



University of Melbourne Student Union

**Office Bearer Reports
To Students' Council 9(16)
28.4.2016**

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*Office bearers who fail to submit a report for 3 consecutive scheduled meetings will have their honoraria suspended. **(As this meeting is unscheduled it won't count towards this requirement).**

President

Position Vacant

**General Secretary
James Bashford**

Constitutional Change Feedback Survey

A survey was distributed with the UMSU newsletter seeking feedback on many of the changes which have been proposed through the CWG process. The survey has had a reasonably good response and will provide far more feedback from a broader group of students than has been available previously when considering changes. A summary of results so far has been included with the agenda for Council's consideration, keeping in mind that it's not necessarily a representative poll but rather a means of gathering more input.

Arts and Cultural Facilities Review

The University is undertaking a review of art and cultural facilities on campus as part of the Student Precinct development. Justin, Susan (manager of arts & entertainment), the Creative Arts Officers and I attended a stakeholder meeting with the architect and consultant undertaking the review on Monday 26th. Of note is that the University has initiated this process when all but two of the facilities being examined are UMSU facilities. The review is intended to run for 10 weeks but is expected to take longer.

Elected Reps Meeting

The University holds regular meetings with elected student reps as a forum to raise general issues. These are important opportunities for us to hold discussions with senior members of the Chancellery and from now on we'll be opening the attendance of UMSU reps to rotate amongst OBs to ensure everyone has a chance to attend or raise issues of concern to their department.

The last meeting was on Monday the 26th with Elizabeth Capp and Richard James. Recent media attention around robberies at Lincoln Square was also discussed by David Scott from Uni PR. Items raised by UMSU included:

- Out of date information about reporting sexual assault reporting on the Uni website.
- Uni council elections (no update was available)
- Uni council transparency – a meeting will be organised with the University Secretary to discuss UMSU's concerns about this
- The Uni's exam calculator policy and the misrepresentation of UMSU's view about this at ACCC
- The Sustainability Policy process: ensuring information is public and that Anisa's working groups are supported by the Uni.
- Lack of enforcement of the common lunch hour on Tuesdays: Richard James indicated this should be looked into by the FAP workstream on timetabling. We reiterated the need for there to be an enforced common lunch hour despite the crowded timetable.
- University Australia survey on safety on campus – still scheduled for May but no update.
- The federal election: We've requested a meeting of student reps with the Vice-Chancellor to discuss policy issues at the election, likely to occur in late May. We also again raised the idea of running a public forum with higher education spokespeople of the major parties prior to the election.

Acting President

This will (barring any unexpected events) be my last report as Acting President. Thanks to everyone who has helped me out, given me advice, put up with me or otherwise supported me over the past month. While this has been a tough and demanding month for the Union I've been proud of the way we've come together as an Office Bearer team and hope that this will continue over the remainder of our term. As Dan Andrews would say, we've been getting on with it. Nonetheless I'll be glad to have a new President so UMSU can be at full capacity for the many challenges we have left to face this year.

**Activities
Megan Pollock & Itsi Weinstock**



Clubs & Societies
Ryan Davey & Yasmine Luu

New Club Affiliations:

Following Inaugural General Meeting Training held on Tuesday the 26th, new clubs will now begin booking dates for their IGM's. The main role of the Department's OB's and Committee in the coming weeks will be to schedule the meetings on dates agreed upon by founding members and C&S. The department will be sending a representative to each of these IGM's to act as the chairperson and returning officer. If these meetings run smoothly and all paperwork is submitted, the applicants will have fulfilled the department's requirements and each club will be granted full affiliation.

Lockers:

Late last week, OB's conducted an audit on club lockers in order to establish whether clubs were adhering to the agreed terms of use, as well as to determine how many lockers could be put up in a second round of locker applications. Lockers are a prized asset among clubs and not all applications are successful due to immense demand. Final numbers are being tallied and a second round of locker distribution will take place in the coming days.

For Clubs Carnival, New Club Affiliations, Welfare Resources and Semester 1 Clubs Council see report from council meeting 21-4-2016.

No expenses to report.

Creative Arts
Joshua Lynzaat & Jeanette Tong

Disabilities
Jess Kapuscinski-Evan & Christian Tsoutsouvas

Education (Academic Affairs)
Tom Crowley & Paul Sakkal

Flexible Academic Programming Project

All four of the Flex Ap streams have met several times and are well underway in their task of identifying problems areas, and working towards solutions to address these areas.

