

University of Melbourne Annual Student Election

5–9 September 2016

Notice is hereby given that nominations opened at 12 midday on Monday 25 July, for the 2016 University of Melbourne Annual Student Election.

Positions to be filled at the election include:

- ⤴ Office-bearers, committees and Students' Council of the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU), including the Burnley Students Department and the Victorian College of the Arts Department
- ⤴ A student on University Council (for a term ending 30 September 2018)
- ⤴ Two student representatives (for a term ending 31 October 2018) on the Board of MU Student Union Ltd
- ⤴ Delegates to the National Union of Students (NUS)
- ⤴ Several vacant positions to be filled by by-election for the remainder of 2016, including President

A complete list of positions appears at the end of this notice.

Nominations close at 12 midday on Friday 12 August.

Polling will take place from Monday 5 September until Friday 9 September (inclusive). **All students are eligible to vote.** A detailed schedule of polling times and locations will be posted after close of nominations. Students may also vote by post – applications for postal votes close at 5pm on Wednesday 31 August.

Tickets: Any fifteen (15) students may register a ticket to run in the election by filling in the appropriate form. Applications for Ticket Registration open and close at the same time as nominations. It is not necessary to be on a ticket to run in the election.

Tickets that are running candidates for multi-member positions should also submit a form showing the order in which they wish their candidates to appear. Candidates running for positions that cannot be held concurrently should submit a form showing which positions they wish to hold in case of a conflict.

Ticket registration forms, candidate order forms and conflict of position forms must all be submitted by close of nominations. All forms are available from the Returning Officer or can be downloaded from the election website (see below).

Policy speeches: Candidates may also, with their nominations, submit policy statements for publication in *Farrago* and on the election website. Policy statements must not exceed 300 words for UMSU office-bearer positions or 100 words for all other positions. A photo session for office-bearer candidates will be organized after close of nominations.

Please note that **all deadlines are strict** and cannot be extended. Candidates are strongly urged to lodge their forms well before the deadlines. All forms should be delivered personally to the Returning Officer or an authorised electoral official. (The Election Office will be open extensively throughout the election period, and appointments can be made by phone or email.) Where this is not practicable, please contact the Returning Officer to make other arrangements. Do not post forms without prior arrangement, as no responsibility will be taken for late or lost forms under those circumstances. It is not possible to accept faxed or emailed forms.

Contact Details

For all enquiries, forms and other election material, contact the Election Office: Old computer centre, Level 4, Union House; Phone: 03 8344 2438.

[Or, visit the Election page.](#)

Returning Officer: Charles Richardson (Ph:0410 568 308)

Deputy Returning Officer: Stephen Luntz (Ph: 0438 667 787)

Email: ReturningOfficer@union.unimelb.edu.au

Mailing address: UMSU Returning Officer, c/o Above Quota Elections, PO Box 2157, Fitzroy, VIC 3065

Notices will also be posted on the Students' Council notice board, first floor, Union House.

Positions for Election

UMSU Annual Election

Office Bearers:

- ♣ President
- ♣ General Secretary
- ♣ Education (Academic Affairs) Officer
- ♣ Education (Public Affairs) Officer
- ♣ Welfare Officer
- ♣ Women's Officer
- ♣ Creative Arts Officer
- ♣ Activities Officer
- ♣ Queer Officer
- ♣ Environment Officer
- ♣ Media Officers
- ♣ Clubs & Societies Officer
- ♣ Indigenous Officer
- ♣ Disabilities Officer
- ♣ People of Colour Officer

Students' Council:

- ♣ One representative of each of the following restricted constituencies:
 - ♣ Queer students
 - ♣ Indigenous students
 - ♣ International students
 - ♣ Graduate students

- ⤴ Students with Disabilities
- ⤴ Students of Colour
- ⤴ Fifteen (15) general members elected by all students

Seven (7) members on each of the following Committees:

- ⤴ Activities Committee
- ⤴ Creative Arts Committee
- ⤴ Disabilities Committee
- ⤴ Education Committee
- ⤴ Environment Committee
- ⤴ Indigenous Committee
- ⤴ People of Colour Committee
- ⤴ Queer Committee
- ⤴ Welfare Committee
- ⤴ Women's Committee

Burnley Students Department:

- ⤴ Campus Coordinator
- ⤴ Seven (7) general Committee members

Victorian College of the Arts Department:

- ⤴ Campus Co-ordinator
- ⤴ Activities and Events Co-ordinator
- ⤴ Campaigns Co-ordinator
- ⤴ Seven (7) general Committee members

National Union of Students

Seven (7) Delegates to the National Conference of the National Union of Students Inc., in accordance with the rules of NUS

University of Melbourne Council

One (1) student to Council of the University for a two year term.

Note: This position ends 31/12/2018. The person elected will need to remain a student throughout the term.

Candidates for University Council must fill in an additional Fit and Proper Person Requirements Declaration

MU Student Union Ltd.

Two (2) student members of the board of MU Student Union Ltd (to be confirmed)

Note: These positions are for two-year terms, to run until 31 October 2018. The persons elected will need to remain students for the whole of the term.

By-Elections

Nominations are open for the following positions for the remainder of 2016:

- ⤴ President
- ⤴ Indigenous Officer
- ⤴ Indigenous Committee (2 positions)

Restrictions on election

Any student may nominate for any position unless otherwise specified below.

The position of Media Officers must be held jointly by teams of three or four candidates. All other officer positions, except for President and General Secretary, may be held either individually or by two candidates jointly. Candidates who are running as a team should each fill out a nomination form and submit them stapled together, with a single policy statement.

