

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Students' Council

CONFIRMED Minutes

12 PM, 12.3.2015

Meeting 9

Location: Private Dining Room

Meeting opened at 12:26pm by Rachel Withers

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Rachel Withers be elected Chair

Mover: Rachel Withers

Seconder: Conor Serong

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged

1.3 Attendance

OBS: Hana Dalton (Secretary), Sasha Chong (Disabilities), Andrea Bozic (Queer), Lynley Eavis (Media), Maddy Cleeve Gerkens (Media), Simon Farley (Media), Lloyd Rouse (Queer), Martin Dittmann (Media), James Bashford (Welfare), Rachel Withers (President), Conor Serong (Education Public), Allison Ballantyne (Wom*ns), Claire Pollock (Clubs)

Students' Councillors: Destan Dikbas, Steven Connolly, Stephen Mitas, Benjamin Fourniotis, Lachlan McCall, Danielle Bagnato, Itsi Weinstock, Sarah Xia, Karly Banks, Glenn Davis

Other: Patrick Clearwater

1.4 Apologies

Stephen Smith (Clubs & Societies)

Hayden Michaelides (Activities)

Lucy Curtis (Wom*n's)

Feifei Liao

1.5 Proxies

Ezgi Bridger to Sarah Xia

Patrick Dollard to Itsi Weinstock

Jakob von der Lippe to Danielle Bagnato

1.6 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the agenda as presented

Mover: Rachel Withers (Chair)

CARRIED

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion 3: To confirm the previous minutes as a true and accurate record, adding Patrick Clearwater to the attendance list (as he didn't sign the book but was present)

Mover: Rachel Withers (Chair)

CARRIED

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

4. Correspondence

Letter from the Uni regarding the Farmers Market

Acknowledged

5. Office Bearers' Reports

President

University of Melbourne Student Union

Report of
Rachel Withers
President

To Students' Council 9/15
12/03/2015



Key activities:

Presidents Summit

Attended the National Union of Students Presidents Summit in Sydney. See report attached.

FSA

I signed off on the UMSU-MUSUL Facilities and Services Agreement on behalf of Students Council. This agreement has been in the works since 2013, and is now in effect (as of March 1). Many thanks to my predecessors Kara and Declan, to Justin and to Phoebe for their unwavering efforts over the course of this process.

UMSU Mentoring Network

The UMSU Mentoring Network has made huge progress over the last few weeks. 250 volunteer mentors have been trained over 5 training sessions, and there have been over 300 mentee sign ups. For those who didn't see the Speed Networking event in Grand Buffet Hall on Monday, we had a huge crowd over the 2 hours and lots of wonderful chats in a great environment going on. Mentees should be receiving their mentors by the end of the week. Congratulations to the directors Vicky, Calvin and Michael for all their hard work.

O-Week

O-Week was an amazing success and the whole organisation should be incredibly proud. Carnival Day was massive and flawless, thanks to Evie and her team.

I had a lot of rewarding conversations with new students all week about UMSU, what it stands for and what it does. I created a different presentation to the stock standard “here are our services” slides, trying to emphasise the importance of UMSU, which was presented in every Faculty Welcome (thanks to Hana and Nellie for helping me be in multiple places at once).

This year we introduced two new events to the regular program: a recurring UMSU Info session on Wednesday afternoon and a Meet Your Student Reps social event on the Thursday afternoon. While I can acknowledge that most of the students on Thursday only showed up for free pizza, we still managed to get some great dialogue going about UMSU and how to get involved.

I put a lot of work into making sure the website was presentable for O-Week, especially getting the Events Calendar linked up to the main website (on the homepage even!). If there are any other usability issues with the website let me know so I can bring these to Comms.

Farmers Market

The Melbourne Farmers Market (refer to letter in previous agendas) was ultimately unable to secure University Square, but took place on Union Lawns, which was a huge improvement for us. UMSU’s stall was incredibly popular and a fantastic promotional opportunity, many thanks to the Environment Officers for organising this! We will be back out on Union Lawns every Wednesday 10-3 for the rest of semester with councils approval.

Student Precinct

There have been no movements on the actual project, however Steve Brown (President of the GSA) and I are opening up as many conversations within the university as we can to emphasise how important this process is (and how disastrous it could be if it goes wrong)

We met with the tutor of the Student Precinct Design Masters studio (pre-semester) and showed him around the proposed student precinct. I also attended the first class of the studio, and gave a presentation about UMSU and the importance of a student space, followed by a tour of Union House. These students are not party to the actual project, however we are encouraging them to be as creative and ambitious as they like in designing the space, in the hope that some of their ambitious creative ideas might be able to be incorporated into the project.

This week I met with Margaret Sheil (Provost) as well as Steve Brown (GSA President and University Council) and Declan McGonigle (Uni Council) to express our concerns over the real-time project and its lack of direction and student input.

Welcome email

Margaret Sheil has agreed to send out a whole of university email on my behalf, however there is currently some confusion within her office over who knows how to do this. They are trying to do so by the end of the week.

Intercollegiate Council

On Sunday night Hana and I attended the first ICC of 2015 to talk about UMSU and express our desire to break down some of the division between college life and everyday student life. The college presidents seemed very receptive to our message, and to the idea of UMSU coming to speak at their colleges at some point throughout semester.

Social Media

I have requested permission from the UMSU Communications Department to be an admin of the main UMSU Facebook page. I requested this earlier in the year to which they said no, however it is becoming quite painful having to send an email rather than just post things myself. I will let council know the outcome of this.

