

University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students’ Council
CONFIRMED Minutes
11:00am, Tuesday the 29th of August 2017
Meeting 16(17)
Location: Private Dining Room, Mezzanine Level, Union House

Meeting opened at 11.24am by Yasmine Luu

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Yasmine Luu be elected Chair
 Mover: Yasmine Luu Seconder: Matt Simkiss
 CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged

1.3 Attendance

Councillors

Position	Name	Attended?	Councils’ attended this year (including this one)
Students Council	Alice Smith	Did not attend	9/15
Students Council	Gavin Wayne	Attended	12/15
Students Council	Matthew Simkiss	Attended	5/5
Students Council	Jesse Paris-Jourdan	Did not attend	9/15
Students Council	Lia Vassiliadis	Did not attend	6/15
Students Council	Lucy Maeve Turton	Attended	11/15
Students Council	Matthew Lagamba	Attended	11/15
Students Council	Molly Willmott	Did not attend	13/15
Students Council	Rachael Davies	Did not attend	5/15
Students Council	Tamara Hunt	Did not attend	6/15
Students Council	Lachlan Blain	Attended	5/5
Students Council	Yifan Mu	Did not attend	9/15
Students Council	Louis Devine	Attended	2/2
Students Council	Katie Nikolaou	Attended	2/2
Students Council	VACANT		
Students of Colour Rep	Kim Duong	Attended late	11/15
Students with Disabilities Rep	VACANT		
Graduate Rep	Jacob Rodrigo	Did not attend	5/15
Indigenous Rep	Cameron McBroom	Did not attend	10/15

International Rep	Tiffany Chui	Attended	6/15
Queer Rep	Daniel Beratis	Attended	15/15

Office Bearers

Position	Name	Attended?	Councils' attended this year (including this one)
Activities Officer	Jacinta Cooper	Attended	11/15
Activities Officer	Lydia Paevere	Attended	10/15
Burnley Campus Coordinator	Jessica Peeler	Did not attend	6/15
Clubs & Societies Officer	Gulsara Kaplun	Did not attend	9/15
Clubs & Societies Officer	Kayley Cuzzubbo	Attended	12/15
Creative Arts Officer	Harriet Wallace-Mead	Did not attend	7/15
Creative Arts Officer	Sara Pascoe	Did not attend	8/15
Disabilities Officer	Alston Chu	Attended	13/15
Disabilities Officer	Cassandra Prigg	Did not attend	4/15
Education Officer (Academic Affairs)	Caley McPherson	Did not attend	8/15
Education Officer (Academic Affairs)	Roger Samuel	Attended	8/15
Education Officer (Public Affairs)	Sinead Manning	Attended	11/15
Environment Officer	Elizabeth Nicholson	Attended	12/15
Environment Officer	Kate Denver-Stevenson	Attended	10/15
General Secretary	Yasmine Luu	Attended	14/15
Indigenous Officer	Marley Holloway-Clarke	Did not attend	7/15
Indigenous Officer	Alexandra Hohoi	Attended	2/3
Media Officer	Alexandra Alvaro	Attended	12/15
Media Officer	Amie Green	Attended	10/15
Media Officer	James Macaronas	Did not attend	12/15
Media Officer	Mary Ntalianis	Attended	12/15
People of Colour Officer	Ella Shi	Attended	11/15
People of Colour Officer	Hanann Al Daqqa	Did not attend	8/15
President	Yan Zhuang	Attended	10/15
Queer Officer	Blake Atmaja	Attended	12/15
Queer Officer	Evelyn Lesh	Did not attend	5/15
Victorian College of the Arts Campus Co-ordinator	Nicholas Lam	Did not attend	7/15
Welfare Officer	Ryan Davey	Attended	11/15
Welfare Officer	Teresa Gornall	Did not attend	7/15
Women's Officer	Hannah Billett	Attended	15/15

