

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Students' Council

CONFIRMED Minutes

12 PM, 29.10.2015

Meeting 25

Private Dining Room / Grand Buffet Hall, Union House

Meeting opened at 12:09pm by Hana Dalton

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Hana Dalton be elected Chair.

Mover: Hana Dalton

Seconder: Rachel Withers

CARRIED

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged.

1.3 Attendance

Councillors: Lia Vassiliadis, Ada Chan, Stephen Mitas, Karly Banks, Itsi Weinstock, Lachlan McCall, Sarah Xia, Steven Connolly, Lachlan Gell, Oliver Sui, Pat Dollard

Office Bearers: Hana Dalton (General Secretary), James Baker (Activities), Stephen Smith (Clubs & Societies), Rachel Withers (President), Lynley Eavis (Media), Maddy Cleeve Gerkins (Media), Van Rudd (VCA), Andrea Bozic (Queer), Sasha Chong (Disabilities), Simon Farley (Media), Martin Ditmann (Media), James Bashford (Welfare), Tyson Holloway-Clark (Indigenous), Allison Ballantyne (Wom*n's), Lucy Curtis (Wom*n's), Shanley Price (Education Academic), Nellie Montague (Education Academic), Conor Serong (Education Public), Claire Pollock (Clubs & Societies), Susannah Gordon (Disabilities)

Staff: Justin Bare (General Manager)

Observers: Jade Eckhaus, Caleb Triscari, Darcy Thornton

1.4 Apologies

1.5 Proxies

Destan Dikbas to Sarah Xia

Danielle Bagnato to Caleb Triscari

1.6 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

1.7 Membership

Annto Hassen's membership as a Councillor has lapsed

Lloyd Rouse's membership as Queer Officer has lapsed

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Deferred until next meeting of the Students' Council.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Nil

4. Correspondence

Letter from Rose Steele, NUS President

Dear UMSU Students' Council,

Thank-you for inviting NUS to your Council to speak again to the motion to accredit to NUS.

Please see our original letter for more detail on the points raised in the motion before council.

We would like to reiterate the seriousness nature of the requests that are on our organisation from the UMSU Council and that we are taking these matters with appropriate timeliness and sincerity.

We would also like to reiterate from our discussions last week that the first two parts of this motion would be more productively aimed at being incorporated into a motion to go before the NUS National Conference as we do not have the confidence to go ahead with such a huge measure at this stage without the direction of our members.

Specifically on point two we have contacted our lawyers, who are not in house, over a week ago and who have responded to us advising us against publishing the report stating that there would be "that there are genuine privacy and confidentiality issues with making the report public."


Please consider these issues before voting on accreditation.

Rose Steele

National President, National Union of Students

5. Office Bearers' Reports

President

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Rachel Withers President</p> <p>To Students' Council 25/15 29/10/15</p>	
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Key activities:

24 hour study space in Union House

- Met with MUSUL regarding a proposal to open the Union Lounge for 24 hours during SWOTVAC and exams, following a conversation I had attempted to open in June (at Conor's suggestion)
- Suggested now that the University has launched its own 24 hour pilot on Level 1 ERC this SWOTVAC that perhaps our efforts are no longer necessary
- Decided it would be best to check out the usage of the ERC overnight on Monday night and get back to MUSUL on Tuesday morning; if demand is very high, we will consider launching something in Union Lounge to meet demand

Bar

Bar Design Competition:

- Finalised a brief for the competition and created a webpage for it: <http://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/design-your-student-bar-competition/> The competition is open from Sunday 25th Oct- Monday 16th Nov (3 weeks).
- Promoted this in the UMSU enews on Sunday 25th October, and have asked Comms to continue to promote it
- Sent this link to MUSUL as an FYI, still waiting on them to hopefully provide me with a floorplan of the space to upload alongside the competition info
- Ask

Next steps:

- I plan to send this (as well as a few other updates) around to the Bar Updates Mailing List

Naming:

- I am on the lookout for meaningful names for the bar, as it was deemed that the names suggested through the survey lacked meaningfulness. We have asked Clint from the Row dy due to his strong historical knowledge of UMSU.

Next Steps:

- I will use social media to ask for suggestions
- Once we have a decent list (with stories tied to them) we will conduct the long awaiting voting competition on Facebook

Meeting about SSAF

- Met with Kerry (consultant undertaking the MUSUL reviews and SSAF review) to get an update on where her projects are at.
- Kerry has suggested there are recommendations in her soon to be finalised report for MUSUL that are too pressing to be ignored, but was unable to update us further until the report is tabled
- Kerry indicated the SSAF review will be recommending a body/SSAF Committee that can make decisions around the use of unallocated SSAF funds. However Kerry also indicated that a majority of money will still aim to be allocated from the start and for multiple years, so that organisations can continue to have certainty in their funding
- Justin and I continued to push that more transparency needs to be shown by our SSAF-recipient counterparts, the University, the GSA, MUSUL and Sport, as currently none live up to the same standard we do

UMSU 10th Birthday Party

- Convened the 10th Birthday Party organising committee
- Am working towards collating content for a 10th birthday booklet, including major milestones, photos, thank yous and names of all elected reps over the 10 years
- Am lodging a job with Comms to create a promotional theme and provide posters, Facebook banners and stickers. Once this is done I will create a Facebook event

Mentoring Network

- I sat down with the outgoing, inaugural Mentoring Network Directors to discuss the future needs of the program (ie, did they think three directors was the right number, was the role what they were expecting, what else needs to be included in the advertised PD)
- All four of us along with Goldie tweaked the PD slightly, which I have now published online to recruit new directors for 2016, with a closing date of **Friday 6th November 2015**. This was promoted in the UMSU enew on Sunday 25th October and will be promoted in the Mentoring Facebook group, page and mailing list.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Hana Dalton
General Secretary**

**To Students' Council 25/15
29/10/15**

Key activities:

NUS Affiliation

I have been working with the President and General Secretary of NUS to come to an agreement on the NUS Affiliation fee motion that is before Council today. Many different people had particular views and concerns about the motion, its purpose and the NUS more broadly, while the NUS had its own concerns about its ability to comply with conditions set by Students' Council. However, it seems at this point that an agreement on the wording of the motion has been reached by all parties.