In conjunction with the series of fora, our Department is putting the finishing touches on a Flex Ap survey to be distributed within the next fortnight. The survey will inform the positions we take on issues that arise on Flex Ap work streams.

The second round of Flex Ap streams are set to get underway in April/May (Semester Structure, Academic Workforce, Optimising Physical Infrastructure, Curriculum Sharing) and we are pleased to announce that UMSU's reps have been confirmed: Emily James (Semester Structure) and Tyson Holloway-Clarke (Optimising physical Infrastructure).

Bachelor of Commerce

A standing committee into the Bachelor of Commerce has approved recommendations to change the structure of the course. The changes would see a reduction in the maximum number of points students can get from breadth subjects, from 100 points to 75 points. There is also likely to be changes to the core subjects for majors in economics and finance.

Our Department will begin to work to consult with the University to ensure the changes to not adversely effect students currently enrolled in the course. Any new information that comes to light will be shared with Council in coming meetings.

Cadmus

Following on from our previous report to Council regarding the specifics of Cadmus' capabilities, we have been in constant dialogue with Gregor Kennedy (PVC, Educational Innovation) and Richard James (PVC, Academic) regarding the future of Cadmus. After several discussions with them, as well as a meeting with the creators of the tool, we have ensured that it is not the University's intention to provide keyboard biometrics data to tutors, thus safeguarding students from myriad concerns that were originally canvassed. It is this Department's view that the University's intentions for Cadmus are not sinister, and are rather an attempt to weed out the perceived scourge of original essay-purchasing. However, the potential use of Cadmus is something that we are very wary of, and we are in the process of seeking assurances to limit the future use of Cadmus. A framework for communication in relation to Cadmus has been developed between this Department and Chancellery, and we will inform Council of any new information that arises in terms of the University's thinking on Cadmus. The live trials are due to wrap up soon, and evaluations will be undertaken by the various faculties to determine the success of the trials. These evaluations will be shared with us. For those interested, an in-depth write-up on Cadmus can be found in this week's edition of Parkville Station, as well as shorter pieces in the latest edition of Farrago and on The Australian's website.

Education (Public Affairs)
Akira Boardman & Dominic Cernaz

Election

We continue to plan towards the upcoming federal election, encouraging student to enrol to vote so they can have their say as well as waiting for the Federal Budget so we can inform students how they will be affected.

May 11 NDA

In the lead up to the NDA we will be running a few events in addition to continual stalls. Immediately after the budget we will have a response in the form of a speak out and we are currently in the process of organising a more formal UMSU response on the day, prior to the rally, with input from each department to highlight how the budget will effect different groups of students.

Education Conference

We now know that Education Conference will be in Sydney in the first week of July (4th-7th) There will be more on this in the future.

Environment
Zac Power & Anisa Rogers

The Environment Office has been very busy over the last few weeks. The amazing protest last week by Fossil Free MU showed the power of civil disobedience when all other formal channels have been tried, and the group is now getting ready for its meeting with the decision makers next week. The Sustainability Plan consultation is underway and Anisa is working hard to try and get strong student working groups to co-design the Plan with the Sustainability Executive, the next meeting is this Thursday 12-2. Students are getting very excited as a permanent space for the bike co-op is looking likely to open in May, so reaching out to stakeholders and planning for it has begun. Play With Your Food is drawing bigger crowds with about 25 students last week, and the Doco Nights are going well.

Indigenous
Tyson Holloway-Clarke & Emily Kayte James

Media
Danielle Bagnato, Sebastian Dodds, Caleb Triscari & Baya Ou Yang

Not much has happened since the previous council.

We had a meeting to discuss the future of Radio Fodder's programming due to a high demand of placements but limited time slots.

Our launch party for Edition Three went well despite the rainy weather, and our second Wordplay of the year was on Tuesday.

Meeting no.	Date	Description	Amount	Line-Item
Op-Sub	7/4/16	Farrago Ed3 Launch Party	\$500.00	Special Projects/Events

Queer
Frances Connors & Lotus Ye

Key Activities since Last Meeting:

We are currently meeting regularly with the Wom*n's, Disabilities and Welfare to plan for Rad Sex and Consent. This includes planning for workshops, budgeting, and emailing potential speakers. So far we have successfully booked groups such as Yeah for workshops and are working to confirm a number of other speakers.

Continuation of regular events, Queer Lunch with the Queer Bunch, Thursday Funtimes and our collectives.