List of action points to be completed by next report:

All student email

Once the university figures it out

Colleges

Times to attend college dinners arranged

President Summit Report

From the 28th-30th January, Hana and I attended the National Union of Students Presidents' Summit at the University of Sydney.

This proved a valuable opportunity to network with other student union presidents from around the country, and share both our frustrations and successes.

A great deal of discussion was held around the governments attempted changes to higher education (this came up in almost every session).

One of the most interesting things for me to come out of this conference was our comparative lack of revenue outside of SSAF- we are **very** lucky in terms of the SSAF deal we get from the university (in fact ours appears to be one of the best, if not the best, in the country), but unique in our dependence on it.

I ask that students council please approve my motion to be reimbursed for this conference, and regret that I was unable to present this motion prior to the fact due to a lack of quorum.

DAY 1

The first day featured a **National Presidents Report**, in which NUS president Rose Steele explained the way in which they are dealing with the issues that came out of the National Conference, and working on their financial reporting issues.

Rose is working hard on the serious issues she has inherited, and is committed to improving the NUS.

We also had a **General Secretary Report** from Tom Nock who wants to make the NUS more open and transparent and wants affiliates to be more involved. He committed to posting minutes, policy, and their policy platform online once they have a website again. Tom acknowledged the challenges, but told us he is confident we will be able to overcome them

We heard **other National Office Bearer Reports** over the course of the summit- if anyone would like to discuss these in detail with me please make a time to come see me.

We received a run down on the **history of the National Student Unionism** in Australia (there have been a few incarnations of the NUS since 1926) as well as the current structure.

DAY 2

Day 2 saw the start of **Campus President Reports**, in which presidents reported to the group and we learnt about some of the very different union structures and programs going around the country. These were very informative and we might look at introducing some of these to UMSU.

We had a speaker from **Trades Hall** talk to us about some of the different and interesting ways to run campaigns and engage people. This was followed by a **discussion/idea sharing as a group of some different fun stunts** including but not limited to: Facebook forums such as Stalker Space, Monopoly money, banners on buildings, getting people in group and writing personal stories and submitting to MPs, Dunking machines, Balloons, Junk bands, Vuvuzelas, Petting zoos.

We discussed the new **NUS website**, and were invited to give feedback on what this website should contain. We compared what sort of content should be for the website (including a Campaign Tool Kit) and what sort should be for the Facebook page.

The NUS will be using Nation Builder, an accessible platform which will apparently be easy to update, easy for lots of people to upload content, compared to the old website.

One of the most useful aspects of the conference was the **media training** we received from a current and a former journalist. This training included advice on putting out media releases, how to answer interview questions, and how to get journalists interested in what you are trying to say.

We also heard from the **NTEU** about some of the issues they will be focusing on this year, including the high rate of new jobs that are casual in universities (1 in 2). They also offered useful insights into fee deregulation and unions in general.

DAY 3

Day 3 included a **SSAF Workshop**, in which we compared funding agreements with our respective universities. UMSU has one of the best, if not the best, SSAF agreements in the country. However most other unions are non-reliant on their university SSAF allocation, and have their own sources of income and commercial outlets (especially a bar/café). A n UMSU-controlled bar/café/multi-purpose space is something I will be campaigning hard for in the new Student Precinct (have already flagged this in our space requests docs).

Day 3 also saw further National Office Bearer Reports as well as campus president reports.

Sadly not all presidents ended up reporting due to time constraints in the schedule, but a lot of information was still shared during breaks and over conference dinner.

General Secretary



University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Hana Dalton
General Secretary**

**To Students' Council 9/15
12/03/2015**

Key activities:

O-Week

O-Week was an extremely busy week for all UMSU Departments, and I congratulate everyone on their contributions and hard work. Rachel and I had the opportunity to chat to students on Carnival Day (Tuesday 24/2) about the Union in general. It was great to see so many students enthusiastic about what we do and keen to get involved. We also made presentations at faculty welcome sessions on the Wednesday. The 'What is UMSU?' information sessions were well-attended, and despite a few technical difficulties, went really well. This is perhaps something future office bearers should consider continuing, especially as more faculties move to providing course introductions online.

UMSU Intl

I met with the Education and Welfare Vice Presidents of UMSU Intl last week, along with James Bashford, to discuss the relationship between UMSU departments/office bearers and UMSU Intl for the year. We discussed the need for greater communication and collaboration where possible. We also discussed the issue of the social segregation that often occurs between local and international students, which can be particularly isolating for international students. Thus, we have begun the initial stages of planning for an event, likely to be in Week 6, designed to facilitate and encourage social interaction and friendship between local and international students. The event will likely be in the form of a games day/afternoon.


Intercollegiate Council

Rachel and I met with the Intercollegiate Council on March 8th, following a preliminary meeting with their executive last year, to talk about how we can work together into the future. The Council expressed the view that college students at times should look outside the 'college bubble', and that UMSU provides many services and extra-curricular activities that college students may like to access or get involved in, but often don't know much about. Rachel and I made a short presentation about what UMSU can offer college students in particular, and we are hoping to visit each college at some point in the next few weeks to speak to each college at a dinner or similar event.

NUS Presidents' Summit

Rachel and I attended the National Union of Students Presidents' Summit at the University of Sydney on the 28th-30th January. The summit was an opportunity to meet student union presidents, vice-presidents and secretaries from around the country, as well as the NUS national office bearers. It was useful to get insights into the structures of different student unions, as well as how they undertake certain processes, such as SSAF negotiations, which will occur this year for us. At the Summit, the NUS office bearers outlined their plans for the year, and the direction of the Union as a whole. We were also able to participate in skills-based workshops such as media training, and had the opportunity to discuss strategies for the 'Demand a Better Future' education campaign.

