

University of Melbourne Student Union  
Annual Elections, 2024  
C&S Council Elections, 2024

2-6 September 2024

## Report of the Returning Officer



Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd  
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## Summary

Above Quota Elections (AQE) were engaged to run the University of Melbourne Student Union (UMSU)'s 2024 annual elections on March 19, 2024.

The annual elections are held in the first full academic week of September, which this year was the 2nd–6th September.

This year's elections were more hotly-contested than last year's, with a total of 465 nominations accepted, as well as nine ticket registrations (although two of those did not run any candidates). Nominations and ticket registrations were taken online, and our nomination portal allowed all forms, policy statements and photos to be submitted online (although PDF forms were provided as an alternative). We again ran a ticket portal, allowing ticket authorising officers to see the candidates running on their ticket in real time.

This was also the year of election of a student representative to University Council (elected every two years), a task which the University Secretary delegates to the UMSU returning officer to be held alongside the UMSU elections.

Polling during the week was run through the BigPulse electronic voting platform. Six polling help points were run during the week, at Parkville, Southbank and Burnley. Each had a tablet for voting should students find this easier than in their phone and a helpful staff member. These received marginally more inquiries than they did last year, and a noticeable increase in requests for "I've voted" badges.

The Media Officers once again produced the Farrago election guide, which was made available online. While the Media Department opted not to do a print-run, we made a printed and QR-code version available at every help point. Supplementing this, we also uploaded all candidate statements and photos so they could be viewed on the electronic ballot page.

Logistically the week ran smoothly, with all help points running to time and the electronic ballot taking a total of 7,320 votes — the highest number of votes in over 15 years. Unfortunately, the campaigning was less smooth: campaigning to students while those students are voting, and thereby violating the secrecy of the ballot, attracted by far the lion's share of sanctions during the week. Addressing this is a matter of some priority, which we return to later in this report.

Preliminary scrutiny was done at around 6:15 pm on Friday, after we had closed all the polling stations and dealt with administrative and logistical matters. After carefully checking the countsheets, and applying affirmative action where needed, the full provisional declaration was made on Tuesday September 10.

## Staffing

The Returning Officer for this year's election was Stephen Luntz, with Patrick Clearwater and Jaimie Adam appointed as Deputy Returning Officers.

Polling clerks were allocated from AQE's pool of experienced electoral staff. It is AQE policy for our staff working on university campuses to hold current Working With Children Checks.

UMSU's Electoral Tribunal was constituted by Michael Gronow KC, Peter Lithgow and Sarah Morgan.

In addition to the staff at the designated polling stations, five "undercover agents" were employed to spend time on campus listening to candidates campaign and watching for misbehaviour. AQE has employed staff for this purpose in the past, but only when the volume of complaints has passed a threshold, usually around the Thursday of election week. This year several indicators pointed to higher than usual levels of trouble, and so we started the process from the Monday. The staff chosen were former or current students at another university, with no connection to any of the tickets at Melbourne, nor any cross-campus factional affiliations..

Part of the point of these undercover agents is deterrence, so we made campaigns aware that this would be happening. It is impossible to determine how effective this was from the deterrence perspective. However, the agents did catch several breaches, some of them quite severe. Although in most cases we were not able to identify the individual involved, a report of misbehaviour by a person from a particular team was considered grounds for the imposition of a penalty on that team. It is AQE's perception that this approach was somewhat effective in deterring tickets from further breaches. We particularly appreciated the report by an agent of a form of breach we had not been on the lookout for, allowing us to adjust our searches.

Nevertheless, there is a tension in finding the best staff for this role. Those with a background in student politics are most likely to know what to look out for, but also run the risk of bias. Our perception is that only some of those employed understood the task well enough to provide value.

## Election process

There have not been substantial changes to the Regulations or election processes since last year. The only change of any significance was the requirement for campaigners to show some form of student ID so their eligibility could be confirmed. This worked well during the week because the Information Desk acquired and distributed a large number of lanyards. It did, however, cause some minor trouble prior to voting opening, with students wearing T-shirts and hoodies associated with campaigns prior to the election but not showing ID.

## Timetable

The timetable was:

- Monday 22nd July: formal notice of election, opening of nominations, and opening of ticket registrations
- 6pm, July 31: prospective candidates' information session (held in person with online option);
- 12 noon, Friday 9th August: deadline for nominations, deadline for ticket registrations
- 11.59pm, Monday 12th August: common deadline for other forms (declarations of eligibility, ticket order of candidates, candidate photographs)
- 3pm, Monday 12th August: draw for order of candidates and tickets (Returning Officer's Office)
- 5.30pm, Tuesday 27th August: information session and briefing for candidates and tickets, William MacMahon Ball Theatre, Old Arts Building
- Monday 2nd–Friday 6th September: polling week
- Tuesday 10th September: provisional declaration of results
- Monday 14th October: Clubs & Societies (C&S) Council, including C&S Committee election

## Nominations

Nominations opened on Monday 22nd July at midday, along with the opening of ticket registrations. Apparently there was some anxiety from tickets about claiming their desired names, as two tickets' registrations were received within minutes of opening (one online and one through an emailed hard copy form). Two more were received by the end of the day.

This urgency with tickets was not reflected in the nominations themselves, with the vast majority not arriving until the last week. Consequently, there was little opportunity to address the small number of nominations over which there were question marks - at least two nominations (from one individual) had to be rejected for reasons that could have been addressed if they had been made earlier, giving us a chance to make the potential candidate aware of the issues.

A total of 470 nominations were received by the deadline. Of these, 434 were accepted immediately while 36 were reserved for further checks. Five nominations (from four candidates) were rejected. Ten candidates were declared elected unopposed initially, and this increased to 17 when one candidate withdrew from Southbank Campus Committee. Fifteen candidates withdrew before voting started, leaving 433 involved in contests.

This represents a near doubling of the number of nominations compared to 2023. It is also an increase on any previous year since UMSU's founding. The previous highest total nominations apparently being 450 in 2021. Previous increases in nominations have often been associated with the creation of new committees, but that was not the case this year. Instead it reflected additional tickets that ran candidates for most positions.

The innovations created last year in providing candidates and tickets with password protected links they could use to check the status of their nominations, and the forms still outstanding, were offered again. More tickets chose to make use of online ticket registration this year, but the majority still opted to use the paper option. It appears appropriate to continue to offer both for the immediate future.

A briefing session for prospective candidates was held on July 31, a week and a half before the close of nominations. Unlike last year, UMSU did not opt to provide an accompanying session to discuss the roles and responsibilities should people be elected. However, the Student Representation Coordinator attended the briefing in case attendees had any questions relating to these roles, but none were raised. The session attracted around 20 students, some of whom asked several questions each, and appeared to appreciate the opportunity. However, some of the larger tickets were not represented, and may have benefited from attending.

The Media Office is responsible under the Electoral Regulations for producing the election guide issue of Farrago. We supplied them with the candidate statements and the submitted photos for this purpose. As was done last year, the Election Guide was produced as a separate publication rather than included in the relevant issue of Farrago. It was not produced as a printed publication but rather made available on the Farrago website. We printed a small number of copies to have on hand at the polling help points. Although usage of these was small, it appears to have been sufficient to justify the effort.

The BigPulse voting platform allows the uploading of candidate statements and photographs. Although it is not specified in the regulations that this should occur, there is also nothing preventing it. As a test, we added all statements and photographs supplied by the deadline (and not exceeding the word threshold), providing voters with the opportunity to click through to read/see these if they wished. Although we have no data on how many voters used this option, there is anecdotal evidence that this was appreciated by at least some students. We think provision of this information makes for a more informed choice, and acts as something of a counterweight to students potentially being harassed into voting with little awareness of the options. However, the process of uploading proved more time-consuming than anticipated, at a point where there were many other demands on the Returning Officer and Deputy's time.

As has been AQE's past practice, we ran a Candidates' and Campaigners' Information Session in the week before voting where we asked representatives from each ticket and independent candidate to attend.

This is intended to allow us to meet key figures from the campaign and impress upon them the importance of following the rules on campaigning in the Electoral Regulations. It also provided the opportunity to highlight the most common issues that get candidates into trouble. and explain how we reach decisions on allocating penalties when this is necessary.