Office Bearer Meeting about Honoraria

I ran a second meeting of OBs last Thursday 22nd October to continue the discussion of OB honoraria, as well as other institutional and cultural problems regarding Office Bearer work within UMSU.

Policy Officer Discussions

As part of the Policy Officer Working Group to come out of a motion passed at the previous Council meeting, I have been a part of the discussions around the development of a Policy Officer role (or similar). A meeting took place on Tuesday 28th October to discuss this prospect and how it might be implemented.

Handover Policy

I have been working with James Bashford to draft a motion outlining additional handover requirements for outgoing Office Bearers (tabled), with a view to updating the Procedures for Student Representatives for approval at a later Council. This has arisen out of discussions throughout the year about the quality (or lack thereof) of handover that many incoming Office Bearers receive.

Activities

Clubs & Societies

Creative Arts

Disabilities



University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Sasha Chong and Susannah Gordon
Disabilities Officers**

To Students' Council 29/10/2015

Key activities:

ICan Event:

This was our final event and took place last Thursday afternoon. The event went well, and many were very interested to hear our guest speaker, Penny.

The afternoon included snacks and pizza, as well as drinks.

Meetings with incoming OBs:

We have been talking with Jess and Christian about our ideas about the department next year and have been collaborating on ideas for how to move our campaigns forward.

Handover:

We are in the process of getting the department and office ready for our handover in about a month.

Reducing stigma campaign:

One of the biggest things we have wanted to focus on this year is reducing the stigma around disability and what it means to identify as having a disability. Talking with Christian and Jess we have decided it would be great to do some kind of poster campaign similar to what Queer have put up and challenge the ideas people still carry about our department.

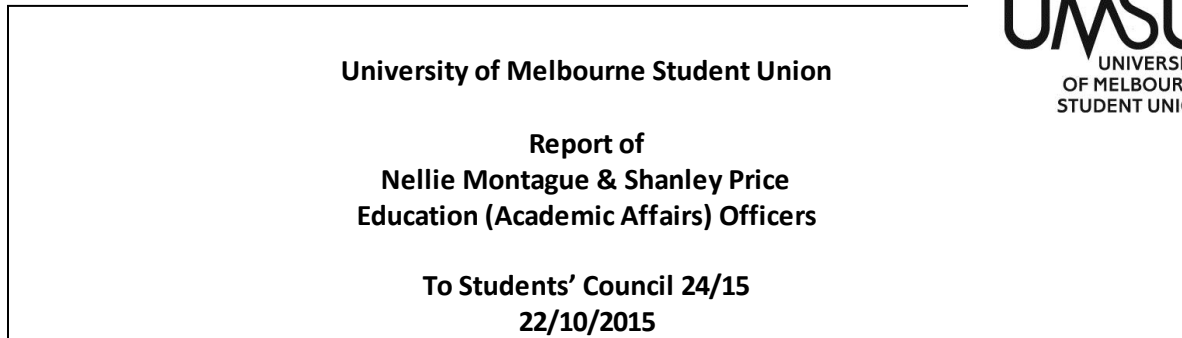
Trigger Warning campaign

I have been thinking it would be a good idea to get in touch with the lecturers and tutors who are already using trigger warnings and get them to be an advocate for the cause for the other academics who seem to misunderstand the point and necessity of trigger warnings.

Working through the constitution:

It has been on our to-do list to go through the constitution and identify any areas (e.g. under discrimination etc.) that need to be addressed regarding disabilities. Because Sasha has been busy with university work, this has yet to be done.

Education (Academic Affairs)



University Statute and Regulation Changes

- We have a meeting with the University secretary on the 27th October to discuss our proposed changes

Student Representative Network (SRN)

- Final SRN meeting was held on the 21st October
- Feedback is being sought from members this year to make next year even better
- Applications for next year have opened, as of the 26th Oct 32 applications have been received
- Shortlisting and interviewing will then take place with training on the 23rd November to prepare reps to start 2016 attending the first meetings.
- Planning with GSA is underway to combine the shortlisting and interview processes in a fair and equitable way

Academic Programs Committee (APC)

- A reassessment paper has been written outlining proposed changes to the current policy and will be presented to APC at the November 13th meeting

Constitutional Changes

- Ongoing discussions with office bearers about what should be changed in the constitution to ensure a fairer, more supportive, transparent, useful and strong Union

Burnley

- Number of issues around staffing cuts and ongoing support for degrees and courses at Burnley
- Meeting with the NTEU Burnley campus co-ordinator and incoming Office Bearers to work out how we can support our colleagues down at Burnley
- Following the motion passed last week work is underway to support Burnley to run its first end of semester camp
- Alerting the University to the unacceptable situation at Burnley in regards to lecture recording especially in light of the Automated Lecture Capture coming in at the end of the year