Other: Desiree Cai, Jeremy Nadel, Charles Cornwallis, Tessa Gould, Madeline Johnson, Katie Doherty

Staff: Justin Baré, UMSU GM; Goldie Pergl, UMSU Administration and Project Officer

1.4 Apologies

Councillors: Alice Smith, Molly Willmott, Jesse Paris-Jourdan

Office Bearers: Jessica Peeler

1.5 Proxies

Molly Willmott to Desiree Cai

1.6 Membership

No change

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda be amended to move item 6: GM's report to item 2 and the adopted

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

Meeting moved in camera at 11.26am allowing Justin Baré, UMSU GM to remain

During this time, Students Council discussed a Change Management Plan for the Clubs & Volunteering division.

Students' Council moved to include strangers at 11:32am

Justin Baré spoke to his report, outlining:

Progress with the Draft SSAF Agreement (now distributed), and the issues that had help up the drafting of the agreement, namely discussions about unspent funds and staffing oversight.

Justin recommended that Students' Council approve the signing of the agreement by Yas, Yan and Justin after some issues were fixed.

Lucy asked why there were clauses and sections referred to as '0' Justin indicated that they were internal referencing – they haven't been updated because we were waiting on whole agreement to be done

Lachlan asked why the agreement made reference to 5% of SSAF Fee and not 5% of total allocation (in definitional start under "Unspent monies"). Justin noted this for investigation.

Lachlan asked why there was a separate reference to an annual allocation for Advocacy. Justin explained that it was a historical reference.

Gavin asked if we were liable to the university or the government. Justin explained we report to the Uni - who have obligations under the Act. The agreement is how the University meets its obligations under the Act.

Motion: 3: To accept the GMs report and recommendations

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes for meeting 14(17)

Minutes for meeting 15(17)

Issues: Daniel Beratis has perfect attendance and Lucy Turton didn't proxy for Meeting 15

Motion 4: To confirm the minutes of meeting 14 and 15 with the above changes en bloc

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Careers Support Review

Preamble:

The lack of careers support is something that students have consistently had at Melbourne Uni. In a survey conducted by the University in April this year of 2106 current students, careers support was ranked their satisfaction with aspects of the University. On campus work opportunities (5), industry placements and internships (~5.3), volunteering and leadership programs (~6.1), mentoring and networking programs (~6.2), and graduate employment rates (~6.8) all ranked below the average (6.9). In UMSU International's annual International Student Survey 2016, 498 out of 659 participants did not think the University provided them with sufficient careers support.

However, as much as we know that students are in general dissatisfied with the current level of careers support provided, there is little data on what exactly could be improved. The University has expressed that while they are currently in discussions about this issue and have some initiatives underway, they are also lacking sufficient data to determine what students think are lacking.

There is significant scope for UMSU to contribute to and be a part of these conversations. There's a gap in data about careers support, and one which UMSU, with its close proximity to students and stake in this issue, should have an interest in filling. In doing our own research, we get to shape the conversation, and put our values and ideas at the forefront of the discussion. To this end, I'd like to conduct research into student satisfaction with current careers support provided at the University of Melbourne and best practice across the sector, with the aim of developing a report with recommendations on how the University could improve on this.

Specific areas that students have issues with, and which we would like to investigate potential solutions to, include:

- Insufficient internships support and opportunities and industry placements
- Issues for marginalised students (e.g. international students being unable to find work opportunities because of visa and residency status restrictions)
- Students getting insufficient practical skills out of their university experience (both in and outside of class settings)
- Insufficient mentoring and networking opportunities
- insufficient careers counselling
- Issues students have with the University's Careers Centre

Recommendations that come out of this research process have the potential to require quite significant changes to services currently provided, and while there is a strong interest in this information, there is more chance that our recommendations will be taken on board if the research is conducted in a methodologically sound way and of a professional quality, which UMSU office bearers do not have sufficient experience or knowledge to achieve.

Furthermore, the scope of this project is outside of the capacity of UMSU office bearers. To this end, hiring a research assistant is necessary for this project to be effective.

