

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 12/09

CONFIRMED

2 PM, 19th May 2009

Location: MUVT Room 1&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 (two options)
- 2.2 Minutes from Meeting on 08-05-2009

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 3.1 Environment Department Capital Expenditure
- 3.2 Gaza Motion
- 3.3 Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion
- 3.4 Cage Free Campus Society
- 3.5 Thank you Candice Motion

4. MU Student Union Limited

- 4.1 Report from Justin Baré
- 4.2 Corporate Charges Invoice
- 4.3 Balance Sheet Transfer
- 4.4 Food Co-Op

5. Correspondence

- 5.1 Candidates in Perspective
- 5.2 Tuesday Band and BBQ

6. Proposals

- 6.1 Student Newspaper Policy
- 6.2 Book Co-Op

7. Office Bearers' Reports

- 7.1 President

- 7.2 Secretary
- 7.3 Activities
- 7.4 Arts
- 7.5 Clubs and Societies
- 7.6 Education Academic Affairs
- 7.7 Education Public Affairs
- 7.8 Environment
- 7.9 Indigenous
- 7.10 Media
- 7.11 Queer
- 7.12 Welfare
- 7.13 Wom*ns
- 8. Standing Committee Reports**
- 9. Other Reports**
- 10. Motions on Notice**
- 11. Other Business**
- 12. Next Meeting**
 - 2pm, 3 June, MUVT Room1/2
- 13. Close**

Meeting opened at: 2.06 PM, by President - Carla Drakeford

Agenda Item 1: Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Carla Drakeford nominates for Chair unopposed.

<p>Motion 1: That Carla Drakeford chair the meeting Moved: Carla Drakeford CWD</p>
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1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So Acknowledged

1.3 Attendance

Students' Council

John Shipp, James Smith, Kyle Dadleh, Clinton Markwell, Rudolph Hosri, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Brendan Thomas-Noone, Goldie Pergl, Liam Byrne, Phoebe Kelloway, Onagh Bishop, Dominique Ottobre, Sisi Ying, Dan Musil, Taylor Kendall.

Office Bearers

Rachel Barrett (Environment), Stefania Capogreco (Queer), Ezekiel Gould (Queer), Kyle Lancaster (Indigenous), Chris Kloester (Activities), David Liubinas (Activities), Tristan Clack (Welfare), Bhakthi Puvanthiran (Media), Sadia Schneider (Education –Public), Frances Lewis (Welfare), Tim Arnot (Education- Public), Carla Drakeford (President), Zoe Sanders (Media), Gillian Kilby (Media), Piper O'Dowd (Clubs and Societies), Shaun Khoo (Secretary), Sam Cossar-Gilbert (Environment), Gemma Leigh-Dodds (Education Academic), Yoshua Wakeham (Media).

Taylor Kendall arrives at 2.34 PM

Yoshua Wakeham seeks clarification to the motion tabled by Dominique Ottobre. This motion is then amended accordingly, via the speaking list.

**James Smith leaves at 2.39 PM and proxies to Clinton Markwell
Charlie Goodman arrives at 2.42 PM**

Procedural Motion: To move to a vote

Moved: David Liubinas

CARRIED For: 9 Against: 7

Motion 2: Nyx's lack of reporting to Students' Council be not considered in light of the fact that the wom*n's committee has met and has at least one quorate meeting in the time period under question.

Moved: Dominique Ottobre

Seconded: Bhakthi Puvanenthiran

CARRIED For: 11 Against: 5

For: 11 – Taylor Kendall, Goldie Pergl, Jessie Overton-Skinner, Rudolph Hosri, Liam Byrne, Josh Schmidt via Phoebe Kelloway, Phoebe Kelloway, Dan Musil, Dominique Ottobre, Onagh Bishop, Brendan Thomas-Noone.

Against: John Shipp, James Smith via Clinton Markwell, Clinton Markwell, Sisi Ying, Kyle Dadleh

Motion 3: The secretary's membership report is ruled out of order as it is in breach of section 51.1e of the UMSU constitution.

Moved: Liam Byrne

Seconded: Phoebe Kelloway

Is read out to Students' Council by the Chair and further clarification is sought –section 51.1e of the constitution is read out.

Further clarification is sought.

The Chair recommends an adjournment of Membership until next meeting.

Justin Baré is invited to speak and advises Students' Council that perhaps they should seek legal advice with the constitution.

