

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Office Bearer Reports
To Students' Council 7(16)
7.4.2016**

Summary	
President	N/A
General Secretary	Submitted
Activities	Submitted
Clubs & Societies	Submitted
Creative Arts	Submitted
Disabilities	Submitted
Education (Academic Affairs)	Submitted
Education (Public Affairs)	Submitted
Environment	Submitted
Indigenous	No report submitted
Media	Submitted
Queer	Submitted
Welfare	Submitted
Wom*ns	Submitted
Burnley	Submitted
VCA	Submitted – includes recommendations

*Office bearers who fail to submit a report for 3 consecutive meetings will have their honoraria suspended.

President

Position vacant

**General Secretary
James Bashford**

Key activities:

Fees, deregulation and other grim news

It's becoming increasingly clear that this upcoming federal budget is shaping up to be yet another to target students for budget savings. Education Minister Birmingham has confirmed that deregulation will be pursued by a re-elected Liberal government while in the interim they will pursue a 25% increase to student fees and low income HECS repayments designed specifically to target women and low income earners. This is a disgraceful excuse for policy and UMSU should put every effort into defeating these proposals and, ultimately, the government. NUS will protest on April 13th with

Melbourne Uni's contingent gathering on South Lawn from 12:30. Going forward we will need to continue to escalate an activist campaign whilst also developing a campaign for the federal election, likely for July 2.

Resignation of James Baker

James Baker submitted his resignation to me on March 21st, effective from the 23rd. He indicated his decision was due to personal reasons and that he felt it was in the best interests of himself and UMSU. I am now serving as acting president in the interim until a replacement is appointment.

The constitution stipulates that casual vacancies may only be permanently filled at a by-election but temporarily filled by Students' Council. While it stipulates that by-elections in semester 2 must be held concurrently with the annual UMSU elections, it gives no guidance for when vacancies arise in semester 1. Given this and given that this is the first time an UMSU President has resigned, I have requested legal advice to inform Council's decision as to the appropriate method for filling the vacancy.

Special General Meeting

UMSU held an SGM on Tuesday April 5th. Other than a late start the SGM ran smoothly and 7 of the 9 amendments were successful. Of the unsuccessful amendments, students appear to agree the misspelling of "calendar" should remain as a "monument to human fallibility". The media honoraria motion also fail to pass which is reflective of the very high bar for constitutional amendments to succeed (75% majority) and the need to reach consensus on amendments before taking them to an SGM. This change can now return to the CWG for further consideration.

Constitutional Working Group

By the time of council we will have just had our third meeting but things are slightly behind my intended schedule. Adriana has taken strong initiative in developing changes relevant to women students in consultation with her collective and department and the working group has had some very productive if broad reaching discussions. I'm hoping to get each department to review sections of the constitution relevant to them to ensure all parts of our organisation are a part of this process.

Ethical Sponsorship Working Group

We've had one meeting so far, looking particularly at precedential examples of ethical sponsorship or equivalent policies at similar organisations. I haven't had a chance to plan the next meeting as yet.

University Meetings

As General Secretary and Acting President I will have attended several important meetings by the time of council including a meeting of my FAP workstream and a meeting of the Student Precinct Steering Group. I intend to provide more detailed reports of these meetings as soon as possible but please ask me any questions you want in the meantime.

<p style="text-align: center;">Activities Megan Pollock & Itsi Weinstock</p>
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Key activities:

#1 Zedtown

Zedtown was hosted by Parkville Campus on Easter Sunday. The event was a success with over 250 participants dressing up and competition to stay alive. The ticket sales were lower than hoped in the end but the feedback was positive with people saying it was a good size game. Zedtown was shown on channel 7 news and feedback was good so we are expecting that if we repeat the event again there will be a bigger turnout.

#2 Cocktail

Our next event coming up is Cocktail night on April the 13th from 7pm at the Savoy Tavern. Tickets are \$20 which includes two free cocktails at the door and canapés through the night.