These events were once well attended, but attendance has been dropping for many years. Some years ago we achieved a temporary boost by moving the meeting from an on-campus location to a nearby pub, but by 2023 the turnout was again very disappointing. We moved the meeting back to a lecture theatre, and provided snacks as an incentive to attend, but also emphasised the importance of tickets having representatives present in our email to them. We noted that failure to attend by a ticket would be taken as an indication they considered themselves to have a full knowledge of the regulations, and that therefore less slack would be given to rule breaches that might be made out of ignorance. This appeared to be effective, as the turnout increased dramatically to around 40 students, including representatives of all major tickets. It appears the messages conveyed in the meeting had some effect, with candidates referring to things said at the meeting during the week. It was also noticeable that there appeared to be less grumbling from tickets when penalties were applied to them during the week, apparently at least in part because of the explanations given at the meeting. There was, however, no decrease in the dissatisfaction from representatives of tickets when other tickets were not penalised as harshly as they thought appropriate.

## **Polling**

Links to the ballot were sent out at 10am on Monday September 2nd, and voting closed at 5pm on Friday, September 6. Based both on early voting numbers and feedback from campaigners it seems the emails went out quickly, with few of the delays experienced in some previous elections.

Polling help desks were located at the locations specified in the regulations. Having received little interest at these locations, other than the Baillieu, last time, we stripped most locations back to the minimum specified in the regulations and extended hours at the Baillieu. The hours open are given in Table 1.

Table 1: Polling help point hours

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Building 168	10am–5pm	10am– 6.30pm	10am–5pm	10am–5pm	10am–5pm
Baillieu Library	11:30 am-4:30	11 am – 5:30 pm	11am -4:30pm	11am-4:30 pm	11am-4:30 pm
FBE Building			11am-2pm	11am-2pm	11am-2pm
Murrup Barak	11.30 am– 2.30pm	11.30am– 2.30pm			
Southbank – the Hub Library		11:30am-2:30pm	11:30am- 2:30pm	11:30am- 2:30pm	
Burnley – cafeteria	12-3pm	12-3pm			

There was a small increase in the number of inquiries at these desks, and a substantial increase in the number of students asking for the “I’ve voted” badges. Nevertheless, it remains questionable whether these desks represent good value for money compared to alternative approaches to assist voters.

One specific issue arose in relation to the Murrup Barak polling place. Since this was added to the regulations, we have always contacted staff at Murrup Barak in regard to the appropriate location, and always been told to put the voting booth or help desk in the student lounge. This was the initial response we received this year. However, after our staff member had set up, a different staff member told her that the lounge was restricted to Indigenous students only, and she should move to another room. Naturally she did so.

However, on the second day we received a complaint from one Indigenous Student that a non-Indigenous student from another ticket had received an invite to campaign in the lounge. The complainant considered this inappropriate.

There are difficult issues to navigate here. Murrup Barak is, and should be, an autonomous space. If a polling help desk is not welcome in part of it then AQE respects that. However, when staff members of Murrup Barak disagree on the suitability of a location it is unclear who we should be listening to. Even more tricky is the issue of a non-indigenous candidate being invited to enter the space to campaign. If some Indigenous students wish to invite others in, but others oppose the invite, as seems to be the case here, what is the decision making process to address this? Moreover, even if there is a clear body empowered to make this decision, is it appropriate for them to invite candidates from one team and reject others who may have only minority support within the Indigenous student body? We have tried to address this under Recommendation 2.

Voting was heavy from the start, with 2,390 votes cast on the first day. The final total of 7,320 is the record since the establishment of Umsu (the previous maximum being 5,587).



Inevitably, many of those participating did not cast a vote for every position. Unusually, the highest vote for a specific position was not for President (4,605), but Education (Public Affairs) Officer with 4,649.

Similarly, Education Committee (4,542) easily outdid Students Council General Representatives with 4,195. The latter numbers probably reflect the decision to group committees with their office bearers and place them ahead of Students Council in the menu. If so, it indicates that a lot hinges on the Returning Officer's decision as to order of ballot positions - far more than was the case when voting was on paper, and drop off as students went through the pack was smaller. Unfortunately, any ordering necessarily prioritises some positions over others, as well as needing to be designed for maximum ease of use.

Most positions available to all students had at least 3,300 votes cast, although Clubs and Societies Officer was lower at 2,817. Unsurprisingly, far fewer votes were cast for positions where voting was restricted, either by the roll (such as International or Graduate Representatives) or by self-declaration (women, disabilities etc).

There were reports that some candidates were encouraging students who did not fall into categories that require self-declaration (specifically queer) to vote on those anyway. The candidates in question claimed that one had made a joke and the other had immediately jumped in to emphasise that it was humour and should not be taken seriously. Irrespective of the truth of this, the numbers voting for these positions indicate there was no large-scale abuse of the capacity of students to declare themselves members of restricted constituencies and thereby vote.

## **Clubs & Societies Council**

As specified under the Constitution and Regulations. Clubs and Societies Committee was elected at 2nd Semester Clubs Council, which was held on October 14. In the past this election has been relatively uncontroversial, but this year prior to the election a report from the outgoing committee referred the overturning of one of their decisions by Students' Council.

Serious allegations were made about the background and basis for this overturning in the report. During candidate speeches one candidate spoke almost exclusively on this topic, using inflammatory language and coupling it with serious allegations against an individual not involved in the C&S election. During question time certain club representatives focussed their questions on the issue, using very leading terms. Most candidates gave measured responses, but one raised his previous allegations further, and then extended them to myself.

In the ordinary election if allegations like this were made, my practice would be to investigate the truth of them, and seek to prevent candidates from repeating them if they were false or misleading. However, at Clubs Council there is simply no time for this. As it was, we struggled to

have the vote occur before many representatives needed to leave. Although if employed in future AQE may bring an additional staff member to future Clubs Council meetings, we doubt that we would have had time to address an issue such as this properly even if more staff had been present. The primary subject of the allegations was not running in the election being held that day, so any damage his reputation might suffer could, hopefully, be addressed later if the claims were not true.

Consequently, I judged that it was best to allow the allegations to be made, but made a statement myself that I was not aware of the truth of them, and that voters should not assume they were true based on practice from the main election. I also chose not to respond to the defamatory allegations made against myself, since I judged that any damage I might suffer was small compared to the need to complete the process in time.

The results do not indicate the questioning had much influence on the election, at least in the way those raising it hoped. Candidates who gave cautious responses indicating they were not previously aware of the situation and preferred not to rush to judgement performed the best.

Nevertheless, these events highlight that this election runs very differently from the rest of the UMSU annual elections, and problems such as this could arise in future. Given the time constraints, solutions may be hard to find.

## **Complaints and issues**

Going into this election the greatest fear of the Returning Officer team was that passions aroused by the conflict in the Middle East would spill over into this election and lead to a spiral of escalating abuse. We worked very hard to prevent this. We received several complaints relating to the conflict: for example one candidate claimed another had accused them of supporting Hamas, while another complained of statements that attempted to associate them with some of the Israeli Government's actions, which they said they did not support.

However, the number of complaints that related, even indirectly, to this ended up being small. It is possible this is an indication the topic would never have become a major flashpoint, but we consider it more likely to reflect the efforts we put into discouraging such a spiral. Meanwhile we were confronted with evidence that one person was telling people not to vote for a particular ticket because of a prominent member's alleged position on another international geopolitical issue (a position the individual strongly denied holding).

Although we regard any misinformation about opposing candidates' views or record seriously, we consider issues like this to be on a different level. In circumstances where students have almost certainly had relatives die in these conflicts, the psychological pain and potential for escalation runs far beyond more local issues that are not matters of life and death. However, as with other topics, statements in relation to this are very hard to police unless statements are

made to one of undercover staff; campaigners almost always deny the allegations of having misrepresented others views..

Unfortunately, the other category of misbehaviour we feared was much more common. We received many photographs and videos that appeared to show breaches of the secrecy of the ballot, with candidates continuing to campaign to students while they were probably or definitely voting. In addition to the cases where the campaigner could well have seen how the student was voting, there were many more where the student may well have suspected this, and felt pressured. We received several complaints from students who alleged they had been coerced into voting in ways they did not wish to, and asking us to cancel their vote. Although such complaints amounted to substantially less than 1% of the votes cast, these represent the tip of an iceberg of unknown size.

Even more worrying were complaints alleging students had their phones “borrowed” while someone voted for them, or of returning to laptops to find votes had been cast.

We took considerable efforts to control this, banning many candidates from campaigning for periods of time that lengthened as the voting period went on. As evidence escalated, we banned some entire tickets from campaigning for periods of time in response to evidence their members were being particularly egregious in their breaches of ballot secrecy.