Elected Representatives Meeting

- Working with Andrea on the Gender X facilities and toilet provisions

Universal Representation

- Working with the GSA plans are underway to role out a large project aimed at looking at the role of student representation at the University of Melbourne and where this does and does not happen around the campus

Policy Offer

- Following the motion passed at last week's Council work is underway to form the working group with the first meeting to be held on the 27th October

Assessment Survey

- A number of Office Bearers and staff are working to decide what to do with last semester's Assessment Survey and whether to produce a thorough report with the small amount of time we have left

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Conor Serong
Education (Public Affairs) Officer**

**To Students' Council 24/15
22/10/2015**

Key activities:

State and Regulations Review

- This week we will again meet with Gioconda Di Lorenzo and Julie Wells to discuss our proposed amendments to the draft regulations that the University has presented to us.
- Early conversations suggest that most of our proposals have been adopted.

Examination Resits

- Emily Di Rango from the GSA has drafted a discussion paper on this for presentation at the Academic Programs Committee.
- Nellie and I have offered feedback to this draft.
- It will be presented to APC next month.

Policy Officer

- This week, the working group established by Council will meet for the first time to discuss options for a new staff member.
- We will aim to bring one or more options to Council by the next meeting.

Burnley

- We have been working with Eranthos Beretta (incoming Burnley Campus Coordinator) and the NTEU on the issue of staff cuts to the Burnley campus.

Expenditure since last report:

T-shirts and pens have been purchased, with invoices still being finalised – a full expenditure report will be made as soon as these figures are available.

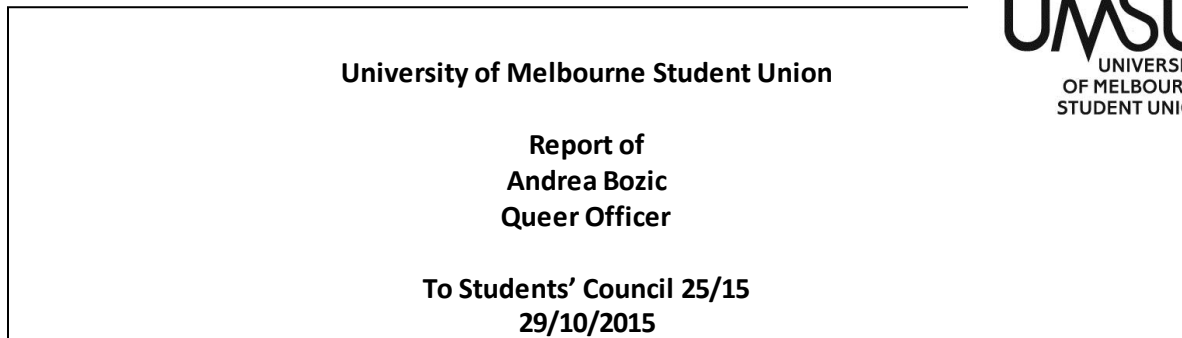
Items that have been approved for purchase but not yet purchased include craft materials, SSAF promotional materials, and phone + laptop chargers.

Environment

Indigenous

Media

Queer



Midsummer- My meetings with the university regarding the Melbourne uni float at the midsumma march are continuing and are almost finished.

Party- I am setting up an end of semester party at a warehouse. I have secured a venue and bar tab and am finalising the Dj and security.

Mental health care- Spending time in the queer space more so that students can talk to me more about their problems.

Collectives. Finished!!! Last ones are done and dusted.

Clothes Swap- no meaningful progress

Third gender- no meaningful progress

Housing board. A housing board has been set up in the queer space and a template focusing on accessibility to a wide range of people has been printed.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
James Bashford
Welfare Officer**

**To Students' Council 25/15
29/10/2015**

In the week since the last Student's Council I have little to report on.

Yesterday I met with Danielle Clayman (Wellness@Melbourne) and Sarah Xia (Welfare Officer-Elect) to give Sarah and Danielle a chance to meet and begin discussing how they may work together next year. This was a very productive meeting and a great contribution to the handover process.

Along with Hana I've been working on a handover motion to present to council to strengthen the handover process, which I intend to continue as General Secretary next year.

A final meeting of welfare committee has been called for tomorrow but at this stage seems unlikely to reach quorum. Because of this I've included one motion for consideration of Council today as it is too large to be passed by Operations Sub Committee. The remainder of the motions will go to OSC if committee doesn't reach quorum. These motions are to approve expenditure of the remaining funds in the welfare budget on a range of things from the food bank to yoga mats and condoms.

I'll also be working on planning for an end of year thank you party for the Welfare Collective volunteers. This is scheduled for the afternoon of November 19th when most volunteers will have finished their exams and should be a great way to cap off the year. The Volunteer T-Shirts we're ordering will hopefully have arrived by then allowing them to be given to volunteers in recognition of their work this year.