Successful screening of 'But I'm a Cheerleader', with more screenings of LGBT+ films being planned.

As of Wednesday we will have met with RISN, the Rainbow International Students Network, a fledgling organisation dedicated to helping LGBT+ students. As the Queer Department has traditionally been more insular, this is a great way for the department to support a demographic of LGBT+ students that might otherwise not be comfortable engaging with the Queer Department

List of Planned Actions:

Finalisation of planning for Rad Sex and Consent Week

We have begun planning a talk with the comic artist Sophie Labelle, known for her work with the web comic 'Assigned Male' and are very excited to have her possibly come to the university on the 13th of May.

Costs incurred since last council

Event	Date	Products	Cost
Queer Lunch	20/04/16	Pizza	\$110

Welfare
Sarah Xia & Yan Zhuang

The past week has been a relatively quiet week for the Welfare Department after Stress Less Week, and we've been running our regular events to great success.

Rad Sex and Consent Week

The designs for Rad Sex and Consent Week were finalised recently, and we've updated our social media to promote the week. As mentioned in our last report, Rad Sex and Consent Week is in Week 9, and we're very excited.

Australian and NZ University Mental Health Day

The University is participating in Australian and NZ University Mental Health Day on 27 April 2016, and we'll be promoting their Music, Movement and Mindfulness Session. The point of contact for the session is Danielle Clayman, the Campus Community Wellbeing Coordinator.

Regular Events

Our regular events have been a wonderful way to engage students. We've seen both new and returning attendees come to our events and collectives in the past week.

The breakfast last Thursday had higher than expected attendance despite the wet weather, and we're still experimenting with using the UMSU speaker to play music at breakfast. Any song suggestions can be sent to welfare@union.unimelb.edu.au!

Budget Expenditure

Welfare Committee Meeting no.	Date of meeting	Description	Amount	Line-Item
02/16	01/02/2016	Free Breakfast #7	173.58	Regular Events

Wom*n's
Adriana Mells & Hien Nguyen

**Burnley Campus
Eranthos Beretta**

Key News: Burnley 125th Celebration Festival Day this Saturday.

Events:

Successful Easter Egg Hunt on the 4th of April .

125th Festival Day this Saturday the 30th of April 10am - 3pm BSA will help provide drinks and music, UoM will be organising food and tours. over 20 Burnley students volunteering on the day. Activities will be running a BBQ at Burnley on the 6th of May at Burnley!

Expenditure(s) no expenditures since last report

BSA asked for formal response on incident involving students in after hours computer labs (see minutes)

Wom*n's Department gifted Burnley with a box full of sanitary and sexual health products which has been set up in an area for students in the SAB at Burnley.

Progress on assigned actions from last report:

Action#1:

ACTION: Eranthos to follow up with Stefan Arndt (Campus Director) about remote access student services. = progress , all is set up on Burnley's end.. issues with connectivity and booking services from the university. still awaiting progress. - Still awaiting IT resolution

Action #2: First aid training for Burnley students and reps.

Action #3:

Follow up SSAF budget set for "Non-Parkville Campuses" with Justin Bare to asses Burnley improvements. = still needs to be actioned by E Beretta with J Bare. in progress.

**Victorian College of the Arts
Van Rudd**

NUS National Day of Action May 11th

I thought it would be worth reporting on the build up to the next main event at the VCA - the May 11th National Day of Action against the Liberal's planned cuts to higher education and their plans for fee deregulation.

We have set aside a small budget to help with some creative activities leading up to the rally. We have begun to design posters specifically for the VCA and we'll look to some other attention grabbing methods in the coming days.

It was good that many VCA students that gathered outside the cafe at the last rally were quite receptive to the idea of protest, so it would be good to further harness their enthusiasm and gather a small VCA contingent to the main rally at 2pm. Students and UMSU council members are welcome to come down and lend a hand placing posters up and contributing to ideas.

We'll still be utilizing this blurb for general publicity material such as on facebook and other social media:

#May11NDA

Students fought and won twice against Christopher Pyne's 2014 plans to deregulate university fees. Now, Turnbull's Education Minister, Simon Birmingham, has brought back the policy which will lead to students paying \$100k plus for their degrees.

On top of that, the Liberals want to make a 20% cut in university funding, along with a raft of other attacks on HECS - forcing students and graduates into a prison of debt.

This government has made it clear that they will not stop until the university sector has been completely privatised.