Although these penalties appear to have had a substantial deterrent effect for most tickets and most of the election by Friday it appeared this had worn off with at least one ticket. Although bans on the entire ticket appear to have been respected, as far as we can tell, evidence of blatant breaches of privacy appeared almost as soon as they were allowed to start campaigning again. We have discussed this further in Recommendation 1.

## Recommendations

### **(1) Restore the privacy of the ballot either through a return to paper voting, or by restricting voting to designated polling stations**

This was the fourth UMSU annual election to be held online (leaving aside the pseudo election during the changeover from MUSU to UMSU in 2004), however, it is only the second UMSU online election that AQE has run. After the 2023 election we recommended consideration be given to voting in person, but we did not recommend such a change necessarily occur. We did this because there are serious problems inherent in online voting for an election such as this, but we are also well aware of the benefits, particularly in terms of cost and increased participation.

Our hope was that, with the benefit of experience from one election, we might be able to mitigate the drawbacks on a second attempt. We thought it possible that suitable efforts by the

Returning Officer team might reduce the issues we raised so that the benefits of online voting outweighed the risk.

We no longer think this. Certainly there were lessons we learned in the 2023 election that we applied this time, and we believe these prevented things from becoming much worse than they did. No doubt there are further improvements that can be made, but at this point the law of diminishing returns is relevant - we very much doubt there is any magic bullet that will stop breaches without employing an infeasibly large number of people to catch misbehaving campaigners.

Quite simply, it is not possible to prevent major breaches of the secrecy of the ballot in an online election held in a university environment when the election is sufficiently heatedly contested.

We received numerous reports of campaigners speaking to people while they were apparently voting - in some cases the evidence was unambiguous that this was occurring. Moreover, while some of these may have involved campaigners unaware of the rules, there were examples that clearly involved deliberate flouting of the regulations and the principles of democracy. For example, we became aware of campaigners choosing to commit these breaches in locations where they thought they were less likely to be seen.

In the majority of these cases the voter may not have particularly cared - they were happy to be given further information (perhaps regarding preferences, for example) while they voted. However, we received enough complaints about voters who felt bullied into voting by the campaigner's presence and capacity to see their vote to know this was also occurring widely. There is also evidence of campaigners accessing students' phones or laptops to vote on their behalf where the student may not have been aware their vote was cast, let alone who was receiving the vote.

All this was the case during the day and in areas where campaigners for other tickets could collect evidence to send to us, and our undercover agents could patrol. We have no idea what was happening at night in colleges, halls of residence or other student accommodation; there is a high chance the situation was much worse.

We also heard a report of a student offering their vote to the highest bidder. This may have been a joke, and indeed we never received confirmation that this had occurred, but would be possible, perhaps even on a large scale, if teams were willing to engage in bribery.

We do not believe such abuses were the sole, and probably not even the primary, reason for the record-breaking participation in this election. Nevertheless, enough votes were probably cast under inappropriate circumstances that this turnout has to be considered tainted.

Breaches of the rules in this way did not come exclusively from one ticket, and given the margins for most single member positions, it is unlikely they changed the outcome for many positions, if

any. However, they also did not appear to be evenly distributed between tickets - the potential is high for a close election to be swayed by this behaviour. It is only through the fortuitous circumstance that most of this year's margins of victory were sufficiently decisive that no serious challenge could be made to the election outcome: if the vote were close, for example 2018's four vote margin for General Secretary, the difficulties with ballot secrecy would leave it open to the Tribunal to overturn the election result, which would cause chaos for UMSU's planning.

Worse still, awareness that other tickets are behaving in this way will inspire campaigners to either drop out from future elections, or engage in similar breaches. The endpoint of this is a situation where only those willing to violate fundamental tenets of democracy can win. It is unlikely such people will be those likely to serve the union best.

We have not reached that point yet. AQE believes the efforts we made to catch such breaches, and the escalating penalties we applied, greatly reduced the scale of these operations. If the regulations are not changed, and we are appointed again next year, we will do the same again. However, where the incentives to cheat are so high, and the difficulties of catching people so substantial, the end result is inevitable, even if it takes many years to get there.

It would be far, far better, to address the problem sooner, rather than leaving it to those who have won through an increasingly corrupted process to make the call.

There are two main ways in which the situation could be addressed. Either there could be a return to paper voting, as served UMSU well prior to the pandemic (with a let-out clause should a future election coincide with another lockdown or similar large-scale disaster), or voting could be electronic at controlled locations. Under the latter system, banks of terminals would be placed at the locations specified in the regulations. Access to an electronic ballot would be restricted to those voting at these locations, allowing staff of the Returning Officer to ensure that students were voting deliberately and without coercion.

Either of these approaches will be substantially more expensive than the current system. They will also almost certainly reduce even genuine turnout, let alone the numbers inflated by abuse. However, we submit that these are small prices to pay relative to the consequences for the organisation if a team is elected without majority support simply because they were more contemptuous of democratic principles, and more effective in harvesting the votes of those who would not vote for them voluntarily.

## **(2) Clarify the rules on campaigning within autonomous spaces**

In the course of this election we received complaints relating to alleged campaigning in the UMSU Queer Space, the Murrup Barak Lounge and the Islamic Prayer Room. The details of the complaints differed. Notably, two of these spaces are provided by the University, while the third belongs to UMSU and the lines of control are therefore somewhat clearer.

Nevertheless, there were significant commonalities. In two of the cases the primary question was whether certain tickets could be given opportunities to campaign within these spaces not available to other tickets. In the other case questions were subsequently raised over the capacity of a member of the Returning Officer team to enter the space to verify if improper campaigning was occurring.

These are not easy issues to address, and it is likely no perfect solution can be found. Nevertheless, an imperfect one would almost certainly be better than the current uncertainty. The regulations need to address this issue to avoid the possibility that people affiliated with one ticket may use their position to allow that ticket to campaign in a space while preventing other tickets or independents.

### **(3) Address the frequent vacancies on Burnley Committee**

Burnley Committee has usually not received enough nominations to achieve a quorum since its establishment. This has made it unable to function, frustrating those people who do get elected. We can see several options for addressing this:

- The Committee could be reduced to five or even three members so that quorum is easier to achieve.
- An appointment process for filling vacancies outside of by-elections could be created, as has been done with the Indigenous Committee.
- The Committee could be abolished entirely and instead any Burnley students who attend a meeting be empowered to make recommendations that are approved by Student Council or another body.

The merits of these should be decided by Burnley students and Students' Council, not the Returning Officer team. Nevertheless, we think part of our service is reminding Council that the issue should not be ignored.

### **(4) Give due consideration to the recommendations from the 2023 report**

We made recommendations in our 2023 report that do not appear to have received serious assessment - certainly we have not been contacted to discuss any of them or provide more details. The changes made to the election regulations this year largely related to other matters.

We would like to reiterate that we stand by last year's recommendations. We have discussed the issue of paper voting in more detail above. However, the issue of lack of definition of who is a student raised its head again, albeit less seriously this year. We made a ruling in regard to the use of bulk emails, in the absence of a regulation having been made as we recommended last time. However, it would have been possible for a student to challenge our powers to make that ruling,

and had they done so we cannot be sure the Electoral Tribunal would have confirmed that power. This is not a matter that should be left in the air. Our experience with other student elections between the last election and this one reinforced our view that this is something that needs to be addressed. Although the technical changes we recommended last year are less crucial, collectively they would make a substantial difference to the running of the election and avoid some possible future pitfalls.

### **(5) Consider reworking Clubs Council to prevent untested allegations being aired**

As concerning as the circumstances at Clubs Council were this year, it would be more problematic if similar allegations were made against a candidate in the election. However, it is not clear how this can be addressed, other than by paying additional staff who will not be needed in most years. One possible option that may be worth considering is to ask for questions to be submitted prior to the meeting, providing time for statements included in them to be vetted. For various reasons it is unlikely to be practical to do this with all questions, but if priority is given to questions provided in this way, concerns may be ameliorated.

## **Declaration**

I declare that the 2024 University of Melbourne Student Union elections were conducted and administered with impartiality by myself and the directors and staff of Above Quota Elections Pty Ltd

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer

## **Acknowledgements**

The UMSU elections are always a complex undertaking and there are a number of people who deserve our thanks for making it a success.