The research conducted will be both quantitative and qualitative in nature, and be done through: a student survey, focus groups with targeted student groups, and research into best practice across Australian universities.

The proposed timeline is as follows:

- Planning: 2 winter break (1 weeks)
- Data collection: week 1-week 6 (6 weeks)
- Data compilation/writing report: week 7-10 (5 weeks including mid-semester break)
- Presenting to the University and working out next steps: week 11-end of our term (8 weeks)

The research assistant will be employed to do the following:

- Construct the research framework, tailored to account for UMSU's needs and capacity, and provide advice on how to conduct research that is methodologically sound
- Provide advice to OBs in constructing the quantitative survey
- Run focus groups

- Provide advice in conducting research into other universities and best practice across the sector
- Assist in analysing data and writing recommendations

They would have the following qualifications: a newly qualified PhD student, ideally having majored in psychology, business/economics, or other areas that involve both qualitative and quantitative research. Someone who is familiar with student unionism is ideal.

- They would be overseen by a Project Reference Group comprised of:
 - President
 - General Secretary
 - Welfare Officer(s)
 - UMSU Intl Education and Welfare Vice President and UMSU Intl Education and Welfare Director
 - Paul, UMSU Advocacy

Budget breakdown:

On advice from the UMSU HR manager, we would be looking for someone at the pay rate of a 'level A' academic. At Melbourne University, this is \$87,415 annually, or, ~\$42/hour.

However, given that 1) the Melbourne Uni pay rate is higher than the national average, and 2) that we are a non for profit organisation, this could be lowered to \$35-40/hour.

The research assistant would be employed on a contractual basis for 10 hours a week x 12 weeks, for a total of 120 hours. i.e. from the planning stage to the finish of writing the report according to the timeline. This is a very rough estimate, as it is difficult how long someone should be contracted for, and there's a possibility that this is an overestimate.

Motion:

That up to \$5000 from the Campaigns budget line be approved to in order to hire a research assistant to help conduct a research project into jobs and professional support at Melbourne Uni, as outline above.

That up to \$2000 from the Campaigns budget line be to provide incentive for students to do the survey/take part in focus groups, in the form of prizes/gift cards.

Mover: Yan Zhuang
MOTION NOT VOTED ON

Seconder:

Yan reiterated the change in the motion to \$1000. She agrees the motion is very vague and that the best way to figure out a way forward would be to hire someone to work out the research proposal and detail how long it would take.

Motion: To pass \$1000 to employ a researched to present us with a proposal for how this would work

Mover: Yan Zhuang

Seconder:

Councillors asked why the revised cost was 20% of the total and whether this was a feasibility study.

Gavin asked why UMSU should do this and not the University – would it be a more efficient use of SSAF if the University gave us the information.

Yan indicated that she is not intending on doing research to find something out – the research would be to gain info to assist our lobbying only and that all parts of research have an effect on the conclusion of the research. She said that the University does their research for their own purposes, so we need to do our own research for ours.

Hannah asked if Yan was saying that the University does research that fulfils what the University wants to see out of the research.

Gavin asked if we know if UMSU will get access to date or staff from the University to assist.

Roger said that at the start of the year, UMSU Education were told that a Centralised careers model was better, and the University had data to back up their model. He said he disagreed but had no research to back UMSUs position up.

He indicated that he thought that there was value in UMSU doing research.

Desiree asked if there was a precedent for UMSU to do this.
Sinead replied that NUS has a policy and research officer, and UMSU has an advocate from Advocacy and Legal who can assist OBs with research.

Lucy indicated she thought it was a really good idea for lobbying the University

Alston asked Yan if she saw the value of additional research in negotiating with the University or is it more about getting students on board with a campaign.

Yan indicated that it was bit of both – that there was value in lobbying the Uni, and would also be helpful in putting pressure on Uni,

Lucy asked if the researcher can research how we use the data gained as well.