If more than one person holds the office of Women's Officer, one of them must be a woman of colour. For all other committees, including the Burnley and VCA Committees and the general members of Students' Council (but not the NUS delegation), at least half of the members (rounded up) must be women, provided there are sufficient female candidates.

Candidates for Women's Officer and Women's Committee must be women. At least three members of Women's Committee must be women of colour, provided there are sufficient candidates who meet that description. Candidates for People of Colour Officer, Students' of Colour Representative on Students' Council and People of Colour Committee must be people of colour.

Candidates for Queer Officer, Queer Representative on Students' Council and Queer Committee must be Queer students. (See Regulation 32.4 for further detail.) A single candidate for Queer Officer must be a woman or trans; in the case of joint candidates for Queer Officer, at least one of them must be a woman or trans.

If more than one person holds any other office, at least one of them must be a woman.

Candidates for Indigenous Officer, Indigenous Representative on Students' Council and Indigenous Committee must be Indigenous students.

Candidates for Disabilities Officer, Disabilities Committee and the Disability Representative on Students' Council must be students with disabilities. Candidates for International Representative on Students' Council must be International students. Candidates for Graduate Representative on Students' Council must be Graduate students.

Candidates for the Burnley positions must be enrolled at the Burnley campus. Candidates for the VCA positions must be enrolled at the Southbank campus.

No person can stand for election if they are employed half-time or more by UMSU, the University, MU Student Union Ltd or related bodies, or any combination thereof. In the case of the University Council position that includes any casual employment with the University. No person can stand for an office-bearer position if they have already served two terms of office as an office-bearer.

For further information on eligibility to stand and to vote in the election, please consult the Election Regulations, available at the UMSU Office and on the election website. Copies of the Regulations can also be obtained at the Election Office, where further enquiries are welcome.

Charles Richardson
Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd
Returning Officer
25th July 2016

Nominations

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ANNUAL STUDENT ELECTION 5 – 9 SEPTEMBER 2016

NOMINATIONS (IN BALLOT PAPER ORDER)

President

Adriana Mells (Stand Up!)
Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Yan Zhuang (More!)
Michael Sabljak (Liberal)
Andrew O'Shea (Create)
Arun Bharatula

General Secretary

Yasmine Luu (More!)
Michael Sabljak (Liberal)
Michael Kerrison (Whigs)
Nikhil Sachdev (Create)
Arun Bharatula
Sarah Xia (Stand Up!)
Jeremy Gibson (Left Focus)

Education Officer (Academic Affairs)

Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Arun Bharatula
Jade Eckhaus & Lia Vassiliadis (Left Focus)
Amelia Seward & Millie Austin-Andrews (Stand Up!)
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Stylianos Nikias (Create)
Caley McPherson & Roger Samuel (More!)

Education Officer (Public Affairs)

Virginia Holdenson (Create)
Anneke Demanuele & Dominic Cernaz (Stand Up!)
Arun Bharatula
Daniel Lopez & Sinead Manning (More!)
Michael Sabljak (Liberal)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)

Welfare Officer

Monica Leng & Nick Reich (Left Focus)
Claudia Lombard & Xu Zhang (John) (Stand Up!)
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Arun Bharatula
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)

Ryan Davey & Teresa Gornall (More!)

Women's Officer

Mairie Sullivan (Left Focus)
Frances Gamble & Grace Middleton (Whigs)
Aisling Acton & Sonia Lim (Stand Up!)
Anjana Abeyratne & Hannah Billett (More!)
Alexandra Murrell (Create)

Creative Arts Officer

Harriet Wallace-Mead & Sara Pascoe (Activate)
Corey Mathrick (Create)
Jade Rae

Activities Officer

Arun Bharatula
Jacinta Cooper & Lydia Paevere (More!)

Queer Officer

Audrey Whybrow (Left Focus)
Yi Ding
Blake Atmaja & Evelyn Lesh (Activate)

Environment Officer

Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Arun Bharatula
Levi West (Create)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Jade Rae
Simon Aplin (Left Focus)
Elizabeth Nicholson & Kate Denver-Stevenson (Activate)

Media Officers

Alexandra Alvaro, Amie Green, James Macaronas & Mary Ntalianis (Independent Media)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Clubs & Societies Officer

Gulsara Kaplun & Kayley Cuzzubbo (More!)
Arun Bharatula

Indigenous Officer

Marley Holloway-Clarke & Wunambi Connor
(The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Disabilities Officer

Eli Winters (Whigs)
Alston Chu & Cassandra Prigg (Activate)
Arun Bharatula

People of Colour Officer

Arun Bharatula
Ella Shi & Hanann Al Daqqa (More!)
Shania Khan (Left Focus)
Amy Bartholomeusz & Jenny Huang (Stand Up!)