From UMSU, a special thanks to Mary Kin Chan, Sara Pheasant, Fiona Sanders, the Info Desk team and CME; and the Farrago editors Gunjan Ahluwalia, Joel Duggan, Kien-Ling Liem and Jessica Fanwong for production of the Election Guide. From the University, Nancy Huggett and Gabrielle Ostberg from the University Secretary's department, particularly for assistance with the election of the position on University of Council and James Holloway for help with the roll, including lightning-fast responses to our many individual student number checks.

Finally, thanks to the candidates, campaigners and voters for participating. Although we focus on the cases of misbehaviour, the vast majority of candidates demonstrated their commitment

to democracy and were polite and helpful. We particularly wish the elected team best of luck in the coming year.

## **Appendices**

- A. Rulings by the Returning Officer
  - 1. Bulk emails
  - 2. Campaigning in buildings
  - 3. Privacy of the ballot
- B. List of nominations and tickets registered
- C. Results and distributions of preferences for single-member positions
- D. Results and countsheets for multi-member positions
- E. List of nominations — C&S Council election
- F. Countsheet — C&S Council election



## Ruling (I) of the Returning Officer

1. Last year we received a number of complaints relating to the sending of emails and text messages in bulk to student email accounts and phone numbers. A particular issue is whether consent has been obtained from students who are recipients of the message. The University administration has also expressed concerns to us about the privacy implications of mass emailing of students who did not give their consent.
2. The Electoral Regulations prohibit the use of UMSU resources (other than those generally available to students) for campaign purposes. If it is credibly established that an email list was obtained from UMSU, this will be treated as a particularly severe violation of the rules.
3. From the time of this ruling, under Electoral Regulation 26.1 and 26.5 the Returning Officer rules that bulk electronic messages can be sent only to lists where explicit consent has been obtained from each recipient. Electronic messages include emails, SMS messages, and direct messaging features (however described) on social media, except in relation to clubs' membership lists (see below).
4. The Returning Officer regards an "unsubscribe" feature as a critical element of consent and therefore a required element of such material. All material intended to be sent as bulk messaging that does not have an unsubscribe feature is hereby unregistered. The Australian Communications and Media Authority's guidance on unsubscribe features<sup>[1]</sup> will be our starting position in judging this.
5. Campaigners, and the tickets and candidates who benefit from material, must be able to demonstrate, on request, to the Returning Officer that they have written consent from the recipients.
6. Non-bulk electronic messages (i.e. messages sent on an individual basis to campaigners' friends) are not covered by this ruling, although remain covered by the Regulations generally. However, we caution that if messages are substantially copy and pasted, even if done by hand, there is a good chance that will cross the line into bulk messages.
7. Nothing in this ruling affects obligations a campaigner has under University policy (or the law). If the University regards sending bulk emails as a policy violation, then compliance with this ruling will not affect that.
8. The Returning Officer draws campaigners' attention to the Rules for Student Email<sup>[2]</sup> and the Provision and Acceptable Use of IT Policy<sup>[3]</sup>. Enforcement of this policy, and therefore questions regarding it, are a matter for the University.
9. A partial exception is made in the case of clubs. Clubs may endorse individual candidates or tickets. This includes promoting that on social media or via email using the appropriate UMSU facilities. However, such endorsements require a decision be passed

with proper notice through the Executive or Committee of the Club, rather than being made by a single office bearer.

10. Clubs must provide the Returning Officer with a copy of the relevant minutes before an endorsement is promoted, whether through emails or on social media.
11. Clubs may not send more than two emails to their membership list relating to their endorsement before or during the voting period.
12. Organisations with substantial student membership that are not affiliated clubs of UMSU may send messages on the same basis as affiliated clubs, provided they satisfy the Returning Officer beforehand that the decision making process for endorsement was primarily made by student members of the organisation, rather than non-students.

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer  
August 30, 2024

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[1]<https://www.acma.gov.au/avoid-sending-spam#unsubscribe>

[2]<https://ask.unimelb.edu.au/faq/4522/rules-for-student-email/>

[3]<https://policy.unimelb.edu.au/MPF1314/>

## **Ruling 2 - Campaigning in Buildings**

There is some confusion about the rules regarding campaigning in buildings.

The regulations ban campaigning in buildings where there is a polling place. It is not clear whether this only refers to when a polling place is happening, or at any time for that building.

We interpret this as allowing campaigning in the FBE, Building 168 etc when there is no polling place there, although we reserve the right to withdraw this if we have evidence of bad behaviour.

Campaigning is also banned in computer laboratories. Campaigning in libraries is not explicitly banned, although of course there is a polling place in the Baillieu much of the time. However, we are aware of the likely response from the university if people are being approached in libraries for campaign purposes. Therefore, under 2.1 (h) we direct that there be no campaigning in libraries, from 9pm tonight unless permission is expressly provided in writing by the librarian (such permission would of course need to include all tickets).

Given the weather, we understand that many campaigners want to campaign indoors and we would prefer to accommodate this.

Campaigning in other buildings on campus is permitted unless we receive complaints from staff. So far, no such complaints have been received. If they are, we may be forced to ban all tickets from certain buildings. Campaigners are advised to consider their social status should they be

the person who offends a staff member to the point that not only they, but all campaigners are forced out into the current weather.

The area under the Baillieu's eaves should not be used for campaigning in fine weather, but campaigners can retreat to it when it rains. However, this should be considered a privilege that we can revoke in the event of misbehaviour from any ticket.

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer  
2/9/24

### **Ruling 3 - Privacy of Ballot**

As we have repeatedly stressed, the privacy of the ballot is both extremely important and greatly endangered in online elections.

Campaigning to someone who is in the act of voting, or observing how they vote, is strictly forbidden. It is not always possible to tell whether this is occurring. Frequently we are provided with photographs or video where it appears someone is campaigning to someone who has the ballot open. However, when we raise this we are usually told either that the campaigner was not actually campaigning at that time, or the student being campaigned was not voting, but instead had their phones open for other reasons.

Although we acknowledge these defences may sometimes be true, in order to preserve the secrecy of the ballot we are ruling that any talking to a person who is looking at their phone will be treated as being campaigning to someone who is voting unless evidence can be provided otherwise.

We add that trying to persuade someone to vote in front of you is particularly serious breach, as it is hard to identify a reason why a campaigner would do this other than in the hope of violating the secrecy of the ballot of the voter concerned.

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer  
2/9/2024

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION (UMSU) ANNUAL  
ELECTION  
2ND-6TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

## Provisional list of nominations (ballot paper order)

Below is a provisional list of nominations received by the deadline.

Candidates are listed in ballot paper order. The order was selected by random draw.

Please draw any errors to our attention (check we have listed your ticket in the correct order), and please also check the spelling of your name.

### Officebearers

#### President

Zilin Zhan		
Julian De Marco	More! For UMSU	
Kai Bowie	Rebuild	
Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Activate	
Joshua Stagg	Community for UMSU	
Ezra Bangun		

#### General Secretary

Luv Golecha	Community for UMSU	
Ezra Bangun		
Gabi Steinberg	More! For UMSU	
Chris Vassiliadis	Activate	

#### Education (Academic Affairs) Officer

Kristine Gia Hue Hong		
Leo Brooks	More! For UMSU	
Morgan Sheather	More! For UMSU	
Ezra Bangun		
Junyi Li	Rebuild	
Catherine Baker	Activate	
Emily Birks	Activate	
Harrishman Shobanan	Community for UMSU	

Rhea Sankar	Community for UMSU	
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### Education (Public Affairs) Officer

Ezra Bangun		
Alex Gwynn	Activate	
Zara Chauvin	Activate	
Amaya Castro Williams	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Frankie Kennedy	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Huaijin (Frank) Xiao	Rebuild	
Sonika Agarwal	Community for UMSU	
Viraj Patel	Community for UMSU	

### Welfare Officer

Hannah Jasni	Activate	
Odi Evans	Activate	
Nadine Chantelle Salita		
Enje Herbert	More! For UMSU	
Michael Campbell	More! For UMSU	
Bhavya Johari		
Giulia Massimini	Rebuild	
Ezra Bangun		
Filia Cahyadi	Community for UMSU	
Kunal Dewani	Community for UMSU	
Zilin Zhan		

### Women's Officer

Eya Takrouni	Community for UMSU	
Khwaish Jadeja	Community for UMSU	
Jessica Duke		Nomination rejected
Eva Rodgers	Activate	
Tamanna Rathi	Activate	
Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja	More! For UMSU	