The Chair moves to suggest an adjournment. Due to conjecture the Chair moves a procedural to put the vote.

Procedural Motion: To put Motion 3

Moved: from the Chair

CARRIED

Motion 3: That the secretary's membership report is ruled out of order as it is in breach of section 51.1e of the UMSU constitution.

Moved: Liam Byrne

Seconded: Phoebe Kelloway

LOST For: 3 Against: 11 Abstentions: 2

For: Josh Schmidt via Phoebe Kelloway, Phoebe Kelloway, Liam Byrne

Against: Goldie Pergl, Jessie Overton-Skinner, Rudolph Hosri, Onagh Bishop, Dominique Ottobre, Brendan Thomas-Noone, John Shipp, James Smith via Clinton Markwell, Clinton Markwell, Sisi Ying, Kyle Dadleh

Abstentions: Taylor Kendall, Dan Musil

Onagh Bishop tables motion to defer the membership matter.

**Sisi Ying leaves at 3.00PM and proxies to Goldie Pergl
Onagh Bishop leaves at 3.04 PM and proxies to Dominique Ottobre**

Quorum count -11

Motion 4: That the Students' Council defer consideration of this membership matter until next meeting of council with sufficient documentation of committee meetings.

Moved: Onagh Bishop

Seconded: Liam Byrne

CARRIED

For: 7

Against: 6

Abstentions: 2

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

A speaking list is drawn up to discuss agenda order. A document named NTEU Motion is circulated. The following motions to change the agenda are discussed and put to the vote:

- Frances Lewis moves NTEU motion to Agenda Item 2.1
- Dominique Ottobre moves, on block –all Office Bearer Reports without recommendations to Agenda Item 2.2
- Sam Cossar-Gilbert moves the Environment Department Report to Agenda Item 2.3
- David Liubinas moves that standing orders are suspended to include the Activities Report.

Motion 5: That standing orders be suspended to include the NTEU motion at Agenda Item 2.1
Motion:

The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work, and supports the National Tertiary Education Union strike action this Thursday, 21st May 2009. UMSU will show this support by effectively shutting down. No office bearer is to come to work on Thursday, and we highly recommend that they join the picket line. UMSU calls on all students to similarly support their staff by not coming on to campus this Thursday

Moved: Frances Lewis

Seconded: Phoebe Kelloway

CARRIED

For: 12

Against: 3

Motion 6: That we move on bloc all Office Bearer reports without recommendations to Agenda Item 2.2:

President

Activities

Arts

Clubs and Societies

Education Academic

Indigenous

Welfare (Tristan Clack –both reports)

Welfare (Frances -08-05-09)

Wom*ns

Media)

Moved: Dominique Ottobre

Seconded: Goldie Pergl

CWD

Motion 7: That the Environment Office Bearers' Report is moved from Agenda Item 3.1 to Agenda Item 2.3

Moved: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Seconded: Rachel Barrett

CWD

Motion 8: That standing orders be suspended to include the Activities Report

Moved: David Liubinas

Seconded: Piper O'Dowd

CWD

Agenda Item 2.1 NTEU Motion

Frances Lewis speaks to the motion which reads:

Motion

The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work, and supports the National Tertiary Education Union strike action this Thursday, 21st May 2009. UMSU will show its support this support by effectively shutting down. No office bearer is to come to work on Thursday, and we highly recommend that they join the picket line. UMSU calls on all students to similarly support their staff by not coming on to campus this Thursday.

Moved: Frances Lewis
Seconded: Phoebe Kelloway

Justin Baré leaves at 3.10 PM

Speaking list is taken and read out.

Bhakthi Puvanenthiran and Carla Drakeford leave at 3.17 PM

Kaitlin Ferris takes the Chair, reads the established speaking list and adds to it.

Procedural Motion: That a time limit of 30 seconds be set and the speaking list closed during the next speaker.

Moved: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

CARRIED For: 9 Against: 5

Discussion via the speaking list continues and the speaking list is closed.

David Liubinas leaves at 3.21 PM

John Shipp moves an amended motion which reads:

Motion

The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work, and supports the National Tertiary Education Union strike action this Thursday, 21st May 2009. UMSU calls on all students to similarly support their staff by not coming on to campus this Thursday.

Moved: John Shipp

Discussion via the speaking list occurs in 30 second intervals.

Liam Byrne moves a foreshadowed motion which is the original motion moved by Frances Lewis and Seconded by Phoebe Kelloway.