Budget expenditure since last report:

Date	Event	Description	Expenditure	Budget Line
2/11/2015	BBQ Modifications	BBQ Wheels	\$1,205.91	3839
1/12/2015	Luna Park	Venue Hire	\$13,500.00	3839
8/02/2016	Luna Park and SoUP	Tickets	\$170.50	3839
10/02/2016	SoUP	Beer and Cider	\$6,195.20	3839
10/02/2016	Cocktail	Deposit	\$1,500.00	3839
15/02/2016	Luna Park and SoUP	Flyers	\$660.00	3839
15/02/2016	SoUP	Cruisers	\$3,144.90	3839
16/02/2016	SoUP	Cruisers	\$3,144.90	3839
16/02/2016	SoUP	Water	\$433.29	3839
19/02/2016	BBQ Modifications	Bolts and nuts	\$101.26	3839
22/02/2016	BBQ Modifications	Bolts and nuts	\$13.80	3839
2/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	Gas refill	\$30.00	3839
4/03/2016	SoUP	Cleaners	\$1,237.97	3839
4/03/2016	SoUP	Lighting	\$4,000.00	3839
4/03/2016	SoUP	DJ	\$800.00	3839
9/03/2016	SoUP	Cups	\$491.14	3839
9/03/2016	SoUP	Pizza	\$1,000.00	3839
9/03/2016	SoUP	Security	\$3,240.27	3839
10/03/2016	SoUP	Beer and Cider	\$6,195.20	3839
15/03/2016	Zedtown	Advertising	\$308.55	3839
15/03/2016	Trivia	Cider	\$1,672.01	3839
15/03/2016	SoUP	Photographer	\$180.00	3839
15/03/2016	Zedtown	Advertising	\$308.55	3839
15/03/2016	General	Entrance Stamp	\$94.40	3839
15/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	Pizza	\$500.00	3839
15/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	AV	\$420.00	3839
16/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	Decorations	116.46	3839
16/03/2016	Trivia (st Pats)	Gas	\$43.56	3839
17/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	Cleaners	\$589.22	3839
17/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	Security	\$1,106.27	3839
17/03/2016	SoUP	AV	\$ 890	3839
23/03/2016	Trivia (St Pats)	MC	\$20.00	3839
23/03/2016	SoUP	Bar Staff	\$120.00	3839
23/03/2016	Trivia (st Pats)	Bar Staff	\$120.00	3839

23/03/2016	Trivia (st Pats)	Bar Staff	\$100.00	3839
23/03/2016	SoUP	Bar Staff	\$140.00	3839
23/03/2016	SoUP	Bar Staff	\$120.00	3839
27/03/2016	Zedtown	Cleaners	\$1,046.52	3839
27/03/2016	Zedtown	Security	\$3,052.44	3839

Clubs & Societies
Ryan Davey & Yasmine Luu

Clubs Carnival:

Clubs Carnival, aside from O-week, is the Clubs department’s biggest event. We are expecting upwards of 30 clubs on the day, and have also asked other UMSU departments to come join the festivities, some opting for stalls. Clubs carnival is an amazing way for students to engage with clubs proactively, the point of the carnival is immersion, to allow students to have a free bite to eat, a free game, a free dance and the freedom to express themselves to whatever passion they choose. We are hiring 4 marquees for the event, housing some of our clubs. There will be a big BBQ, kegs, a giant human foosball area and many more activities. We have been working tirelessly to get clubs to get involved in this event and we expect this to be one of the biggest carnivals so far.

We have promoted Clubs Carnival online via our facebook page, but also have asked printed media such as Farrago and Parkville Station to feature Clubs Carnival.

New Club Applications:

We received 25 new clubs applications for the semester 1 intake. Committee was able to break down the 25 into 3 categories; rejected, accepted or deferred. Out of the 25, 10 were granted initial approval, 6 were rejected and 9 were deferred to the next committee meeting pending further information.

We are excited to welcome those beginning their new Club journey with us and will be working very closely with them to ensure they receive proper IGM training, constitution help and any other guidance we can provide.

Gunter and his choices:

Gunter’s Choice continues! We have had a lot of feedback from clubs that have been Gunter’s Choice this year and they have loved being featured in the UMSU E-newsletter. We are still working on the LED screens around Union House. Gunter will feature prominently at the Clubs Carnival. We will be using the Gunter’s Choice frame to get photos of clubs around the carnival. Using Gunter has ensured C&S have a great social media platform to build upon.

Expenditure:

Meeting Number	Item	Event	Budget Line	Amount (\$)
5/16	Marquee Setup and equipment	Clubs Carnival	Special Projects	Up to \$5000.00

Creative Arts
Joshua Lynzaat & Jeanette Tong

Update on Events:

GRANTS: Our first round of grants closed on 24th March, and we had our committee meeting on 31st March to discuss them. We normally allocate up to \$2000 per round of grants, but we moved \$1000 from our final round to this first round so we could pass up to \$3000.

We passed \$2500 towards 6 artists in this first round, which is an increase from previous years. We believe that this could be because the grants are becoming slightly better known, but we have also received an increased number of applicants from VCA, especially from the visual artists presenting work in the George Paton Gallery. They have indicated to us that they were sent to us because the VCA no longer administers grants for artistic projects due to funding cuts.