Georgia Glover	More! For UMSU	
Nadira Natasya	Natasya/Aprilia	
Sugesti Aprilia	Natasya/Aprilia	
Anaya Chhabra		Nomination under review

### **Creative Arts Officer**

Harrison Brautigan	Rebuild	
Ezra Bangun		
Jessica Fanwong	Activate	
Jessica Tran	Activate	
Riya Gupta	Community for UMSU	
Tianyi Yu	Community for UMSU	

### **Activities Officer**

Ezra Bangun		
Amy Peters	Community for UMSU	
Olivia Kulesza	Community for UMSU	
Alexander Hams	More! For UMSU	Withdrawn
Ruby Corbett	More! For UMSU	Withdrawn
Kai Jessop	Activate	
Saraf Tatinee	Activate	

### **Queer Officer**

Ivy Pierlot	Activate	
Teddy Peak	Activate	
Binderiya Batzorig	Community for UMSU	
Ethan McNeil	Community for UMSU	
Jamie Edwards	Rebuild	
Corbin Ivan Afanasyev	More! For UMSU	
Lucas Sinclair	More! For UMSU	

### **Environment Officer**

HELENA D'ARCY	Community for UMSU	
Jayde East	Community for UMSU	

Kay Pritchard	Activate	
Rachael Hynds	Activate	
Lucy Chapman	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Penelope Scacciante	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Navam Niles	Rebuild	
Ezra Bangun		

#### Media Officer

Ibrahim Muan Abdulla	Independent Media	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
Marcie Di Bartolomeo	Independent Media	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
Mathilda Stewart	Independent Media	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
Sophie He	Independent Media	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>

#### Clubs & Societies Officer

Ezra Bangun		
James Dimitri Gallos	More! For UMSU	
Olivia Clare Jones	More! For UMSU	
Asnaf Saraf Souvi		
Esther Hiu Wai Luk	Activate	
Ewan Bezzobs	Activate	
Billy Allsop	Rebuild	

#### Indigenous Officer

Noah Kellett		
Oskar Martin	Left Action - Free Palestine!	

#### Disabilities Officer

Bhavya Johari		
Denzil Minnaar	Community for UMSU	
Nabia Rauf	Community for UMSU	
Isla Gillespie	More! For UMSU	

Jacqueline de Mamiel	More! For UMSU	
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### People of Colour Officer

Bhavya Johari		
Zhefu Fu		
Hanan Sahmoud		
Erie Xie	More! For UMSU	Withdrawn
Evelyn Garcia	More! For UMSU	
Divyanshi Sati	Community for UMSU	
Wen Hao (Clement) Wu	Community for UMSU	
Deena El-Shabasei	Activate	
Nabil Ben Hassine	Activate	

### Students' Council

#### General representative (15 to elect)

<del>Bhavin Garg</del>		Withdrawn
Sakshi Vivek Sharma		
Kristine Gia Hue Hong		
Daria Azjargal	Rebuild	
Giulia Massimini	Rebuild	
Lachlan Greenwood	Rebuild	
Stefan Gavrilov	Rebuild	
Kerry Sun	More! For UMSU	
Dylan Francis Gough	More! For UMSU	
Seamus Donnellan	More! For UMSU	
Molly Britt	More! For UMSU	
Taylor Broadbent	More! For UMSU	
Kiley Li	More! For UMSU	
Alice Glover	More! For UMSU	
Adam Dyball	More! For UMSU	
Layal El Wazan	More! For UMSU	



Maximillian McKenzie Fitzpatrick	More! For UMSU	
Torrin Nundra-Tolonen	More! For UMSU	
Satheesh Kumar	More! For UMSU	
Shivaputrappa Melligeri	More! For UMSU	
Namkhairinchen Mandakh		
Maria Carolina Lourenco Quartel	Independent Media	
Thomas Cooper Weir-Alarcon	Independent Media	
Angus Wagstaff	Independent Media	
Lola Bowers	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Yasmeen Atieh	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Bella Beiraghi	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Caitlin Spizzirri	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Jaan Schild	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Nadira Natasya		
Anndrya Chua	Community for UMSU	
Daniel Motika	Community for UMSU	
Deeksha Garg	Community for UMSU	
Dhruv Chaturvedi	Community for UMSU	
Disha Zutshi	Community for UMSU	
Enzhe Li	Community for UMSU	
Jahnvi Singh	Community for UMSU	
Niya Chopra	Community for UMSU	
Rahul Mittal	Community for UMSU	
Roger Cao	Community for UMSU	
Shrey Bafna	Community for UMSU	
Teya Verma	Community for UMSU	
Wasif Rahman Safin	Community for UMSU	
Yashesvi Verma	Community for UMSU	

Yihui (Jenny) Guan	Community for UMSU	
Jaswant Korada		
Joseph Z Y Li-Sculli	Activate	
Felix Sharkey	Activate	
Lottie Jenkins	Activate	
Lewis Cameron	Activate	
Alessandra Soliven	Activate	
Holly Larkspur	Activate	
Connor Darling	Activate	
Joseph Haynes	Activate	
Ruby Craven	Activate	
Thomas Leadbetter	Activate	
Micaela Rynne	Activate	
Ashley Lewis	Activate	
Thomas Cath-Fawcett	Activate	

**Graduate students' representative**

Om Deshpande	Community for UMSU	
Tanmay Kabir	More! For UMSU	
Bhavya Johari		
Nadira Natasya		
Zachary Matthews	Activate	
Hanan Sahmoud		

**Indigenous students' representative**

Oskar Martin	Left Action - Free Palestine!	<i>Will be elected unopposed if not successful for Indigenous Officer</i>
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**International students' representative**

Wang Shouyi		
Emma Berg Kaldbekken	More! For UMSU	
Junaid Mohd Qamar	Community for UMSU	
Nhareish Kumar		

Srishty Pareek	Activate	
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### Queer students' representative

Connor Trainor	Activate	
Semin(Sam) Park	Community for UMSU	
Daria Azjargal	Rebuild	
Julien Macandili	Left Action - Free Palestine!	

### Students of colour representative

Bingchan Zhou	Community for UMSU	
Bhavya Johari		
Gevindu Wickramanayake	Rebuild	
Lorjel Sia	Activate	

### Students with disabilities representative

Bhavya Johari		
Cornellius Salim	Community for UMSU	Duplicate on ticket
Kulvir Sharma	Community for UMSU	Duplicate on ticket
Thomas Hofer	More! For UMSU	

## Committees

### Activities Committee (7 to elect)

Conor Barnes	Rebuild	
Daria Azjargal	Rebuild	
Giulia Massimini	Rebuild	
Jake Cutajar	Rebuild	
Lachlan Eliau	Rebuild	
Matthew Bannon	Rebuild	
May Luu	Rebuild	
Mietta Artemis Vampatella	Activate	
Olivia Tjahjadi	Activate	
Matteo Redvers	Activate	
Daniel Wang	Activate	
Joseph Z Y Li-Sculli	Activate	

Lewis Cameron	Activate	
Felix Sharkey	Activate	
Dylan Francis Gough	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Emma Berg Kaldbekken	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Spencer Brody Curwood	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Catherine Walters	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Eos Kappadais	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Adam Dyball	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Angus Killingbeck	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Scarlett Brooks	More! For UMSU	Eight on ticket
Charlotte Buckingham	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Doris Wang	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Eleena Li	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Geetansh Bhogra	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Lady Feren Pangjaya	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Om Deshpande	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Pranav Soman	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket
Saasha Vohra	Community for UMSU	Eight on ticket

**Creative Arts Committee (7 to elect)**

Nishka Varghese	Activate	
Emma Bui	Activate	
Sakura Kojima	Activate	
Stuti Ghosh	Activate	
Michelle Yu	Activate	
Jade Seabrook	Activate	
Tongyue Quan	Activate	
<del>Beichen Fang</del>	Rebuild	Withdrawn
Charles Upston	Rebuild	
Guanhua Huang	Rebuild	
Harry Jenour	Rebuild	
Harshita Roy	Rebuild	

Natasha Gaspari	Rebuild	
Oliver Grodski	Rebuild	
Wilson Nixon	Rebuild	
Divyam Arora	Community for UMSU	
Jack sara	Community for UMSU	
Karishma Pherwani	Community for UMSU	
Kexin (Matilda) Ren	Community for UMSU	
<del>Krish Chadha</del>	Community for UMSU	Withdrawn
Rama Sahasrabudhe	Community for UMSU	
Teya Verma	Community for UMSU	
Yuetong (Amber) Liu	Community for UMSU	