Burnley Campus Coordinator

Tom Simpson
Leo Fincher
Jessica Peeler

Victorian College of the Arts Campus Co-ordinator

Nicholas Lam (More!)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Victorian College of the Arts Activities and Events Co-ordinator

Lachlan Pringle (More!)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Victorian College of the Arts Campaigns Co-ordinator

Clara Cruz Jose (More!)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Students' Council General Representatives

Thariq Willoughby (Hard Memes)
Robin Wang (More Pokémon Go on Campus!)
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
Yifan Mu (Stand Up!)
Alice Smith (Stand Up!)
Desiree Cai (Stand Up!)
Nitin Aggarwal (Stand Up!)
Conor Clements (Stand Up!)
Stephanie Kee (Stand Up!)
Nguyen Hoa My (Stand Up!)
Lucy Maeve Turton (Activate)
Claudia Gallois (Activate)
Lia Vassiliadis (Left Focus)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)
Nick Reich (Left Focus)
Mairie Sullivan (Left Focus)
Arun Bharatula
Anna Morrison (Cheaper Textbooks)
Jesse Paris-Jourdan (Independent Media)
Claire Miller (Independent Media)

Trung Le (Independent Media)
Jack Musgrave (Independent Media)
Monique O'Rafferty (Independent Media)
Peter Tzimos (Independent Media)
Jamiel Sabbagh (Halal Snack Pack)
Tamara Hunt (More!)
Katherine Nikolaou (More!)
Matthew Lagamba (More!)
Gavin Wayne Sittampalam (More!)
Rachael Davies (More!)
Vinu Gunetilleke (More!)
Louis Devine (More!)
Madison Mooney (More!)
Isabelle Knight (More!)
Kasey Lancaster (More!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Daniel Dawood (Create)
Megan Liew (Create)
Alex Dalla-Riva (Create)
Christopher Kounelis (Create)
Marcus Sultani (More Beer)
Akira Boardman (Smore!)
Alastair Gustav James (Students against Hanson)

Queer Representative on Students' Council

Jordan Peters (Stand Up!)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)
Daniel Beratis (More!)
Yi Ding

Indigenous Representative on Students' Council

Cameron McBroom (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

International Representative on Students' Council

Alex Su (Create)
Tiffany Chui (More!)
Danmei Ren (Stand Up!)

Graduate Representative on Students' Council

Virginia Holdenson (Create)
Arun Bharatula
Salimeh Javadian (Stand Up!)
Jacob Rodrigo (More!)

Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council

Arun Bharatula
Dannielle Thorman (Stand Up!)
Michael Bhatti (More!)

Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council

Kim Duong (More!)
Darren Wong (Stand Up!)

**University of Melbourne Council
(nominations still subject to confirmation
of eligibility)**

Xavier Boffa (Create)
Yi Ding
Tyson Holloway-Clarke (The Biggest Blackest
Ticket)
Arun Bharatula

MU Student Union Ltd Board

Yi Ding
Caleb Triscari (More!)
Arun Bharatula
Louka Ewington-Pitsos (Hard Memes)
Callum O'Dowd (Create)

Activities Committee

Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)
Michael Kerrison (Whigs)
Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)
Arun Bharatula
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Matthew Schaffner
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Sherry Zhang (Stand Up!)
Declan McGonigle (Stand Up!)
Mukhtar Nazari (Stand Up!)
Louka Ewington-Pitsos (Hard Memes)
Lachlan Paterson (More Beer)
Jacob Sacher (More!)
Daniel Sango (More!)
Abella Man (More!)
Lucinda Hayes (More!)
David Lynch (More!)
Alex Dalla-Riva (Create)
Matthew Sultani (Create)
Julian Mathai (Create)
Tristan Layton (Create)

Creative Arts Committee

Michael Sabljak (Liberal)
Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)
Michael Kerrison (Whigs)
Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Thariq Willoughby (Hard Memes)
Tom Crowley (More!)
Isabelle Knight (More!)
Corey Mathrick (Create)
Kasra Reja (Create)
Karla Livingstone-Pardu (Stand Up!)
Jordan Peters (Stand Up!)
Claire Miller (Stand Up!)

Disabilities Committee

Russell Wong (Activate)
Christian Tsoutsouvas (Activate)
Lee Winter (More!)
James Sutherland (Create)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Dannielle Thorman (Stand Up!)
Jacinta Dowe (Stand Up!)
James Bashford (Stand Up!)
Arun Bharatula

Education Committee

Akira Boardman (Smore!)
Thariq Willoughby (Hard Memes)
Melinda Suter (Stand Up!)
Conor Clements (Stand Up!)
Mukhtar Nazari (Stand Up!)
James Bashford (Stand Up!)
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)
Jacinta Dowe (Stand Up!)
Robin Wang (More Pokémon Go on Campus!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)
Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Michael Kerrison (Whigs)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)
Lia Vassiliadis (Left Focus)
Jeremy Gibson (Left Focus)
Audrey Whybrow (Left Focus)
Arun Bharatula
Liam Gallagher (Create)
Levi West (Create)
Matthew Carlei (Create)
James Sutherland (Create)
Andrew Masanauskas (Create)
Kasey Lancaster (More!)
Alexander Goulsbra (More!)
Jana Chalhoub (More!)
Michael Manoussakis (More!)
Katherine Polazzon (More!)
Michael Sabljak (Liberal)

Environment Committee

Louka Ewington-Pitsos (Hard Memes)
Lara Wiesel (Activate)
Aoife Nicklason (Activate)
Jamiel Sabbagh (Halal Snack Pack)
Ky My Du (Stand Up!)
Lucy Maeve Turton (Stand Up!)
Areti (Ari) Sikavitsas (Stand Up!)
Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)
Michael Kerrison (Whigs)
Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)

Sofie Onorato (Whigs)
Tristan Layton (Create)
Andrew Masanauskas (Create)
Matthew Carlei (Create)
Levi West (Create)
Lachlan Blain (More!)
Michael Manoussakis (More!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Arun Bharatula

Indigenous Committee

Serena Thompson (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Paul Payne (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Alara May Hood (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Jenna Kramme (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Shanysa McConville (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)

ALL PROVISIONALLY ELECTED

UNOPPOSED

People of Colour Committee

Desiree Cai (Stand Up!)
Darren Wong (Stand Up!)
Kareena Dhaliwal (Stand Up!)
Nishka Pinto (More!)
Bill (Yao) Cai (More!)
Ayaan Qani (More!)
Michael Xing (More!)
Angela Keyte (More!)
Joshua Rose (More!)
Arun Bharatula

Queer Committee

Yi Ding
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)
Claire Miller (Stand Up!)
Arun Bharatula
Natasha Manawadu (Activate)
Lee Winter (More!)
Daniel Beratis (More!)
Ruby Komic (More!)