Activities

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of James Baker and Hayden Michaelides Activities Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council/Committee 9/15 12/3/15</p>	
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Key activities:

An Evening Out at Luna Park:

The Evening Out at Luna Park event was a roaring success. We exceeded expectations with ticket sales, and the event seemed to go very favourably, with many students having enjoyed the event. One area of concern, however, was the lines for the rides, and perhaps next year the event should have less people, maybe without Monash. The after party for the event was a disappointment, however, as not many people were interested in coming. This could have been due to a multitude of reasons, however the main ones would have to be the price (we made it free after it was apparent no one wanted to pay for entry), the lack of advertising (a mistake on our part) and the fact that many people would not want to drink/stay out that late after a long week. From those that attended, the general vibe was that of an enjoyable event, however

Start of Uni Party:

Tickets have sold out for SoUP, and it looks like it is going to be a big one. The last of the preparation is being done, however at the time of writing this report, it hasn't happened yet, although that will change by the time of the council.

Tuesday BBQs:

The Tuesday BBQs and bands kicked off with a bang last week, with Art vs Science coming to North Court and bringing the house down. The advertising and awareness for the event wasn't as good as we had hoped, however we are moving to rectify this by utilising facebook events and comms to increase our reach to let students know about who we have coming in, as if they know about it, they are likely to come to the big acts we have coming. The next few acts are: The Smith Street Band (week 2), The Beards (week 3) and a range of comics from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival (week 4)

Monday BBQs:

Compared to the Tuesday BBQs, the Monday ones are more subdued and relaxed, with the focus being on having a good setting to come and get a bit of food and talk to your mates. We are alternating between North Court and the lawns west of the 1888 building. These will last until week 5, when the poetry slam competition will be held, then finish for the semester

Cocktail Party:

Preparations are well underway for our cocktail party, with both a venue and date finalised. It will be held on Thursday the 26th of March (week 4) at The Savoy Tavern, on the corner of Bourke and Spencer streets. We are trying to make this event much more cocktail focused than previous cocktail parties, as many of those attending tend to get their free drinks, then switch to beer/cider/wine as they are on a student budget. We plan to do this by negotiating with the venue to lower the price of drinks and possibly subsidising a part of the cost on the night if we need to.

List of action points to be completed by next report:


Finalise cocktail plans and sell tickets:

Cocktail party is 2 weeks away, so we have to do this or it won't be a thing. Advertising is the key here, as it is with all our events. The venue can hold a maximum of 650 people, so we'll have to decide on the number of tickets to make sure it's not too crowded

Improve awareness for Monday and Tuesday BBQs:

We want as many people as possible to know about these events, so we're working on increasing our presence through facebook events, word of mouth, etc

Clubs & Societies

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of</p> <p>Claire Pollock & Stephen Smith Clubs & Societies Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council 12/03/15</p>	 <p>UMSU UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE STUDENT UNION</p>
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O-Week:

The O-Week Clubs Expo was an outstanding success, with only a few minor complications over the two days. The event went over budget, thus we are looking at a number of options for next year to lower this cost; including not having performances and changing venue.

Carnival:

Our next ‘big thing’ is the Clubs Carnival –the date has been set for Thursday 26th March on Concrete Lawns. Expressions of interest for clubs to attend were sent out last week and closed on the 10th March. We have chosen not to have marquees as to save money.

Collective:

A Clubs Collective has been scheduled for Tuesday of weeks 3, 6 and 9. We have sent out correspondence to all clubs encouraging attendance, plus we are advertising it on our notice board in the Food Court.


Safety in Clubs:

The Safety in Clubs Working Group has met twice so far and established a framework for our project. We are aiming to develop processes to compliment the current University Grievance processes to make it more user-friendly for clubs and individuals involved in a dispute. This will involve better information about to how to report and respond to incidents in clubs, how to access appropriate services on and off campus, and a framework for staff and student representatives to respond to reports to ensure consistency and appropriate referrals.

Camp Welfare Workshops:

Claire has been working in liaison with Safer Community to deliver a number of Camp Welfare Workshops to students involved in club orientation camps in the role as a camp leader. It has had a very positive feedback from all those that have attended and we are looking at developing the initiative into a more general welfare workshop later on in the year.

Creative Arts

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Bonnie Leigh- Dodds and Isabella Vadiveloo Creative Arts Officers</p> <p>To Students’ Council 9/15 12/3/2015</p>	
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Key activities:

O week:

We had a busy o week attending the Parkville carnival and VCA stalls. We also directed and co-ordinated a number of roving performers for the Parkville campus.

Mudfest:

We have secured mentors for ourselves and our production manager. We are currently working on a time line and site maps and are in discussions with building services regarding liquor licencing and permits.

Other activities:

We have curated an exciting semester of workshops and seminars and are currently confirming the involvement of teaching artists. We will be continuing the popular life drawing classes from last year, running a series of “how to” seminars and performance nights as well as hula hooping and AUSLAN classes and establishing a new choir.

Progress on assigned actions from last report:

The activities from last report have either been successfully completed:

- O week rovers
- Job descriptions for Mudfest
- The launching of the grant applications
- Approval of budget by committee

Or are ongoing:

- Hiring workshop leaders
- Mudfest budget
- Above water and PEST


List of action points to be completed by next report:

Mudfest

We aim to have our timeline, map and draft budget completed and approved by our mentors and Mudfest advisory group

We also aim to have submitted for our liquor license and have the concrete lawn area secured as a hub venue.