Should the higher volume of VCA applicants increase throughout the year, we may apply to UMSU for more funding in order to better facilitate and support the student artists coming up to us. We also believe that this is slowly encouraging VCA to accept that UMSU is there as a support system, and have been telling the VCA students we've met with to spread the good word of our existence. So that's good, at least.

LIFE DRAWING attendance has been high so far, next one is 12th April, 6pm in the Arts Lab.

CREATIVE ARTS COLLECTIVE meetings have been going well. So far we've ranged between 1-20ish attendants over 2 hours each week, and have facilitated: people making friends, some writing/drawing/creative responses to household objects, snack-eating, rigorous discussions/debate about Art in the Wider World etc. It's been good to find out that having the space (physical and metaphorical) for this is useful and also fun – looking forward to this going on to become a long-term thing.

So far we've received just over a dozen applications for *POP! Wait a minute* which we're happy with. We're extending the deadline till 11th April just for people to get it together post mid-semester break, and we'll probably continue to slot people in as they unofficially apply three weeks into the program opening.

Our first **TALKING OUT OF YOUR ARTS** sessions was great – we invited a student curator who'd presented at George Paton Gallery, and last year's student theatre review coordinator to come chat about their process. Snacks and interesting discussions were had. We're currently getting in touch with a couple of the VCA 2nd year photography students in the show *Two Options* (GPG, 6-15 April) to come in for our next TOoYA on Friday 22nd April.

Our radio show, **WHAT I THINK WHEN I THINK ABOUT ART** will be starting Tuesday 5th April at 11:00, hosted by two of our committee members, Harriet and Guy. They're great. It'll be great. Tune in. There'll be an interview with John Citizen, who're playing at BBQ + Bevies the same day.

We have met with The Filmmakers Collaborative, and are happy to tentatively confirm that the (temporarily named) **Melbourne University Film Festival (MUFF)** will happen in Semester 2, and will go across two evenings, Friday and Saturday in the Union Theatre. We might also be doing looped screenings in the GPG. We're currently waiting on some info about Student Engagement grants, but depending on how that goes, we may apply to Whole of Union Fund to cover venue hire and some other associated costs; it's unlikely to cost over \$1000. The festival's program will be entirely student films/moving images and the Film Collab will be curating from the main 4 films they produce each year, previous as-yet-unscreened films, shorter & less time-heavy competitions they run, and also

from submissions that will open a bit later on to pitches from the wider student community. We are also in contact with FilmSoc to see how we can manage working across departments. The Arts & Entertainment Manager is also assisting us in the production of this festival.

Outreach:

We have continued speaking at various relevant lectures about our programs and opportunities – have been down to VCA a few times to tell them about UMSU SSAF things like welfare/food bank, advocacy, and other autonomous departments for more support systems. It's been pretty well received, people seemed pleased to hear that these things existed. Some feedback we've gotten is that we should have been there at O-week or early on while the VCA students are all together (a rarity because of the faculty segmentations) to give them this information. It might be good to do a whole of UMSU event down there so the students feel more included.

Progress on assigned actions from last report:

Action#1:

Publicise our events and the Union by talking at lectures, using social media and printed material, and emailing relevant student clubs and societies.

VERDICT: Going well, ongoing.

Action #2:

Continue to talk to students in Music Faculty and at VCA to ascertain needs re: support from the Union.

VERDICT: Ongoing.

List of action points to be completed by next report:

Action#1:

Put together the program for *Pop! Wait A Minute* based on applications we have received thus far, and ensure that we are able to support and fund them.

Action #2:

Begin getting in touch with mentors for TASTINGS to ensure their availabilities.

Budget expenditure since last report:

Meeting no.	Date	Description	Amount	Line-Item	Comments
4	31/3/2016	Arts Grants Round 1	\$2500.00	3531	6 projects

Disabilities **Jess Kapuscinski-Evan & Christian Tsoutsouvas**

We have our regular events still running (Anxiety Support Group and Disabilities Collective). Our Auslan classes started the week before the break however we had a week off over Easter. We will also be starting our fortnightly film screenings next week where each film will have something to do with disability. So far we have planned to show "Edward Scissor Hands" and "Frida". We are going to be regularly involved with the latest constitutional changes as well as the development of the new student precinct. We have 80% confirmed three arts and disability workshops and/or talks. One will be run by Christian and myself at VCA, one will be run by a student visual artist and one will be run by a person who has expertise in audio description of theatre and visual arts. Our mental health conditions campaign is still going and as part of this we would like to screen one of the documentaries from the ABC "Mental As" programming series. We are investigating if there is merit in running a project with the Environment Department about the incorrect use of heating and air-conditioning on campus and how this may impact on students with certain disabilities. Christian attended Anxiety Support training recently and I spoke at the panel discussion which the Wom*n's Department held, the title of which was "Does feminism speak for all women?"

