

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 11/09

CONFIRMED

2 PM, 8 May 2009

Location: MUVT1/2, Union House



Agenda

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Election of Chair
- 1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.3 Attendance
- 1.4 Apologies
- 1.5 Proxies
- 1.6 Membership
- 1.7 Adoption of Agenda

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

- 2.1 Minutes from Meeting on 29-04-2009

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 3.1 Environment Department Capital Expenditure
- 3.2 Gaza Motion
- 3.3 Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion

4. Correspondence

5. Office Bearers' Reports

- 5.1 President
- 5.2 Secretary
- 5.3 Activities
- 5.4 Arts
- 5.5 Clubs and Societies
- 5.6 Education Academic Affairs
- 5.7 Education Public Affairs
- 5.8 Environment
- 5.9 Indigenous
- 5.10 Media
- 5.11 Queer
- 5.12 Welfare
- 5.13 Wom*n

6. Standing Committee Reports

7. Other Reports

8. Motions on Notice

- 8.1 That Students' Council thanks Candice Cranmer for cleaning the Office-Bearer's space, an action which goes above and beyond her job requirements. Moved: Tristan Clack, Seconded: Piper O'Dowd

9. Other Business

10. Next Meeting

2pm, 19 May, MUVT 1/2

11. Close

Meeting declared inquorate at: 2.30 PM, by Shaun Khoo

Agenda Item 1: Procedural Matters

1.3 Attendance

Students' Council

Goldie Pergl, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Clinton Markwell, Liam Byrne, Phoebe Kelloway, Dominique Ottobre, Sisi Ying, Kyle Dadleh

Office-Bearers

Shaun Khoo (Secretary), Chris Summers (Arts), Adelaide Rief (Arts), Ruby Warber (Indigenous), Katherine Klaus (Clubs and Societies), Tim Arnot (Education Public), Bhakthi Puvanenthiran (Media), Rachel Barrett (Environment), Gemma Leigh-Dodds (Education Academic), Laura Harris (Education Academic), Zoe-Zora Sanders (Media)

Other

Lloyd McGeary
Katelyn Grimmer
Jonathan Donagan

Absent

Students' Council

Onagh Bishop, Zoe Edwards, Stephanie Gold, Rudolph Hosri, Dan Musil, Josh Schmidt, James Smith, Brendan Thomas-Noone, Taylor Kendall, Scott Bloodworth

Office-Bearers

Carla Drakeford (President), Sadia Schneider (Education Public), Tristan Clack (Welfare), Frances Lewis (Welfare), Cosima Nyx Stone (Wom*n's), Chris Kloester (Activities), David Liubinas (Activities), Stefania Capogreco (Queer), Ezekial Gould (Queer), Sam Cossar-Gilbert (Environment), Gillian Kilby (Media), Yoshua Wakeham (Media), Piper O'Dowd (Clubs and Societies), Kyle Lancaster (Indigenous)

1.4 Apologies

Carla Drakeford, Brendan Thomas-Noone, Scott Bloodworth, Josh Schmidt, Stephanie Gold, Onagh Bishop

1.5 Proxies

Brendan Thomas-Noone to Goldie Pergl
Scott Bloodworth to Bruno Friedel (not exercised)
Josh Schmidt to Liam Byrne
Stephanie Gold to Lloyd McGeary
Onagh Bishop to Dominique Ottobre

Agenda Item 10: Close

Meeting closed at: 2.30 PM

Certified by Chair:

Signed:

Dated:

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 10 /09

UNCONFIRMED

5.30 PM, 29 April 2009

Location: MUVT1/2, Union House



Agenda

1. Procedural Matters

- 1.1 Election of Chair
- 1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners
- 1.3 Attendance
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- 1.5 Proxies
- 1.6 Membership
- 1.7 Adoption of Agenda

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

- 2.1 Minutes from Meeting on 22-04-2009
- 2.2 Minutes from Meeting on 27-04-2009

3. VCASU Merger

- 3.1 Constitutional Amendments
- 3.2 Special General Meeting

4. Next Meeting

5. Close

Meeting opened at: 5.38 PM

Agenda Item 1; Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Carla Drakeford chair the meeting
Moved: Carla Drakeford
CARRIED

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

1.3 Attendance

Students' Council

Dan Musil, Taylor Kendall, Liam Byrne, Phoebe Kelloway, Joshua Schmidt, Goldie Pergl, Rudolph Hosri, Jessie Overton-Skinner, Brenda Thomas-Noone, Clinton Markwell

Office Bearers

Carla Drakeford (President), David Liubinas (Activities), Stefania Capogreco (Queer), Ezekiel Gould (Queer), Gillian Kilby (Media), Bhakthi Puvanenthiran (Media).

Other

Margaret Thatcher
David Haidon VCASU
Matt Incerti
Jackson Reynolds
Miranda Kiraly
Oliver Walsh
Mark Dwyer
Chris Lewis
Michael Hyine
Robert Langdon
David Evans
Jonathan Dangey
Charlie Goodman
Rachael Lim
John Shipp (minute taker)

Absent

Students' Council

Stephanie Gold, Zoe Edwards, James Smith, Sisi Ying, Kyle Dadleh, Scott Bloodworth

Office Bearers

Shaun Khoo (Secretary), Laura Harris (Education –Academic), Gemma Leigh-Dodds (Education – Academic), Tim Arnot (Education –Public), Sadia Schneider (Education –Public), Frances Lewis (Welfare), Tristan Clack (Welfare), Adelaide Rief (Arts), Chris Summers (Arts), Chris Kloester (Activities), Rachel Barrett (Environment), Sam Cossar-Gilbert (Environment), Zoe Sanders (Media), Joshua Wakeham (Media), Katherine Klaus (Clubs and Societies), Piper O'Dowd (Clubs and Societies), Kyle Lancaster (Indigenous), Ruby Warber (Indigenous), Cosima Nyx Stone (Wom*ns)

1.4 Apologies

Onagh Bishop
Dominique Ottobre

1.5 Proxies

Onagh Bishop to Taylor Kendall
Dominique Ottobre to Dan Musil

1.6 Membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda be adopted

Moved: from the chair

CARRIED

Motion 3: Adjournment for 5 minutes

Moved: John Shipp

Seconded: Clinton Markwell

CWD

Motion 4: Meeting resumed

Moved: John Shipp

Seconded: Clinton Markwell

CARRIED

Motion 5: Suspension of standing orders to allow misplaced proxies

Moved: from Chair

CARRIED	For: 11	Against:1
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Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes from Meeting on 22-04-2009

Motion 6: Confirmation of Minutes from the Meeting on 22-04-2009

Moved: from Chair CWD

2.2 Minutes from Meeting on 27-04-2009

Motion 7: Confirmation of Minutes from the Meeting on 27-04-09

Moved: from Chair CWD

Agenda Item 3: VCASU Merger

3.1 Constitutional Amendments

3.2 Special General Meeting

5.49pm Discussion regarding VCASU merger occurs
David Haidon speaks

Bhakthi Puvanenthiran arrives at 5.51PM

Rachael Lim arrives at 5.54PM

Discussion occurs via a speaking list of both constitutional amendments and setting of a Special General Meeting.

