

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Office Bearer Reports
To Students' Council 4(17)
15th of February 2017**

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**President
Yan Zhuang**

Counselling and Psychological Services

Myself, the UMSU Gensec, Welfare and Disabilities Officers met with representatives from CAPS to raise two issues we'd had concerns about - the cutting of free counselling sessions from ten to six, and of CAPS moving from their current location to Stop 1, as well as to start a hopefully ongoing dialogue about the ways we can work together throughout the year. CAPS will be moving to one of the upper floors of Stop 1 halfway through the year, and we raised that how Stop 1 is often inaccessible and can create an anxious experience for students trying to access services, and hopefully will be in further contact about this issue throughout the year. We were also able to clarify that students will still be able to access more than six free counselling sessions if required, though the service is operating on a short term help model. We will be investigating potential ways we can support the service.

UMSU International

Myself and the UMSU Gensec met with representatives from UMSU International to begin facilitating a communicative working relationship. An excellent suggestion (courtesy of the UMSU Gensec) was to have an UMSU rep (probably the international rep on council) attend UMSU International committee meetings, and for an UMSU International rep to come to our council meetings. As well as that, we discussed potential collaborative initiatives - an UMSU Wechat, a campaign around travel concession cards, and a campaign around tenancy rights. These ideas will be brought to UMSU International committee at the next available opportunity. In addition to this, me and the UMSU International President have regular meetings throughout the year to maximise information sharing and ensure that we are able to support each other whenever possible.

Volunteering Drive

The volunteering drive went live on 31 January, and has been a success. The number of volunteers received by departments is: Welfare - 50+, POC - 36, Enviro - 24. EdPub and Activities already promoted their own volunteering activities before the drive launched, so it's hard to judge the impact of the drive. However, the EdPub officers indicated that they think about 40 applicants were through the volunteering drive. Between these five departments, it's safe to say that the volunteering drive made a significant contribution to increasing student engagement with UMSU.

Melbourne Metro

I met with representatives from Melbourne Metro for an overview of the project and to discuss ways the project would impact on students on campus in the next few years. In summary: the bulk of construction work will happen in 2018 and will involve a hole being dug in Grattan St between Royal Parade and Leicester St, and construction work being done for 18-20 months. Preliminary work will be done this year, which will involve a number of pipes in that area being re-routed. The tender process for contractors will happen in March of this month, and after that process is complete I hope to meet with the contractors, who will be the ones in charge of student engagement around the project. In the meantime, if anyone has ideas about ways students could engage in the project, please let me know.

Student Precinct + Outdoor Gallery

I've had two meetings regarding the Student Precinct recently. One a general briefing about the project, from which I gathered that there had not been much developments since the last Steering Group in November last year, and one in regards to the communication strategy around the project. The Student Precinct team are keen to work with us to engage students throughout the year, starting with a survey they're planning to release at the beginning of semester around student habits in Union House and what they'd like in a new precinct, which they have requested our help with circulating. I was able to look over the survey in the meeting and make some suggestions. In addition to this, one of the ways the University is trying to activate the space which will be used for the student precinct is through a new outdoor gallery initiative. They would like the gallery to operate through student led initiatives and have approached me for ideas about events for which we could use the gallery. I'd like for the gallery to be a place where we are able to push the boundaries a little and have it as quite a progressive space, and am currently in the process of talking to a number of departments about events which it could be used for.

NUS President's Summit

I attended NUS President's Summit between 23-25 January in Sydney. This conference was a good opportunity to meet other student union presidents from around the country and learn more about what NUS office bearers had planned for the year. It was heartening to hear the NUS President and Gensec talk about communication and accountability measures they wanted to implement this year, like a monthly president's newsletter and updating the NUS website. Similarly, other national office bearers talked about exciting campaigns they had planned, including: Education creating a report around issues like university retention rates, student homelessness, restructures on campus, that would go out to all student union presidents; Women's running campaigns around the tampon tax, equal pay and the Universities Australia Survey; Disabilities planning to run the inaugural student disabilities conference, and Queer running a campaign on queer student homelessness. I look forward to seeing all these campaigns implemented throughout the year.

Unfortunately, one thing I was looking forward to - the release of the 2016 Wellbeing survey - was unavailable. I was told that this was because headspace has been on break and NUS have not been able to work with them to collate the results, and that they would be released in March. I look forward to obtaining these results, as they would be helpful to our work around student welfare.

Media

I have been trying to keep to a regular schedule of releasing media statements, and have recently released statements on minimum wage the the cuts to Youth Allowance. I also did a live radio interview on ABC Radio on 10 February regarding an event held by the Association of Women on Campus Melbourne University with the theme of giving women staff members tips on how to dress. This was my first proper media appearance so i was quite nervous, but think I did an okay job. While my response was quite standard - UMSU doesn't agree with events which imply that women need to prioritise the way they look over other achievements - I also tried to make the point that women's organisations on campus have more important issues to address, like safety on campus, and subtly linking it to the work the Women's Department haven doing.

**General Secretary
Yasmine Luu**

Key activities

Interview panels

Due to conflicting meetings, I have stepped in for the President on interview panels for the position of Sponsorship Officer and Clubs Administrative Casual. Both of these positions are sorely needed and I am pleased to say that both individuals who accepted the post have started.

Harm Reduction Policy

Following the University's response to the drug testing kits, UMSU and Legal had to come up with alternate strategies to appease the University. Unfortunately, this has been difficult work, but a procedure will be proposed in the near future. We have spoken to Dr. Monica Barratt, researcher for UNSW Drugs and Alcohol research centre, who has given us some ideas on how to accumulate data to persuade the University to allow us to give out the drug testing kits. Although this is an obnoxiously large road block, we will continue to push and hopefully get this program running by next year. These conversations have lead us to talks around producing drug and alcohol booklets, and have a campaign around safety. These are all very early stage ideas, and I will report back if more comes of it.