Welfare Committee

Louka Ewington-Pitsos (Hard Memes)
Arun Bharatula
Christopher Kounelis (Create)
Liam Gallagher (Create)
Julian Mathai (Create)
Matthew Sultani (Create)
Callum O'Dowd (Create)
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Alice Smith (Stand Up!)
Nguyen Hoa My (Stand Up!)
Stephanie Kee (Stand Up!)
Caitlin Verlinden (Stand Up!)
Jordan Peters (Stand Up!)
Nitin Aggarwal (Stand Up!)

Pauline Liu (Stand Up!)
Yifan Mu (Stand Up!)
Yi Ding
Akira Boardman (Smore!)
Nathan Bachetti (Liberal)
Michael Bhatti (More!)
Tamara Hunt (More!)
Meghan Shaw (More!)
Zachary Power (More!)
Priyanka Ajit (More!)
Emily Roberts (More!)
Michael Xing (More!)

Women's Committee

Kareena Dhaliwal (Stand Up!)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
Areti (Ari) Sikavitsas (Stand Up!)
Mariam Ghulam Abas (Stand Up!)
Nguyen Hoa My (Stand Up!)
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)
Megan Liew (Create)
Alexandra Murrell (Create)
Rachael Davies (More!)
Kim Duong (More!)
LeiLei Zhang (More!)
Katherine Polazzon (More!)
Yen Jing Ni (More!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)

Burnley General Committee

Thomas Douglas
Dan White
Leo Fincher
Daniel Brown
Jessica Peeler
Tom Simpson
Rian Silberstein
Seam Lam
Sally Petersen
Liv Risbey
Meg Taylor
Sarah Carles

Victorian College of the Arts General Committee

Chris King (More!)
Gabriella D'Costa (More!)
Evrin Sen (More!)
Stephanie Neoh Yong Shi (More!)
Carmen-Sibha Keiso (More!)
Ebony Howald (More!)
ALL PROVISIONALLY ELECTED
UNOPPOSED

National Union of Students Delegates

Callum O'Dowd (Create)
Daniel Dawood (Create)
Toby Wooldridge (Create)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
David Vadori (More!)

Yan Zhuang (More!)
Zachary Power (More!)
Sinead Manning (More!)
Harry Adam (More!)
Daniel Lopez (More!)
Akira Boardman (Smore!)
Dominic Cernaz (Activate)
Anna Morrison (Cheaper Textbooks)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)
Lia Vassiliadis (Left Focus)
Monica Leng (Left Focus)
Jeremy Gibson (Left Focus)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
Frances Lewis (Stand Up!)
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)
Danmei Ren (Stand Up!)
Millie Austin-Andrews (Stand Up!)
Thariq Willoughby (Hard Memes)
Jamiel Sabbagh (Halal Snack Pack)
Arun Bharatula

Charles Richardson
Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd
Returning Officer

16 August 2016

Robin Wang (More Pokémon Go on Campus!)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)
Brendan Tam (Whigs)
Eli Winters (Whigs)
Lee Ellison (Whigs)
Sofie Onorato (Whigs)

2016 President (By-Election)

Tyson Holloway-Clarke (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Arun Bharatula

2016 Indigenous Officer (By-election)

Wunambi Connor (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
PROVISIONALLY ELECTED UNOPPOSED

2016 Indigenous Committee (By-election)

NO NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

Turnout

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ANNUAL STUDENT ELECTION, 5-9 SEPTEMBER 2016

TURNOUT

	Monday 5 September	Tuesday 6 September	Wednesday 7 September	Thursday 8 September	Friday 9 September	Total for week
Baillieu Library	332	405	288	298	316	1,639
Union House	252	253	228	240	384	1,357
FBE	78	97	67	63	92	397
VCA		37	34	52		123
Burnley		16	8			24
Postals					6	6
Total	662	808	625	653	798	3,546
2015	550	656	533	499	645	2,883

Results

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ANNUAL STUDENT ELECTION 5 – 9 SEPTEMBER 2016

FULL PROVISIONAL DECLARATION OF RESULTS

All counting has now been completed. The following are provisionally declared elected:

President

Yan Zhuang (More!)

General Secretary

Yasmine Luu (More!)

Education Officer (Academic Affairs)

Caley McPherson & Roger Samuel (More!)

Education Officer (Public Affairs)

Daniel Lopez & Sinead Manning (More!)

Welfare Officer

Ryan Davey & Teresa Gornall (More!)

Women's Officer

Anjana Abeyratne & Hannah Billett (More!)

Creative Arts Officer

Harriet Wallace-Mead & Sara Pascoe
(Activate)

Activities Officer

Jacinta Cooper & Lydia Paevere (More!)

Queer Officer

Blake Atmaja & Evelyn Lesh (Activate)

Environment Officer

Elizabeth Nicholson & Kate Denver-Stevenson
(Activate)

Media Officers

Alexandra Alvaro, Amie Green, James
Macaronas & Mary Ntalianis (Independent
Media) *[unopposed]*

Clubs & Societies Officer

Gulsara Kaplun & Kayley Cuzzubbo (More!)