Education (Academic Affairs)

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Nellie Montague and Shanley Price Education (Academic Affairs) Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council 9/15 12/3/2015</p>	
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O-Week

Tuesday we had our EdDept stall and took Glyn and Pyne for a spin on our spinning wheel of deregulation, we had some great discussions about fee dereg and how the proposed changes will negatively affect students. We also handed out lots of our a-maze-ing pens!

Wednesday we headed down to the VCA to talk about what the EdDept does, we met lots of great people and shared the UMSU love.

SRN

Student Representative Network applications closed on the 6th March and we have had lots of great responses. Interviews will be held soon, after which students will take part in governance training

run by UMSU Advocacy and be placed on a board within the University. We are looking forward to supporting students to discuss and have a say in issues that will affect students.


Lecture Recording

We've also been hearing from lots of students about their lectures not being recorded and have a template email on our facebook page for students to send to their lecturers highlighting the importance of recording and reminding them of the Academic Board Policy that states that lectures can only not be recorded for 'sounds reasons'. We are in discussion with academics at the university to work out what the next steps are to ensure lectures are recorded.

Student Centres

Lots of issues arising with student centres, as BIP continues to make its presence felt. There is a information gathering form on the UMSU Education facebook page so we can get some data on how students are feeling the affects of the changes and use the information to talk to academics and staff.

Education (Public Affairs)

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Conor Serong Education (Public Affairs) Officer</p> <p>To Students' Council 9/15 12/03/2015</p>	
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Key activities:

O Week:

We ran a department stall on the Tuesday of O-Week, featuring a spinning wheel stunt regarding deregulation. During this stunt, we gave away chocolates and our new UMSU Education maze pens, as well as signing up students to our Collective. We also took part in the Meet Your Reps evening, where we spoke to several particularly interested students about how to get involved with our campaigns and other activities.

CounterCourse:

1,500 CounterCourse Handbooks arrived during O-Week and have been added to the Communications distribution list. Accordingly, they can now be found in reading stands all over campus. We also distributed many manually at our O-Week stall and the Meet Your Reps afternoon. Feedback has been very positive.

National Day of Action:

Wednesday 25 March, the National Union of Students has organised a National Day of Action to protest fee deregulation by the Federal Government. UMSU will be sending a contingent down to the state library on this day to join with students from around the state in protest. UniMelb students will be meeting at 12pm on South Lawn on this day where we will hold a pre-rally event such as

possibly a BBQ before beginning our march. Promotion for this event has occurred in the form of flyers and posters, as well as social media and website advertising.

UMSU Says No to Deregulation

These posters and flyers have been distributed around Union House and to students at events throughout O-Week. The aim has been to provide general information about fee deregulation to students, as well as making it clear that UMSU as a whole broadly opposed the proposed higher education reforms.

Fee Deregulation webpage

Following on from the above activity, a new webpage has been established at <http://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/feederegulation> with general information about deregulation, as well as information about the campaign opposing the reforms, including information about the 25 March NDA.

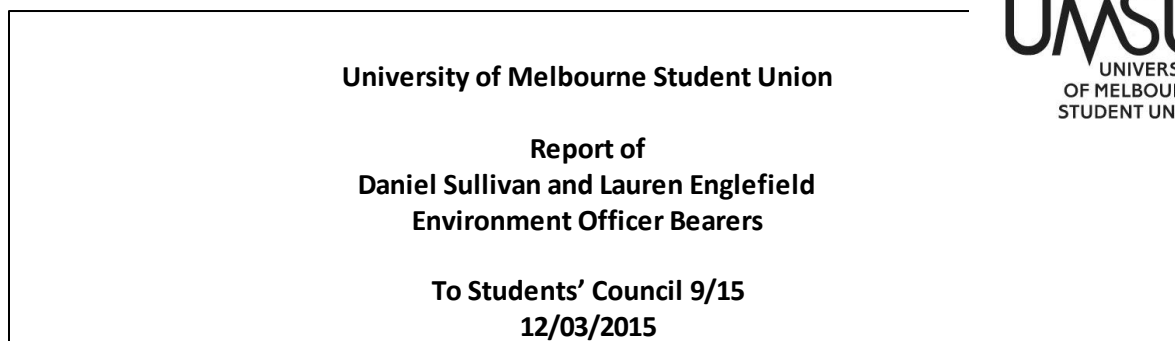
Social Media

The Education Department has been attempting to increase our social media presence throughout O-Week and early into Semester One. This has been moderately successful so far, resulting in almost 100 new Facebook "likes" on our page, as well as a number of new members to our Collective's Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/umsueducationcollective>). We have also updated our profile pictures and banners on both Facebook and Twitter to include our new Department logos.

Education Collective

Our first Collective was held on Thursday 19 February, where discussion primarily focused on O-Week activities and the fee deregulation campaign. Our next Collective is scheduled for Thursday 12 March, where we anticipate a broad range of new members will get involved.

Environment



Key activities:

O-Week:

We ran a very successful info stall on the Carnival Day, promoting the department's regular activities, the Fossil Free Melbourne Uni divestment campaign and a new app aiming to reduce food waste which was brought to us by a Masters of Environment student. We hope to continue liaising with and endorsing both of these groups throughout the year. We also ran a welcome picnic on the Thursday and a stall promoting the bike co-op at the sports carnival day on the Friday. The picnic was a great collaboration with the Melbourne Uni Community Garden group and attracted many prospective collective members from a range of year levels.

Melbourne Uni Farmers Market Launch:

We organised an UMSU branded stall at the inaugural Melbourne Uni Farmers Market on Wednesday 4th March. We had 'Bike n' Blend' smoothie bikes in for smoothie giveaways to students and promotional material for the Environment Department and UMSU more generally.