Volunteering Expo

20 programs will be showcased at the Volunteering Expo on the Friday of Week 0. This will be the first Volunteering Expo, which will allow students to get a first look at what opportunities UMSU has to offer. The Volunteering Expo will have activities, freebies and croquet to satisfy the students. This event was open to UMSU departments with volunteering prospects, community service clubs and student run initiatives. I have finished off the site plan, and it will take up most of South Lawn.

Sleepover

I will firstly take this opportunity to say that Jacinta and Lydia, the Activities Officers, have been working tirelessly to organise the UMSU wide event. Well done.

Jacinta, Lydia and I spoke with MUSUL CEO Simon Napthine, about responsible service of alcohol and the conduct of the evening. It was a fruitful discussion, where MUSUL and UMSU's responsibilities were laid out. There will be a coloured wrist band system which will separate under 18s and over 18s. Under 18s will be able to have a great time and will access all activities, and spaces, but won't be able to buy and consume alcohol.

Additionally, I will be running a scavenger hunt during Sleepover to decrease the burden on the rest of the departments. I am currently collating items and photos to put on the list.

Uni-verse Trivia

Trivia was an event that people wanted to do, but just didn't have the resources or time to facilitate it. I ended up taking it to help the burden. This trivia will act like a 'meet your elected reps' meeting, with free food but also cool facts about UMSU and the University. I am hoping that all OB's attend and go on differing tables to talk with new students about what UMSU has to offer. The questions and event is organised by myself and comms, with the MC being Tyson.

Counselling

Some students had alerted me to the fact that Counselling had dropped their annual allowed sessions from 10 to 6. This sparked a meeting with members from the University of Melbourne Counselling service and relevant UMSU representatives (Ryan Davey; Welfare Officer, Alston Chu; Disabilities Officer, Yan Zhuang; President). Overall, this meeting did end well, with our concerns being alleviated. Counselling has told us, that there is never a maximum amount of sessions a student can

attend, but generally speaking, most students feel confident to stop attending after 4-6 sessions, or are referred onto an organisation with a specific type of counsellor. In no way does the counselling service turn students away when they need it, regardless of how many sessions they have. However, they did tell us of their move to Stop 1, and how they will no longer be so connected to the medical centre. This can cause strain to people that require a quick mental health care plan. This will be discussed further once Counselling officially moves to the upper floors of stop 1. We were able to give a lot of feedback, including how to get into the building without going through the reception of Stop 1 or being too stigmatising.

Book Co-Op

I am hoping to make the Book Co-Op an UMSU run volunteering program. Please see the proposal under operational business for a full overview of plans. Overall, there are 3 different options that fall under the Book Co-Op, this includes; shutting the program down, making it an UMSU program, keeping the program the way it is now. There have been some criticisms on how the program is run currently, and having UMSU involvement can only make it better and cleaner.

SSAF Campaign

A new campaign is hopefully being started for semester 1, which involves breaking down the \$140 UMSU gets from students into material items. For example, you pay the equivalent of 7 bands, 4 beers, 2 bike services, 1 AUSLAN class, etc. This will give a physical representation of what students pay for in their SSAF.

Progress on assigned actions since last report

Website Updates

Due to the hectic nature of Summer Fest, it has been difficult to start a dialogue on how to update the website. Straight after Summer Fest, this will be a priority of mine, to make sure Committees and Minutes are easy to find on the UMSU website.

Status: Ongoing

Committee Meetings

Most Committees have had successful meetings, with some inordinate meetings here and there. Each Office Bearer seems to be very well informed and knows proper meeting procedure. Each Committee has also passed a budget for the 2017 period. I have made myself available for a number of Committee Meetings, but as you can imagine, there are a lot. I will endeavour to continue attending Committee Meetings.

Status: Nearly done!

List of action points to be completed by next report

Ethical sponsorship policy

As directed by Students' Council, an Ethical Sponsorship Working Group, is to be created. As semester is coming up fast, I will be organising a date with the Environment Officers to start this process. I have written up a draft of the Ethical Sponsorship Policy that I will present to the Working Group to be amended as the group sees fit. If anyone has any strong feelings about this issue, please don't hesitate to submit ideas, advice, or your availability for the meeting.

All Summerfest Related Actions

Hopefully by next council Summerfest will be done and dusted and I will be able to report on how great the events ran.

Activities
Lydia Paevere & Jacinta Cooper
With Recommendations

Key Activities

Union House Sleepover

We have finalised a lot of the activities that will be running throughout the night. Other departments have come up with some great ideas and it is looking to be a night packed with fun and entertainment for everyone. The wide range of events we hope will cater for everybody's needs and interests. It was really important to allow underage guests attend as the new clubs camps policy now restricts under 18s attending camps. We have discussed with Simon, the liquor licensee, how we will deal with underage guests. We hope that this will make a fun and safe environment for everybody and have procedures in place for dealing with the risks of underage guests. We are finalising our volunteer roster, with a lot of brand new volunteers which is really exciting for us to be engaging students who haven't been involved with the department before. We have finalised the Comedy and will have Clara Cupcake perform. Unfortunately, Sex on Toast were unavailable so we are hoping to have Bareback Titty Squad instead. We have booked in the DJs for the night and have 2 semi professional DJs as well as Ryan and Yas doing a set for the final hour of power! We are very keen for this.

Start of Uni Party

We have confirmed that we will be having this on the shimmerlands infrastructure on Concrete Lawn. We are totally under the pump with this having it so close to sleepover so everything is being purchased in bulk for both activities such as alcohol and some AV equipment that can be used for both. We are having cruisers and slushies as drink options which have been very popular in the past. We also have a number of beer and cider kegs. Yas wants to do a doorshift so we'll probably let her. We are trying to arrange to have some large inflatable light up objects to fill the space as it is very large compared to north court area. DJ Tay as a killer set lined up which has always been great in the past! We are hoping to make the space look great but we are facing challenges. AV have some great plans though so we look forward to it.

Week 1 BBQ

Tkay Maizda is locked in and ready to go! We are so excited for this and it will be a huge event. We are expecting a big turnout to concrete lawn for this. Our main challenge is ensuring Activities and UMSU branding is obvious because usually these BBQs are held in North Court. We decided we won't serve SoUP in week 1 so this will begin week 2 in North Court. We have also finalised drink choices with beer, cider, ginger beer and soft drinks.