Desiree asked to see the budget from Whole of Union.

Yan indicated that she forgot to circulate this as requested.

Sinead said that there's lots of things called for in the motion that could be already done with no money and existing UMSU resources – and asked why these things haven't been acted on yet.

Yan acknowledges that she has had no time to do this. She did talk to an advocate about the proposal who indicated that he didn't have the capability to oversee the whole project.

Sinead said that the creation of a report should be an Office Bearer responsibility and potentially sets up a confusing precedent regarding future research.

Matt Simkiss asked if the University would take our one survey seriously – the university has a lot more research to back itself up.

Yan said that there was always a chance that the uni wouldn't take the research seriously.

Roger indicated that he felt that professionalism was really important and this shouldn't be left up to just the president.

Lizzie said that FFMU has benefitted from taking actual research to the Uni in the past.

Yas indicated that Council should ask for a PD before the next meeting.

Motion 5: That UMSU employs a researcher for \$1000 to create a proposal for the careers support review from the Campaigns budget line. That we ask that the researcher look into how we can use the data we get. That council is provided with a PD before the next meeting of Council

Mover: Yan Zhuang
CARRIED

Seconder: Lucy Turton

PROCEDURAL MOTION: that Council take a 5 minute break
Mover: Lachlan Blain
CARRIED

Council moved for a break at 12:14pm and resumed at 12:19pm

PROCEDURAL MOTION: That Council move to OB reports immediately due to time constraints

Mover: Hannah Billett
CARRIED

4. Office Bearer Reports

Please see attached document: Office Bearer Reports

President	Submitted
General Secretary	Submitted
Activities	Submitted
Clubs & Societies (Kayley Cuzzubbo)	Submitted
Clubs & Societies (Gulsara Kaplun)	Submitted
Creative Arts	Submitted
Disabilities	No report submitted (1 st warning)
Education (Academic Affairs)	Submitted
Education (Public Affairs)	No report submitted (1 st warning)
Environment	Submitted
Indigenous	Submitted late
Media	Submitted WITH RECOMMENDATIONS
People of Colour	Submitted
Queer (Blake Atmaja)	Submitted
Queer (Evelyn Lesh)	No report submitted (1 st warning)
Welfare	No report submitted (1 st warning)
Women's	Submitted WITH RECOMMENDATIONS
Burnley	Submitted WITH RECOMMENDATIONS
Victorian College of the Arts	Submitted WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

Yasmine asked for questions and comments from Council for Office Bearers

Alston Chu apologies for the lack of Disabilities report.

Procedural Motion: to move the Presidents' report to the item after Operational Business

Mover: Gavin Wayne

CARRIED

Motion 6: To approve all OB reports and recommendations excluding the Presidents'

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

3.2 The Mishandling of Farrago's reporting on the Respect. Now. Always. Campaign

Multiple Councillors Requested that the Chunky Giants warm up singing in the next room be minuted as it was an integral part of council.

Discussion regarding options that could exist to clarify current issues. Discussion regarding OBs being allowed to issue statements, but the UMSU President then being able to confirm that that position was not UMSU's position. Councillors agreed that retroactive withdrawal for media statements if spokesperson rights had been given was a good idea.

Lachlan said that the regulations as they stand say that other OBs may issue press releases on behalf of their department

Katie suggested that there needs to be more consensus on what UMSU's position is before spokesperson rights are given.

Lucy suggested that the amendment proposed could be used in a malicious or corrupt way by the UMSU President

Matt Simkiss said that there needs to be a policy on this to clarify all of the above issues

Lucy suggested that we should stay away from giving UMSU's position through an interview – and that it's much better to give out a well thought out release, which would then avoid conflicts like this one.

Motion 7: That Students' Council affirm that statements given on the record to the Media Department cannot be taken off record once given, in line with the Newspaper Policy and standard journalistic practice, and that the Media Department cannot be compelled to pull statements due to dissatisfaction with their content

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

Motion 8: To direct the General Secretary to draw up language clarifying the role of the UMSU spokesperson and procedures regarding delegation and withdrawals of the spokesperson rights.