Education (Academic Affairs) **Tom Crowley & Paul Sakkal**

Cadmus

The university has designed new anti-plagiarism software 'in-house', in conjunction with two recent Engineering graduates working for the Melbourne Accelerated Program. Although the software, 'Cadmus', is not yet finished, it has already been rolled out in a live pilot program. The pilot, overseen by Gregor Kennedy and David Israel, ran in two first-year Commerce subjects over summer and is currently running in a small number of MSD subjects.

The creators of Cadmus presented to a meeting of TALQAC on Thursday March 17th. Cadmus is touted as a response to the threat of plagiarism, and in particular to the submission of essays that have been bought from a third-party. However, it has, to put things delicately, suffered somewhat from 'mission creep', and also offers a range of innovations that stand to change the way essays are written and marked.

Here's how it works:

- Cadmus requires you to do all of your work in an online, monitored space, akin to Google Docs.
- To log in to this online space, you need to have both your laptop and your phone (your phone is required as verification that you haven't given your password to someone else).
- To work on your assessment, **your laptop and phone must both be connected to the internet.**
- Within the Cadmus workspace, a series of 'educative responses' can be triggered if a student does anything suspicious. Copy-pasting large slabs of text, regardless of their source location, will trigger a box warning the student against plagiarism. Copy-pasting small segments of text will trigger a warning to quote and cite properly.
- Data on **the number of times students have copied and pasted text** is collated and can be shown to markers.

- Cadmus also collates a large amount of data about, essentially, every step of your essay-writing process, which can also be shown to markers. **It tracks when you've worked on your assignment**, so that a marker can know if you've done your essay at the last minute or can see a week out from a submission date if you've yet to start. It will also soon have the capacity to save and store drafts and notes (though this is not yet available).
- Cadmus also uses **keyboard biometrics to verify that you are the one typing**. It is also claimed that it can **recognise based on your typing style whether you're transcribing something from another source**. Again, that data is collated and can be shown to markers.
- The presenter remarked that a tutor could know within five minutes of submission what the student's mark was going to be solely by the data on how the essay was written.

There are several issues here:

- Students with idiosyncratic writing styles will find this difficult to adjust to, and their performance may suffer. Amongst students who are disadvantaged: students who like to write their essays out and type them up; students who like to essentially 'rewrite' a draft with minor tweaks; students who know which references they are going to use but don't add them in until the end; students who like to paste notes or information in their working space to keep in their minds as they write; students who like to work in 'offline' places like public transport or libraries.
- Students without adequate internet access at their homes will also find it difficult to work on their assignments. The same will be true for students without a mobile phone.
- Students who prefer to work on their assignments over irregular timeframes, or who for some reason have to do an assignment in the days before it's due, are at risk of having a prejudiced marker,
- There is a general privacy issue with the provision of detailed information on students' essay writing process being provided to markers.
- Requiring assignments to be worked on and stored online opens up potential security risks.
- Currently the program is not compatible with Endnote, such that students in the pilot program have reported having had to type out references entirely by hand. The designers have indicated that they're working on Endnote compatibility, but the fact that the program has been 'rolled out' without this step completed is concerning.

The program has generated much excitement amongst the academic community, which appears eager for its widespread rollout. Once the pilot program finishes and this is offered to the wider academic community, large-scale take-up can reasonably be expected. There is reason to expect that an UMSU campaign will ensue to inform students about the potential of Cadmus, as well as to sound a warning to the University that we are wary of the potential effects.

Flex Ap

All Flex Ap work streams have met, some more than once, and they're getting stuck into their objectives. **The Curriculum Structure and Approach stream will be holding a public forum to discuss the concepts and ideas related to the stream's Terms of Reference, including the role of the lecture and the teaching methods students find most useful. All Councillors and Council attendees are inviting to register to attend the event next Wednesday the 14th of April.** At the end of the year, when the FlexAP streams report, there will be a subsequent period of wide consultation. At this stage we are pleased with the progress of the working groups, but note that we have had to be proactive to ensure that students' perspectives are listened to. In pursuit of this, we will be holding a public UMSU-led forum some time after the mid-semester break at which the leaders of the FlexAP will be able to answer student questions. More details about this will follow, we are waiting on the availabilities of the participants. We will also shortly be launching a survey to gauge student perspectives on the issues we expect the FlexAP process will be addressed, as well as a

survey conducted specifically to gauge students' perspectives on the use of technology at University, in conjunction with the Harnessing Virtual Infrastructure work stream. 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 UMSU are in advanced discussions with two individuals to represent the Union on these streams. Council will be notified of the final appointees when they are confirmed.