Inflatables

Comms have booked a number of inflatable activities including a giant slip and slide, zorb balls and mechanical surf board. We are hoping for good weather and a good turnout for the first day of Uni.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	1/12/2016	Wristbands and Tickets	\$240	Special Projects	

Reccomendations

We were unable to get a committee meeting this month and have a large amount of stuff to pass for Summerfest activities – Sleepover, SoUP and inflatables. A large amount of this money comes from ticket sales income, but we still need to pass through our budget.

To pass up to \$20 from Promotional Activities budget line for our callout to musos posters.

To pass up to \$100 from Special Projects budget line to pay George Nicholas for keg training.

To pass up to \$5500 from Special Projects budget line to pay for cruisers + delivery for SummerFest events

To pass up to \$15000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for AV for Union House Sleepover

To pass up to \$210 from Special Projects budget line to pay for SoUP/Sleepover flyers

To pass up to \$400 from Special Projects budget line to pay for wristbands and tickets for SummerFest events

To pass up to \$1000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for bar staff at Sleepover

To pass up to \$1000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for bar staff at SoUP

To pass up to \$100 from Special Projects budget line to pay for ice for SummerFest activities

To pass up to \$2200 from Special Projects budget line to pay for inflatables day for SummerFest

To pass up to \$12000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for kegs of beer and cider for SummerFest activities

To pass up to \$1000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for water for SummerFest activities

To pass up to \$500 from Special Projects budget like to pay for kegging gas for SummerFest activities

To pass up to \$150 from Special Projects budget line to pay for UV paint for Sleepover

To pass up to \$1200 from Special Projects budget line to pay for red cups

To pass up to \$1500 from Special Projects budget line to pay for slushy machines for SoUP

To pass up to \$1200 from Special Projects budget line to pay for food at SoUP

To pass up to \$4000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for security for SoUP

To pass up to \$1300 from Special Projects budget line to pay for cleaners for SoUP

To pass up to \$4000 from Special Projects budget line to pay for lighting at SoUP

To pass up to \$700 from Special Projects budget line to pay for the DJ at SoUP

To pass up to \$600 from Special Projects budget line to pay for APRA for SoUP

To pass up to \$300 from Special Projects budget line to pay for the photographer at SoUP

To pass up to \$500 from Special Projects budget line to pay for DJs at Sleepover

To pass up to \$500 from Special Projects budget line to pay for APRA at Sleepover

To pass up to \$30 from Stationary budget line to pay for office stationary

Clubs & Societies

Gulsara Kaplun & Kayley Cuzzubbo

BranchOut

BranchOut is a new C&S program that connects clubs and societies with relevant departments to facilitate greater student involvement across the whole of UMSU. We have launched! 63 clubs in all opted to participate, with each department receiving between eight and 45 interested clubs.

Faculty camps

At the time of writing, three out of seven wellbeing officers have been selected. With some camps only a few days away, our focus now is on minimising disruption to the running of these events and looking toward the post-camp review process that will determine the future of the wellbeing officer program.

Summerfest Carnival Day

Five new clubs are now confirmed for Carnival Day. Depending on how this event is received, we may look to making it a regular part of the Orientation experience and an opportunity for new clubs to gain exposure.

Grand Bazaar

The C&S department has booked space and tables on the ground floor of Union House for Weeks 1 and 2 of semester. We'll be allocating these tables to clubs to run as stalls to give students a second chance to sign up if they didn't get a chance to attend the clubs expo during Orientation week.

Venue Management

Venue management has indicated that they will be unable to confirm bookings for week 2 events until sometime during week one, and have delayed all other bookings as well. This has caused significant disruptions for our Summerfest plans, as club events in this period normally require confirmed bookings to receive grants and be included in our events guide. As a result, we've loosened our deadlines significantly and have had to scrap the usual clubs welcome back events guide. Instead, we will be directing students to the C&S facebook page, where they will receive daily posts with links to events throughout the welcome back period.

Camp Welfare Training

Since last meeting, we've started running regular camp welfare training sessions in conjunction with the Safer Communities Program. The feedback so far has been positive and we'll be running several more before Easter to account for clubs who run camps over the mid-semester break.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
3	09/02/17	Custom Gunter softie	\$250	Special projects	To be used as part of Gunter's Choice social media campaign during semester

Creative Arts **Harriet Wallace-Mead & Sara Laurena**

Key activities:

Summerfest:

Programming events

The Creative Arts office has been programming pop up performances by student artists which will feature during Summerfest at a small stage on the steps of the Old Quad, and around South Lawn. We have also programmed smaller events such as creative arts collective (craft space), Ensemble Assembly, and an edition of Botanic Drawing, run in collaboration with the Environments and Burnley campus departments. We have already had six students, both new and currently enrolled at MU, respond and book a place in this session, which will run on the 1st March.

Mudfest:

Callouts Released

The CA office has released callouts for the following paid roles in Mudfest 2017:

- Production Manager
- Creative Producers: Film, Live Music, Performing Arts, Visual Arts
- Marketing & Publicity Manager
- Access Management: Artist Liaison, Festival Communications Officer

The applications are due by the 15th March, when we will also be releasing our Artist Callouts.

Theme

This year Mudfest will ask the question “How do we respond to an increasingly frightening world?” Under the theme ‘HATCH’, we hope to present responses that vary from kindness to rage, from small and quiet acts of hope, to loud and furious acts of resistance. The works will be cultivated with the aim to provoke both artistic and conscious growth.

Access in the Arts:

The CA office has been developing an Access in the Arts Survey, in collaboration with the Disabilities department and the UMSU access working group. The survey aims to help us determine which of our events should be made more accessible to people with disability, as we aim to develop a program of events which engages student artists and art appreciators of all abilities. We believe art is for all; and hope to establish an Access in the Arts program which encourages artists and audience living with disability to engage in the wonderful opportunities and experiences within UMSU’s Creative Arts’ scene.