Points of Order are clarified by the Chair.

Procedural Motion: To put this motion to a vote

Moved: John Shipp

CARRIED For: 9 Against: 7

Motion 9: The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work, and supports the National Tertiary Education Union strike action this Thursday, 21st May 2009. UMSU calls on all students to similarly support their staff by not coming on to campus this Thursday.

Moved: John Shipp

CARRIED For: 9 Against: 6 Abstentions: 1

The Chair advises that the Motion moved by John Shipp has been passed and therefore the foreshadowed motion lapses.

Speaking list continues.

Procedural Motion: That standing orders be suspended to re-vote on this motion due to confusion of the amendments.

Moved: from the Chair

CARRIED For: 12 Against: 3

Motion 9: The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the demands of university staff for a fairer deal at work, and supports the National Tertiary Education Union strike action this Thursday,

21st May 2009. UMSU calls on all students to similarly support their staff by not coming on to campus this Thursday.

Moved: John Shipp

CWD

Agenda Item 2.2 Office Bearers' Reports

Motion 11: That we move on bloc all Office Bearer reports without recommendations:

President

Activities

Arts

Clubs and Societies

Education Academic

Indigenous

Welfare (Tristan Clack –both reports)

Welfare (Frances -08-05-09)

Wom*ns

Media

Moved: Dominique Ottobre

Seconded: Goldie Pergl

CWD

Goldie Pergl leaves at 3.36 PM, proxies to Brendan Thomas-Noone and returns shortly.

Agenda Item 2.3 Environment Office Bearers' Report

Sam Cossar-Gilbert Speaks to the motions listed within the Environment Report.

Motion 12: That Students' Council approve the spending of the Environment Committee of the sum of \$100 on an electric frying pan, a toaster and a kettle to be used for the 'Ride-to-Uni-Breakfasts' put on by the Environment Department.

Moved: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Seconded: Rachel Barrett

CWD

Motion 13: That \$1000 be authorised to reimburse UMSU office bearers for buying food for 'Play with your Food' and to pay UMSU entertainment for gas, to be taken from the Whole of Union Fund line.

Moved: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Seconded: Rachel Barrett

CWD

Agenda Item 3: Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Option 1 (Meeting 10/09 28-04-09) is withdrawn by John Shipp

It is noted that the mover and seconder for motion 8 has not been recorded. The Chair asks that any record of this be brought to the next meeting.

Motion 14: That the minutes from Meeting 11/09 08-05-09 (option 2) be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: from the Chair

CWD

Motion 15: That the minutes from Meeting 11/09 08-05-09 (inquorate) be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: from the Chair

CARRIED

3.42 PM - Quorum Count –still quorate

Agenda Item 4: Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.2 Gaza Motion

Gillian Kilby and Yoshua Wakeham leave at 3.45 PM

Sadia Schneider speaks to the motion as mover. Taylor Kendall passes his right to speak to the motion as seconder to Liam Byrne who speaks to the motion.

Procedural Motion: To put the motion Moved: John Shipp CARRIED For: 10 Against: 5

Charlie Goodman requests that names be recorded for this vote.

Motion 16: 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 off 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: Liam Byrne CARRIED For: 7 Against: 6 Abstentions:3 For: Josh Schmidt via Phoebe Kelloway, Phoebe Kelloway, Liam Byrne, Onagh Bishop via Dominique Ottobre, Dominique Ottobre Taylor Kendall and Dan Musil. Against: Goldie Pergl, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Kyle Dadleh, James Smith via Clinton Markwell, Clinton Markwell, John Shipp Abstentions: Brendan Thomas-Noone, Sisi Ying via Goldie Pergl and Rudolph Hosri

4.3 Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion

3.52 PM -a document is circulated entailing two motions. For the purposes of the minutes it will be referred to as Agenda Item 4.3 (Vandalism Motions), they read:

Motion 1: That no anti-union material be displayed in any area of Union House. In particular, this includes images of prominent Liberal party members, the Liberal party logo, or anything promoting the Liberal party's anti-union policies.

Moved: Phoebe Kelloway Seconded: Frances Lewis

Motion 2: That no signs supporting the War on Terror be displayed in any area of Union House. As an anti-militaristic union such signs go against our constitution and go against basic union principles of being against war and discrimination. This includes signs promoting nation states that are currently occupying territory outside their borders

Moved: Frances Lewis Seconded: Phoebe Kelloway

Kyle Lancaster speaks to the Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion:

Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion 17: That UMSU condemns the actions of Office Bearers who have postered 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 Departments right to convey ant legal political message it so chooses that is within the regulations of the Union's constitution. Moved: Sean Armistead Seconded: Kyle Lancaster
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The Chair advises that all motions will be tabled and discussed together. A speaking list is taken.