Indigenous Officer

Marley Holloway-Clarke & Wunambi Connor
(The Biggest Blackest Ticket) *[unopposed]*

Disabilities Officer

Alston Chu & Cassandra Prigg (Activate)

People of Colour Officer

Ella Shi & Hanann Al Daqqa (More!)

Burnley Campus Coordinator

Jessica Peeler

Victorian College of the Arts Campus Co-ordinator

Nicholas Lam (More!) *[unopposed]*

Victorian College of the Arts Activities and Events Co-ordinator

Lachlan Pringle (More!) *[unopposed]*

Victorian College of the Arts Campaigns Co-ordinator

Clara Cruz Jose (More!) *[unopposed]*

Students' Council General Representatives (in order of election)

Tamara Hunt (More!)
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)
Lia Vassilidis (Left Focus)
Katherine Nikolaou (More!)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
Matthew Lagamba (More!)

Yifan Mu (Stand Up!)
Gavin Sittampalam (More!)
Rachel Davies (More!)
Vinu Gunetilleke (More!)
Louis Devine (More!)
Alice Smith (Stand up!)
Madison Mooney (More!)
Jesse Paris-Jourdan (Independent Media)
Lucy Turton (Activate)

Queer Representative on Students' Council
Daniel Beratis (More!)

Indigenous Representative on Students' Council
Cameron McBroom (The Biggest Blackest Ticket) *[unopposed]*

International Representative on Students' Council
Tiffany Chui (More!)

Graduate Representative on Students' Council
Jacob Rodrigo (More!)

Students with Disabilities Representative on Students' Council
Michael Bhatti (More!)

Students of Colour Representative on Students' Council
Kim Duong (More!)

University of Melbourne Council
Tyson Holloway-Clarke (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)

MU Student Union Ltd Board (in order of election)
Caleb Triscari (More!)
Louka Ewington-Pitsos (Hard Memes)

Activities Committee (in order of election)
Jacob Sacher (More!)
Sherry Zhang (Stand Up!)
Daniel Sango (More!)
Declan McGonigle (Stand Up!)
Abella Man (More!)
Lucinda Hayes (More!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)

Creative Arts Committee (in order of election)
Tom Crowley (More!)
Karla Livingstone-Pardu (Stand Up!)
Isabelle Knight (More!)

Jordan Peters (Stand Up!)
Claire Miller (Stand Up!)
Samuel James Perkins (Whigs)
Grace Middleton (Whigs)

Disabilities Committee
Russell Wong (Activate)
Christian Tsoutsouvas (Activate)
Lee Winter (More!)
Ezgi Bridger (Universal)
Dannielle Thorman (Stand Up!)
Jacinta Dowe (Stand Up!)
James Bashford (Stand Up!)
[all unopposed]

Education Committee (in order of election)
Kasey Lancaster (More!)
Melinda Suter (Stand Up!)
Alexander Goulsbra (More!)
Conor Clements (Stand Up!)
Jana Chalhoub (More!)
Katherine Polazzon (More!)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)

Environment Committee (in order of election)
Lachlan Blain (More!)
Ky My Du (Stand Up!)
Michael Manoussakis (More!)
Lucy Turton (Stand Up!)
Lara Wiesel (Activate)
Aoife Nicklason (Activate)
Ari Sikavitsas (Stand Up!)

Indigenous Committee
Serena Thompson (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Paul Payne (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Alara May Hood (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Jenna Kramme (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
Shanysa McConville (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)
[all unopposed]

People of Colour Committee (in order of election)
Nishka Pinto (More!)
Desiree Cai (Stand Up!)
Bill (Yao) Cai (More!)
Darren Wong (Stand Up!)
Ayaan Qani (More!)
Kareena Dhaliwal (Stand Up!)
Michael Xing (More!)

Queer Committee
Yi Ding
Jesse Krause (Stand Up!)

Claire Miller (Stand Up!)
Natasha Manawadu (Activate)
Lee Winter (More!)
Daniel Beratis (More!)
Ruby Komic (More!)
[all unopposed]

Welfare Committee (in order of election)

Michael Bhatti (More!)
Alice Smith (Stand Up!)
Tamara Hunt (More!)
Nguyen Hoa My (Stand Up!)
Meghan Shaw (More!)
Zachary Power (More!)
Stephanie Kee (Stand Up!)

Women's Committee (in order of election)

Rachael Davies (More!)
Kareena Dhaliwal (Stand Up!)
Kim Duong (More!)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
LeiLei Zhang (More!)
Ari Sikavitsas (Stand Up!)
Katherine Polazzon (More!)

Burnley General Committee (in order of election)

Sarah Carles
Tom Simpson
Daniel Brown
Seam Lam

No nominations were received for the following positions:

Indigenous Committee By-Election

Recounts and Appeals

Any requests for recounts must be made within three working days of this notice, that is, by close of business on Tuesday 20 September. Requests must be in writing and should be made to the Returning Officer c/o Union House, or by email to ReturningOfficer@union.unimelb.edu.au.

Appeals against the election results must be made within three working days of this notice, or, if a recount is conducted, within three working days of the recount. Appeals must be in writing and addressed to the Electoral Tribunal. Any appeals lodged with the Returning Officer will be forwarded to the Tribunal.

Details of the count are available on request from the Returning Officer, and will be published in the Returning Officer's Report. The Electoral Tribunal will declare the final result of the election after receiving the Returning Officer's Report and resolving any appeals.