We are also hoping to apply for the next round of SSAF grants to establish an Arts Access line in our budget, which would directly fund our programmed events in acquiring means of accessibility. For example, an AUSLAN interpreter / translator, appropriate captioning for film screenings, etc. The amount we apply for will be determined in part by responses to the survey.

Progress on assigned actions from last report:

Action #1:

Mudfest Callout Released on the 7th February

VERDICT: Achieved

Action #2:

Committee Meeting Schedule – we are yet to have a meeting with full attendance, but will continue trying to schedule our meetings.

VERDICT: ongoing

Action #3:

UMSU Communications & Mudfest Branding. We have finalised our first poster image for Mudfest, and will continue working on the festival branding with Comms once we have finalised our Marketing & Publicity Manager.

VERDICT: ongoing

List of action points to be completed by next report:

Action#1:

Begin interviews for applicants of Mudfest Prod team roles.

Action #2:

Begin conversations with potential Partners / Sponsors for Mudfest

Action #3:

Finalise arrangements for Summerfest – sleepover small events, larger craft events, botanic drawing, etc.

Action #4:

Finalise arrangements for PLOM (Pot Luck Open Mic night) – staging / AV.

Budget expenditure since last report:

N/A

Other business

N/A

Disabilities
Alston Chu & Cassandra Prigg
With Recommendations

Key Activities

In the previous weeks we have been setting up relations with a number of people in SEDS, chancellor, and counselling.

Regular events are nearly fully organised, with final details to be set for anxiety support group and collective. Work is still underway to set up sexual assault support group and Auslan classes.

Similarly, Summerfest events are almost completely finalised - with final details on craft and other activities within the rest space still to be set.

We have discussed a number of office assets to provide a number of minor services to students, as well as making the office a more comfortable place to discuss issues with the office bearers.

Progress on Actions

As expected, our committee passed an itemised budget, which differs from our initial submission to the whole of union budget memorandum in response to feedback from various sources. Because of these differences, the budget passed is reproduced below.

Stationery: \$100

Telephone: \$100

Photocopying: \$325

Projects & Events: \$13,900

Campaigns: \$8,075

Grants: \$5,000

Assets: \$2,500

Total: \$30,000

Regarding campaigns, our committee has provided the following recommendation:

That the disabilities committee recommends that the Education Public and Welfare departments work with the Disabilities department on a campaign around Centrelink issues in conjunction with the NUS campaign.

Expenditure

None to report

**Education (Academic Affairs)
Caley McPherson & Roger Samuel**

The Education Booklet and the Counter Course guide have gone to print (phewww) and will be ready in time for Summerfest, to be handed out to students and broaden our UMSU community. This year's printed Counter Course guide is a reduced version that is primarily a taster to get people onto our online, interactive and real-time Counter Course Handbook, linked to the UMSU website. The online Handbook has been almost finished by the web developers, and we are starting to add subjects to it. Adding all the subjects is quite a laborious job, but once it's done it will be less work in the long run for future OBs and there will be much more content than in the print version. Once the website is up and running we'll be promoting it on social media and getting reviews with the help of our network of student societies and faculty clubs.

The SRN is also starting to wind up as the first few committees begin to meet for the year, and we'll be using a new Office 365 portal to assist communication and reporting. UMSU Advocacy has had to change some parts of the booklet for SRN governance training, and the new portal has been a bit of an adjustment, both of which have delayed governance training which should occur shortly. Our tote bags have arrived for Summerfest along with most other merchandise, and all the stressing about designs and details has definitely paid off. We've got quite a few events during Summerfest in conjunction with Ed Pub, including our Sleepover event and the Human Library, an opportunity for new students to ask course and subject advice from other students who have previous experience. We'll also be heading down to the VCA to talk to students about education issues at The University of Melbourne and more broadly.

Education (Public Affairs) Daniel Lopez & Sinead Manning

PEP (Policy Engagement Program)

We have been advertising PEP through the my.unimelb notice board, UMSU newsletter, relevant schools and staff at the University, and social media. We've had a lot of applications, and hope to run an initial round of interviews in early March. Due to the amount of interest in the program, we will be closing applications on 7th March before reopening them later in the year.

We've begun preparing an Operating Framework for PEP, in the hopes that the program continues beyond our terms as Education (Public Affairs) Officers.

PEP Training Day

We've begun organising the PEP training day. This will feature general media/spokesperson training, an overview of higher education (and key issues to watch out for), and policy writing training. As well as some more general volunteering training.

Advocacy

We've been in regular contact with the Advocacy department with regard to our campaigns focusing on student equity, access to University, and education quality. We met with Phoebe and Paul on the 7th February to discuss the public affairs department in a broad sense. We discussed our approach to mobilising students through PEP, as well as the possibility of running workshops alongside advocacy depicting the ways in which public policy manifests at the University of Melbourne. This will effectively turn something abstract (higher education policy) into something concrete (an experience recognised by students, or research they have a stake in). We will remain in close contact with advocacy as we move forward.

General Education Forum

Due to the high interest in PEP, all applicants will be strongly encouraged to become a part of the Education Forum. This will operate basically as a collective, with formalised monthly meetings alongside less formal (e.g. Facebook group) ways to maintain involvement.

Faculty Education Network

We have set up a Facebook group for Faculty Club Education Representatives. This is a space for education reps to a) communicate with one another, b) communicate with the Education OBs regarding education-themed events we can help with or faculty-specific education issues, and c) allow us to provide information regarding our events and campaigns to the education officers.

Branch Out

We have received over 20 expressions of interest from clubs to be involved with the Education Department via the Branch Out program. These clubs have been added to our mailing list and we await new developments from the Branch Out program.

Elected Reps Meeting: Asialink Diplomacy

On the 25th January, we met with Erin Watson Lynn, Director of Asialink Diplomacy, for an elected representatives forum. We discussed the work of Asialink, and how the organisation could be incorporated into UMSU events. Erin also spoke briefly about her role with the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, as well as provided advice on how to effectively lobby government and other important stakeholders.