Regular events:

We ran our first Play With your Food, Bike co-op (with breakfast), and Environment Collective meeting in Week 1 and kicked off our Thursday activity series with a screening of 'Mining the Truth', followed by an informal discussion that was facilitated by one of its makers. All events ran very smoothly and were well attended. We are currently in the process of finalising the semester one schedule for our Thursday activity series and better promoting it.


Earth hour

We will be hosting an Earth Hour event in North Court from 5.30pm on Thursday 26th March (global day Saturday 28th) and will spend much of our time planning this in the coming weeks. There will be a market style set-up similar to last year's Earth Hour event and possibly a film screening. We hope to incorporate this year's 'food and farming' theme as much as possible through the food and drinks we serve, the stalls we host and the entertainment we provide.

Toolangi State Forest

Along with a few enthusiastic collective members, we have started making arrangements for some organised tours and cycle tours to Toolangi State Forest so participants can learn more about the Great Forest National Park campaign.

Disabilities

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Sasha Chong and Susannah Gordon Disabilities Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council 9/15 12/03/2015</p>	
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Key activities:

Disability Department Video Campaign:

A series of short videos to portray the reality of having a disability at university.

All filming for two out of three videos has been completed, and the film makers are currently in the process of editing. The third video still needs to be filmed.

Eating Disorders Workshop:

A 4 workshop on how to help someone struggling with disordered eating.

The Eating Disorders Victoria workshop has been booked in for week 6. There will be two sessions over two days – very limited places will be available and we will begin advertising soon.

Film Screening:

A screening of the film Mary and Max at Union House Theatre.

We will be screening this during week 4, followed by food and drinks.

Anxiety Support Group Training:

Training for facilitators of Anxiety Support Group.

As currently only Sasha holds a qualification for facilitation, we are organising with ARCVic (Anxiety Recovery Centre) to train 3-4 more people so Anxiety Support Group can run every week, instead of fortnightly.

List of action points to be completed by next report:**Campaigns**

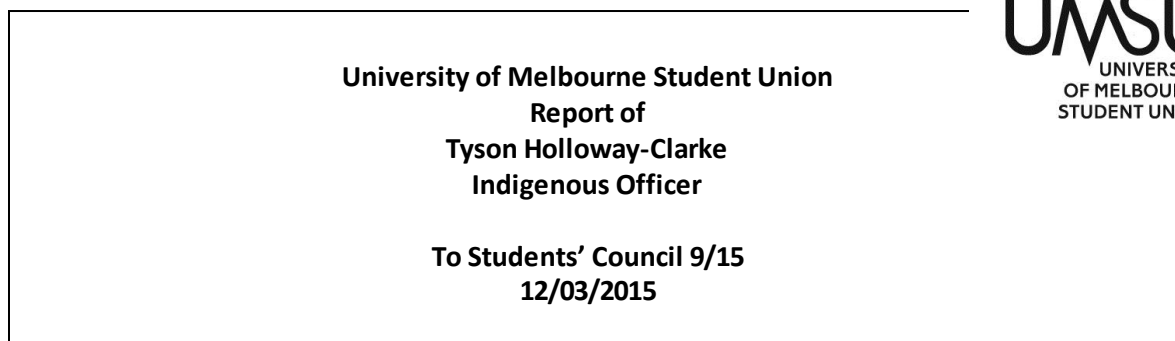
Our major campaigns on trigger warnings for classes and Auslan as a diploma.

We are still in the early planning stages for these campaigns, and are aiming to get things in motion quite soon.

SMART recovery group:

Training for facilitators and setting up a substance abuse/recovery support group.

Training has already been paid for; we are waiting for the next round of training sessions to train our facilitators, after which we will establish regular support group meetings.

Indigenous**Key activities:**

Organisation for our key projects this semester is well underway with the Indig. Uni Games coming along well with soft confirmations on funding from the University and Murrup Barak. With over 30 expressions of interest collected in the first day the goal of having 3 teams of 12 represent the University is well looking like a reality.

Repairing the relationship between the student body and Murrup Barak is also on it's way but still must move slowly. This was partially initiated through meetings with the new associate director and their soft confirmation of support for the games.

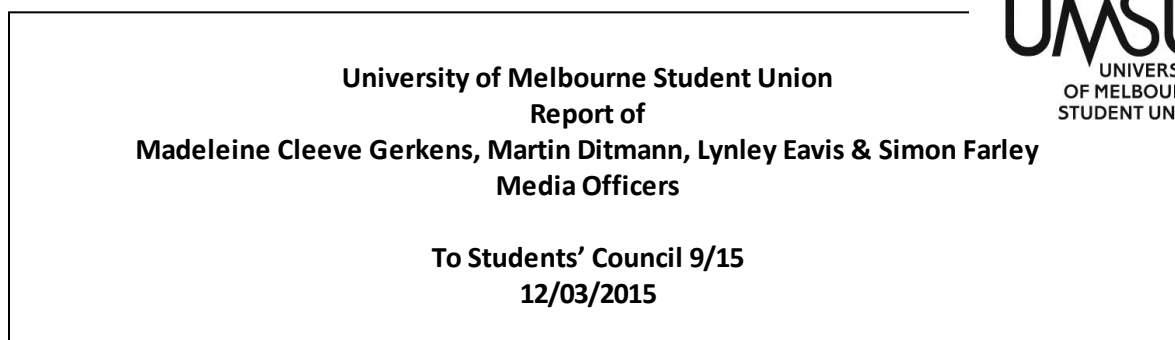
Arts projects are also well underway with support from the Wilin Centre at Southbank and the Union House Theatre Artistic Directors Office. Look out for promotional material coming soon!