Procedural Motion: That the tabled (Vandalism Motions) be struck as they are unconstitutional Moved: Charlie Goodman CARRIED For: 10 Against: 6 For: Sisi Ying via Goldie Pergl, Goldie Pergl, Brendan Thomas-Noone, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Rudolph Hosri, Kyle Dadleh, John Shipp, Dan Musil, James Smith via Clinton Markwell and Clinton Markwell.
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Against: Liam Byrne, Josh Schmidt via Phoebe Kelloway, Phoebe Kelloway, Onagh Bishop via Dominique Ottobre, Dominique Ottobre and Taylor Kendall

Rudolph Hosri leaves and proxies to Mathew Incerti at 3.59 PM

Discussion via a speaking list occurs

Sadia Schneider leaves at 4.03 PM

Kyle Lancaster moves a motion:

Motion 19: That Students' Council censure those who have defended the silencing of the Indigenous Office and vandalism of that office.

Moved: Kyle Lancaster

Seconded: John Shipp

Dan Musil leaves at 4.07

Previous speaking list is continued and added to.

Phoebe Kelloway leaves at 4.12 PM

Quorum lost

Secretary Shaun Khoo suggests Students' Council remains and utilizes the half an hour left to discuss Agenda Item 5: MU Student Union Limited.

Goldie Pergl suggests discussion and a motion regarding Agenda Item: 5.4 Food Co-Op

Meeting closed at: 4.15 PM by Kaitlin Ferris

Agenda Item 9: Next Meeting

Next meeting on: 2 PM Wednesday, 3rd June 2009

Agenda Item 10: Close

Certified by Chair:

Signed:

Dated:

1.6 Membership - Attendance and Reporting

Name	A 31 March	A 22 April	A 8 May	R 31 March	R 22 April	R 8 May
Carla Drakeford	1	1	0	1	1	1
Shaun Khoo	1	1	1	1	1	1
Chris Kloester	1	0	0	0	1	1
David Liubinas	1	1	0	0	1	1
Adelaide Rief	0	1	1	1	1	1
Chris Summers	1	0	1	1	1	1
Katherine Klaus	1	1	1	1	1	1
Piper O'Dowd	1	1	0	1	1	1
Tim Arnot	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sadia Schneider	0 (late)	0	0	1	1	1
Laura Harris	1	0	1	1	1	1
Gemma Leigh-Dodds	1	0	1	1	1	1
Sam Cossar-Gilbert	1	1	0	1	1	1
Rachel Barrett	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ruby Warber	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kyle Lancaster	1	0	0	1	1	1
Stefania Capogreco	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ezekial Gould	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tristan Clack	1	0	0	1	1	1
Frances Lewis	1	1	0	1	1	1
Cosima Nyx Matthews	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bhakthi Puvanenthiran	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gillian Kilby	1	1	0	1	1	1
Yoshua Wakeham	1	0	0	1	1	1
Zoe-Zora Sanders	1	1	1	1	1	1
Onagh Bishop		1	1	0		
Liam Byrne	0 (late)		1	1		
Zoe Edwards		0	0	0		
Stephanie Gold		1	0	0		
Rudolph Hosri		0	1	0		
Phoebe Kelloway		1	1	1		
Clinton Markwell		1	1	1		
Dan Musil		1	0	0		
Dominique Ottobre		1	1	1		
Jesse Overton-Skinner (in effect from 7 April, 2009)	N/A		1	1		
Goldie Pergl		1	1	1		
Josh Schmidt		1	1	0		
James Smith		1	0	0		
Brendan Thomas-Noone		1	1	0		
Taylor Kendall		1	1	0		
Kyle Dadleh		1	1	1		
Sisi Ying		1	1	1		
Scott Bloodworth		0	0	0		

Legend
A=Attended?
R=Reported?
1=Yes
0=No

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
- 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 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), Yoshua 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

<p>Motion 2: That the agenda be adopted Moved: from the chair CARRIED</p>

<p>Motion 3: Adjournment for 5 minutes Moved: John Shipp Seconded: Clinton Markwell CWD</p>
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<p>Motion 4: Meeting resumed Moved: John Shipp Seconded: Clinton Markwell CARRIED</p>
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<p>Motion 5: Suspension of standing orders to allow misplaced proxies Moved: from Chair</p>
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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:

University of Melbourne Student Union



Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 10 /09

UNCONFIRMED (Option 2)

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
- 1.4 Apologies
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- 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

David Haidon VCASU

Matt Incerti

Jackson Reynolds

Miranda Kiraly

Oliver Walsh

Mark Dwyer

Chris Lewis

Michael Hyine

Robert Langdon

David Evans

Jonathan Donagan

Charlie Goodman

Rachael Lim

John Shipp (minute taker)

Deleted: Margaret Thatcher

Deleted: Dangey

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), Yoshua 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

Shaun Khoo, Secretary is not present to report proxies

Carla Drakeford has been CC'd into the proxies for Dominique Ottobre and Onagh Bishop

Motion 2: To adjourn the meeting for 5 minutes so copies of the emails can be provided

Moved: John Shipp Seconded: Clinton Markwell

CWD

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Motion 3: To resume the meeting

Moved: John Shipp Seconded: Clinton Markwell

CWD

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Motion 4: To accept proxies from Onagh Bishop and Dominique Ottobre as email evidence has been provided

Moved: Taylor Kendall Seconded: Dan Musil

CWD

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Motion 5: To accept proxies from Steph Gold and James Smith in good faith that they have been received

Moved: John Shipp Seconded: Clinton Markwell

LOST For: 1 Against: 11

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Onagh Bishop to Taylor Kendall
Dominique Ottobre to Dan Musil

1.6 Membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 6: That the agenda be adopted
Moved: Carla Drakeford
CARRIED

Deleted: 2
Deleted: from the chair

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes from Meeting on 22-04-2009

Motion 7: Confirmation of Minutes from the Meeting on 22-04-2009
Moved: Goldie Pergl Seconded: Dave Liubinas
CWD

Deleted: Motion 3:
Adjournment for 5 minutes ¶
Moved: John Shipp . . . Seconded: Clinton Markwell ¶
CWD ¶

2.2 Minutes from Meeting on 27-04-2009

Motion 8: Confirmation of Minutes from the Meeting on 27-04-09
Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
CWD

¶
Motion 4: Meeting resumed ¶
Moved: John Shipp . . .
Seconded: Clinton Markwell ¶
CARRIED ¶

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 5: Suspension of standing orders to allow misplaced proxies ¶
Moved: from Chair ¶
CARRIED . For:
11 . . Against:1 ¶

Deleted: 6
Deleted: from Chair
Deleted: 7
Deleted: from Chair

Motion 9: 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'.
*That the addition of an ex-officio, non-voting member be added to the following committees:
 -Indigenous Committee
 -Wom*ns Committee
 -Queer Committee
Moved: Goldie Pergl Seconded: Jackson Reynolds
CWD

Deleted: 8

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

Motion 10: The Special General Meeting to consider the VCASU-UMSU merger be held on the 26th 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

Deleted: 9

Minutes of Students' Council meeting held 29/04/09

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:

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 11/09

UNCONFIRMED

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:

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

Cage Free Campus Society

That Students' Council joins with the Cage Free Campus Society in calling for all University of Melbourne eateries to go "cage-free" and that a Students' Council representative presents a resolution to the University Council calling for a complete cage-free egg policy on campus.

Moved: Katelyn Grimmer

Seconded: Sam Cossar-Gilbert

Thank You Candice Motion

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

Memorandum



To: Carla Drakeford, UMSU President
Shaun Khoo, UMSU Secretary

From: Justin Baré, UMSU Manager

Date: April 30, 2009

Subject: Corporate and Administrative Services – MUSUL Charges

Below is an extract from my report to Meeting 3 of Students' Council.

The extract relates to UMSU's liability to MUSUL for payment of an amount specified in the Facilities and Services Agreement for the provision of corporate and administrative services.

MUSUL has indicated that it wishes to pursue this matter and has issued UMSU an invoice for the period January 1 – March 31, 2009 in accordance with the Facilities and Services Agreement.

It is plausible that MUSUL will be open to a negotiated agreement that is in different terms to those provided in the Facilities and Services Agreement.

In the first instance it is essential that Students' Council commence some process to resolve this matter. It may be plausible to initiate a special meeting of Students' Council, an informal meeting for Councillors or a meeting Finance sub-committee to start these discussions.