Mover: Gavin Wayne

Seconder: Matt Simkiss

CARRIED

Multiple councillors expressed concern regarding the perceived conflict between the UMSU Newspaper policy and the UMSU Constitution as well as concern regarding who gets to decide if UMSU isn't acting in the best interests of the organisation?

Daniel Beratis said that s65.1 of the Constitution makes the General Secretary the publisher, except where other policy dictates otherwise and therefore Council has decided (by creating a newspaper policy)

Councillors indicated that there should be a way for the organisation to have some oversight or overview for legal issues, as well as a way of controlling information given out by the organisation.

Lachlan asked why the General Secretary was the publisher at all.

Motion 9: To direct the UMSU Operations Sub Committee to fulfil its designated role

Mover: Gavin Wayne

Seconder: Lachlan Blain

CARRIED

Motion 10: That Lachlan chair a taskforce to construct language and options around clarifying the General Secretary's role in publishing Farrago.

That the members of this taskforce include: Lachlan Blain, a Member of Advocacy and Legal, a member of Communications, the Media OBs, the General Secretary, the President, Daniel Beratis and Gavin Wayne.

That the taskforce will produce options to present to council in 3 council times.

That the taskforce will meet every 2 weeks.

Mover: Gavin Wayne

Seconder: Lachlan Blain

CARRIED

Yasmine Luu would like it minuted "that council is a bunch of dickheads"

Motion 11: That Students' Council affirm, in accordance with the Newspaper Policy, that the Media Department is independent and is responsible for its editorial content, that the General Secretary is publisher in name only, and that Office Bearers cannot exercise editorial control over the content of the Media Department

Department is independent and is responsible for its editorial content, that the General Secretary is publisher in name only, and that Office Bearers cannot exercise editorial control over the content of the Media Department

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

5. Operational Business

8.1 Office Bearer Leave

8.1.1 Teresa Gornall 28/08 – 8/09

8.1.2 Yasmine Luu 11/09 – 22/09

Motion 12: That UMSU Students' Council congratulate Yas's parents on their impending nuptials

Mover: Hannah Billett

Seconder: Gavin Wayne

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Motion 13: To grant leave to both Yasmine Luu and Teresa Gornall for the time frames outlined above

Mover: Blake Atmaja

Seconder: Gavin Wayne

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

PROCEDURAL MOTION: That council move in camera

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

Council moved in camera at 12:46pm

During this time Council realised that they didn't need to move into camera, so moved back out of camera.

Council moved out of camera at 12:46

PROCEDURAL MOTION: To move to items 10.3, 10.5, 9.3, 10.4, 9.1 immediately

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

10.3 Queer Expenditure

Motion 14: To approve the following en bloc:

To approve an increase of budget for Queer Lunch, contained within the Food and Beverages budget line, from \$3600 for the year to \$4300 for the year.

To approve an invoice from Bobby McGees of \$9800 from the Special Projects and Events budget line for the total hire, catering et al. of Queer Ball, to be held on Thursday the 21st of September, 2017.

To approve up to \$900 from the Special Projects and Events budget line for additional expenditure relating to Queer Ball.

To approve up to \$200 for the purchase of contraceptive/sexual safety material (ie. condoms, dams, leaflets, lubrication) from the Special Projects and Events budget line for use in stocking the Queer Space.

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

10.5 Activities Department Expenditure

Motion 15: To approve up to \$200 for Facebook sponsored ads for Oktoberfest from Activities budget 3839

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

9.3 Endorsement of UMSU recommendations for the taskforce on sexual assault

Gavin Wayne asked what the tabled changes were to the document

Yan said that the original was poorly worded, and that she had added that extra avenues of complaint should be advertised. She also added comments about language regarding victim blaming. There was also an additional demand regarding Club Welfare training.