Finally on the 20th of March UMSU is hosting the first Indigenous social event for the year featuring a live music act. If you are Indigenous come down to Systems Gardens at 6pm to mingle with the new members of your mob!

Progress on assigned actions from last report:

OWeek reading tent. The reading tent went well with a good amount of students coming in to read and have a discussion. As a tester for a larger tent in week 12 it looks like its doable and poised to succeed.

Media



Edition 1

Farrago Edition 1 ran out in around three days, despite us ordering 5,250 copies! That's even more than last year's large run. We want a Farrago that reaches out to all, with a large and diverse spectrum of both readers and contributors. We had 65 contributors to this issue, with many people being published for the first time. We're really proud of giving so many students opportunities to contribute. We're also proud to have feature ground-breaking writing and graphics on many subjects that have been under-represented.

We're also incredibly grateful to all our amazing contributors, and the people who helped us distribute and promote it during O-Week.

Thus, we were really happy with the success of Edition 1. Feel free tell us your thoughts too - what you liked and what you thought could be better!

Launch Party and further launches and events

Our launch party in System Gardens was a massive success, with by far the biggest turnout for a Farrago event we and past editors have seen. We're focussed on making our launches really accessible, and thus bringing a sense of community to the Media Office. We had a great mix of people – from new Edition 1 contributors to long-time Farragoers to new and old readers of Farrago and listeners of The Fodder. Thank you to all the OBs and Councillors who came.

We're now looking towards more on-campus events, including Media Collective meetings (they're back), Wordplay and our 90th birthday party.

Edition 2

Is now being prepared, and should be going to the printers on Monday. #gethype

The Fodder

We've now delivered what's been sought for many years and have a student radio station at this university! Our radio managers are working very hard with all our contributors to help them develop great shows, with a big chunk of shows slated to come on board in the next three weeks. They're also working on making sure our technology works well and have gotten a range of playlists ready. Thank you to them, and to you, and to all our collective –we're really proud of this and really grateful.


Our new video channel is also slated to come on board soon. We're hoping to have Australia's largest student video channel by the end of the year, with a range of good, regular, funny, moving and well-planned clips.

Online

We have one of the highest page counts of Australian student magazines and we produce more pages of content than almost everyone else. However, we also have one of the highest contribution rates – maybe even the highest – in Australia. It's generally around 130%-160% of magazine capacity.

So it follows, then, that we've really ramped up the amount of online-exclusive content we're publishing, with a large amount of articles being published online. This prepares us for the new Farrago website that we're developing – another thing that's been sought for a while.

Queer

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union Report of Andrea Bozic & Lloyd Rouse Queer Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council 9/15 12/03/2015</p>	
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O-Week BBQ Picnic

Our first event for the year was a huge success. We had around 60-70 students attend our BBQ Picnic and the general atmosphere and vibes were overall positive, with students not feeling unwelcome and neglected. Many of the students who attended have gone on to attend other events and regularly visit the Queer Space.

Free Lunch with the Queer Bunch.

The free lunch in the queer space had more people turning up to it in week one than in most weeks last year. First years are meeting each other as well as some of the older queer students.

Queer Thursdays – Board Game Night

Despite concerns that Board Games will not be a hugely popular and attendance will not be optimal, this event was a huge success. Around 20 students attended this event, and were incredibly keen to engage in the not so mainstream board games provided. Future Queer Thursdays will feature Movie Screenings, a LAN café event, as well as a mini-party with a night out afterwards.

Pride Prom

Planning has begun for Pride Prom, scheduled for Week 9. This event will be the premier event for Semester 1 and will hopefully be well attended.

Community Building

Our emphasis on the year, particularly first semester, is on building and invigorating a sense of community within the Queer Department. This is fostered by ensuring the Queer Space has an inviting and welcoming atmosphere, with maintaining a presence in the QS from the Office Bearers a key to achieving this. This not only has increased attendance to events but also has made the QS consistently occupied by students.

Planning and promotion for Rad, Sex and Consent Week

Rad sex and consent week is a sex education week in week 7 that has a focus on consensual, healthy and safe sex and relationships. This year we are working with the Umsu International, Welfare, Disabilities and Indigenous departments to diversify the range, and increase the numbers of students engaged in the week. We are also liaising with Monash, RMIT and Swinburne for cross promotion of the workshops as well as opening and closing night events. Promotion of this week has already started. A secondary debriefing room is being organised with volunteer students and staff facilitating discussion and access to health services if need be.

O-week Stall

Our O-week stall involved giving out bags full of resources for queer students at both the Parkville and the VCA campuses. The bags were snapped up at Parkville's O-week stall and this was used to introduce students to some of the services and faculties provided by the queer department and by the university. VCA students seemed hesitant to walk up to the crowded stalls so the queer Officer on duty engaged queer students and started many deeper discussions about what was available for the queer students.

ACON Education

The Queer Officers went to Sydney to access training on queer issues that is not available in Victoria. The training involved issues such as HIV prevention and stigma, safe sex for ladies who play with ladies, Trans and genderqueer issues as well as advocacy.

Safety in Clubs Working Group

One of the queer officers is involved with the Safety in Clubs Working Group to ensure that queer students are protected by Clubs protocols.

Queer Space Protocol

A protocol has been written up and submitted for the queer space so that staff and students who do not identify as queer but who may need to access the space due to their occupational responsibilities, have an approved way to access the queer space and the people inside it.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
James Bashford
Welfare Officer**

**To Students' Council 9/15
12/3/2015**

The Welfare Department has had a fantastic start to semester, though with at least 5 events a week in an office normally shared by two people it has been very busy. My O-Week stall saw over 100 people sign up to register their interest in becoming a volunteer for the department and extremely high interest in the free fitness classes offered. Our first volunteer collective meeting last week laid the groundwork for what should be a great semester with a great group of volunteers from different backgrounds and plenty of ideas.