As indicated below MUSUL may be open to some arrangement which does not have a direct bearing on the operational budget for UMSU in 2009. It may be that UMSU considers drawing on a small component of its reserves to make some payment to MUSUL.

1. **Administrative Services – MUSUL**

Background

In the aftermath of the liquidation of the Melbourne University Student Union Incorporated (MUSUi) the University established MUSUL as a wholly owned subsidiary to take on certain function previously performed by MUSUi. These included the provision of various student services, management and operation of Union House and supporting student amenity generally.

The University also convened an Interim Student Representative Council (ISRC) which had the function of establishing the nature and structure of a new representative organisation. This process culminated in the incorporation of UMSU in November 2005.

UMSU and MUSUL entered into a contractual arrangement - the Facilities and Services Agreement – that governs the inter-organisational relationship. In particular it specifies

that MUSUL will provide UMSU with services such as Finance, IT (including internet access), Human Resources, office space and capital equipment (including all office equipment, computers etc.). UMSU does not pay for use of gas, water or electricity.

The Facilities and Services Agreement also requires UMSU to pay 5% of its turnover to MUSUL to partially offset the cost of providing administrative services and infrastructure to UMSU.

MUSUL estimates that the cost of this provision was around \$320 000 in 2008. In 2006 and 2007 the UMSU Budget included payments to MUSUL of around \$30 000 as a contribution to the costs associated with MUSUL's support of UMSU. In 2008 no allocation was made in the UMSU budget.

MUSUL Budget

In 2007 and 2008 MUSUL has returned an operating deficit. For 2009 the MUSUL Board has determined that MUSUL must not operate at a loss.

Accordingly, MUSUL is seeking to control costs and generate income to comply with this direction.

The cost of provision of support to UMSU has been identified as a significant issue for MUSUL in meeting the Board's direction.

Issues

MUSUL has the capacity to insist on UMSU complying with the obligation to pay a fee for administrative services as set out in the Facilities and Services Agreement.

Any payment of this type – even at the levels established in 2006 and 2007 – would have significant operational effects for UMSU. MUSUL has indicated that it wishes to pursue this matter with UMSU, however, is mindful of the operational effect a reduction in expenditure in 2009 would have.

It is pertinent to note that:

- The deliberate division of activities between MUSUL and UMSU was established prior to the incorporation of UMSU by the University's move from an integrated student union structure to the current split structure;
- MUSUL benefits from the levels of activity that UMSU generates within Union House. Income from student union membership, commercial tenancies, MUSUL operated commercial outlets and advertising in and around Union House, is dependent upon numbers of students entering the building. Reductions in levels of activity in Union House would have a negative impact on MUSUL's capacity to generate these forms of income;
- Whilst the estimate of the cost of provision of corporate and administrative services to UMSU may be excessive it is reasonable to suggest that the cost of UMSU undertaking these functions on its own would cost in excess of \$250 000 per year.

Additional Issue

In order to fund the initial operations of the ISRC/UMSU MUSUL provided \$500 000 as an operating loan in 2005. In 2007 the UMSU audit indicated that a component of this loan - \$242 479 – had not been repaid to MUSUL. MUSUL's audit also revealed that there was an amount owing to MUSUL. UMSU has no legal entitlement to these funds.

These funds have been invested by UMSU as part of its cash reserve and 50% of the interest generated by the investment contributes to the operating income of UMSU. MUSUL has indicated its desire to have these funds repaid. This would have some impact on UMSU's income.

2009

Student' Council will need to determine a strategy for responding to MUSUL's likely demands in relation to contribution towards the cost of corporate and administrative services and the repayment of outstanding funds.

These matters are likely to be the subject of negotiation between UMSU and MUSUL in 2009.

Justin Baré

UMSU Manager

Candidates in Perspective

13 May 2009

Dear Students' Council

I am writing to you on the advice of Shaun Khoo to suggest an amendment to the Electoral Regulations in regards to the duties of the Returning Officer, which would extend the current publication of Candidate Statements to better inform voters.

It is in the interest of UMSU to increase student voter turnout. In the spirit of furthering this goal, it is in the interest of the Students' Council to consider this idea on how we can improve UMSU election.