Lecture Recordings

As we noted in our last Report, although last year's education officers were under the impression that lecture recordings were set to become compulsory in 2016 with only two chances to opt out (seminar format and guest speaker), this has not materialised. The 'opt-out' form for lecture recordings that academics are required to use contains an 'other' section under 'reason for opting out', which appears to have taken the teeth out of the policy and allows several lecturers who don't like lecture recordings to get the Provost's approval not to record lectures. We have spoken to three lecturers who chose not to record their lectures, and have been provided with detailed responses as to why they've decided to do so. The reasons vary from legitimate to questionable, and we will continue to agitate to ensure rural students or students with other difficulties are still able to view their lectures.

Stop 1

We are yet to meet with Fiona Downie, the Director, Student Services Delivery in Academic Services, regarding issues surrounding Stop 1. We have continued to gauge student perspectives on the operation of the new student hub, and we'll endeavour to speak with Fiona and others involved in the running of Stop 1 to canvass students' concerns.

<p style="text-align: center;">Education (Public Affairs) Akira Boardman & Dominic Cernaz</p>

Key Activities

We continue to work consistently in our efforts to get as many people as possible out to the NDA on April 13. In doing so, we continue to run weekly stalls talking to as many students as possible.

Over the break we did a social media, campaign, posting from the UNSU Education page.

On Wednesday 6th of April, a week out from the NDA, we ran a photo campaign themed around the idea of a debt sentence. We constructed a mock prison and spoke to students. Following this event, we held a stunt. This involved the covering of Raymond Priestly in caution tape and posters.

We continue to hear nothing but negativity around the Federal Budget. Some of the changes that are likely to come up in the upcoming budget include a 25% increase on HECS, further funding cuts

to higher education, lowering the HECS repayment threshold and forcing HECS repayments after you die.

These issues, as well as deregulation are likely to be at the top of our election campaign which will be just around the corner. We will be working hard to make sure all students know that deregulation and attacks on student are the agenda.

We continue to run the EAG where we talk about upcoming plans and events as well as regular poster runs to promote for the NDA.

Upcoming

12 April running an activist painting for stress less week

13 April National Day of Action

Education department election information campaign

Expenditure:

Date:	Amount:	Description:	Budget Line
March 26 2016	\$27.58	Tape for stunt	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events
March 30 2016	\$100	Facebook promotion for NDA	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events
April 5	\$13	Art supplies for stunt	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events

Environment Zac Power & Anisa Rogers

The Bike Co-op and Play with your Food programs have continued to run successfully, with a range of different students attending and getting involved in the events every week. The Enviro Doco screenings have been very successful and a good way to build connections between different enviro and social justice groups on campus.

We organised a contingent to the Community and Public Sector Union's (CPSU) Save CSIRO Jobs rally on the 2nd of April. This proved to be a successful event in highlighting community concerns over the impact of the federal government's cuts to the CSIRO on Australian climate science and environmental research. We will look for further opportunities to support the Save CSIRO Jobs campaign, as well as the CPSU's broader 'Proud to be Public' campaign going forward.

The environment collective has been operating well. We plan to increase participation by encouraging a large range of students to participate in the collective, and ensure that it remains a forum raise a broad range of questions, ideas and concerns.

We attended the Graduate Student Association's (GSA) Sustainability Plan Consultation Forum on the 4th of April, as part of the GSA's work in creating opportunities for a range staff and students to be involved in the development of the sustainability plan. We will be working closely to be GSA to

participate in this process. Anisa continues to attend the Sustainability Executive meetings and is working towards communicating and broadening the consultation on the Sustainability Implementation Plan. She is planning a broad meeting of students interested in getting involved next Wednesday or Thursday, contact her for more information!

We have sent out an email to all clubs asking if they would like to be involved in climate and environmental campaigns and events and have arranged a meeting to discuss this. We are hoping to get more people engaged and connected!

The Fossil Free MU campaign is gearing up for bold action as the 'deadline to divest' will be reached on Friday 15th.

Anisa has organised a meeting between the Sustainability Advocates (staff around the university interested in sustainability) to organise an event for World Environment Day (June 5th) involving the launch of a university wide sustainability challenge.