Elected Reps Meeting: Higher Education Policy

We met with Dr Gwilym Croucher on the 25th January to discuss Higher Education Policy. This meeting was invaluable. Dr Croucher spoke on student fees, the HECS-HELP system, equity, diversity (both in intake and institutions), and research. This discussion included reference to maintaining an awareness of the context of advocating for higher education. In particular, the importance of primary and secondary education to maintaining the high quality of higher education as

well as increasing the diversity of the student population. There are broader questions about what the student body currently looks like, and what we want it to look like in the future. The gross inequity between international and local students was also touched on.

We've since discussed PEP and our campaign goals with Dr Croucher and are receiving support from the Centre for the Study of Higher Education.

Big NDA(y) Out

Work on our NDA event is underway. We are organising a day of activities featuring the rally, in the hopes that this will increase student engagement with education campaigns. The day will also place the rally in context; ensuring students see free education campaigns as part of something bigger.

Victorian Education Action Network

The Victorian Education Action Network published incorrect minutes claiming that UMSU is "hostile to the NUS". This is blatantly false. Daniel attempted to amend the minutes to accurately reflect UMSU's position, but his amendment was ignored. Alongside other incorrect information published about the University of Melbourne and UMSU in an NUS space recently, this is quite concerning.

Youth Workers Centre

We're continuing to work really closely with the Youth Workers Centre and have invited them to host a stall on Monday February 27 at Union House. We're also in the process of setting up a workshop for young organisers to assist in building up their campaign and organising skills, and a date for this will be advertised soon.

Summerfest

Plans are continuing as per our previous OB Report. For an overview, the education events are:

- Carnival day stall 21st Feb
- Filming (roaming) 21st-23rd Feb
- VCASA stall 22nd-23rd Feb
- Volunteering expo 24th Feb
- Sleepover 24th Feb
- Young Workers Stall 27th Feb
- Museum Tour 28th Feb
- Human Library 2nd March
- EdPub@Pub 2nd March

What's in the box? Your art could be in the box!

The competition for an education-themed art installation has been launched! Students are able to submit a 250 word design brief, with the winner to be provided with support to install their work in the GPG Project Spaces and Education display case. The deadline for the competition is 18th March, and the installation will run from the 10th-28th April.

Destination Melbourne Presentation

On the 1st February, Sinead presented a brief overview of UMSU and the education department at Destination Melbourne. This was a lot of fun although she feels her presentation was weird.

Education Committee

The committee met for the second time on the 24th January. As always, it was great to meet up and discuss the education department!

Finances

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Budget Line	Amount Passed	Comment
1/17	8/12/16	Facebook advertising	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$50	Spent \$27
1/17	8/12/16	Magnets	Campaigns, Special	\$400	Spent \$358

Office Bearer Reports to Students Council 4(17)

			Projects & Events		
1/17	8/12/16	Tote bags	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$3569.50	Remainder of 2016 budget
1/17	8/12/16	Silent Disco DJ	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$1500	Unpaid
1/17	8/12/16	Education booklet	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$2000	Unpaid
1/17	8/12/16	Badges	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$500	Unpaid
1/17	8/12/16	Calendar	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$1000	Unpaid
1/17	8/12/16	Counter course handbook	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$3800	Unpaid
1/17	8/12/16	Counter course website	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$3000	Two installments: \$1170 and \$1620
2/17	24/1/17	Illustrations	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$600	Spent: \$330 and \$230
2/17	24/1/17	Counter course website	Campaigns, Special Projects & Events	\$3000	Spent: \$1485

Environment
Elizabeth Nicholson & Kate Denver-Stevenson
With Recommendations

Key Activities

Summerfest

We've been liaising with the community garden, bike co-op, food co-op, fossil free, the re-use centre, sustainable campus and the University to make the two week Summerfest program an ultimate extravaganza also coinciding with the Sustainable Living Festival. At this stage we are finalising things for our biggest event, a screening of FernGully: The Last Rainforest, as well as working with both welfare and burnley/creative arts on joint events in week 1.

The System Garden

We've been in touch with the University's gardeners as well as community organisers from the Australian Garden History Society as we plan our next steps moving forward. The University continues to promise not a tree will be removed, yet latest plans show 10% of the garden will be removed, including seven important trees. Our last communication with the University was still vague so we are working with Yan/Yas to get a solid answer from them while also gearing up for the launch of a campaign during summerfest if needed.

Sustainability Plan

The Sustainability Plan has been released and is v not great. Quotes from the statement we worked on with Yan/Comms made it into the Australian Higher Ed section! We will be monitoring the progress of the plan on musustainabilitywatch.org once we get around to it and are also looking for keen beans to help with the research for that.

Fossil Free

Fossil Free just had a very productive few days at the beach planning our strategy and things for the year. We are getting pretty concerned that the University is going to miss its own first deadline at the end of march for deciding on the process for deciding on a sustainable investments framework so are planning on doing something about that.

Budget Expenditure

None :(

Recommendations

We recommend that Students' Council approve
\$200 for food and non-alcoholic drinks for Summerfest events
\$200 for craft and gardening materials for Summerfest decorations and workshops
\$100 for food and non-alcoholic drinks for Bike Co-op Breakfasts

**Indigenous
Wunambi Connor & Marley Holloway-Clarke**

Key Activities

SummerFest

Key Indigenous department events during SummerFest include an UMSU presentation during Murrup Barak's Transition-In Camp for First year Indigenous students (Pre-SummerFest), the Indigenous Department stall on Carnival Day, Featuring a photo display challenging tropes and stereotypes of Aboriginality, and a Welcome (Back) BBQ in week one for all Indigenous Students and Staff.

External Funding Proposals

As councillors will be aware, the majority of funding for the Indigenous Department is not provided through students council but rather is received from a number of internal and external funding sources. The main sources for 2017 will be Murrup Barak and SSAF funding. We have been working hard to prepare these proposals and applications for the year. We will report the outcome of all applications to council as they are received.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

2017 Strategy

This is being finalised with the Indigenous committee. Once finalised a copy will be available to councillors upon request.