Motion 8: The VCA constitutional amendments be approved by Students' Council with the following changes:

*That at 198.6 the reference to 'rule 195' is changed to 'rule 198'.
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*That the addition of an ex-officio, non-voting member be added to the following committees:
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-Indigenous Committee

-Wom*ns Committee

-Queer Committee

Moved: Goldie Pergl

Seconded: Jackson Reynolds

CWD

Discussion regarding time and place of Special General Meeting occurs via speaking list

Motion 9: The Special General Meeting to consider the VCASU-UMSU merger be held on the 26 th of May, in a lecture theatre to be decided that is available that can contain 400 people at 1pm do by found by the secretary by May 4 and to be communicated by the close of business.

Moved: Goldie Pergl

Seconded: David Haidon

CWD

Agenda Item 9: Next Meeting

Next meeting on: 2PM, Friday, 8th May, MUVT1/2

Agenda Item 10:

Meeting closed at: 6.19 PM

Certified by Chair:

Signed:

Dated:

Matters Arising from the Minutes Unresolved Motions

Gaza motion for Students' Council

The University of Melbourne Student Union condemns Israel's war on the population of Gaza.

The University of Melbourne Student Union calls for Israel to lift the blockade of Gaza's borders

and allow the passage of all food, fuel and medical supplies.

The University of Melbourne Student Union condemns the Australian Government and Western

governments around the world for ignoring the plight of the Palestinian people.

Moved: Sadia Schneider

Seconded: Taylor Kendall

Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion

That UMSU condemns the actions of Office Bearers who have posted without permission on the Indigenous Departments office window. This action represents an impingement on the rights of the office, a breach of section 11 of Union House Rules and shall not be tolerated. UMSU supports the Indigenous Department's right to convey any legal political message it so chooses that is within the regulations of the Union's constitution.

Moved: Sean Armistead

Seconded: Kyle Dadleh

President's Report for May 8th

Dealings with University

Melbourne Experience Advisory Group

At this meeting on the 8th of April, Tom Stringer presented to the committee a Student Advice Program that is going to be launched online.

The program involves modules for those staff members in the University that could potentially be advising students in a whole range of things –whether it be academic or otherwise.

The program looks particularly interesting and potentially helpful for student office bearers, especially when students come to us with help or advice and we are unsure of the correct avenues.

I am looking to get in touch with Tom and see if we can organize for something like that to get off the ground to use as induction for next year or to even use this year.

MUSUL Board

As per the email I sent to OBs, MUSUL wants their advice as to what to include in the 5 year strategic plan for MUSUL –things that relate to the operation of MUSUL, the aspirations and ideologies that should be considered in this plan. The next MUSUL meeting is on June 11th, so if anything comes to mind please email me.

Melbourne Model Committee

At MMC in April, I sent Laura Harris as my proxy. She noted that students in New Gen degrees are confused about Breadth and interdisciplinary subjects. As a result the committee Secretary Kathy Menezes set up a focus group on these terms and we were able to send 10 students to participate.

There were some good outcomes –one which students came up with was that in the Handbook there should be a box that says, “if you enjoyed studying this subject you might also enjoy...” quite like on Amazon.com. I had a report sent to me by one of the students involved, and will be taking that report to the next MMC committee.

Student Advisory Group

I hope that Student Councilors have been able to read carefully through the documents that I circulated after the last regular council meeting, which included the Universities proposed plans and the draft MOU.

Included in this MOU is clause 22, which indicated that UMSU should be an undergraduate student union and the GSA should be post graduate. I feel very strongly

that UMSU should not be relegated to represent only Ugrads, but I will include an additional advisory letter to council as to this effect.

In addition –as you may be aware by this point, Professor Peter McPhee has resigned. Since we don't know who his replacement will be, this leaves me feeling quite uncertain as to the discussions in the future between all student representatives and the new Provost. McPhee often said the MOU was going to be there to ensure that if a new Provost came in that was anti student unions and anti their autonomy, the MOU would help to safe guard student activity at UMSU. So I would say, it would be in our best interests to have it signed by the time McPhee resigns on July 17th.

Demand a Better Future Campaign

National Sleep Out

On April 23rd NUS ran a National Sleep Out to raise awareness of student poverty, which also worked to continue the campaign around reforming student income support.

In Victoria we had 10 people sleep out, and about 4 from Melbourne University. There was quite a bit of media interest including radio interviews in the lead up.

Deregulation Forum

The forum had a small turn out –and also a bit disappointing that more student office bearers didn't attend and contribute and talk about these ideas of privatization –especially considering what has happened at UniMelb.

Aside from that note, we has Miki Perkins the Education Age editor come to the forum and talk about some of the issues and campaign strategies going into the year after the budget.

UMSU

Grievance Tribunal

Last week the only member on the Grievance Tribunal, Chris Penman, resigned. I have contacted the Office of the Vice Chancellor to have someone new appointed and as of this report (May 1st) I have received no reply.

I contacted the UMSU appointment on the election tribunal, Sevaria Dimasi, and she does not want to take part in the Grievance Tribunal either.

I have tried to make contact with the Dean of the Law School, Professor Hathaway, and he has not responded either.

Both of these outcomes are extremely disappointing. We currently have no appointments to the Grievance tribunal and there are some issues to be resolved. UMSU itself will need to find an appointment, and Justin is going through some options at the moment.

Internal Audit

A few weeks ago Justin and I met with the Auditor Peter McGrath. He now has all relevant documents by which to begin the audit and we are looking forward to getting his results by the end of May.

This Audit will help us in distributing the new funding arrangements in 2010.

1. Procedural Matters

The recent disputes regarding General Meetings, financial expenditure, political causes and Discipline raise several flaws which it may be pertinent for Students' Council to consider amending during its next Constitutional review.