#### **Disabilities Committee (7 to elect)**

Bhavya Johari		
Aimee Pownall	More! For UMSU	
Della Johnston	More! For UMSU	
Justine Chau Margaillan	More! For UMSU	
Matthew Denipitiya	More! For UMSU	
Ken Liem	More! For UMSU	
Thomas Hofer	More! For UMSU	
Kevin Li Bang Huang	More! For UMSU	
Atithi Pradhan	Community for UMSU	
Emma Jago	Community for UMSU	
Isabel Lisa Jose	Community for UMSU	
Jigar Thakkar	Community for UMSU	
Kulvir Sharma	Community for UMSU	
Lim Wei Jun	Community for UMSU	
Maehula Datta	Community for UMSU	

#### **Education Committee (7 to elect)**

Jobe Berends	More! For UMSU	
<del>Elena Nardozi</del>	More! For UMSU	Withdrawn

Scarlett Brooks	More! For UMSU	
Bella Thornton	More! For UMSU	
Yuxi Luo	More! For UMSU	
Taylor Broadbent	More! For UMSU	
Abhie Gupta	Community for UMSU	
Kriti Tatiya	Community for UMSU	
Pham Thi Thanh Binh	Community for UMSU	
Rutvi Tolani	Community for UMSU	
Tvisha Verma	Community for UMSU	
Xingwan Luo	Community for UMSU	
Yuito Takizawa	Community for UMSU	
Sophia Chu	Activate	
David Trevorrow	Activate	
Ling Yung (Rachel) Kwok	Activate	
Jake Newman	Activate	
Violet Hall	Activate	
Yutong Wu	Activate	
Varisha Ariadna	Activate	
Bella Beiraghi	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Lola Bowers	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Charlotte Doig	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Hannah Roseman-Gannon	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Caitlin Spizzirri	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Benjamin O'Donnell	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Paterson Lewis	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Zhaohui Wu		
Evan Yuan	Rebuild	
Gevindu Wickramanayake	Rebuild	
Jack Walton	Rebuild	
<del>Naylin Al</del>	Rebuild	Withdrawn
Nick Davary	Rebuild	

Stanley Zaranski	Rebuild	
Sitong Zhou		
Maksym Xu		

#### Environment Committee (7 to elect)

Lola Bowers	More! For UMSU	
Paterson Lewis	More! For UMSU	
Shirley Killen	More! For UMSU	
Devyani Claeys	More! For UMSU	
Raphael Duffy	More! For UMSU	Nomination under review
Senaya Rathneweera	More! For UMSU	
Heather Maltby	More! For UMSU	
Lottie Jenkins	Activate	
Christina Johnsen Paulsen	Activate	
Amelie Catrice	Activate	
Madison Lee	Activate	
Teresa Schramm	Activate	
Thomas Cath-Fawcett	Activate	
Julien Macandili	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Yasmeen Atieh	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Benjamin O'Donnell	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Hannah Roseman-Gannon	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Bella Beiraghi	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Reema Eve Ababneh	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Qiyuan Su	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Angela Pei		
Tanay Ashok Sonthalia		
Abhishek Swami	Rebuild	
Hasika Kankani	Rebuild	
Jash Sant	Rebuild	
Patrick Irwin	Rebuild	
<del>Quinn Benson</del>	Rebuild	Nomination rejected

Zach Margis	Rebuild	
Agung Waskito	Community for UMSU	
Alexandra Wilson	Community for UMSU	
Baani Kochar	Community for UMSU	
Deeksha Garg	Community for UMSU	
Ishitaa Khullar	Community for UMSU	
Madhusoodhanan (Maddy) Prabhu	Community for UMSU	
Manya Garg	Community for UMSU	

#### Indigenous Committee (7 to elect)

Marlgun Wagner		<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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#### People of Colour Committee (7 to elect)

Liuming Teng		
Bingchan Zhou	Community for UMSU	
Dhiraj Kamble	Community for UMSU	
Kailun Kevin Zhang	Community for UMSU	
Lushomo Chinganya	Community for UMSU	
Saiha Khan	Community for UMSU	
Yuerou (Jenny) Nai	Community for UMSU	
Yufei (Daisy) Wang	Community for UMSU	
Gerardo Mayella	Rebuild	
Yudhishtir Singh	More! For UMSU	
Scarlett Giang	More! For UMSU	
Yuxi Luo	More! For UMSU	
Yiyang Cao	More! For UMSU	
Paramita Sharma	More! For UMSU	
Satheesh Kumar	More! For UMSU	
Annesha Ashek	Activate	Nomination rejected
Sohaila Elharawy	Activate	
Dahlia Karam	Activate	



Srishty Pareek	Activate	
Lorjel Sia	Activate	
Bhavya Johari		
Lenah Ankliss		

**Queer Committee (7 to elect)**

Harshene Janarthan		
Zelun YU		
Farhan Andalib	More! For UMSU	
Molly Blue Britt	More! For UMSU	
Hayley Lark	More! For UMSU	
Alec James Dwyer Garrison	More! For UMSU	
Alice Mathilda Walker	More! For UMSU	
Juneau Murray-de Brossard	More! For UMSU	
Violet Erickson	More! For UMSU	
Dahlia Karam	Activate	
Connor Trainor	Activate	
Zachary Matthews	Activate	
Alessandra Soliven	Activate	
Isabellia Lee	Community for UMSU	
Kevin Phan	Community for UMSU	
Nomin Chuluunbat	Community for UMSU	
Quinn Growder	Community for UMSU	
Semin(Sam) Park	Community for UMSU	
Sharvendra Nair	Community for UMSU	
Tahlia Vosnakis	Community for UMSU	

**Welfare Committee (7 to elect)**

Bhavya Johari		
Torrin Nundra-Tolonen	More! For UMSU	
Jobe Berends	More! For UMSU	
Kiley Li	More! For UMSU	

Maximillian McKenzie Fitzpatrick	More! For UMSU	
Jingshan CHEN	More! For UMSU	
Yiyang Cao	More! For UMSU	
Tianze Cao	More! For UMSU	
Jessica Semenow	Activate	
Ashley Lewis	Activate	
Connor Darling	Activate	
Michael Avery	Activate	
Emily Kawai	Activate	
Holly Larkspur	Activate	
Meet Varsani	Community for UMSU	
Raechel Bobby	Community for UMSU	
Sak Panha Siek	Community for UMSU	
Shambhavi Gupta	Community for UMSU	
TSUN YING (CYNTHIA) WONG	Community for UMSU	
Talya de Cleene	Community for UMSU	
Vinayak Kapoor	Community for UMSU	
Alexander Zhang	Rebuild	
Goutham Peddireddy	Rebuild	
Annabel Dekker	Rebuild	
Daniel Chen	Rebuild	
Julien Baulch	Rebuild	
Leo Zhou	Rebuild	
Yibo Yu	Rebuild	

**Women's Committee (7 to elect)**

Catherine Walters	More! For UMSU	
Amelia Andrighetto	More! For UMSU	
Justine Chau Margaillan	More! For UMSU	
Megan Ruiying Lim	More! For UMSU	

Paramita Sharma	More! For UMSU	
Layal El Wazan	More! For UMSU	
Liuhui Huang	More! For UMSU	
Jiahui Zou	Community for UMSU	
Keerthana Bommagani	Community for UMSU	
Morn Sae-Ngoew	Community for UMSU	
Saurya Rawal	Community for UMSU	
Shuhan Yang	Community for UMSU	
Syna Sodhi	Community for UMSU	
Zahra Habibi	Community for UMSU	
Vanya Bhardwaj	Activate	
Olivia Tjahjadi	Activate	
Jacinta Patel	Activate	
Saraf Ishmam	Activate	
Charlotte Rankin	Activate	
Ling Yung (Rachel) Kwok	Activate	
Ruby Craven	Activate	
Angela Pei		

## Southbank

### Southbank Students Campus Co-ordinator

Caleb William Jarcevic	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	
Tirion Luff-White	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	
Diana Quarshie		

### Southbank Activities Officer

Justine Light Pre De Guzman	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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**Southbank Education Officer**

Joobon Kim	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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**Southbank Students Committee (7 to elect)**