The grain of this idea, named "Candidates in Perspective", is to provide a poster that contains in highly terse terms the views and policies of running candidates. This is done by splitting the poster into a grid organized by candidate/tickets. In every grid of equal size, each ticket (or independent candidate) is allowed to place their name, picture/logo, website, and 5 points about their views and policies. To help address the problem of feeder parties, every party is requested in the spirit of disclosure to state affiliation to any other parties. Ensuring that each of the grids is equally as terse as another, allows the voters to have an overall view about the candidate pools, hence enabling them to be aware of which parties are most suitable to them. In addition, it will help level off the playing fields for newer parties, as newer parties will not have to explain as much to those who have already read about them from the "Candidate in Perspective" poster.

I have listed below the suggested amendments and responsibilities required for the successful implementation of this proposal.

1. The Returning Officer must collect information from all candidates including name, views, position standing for, associated group, affiliation to other parties, and policies.
2. Using this information, the Returning Officer must create and put up a poster available for the voters' viewing, containing in brief form all the information collected in point one.
3. The Returning Officer should also display the poster on the website.
4. The Returning Officer must ensure that the poster is displayed during the election, with at least one present on the Union House's public notice board.

It may also be worthwhile for the summary to be published in Farrago. This would help to enhance its exposure to potential voters, thus making it an excellent medium for conveying this information.

In addition any extra space in the poster can be used to provide general information, for example directing readers to seek further information about the election in Farrago.

This idea has been formed with the purpose of creating a smoother and happier period of election for the duration of the student union voting period, as well as to ensure that the policies of all candidates are readily accessible to student voters. In addition, we believe that this will make the election process a much better opportunity for the expression of the student community's desires.

If this idea is to be effectively implemented, a proposed amendment to UMSU Electoral Regulations regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Returning Officer should be recommended to the Electoral Tribunal.

Sincerely,

Brian Khuu

Allan Smith

Correspondence
Issues J09-A10027 – J09-A10030
Tuesday Band and BBQ

The Raise an Issue system was established to assist students in contacting their student representatives if they were unsure of who to contact or unable to meet with a student representative. The following issues have been raised and are relevant to Students' Council. In this document the personal details of the students have been removed because it is stated on the forms that their details will not be published or disclosed to a third party outside of UMSU. Students' Councillors are able to inspect copies of the forms received by contacting the Secretary.

J09-A10027

Relates to: Tuesday BBQS!

Description: Bring them back please! I can't function without them!

J09-A10028

Relates to: Union issues

Description: Cancellation of Tuesday music & BBQ @ Northcourt!
... Wa happened?!

J09-A10029

Relates to: Student Union Issues

Description: Just wondering why there was no sausage sizzle dizzle and no rocking band playing? It was the whole (reason) I came to uni today. Not impressed...

J09-A10030

Relates to: Union Services

Description: The Tuesday music and BBQ at north court was cancelled!!

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy



Introduction

On Friday, 27 March 2009, a Draft Student Newspaper Policy Discussion paper was released. Submissions were solicited from student representatives, the Media Collective and the wider University community.

Aims

The aims of this policy development process are to:

- Develop an editorial policy in line with student expectations
- Resolve tensions in the regulatory framework governing *Farrago*
- Ensure a level of consistency in the approach to producing *Farrago* from year to year

Regulatory Framework

Farrago is governed by three documents, the Constitution, Procedures for Student Representatives and Financial Regulations.

The Media Department, which publishes *Farrago*, has the aim of promoting “greater Student participation in all forms of media” and providing “opportunities for Students to gain skills in publishing, editing and design.” (C77) The Media Officers, who are elected annually, are responsible for producing *Farrago*, ensuring “all Media Department publications do not contravene the aims and purposes of UMSU” and furthering the aims of the Department. (C59)

Procedures for Student Representatives describes *Farrago* as “an independent publication of UMSU” and gives the Media Officers “discretion as to the content of each edition”, but also reinforces the requirement that “*Farrago* shall not publish material that is contrary to the aims and objectives of UMSU.”

Policy Development

This document presents proposed policy. The proposed policy presented here is based on the editorial policy of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (current 1 March 2009), ideas from previous attempts at producing Student Newspaper Policy at the University of Melbourne and elsewhere in Australia and submissions received here from the Media Officers, Media Collective and students generally.

Where substantive changes have been made to the original draft policy, end-notes have been included which refer to the submission which the amendment was based on. A total of six submissions were received, of which three proposed some amendments.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

Contents

1. Introduction and Values
2. Editorial Responsibility
3. Student News
4. Student Opinion
5. Topical and Factual Content
6. Creative Content
7. User-generated Content
8. Content Standards
9. Student Politics and Elections
10. Complaints and Grievances
11. Supporting Community and Charitable Causes
12. Sponsorship and External Funding

1. Introduction and Values

This shall be the policy of UMSU Inc and it shall apply in all relevant matters relating to the Media Department and its production of *Farrago*.