Expenditure

There is no expenditure to report since last council

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Allison Ballantyne and Lucy Curtis
Wom*n's Officers**

**To Students' Council 25/15
29/10/2015**

Key activities:

Judy's Punch

- 2000 copies of *Judy's Punch* 2015 arrived on Monday
- We had a successful launch party on Monday evening
- 100 copies have so far been given to the Communications department for distribution in UMSU stands
- We intend to reserve the majority of the print run for distribution during O-Week and semester one next year, in order to advertise the department and stimulate interest in submissions to *Judy's Punch* 2016

Handover

- We have started preparations for our handover to the 2016 Wom*n's Officers, and have spoken to them about several initiatives/campaigns for 2016 that have recently been proposed to us
- We have rewritten last year's Women's Mentoring Network feedback survey and will send it to people involved in the 2015 program this week
- The data collected by this survey will be included in our handover document to improve the administration of the program next year

Budget expenditure since last report:

There has been no budget expenditure since the last report to council.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Van Rudd
VCA Campus Coordinator**

**To Students' Council 25/15
29/10/2015**

Cancellation of Refugee Film Screening

Due to the rest of the 2105 VCASA budget being misappropriated into the Whole of Union budget, we've had to cancel our Film Screening on Refugees and Detention in Australia called *Woomera*, that was due to be screened Sep 24th. We had no resources to organise food and beverage catering and postering for the event. This has been really unfortunate because I have witnessed many VCA students expressing concern about refugees and their struggle around the world, as a result of the increased media focus on Europe and Syrian refugees. To deny VCA students the opportunity to this important film screening has been a blow to the lively cultural experiences we have helped develop on campus. As we have reached the end of semester, it is too late to run this event via re-direction of funds through the Operations Subcommittee.

We have since seen no other UMSU department hold any event at the VCA since the misappropriation of our funds.

Moving Office

The VCA Faculty has gradually informed us over the year that we have no choice but to move our office because of the large reconstruction plans for the VCA happening in 2016-17 (specifically a donation from a filthy rich person to house an art collection where our current office is located.) After some hesitancy, we have decided to move the office at the request of the faculty to an area that both the faculty and the VCASA have agreed upon – the old computer room adjacent to the Student Lounge near the VCA Café. The faculty and the VCASA have tentatively decided to share some of the costs of the removal. As we have a number of large objects such as old filing cabinets and large tables, that won't fit into the new space, we will have to pay for removal of these objects at a stage in the near future.

Since we now have no choice but to move, we will be giving the current and future VCA students the best we can in terms of access to events and facilities on campus into 2016. This involves purchasing new equipment such as a paper guillotine and a permanently installed digital projector for important events such as film screenings, spoken word events and seminars. The move will involve a very large promotional campaign including ground stickers that have been approved by the faculty, posters and flyers, and announcements well into Orientation Week and into the new year. We will also be relocating our signs and working on exterior wall murals in consultation with the Wilin Centre to provide an inspiring entrance region to the new office. It is this context that provides the overall justification for the motions tabled.

Written reports tabled by President, General Secretary, Disabilities Officers, Education (Academic Affairs) Officer (Nellie), Education (Public Affairs) Officer, Indigenous Officer, Queer Officer, Welfare Officer, Wom*n's Officers, and VCA Campus Coordinator.

Nellie met with the University Secretary and that had accepted most of the recommendations to amend the University Statutes and Regulations. These included having student representation on General Misconduct Hearings, allowing Office Bearers to take leave while serving, and having student representatives on the University's Finance Committee.

Nellie suggested that a future Council look at making it compulsory for joint Office Bearers to report separately to Council.

There was discussion around the cancellation of a film screening at the VCA reported in Van's OB report. He said there were difficulties promoting it due to the lack of paper at the VCA Department office, as they could not authorise expenditure at short notice, due to Council moving their funds to Whole of Union.

Councillors said that it was not reasonable to cancel an event for this reason, and that there were sufficient ways to advertise and promote this, as well as avenues to approve expenditure, including Council and Operations Sub-Committee.

Jade said it was not unreasonable to question why it was difficult to organise this event due to the circumstances.

A question was asked to Van about the costs associated with relocating the VCA Office, and why UMSU was being asked to pay for it. He said that he had negotiated with the faculty and that these costs included paying to dispose of no longer needed equipment.

Motion 3: To accept the Office Bearers' reports *en bloc*.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

6. General Manager's Report

Justin said that there was not a lot to report, but that the Policy Officer Working Group had met, and a paper would be tabled looking at staffing arrangements in Advocacy and how staffing can be arranged to best support Office Bearers, the Student Representative Network, and increase casework in the department.

Motion 4: To accept the General Manager's report.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

7. Other Reports

Procedural motion: To suspend Standing Orders to accept a late proxy from Ash Munoz to Darcy Thornton.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

Comedy Festival Directors' Report & Budget

SARINA MURRAY AND BEN VOLCHOK

The 2015 UMSU Comedy Festival ran from October 5-10, featuring six days of special events and student shows. As directors, we were interviewed and appointed in early June, giving us just under four months to plan and execute this festival.

Our aims as stipulated by the Students Council were to coordinate a festival which would bring together existing comedy on campus and support students new to comedy. This would in turn offer entertainment to students and boost student welfare, as well as offering students a safe space to perform comedy. On a personal level, our aim was to promote a culture of comedy on campus that would be entertaining and accessible, prioritising ensuring that voices typically marginalised would not be excluded or dehumanised. We also wanted to bring together the diverse comedy talents that this campus houses and to encourage students to perform. We feel that we have succeeded on all counts.

- **Processes:**

Engagement with student performers and volunteers

Performers were by far the most willing to participate in the festival out of all the people involved. Expressions of interest were opened during O-Week of Semester 2. We had 21 expressions of interest for performers (groups and individuals). Outside of this, we approached performers and groups we already knew to exist (such as the Law Revue, Medicine Revue and college dramatic societies that were putting on comedy productions this semester, like Queen's College).