15 September 2016

Dan White
Meg Taylor
Sally Petersen

Victorian College of the Arts General Committee

Chris King (More!)
Gabriella D'Costa (More!)
Evrin Sen (More!)
Stephanie Neoh Yong Shi (More!)
Carmen-Sibha Keiso (More!)
Ebony Howald (More!)
[all unopposed]

National Union of Students Delegates (in order of election)

David Vadori (More!)
Molly Willmott (Stand Up!)
Yan Zhaung (More!)
Zachary Power (More!)
Sinead Manning (More!)
Frances Lewis (Stand Up!)
Jade Eckhaus (Left Focus)

2016 President (By-Election)

Tyson Holloway-Clarke (The Biggest Blackest Ticket)

2016 Indigenous Officer (By-election)

Wunambi Connor (The Biggest Blackest Ticket) *[unopposed]*

Charles Richardson
Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd
Returning Officer

Complaints

Complainant	Date	Summary	Response
James Bashford	11-Aug	That he had received an unsolicited email that he believed amounted to intimidation	Investigation failed to establish a connection with the election.
Akira Boardman	15-Aug	That the More! ticket name should not be registered.	See Ruling (1).
Akira Boardman	15-Aug	That a More! candidate had used his office-bearer's report in <i>Farrago</i> for election purposes.	The candidate was warned.
James Bashford	19-Aug	That a More! candidate had obtained unauthorised access to his design software.	Investigation resolved the issue to the satisfaction of both parties.
Sarah Xia	25-Aug	That claims about the Welfare department in More! campaign material were misleading.	The ticket concerned agreed to make changes in the material.
Adriana Mells, Akira Boardman	29-Aug	That another office-bearer's report in <i>Farrago</i> amounted to electioneering.	The Returning Officer disagreed.
Adriana Mells	29-Aug	That a movie night with free pizza amounted to an inducement to vote.	The Returning Officer had discussions with the ticket concerned and provisionally approved the function (see below).
Stephen Smith	29-Aug	That a Stand Up! candidate had used an impermissible shade of purple for his Facebook profile.	The Returning Officer had no problem with the color.
Adriana Mells	30-Aug	That the movie/pizza night referred to earlier included improper electioneering.	See Ruling (2).
James Bashford	5-Sep	That a More! campaigner was campaigning inside Union House.	Polls were not yet open, so no rule was breached.
Tom Crowley	5-Sep	That Stand Up! campaigners were making defamatory comments about a More! candidate.	Investigation led to both tickets concerned being warned not to discuss certain topics.
Tom Crowley	5-Sep	That a Stand Up! campaigner was too close to the Baillieu polling place.	The ticket concerned was warned.
James Bashford	5-Sep	That a Create campaigner was too close to the Baillieu polling place.	The ticket concerned was warned.
Grace Middleton	5-Sep	That Create election material was deceptive because it infringed her intellectual property.	The Returning Officer found the material did not breach the Regulations.

Tom Crowley	5-Sep	That Left Focus campaigners were harassing a More! candidate and smoking in South Court.	The ticket concerned was warned.
James Bashford	5-Sep	That a More! leaflet contained misleading claims about UMSU achievements.	Investigation of the points concerned was inconclusive.
Molly Willmott	5-Sep	That two More! campaigners had engaged in unduly aggressive campaigning.	Investigation left the Returning Officer unclear about the sequence of events, but the ticket concerned was warned.
Sarah Xia	5-Sep	That More! campaigners had made misleading statements on international student issues.	The ticket concerned was warned.
Martin Dittmann	5-Sep	That a Stand Up! poster at VCA was misleading.	The ticket concerned agreed to revise the poster for the future.
James Bashford	6-Sep	That More! campaigners had made misleading statements concerning a former UMSU president.	The Returning Officer clarified with the ticket concerned what was permissible.
James Bashford	6-Sep	That Create campaigners had made defamatory statements about a Stand Up! campaigner.	Investigation failed to substantiate the complaint, but the ticket was warned.
Tom Crowley	6-Sep	That a non-student had posted material in support of Stand Up! on Facebook.	The ticket concerned was warned.
James Bashford	6-Sep	That More! campaigners were continuing to make misleading statements on international student issues.	The ticket concerned was given a final warning.
James Bashford	6-Sep	That a More! campaigner was too close to the Baillieu polling place.	The Returning Officer did not regard the breach as material.
Martin Dittmann	7-Sep	That Stand Up! and Left Focus campaigners had made misleading statements about Halal sausages.	Investigation of the point was inconclusive.
James Bashford	7-Sep	That More! had chalked on a vertical surface at VCA.	The ticket concerned was made to wash it off.
Millie Austin-Andrews	7-Sep	That Create campaigners were too close to the Baillieu polling place.	The ticket concerned was warned again.
Martin Dittmann	7-Sep	That he was being harassed by a Stand Up! campaigner.	The ticket concerned was warned.
Akira Boardman	7-Sep	That a More! campaigner had made misleading statements about the relationship between Stand Up! and Socialist Alternative.	The Returning Officer clarified with the ticket concerned what was permissible.
Andrew O'Shea	7-Sep	That a More! campaigner was too close to the Baillieu polling place.	The Returning Officer did not regard the breach as material.
Itsi Weinstock	7-Sep	That a leaflet attacking More! made a number of misleading claims.	The person who had the leaflet authorised assured the Returning Officer that it would not be