Charlotte Dickinson	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Felicity Ethell	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Harper Ava Owen	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Jackie Doughty	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Shannon Yeung	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Teo Yi Jun Ariel	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket
Vania Lee Suriato	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket; nomination under review
Zoriana Stephanie Krupa	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Eight on ticket

**Voting Students' Council representative elected by Southbank Students**

Zoriana Stephanie Krupa	Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	
Ella Li	Community for UMSU	

## Burnley

### Burnley Campus Co-ordinator

Baela Stumpf Tinsley		<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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### Burnley Students Committee (7 to elect)

Ian Adams		<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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## National Union of Students

### National Union of Students delegate (7 to elect)

Amaya Castro Williams	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Lucy Chapman	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Penelope Scacciante	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Bella Beiraghi	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Oskar Martin	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Jaan Schild	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Lola Bowers	Left Action - Free Palestine!	
Lucy Rachman Vascotto	Activate	
Rachael Hynds	Activate	
Ewan Bezzobs	Activate	
Eva Rodgers	Activate	
Chris Vassiliadis	Activate	
Catherine Baker	Activate	
Micaela Rynne	Activate	
Gevindu Wickramanayake	Rebuild	
Jack Walton	Rebuild	
Kevin Zhu	Rebuild	
Richard Lee	More! For UMSU	
Senaya Rathneweera	More! For UMSU	
Raphael Duffy	More! For UMSU	Nomination under review
Michael Campbell	More! For UMSU	
Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Community for UMSU	

Eya Takrouni	Community for UMSU	
Joshua Stagg	Community for UMSU	
Kunal Dewani	Community for UMSU	
Luv Golecha	Community for UMSU	
Rahul Mittal	Community for UMSU	
Rhea Sankar	Community for UMSU	
Ezra Bangun		
Yingzhou yuan		

## University Council

### Student representative on University Council

Reham Elzeiny	Activate	Documents with University
Ezra Bangun		Please see email
Enzhe (Kevin) Li	Community For UMSU	Documents with University
Disha Zutshi		Documents with University
Jesse Gardner-Russell	More! For UMSU	Documents with University

## 2024 Byelection

### Indigenous Committee member (2024) (6 to elect)

Guruji Wagner		<i>Provisionally elected unopposed</i>
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### Indigenous Officer (2024)

Noah Kellett		
Oskar Martin	Left Action - Free Palestine!	

## Provisional list of tickets registered

<b>Name of ticket</b>	<b>Registrant</b>
Activate	Chris Vassiliadis
Community for UMSU	Enzhe (Kevin) Li
Independent Media	Mathilda Stewart
Independents for Southbank Student Democracy	Justine Light Pre De Guzman
Left Action - Free Palestine!	Bella Beiraghi
More! For UMSU	Tanmay Kabir
Rebuild	Kai Bowie
Revive*	Sara Yadav
Unimelb for Palestine*	Hiba Adam

\* no nominations accepted

Stephen Luntz  
Returning Officer  
returningofficer@union.unimelb.edu.au

23rd August 2024

BigPulse countsheets:

<https://www.bigpulse.com/pollresults?code=1351339gTZDzTLqAMN7bmq64Zwz>

## President

	First preferences	Distribution
Joshua Stagg (Community for UMSU)	2078	2315
Lucy Rachman Vascotto (Activate)	1295	1581
Julian De Marco (More! For UMSU)	529	
Kai Bowie (Rebuild)	402	
Zilin Zhan	195	
Ezra Bangun	85	

*Joshua Stagg declared elected.*

## General Secretary

	First preferences	Distribution
Luv Golecha (Community for UMSU)	1848	2056
Chris Vassiliadis (Activate)	1179	1392
Gabi Steinberg (More! For UMSU)	733	



Ezra Bangun	179	
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*Luv Golecha declared elected.*

## **Education (Academic Affairs) Officer**

	First preferences	Distribution
Harrishman Shobanan and Rhea Sankar (Community for UMSU)	1856	2032
Catherine Baker and Emily Birks (Activate)	1086	1309
Leo Brooks and Morgan Sheather (More! For UMSU)	421	
Junyi Li (Rebuild)	282	
Ezra Bangun	108	
Kristine Gia Hue Hong	101	

*Harrishman Shobanan and Rhea Sankar declared elected.*

## Education (Public Affairs) Officer

	First preferences	Distribution
Sonika Agarwal and Viraj Patel (Community for UMSU)	1742	2088
Amaya Castro Williams and Frankie Kennedy (Left Action - Free Palestine!)	1256	1547
Alex Gwynn and Zara Chauvin (Activate)	1147	
Huaijin (Frank) Xiao (Rebuild)	317	
Ezra Bangun	137	

*Sonika Agarwal and Viraj Patel declared elected.*

## Welfare Officer

	First preferences	Distribution
Filia Cahyadi and Kunal Dewani (Community for UMSU)	1570	1783
Hannah Jasni and Odi Evans (Activate)	1143	1393
Enje Herbert and Michael Campbell (More! For UMSU)	384	

Giulia Massimini (Rebuild)	208	
Bhavya Johari	157	
Nadine Chantelle Salita	136	
Zilin Zhan	92	
Ezra Bangun	69	

*Filia Cahyadi and Kunal Dewani declared elected.*

## Activities Officer

Amy Peters and Olivia Kulesza (Community for UMSU)	1865
Kai Jessop and Saraf Tatinee (Activate)	1170
Ezra Bangun	269

*Amy Peters and Olivia Kulesza declared elected.*

## Clubs & Societies Officer

	First preferences	Distribution
Esther Hiu Wai Luk and Ewan Bezzobs (Activate)	1244	1289
James Dimitri Gallos and Olivia Clare Jones (More!)	637	659

For UMSU)		
Billy Allsop (Rebuild)	253	258
Ezra Bangun	226	242
Asnaf Saraf Souvi	206	

*Esther Hiu Wai Luk and Ewan Bezzobs declared elected.*

## **Creative Arts Officer**

	First preferences	Distribution
Riya Gupta and Tianyi Yu (Community for UMSU)	1627	1691
Jessica Fanwong and Jessica Tran (Activate)	1279	1397
Harrison Brautigan (Rebuild)	297	
Ezra Bangun	152	

*Riya Gupta and Tianyi Yu declared elected.*

## Environment Officer

	First preferences	Distribution
Helena D'arcy and Jayde East (Community for UMSU)	1725	2039
Lucy Chapman and Penelope Scacciante (Left Action - Free Palestine!)	1154	1363
Kay Pritchard and Rachael Hynds (Activate)	995	
Navam Niles (Rebuild)	250	
Ezra Bangun	115	

*Helena D'arcy and Jayde East declared elected.*

## Women's Officer

Eya Takrouni and Khwaish Jadeja (Community for UMSU)	819
Eva Rodgers and Tamanna Rathi (Activate)	476
Nadira Natasya and Sugesti Aprilia	162
Chatarina Hanny Angelita Teja and Georgia Glover (More! For UMSU)	150

*Eya Takrouni and Khwaish Jadeja declared elected.*

## Disabilities Officer

Denzil Minnaar and Nabia Rauf (Community for UMSU)	347
Isla Gillespie and Jacqueline de Mamiel (More! For UMSU)	114
Bhavya Johari	71

*Denzil Minnaar and Nabia Rauf declared elected.*

## Queer Officer

	First preferences	Distribution
Ivy Pierlot and Teddy Peak (Activate)	401	451
Binderiya Batzorig and Ethan McNeil (Community for UMSU)	391	421
Corbin Ivan Afanasyev and Lucas Sinclair (More! For UMSU)	132	
Jamie Edwards (Rebuild)	32	

*Ivy Pierlot and Teddy Peak declared elected.*

## People of Colour Officer

Divyanshi Sati and Wen Hao (Clement) Wu (Community for UMSU)	629
Deena El-Shabasei and Nabil Ben Hassine (Activate)	378
Evelyn Garcia (More! For UMSU)	97
Bhavya Johari	59
Hanan Sahnoud	39

*Divyanshi Sati and Wen Hao (Clement) Wu declared elected.*

## Indigenous Officer

Noah Kellett	24
Oskar Martin (Left Action - Free Palestine!)	14

*Noah Kellett declared elected.*

## Southbank Students Campus Coordinator

Caleb William Jarcevic and Tirion Luff-White (Independents for Southbank Student Democracy)	161
Diana Quarshie	56