The expressions of interest, coupled with our own reaching out to personal contacts, meant that we were able to put on 16 shows (some of these were group shows/combined shows). We originally had 18 shows scheduled, but two had to pull out at the last minute – nevertheless, we had so many shows that even when two pulled out we still had a full programme. We met with all people who had submitted responses to discuss participation and expectations of what that would mean. This included giving support and advice to beginner comics as well as talking everyone through the UMSU constitutional requirements surrounding content.

With volunteers, we began the recruitment process approximately six weeks before the commencement of the festival. Initial responses were promising, but following up proved more difficult and in the end we had about 25 volunteers – out of these 25, many ended up being unable

to participate at the last minute. Luckily, we had largely overestimated the scale of the events and infrastructure required so that the dropping out of volunteers did not majorly affect the ability to run events.

Volunteers mainly fell into a general category of assistants (bar, backstage support), and except for our set/stage designers no volunteers were found who could help with the technical side of events (stage managing, sound operators, etc). Fortunately the scope for these roles was minimal and we were able to organise existing volunteers (including ourselves) to oversee certain of these technical aspects.

In future, it would be beneficial to have someone on hand from the start as a Volunteer Coordinator for the festival, who would be able to manage contacting, rostering, training and generally dealing with volunteers.

Budget

The festival ended up making a net gain of \$727.91. Please see attached budget.

Purchasing items

Food: we used Pronto pizza, from whom we ordered during the week and were invoiced at the end of the week.

Drinks: all drinks during the festival were donated by Entertainment from their excess stock from Semester 2. The initial agreement had been to recompense Entertainment for the stock used, but there ended up being a negligible enough amount used that they did not wish to see k recompense.

AV: Entertainment covered the majority of the cost of the Members Lounge, as this was the location of their annual Comedy Union Night, leaving us to cover the cost of the other two spaces. Some equipment was sourced from UHT and Creative Arts at no cost, but most of the staging and lighting/sound was hired from AV@Melbourne. Negotiations occurred fairly on in the process and we were constantly and persistently pressing for rates that would be further discounted, resulting in a lower than usual rate charged to us. We saved a lot of labour cost by not having operators during all but the gala night – only one show (which only performed on the Saturday night) required more complicated technical support and this was provided by Ben Volchok.

Performer fees: As with AV costs, efforts were made to ensure a minimisation of performer fees. The low-budget/student-based nature of the festival was stressed, with especial care made to mention the “place that started you off” factor to alumni. Having personal contacts with some of the performers was not helpful but not necessary in most cases.

Revenue

Sponsorship: \$500. This was received by a sponsor who wishes to remain anonymous. Due to how late into the year we were appointed, there were very few opportunities for finding sponsorship as organisations have by that stage already allocated all of their sponsorship money (indeed, the communication from this sponsor specified that we were an exception to their rule).

Ticket sales: \$0. We decided on the day of the festival’s opening to make all tickets during the week free, in an effort to attract more audiences to the events.

Food and beverage sales: \$785.45. Prices were \$5 per alcoholic drink, \$2 per soft drink, gold coin per slice of pizza, and various prices for the sweet foods obtained from Pronto. Bar takings were tallied daily and a breakdown of income per day is available in the attached budget report. We decided against having itemised takings as the quantity of food and drink that we went through was too low, and volunteers were not trained in bookkeeping practices due to last-minute appointment. Riders were permitted for artists/volunteers/participants, as is standard industry practice.

Promotion

We recruited a Publicity and Media Manager who assisted with online promotion of the festival. She and Ben Volchok created a guide that was distributed before and during the festival. A separate Graphic Designer was used to come up with the logo design, later adapted for use in the guide and online banners.

The UMSU Communications department was sought for help with reaching out to its network, which included segments in the weekly newsletter as well as promotion on Facebook. Online promotion was also sought from several clubs and we also posted on the student portal .

We feel that we could have used more time to more adequately promote the festival, especially to those students who are not already highly connected with UMSU events.

- **The festival itself:**

Setup

The festival's shows operated from three venues within Union House: the Members Lounge on the ground floor, the UMSU Bar on Level 1 and the Joe Napolitano room on Level 2. Larger-scale events were staged in the Members' Lounge, while smaller performances were spread out across the other two rooms. The bar was also used as a festival hub.

A breakdown of events follows:

Monday, October 5: Opening night gala

Tuesday, October 6: North Court performance ; Discussion panel

Wednesday, October 7: Comedy Union Night (annual event organised by Entertainment)

Thursday, October 8: Outside broadcast with The Fodder

Thursday, October 8 till Saturday, October 10: Student shows

Attendance

In general, attendance was lower than expected, but still fairly high for a first-time venture, and it was able to maintain a fairly stable rate across the week. It is especially worthwhile to note the fact that the festival was held fairly close to the end of semester, which obviously means more assessments for students. Taking that into account, we experienced a decent amount of audience engagement. However, the Saturday matinee had zero attendance, as did the workshops. The next lowest attended event was the Discussion Panel on Tuesday the 6th of October with approximately 15-20 audience members. The other nights were not badly attended, though still not a full house. Monday night's gala had approximately 50-60, Wednesday night's Comedy Union Night had about 30-40, and the student shows on Thursday, Friday and Saturday averaged at about 50 per night across all the shows, with slightly more coming on the Saturday night.

Please see the section on recommendations for the future for further discussion on attendance.