**Indigenous
Tyson Holloway-Clarke & Emily Kayte James**

No report submitted

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

FARRAGO:

Edition Three has been delayed a little due to the Easter break, but it will not delay the print cycle of future editions. We are currently in layout week, and Edition Three is expected to come back from print on Friday of Week 6 or Monday of Week 7.

RADIO FODDER:

We have been experiencing regular network outages due to the faultiness of our server. However, we have commenced plans to replace the server which will hopefully resolve all outages and cancellations of programs. This is expected to happen over the next two weeks.

VIDEO:

We have released a few pieces of video content since our last report. A popular video was our 'That 5pm deadline' clip which was very well received by the student community.

List of action points to be completed by next report:

Action #1: Distribute *Farrago* Edition Three to the Parkville, Southbank, and Burnley campuses upon receiving it from print.

Action #2: Prepare for the *Farrago* Edition Three launch party.

Action #3: Prepare for our second Wordplay event.

Action #4: Carry out plans to resolve Radio technical issues.

Budget expenditure since last report:

Meeting no.	Date	Description	Amount	Line-Item
Council #3	10/02/2016	Farrago Edition Two Printing	\$10,813	Printing
2015	2015	2015 Farrago Binding	\$385	Accrued

**Queer
Frances Connors & Lotus Ye**

April 7th Queer OB Report

Key Activities since Last Meeting:

- **Trans and Gender Diverse Clothes Exchange**
The Trans and Gender Diverse Clothes Exchange has now been fully booked to happen on the 12th of April, from 12pm to 5pm. Advertising measures such as posts on our FB page, announcements in the newsletter, and posters over Union House are now being taken.
- **Establishment of Regular Committee Meeting Schedule**
A regular meeting schedule has finally been voted on by the Queer Committee
- **Distribution of We Need to Pee campaign material**
After receiving 'We Need to Pee' stickers and fliers from the NUS Queer Officers, they have now been distributed in the Queer Space. Further discussion is being held on the distribution of posters around campus
- **Planning for Queer Collaborations Conference**
We are now registering interest and working on passing funding for students to attend the annual Queer Collaborations Conference
- **Continuation of Regular Weekly Events**
A large majority of the Queer Department's activities remain in running our weekly events, which include four collectives (Disabilities, Ace/Aro, Trans and Queer People of Colour), a free lunchtime event, and a casual 'fun times' event with different activities planned each week

List of Planned Actions:

- **Planning for Rad Sex and Consent Week**
The Queer Department is working in collaboration with the Wom*n's and Disabilities Department to plan for events and workshops for Rad Sex and Consent Week (scheduled for week 9)

- **Collaboration on Professional Networking Night with GSA**
Speakers for Professional Networking Night, venue and other details are currently being planned with the GSA's LGBTQ Officer, Thomas Crowley, scheduled to happen in May.

Welfare
Sarah Xia & Yan Zhuang

Stress Less Week

In the past few weeks I've been gearing up for Stress Less Week in Semester 1, Week 6. I have established a Facebook event, which has been a great way to get exposure and get people engaged ahead of the week, and we'll be promoting that in the following days. I have plenty of events and activities planned and ready to go, which will be released with the event schedule at the end of Week 5.

The Welfare Department will be holding a free Zumba class on Monday, 11 April as well as our usual free yoga class on the Tuesday. I am also collaborating with UMSU Activities to bring giant board games and some information stalls to the BBQ on Monday 11 April. The carnival on Thursday 14 April should be a main highlight of the week, with Pets Haven's puppies and a bouncing castle on South Lawn.

The Welfare and Wom*n's Departments are bringing dance classes to the University of Melbourne, and have ordered six dance classes over Thursday and Friday: Rihanna's 'Work' and Beyonce's 'Formation'. This is a great way to promote fitness in a fun, inclusive environment. Tickets are currently on sale, and we encourage everyone to attend as many classes as they like. These tickets are only \$5 per session, as we've subsidised the classes for students through our departmental and Whole of Union budgets. We have plenty of places left, but we expect that most purchases will be made at the end of this week.

I am currently seeking volunteers to help us run Stress Less Week activities, including collecting donations for Pets Haven, setting up equipment, and various logistics requirements. Any interested students can join our volunteer list online, or by getting in contact via email at welfare@union.unimelb.edu.au.

Regular Events

We've been holding our regular events to great success, with the Free Breakfast every Thursday attracting a high number of new and returning visitors. Monday Mingle has been going smoothly, and the department has enjoyed a consistent turnout. The Food Bank has engaged a high number of students, particularly around the mid-semester break. I am very pleased with the general awareness of the Food Bank, and will be looking to make sure students are aware of other options for more long-term assistance.