Action Points to be completed by next report

N/A

Budget Expenditure

N/A

Media
Alexandra Alvaro, Amie Green, James Macaronas & Mary Ntalianis
With Recommendations

FARRAGO

Edition One has been sent to print and 5000 copies are expected to arrive by this Friday 17 February. Edition One is 68 pages and features written work by 31 contributors and artwork by 37 graphics contributors.

Submissions for **Edition Two** closed last Sunday 12 February. The Media Department need to pass \$12,000 from our Printing budget line for Edition Two printing.

Edition Three submissions will be opening on 20 February and closing on 26 March.

RADIO FODDER

The Radio Fodder technical infrastructure was updated by AV Melbourne last week.

Radio Training was provided to 30 students last Thursday 9/2/17 by three Radio Trainers.

The Media Department need to pass \$275 from our Radio Fodder budget line for PPCA Radio Licensing.

SUMMERFEST

The Media Department will be holding an Information Stall, a Radio Fodder Listening Party and Zine Making on **Carnival Day**.

The **Edition One Launch Party** will be held at 4.30pm on Tuesday 21 February at Tsubu.

The Media Department are holding a Zine Making Workshop and Radio Fodder Listening at the **VCA Orientation Carnival**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that Students' Council approve:

Edition Two Printing - \$12,000 from our Printing budget line.

500 Laptop Stickers - \$380 from our Printing budget line.

PPCA Licensing - \$275 from our Radio Fodder budget line.

Edition One Launch Party - \$350 from our Special Projects/Events budget line.

People of Colour
Ella Shi & Hanann Al Daqqa
With Recommendations

Key Activities

Preparation for Summerfest

Nearly everything has been ordered, and the locations for all our events have been booked and confirmed.

Deliveries expected this week.

We will be purchasing food this week, including vegan and/or halal options for all events.

We did encounter some unexpected costs however all additional expenses are relatively minor and won't affect our overall budget. (Please see recommendations).

Diversity Week

Still awaiting outcome of funding application from the University.

We've been contacting potential guest speakers.

We've spoken to Alice Mathieu, the UMSU Arts Officer, about potentially finding an artist to do an artwork/mural on the chalkboard area in Union House.

This week we should be reaching out to the different departments and confirming plans/ scheduling.

Establishment of Prayer Room in Union House

In consultation with Islamic Society.

We've contacted UMSU's General Manager Justin and along with Yan, UMSU President, we're determining if a suitable location with necessary facilities can be found within Union House.

The process is somewhat more difficult than we initially had hoped, and we hope UMSU and the University will prioritise this issue as we pursue all possibilities.

Volunteering applications

Our online volunteering form was launched earlier last month. It is open to all students and we have had 36 responses (at the time of writing of this report).

Volunteers will be engaged with events and/or activism.

We're excited!!!!

Progress on assigned actions from last report

n/a

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	20/12/2017	Promo stickers for Summerfest tote bags	\$450	O-week	\$447.00 spent
2	31/1/2017	Life of Pi movie license	\$400 (for movie screening event)	Movie screenings	\$230 spent
1	20/12/2016	Sprinkles for ice cream (to be served at Summerfest)	\$2050 (for all Summerfest expenses)	O-week	\$30.00 spent
1	20/12/2016	Tea for Tote Bags 600 x Chai 1000 x Green Tea	\$2050 (for all Summerfest	O-week	\$267.98 spent

			expenses)		
1	20/12/2016	Tote Bags	\$2500	O-week	\$2600.63 spent
Passed at last committee meeting but not yet spent					
2	31/1/2017	PoC Collective	\$2400 (\$100 x 24)	PoC Collective	
2	31/1/2017	Race and Diaspora Reading Group	\$800 (\$100 x 8)	Reading Group	

Recommendations

The People of Colour department is on track with Summerfest plans however we have come up against some unexpected costs:

- GST + shipping costs for our tote bags
- Booking fee for Union House Theatre for our movie screening

Ordinarily we would have another committee meeting but we need this passed ASAP. We will put forward a motion at our next committee meeting to defer issues like this to operations subcommittee in future instances.

We ask Students' Council to pass \$100.63 from the People of Colour Department Budget line to cover the remainder of the cost for the printing of Tote Bags for Summerfest and to pass \$450 from the People of Colour Department Budget line to cover the total cost of the movie screening including the venue hire fee for Union House Theatre and catering for the event.

Note: The money will come out of our existing departmental budget line and is within the overall amount we intended to be used for Summerfest so this won't impact future events by the department.

Queer
Evelyn Lesh & Blake Atmaja

Key Activities

Passing of Funds for Summerfest + Collectives

Funds have been successfully passed through our committee, allowing us to move forward with food purchasing, zine printing and extraneous things relating to Summerfest as a whole. We have also passed money for collective food purchases through the year, as well as the weekly queer lunch events. We're looking into having a wider variety of food this year for all our events as well - traditionally we've had pizza at events, which has led to a lot of waste. to counteract this we're looking at having multicultural food (eg. sushi) at a smaller amount to keep the costs around the same.

Planning of Queer Summerfest activities

We've had our pencil order go through successfully, so at the moment we are waiting for those to come in. We've also sourced blankets and looking at purchasing food to meet dietary requirements for the incoming students.

Planning of Queer Summerfest Main Event; Movie Showing

We've purchased showing rights to the 'Priscilla' movie screening on the Shimmerlands stage, and we've been in talks with AV and the Comms department on how to accommodate factors such as sun and attendance for the karaoke event beforehand. AV has put us through to karaoke software we can install on Union computers, so we may be able to reduce cost for the event this way. Comms has also sourced some food trucks that we've interesting in having for the event, as we'd like to have a free food / drink for people who attend - we'll be focusing on having food mostly for the movie event and beforehand, as it will generate the most interest both in and outside the university and queer sphere.

Planning of the Queer Zine

We've made the move to shift release of the Queer Zine to early in semester one - we didn't receive submissions when we placed a call out before orientation, so we'll be using the orientation stall and week to have a submission drive. We'll be generating art pieces and messages / questions through the tree installations on South Lawn during the event, and using them to create a cohesive piece of work that we feel better represents the community as a whole.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Discussions on Collaboration with POC regarding Diversity Week

POC is interesting in running a lot of events throughout Diversity Week (Week 4) and has contacted us on running a panel - we've been emailing speakers that both embody the multicultural and queer spaces and seeing if they're available to come to the panel event. We've also been looking at having an activist presence as well; queer has been traditionally activist so we're looking to have speakers in that sense on the panel as well.