The majority of attendance for student shows came from their own family and friends, which is fairly standard for student/amateur productions. We also did have total strangers come to these shows, which is pleasing. Due to the scheduling of the programme, it also meant that people who came for one show could easily see others. This process was also aided by our establishment of the UMSU Bar as the festival hub.

- **Recommendations:**

We believe that this year can be treated as a successful pilot program of what can be achieved in the future if this festival is allowed to continue. We achieved an ambitious program in a short frame of time, which can only be improved upon with a longer period to plan and organise. We applaud Students' Council for allowing the Festival to go forward at short notice this year, and for their continued support.

The main recommendation we have for the future is that directors be given more time to organise the festival (nine months is a standard timeframe for festival organisation). Understandably, this was a fairly last-minute decision, but sufficient time needs to be allowed to ensure a higher standard of coordination and organisation. This would not only give a better chance of securing sponsorship (see above) but also ensure that performers and volunteers alike have enough warning and will be more committed to the project. It would also help with promotional aspects and raising awareness of the festival's existence. Finally, it would allow the festival to be better integrated with the Union as a whole and scheduled in conjunction with other departments, not around them and not clashing with them.

Another major recommendation would be to allocate the festival a budget from the get-go. As the UMSU budget had already been settled for the year, it was a difficult process to elicit funds from Students' Council, confounding our ability to plan around concrete figures until very late in the process.

Affirmative Action is a pressing concern within comedy. To avoid a landscape that prioritises the voices of the already privileged, strong action should be undertaken throughout the year to encourage other groups to start dabbling in comedy and appreciating their own voices. A troubling concern was that all of the performers who had to pull out of the festival came from these areas.

A common piece of feedback from students was that they were busy during the evenings, which is when the majority of events occurred. They said they were more available to attend daytime events – so in the future perhaps organising more daytime events could be a viable option.

In terms of scheduling in general, it so happened that we had two fairly major comedy nights (the gala and the annual Comedy Union Night) in three days. In future perhaps combining the two might be possible to ensure greater attendance. Perhaps even if the festival were to open on a Wednesday instead of a Monday it would give a buffer of two days at the start of the week to build up awareness. It would also be beneficial to move the festival slightly earlier. One option is in Week 1 or 2 of Semester 2 when students are still motivated from the midyear break and don't have as much assessment; the flipside to this is that it can potentially clash with Mudfest. Another option is to hold

the festival in Semester 1 around March-May, though of course there is the consideration of clashing with the Melbourne International Comedy Festival

We were able to liaise with a number of UMSU departments for the organisation of the festival and it is hoped that in future more of these departments will be able to take part. In addition, departments outside UMSU (such as Alumni and various faculties) can contribute to make the festival even bigger and more successful. We especially wish to acknowledge the enormous and ongoing support of Tony Ennis, Entertainment Coordinator, in the lead-up to and during the time of the festival, and we strongly recommend future festival directors to approach Tony and work alongside him – and sourcing aid from other departments as well.

The establishment of the comedy festival was an important step in and of itself in regards to promoting student comedy. Everything has to start somewhere, and we feel that we have put together a strong starting point. We hope that festivals in future years will be able to build upon this and grow upwards.

Neither Ben Volchok or Sarina Murray (Comedy Festival Directors) were present, but the report was tabled and the budget circulated to Council.

Discussion around the success of the Comedy Festival.

Nellie said it was disappointing that attendance was not high, and that demand needed to be looked at in future years. She said that it would be worth spending less on hiring external comedians, and more on promoting student comedy.

Council said that there were a many issues with timing, advertising and promotion, and cost of the event.

Rachel said that in future this should be offered as a free event to students, rather than ticketing events.

Council felt that the Directors needed to work to the scope set out by Council, and that a budget needs to be made at the start.

Council said that Directors needed to think about what students want, and tailor the event to that.

Council was also concerned why events did not start until 8pm, given that the bulk of student activity is during the day and that it was not something that they wanted to stay around for.

Motion 5: To accept the Comedy Festival Directors' report and note the aforementioned recommendations from Students' Council.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

8. Operational Business

9. Motions on Notice

9.1 Media Department Expenditure

Discussion about venue selection for Farrago launches. It was suggested that Media could get a better deal if they had a fixed venue.

The Media Officers said that this is boring and that they liked having variety for their contributors.

Media Officers were asked about what specific equipment they were obtaining, and whether they had consulted with AV@Melbourne about using their equipment.

Martin and Caleb said that setting up an arrangement with AV@Melbourne was possible, but that these investments were aimed at supporting future projects of the Media Department. Further, AV@Melbourne did not have all of the equipment needed.

Caleb said that he was working on a policy for the usage of equipment, after Council noted their concerns about losing equipment, given the Media Department's track record.

Procedural motion: To vote on the motion.

Mover: Sarah Xia

CARRIED

Motion 6: To spend up to:

- \$1,100 on the Fitzpatrick awards, night and prizes.
- \$200 on Facebook advertising for applications.
- \$300 for bound Farragoes.
- \$1,300 on video, photography, and radio equipment.

From the Special Events and Projects budget line of the Media Department.

Mover: Martin Ditmann

Seconder: Simon Farley

CARRIED

9.2 Indigenous Officer Pay

Nellie commends Tyson on this – “it is a very selfless decision.”

Tyson said that Trinity College has an existing fund, and this this will go into that.

Preamble: I am fortunate enough to be financially stable while I live on campus and am not reliant on honoraria from UMSU to cover my costs. I would then like to donate the full sum of my honoraria to an organisation of my choosing so that they may better support other indigenous students. Normally the UMSU Constitution requires that Office Bearers receive their honoraria, but I would ask Council to in this case waive my right and allow me to donate the full sum at my discretion.