It's been a very exciting couple of weeks, and I'm very pumped for Stress Less Week!

Budget Expenditure

Welfare Committee Meeting no.	Date of meeting	Description	Amount	Line-Item
02/16	01/02/2016	Free Breakfast, Week 5	213.47	Regular Events
03/16	01/03/2016	Monday Mingle #3	50.00	Regular Events
02/16	01/02/2016	Free Yoga, Weeks 1-4	400.00	Regular Events
04/16 and 05/16	18/03/2016 and 5/04/2016	Stress Less Week Bouncing Castle and Sandbags	530.00 (includes GST)	Special Project and Events
03/16	01/03/2016	Stress Less Week Zumba Class	70.00	Special Project and Events

**Wom*n's
Adriana Mells & Hien Nguyen**

Feminism 101

Feminism 101 occurred in week 3 and we were very happy with the level of engagement we had during the week. The point of the week was to engage with students and talk about intersectional feminism and speaking about times when feminism hasn't been an inclusive movement for all women.

One problem we did face at our 'Does Feminism speak for all Women?' event was interruptions by an audience member who was not a student at the university. One thing that we will try at our next event, is having a safe space policy present at our events, like we do in the Wom*n's room.

We had our first Wom*n's Networking Night as a part of the Wom*n's Mentoring Network. We were very happy with the attendance, many people who came were already part of the program – so we will look at advertising to more students. The speakers were amazing and spoke about their experience within the workforce and how they came to be in their positions. We are looking forward to our next two networking nights.

Respect Week

Respect Week was in Week 4 and was run by the University. We hosted a screening of the US documentary 'The Hunting Ground' which looks at sexual assault at US campuses and the lack of institutional response when these crimes are reported. We had around 200 attendees, along with University and UMSU staff. There was a panel after the film discussing issues from the documentary and promoting the services and reporting procedure in place at the university, following the change in this procedure.

Whilst the change in reporting has been updated on the Safer Community Program website, the university policy has not yet been updated online – we are hoping this gets updated in the next few weeks.

We are hoping that this is not the end of discussions concerning sexual harassment and assault on campus and we will be looking at ways to have more screenings of the film and more discussions about issues brought up by the film and relating it to a University of Melbourne context. If you have any ideas/suggestions/concerns please contact us.

Constitutional Changes

As part of the discussions at the constitutional working group, there are some changes that we are hoping to explore and hopefully change within the UMSU constitution, these are:

- Increasing the number of women that have to be elected
- Changing the way that we vote for Women's Officers and Women's Committee, so that we can be inclusive of all women on our campus
- Getting rid of the asterisk – changing Wom*n's to Women's
- Changing the definition of Woman within the constitution

We will be discussing these at our collectives and at the constitutional working group, if anyone is interested in being involved with these discussions.

Rad Sex and Consent Week

Rad Sex and Consent week is approaching and will be taking place in week 9. We have had our initial meeting and decided upon our three main themes for this year, these are:

- Consent
- Healthy relationships
- Inclusive sex and romance

Judy's Punch

We are making a start on Judy's Punch for 2016, and will be officially opening applications for editor and sub-editor positions and looking for people who are interested in contributing.

Following the recommendations from the 2015 Wom*n's Officers we will be looking at paying the editor position and establishing formal criteria for the role.

Expenditure:

Regular Events: Weeks 1, 2 and 4

Wom*n of Colour Collective	\$210.00
Wom*n's Collective	\$108.46
Queer and Questioning QTs	\$113.47

Wom*n's Mentoring Network:

Food	\$100.00
Gifts	\$42.00

Feminism 101:

Intro to Feminism/Safe Spaces	\$40.00
Does Feminism Speak for all Women?	\$200.00
Snacks for Screening	\$40.00

**Burnley Campus
Eranthos Beretta**

Key News: Burnley 125th Celebration begins and MIFGS success. Lecture recording issues across campus

Events:

BSA held two successful events at the beginning of semester for all Burnley students and staff, an induction day BBQ for all new students and "survived week one" bbq which exceeded expectations

with attendance and resources used and has also set a platform for more cross year level interaction.

BSA also held events and event for new students to come and meet and greet current students and BSA reps regarding student life and dealing with all the new adjustments.

BSA also had the first of the Burnley 125 celebration events that was for staff and faculty which BSA rep Dan Brown attended as representative for BSA and UMSU

BSA also had reps volunteering at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS) where Burnley students took out 2nd and 3rd place in the "Achievable Gardens" section. Students and reps also assisted with building the UoM Burnley 125 installation at the show.