It is clear that General Meetings which are called by petition require a mechanism for determining the details of a meeting, including the Chair, Agenda and location. A possible mechanism for petitioning General Meetings should require that a petition for a General Meeting is not valid unless it determines such matters in the text of the petition or describes a process or delegates to one or more individuals the task of determining the Chair, Agenda, location and other details.

The Constitution is unclear regarding Disciplinary procedures, since rule 177 states that there shall be no other disciplinary procedures other than 175 and 176 (Discipline by Students' Council or Disciplinary recommendations from Students' Council). However, this is directly contradicted by the disciplinary process described in rule 140 which describes a Disciplinary procedure for Sub-Committee members. It also contradicts rule 39 which gives a Referendum the power to dismiss elected officers and representatives.

Grievance Procedures require the Grievance Tribunal, however, it is understandably difficult to engage members of the legal profession (see President's Report). A review of Grievance Procedures is also a likely necessity for Students' Council to consider given present difficulties and the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* that incorporated associations should have Grievance Procedures.

2. Regulations and Policy.

On 18 March Students' Councillors requested further clarification regarding proposed amendments to Standing Orders.

Rule 3.3 now reads:

3.3 A regular meeting is a meeting held in accordance with the meeting schedule or is otherwise a part of the regular program.

3.3.1 The Students' Council may delegate to the Secretary the power to set meetings on the regular program during periods not covered by the meeting schedule and may determine the conditions of this delegation.

This is because previously rule 3.3 restated requirements already set out in rule 85 of the Constitution. The amendment to rule 3.3 creates two types of regular meeting (regular program or meeting schedule).

Rule 3.3.1 does not create any new powers for the Secretary and effectively reduces the power of the Secretary. It is possible under current conditions the

interpret meetings not set explicitly as special meetings as regular meetings as the Constitution overrides Regulations. The ambiguities in the interpretation of the regular/special meeting distinction arise not from the Constitution, but from the Constitution interpreted in the context of Standing Orders.

Rule 3.3.1 seeks to alter current convention which leaves the Secretary to set meeting times and dates outside of the semesterly meeting schedule. The word 'may' implies that the Secretary does not automatically have the power to make executive decisions to set meeting times (except perhaps in the case of a newly elected Students' Council that is yet to meet for the first time). The power of Students' Council to govern its program of meetings is foregrounded by rule 3.3.1 which diminishes the power of the Secretary to act unilaterally. Additionally, the regulatory environment of UMSU Inc. is much different to that of MUSU Inc. and is clearly designed to prevent unilateral action.

Rule 5.1 and 5.2 are amended:

Rule 5.1 previously defined special meetings as those not on the regular programme of meetings set at the start of each semester.

Rule 5.2 previously defined a special meeting as held when four voting representatives requested a meeting. This contradicts with 5.1 since a meeting could be outside of the regular programme set at the start of each semester yet not be held at the request of at least four voting representatives.

The rules now read:

5.1 Special meetings are meetings held outside of the regular program.

5.2 A special meeting shall be held when:

5.2.1 at least four voting representatives request in writing or by email that one be held; or

5.2.2 Students' Council directs that a special meeting be held.

This amendment aims to clearly define a special meeting, the conditions under which special meetings are held and to remove contradictions.

Rule 5.4 is amended to correct a typo (by to be).

Rule 8.2 is amended to include reference to a new appendix which sets out a model agenda for a Special Meeting. This model agenda is consistent with the current rule 5.4.2 of Standing Orders which does not allow for business other than that included in the request for a special meeting to be set on the agenda.

Rules 11.3, 13.2, 14,10, 19.4 and (thanks to Dominique for pointing this out) 19.5 are amended to renumber appendices.

Rules 26.8 and 26.9 are new, added to further clarify definitions. The definition of 'meeting schedule' is consistent with rule 84 of the Constitution and rule 26.9 defines regular program against the criteria for a special meeting. This leaves no meeting uncategorised.

- 26.8 'meeting schedule' means the schedule set at the first meeting of the Students' Council in each semester.
- 26.9 The 'regular program' includes meetings set on the meeting schedule or any meeting outside of the meeting schedule which is not requested by at least four voting representatives or directed to be held as a special meeting.

Recommendation 2.1:

Students' Council adopts the amended Standing Orders as circulated including the amendment to the typo in rule 5.4 and the originally omitted renumbering of appendices in rule 19.5.

If this recommendation is accepted, then it is proposed additionally that the policy included in this report be adopted as well, which has been developed in accordance with expectations representatives have expressed and current practice. It has also been developed to work with the amended Standing Orders.

Meeting Notifications Policy

Committee meetings are an important part of the governance of UMSU. The department's priorities and activities are set and discussed within these meetings so it is important that they are a democratic forum.

Every representative on an UMSU Committee has the right to:

- Receive adequate notice, as set out in the Constitution, of the time, date and location of a meeting.
 - Rule 88.1 of the Constitution requires four academic days between the day notice is sent and the day the meeting is held for a regular meeting.
 - Rule 88.2 of the Constitution requires two academic days between the day notice is sent and the day the meeting is held for a special meeting, unless more than half the voting representatives of the committee notify the Secretary that they believe a meeting should be held with less notice.
 - These rules apply to Committee meetings in accordance with Rule 100.1 of the Constitution.
- Be consulted by the relevant Officer regarding the setting of the time, date and location of a meeting and the setting of a meeting schedule.
- Be included in the decision-making of the Committee.

For meetings which are not set on the meeting schedule or otherwise held according to the direction of the Committee, Officers, as part of their duties, shall consult with all the representatives on their committees regarding availabilities for meetings. The time, date and location of meetings should then be passed on to the Secretary such that adequate notice can be sent.

Recommendation 2.2:
Students' Council adopts the Meeting Notifications Policy.

Proposed Amendments to Procedures for Student Representatives

Proposed amendments were circulated to Students' Council members detailing amendments to the Regulations.

Rule 1.1 of Procedures for Student Representatives previously referred to C152 and C153 which presently relates to Meetings of the Staffing Sub-Committee and Budget Process. This has been updated to refer to C155 and C156 which refer to Regulations other than Electoral Regulations and the Provisions of Regulations.

Rule 3.2 is amended to capitalise the 't' of 'the' at the beginning of the sentence.

Rule 10.3 read 'The UMSU logo shall appear in Appendix A' and has been amended to read "... shall appear as in Appendix A".

Rule 14 has been added to allow the Indigenous, Queer and Wom*n's departments to appoint a Committee Secretary from their restricted constituency when the Secretary is not a member of that restricted constituency. It does not require the committees to do so, but does so to increase the level of autonomy available to that committee.