*Caleb William Jarcevic and Tirion Luff-White declared elected.*

## Students' Council – Students of Colour Representative

Bingchan Zhou (Community for UMSU)	639
Lorjel Sia (Activate)	293
Bhavya Johari	85
Gevindu Wickramanayake (Rebuild)	50

*Bingchan Zhou declared elected.*

## Students' Council – Queer Students' Representative

	First preferences	Distribution
Semin (Sam) Park (Community for UMSU)	452	485
Connor Trainor (Activate)	318	378
Julien Macandili (Left Action - Free Palestine!)	209	
Daria Azjargal (Rebuild)	44	

*Semin (Sam) Park declared elected.*

## Students' Council – Indigenous Students' Representative

*Oskar Martin declared provisionally elected unopposed*



## Students' Council – Students with Disabilities Representative

Cornellius Salim (Community for UMSU)	300
Bhavya Johari	110
Thomas Hofer (More! For UMSU)	81

*Cornellius Salim declared elected.*

## Students' Council – International Students' Representative

Junaid Mohd Qamar (Community for UMSU)	1024
Srishty Pareek (Activate)	208
Wang Shouyi	146
Emma Berg Kaldbekken (More! For UMSU)	126
Nhareish Kumar	25

*Junaid Mohd Qamar declared elected.*

## Students' Council – Graduate Students' Representative

	First preferences	Distribution
Om Deshpande (Community for UMSU)	676	690
Zachary Matthews (Activate)	318	342
Nadira Natasya	187	217
Tanmay Kabir (More! For UMSU)	109	114
Hanan Sahmoud	84	
Bhavya Johari	58	

*Om Deshpande declared elected.*

## Students' Council - Southbank Representative

Zoriana Stephanie Krupa (Independents for Southbank Student Democracy)	91
Ella Li (Community for UMSU)	51

*Zoriana Stephanie Krupa declared elected.*

## University Council – Students' Representative

	First preferences	Distribution
Enzhe (Kevin) Li (Community For UMSU)	1470	1647
Reham Elzeiny (Activate)	1196	1338
Jesse Gardner-Russell (More! For UMSU)	497	
Ezra Bangun	167	

*Enzhe (Kevin) Li declared elected*

Education Committee

Poll ID: 187965
As at Poll close: Friday 06 September 2024 17:00 AEST
Number of voters: 4459 - Group size: 64534 - Percentage voted: 6.91
Number of blank votes: 83
Vote counting method: N3 STV IWeight: 1000 3B Round down weighted quota and add 1. 4A Elected must reach quota. 5A Recalculate the quota after each count using the total value of remaining votes and remaining vacancies. 6C After each distribution elect any candidates that reached quota and exclude a candidate only after all surpluses are distributed. 8A The passing on of all of one candidate's surpluses. Transfer value: 9A Transfer value of each vote = received value \* (surplus / total vote weight). Tie breaker: 10A Look-back on weighted votes. 10C Random selection. 10D Placard default: sort order.
Initial quota: 557.376 - Random seed: 187965
Winners ranked by order of victory. Showing accumulated votes in each count after distribution of preferences.

Table with columns: Rank, Candidate ID, Elected and Excluded, Candidate, Count1-Count33, Assigned ID of the candidate with distributed surplus, Quota, Loss by fraction, Exhausted ballot value, Off the table, Checksum.











Women's Committee

Poll ID: 187976
As at Poll close: Friday 06 September 2024 17:00 AEST
Number of voters: 1513 - Group size: 3685 - Percentage voted: 41.06
Number of blank votes: 29
Vote counting method: V3 STV IWeight: 1000 3B Round down weighted quota and add 1. 4A Elected must reach quota. 5A Recalculate the quota after each count using the total value of remaining votes and remaining vacancies. 6C After each distribution elect any candidates that reached quota and exclude a candidate only after all surpluses are distributed. 8A The passing on of all of one candidate's surpluses. Transfer value: 9A Transfer value of each vote = received value \* (surplus / total vote weight). Tie breaker: 10A Look-back on weighted votes. 10C Random selection. 10D
Placard default: sort order.
Initial quota: 189.126 - Random seed: 187976
Winners ranked by order of victory. Showing accumulated votes in each count after distribution of preferences.

Table with columns: Rank, Candidate ID, Elected and Excluded, Candidate, and 23 Count columns (Count1 to Count23). Rows include candidates like Syna Sodhi, Vanya Bhardwaj, Shuhan Yang, Olivia Tjahjadi, Morn Sae-Ngoew, Saurya Rawal, Catherine Walters, Jacinta Patel, Angela Pei, Ling Yung Kwok, Jiahui Zou, Saraf Ishmam, Charlotte Rankin, Ruby Craven, Zahra Habibi, Justine Chau, Lihui Huang, Amelia Andrighetto, Keerthana Bommagani, Paramita Sharma, Megan Ruiying Lim, and Layal El Wazan. Summary rows include Assigned ID, Quota, Loss by fraction, Exhausted ballot value, Off the table, and Checksum.













# List of nominations Clubs & Societies Council Election, 2024 University of Melbourne Student Union

These nominations are given in ballot paper order.

Name	Club
Nhareish Kumar	StartUp Link Unimelb
Oliver Nassau	Arts Students Society
Darcy Williams	Birdwatching Society
Tarish Kadam	Language Exchange Club
Udit Jain	Coffee Appreciation for Enthusiasts
Hugo Webster	Film Society
Yan Xu	Chariot Journal
Charles Gao	Statistics and Mathematics Postgraduate Society
Doris Wang	Women in Commerce and Politics
Lenah Anklis	Emerging Markets Network
Junyi Li	Very Special Kids Society
Meiqi Liu	Drawing and Painting Club
Hridey Kapoor	Oxfam Group
Krithi Babu	Postgraduate Environment Network
Alex Gwynn	Swifties' Society (Taylor's Version)
Seamus Donnellan	Cider Appreciation Society



	Primaries	Elect Nass	Elect Kada	elect Wan	elim Gao	elim Xu	elect Darcy	elim Kapoor	elim Kumar	eli Liu	elim Li	elim Webst	elect Babu	elim Jain	elect Anklis	elect Gwyr
Nhareish Kumar	3	3.353261	3.609511	3.646427	3.646427	3.646427	3.691107	3.691107	elim							
Oliver Nassau	23		elected													
Darcy Williams	10	12.11957	13.14457	13.25531	14.25531	15.51156	elected									
Tarish Kadam	20	20	elected													
Udit Jain	3	3.353261	3.609511	3.683343	3.683343	3.683343	3.683343	6.720259	7.155116	7.155116	7.155116	7.155116	7.554725	elim		
Hugo Webster	4	4.353261	4.353261	4.390177	4.390177	4.390177	4.512754	4.512754	6.512754	6.512754	6.512754	elim				
Yan Xu	2	2.353261	2.609511	2.609511	2.609511	elim										
Charles Gao	2	2	2	2	elim											
Doris Wang	12	14.11957	15.40082	elected												
Lenah Anklis	5	5.353261	6.122011	6.203928	6.203928	6.203928	6.349418	6.349418	7.349418	8.650348	13.650348	13.650348	13.764522	14.482207	elected	
Junyi Li	6	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.353261	6.405961	elim					
Meiqi Liu	4	4.353261	4.353261	4.390177	4.390177	4.390177	4.432857	4.432857	4.691107	elim						
Hridey Kapoor	3	3	3	3.036916	3.036916	3.036916	3.126276	elim								
Krithi Babu	12	12	12	12.01304	12.01304	13.01304	13.026140	13.026140	13.026140	14.026140	14.379401	15.379401	elected			
Alex Gwynn	6	6.353261	6.609511	6.609511	7.609511	7.609511	7.609511	7.698871	7.698871	9.067916	9.067916	12.112596	12.283857	13.385624	13.385624	elected
Seamus Donnellan	4	5.059783	5.828533	5.900991	5.900991	6.254252	6.355061	6.355061	6.355061	7.355061	8.355061	9.708322	9.708322	9.765409	10.569565	
Informal/exhausted	1.	1.	1.25625	1.325126	1.325126	1.325126	1.394354	1.394354	1.394354	1.425922	1.478621	2.560217	2.731478	8.256	8.524052	
Quota	14.875	14.875	14.875	14.83229	14.81852	14.81852	14.818519	14.784932	14.784932	14.785432	14.793324	14.780149	14.501446	14.437142	12.5444133	11.97759