Future Events:

Horticultured , BSA and the Burnley Post Grad Group will be running an East Egg Hunt and BBQ for all staff and students on Friday the 4th of April between 4:30pm - 9pm.

The main future event will also be the Burnley 125 Festival Day open to public and all students on the 30th of April 2016. BSA Campus Coordinator will be liaising with relevant staff and potentially asking for assistance from other UMSU departments for help with running it and an opportunity for exposure to burnley students. More to follow.

Expenditure(s) (motions passed, actual expenditures to follow):

\$450 pass for Burnley East Egg hunt from BSA A&E

\$200 passed for pool cue repair from BSA general ops.

\$150 passed for kitchen utensils in SAB from BSA general ops.

\$393 extra for beverages for beginning of semester events due to success of first event, more was needed. from budget line A&E

\$300 passed for future burnley BBQ's from BSA A&E

\$2500 passed for end of semester large even for all staff, academics and students. from Budget line A&E

\$85 passed for BSA stickers from Burnley general ops.

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.

Action #2:

9. Next meeting - Friday 11th March, 5:30pm upstairs at the SAB.. = meeting held. minutes sent to secretary.

Action #3:

Meeting to be requested with post grad students space with UMUS office at Burnley. = still awaiting meeting with Post grads as still no use for room as BSA still has no printer and have been operating remotely

Action #4:

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

Future:

Action#1:

ACTION: Email sent to UMSU IT on the 4.3.16 as still no update on laptop and printer for BSA, still no reply . E Beretta to follow up with UMSU IT

Action #2:

First aid training for Burnley students following Incident with Burnley student having severe asthma attack and BSA Rep taking student to seek medical attention. BSA would like to make sure we have as many reps and students trained as possible, E Beretta to follow up with Parkville UMSU reps. As it is difficult for many Burnley students and BSA reps to get to parkville BSA would like to pursue options of having First aid training session(s) at Burnley campus.

Action #3:

E Beretta to follow up with all UMSU departments to ask what assistance can be provided or if any stalls wanted for 30th of April Burnley Festival day.

Action #4:

Follow up SSAF budget set for "Non-Parkville Campuses" with Justin Bare to asses Burnley improvements. *Still needs to be actioned*

Action #5: Lecture recording issues across all of Burnley Campus. E Beretta to follow up with Campus director Stefan Arndt

Other business

Burnley Campus coordinator was also unavailable for over a week due to severe illness and hospitalisation. Personal thank you to Dan Brown (BSA committee rep) for all his involvement and assistance during my absence.

**Victorian College of the Arts
Van Rudd**

NUS National Day of Action April 13th

There is indeed widespread knowledge now that the Turnbull government is no different from Abbott when it come to budget cuts and fee increases. Turnbull's plan to pass on HECS to dead people's estates and the 20% cut to higher education is just as harsh. The budget cut, while devastating to education in itself, is also a useful mechanism for the government to increase the

drive towards deregulation - giving universities more ground to argue for continually increasing fees to cover shortfalls in government contributions. We at the VCASA have been helping build the NUS called rally set for April 13th with increasing lots of postering, social media posts and talking to students. We will be holding a protest event at the VCA with free music and BBQ just before the main rally at 2pm, which we will be encouraging VCA students to attend.

Wilin Centre - Wilin Week Celebrations

I've just returned from part of a Wilin Centre event - the lunch time gathering at the Wilin Centre after the Possum Skin Cloak Workshops for Wilin Week. I had a talk with Wilin director Richard Franklin about VCASA holding a seminar about Indigenous Struggle (comparisons between the Indigenous people in Australia and also the indigenous struggle in Palestine). He was very supportive, so it's great to have the support of the Wilin Centre for a seminar during reconciliation Week. We will also be following through with the interest that the UMSU Indigenous Dept has shown in the event.

Disabilities Workshops at VCA

I have been in the process of assisting the UMSU Disabilities Department with their holding of workshops for VCA Students on VCA Campus throughout semester one and into semester two. Unfortunately the room bookings staff at the VCA are always inundated with requests so the first session booking has come a bit slow for the first session. I will be discussing this with the Disabilities Dept to see how things can go from here.

Spoken Word Event

VCA students last year were really excited by a spoken word event held in the student lounge, and it revealed how many poets there are lurking at the VCA will to express. And as the event was fully catered (food and drinks), students felt welcomed and could focus on performing their poetry. We at VCASA are excited to hold another spoken word event at the VCA this time in early June, semester one and hopefully again in semester two.

Recommendations

That \$500 be moved from VCA Dept Special Events budget line to pay for food and beverages and associated costs for holding a Spoken Word event, on a date in the month of June, semester one.