



**University of Melbourne Student Union**  
**Meeting of the Students' Council**  
**Agenda**  
**2:00 PM, 7.12.2016**  
**Meeting 2(17)**  
**Location: Training Rooms, Third Floor, Union House**

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(Office Bearers who do not submit reports for 3 consecutive regular meetings will have their honoraria suspended)

**President  
Yan Zhuang**

*No report submitted*

**General Secretary  
Yasmine Luu**

The job of secretary started early, and allowed me to hit the ground running. There have been a few major things on my mind and these will begin to develop in the coming months.

#### **Volunteering Hub**

The Volunteering Hub has run into some difficulties, where the initial quote was much too high for the funding we have been given. UMSU will be working on different strategies to counter act this unfortunate outcome, but I am looking to fight for a space like this, as it is very much required for the Volunteering Vision of UMSU. I will be reporting back further on this, after the Management Meeting on Tuesday.

#### **Changes to Academic Skills**

Along with the Education departments and the President, I met with Anna and Guido from Academic Skills to discuss the restructure of their program. The University is looking to employ people of a lesser standard to be advisers to students, which is not acceptable to us. We have been working on a plan with Academic Skills, from a Social Media point of view as well as through Academic Board.

#### **Summer Fest**

The new orientation program seems to be developing at a steady pace. The designs and overall branding of the 2 week program have been decided. I have been to Orientation meetings with the university, and have seen the process they are going through. It is my belief that UMSU will have a strong presence this year, as the University's vision is not as concrete as anticipated. I look forward to working on Summer Fest further.

#### **Induction**

Office Bearers were invited to a 3 day induction program, that covered a lot of topics crucial to the advancement of the offices. From volunteering to social media training, the Office Bearer's seemed to enjoy it, whilst also gathering important information for their term in office. I have set up an evaluation form, to easily find out what should be changed for next year's induction.

**Activities  
Jacinta Cooper & Lydia Paevere**

*No report submitted*

**Clubs & Societies**  
**Gulsara Kaplun & Kayley Cuzzubbo**

**Induction**

We spent our first few days in office attending OB induction sessions, including advocacy, harassment, OHS and volunteering training. These sessions have been quite valuable in allowing us to develop our administrative skills for the coming year. We will also both be attending the optional mental health first aid courses on the 6th and 8th of December.

**Clubs committee**

The first clubs committee meeting is scheduled for the 9th of December, and we've created a facebook group to coordinate committee matters. The main priority of our first meeting will be passing funds for printing the clubs guides and beginning to plan the department's involvement in the Summer Festival for 2017.

**Lock processing**

We are currently part way through cataloguing all of the locker keys and combination locks that clubs have been returning. Once this is complete we will be auditing the club lockers for cleanliness. This is a straightforward but quite time consuming process.

**Food options**

We have set a rough timeline for our expansion of food options available to clubs. We are aiming to deliver several catering 'package' options to clubs at the semester one clubs council, and then build from there depending on how the program is received. We will be working with the Communications department in the coming months to reach out to vendors within Union House and the suburbs surrounding the university.

**Merch**

We've started the process of ordering some department merch for Orientation 2017. We're looking to update the C&S t-shirts; order some pins and badges for Gunter's Choice; and order some branded cardholders to hand out during O-week and at other C&S events.

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

*No report submitted*

**Disabilities**  
**Alston Chu & Cassandra Prigg**

*No report submitted*

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

It's been an intense couple of weeks, but the Education (Academic) Department is prepared and excited for the year ahead.

Tom and Paul have closed applications for the SRN and recruitment is currently being finalised. Successful applicants will be notified shortly.

Both halves of the Education department recently met with Guido and Anna from Academic Skills regarding planned changes and restructuring of the Academic Skills and Careers services. We oppose these restructures on the grounds that they disadvantage students by providing less qualified points of contact. Under these new changes, the new managers would only require a Bachelor's degree. Sixty-five percent of students who utilise Academic Skills services are completing their post-graduate degree, which calls into question the relevance of help from managers with lower qualifications than themselves. Tom will be speaking at the next Academic Board meeting to explain our stance on this to the University.

We have been in touch with the Comms department to start planning the new online version of the Counter-Course Handbook, composed of user-generated subject reviews, as well as the traditional hardcopy version. Our next design meeting is scheduled for Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>.

We look forward to getting this new platform up and running over the summer break, to be launched with the 2017 SummerFest.

In conjunction with Education (Public), we have started planning for the Education stall and events to be run in SummerFest. Stay tuned for more exciting details to come!

**Education (Public Affairs)  
Daniel Lopez & Sinead Manning**

**Key Activities**

The Education (Public) Office is off to a great start - getting on with the job of advocating for all student's right to an accessible, equitable, and quality education.