Motion 7: That Students' Council accept the Indigenous Officers' waiver of his constitutional right to receive the full sum of this year's honoraria. Council directs the Indigenous Officer to recommend to Council payments to be made to Trinity College for scholarships for indigenous students, as consistent with aims and objectives of the Indigenous Department.

Prior to considering any recommendation that Indigenous Officer must enter into an agreement with UMSU whereby all future rights to receipt of honoraria for the period January 1 to November 31, 2015 are formally waived.

Mover: Tyson Holloway-Clark

Seconder: Stephen Smith

CARRIED

9.3 Horticultured Club at Burnley

Stephen Smith said that it was good to support this, especially given the difficulties faced by non-Parkville clubs.

Motion 8: To move up to \$235 from the Non-Parkville Events budget line, and up to \$500 from Whole of Union, to pay for gardening and beekeeping equipment for the upkeep of the Community Garden at the Burnley campus, as well as beehives maintained by the Horticultured Club.

Mover: Hana Dalton

Seconder: Pat Dollard

CARRIED

9.4 Burnley action against staff cuts

Preamble:

Burnley staff and students have recently been informed that the 5 current teaching positions for the Associate Degree in Urban Horticulture are being cut down to 2 next year, these changes will also affect the Masters of Urban Horticulture. This puts in jeopardy the high quality of teaching Burnley students currently enjoy from the teachers who have written this important course. This proposed change is being informed by the *Growing Esteem* strategic plan for the next 5 years for the University as well as broader changes that are being looked at for the Bachelor of Environments. This is not the right way to go about change and there has been a complete lack of consultation or consideration of what is at stake.

UMSU should stand in solidarity beside our colleagues at Burnley as they seek to find out what this really means for their campus and their education and support them to fight back against any proposals that cut staff jobs and put the quality of students' education at risk.

Motion 9:

To endorse the actions Burnley Student Association, GSA, NTEU and Burnley staff are doing to stop the proposed staffing changes for next year and to support them in fighting for more support and services as well as consultation around any further changes in the future. This motion also directs the President to write a letter to this effect to the Vice Chancellor, Dean of Science and Head of School.

Mover: Nellie Montague

Seconder: Conor Serong

CARRIED

9.5 NUS Accreditation

Hana said that Rose Steele (NUS National President) and Tom Nock (NUS National General Secretary) had sought legal advice on publishing information.

Discussion around increasing transparency. It was established that UMSU was the only Student Union to set formal stipulations on affiliation, and that it is one of the only Student Unions in a position to demand change this way.

Hana said that we must not forget the role of delegates and that if we want to create change we should speak to them and let them be our voice at the National Conference.

Preamble: At the beginning of this year, UMSU Students' Council set aside \$55,500 to affiliate to the National Union of Students. As the year, as well as the current term of Students' Councillors, is drawing to a close, we must pay our affiliation fee as soon as possible to ensure our continued affiliation to NUS and to allow our recently-elected delegates to attend the upcoming National Conference.

The NUS has run a number of campaigns this year, many of which UMSU has endorsed through motions of Students' Council. Several National Days of Action were organised as part of a campaign against the Government's plans to deregulate university fees; a policy which has since been shelved owing to significant public pressure. NUS, with the assistance of UMSU Office Bearers and volunteers, also ran the Quality Survey and Talk About It Survey at the University of Melbourne to obtain data on various aspects of the student experience. NUS also continues to lobby the Government and crossbench MPs around significant student issues, including accessibility to education, welfare and cost of living. This type of student representation on a federal level is only possible through a nationally-representative student body.

A number of stipulations were set by Students' Council around NUS affiliation when it endorsed the 2015 Budget. All of these requirements have now been met with the exception of point b), which requires NUS to have "sent a list of all affiliated organisations, and their assessed affiliation fees (including the minutes of the Fees Review Committee, National Executive and other decision-making organs relevant to those fee reviews) to its affiliates; and posted them publicly on its website or Facebook with an undertaking to publish them on the website in the future". The General Secretary of NUS has informed us that they do not have formal legal advice as to whether this demand can legally be met and many affiliates request that this information be kept confidential, due for example to the often sensitive nature of student organisations' SSAF agreements with their respective Universities.

Motion 10: That UMSU:

1. Calls upon NUS to develop procedures which greater facilitate transparency in terms of making the affiliation fees of affiliated student organisations publically available, wherever possible;
2. Requests that the NUS, contingent on formal legal advice allowing it as well as declaring the following actions logistically possible to achieve within the month to ensure accreditation of UMSU delegates for NUS National Conference:
 - a. Contact all affiliates telling them they will be publishing affiliation fees, and offering them an option to opt-out within a week providing a reason for doing so;
 - b. Publishes this affiliated organisations list publically and online, along with their affiliation fees (for those who did not opt-out) and reasons provided for not releasing them (for those who did opt-out), as well as comments explaining the reasons for having a waiver system.
3. Approves the expenditure of \$55,500 from budget line NUS Affiliation (\$55,500) to pay our annual affiliation fee and continue UMSU's affiliation to the National Union of Students, to be paid within two days of conditions 2 a. and 2 b. being met.
4. Calls in the strongest possible terms on the NUS National Conference to reform the affiliation process, including:

- a. Making public online release of affiliation fees compulsory;
 - b. Reducing the \$5 a person affiliation target to a more reflective level, reducing the amount of waivers needed and encouraging compliance and level payment more;
 - c. Drafting a more concrete set of guidelines for waivers and making all Fees Review Committee minutes public.
5. Calls upon NUS to develop procedures which greater facilitate transparency and good governance in general, and increase faith in the organisation in general.