Breakfasts

So far two breakfasts have been held serving over 250 students each week. This is reportedly much higher than last year since the location has been moved to South Court attracting a lot more passing traffic. Some issues were had last week with the delivery order to Coles with the delivery initially cancelled, forcing us to pick it up. It also contained mouldy bread. An issue of greater concern is the high cost of running this program, particularly with higher demand. Between BBQ hire and purchase of food, the BBQ costs at least \$350-400 per week which for the whole year will bring the cost to as much as \$9,600, almost half of the department budget. This is a significant reason why the Welfare Department comes close to exhausting its budget most years, while other departments often have large surpluses. Given that this year I plan on expanding much of the work the Welfare Department does with new programmes such as emergency food packs, this will likely mean that I will have to approach council for greater funding this year or be forced to cut programmes.

Emergency Food Packs


While last year there was an attempt at starting up a food bank, any initiative such as this is limited by the lack of storage space available to the department at present. In the meantime, I have now created the first emergency packs which will be available to students in case of emergency situations such as domestic violence, homelessness, unemployment or general financial issues. Each pack currently costs around \$10 though I've been getting advice from La Trobe Student Union's Welfare Officers on how to minimise costs (theirs typically cost \$6 a pack). The first packs were made last week and have also received input from my collective. They contain long life staples like rice, oats, fruit cups, baked beans, tea, tuna and long life milk as well as health and hygiene items like soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, condoms and pads. Despite the packs only being available for about a week with minimal promotion, I have already given one to a student who approached me for help.

In addition, several other students have approached me for assistance with food, which has come from a small food bank I am maintaining, the first of which was before O-Week. Last week, thanks to one of Coles' mistakes being in our favour, we also had fresh veggies which were given out to several students after promoting it through social media. This is indicative of the serious need for such assistance programmes to exist and be funded by our union.

Fitness Classes

Fitness classes are as usual in high demand. This has unfortunately created a very large and time consuming task of administering sign ups, not helped by issues with the sign up forms last week. Students have responded extremely well to the classes and the instructors, though some have not attended despite signing up. There was an issue with room bookings for last week's Zumba class which resulted in some tension between the Zumba instructor (provided by Melbourne University Sport) and security. This issue has been addressed and room bookings have been checked to prevent any future issues.

Wom*n's

<p>University of Melbourne Student Union</p> <p>Report of Allison Ballantyne and Lucy Curtis Wom*n's Officers</p> <p>To Students' Council 9/15 12/3/15</p>	
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Key activities:

Orientation Week:

Our department received a fantastic response during O-week: we successfully handed out 900 Wom*n's Department show bags and hosted a picnic in the Wom*n's Room which was very well-attended.

Women's Mentoring Network:

WMN is underway, with the first networking night coming up in week 3 on Tuesday, March 17. The program has had around 50 mentors and 115 mentees sign up. We are running two training sessions for mentors this week, including presentations by Safer Community and UMSU Legal and Advocacy. We are currently creating mentor groups. We are also sourcing speakers for future networking nights.

Rad Sex and Consent Week:

We have had multiple meetings with other departments and representatives from the MSA concerning Rad Sex and Consent week (week 7, semester one). We are currently sourcing people to run workshops during the week around 3 major themes: healthy relationships, consent and safe sex. We are aiming to create a week which will appeal to a broad range of students, as well as those already involved in UMSU's autonomous departments. We are planning an opening film night and a closing event. We are also working on cross-campus promotional material for the event.

Regular Events:

Our regular events began last week, and all four were quite well-attended. The department is receiving interest from both first-years and other students.

International Women's Day Film Night:

This Tuesday March 10, we are running a film night to celebrate International Women’s Day. The screening of *Belle* (2013) will take place in the Rowden White Library at 5pm. We will also centre our discussion during Wom*n’s Collective around International Women’s Day.

Social media and website:

We have been working on creating cohesive branding and advertising for our department through new posters, new graphics for our Facebook page and by posting all of our events on our website/Facebook page. We have also been attempting to use Facebook to generate more interest in the department.

Budget expenditure since last report:

Meeting no.	Date	Description	Amount	Line-Item	Comments
01/15	20/2/2015	Department O-week showbags	\$2,362.80	Orientation Expenses	
		O-week picnic food	\$100	Orientation Expenses	
		O-week zine	\$450	Orientation Expenses	
		Wom*n’s Collective food weeks 1 + 2	\$100	Special events and projects	
		Queer and Questioning QTs food weeks 1 + 2	\$80	Special events and projects	
		Femme Afternoons food weeks 1 + 2	\$0	Special events and projects	Passed \$20 but did not need
		Blog domain name	\$18	Blog domain	Reimbursed Stephanie Kilpatrick for renewal of umsuwomyns.com domain name
		Women’s Networking Night 1 – food and gifts for speakers	\$200	Special events and projects	

Motion 4: To accept all OBs reports en bloc
 Mover: Rachel Withers (Chair)
 CARRIED

6. General Manager’s Report

Postponed

7. Other Reports

None

8. Operational Business

2015 Operations Sub-Committee – Returning Officer’s Report

Fiona Sanders sent notice to Hana Dalton that the Operations Sub Committee was elected unopposed. The members of Operations Sub Committee are Sarah Xia, Lachlan Gell, Danielle Bagnato, Itsi Weinstock and Karly Banks

Motion 5: To accept the Returning Officers’ Report

Mover: Hana Dalton

Seconder: Rachel Withers

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

9. Motions on Notice

9.1 Presidents’ Summit

Motion 6: to move up to \$500 from budget line Conferences to reimburse Rachel Withers for conference registration fees and travel costs for the NUS Presidents' Summit (report to be presented at council)

Moved: Rachel Withers

Seconded: Hana Dalton

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Discussion surrounding passing money after an event has run. Request from Council that large expenditures be noted before the event not after.