Lucy Turton asked who put this together and on what advice

Yan answered that her and Hannah, together with autonomous departments, UMSU Legal, UMSU INTL using resources such as the UNSW Human Rights and the End Rape on Campus report.

Lachlan Blain asked how many colleges have a legal relationship with the University of Melbourne. Hannah Billett replied that she believed it was only Medley

Motion 16: To endorse the UMSU recommendations for the taskforce on sexual assault

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

10.4 Marriage Equality and the Academic Board

Preamble:

In the lead up to the Postal Survey in relation to Marriage Equality a number of Australian universities, including RMIT, UWA, Monash, La Trobe, Deakin, and Swinburne, have expressed their public support for marriage equality. We know that over 80% of young people aged 18-24 support marriage equality. Marriage equality is an issue that will directly impact the lives of staff and students at the University of Melbourne. So far the University of Melbourne has not indicated whether it will take a formal position in relation to Marriage Equality. The Vice-Chancellor has advised staff of the University that the question of whether the University should take a position will be the subject of discussion at the next meeting of the Academic Board.

UMSU representatives on Academic Board will be arguing that the University should take a public position in favour of Marriage Equality.

Motion 17: UMSU calls upon the University to publicly support the campaign for Marriage Equality. UMSU encourages the University of Melbourne to make clear and unequivocal public statements in support of the recognition of equal rights for queer members of the University and in the wider community.

Mover: Yan Zhuang

Seconder: Daniel Beratis

CARRIED

9.1 Young Worker's Centre Franchise Survey 2017

The Young Worker's Centre operates out of Trades Hall in Carlton, and aims to inform young Australians below the age of 30 of their rights at work. They also assist in getting young people back pay, helping them approach their employer about issues they see at work, and generally helping to engage young people in the union movement.

In light of the recent scandals from Grill'd, 7/11, Bakers Delight, and Subway (to only name a few), the Young Worker's Centre has dedicated time to educating workers about the systematic failures of the franchise operating model so that they may begin to reform their workplace. This might take the form of terminating zombie agreements, or collectively speaking to management.

In order to take the fight to the next level, YWC has launched a survey collecting the experiences of people who have worked for a franchise. This information will be used to better inform their campaign against stores that systematically exploit young people.

Motion 18:

1. That UMSU endorses the survey and reaffirms its solidarity with young workers, many of whom are university students attempting to make ends meet.
2. UMSU spreads the survey via its weekly newsletter and publicizes it via relevant social media channels.

Mover: Louis Devine

Seconder: Desiree Cai

CARRIED

9.2 VCESS and Volunteering Policy

Preamble:

The VCE Summer School (VCESS) is a student-run UMSU Volunteering program, which provides intensive tutoring to disadvantaged high-school students with the aim of reducing educational inequality in Victoria. VCESS was founded in 1971 and since then has

consistently provided educational, extracurricular and leadership opportunities for between 300 and 400 high-school students and around 200 university students every year. In doing so it has also provided positive outreach and engagement for both the Student Union (in its various incarnations) and the University.

In 2016 VCESS was brought under the banner of the newly formed UMSU Volunteering department, and in 2017 the current directors were informed that the program was to be bound by the new UMSU Volunteering Policy and its associated procedures. To the knowledge of the current directors these Policy and Procedures were developed without input from or consultation with VCESS or any other UMSU Volunteering programs. As such there are a number of provisions which the current directors are concerned will adversely affect both the academic integrity of the program, and more significantly, its value as an outreach and engagement instrument.

The current directors submitted a list of these concerns to the Coordinator, Volunteering, but this was not progressed before she left the position.

Motion:

That the UMSU volunteering programs be consulted on the development of the UMSU Volunteering Policy and associated procedures, and that their concerns be taken into consideration in the further development of these documents. Furthermore, that these Policy and associated procedures not be brought to a vote of Students Council before such consultation has taken place.