Rule 15 sets out a process for the election of Finance and Staffing Sub-Committees, consistent with the Constitutional requirement to elect these committees before their term commences (C141) and sets out a process for this election. Students' Council(-elect) may determine the conduct of the election or may allow it to follow the regulations.

Rule 16 sets out a process for the appointment of the Students' Representative Network and outlines some basic rights and responsibilities for representatives. In conjunction with rule 15 it is hoped that these amendments will allow for a longer opening of applications and more time for Staffing Sub-Committee to meet and consider applications. That applications for SRN should be opened and considered by Staffing Sub-Committee seems to be a relatively uncontroversial convention and therefore it seems reasonable for the process to be automatic.

Recommendation 2.3:
Students' Council adopts the amendments to Procedures for Student Representatives.

3. Media Policy

The policy discussion paper was viewed 89 times and 6 submissions were received, signed by 16 students. The Media Policy will be revised and circulated to Council upon completion.

- Shaun Khoo, Secretary.

Activities OB report number 1.

Well. Epic start to the year.

To start with, we decided that we needed to have a massive presence on campus, which would flow on to our events throughout the year. We figured the best way to do this is to run the activities department more like other clubs and societies on campus. This helps in that it gets us... Jaffys!

We have Jaffys! This year we have a great bunch of first years that pretty much live in our office, and are more than willing to help us out by handing out entertainment guides and other promotional materials dressed up as Igor the elephant, Santa or ride a unicycle around.

The fact that Communications refuses to allow us to put our entertainment guide on the stands in union house also means that we have been forced to go out and talk to students one on one, which has helped a lot. The activities card has also been a hit too, in which we sell for \$2 to union members only to break even on printing costs. So we have been pushing ourselves to go out there and meet more union members and convince others to join up. If anyone on council/OB/ committee wants a card, come grab one off us in the office for free.

The Band/BBQ has also gone extremely well, largely due to our massive advertising push, great bands to start the year, and that its still early on in which people are still enjoying uni life. We are running out of drinks by 1:20, vegetarian food by 1:35 because we simply don't have enough money for this. AH WELL, no matter.

Trivia night. Another hit. Last years had 10 to 11 tables of 6. This year we expanded it to 20 tables of 6. It clashed with an event that a lot of our usual crowd attended instead, so we were a little worried that we would not get a good crowd. We ended up selling all tables, with the majority of people there never having been to an UMSU Activities event before this year, which we are really proud of. A festival ChillCity sponsored us, giving us free tickets to give to the winning team, and U bar gave us drink vouchers for second place. There was a door charge of \$5 that went to the bushfire appeal. We raised \$400 dollars.

Facebook/ Youtube push.

Our facebook group has doubled in a month, largely due to it being active, having O'camp and other event details ran by clubs.

We also expanded into Youtube. I'm sure some of you have seen our Ghetto productions. The first went well with a lot of views, the second hasn't had as many, but we will be making the next one more fun.

We are now starting to advertise our cocktail night, which is on the 8th of April. Tickets are on sale now from the information desk.

\$25 for union members. We are starting to plan our next event....

The Neon Blizzard Blowout happening on the 29th of April.

Oh yeh, we are hoping to have a party in the old Melbourne Jail.

That would be cool. Logistical nightmare... but so cool.

Dave and Chris.

Arts Department – Office Bearers Report

The Arts Department has been focused on organising *Framed*, the annual photography and visual media competition, as well as running collective meetings, workshops, and continuing to lay the groundwork for the second semester behemoth, MUDFest 11.

Framed

Framed has traditionally been run by the Arts Department as a photography competition. This year, we have reenergised the format and introduced short film, animation and digital media into the mix.

In line with this broader approach, we have decided to move *Framed* out of a traditional gallery space and into a more public space; somewhere students are likely to see and appreciate the exhibition without necessarily having had the intention to do so. We have chosen the landing between the Ground Floor and First Floor of Union House to exhibit still photography and the windows of the (very generous) Activities and Clubs and Societies offices to install TV screens which will display short films and animation.

We will also be using the LCD screens through Union House to display entries.

Framed has previously been promoted heavily as a 'competition' with expensive prizes, however, this is also something we have been keen to sidestep. While we will still be offering prizes donated by our sponsors, we are more interested in offering mentorships to assist in the development of future work, hopefully for MUDFest. We see this as being a continued benefit to both the selected students, the Arts Department and the Student Union.

Collective

This year we are hoping to build collective into a strong, collaborative, inclusive space where people can come and talk about their art, get advice and share skills with those around them. In order to facilitate this we have begun sending out a weekly email with news from the Arts Department as well as opportunities and events in Melbourne.

Our first Collective meeting was attended by around 10 people and although this was a good start, we realised that the format of the collective needed to change in order to engage and interest more students. With this in mind we organised a creative writing workshop to be included in the next meeting.

Chris ran the workshop, with small exercises designed to get people thinking about the place of memory and personal identity in their writing. We're happy to report that the workshop was a great success with over 20 people attending. We have also had some great feedback and requests for some kind of writers group to be initiated. We're working on how, when and where this can happen. Our next collective meeting will be on Thursday 2nd April and will focus on ideas and inspiration for the upcoming Framed competition.

MUDFEST

We are having weekly meetings with the director of the festival, David Ryding, to keep up to date on all his work in securing funding, planning and programming what will be an amazing

three weeks in August. We have also decided that our main contribution to the festival will be in producing and programming the festival club. This will be an amazing opportunity for the broader university community to be involved in the festival and we'll be looking to work closely with the other departments, especially Clubs to realise this. We would also like to encourage the other OB's to think about what kind of involvement they would like to have in the festival, perhaps in organising an event, or participating in a night at the club.

Clubs and Societies Office Bearers' Report

Clubs and Societies since the start of semester has been running Information Sessions for club executives, advising them on how to self-assess their tax status, how to apply for grants and how to be careful that they are meeting their duty of care ("how to not get sued"). We have also been holding AGM training.

The office has also been wading through the various membership lists and assigning clubs to bands for funding purposes, and ensuring that each club has 30+ members, and at least two executives that are UMSU members.

As directed by the committee the OBs have been trying to get certificates of currency from 5 pubs in the area. I am sad to say this has not been successful, with Naughton's Hotel refusing outright to provide one, but did allow me to look at their insurance policy, and Piper managing to obtain one from the Prince Alfred Hotel. We have so far been unsuccessful in obtaining any more and I would recommend that we end this task. We have also been attempting to obtain a locksmith's quote for two lockers that have a key-lock, have been locked with said key, and have passed into the possession of Clubs without said key.