Continued Queer Space Maintenance

To ensure the Queer Space is well stocked for incoming students in the new year, as well as during the sleepover event currently planned by the Activities office bearers. We've stocked an amount of cleaning supplies and board games, but we're continuing to look for more blankets and reading / video material that we can loan to students throughout the year as needed. We've also contacted spaces such as Headspace and Minus 18 to see if we can have material from them available to students in the year.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
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Office Bearer Reports to Students Council 4(17)

Meeting 1	22.12.2016	Approval of the Queer Department Budget	\$25000	2017 Budget	
Meeting 2	31.01.2017	Purchase of Queer Dept. branded pencils	\$2000	Special Events	Spent \$1875 n/inc. GST
		Queer Zine printing	\$1200	Special Events	Shelved till after Summerfest
		Purchasing stall materials	\$150	Special Events	
		Face paint artist hire	\$250	Special Events	
		Food + supplies for Queer Summerfest picnic	\$250	Food and Beverages	
		Public showing rights for 'Priscilla' for Summerfest event	\$880	Special Events	Spent \$550
		Potential karaoke hire	\$200	Special Events	
		Food purchases for the year re: collective meetings	\$500	Food and Beverages	
		Weekly food purchases for the year re: Queer Lunch	\$3600	Food and Beverages	

Welfare
Teresa Gornall & Ryan Davey

Foodbank

The food packs for semester 1 have been organised and distributed between the Union House information desk and Stop 1 at VCA. Based on the amount handed out last year, we should have enough put away until Semester 2.

Welfare Handbook

3000 copies of the departments handbook will be delivered shortly, in time for next week. We will be looking to distribute the guides throughout Summerfest; from our stalls as well as clubs who have agreed to help hand them out. We will also be taking several boxes to VCA and Burnley campuses.

Summer Festival Events

All of the Department's events for SummerFest are organised. Depending on the availability of volunteers, we will have the Welfare Angels program running every day next week and if possible on some days in week 1. During the Student Services stalls on Tuesday next week we will be running a BBQ to increase traffic and therefore, opportunities to interact with students. The final events of the week will be our movie night at the Union House Sleepover and the breakfast the following morning.

Regular Events

All of the regular classes have been booked in to the Union House training rooms; running every night from Monday-Thursday during semester. Extra costs for self-defence classes have been covered by the Women's Department, however, they will only be running during semester 1. We will be tracking attendance at these events throughout semester 1 in order to make any necessary changes.

Volunteering

Preparations for the departments volunteering group has been our main focus over the past fortnight. We have received 55 expressions of interest from the volunteering drive so far. From this, we have held 3 volunteer induction sessions to introduce people to the department and the specific roles volunteers will take on. The next week will consist mainly of getting our Welfare Angels trained and ready for next week.

Meeting with Counselling

Last week, several OB's met with the Unimelb Counselling team to discuss a more active working relationship with UMSU in 2017. We will be working with their team to organise several events throughout the year, the first of which will be Stress Less Week in week 12 of semester 1.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
Meeting 2	13/1/2017	Welfare Handbook	\$1800 from Welfare Handbook \$150 from Summerfestival Showbags	Welfare Handbook 2017 & Summerfestival Showbags	Initial budget allocation was based on the 2016 costs.
Meeting 3	15/2/2017	Breakfast Bar Cereals	Up to \$500	Breakfasts	Our first order was only \$141.90

**Women's
Hannah Billett & Anjana Abeyratne**

The Women's Department has been ridiculously busy since the last council, preparing for SummerFest and dealing with women's safety on campus issues. However, with Anju recently back from holidays, we are ready to take on the year.

Women's Committee

We finally managed to make quorum and have had not one, but two (!!!), meetings over the past few weeks. We passed the budget and all the necessary expenditure for SummerFest, and the committee have been consulted on all that is discussed in this report.

SummerFest schedule

We've locked in a schedule of fun and exciting events. On the first Tuesday we're having a picnic at our stall for women to meet each other and hangout in the shade. Thursday will be a speaking event with feminist author Van Badham, with free pizza. During Week 1, we'll be having our first women's and women of colour collectives, as well as an event showcasing women musicians. We're super excited about all of this.

Women's Mentoring Network

Due to some minor issues in previous years and changes to UMSU's volunteering guidelines, the Women's department is currently reviewing the program and considering how it could be better. Because of this, applications will be opening later but we hope the program will be better off because of this.

Safety on Campus and Sexual Assault Survey

Hannah is currently working with Yas, Yan and UMSU staff to lobby the university to commit to releasing the results of the HRC's survey. While we are cautiously optimistic that they can be convinced to do so, we also have concerns that they may not want the data out there for image reasons. In case the university is unwilling to be transparent with the data, we are also working on more assertive strategies.

Expenditure approved since last council

Cost Item	Budget Line	Cost
AV for SummerFest speaker event	Orientation	up to \$150
O Week Guide	Orientation	Up to \$600
Self-defense classes with Welfare	Special Projects and Events	Up to \$1000
Promotional bags	Orientation	Up to \$3000
Speaker fees	Orientation	\$400
SummerFest picnic supplies	Orientation	Up to \$500
Pizza and softdrink for speaker event	Orientation	Up to \$200
kettle, longlife milk pods and sugar	Special Projects and Events	Up to \$100

Burnley Campus
Jessica Peeler
With Recommendations

Key Activities

Changes to Associate Degree in Urban Horticulture (ADUH)

We have recently been informed that as of 2017, the ADUH will only be offered to students full time, and only be available for semester 1 entrance. The justification is that it will increase student retention, however we feel that it will have the opposite effect. While we don't have access to exact figures, our understanding based on events we have organised is that enrolments have dropped from approximately 60 ADUH students in 2015 to approximately 30 in 2017. We are extremely concerned that if allowed to remain, this alteration will result in the degree being discontinued. If that happens, it will be all too easy to move Masters and PhD students to Parkville and discontinue horticultural education at Burnley.