Mover: Charles Cornwallis

Secunder:

MOTION WITHDRAWN as this is already part of UMSU procedure

PROCEDURAL MOTION: To move to items 10.1, 10.2, and 10.6 immediately

Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair)

CARRIED

10.1 NTEU Solidarity Motion

Motion 19: That UMSU stands in solidarity with the NTEU on the issue of academic freedom at the University of Melbourne. The 'number one' University in Australia should not be afraid of critical enquiry, intellectual discourse, or public controversy. These qualities are fundamental to the role of universities in the public sphere; it is through rigorous intellectual discourse that academics contribute to public dialogue.

That UMSU stands in solidarity with the NTEU on the issue of staff cuts. Cuts to staff are cuts to students. UMSU condemns large scale and unjustified cuts to staff.

Mover: Sinead Manning

Secunder: Daniel Beratis

CARRIED

10.2 Take Back Our Co-Op Campaign

Preamble: Students from several universities have entered a campaign to make the Co-op more accountable to its members.

We accuse the Co-op of:

Overcharging for textbooks relative to other suppliers and students' expectations.

Lacking diversity in its Board of Directors. There are no students or academics on its Board.

The Secretary of the Board is Talal Yassine. Almost half of the Board are on the payroll of companies owned by the Yassine family.

Failing to provide members of reasonable notice of AGMs or elections.

Holding AGMs at inaccessible locations (eg. this year, its AGM was held in a small regional town in NSW).

Deliberately preventing students from participating in the management of the Co-op.

Remunerating its Directors at over \$330 000 (for attending an average of six meetings), despite the Co-op running at a loss of several million dollars each year.

Most troublingly, the Co-op's recent AGM was not conducted in accordance with either the Co-op's Rules, or the Co-operative National Law.

At this AGM, students had the majority in the room, until our proxies were deemed invalid (and we were informed that the status quo group – comprised largely of Co-op senior managers and current directors – had over 100 proxies).

The Secretary of the Board refused to allow us to review these proxies. Since the AGM in March, several retail employees of the Co-op have approached the campaign, independently of each other, blowing the whistle on the behaviour of Co-op senior managers. They allege that those managers improperly coerced junior employees into signing away their proxies in order to prevent students from holding a majority at the most recent AGM.

Motion:

UMSU unequivocally condemn the Co-op's failure to democratically engage with its members.

UMSU affirms its support for the 'Take Back Our Co-op' campaign and recognises that it is a movement capable of increasing students' control over an organisation that has acted with disdain towards its students members.

UMSU will take an active role in the strategies of the Take Back Our Co-op campaign and encourage the broader student community to do the same. Potentially, for instance, by sending UMSU representatives to attend the Co-op's 2018 AGM.

UMSU will engage with the NTEU to encourage them to take part in the campaign to put the Co-op back under the control of academics and students.

Mover: Yan Zhuang
NOT VOTED ON

Secunder:

Yan gave speaking rights to Jeremy Nadel in her place. Jeremy tabled a document for Students' Council entitled Take back our Coop

Jeremy spoke to his role in the campaign and in reporting on the campaign.

Gavin Wayne asked Jeremy the rationale behind asking Yan to move the motion. Jeremy responded that he didn't want his name on the motion as he reports on the Coop regularly.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: To go in camera allowing Goldie Pergl and Jeremy Nadel to stay Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair) CARRIED
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Council moved in camera at 1:04pm

During this time, council discussed the motion above and a Procedural was moved to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Council moved to include strangers at 1:08pm

10.6 Melbourne Metro –support in campaign called University station

Council discussed the University Station proposal and the name Station McStationface. No motions were tabled.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: That Council moves in camera Mover: Yasmine Luu (Chair) CARRIED
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Council moved in camera at 1:11pm

During this time, council discussed the Presidents' Office Bearer report

Council moved to include strangers at 1:22pm

6. Next Meeting

Meeting in 2 weeks.

7. Close

Meeting closed at 1:25pm