Gemma Leigh Dodds
<gemmalala@gmail.com>
26/03/2009 02:26 PM

To secretary@union.unimelb.edu.au
cc
bcc
Subject revised and updated ed report; please use this version

Education (Academic) Report

1/4/09

The first few weeks of semester have been extremely busy in the Education office.

Education Embassy:

In second week back, we held an Education Support Stall for a few days. The 'Education Embassy' was designed to provide assistance and some level of course guidance to students struggling to understand the direction of their degree. The embassy was made highly visible and was as widely publicised as we could. While some students approached the embassy for a chat and advice on subject section, overall, the result was lacklustre. This was not actually surprising, as exam support stalls are similarly an important service the union provides but in reality low in student engagement.

In future it may be better to incorporate the embassy as part of O week, so there is already an engaged student body moving around union house. Secondly, it may be a good idea to establish separate education support embassy's for each faculty and situate it close to the faculty centre, rather than centrally in South Court. Improving our publicity and promotion strategy will also be key.

SRN:

Finally, appointing the SRN is almost completed. The bureaucracy hurdles were a nightmare and compiling an up to date list of committees proved to be more difficult than expected. Unfortunately, neither the University Secretariat nor the lists from previous years had faculty Course Standing Committees listed. This meant that they were not included in potential committees students could nominate for in their SRN applications. However, this could actually prove to be a positive, as a separate and faculty specific drive for student reps can be focused on by the ed-ac department in the coming weeks.

The Student Staffing committee met last Tuesday to select candidates, and those that were successful will be notified shortly. We are also liaising with Peter McPhee to attend the training seminar to be held late this week

University Committees:

Both Laura and I have been attending several different university committees, some of which were waiting to be filled by SRN applicants. Generally, all committees have been

focusing on trying to consolidate and brace themselves for the anticipated budget difficulties in light of the GFC.

Also, during the last Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance Committee meeting, Gillian Luck, Vice-Principal and Academic Registrar, spoke at length about improving Student Centres and student advice. One of the proposed models was to involve 3rd year students in assisting new students at busy times of the year to unload the stress on Student Centres. This is something we are going to follow up with Gillian as it correlates nicely with the aims and purpose of Education Embassy, and it may be a way to integrate both Education Academic's and the University's initiatives in the interests of improving student support.

In future:

- We are setting a number of student forums to be held across the rest of Semester. It is hoped this maintains regular contact with the wider student population as well as some level of accountability.

The Education Academic department is looking at collaborating with the Environment Office to see if a book and academic resource exchange program can be established to be operating by Semester 2. We are currently looking into the feasibility and possible spaces for the exchange.

Committee Appeal:

Appeals by committee members (who did not attend on the day but proxied to others), against a democratically decided and voted motion is regrettable. Unfortunately, this appeal is just one in a string of attempts to obstruct the efficiency of the Education department. One attempt was to deliberately obstruct governance by pulling quorum. This action has resulted in office bearers personally bearing costs as they are forced over the timely period in which reimbursements – for on campus and student run campaigns and events - can be made. In this particular instance I will not speak directly for or against the substance of the motion, but would like to point out, as chair of the committee meeting on the day in question, that the motion was discussed at length. I can assure Students Council that the debate at the education committee allowed every member present to have their voices heard and concerns raised. Most, including proxied members, spoke at least twice. The fact that the meeting went for over an hour and half further demonstrates the substantial time allocated to discussion. Further, as a result of the discussion, the Education Public Affairs officers were going to follow up on the discussed issue of club inclusivity. In short, procedurally, all steps were taken to ensure debate was fulsome and the minutes reflect this. Therefore any allegation that the motion was carried unethically is entirely incorrect.

Education (Public Affairs) report for Students' Council 11/09 (6/5/2009)

Students for Palestine

Palestine Solidarity Week was a fantastic success throughout Melbourne, with students getting involved from La Trobe, Monash, Swinburne, and RMIT. Here at Melbourne Uni the week included a range of exciting events. These included:

- Pinboard displays of the history of Palestine
- Information stalls in North Court on Monday, with a Students for Palestine stall, and an Islamic Students Society club stall, with cultural music and a sheesha pipe
- On Wednesday night Antony Loewenstein spoke on campus, which was a great success with over 180 people attending
- On Friday all the students from other campuses converged on Melbourne Uni for the Solidarity Feast, which included comedy acts, music from The Brothahood, traditional Palestinian music and dancing as well as a suite of Middle-eastern food

The feast in particular was a great success and capped off the week really well, with over 300 people in attendance! Clearly the largest event the Student Union has hosted all year and a great testament to the work that Students for Palestine is doing, namely, raising awareness about the history of the struggle for Palestinian rights and emphasising the need for solidarity with Palestinians here in Australia.

Throughout the week, members of the Students for Palestine collective and the Education public OBs as well as Frances Lewis, Welfare OB, emphasised the importance of the Student Union in taking a stand against war and racism and being a progressive space that fights for the rights of the oppressed. With many hundreds of students at the events throughout the week, Palestine Solidarity Week provided us with a unique opportunity to discuss the necessity of being members of the union with students, particularly in the atmosphere of Voluntary Student Unionism and the obvious stifling effect this has on unions' ability to give students a voice and play progressive roles in the world.

We are now excitedly planning for the Al-Nakba rally happening 15th May at 5:30pm at the State Library. Al-Nakba, or 'the catastrophe,' is an annual event of remembering the dispossession of Palestinians 61 years ago, which is significant to millions of Arabic and Muslim people, as well as supporters of Palestinian rights, around the world. The rally demands an end to the siege of Gaza and the Israeli occupation of Palestine, recognising the Palestinian right of return, and calling for Australia to participate in the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel. We encourage all supporters of Palestinian rights to attend this rally.

Deregulation forum

UMSU hosted a public forum which was attended by an Ed public officer on the deregulation of Education on April 7th, raising the issues of the government's plans to deregulate higher education. This comes in the context of the mass discrediting of the free market due to the catastrophic collapse of financial institutions around the world

that heralded this ideology. The government's verbal commitment to increasing the accessibility of higher education is a noble one, but is not backed up by any promises of greater funding for education nor greater planning. Instead, the 'market forces' which have contributed to the misery of millions around the world in the Global Financial Crisis are meant to be the saviour of education. This represents nothing more than another attempt by university administrations to grab more money from students while providing less, and allowing the Labor government to get away with not promising any extra funding for education.