			distributed.
James Bashford	7-Sep	That a More! campaigner was walking through Union House.	Investigation revealed there were extenuating circumstances, but the campaigner was warned.
Stephen Smith	8-Sep	That a Stand Up! leaflet made misleading claims about the Disabilities department.	The Returning Officer disagreed.
James Bashford	8-Sep	That a More! candidate had made misleading claims in a private message.	The candidate concerned was asked to make a correction on one point.
James Bashford	8-Sep	That a More! candidate was using UMSU resources illicitly.	The Returning Officer found the conduct did not breach the Regulations.
James Bashford	8-Sep	That a More! campaigner was in Union House after the polls opened.	The Returning Officer did not regard the breach as material.
Tom Crowley	8-Sep	That a Stand Up! campaigner had harassed a More! campaigner.	Investigation failed to substantiate the complaint.
Sarah Xia	9-Sep	That a More! campaigner had made misleading claims in Chinese.	Investigation suggested that the problem was a linguistic misunderstanding, but the ticket was warned.
Zachary Power	9-Sep	That a Stand Up! campaigner was too close to the Union polling place.	The Returning Officer did not regard the breach as material.
James Bashford	9-Sep	That More! campaigners had made misleading claims about the status of one of their candidates.	The ticket, which denied the allegation, was warned.
Akira Boardman	9-Sep	That she was being harassed by a Create campaigner.	The campaigner desisted from the conduct.
Anneke Demanuele	9-Sep	That Whig campaigners were offering wine & cheese as an inducement to vote.	The Returning Officer clarified with the ticket concerned what was permissible.
Itsi Weinstock	9-Sep	That an Independent Media campaigner was falsely claiming to be a goblin.	The Returning Officer declined to take action.
Mary Ntalianis	9-Sep	That a More! campaigner was falsely claiming to be a human being.	The Returning Officer declined to take action.
Markus Otting	9-Sep	That Left Focus had sent an unsolicited email.	It was unclear whether any regulation had been breached.

Ruling (1) of the Returning Officer

In response to a complaint received on Monday 15 August 2016 from Akira Boardman (“the Complainant”) against the “More!” ticket (“the Respondent”), the Returning Officer rules as follows:

1. Regulation 21.7.1 provides that “Where a ticket name is proposed that is identical to or so similar to another proposed ticket name or names, as potentially to cause confusion amongst voters,” only the first such name to be registered will be approved, and any others will be offered the opportunity to choose a different name.
2. The Complainant argues that her ticket, “Smore!”, having been registered first, the Respondent should be required to choose a different name.
3. Clearly, potentiality to cause voter confusion is a matter of degree: virtually any similarity at all could conceivably confuse the mind of some voter. The test must be whether voter confusion is reasonably likely in the circumstances.
4. The Returning Officer believes that in applying that test, the context of the election as a whole should be considered, including in this case the fact that one of the two tickets has a large number of candidates and is contesting most positions, while the other has only one candidate contesting only four positions.
5. It is also relevant that no objection has been taken in the past to multiple tickets containing the word “more”. Last year, for example, saw both “More Activities!” and “More Beer!”; this year, in addition to the two tickets under consideration, both “More Beer” and “More Pokémon Go on Campus” have been registered. A further comparison would be with 2008, when the ticket names “No 2am Lockout!” and “Stop 2am Lockout, Stop Alcopops Tax” were held to be sufficiently distinct, even though both were feeder tickets.
6. While in many cases a difference of only one letter in ticket names would of course be confusing, that is less likely to be the case when the initial letter is concerned: compare “Art” and “Bart”, for example. The Returning Officer believes that an educated electorate must be presumed to be able to see the difference in such cases.
7. The complaint is therefore dismissed. However, both the Complainant’s ticket and the Respondent are warned against any deliberate copying of the style of the other in campaign material or any other behavior likely to induce voter confusion.

Charles Richardson
Returning Officer
16.8.16

Ruling (2) of the Returning Officer

In relation to a complaint made by Adriana Mells (“the complainant”) against the More! ticket (“the respondent”), the Returning Officer rules as follows:

1. The complainant alleges that a movie night held at the Student Village on Monday 29 August, at which two of the respondent’s candidates spoke and free pizza was served, amounted to an inducement contrary to Regulation 44.4, and that the behavior of the said candidates amounted to dishonest conduct in breach of various other Regulations.
2. Prior to the event, a representative of the respondent discussed it at some length with the Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer, and gave undertakings that the event would not be branded as a ticket event and that the respondent would not be associated with the provision of the pizza. On that basis the Returning Officer cautiously agreed that the event could go ahead.
3. The Returning Officer does not believe that the respondent set out deliberately to breach those undertakings, but he nonetheless feels that in the circumstances the rule against inducements was not adequately observed.
4. It is important to realise that, apart from events sponsored by UMSU (or of course by the Returning Officer), there is no obligation on the organisers of campus events to be politically neutral. The fact that the respondent was given preferential treatment at the event is not of itself a problem; the problem arose from the fact that the respondent was associated with the provision of free food in a way that could be interpreted as an inducement.
5. The fact that the event was a week before the start of the election reduces the seriousness of the breach, as does the fact that the complainant was given an opportunity to speak, albeit in circumstances that would have put her and her ticket at a disadvantage.
6. Nonetheless, inducement is a sufficiently serious matter that the Returning Officer feels it is appropriate to impose a penalty. Martin Ditmann and Nicholas Lam are therefore banned from campaigning for the first two hours of polling on Tuesday, 6 September.

Charles Richardson
Returning Officer
4.9.16

SELECTED RULINGS FROM PRIOR YEARS

Please note that we regard the following as standing rulings.

The previous rulings on the internet and social media have now been superseded by the new Regulations 28.9-28.12, which substantially codify the old rulings.