This decision was made without any student or staff consultation, and we have many concerns about its impact. Particularly, we believe it will reduce student enrolment as many students are unable to study full time due to:

- Family and/or carer commitments
- Disability
- Work commitments
- Many other reasons

We cannot see how this does not unfairly discriminate against certain members of the population, and would be keen to read the university's legislation regarding discrimination if anyone can point us in the right direction regarding this.

For some background, over the last year we have fought several decisions that would adversely affect Burnley students. In mid-2016 we faced the possibility of five ADUH staff, who also teach into the Masters, having their jobs removed or greatly reduced. With a strong BSA, student and staff response we were able to turn this decision around. In early 2016 our library hours were reduced to just four hours per day, which caused many students to miss classes in order to use the library when it was open. We were also able to turn this decision around with the support of UMSU.

We have prepared an email to be sent from BSA to the head of school Ian Woodrow (who was appointed after this decision), as well as the Dean and Vice Chancellor. We will also be preparing an email template for students to send personally. We are hoping that in response, consultation with staff and students over this decision will be carried out.

We are hoping that UMSU as a whole, and/or individual departments, will be willing to add their support to this through a formal statement or whichever format is deemed appropriate.

Removal of receptionist at Burnley

As of 2017, the receptionist position at Burnley has been entirely removed. This means that students and anyone else arriving at the college will not have an immediate contact person to speak to for directions, and for administrative, academic or other issues. They might have the option of speaking to Vicki Mimis (academic support officer), Ross Payne (campus manager) or Frank Prato (security and infrastructure services) whose offices are behind and next to reception. If not, they will be able to leave their contact details and enquiry (e.g. student card printing, parking permit printing), which will then be processed by Vicki or Ross when possible. It is important to note that neither Vicki nor Ross, nor any other staff members who are involved, will receive any extra time or pay to carry out these additional tasks.

Upon calling Burnley, people will have two options: (1) be redirected to Stop 1; (2) leave a message, which will be responded to by Vicki or Ross; or (3) be redirected to the Creswick campus' reception. If transferred to Creswick and the receptionist there is unable to answer the enquiry, they will redirect

the phone call directly to a Burnley staff member, who will be expected to handle the enquiry during their normal hours without extra time allocation or pay.

We are concerned about the impact of this both directly on students and anyone else trying to contact the college, and on the credibility of Burnley as a well-respected horticultural institution. Needless to say, we also find it highly unfair that existing staff will be expected to fill the void without any compensation. We will be preparing a BSA response to this and encouraging existing students and staff to voice their concerns to the School. We would also request that UMSU and/or specific departments voice their concern over this.

SummerFest

BSA will be holding a stall at the Carnival Day at Parkville, where we will be handing out free plants and talking to students about the campus and elective subjects available. Plants are organised and will be stored at the Melbourne University Community Garden greenhouse until brought to the stall. Dan and Sarah (BSA committee members) will be assisting Jess on the day.

The Burnley orientation event is finalised. It will be a joint event for undergrads and postgrads, beginning at 1pm and including a site induction, campus tour, OHS info, academic info, union info, and a chance to talk to staff and hear about subjects. After 8pm, BSA will provide refreshments for students in the Student Amenities Building.

The botanical drawing class is now confirmed; it will be held on March 1st from 2-5.30pm. Places are limited to 30. Creative Arts is coordinating the class, and BSA will provide a picnic.

Printing

Jess met with Sean from IT, who set up our laptop and printer. Goldie has added printing credit to our account so we now have printing facilities.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Finish planning SummerFest orientation event at Burnley

We need to pass money to purchase calico bags and supplies (motion put to sub-committee at this meeting), and organise food and drinks (we will probably order these online through the nearby IGA).

Follow up MIFGS tickets

Jess has received a response that tickets are handled by RACV, not MIFGS directly, and now needs to contact them. We are hoping to receive a group discount but will purchase regardless.

Irrigation at community garden

Jess had help from Nick (nursery and field station manager) to set up the automatic timer for irrigation pipes that have been installed. Need to organise another working bee to install the rest.

Coffee machine

Sarah (BSA member) has organised for Frank Prato (security/infrastructure) to affix the coffee machine to the wall. Meg (BSA member) is waiting on a response from the co-op to see if we can purchase beans through them in order to support them. If no response, Jess will most likely order from Allpress. We need to create clear signage for the machine so that students know how to use (and not abuse) it. If it is not kept clean and in good condition, we may just have to bring it out at events.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Submit BSA response to ADUH changes

Submit BSA response to removal of receptionist

Purchase supplies for bags to be distributed at orientation event

Finish irrigation at garden

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	16/12/16	Plants, irrigation equipment and other garden supplies for community garden	\$500	General Operations	\$116.94 spent so far

*No additional expenditure motions have been passed because we did not get quorum at our second meeting.

Recommendations

I ask Students' Council to pass \$1,500 from BSA's Activities & Events budget line for the purchase of calico bags and their contents (including reusable drink bottles, seeds and other items as chosen by committee members), to be distributed at the Burnley orientation event on February 22nd.

**Victorian College of the Arts
Nicholas Lam**

Key Activities

VCA Orientation Week

The majority of the arrangements have been finalised, along with most expenditure. Posters and other marketing materials have been submitted and approved for publishing by Communication Department.

VCASA Committee Members as well as a member from the Communication Department will always be on hand at the event venue to oversee the VCA Orientation Week.

Likewise, the VCA Orientation camp is set to execute on the Friday, 17th Feb. Report detailing the events and outcome of the camp will be included in the next OB report.

As Students' Council was earlier than expected this month, reports detailing the outcome of all VCA orientation activities will be included next Student's Council meeting.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Monday Breakfasts for students

Further correspondence with Danny Popper, the proposed supplier, has resulted in a viable menu for approval. Awaiting next committee meeting to approve menu and funds.

Action Points to be completed by next report