Fair Fares

The Fair Fares rally on Wednesday 29th April was a great success. It was well attended by international and postgraduate students from around Melbourne, who marched to Parliament steps in the city. The denial of international students concession cards by the state government is downright racist, and this action is the first step towards challenging the many ways in which international students are discriminated against.

It was a real shame that not more of the student union was present to support international and postgraduate students in their fight for concession cards. If the union can't take up the most basic demand for equal rights for students on campus then how can it appeal to those students who are not yet members to join?

ABCC rally

On Tuesday 28th April the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU), with support from a number of other unions, took action against the Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC). The ABCC is a body set up under Howard and continued with the Rudd Labor government, and has extreme draconian powers against construction workers. Under this body construction workers are denied basic rights that everyone else enjoys. They have no right to silence if questioned, are not allowed to tell workmates, friends or family of what happened in an interview with the ABCC and face fines of many thousands of dollars and up to 6 months' gaol if these laws are broken. This is a deliberate attack on one of the strongest, most militant unions in Australia. The rally last week was a significant step for the union, which has been bled dry by this body through fines and restricted activity. There were up to 15,000 people who marshalled at Trades Hall and marched through the city, and the message from the front was more militant and determined than it had been in the past. It is important for us to see that the ABCC is an attack on all workers, and if they can get away with this watchdog on one of the strongest unions in Australia then it is surely going to be implemented elsewhere. The Education (Public Affairs) officers both attended and were impressed by the size and determination of the demonstration, and fully support workers taking further action against this body. We encourage unionists to show solidarity with the CFMEU workers and support further actions against the ABCC when they take place.

Al-Nakhba

We are also building for the upcoming Al-Nakba commemorations happening on 15th May. Al Nakba, Arabic for "the catastrophe," is the events of 1948 when hundreds of Palestinian villages were demolished to make way for the state of Israel, entire villages of people massacred, and hundreds of thousands displaced, most still living in refugee camps today 60 years later. With the recent attacks on Gaza it is, now more

than ever, imperative that the student union and all those who are against war and racism stand up against the oppression waged by the Israeli state and stand in solidarity with the Palestinians. The Students for Palestine group is organising a Teach In at 3:30pm on Friday 15th May at room 4, lvl 8, Building 10 of RMIT in the city to raise awareness of the plight of the Palestinians. After that we will be going straight to the rally outside the State Library at 5:30pm. We encourage all who support the fight for Palestinian rights to attend these Al-Nakba events next Friday.

Environment Office Bearers' Report

Rachel Barrett Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Environment Collective Meetings

Collective meetings have been well attended by enthusiastic members both new and old. The meeting hour has been divided into time for a different workshop/activity each week organised by collective members and the remainder of the time for working groups to form and organise.

Sustainable Food Group

This group has secured garden patches and a green house for a student run vegetable garden on campus and plan to start planting next week. The group has also organised for free seeds to be available to students through the Environment Office.

Melbourne University Bike Co-Op

The Bike Co-Op has received vast amounts of interest from students and continues its quest to get a space to operate from. Bike workshops have been run on and off campus and a series of bike mechanics courses will take place throughout the year.

Environmental Education Group

This working group aims to open channels of information and publicise ways in which students can be involved in environmental campaigns. A zine to this effect, which will also link the various environment groups on campus and provide opportunities for student contributions, is in the works.

Climate Action Group

Members of this working group were involved in the CPRS actions that took place on Friday 27th March at various MPs' offices around Melbourne. The following day some members travelled to the Latrobe Valley at five am to participate in an action to highlight the inefficacy of turning of lights to stop climate change (Earth Hour was to happen the same evening) and attempt to 'turn off' a coal-fired power station instead.

Students of Sustainability (SoS)

SoS will be held in Melbourne this year, at Monash, Clayton. Collective members have been involved in the cross-campus organising network for the conference in July.

Ride-to-Uni-Breakfasts

One such event has been organised so far, in conjunction with the Bike Co-Op who put on a workshop along side the breakfast table. The Breakfast was success and attracted several new members to be involved with the Environment Department.

Motion 1

That Students' Council approve the spending of the Environment Committee of sum of \$100 on and electric frying pan, a toaster and a kettle to be used for the 'Ride-to- Uni-Breakfasts' put on by the Environment Department.

Motion 2

That \$1000 be authorised to reimburse UMSU officer bearers for buying food for Play with Your Food and to pay UMSU entertainment for gas, to be taken from the Whole of Union line.

Indigenous Department Report

The Indigenous Department has over the last fortnight have been involved in four events which have been a great success. Our diversity week BBQ was a great success with many students getting involved with the indigenous presenters at the event which promoted tolerance within the University, with our department focusing on the indigenous students. Our second event was a get together for the indigenous students to meet the staff and other students interested in helping with indigenous issues, this event was held at Noosh in the CBD and was regarded by all to be a fantastic success. Our lawn bowling event had to have the venue changed at the last minute due to issues of over-crowding but a lunch was held in its place and had a very strong turnout and was a great gathering for the students to speak to us regarding issues at the university. Tristan Clack from the welfare department allowed us to join the sexual health week event that he had organised which allowed us to educate indigenous students on sexual health.

MEDIA OFFICERS' REPORT

31ST MARCH 2009

Gillian Kilby, Bhakthi Puvanenthiran, Zoe Sanders & Yoshua Wakeham

1. **Edition 2** was released on Monday, March 23rd. Of the 5000 copies we printed, around 3500 have been distributed so far. Response so far has been positive.
2. **Media collective meetings** continue to be well patronised. As well as sourcing content at meetings, we have been seeking opinions on a range of Media department responsibilities, including the new Media policy (see below), cover ideas for Edition 3, and launch parties.
3. Our cross-campus newspaper (now online), **The Worm**, continues to move forward: at the moment we're trying to organise web hosting and a URL. As this is not solely an UMSU venture, we won't be hosting the site on the union servers, though Communications are assisting us in getting the site running.
4. For our **Edition 3 launch party**, we are currently negotiating with Cinema Nova to get an exclusive, private pre-release film screening in exchange for advertising. Film and date are yet to be confirmed, but we're aiming to have about 100 people there, and you're all invited.
5. We've been working in collaboration with the Secretary to develop a new **Media policy**, to clarify some ambiguous areas of the Constitution. The policy will address a range of issues, including editorial freedom, journalistic ethics, and complaints procedures. A draft of the policy will shortly be available on the union website, and we will be seeking feedback from all students and other interested parties.
6. We have recently been in talks with the **Triple Helix** Science in Society Review, a student-run undergraduate publication on campus, about using Media Department resources to increase the journal's visibility and profile on campus. Though details are still being finalised, this might involve giving them advertising space in *Farrago*, alerting the Media Collective to the possibility of getting published in Triple Helix, providing a link to Triple Helix on our website, and giving the journal's staff general guidance where required.
7. **Recommendations**
 - a. We held our Edition 1 launch party on the 27th of February; the Media Officers spent \$200 of their own money on a bar tab. **Recommendation:** the approval of \$200 from the Media Department Promotional Activities line to reimburse the Officers.