Mover: Hana Dalton

Seconder: Rachel Withers

CARRIED

9.6 Solidarity with Fossil Free UTAS

Preamble:

On October 14 2015 seven members of Fossil free UTAS began an occupation of the administrative offices of the University of Tasmania's Hobart Campus, refusing to leave until the University divested its \$30 million currently invested in Fossil Fuels. This occupation is currently in its ninth day and has garnered considerable attention although the University has yet to provide any indication or commitment that they will divest finances from fossil fuels. In addition to the occupation a group of students have also been camping outside the administrative building, and yesterday a student was arrested following a banner drop off a 20 metre building.

Motion 11:

1. That UMSU stands in Solidarity with Fossil Free UTAS in its occupation and ongoing Non-Violent Direct Actions.
2. That UMSU calls on the University of Tasmania to divest its \$30 million portfolio from the top 200 oil, gas, and coal companies before the COP21 UN Climate Conference in December.
3. That a statement of solidarity with Fossil Free UTAS be made on the UMSU facebook page, calling on the University to divest its \$30 million portfolio from the top 200 oil, gas, and coal companies before the COP21 UN Climate Conference in December.

Mover: Patrick Dollard

Seconder:

WITHDRAWN

9.7 VCA Department Expenditure – guillotine

Procedural motion: To move 9.7-9.15 *en bloc*.

Mover: Van Rudd

LOST

Motion 12: To move \$300 from Whole of Union to pay for a new paper guillotine for student use.

Mover: Van Rudd

Seconder: Stephen Smith

CARRIED

9.8 VCA Department Expenditure – stationery

Council raised concerns around the amount of money being asked for. Other Office Bearers' said that they had used significantly less than this for the whole year.

Van said that this included paint for the mural (see agenda item 9.12). Council said that this was ambiguous given the wording of the motion.

Van amended the motion to read for "stationery and art supplies."

Council raised concerns again over the amount being asked for, and Van said this would cover the end of 2015 and into 2016.

Tyson said it wasn't unusual to pass expenditure for items for 2016. Justin said that funding from 2015 should not go towards activities in 2016.

Procedural motion: To move to a vote.

Mover: Allison Ballantyne

CARRIED

Motion 13: To move \$500 from Whole of Union to pay for stationary and art supplies.

Mover: Van Rudd

Secunder: Jade Eckhaus

CARRIED

9.9 VCA Department Expenditure – paper

Motion: That \$1000 be moved from whole of union for paper to help promote the re-location of the VCASA office in November.

Mover: Van Rudd

Secunder: Jade Eckhaus

MOTION LAPSES

Van said that the VCA Department was forced to relocate, so these costs are necessary to make students aware.

Pat Dollard said that the amount requested equates to over 20,000 sheets of paper, which was unnecessary.

Van and Jade said that this would also be used to begin preparing for O-Week. Council was bemused at why so much paper was needed for this.

Jade said that students at the VCA actually knew where the Student Union offices were, and that it is important to be prepared.

James Bashford said that Council was right to be cautious around printing at the VCA given the misconduct during the election.

Jade said quorum was an issue, so it was important to be prepared.

Stephen Smith proposed amending this to \$200, which was not amenable to the mover.

Foreshadowed motion: To approve up to \$200 from Whole of Union for the VCA Department for printing.

Mover: Stephen Smith

Secunder: Rachel Withers

Sarah sought clarification as to whether this included just paper, or printing credit also. Stephen said that it was just for paper. Rachel withdrew her seconding rights.

Stephen amended the foreshadowed motion.

Foreshadowed motion: To approve up to \$200 from Whole of Union for the VCA Department for paper, printing credit, and stickers.

Mover: Stephen Smith

Seconder: Rachel Withers

Procedural motion: To move to a vote.

Mover: Stephen Mitas

CARRIED

Motion 14: To approve up to \$200 from Whole of Union for the VCA Department for paper, printing credit, and stickers.

Mover: Stephen Smith

Seconder: Rachel Withers

CARRIED

Van's motion lapses.

9.10 VCA Department Expenditure – printing

Hana suggests that this motion lapses due to Motion 14, but Jade moves an additional motion for printing credit.

Motion 15: To approve \$300 from budget line Whole of Union for printing credit for the relocation of the VCA Office and to prepare for O-Week.

Mover: Jade Eckhaus

Seconder: Van Rudd

Jade said that it was difficult to organise O-Week alone, and enquired what the role of the O-Week Directors is.

Procedural motion: To suspend Standing Orders to adjourn for 15 minutes and relocate to the Grand Buffet Hall.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 1:44pm

Meeting reopened at 2:01pm

Procedural motion: To move *in camera*.

Mover: Itsi Weinstock

CARRIED

Jade Eckhaus starts abusing Council saying that all Councillors should be fired, and uses expletive language towards Councillors.

Jade Eckhaus leaves at 2:03pm

Procedural motion: To suspend Standing Orders to accept Sarah Xia's proxy to Lachlan Gell.

Mover: Hana Dalton (Chair)

CARRIED

Hana realises that a Councillor had left during adjournment and that Council was now inquorate.

QUOURM LOST

Meeting closed at 2:06pm