UMSU OFFICE SPACE – Ruling (4) of 2007:

The display of any campaign material for the current UMSU elections within the UMSU office-bearers space, including but not limited to the wearing of campaign T-shirts or badges by persons working in or frequenting that space (whether office-bearers or not, and whether on leave or not), is hereby prohibited, from today until the close of polling.

CAMERAS – Ruling (10) of 2007 (part):

- (a) In the light of their extremely widespread use, and their usefulness in substantiating certain claims, it would be unreasonable to ban the use of cameras entirely.
- (b) However, the Returning Officer is concerned at the potential that the use of cameras poses for harassment and intimidation, and calls for restraint in their use. All campaigners are urged to respect the privacy and personal space of others, and are directed not to take photographs in circumstances where that could reasonably be regarded as harassment in breach of Regulation 44.5.26 or in breach of Union or University rules and procedures relating to harassment.

POSTERS ON BOLLARDS – Ruling (3) of 2008:

1. Tickets have previously been advised to share poster space on bollards and not to cover the posters of other tickets when there was free space available, nor to blanket bollards with their own posters leaving little or no free space.
2. Unfortunately this advice has not been consistently followed, leading to unnecessary waste of resources and tension between campaigners. This is of particular concern given the evident policy concern of the Regulations to conserve paper.
3. Therefore, effective immediately and for the remainder of the campaign, a limit of six (6) A3-size posters (or 12 A4-size) per ticket on any one bollard at any time is hereby imposed, by virtue of the Returning Officer's power under Reg. 27.6 to control space allocation.
4. Campaigners are also reminded that pulling down posters belonging to another ticket is prohibited conduct under Reg. 44.5.12, regardless of whether or not they are within the scope of this Ruling, and that the proper remedy for any alleged breach of this or any other Ruling or Regulation is to make a report to the Returning Officer.

CAMPAIGN VIDEOS – Ruling (4) of 2009:

In response to questions that have been raised, the Returning Officer rules that the following guidelines should apply to the production of campaign videos:

1. The script needs to be authorised, and a printed copy must be placed in the authorised material file before the video is released.
2. The Returning Officer needs to be notified as to what format the video will be distributed in, and links or physical copies lodged as appropriate.
3. The closing credits need to include the words “published by [name & student # of someone who takes responsibility for it]” and “authorised by the Returning Officer”.
4. Anyone who appears on the video other than as incidental scenery needs to be an eligible campaigner – ie a Melbourne University student and not an office-bearer who has not taken leave – and needs to have given their consent to appear.
5. All videos must otherwise comply with all relevant regulations, such as not being misleading, defamatory, sexist, etc.
6. These guidelines are based on the assumption that videos will be quite short – a maximum of two or three minutes – and will be reviewed if requests are made for longer videos.

PHOTOS AND LOGOS – Ruling (3) of 2011 [Revised]:

Identifying photos of candidates or other students may only be used in election material if they have already been placed in the public domain by the student concerned or if the written

consent of the student has been obtained. This consent must be provided to the Returning Officer on request.

Logos from another group or organisation may not be used without the written consent of that organisation. This consent must be provided to the Returning Officer on request.

WOODEN SIGNS – Ruling (5) of 2012

In response to an enquiry about wooden signs, the Returning Officer rules as follows:

1. Although wooden signs are not listed among the permitted items of election material in Regulation 27.1, the Returning Officer has the power under Reg. 27.1.7 to permit “other types of material” unless they are specifically prohibited by the Regulations. Reg. 27.3.1 specifically prohibits “publicity reproduced on paper larger than A3 size”.
2. The Returning Officer believes that it would be contrary to the spirit of the Regulations to permit posters of any description larger than A3 size, even if they are made of some material other than paper.
3. Exceptions may be made, as they have in the past, for material that is directly associated with campaigners, rather than put in position and then left, as with a poster. For example, a banner hung from the front of a table at which campaigners are based may be authorised, even though it is larger than A3 size; a banner hung from a building would not be.
4. The same test would apply to wooden constructions. A sandwich-board worn by a campaigner, or placed beside a table or other location where campaigners were operating, may be authorised, provided it was not obstructing traffic. A free-standing unaccompanied wooden structure would not be.
5. In each such case, authorisation needs to be applied for and the material needs to carry the appropriate authorisation line.

TWITTER, etc. – Ruling (3) of 2014

1. Sina Weibo is a Chinese microblogging site, sharing some features of both Facebook and Twitter. Its use for election material has been allowed in the past, subject to proper authorisation.
2. Ruling (3) of 2009, reissued in subsequent years, among other things banned the use of Twitter for election material. When that ruling was codified this year in the Electoral Regulations that specific ban did not appear, but the new Regulation 28.12 provides that “The Returning Officer may ban the use of specific online sites or social media services for election material.” The Returning Officer and candidates had proceeded on the assumption that Twitter remained banned for this election.
3. Although Sina Weibo is not entirely like Twitter, it is sufficiently similar to raise much the same concerns, notably the limitation of posts to 140 characters and the fact that a person’s posts are typically visible to all of their followers.
4. Accordingly, the use of microblogging platforms, including Twitter, Sina Weibo and similar sites, for election material is prohibited.

16 August 2016

Charles Richardson
Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd
Returning Officer

Declaration

I hereby declare that the 2016 University of Melbourne Annual Student Election was conducted and administered with impartiality by myself and the directors and staff of Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd.

Charles Richardson
Returning Officer
5 October 2016.

Appendix: Full Details of Counting