Welfare Report for Students Council on 31st March

Frances Lewis

I continue to liaise with reps from the Youth Disability Advocacy Service around attendant carer funding and am investigating what further I can do to raise awareness of the issue. It is appalling that students with physical disabilities requiring a fulltime carer are denied funding for the carer, meaning they are denied access to university unless they can pay for the carer themselves.

I also have been liaising with the GSA and MUOSS around concession card campaign which is going really well. This is vital as more reports come out of the discrimination and harassment (including physical assault) of international students, the high cost of public transport just being one aspect.

I attended the National Union of Students National Day of Action. It was an absolute farce; outside people from both sides of the Labor Party, there was basically no one. It is hardly surprising given that all we have heard from Labor Students is support for Rudd. It is dishonest to say you are running a campaign to scrap VSU when you have been campaigning *for* Rudds new Services Fee, which as we know will go straight to the University Admin and has no guarantees that student bodies will see any of it or that it can be used for political campaigns to represent students interests. This is a fee that represents a continuation of political VSU and the political silencing of students. Maybe if the Labor students weren't so interested in their careers and getting a cushy office job in a MPs office, they might actually run a critical campaign that forces the government to improve the living standards of students.

I also continue to be involved in the Students for Palestine collective, with Palestine Solidarity Week looking to be real success. However there appear to be students here in the Student Union with no union principles who support the slaughter of Palestinians, with my committees decision to fund a BBQ and PA system for the week being appealed. It is thoroughly undemocratic that a minority can block a decision made by a democratically elected body. It is also preventing me from following my job requirements of tackling racism. In the current climate celebrating Arabic culture is a vital way to show the relevance of the union to students who have generally not seen the point of the union. The Welfare Department is NOT a service provider but a campaign body to campaign around racism, discrimination and to promote diversity and tolerance.

Recommendation 1:

UMSU recognises that students with physical disabilities requiring a full-time attendant carer receive federal funding for such a carer during school. UMSU also recognises that these students stop receiving this funding when entering tertiary education, and that this is a major barrier to these students attending university and gaining tertiary qualifications. Therefore UMSU calls on the Rudd Government to provide funding for attendant carers for students undertaking any kind of tertiary study.

Recommendation 2:

1. UMSU recognizes that many students work long hours on top of their study in order to make ends meet. UMSU therefore condemns the proposed HECS HELP volunteer scheme, as it will only benefit wealthier students and not those who need the HECS fee reduction.
2. UMSU recognises that the Bradley Review does not go far enough to tackle student poverty. It also recognizes that a voucher system, where funding follows students not institutions, will prevent already underfunded universities from receiving crucial resources. UMSU condemns the governments implementation of a deregulated, demand-driven funding scheme. UMSU also calls on the government to
 - a. Lower the age of independence to 18
 - b. Increase the Youth Allowance and Austudy payments to at least match the Henderson Poverty Line of \$370 a week.
 - c. Tie Rent Assistance payments to the CPI index.

Welfare OB report – Tristan Clack

There has been a lot of activity in the Welfare Department since taking office on January 5th. These include but are not limited to: -

- * Advocating and negotiating for affordable student housing. This has come through forming the University Student Housing Co-operative (USHCo) project and pursuing talks with figures from the DHS, Office of Housing, Yarra Community Housing, the State Treasury, Minister for Housing the Hon Richard Wynne and other land stake holders. Many sites and options are being discussed along with funding arrangements.

- * Setting up the Sexual Health Awareness Campaigns which have been crafted to hit their respective target audiences. For example: local students (most of whom would have received the safe sex message through school) required a reminder, this came in the form of free sexual health packs being handed out and promoted at Tuesday Beer, Band and Barbeque. To reach the international student population (this is the group that is most vulnerable as many of them have not received the safe sex message and as a result either have no information or misinformation such as “the pill makes you permanently infertile”) we are setting up (with the Universities Wellbeing Services) information sessions in University Square, International House and other international student accommodation providers with a health promotions nurse. We will supply sexual health packs, similar to the ones supplied at the bands and barbeques. The way it is being pitched at the target audience is that this session will help you get the most out of your study and life management skills, because if it is just a sexual health session the message will be too blunt, ergo it won't get through.

- * Laying the ground work in the “Concessions Cards For All Students” campaign, in the form of assisting with the filming of a short advertisement, assisting with the design of posters and forming a face book group. In the near future we will be organizing a forum and inviting key people to come and speak about the problem and what are the possible solutions.

- * Operating and rolling out breakfast club since week 3 by myself as we didn't have a budget approved (it was scheduled to start from week 1). I was able to start because the food co-op extended a line of credit to the welfare department. Since speaking with wellbeing services, they are prepared to provide assistance in the form of staff and free food from week 7. I have to say I have been disappointed with the lack of support from my fellow office-bearer and committee on this initiative. Lack of quorum prevented breakfast club from starting earlier, because I didn't have access to a budget.

- * Preparation for mental health week is starting with the sourcing of materials and health professions and organizations to get involved.

I have had a very busy three months working on Welfare issues, and look forward to another nine. I would like to thank in particular Shaun Khoo, Evan Wallace, Sisi Ying, Charlie Goodman, Kyle Dadleh and Ruby Warber for their assistance with my work in this time.

Students Council Meeting 22 April Welfare OB Report [Frances Lewis]

Firstly, the concession card Day of Action, to demand travel concessions for international and postgraduate students is next Wednesday, 29th April. I think it is vital that everyone comes along to show their support. I have been liaising with the president of the GSA and MUOSS to make sure this is as successful as possible, and have been staffing information stalls collecting petitions and letting people know about Wednesday's action. There is also going to be a forum on the issue, with some state government officials agreeing to come and speak, it will be a great opportunity to grill them as to why precisely they deny travel concessions to such a large section of the student population.