Motion: That Students’ Council approve up to \$200 from budget line Whole of Union to purchase two EpiPens for whole organisational use (including: VCESS, Destination Melbourne, Camps, etc.) The C&S Committee will also purchase two additional EpiPens for clubs to use.

Moved: Clare Pollock

Seconded:

Motion: To pass \$878.08 out of Whole of Union budget line for hire and delivery of Smoothie Bikes for Farmers Market Launch on March 4th 2015

Moved: Rachel Withers

Seconded

Preamble: This weekly event provides a welcoming and chill atmosphere for queer students to meet others as well as indulge in some food and beverages. Unfortunately due to some committee members being unable to attend meetings, and unwilling to respond, a budget and funds are unable to be passed to run this event.

Motion: To reimburse Andrea Bozic \$150 per week for Pizza supplied in Week 1 and 2 Free Lunch. To use \$150 from the Special Projects and Events line to pay for Weeks 2 and 3 of Free Lunch with the Queer Bunch, all from the Queer budget line

Moved: Lloyd Rouse

Seconded: Andrea Bozic

Motion 7: To pass the above motions relating to EpiPens, Smoothie Bikes, Queer Dept Expenditure en bloc

Mover: Rachel Withers

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

9.5 Motion 8: To thank Evie, Frankie and the rest of the events team for their tireless effort and long hours put into making O-Week 2015 such an amazing success.

Moved: Rachel Withers

Seconded: Hana Dalton

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

10 Motions Without Notice

10.1 Wom*n's Expenditure – Food for Wom*n's Collective

Motion 9: To pass \$100 for food for Wom*n's Collective for weeks 3 and 4 from the Wom*n's Department budget line Special Events and Projects and to pass \$80 for food for Queer and Questioning QTs for weeks 3 and 4 from the Wom*n's Department budget line Special Events and Projects.

Moved: Hana Dalton

Seconded: Allie Ballantyne

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

10. 2 Protest Abbott in Melbourne

Preamble: Prime Minister Tony Abbott will in Melbourne this Friday the 13th for an event at the National Gallery of Victoria. In response, the National Union of Students is organising a protest.

This is an important opportunity to mobilise students to oppose the government's ongoing attacks on higher education ahead of the upcoming National Day of Action, as well as to oppose the host of other attacks the government is engaged in.

This visit to Melbourne comes just after Abbott announced his intention to cut services to remote Indigenous communities on the grounds that Indigenous people living on their land is a 'lifestyle choice'; and condemned the president of the Human Rights Commission for holding an inquiry into children in detention.

Motion:

1. That UMSU endorses the protest against Abbott to be held outside the NGV at 5:30 on Friday 13 March.
2. That the UMSU facebook page advertises the protest.
3. That UMSU office bearers promote the protest through their departments.

Mover: Lia Vassiliadis

Seconded: Hana Dalton

Steven Connolly suggests an amendment, so the motion reads Motion:

1. That UMSU endorses the protest against Abbott to be held outside the NGV at 5:30 on Friday 13 March.
2. That the UMSU facebook page advertises the protest.
3. *To encourage UMSU OBs if they wish to support the protest through their departments.*

This is not amenable to the mover.

Discussion surrounding the amendment, and the appropriateness of autonomous departments being directed by the motion.

Discussion regarding the tone of the motion, and the accessibility issues of rallies.

Speaking list exhausts, so amendment is voted on fist

Motion 10: That part 3 of the motion read "to encourage UMSU OBs if they wish to support the protest through their departments."

Mover: Steven Connolly

Seconded: Rachel Withers

CARRIED

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This visit to Melbourne comes just after Abbott announced his intention to cut services to remote Indigenous communities on the grounds that Indigenous people living on their land is a 'lifestyle choice'; and condemned the president of the Human Rights Commission for holding an inquiry into children in detention.

Motion 11 1. That UMSU endorses the protest against Abbott to be held outside the NGV at 5:30 on Friday 13 March.
2. That the UMSU facebook page advertises the protest.
3. to encourage UMSU OBs if they wish to support the protest through their departments.
Mover: Lia Vassiliadis
CARRIED

Seconded: Hana Dalton
3 Abstentions

9 Other Business

Queer Expenditure

Motion 12: to pass \$150 from the Queer Special Projects and Events budget line for the purchase of a DVD, drinks and snacks for a movie night

Mover: Lloyd Rouse

Secunder: Andrea Bozic

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

Wom*ns Expenditure

Motion 13: That Allie Ballantyne be reimbursed \$16 from the Wom*ns Special Projects and Events budget line for the purchase of the DVD screened at the IWD event.

Mover: Allie Ballantyne

Secunder: Rachel Withers

CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT

10 General Managers Report – Justin Baré

Justin gave a brief report to Council, detailing

-the signing of the Facilities and Services Agreement with MUSUL

- MUSUL's SiiP

-the AV@Melbourne Change Management Process.

- OHS - There have been a few OHS incidents, but nothing indicative of systematic issues and nothing hugely significant.

- Volunteering Review –waiting for updates to the report.

11 Next Meeting

24th March at 12 noon

12 Close

Meeting closed at 1:18pm