**Induction**

We have recently completed induction for all UMSU Office Bearers. It was extremely useful and informative, providing an insight into the kinds of support and services that we can access to make the Ed Pub office as engaging as possible for students.

**Policy Engagement Program (PEP)**

Planning for our new volunteer program is well under way. With the application process being finalised before being opened, we expect that the group will be up and running in the near future. The group will aim to engage students in a way that best uses their skills and abilities - whether it be in media, campaigning, or policy. The group will focus on three key areas: education fairness, education access, and education quality.

We have a meeting with Comms to discuss design coming up - potentially next week. We are also organising to meet with Stephanie DiBattista before the 19th December to discuss best practice for managing a new volunteering program.

**Academic Skills/Careers Restructure**

Prior to taking office, we met with Guido Ernst and Anna Bailey (alongside Ed Ac, Gen Sec, and President). The meeting was to discuss the proposed restructure of the Academic Skills program. The consultation period for the restructure ended late November, but Tom Crowley will be speaking to Academic Board Thursday 8th December regarding UMSU's stance on the proposed changes. We will be conducting follow up meetings with the relevant departments after this. We have sent an email to Guido and Anna since taking office to reiterate our

interest in the issue. The NTEU also have a protest scheduled for the 9th December, and a template for a letter petitioning the Vice-Chancellor to abandon the restructure can be found on their website.

### **Education Committee**

Education committee will be meeting for the first time on Thursday, November 8th 2016. The office is looking forward to a productive year working with all members of the committee.

### **O-Week (Summerfest)**

O-Week (Summerfest) planning is in full swing. As we take office, we're preparing a range of engaging events to hold during O-Week and the first week of semester. We're also coming up with fun and memorable materials to give away at O-Week, such as bags and badges.

### **Intersectionality**

We have been, and will continue to, liaising with other departments. This will expand over time - at the moment we've talked with C&S about clubs and societies using CUB products for events. This will be followed up with an email petitioning the C&S Committee to direct OBs to send out an email to clubs around the CUB campaign.

### **Education Display Case**

We replaced some old posters in the education display case (Ground Floor, Union House) with some posters from the Young Workers Centre outlining minimum wage and traineeships. We're excited to transform our display case over the coming months.

## **Environment**

**Kate Denver-Stevenson & Elizabeth Nicholson**

### **Sustainability Plan**

Kate and Lizzie have been liaising with university communications on the announcement of the sustainability plan. In the immediate future, university comms wish to have a stall at Summerfest to engage students with specific aspects of the plan, and answer any questions once it has been announced.

In the longer term, they wish to have an ongoing working group led by academics, students, staff and alumni which focuses on communicating successful aspects of the plan as they emerge over the next four years. When the

### **Sustainable Campus Team**

The Sustainable campus team are looking forward to launching their 'Green Impact' program in the coming weeks as another method to encourage behavioural change on campus relating to sustainability issues. The project relies heavily on student engagement which the Environment department will be heavily involved with next year.

### **System Garden**

Following the public release of plans on Monday to reduce the size of System Garden by 10 per cent for the veterinary and agricultural science building expansion, Kate and Lizzie have been put in touch with the relevant grounds staff and project planners.

### **Recommendations**

*We recommend that UMSU publicly rejects this proposed destruction of parts of the garden based on the culturally, scientific and educational value the garden holds for the community of Melbourne University.*

*Furthermore, we direct the President and General Secretary to use their meetings with the Chancellery to convey our disappointment in this proposed plan.*

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

*No report submitted*

**Media  
Alexandra Alvaro, Amie Green, James Macaronas & Mary Ntalianis**

*No report submitted*

**People of Colour  
Ella Shi & Hanann Al Daqqa**

*No report submitted*

**Queer  
Evelyn Lesh & Blake Atmaja**

*No report submitted*

**Welfare  
Teresa Gornall & Ryan Davey**

*No report submitted*

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

Despite only being in office for a few days, we have absolutely hit the ground running. Our main focus of the week has been skilling up so we can run the department in the most effective way possible in 2017. We've set up our emails, begun to update the website and already sent out notice of our first committee meeting. We are very much looking forward to meeting our committee properly and get their input on O Week (or ~Summer Festival~), as well as events and programs we have planned for the rest of the year.

We've also begun the process of connecting with stakeholders, like Sally Coates from Campus Communities and the team at Melbourne Uni Sport. We've also been in discussions with our fellow OBs about opportunities for our departments to work together. In addition, we've been talking to the Communications department here at UMSU about how we can eradicate the asterisk from the Women's department's digital and physical presence.

**Burnley  
Jessica Peeler**

*No report submitted*

**VCA**  
**Nicholas Lam**

*No report submitted*