I am also trying to get a campaign around Attendant Carer funding for tertiary students started. I think it outrageous that students miss out on higher education because they don't receive funding for a carer, without whom they cannot physically attend classes or study. Therefore I have the recommendation below, but also a attempting to spread a survey being undertaken by YouthLaw, alongside YDAS (Youth Disability Advocacy Service), to determine the full effect of this on students.

I also continue to be involved in Students for Palestine, with our hugely successful Palestine Solidarity Week last month. Countless people came to look at the exhibition, outlining the history of the creation of Israel on Palestinian land and the frequent massacres and atrocities committed by Israel against the Palestinians and their neighbours such as Lebanon. The music, the shisha pipe and the halal barbeque created a real atmosphere. It was wonderful to see the Melbourne University Islamic Society (UMIS) host a stall at the event.. The event showed to students involved in UMIS that the union does not buy into the stereotyping of Muslims prevalent in the media. Given the On Wednesday 180 people turned up to hear Antony Loewenstein speak. A prominent Jewish critic of Israel, he spoke on the need for more Jewish people to feel confident to oppose Israel's actions, and how there is nothing anti-Semitic about criticising Israel's military attacks on innocent civilians. The week finished with the Feast, attended by over 300 people, who enjoyed amazing home-cooked middle eastern food, a live oud performance (a traditional middle eastern instrument) and comedy from one of the "Salam Café" crew. It was great to have so many people celebrating a culture that is being destroyed and denigrated on a daily basis. It is outrageous that people in the union are still attempting to block funding for such a cultural awareness event, particularly when as Welfare Officer my job involves tackling racism. Perhaps I should only concern myself with white, English speaking students and ignore the vast number of Muslim and Arab students on campus who suffer racism, discrimination and harassment here on campus and around the city.

Recommendation 1:

UMSU recognises that students with physical disabilities requiring a full-time attendant carer receive federal funding for such a carer during primary and secondary school. USMU also recognises that these students stop receiving this funding when entering

tertiary education, and that this is a major barrier to these students attending university and gaining tertiary qualifications. Therefore UMSU calls on the Rudd Government to provide funding for attendant carers for students undertaking any kind of tertiary study.

Recommendation 2:

1. UMSU recognizes that many students work long hours on top of their study in order to make ends meet. UMSU therefore condemns the proposed HECS HELP volunteer scheme, as it will only benefit wealthier students and not those who need the HECS fee reduction.
2. UMSU recognises that the Bradley Review does not go far enough to tackle student poverty. It also recognizes that a voucher system, where funding follows students not institutions, will prevent already underfunded universities from receiving crucial resources. UMSU condemns the governments implementation of a deregulated, demand-driven funding scheme. UMSU also calls on the government to
 - a. Lower the age of independence to 18
 - b. Increase the Youth Allowance and Austudy payments to at least match the Henderson Poverty Line of \$370 a week.
 - c. Tie Rent Assistance payments to the CPI index.

Welfare Report: Frances Lewis

Students Council, May 8th 2009

The Fairs Fare rally was a huge success. It was really inspiring to so many people turn out to Parliament Steps from some of the small inner city colleges such as Cambridge International which had mobilised of their own accord, and some fiery speeches from the head of the Federation of Indian Students Australia and other groups representing international students. I look forward to continuing to work with these groups to force the state government to stop its racist policy of denying international students concession cards. This is just the first part of tackling the daily harassment that international students face, and the discrimination they face in housing and employment.

Mental Health Week was also great, it was wonderful to have reps from Eating Disorders Australia come with information. It was a small step towards removing the stigma that people suffering from mental illness face on a daily basis, and letting students know there is help to be found.

I am still attempting to get some support for the attendant carer funding and have been looking at possible speakers for a forum on disability rights.

I also attended the 15,000 strong rally against the Australian Building and Construction Commission. It was really inspiring to see so many people come out to oppose the draconian laws of the ABCC. In case you are not familiar with the ABCC, if you are requested to attend an interview with them you have no right to silence and can be fined or jailed for refusing to answer questions, or even for talking to friends or family about the questioning. A friend of mine, a construction worker, was recently called in for suspected "illegal industrial activity" for a 15 minute stopwork he and his workmates held to vote for an OHS rep. I also attended the annual May Day rally which was another inspiring example of workers saying that we will fight for our rights. I am still trying to get on to union reps regarding a workers right forum later in the year. It is students jobs, casualised work in hospitality and retail, that will be hardest hit and unionism will be even more important.

I am also building for the Al-Nakba commemorations. Al Nakba, Arabic for "the catastrophe" is the events of 1948 when hundreds of Palestinian villages were demolished to make way for the state of Israel, entire villages of people massacred, and hundreds of thousands displaced, most who still live in refugee camps today 60 years later. In the face of the continual onslaught against the Palestinians it is crucial we say that Israels creation is not something to be celebrated, but that we want to remember the horrors inflicted and that continue to be inflicted against the Palestinian people.

Welfare Report 5 May 2009
Tristan Clack

The following activities that I have been involved in include:

- Housing discussion which includes but not limited to: discussing housing options that are available to students such as

46 x Studio (Students Only) Full time tertiary or secondary only (we are looking to broaden that definition with council soon)	Market rent 180 x .65 (65% of Market rent) \$117.00 Per week	Size Range 26.55 – 28.89 Square Metres Fit for 1 person only
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The above facility is run by Mission Australia in Seddon (south of Footscray) and applications opened on the 4th of May. With the following criteria:
Please see below for the eligibility criteria

- Over 16 years of age
- Not have over 30,000 in assets
- Full time enrolled tertiary or secondary student (**Only for studio units**)
- Be able to sustain a tenancy financially and generally
- Fall in to the NRAS income limit for eligibility (please see following table)

The next option is located in Barkly St. Footscray
Number and type of units : 71 units - studio, 1BR and 2BR

Project owner : Yarra Community Housing
Project Manager : Yarra Community Housing
Project Partners : Victorian Office of Housing, H3 Alliance
Project Architect : Craig Stoll, Stoll Long Architects
Project Builder : TBA
Completion: October 2009

- Wellbeing week was a success with the delivery of over a thousand wellbeing packs distributed amongst the student population which consisted of mental health information on depression, eating disorders and other common issues felt by students along with health services that are available plus some more sexual health info and condoms.
- The concession cards (Fair Fare campaign) rally after being partly publicized by the welfare department through posters and online social networking tool “facebook” was a success, however some students have expressed that they felt the event was “hijacked” by other causes and left early, thus feeling that their message was lost and ineffective.