Farrago has a long history of providing various students a voice on campus. Founded in 1925, *Farrago* has existed through multiple incarnations of the Student Union, including the Students' Representative Council (1907-1989), Melbourne University Student Union Inc (1989-2004), Interim Students' Representative Council (2005) and the present UMSU/MUSUL structure.

UMSU is committed to the following values in the publication of *Farrago*:

- Truth
- Balance
- Independence
- Respectful discourse
- The rights of all groups, including the marginalised, to be heard

2. Editorial Responsibility

UMSU recognises that the Secretary is the publisher in name only and has no power to determine the content of *Farrago* or to authorise its publication.

Ultimate editorial responsibility lies with the Media Officers. The Media Officers shall have the exclusive privilege of determining the content of *Farrago* including but not limited to soliciting content, publishing content or not publishing content. The Media Officers are only obliged to publish two types of content, unless they are not submitted on time, breach this policy, content standards¹ or there are legal reasons to not publish: Officer Reports and election coverage which includes details of polling places, times and candidate statements.

The Media Officers shall also be responsible for ensuring that *Farrago* abides by all necessary legal requirements, including but not limited to defamation, privacy

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

and tape-recording. The Media Officers shall ensure that adequate training is available for students participating in Media Department activities such that they are aware of and abide by the necessary legal requirements.

The Media Officers shall also be responsible for:

- Avoiding all conflicts of interest and ensuring that any potential conflict of interest is adequately disclosed.
- The development, administration and application of a style guide.
- Ensuring that all submissions which are received are acknowledged and authors are advised of editorial decisions.²
- Ensuring that all authors of published content are satisfied with the work that is credited to them before publication including,
 - Ensuring that authors are informed of and satisfied with substantive edits
 - Where a Club, Society or Group has submitted content for publication that the Club, Society or Group is informed of and satisfied with substantive edits.³

As set out in rule 59 of the Constitution and rule 9.2 of Procedures for Student Representatives, it is the responsibility of the Media Officers to ensure that Media Department publications do not contravene the aims, purposes and objectives of UMSU. For the purpose of these rules, the aims, purposes and objectives of UMSU are those which are included in its Statement of Purposes:

1. To advance the welfare and interests of Students;
2. To represent Students of the University within the University and to the community;
3. To provide amenities and services, principally for Students and other members of the University community, and incidentally to the public, but in all cases not inconsistent with agreements made with MU Student Union Limited or the University, as the case may be, from time to time;
4. To provide an independent framework for Student social and political activity;
5. To develop, maintain and support Student clubs, societies and associational life generally;
6. To promote and defend the rights of Students to education on the basis of equality, without regard to race, colour, sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, physical disability, mental illness, economic circumstances, political religious or ideological conviction, or national or social origin;
7. To provide a democratic and transparent forum in which Students' affairs and interests can be governed in an effective and accountable manner; and
8. To promote free and accessible government-funded education.

3. Student News

News content relates to reporting of the facts involved in and surrounding current events and affairs.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

News content shall be as unbiased, independent and accurate as possible. Much of the news content included in *Farrago* shall relate to Student interests.

Interviewees shall not be paid. Interviewees are free to answer “no comment” to any question. No legal indemnity or promise of legal assistance is granted by UMSU to an interviewee for any legal actions which may arise in relation to their comments.

Once a student has identified themselves as participating in the production of content for *Farrago*, it shall be assumed that comments are *on the record* unless it is agreed otherwise.

Comments may be:

- *On the record*: what is said may be disclosed and attributed to the interviewee or source,
- *On background* or *non-attributable*: what is said may be disclosed but not attributed to the interviewee or source, or
- *Off the record*: what is said may not be disclosed or attributed to the interviewee or source.

Students participating in producing student news shall abide by all relevant laws and may not use concealed recording equipment.

Information about the author’s background (including employment, affiliations or activity) which may be relevant to the story should be succinctly reported alongside the article.

News articles should be prepared with due care, especially when dealing with sensitive subjects such as sexuality, violence or suicide. It is important to ensure that the language and tone is not disrespectful and that the article does not encourage or advise others to do harm to themselves or others.

4. Student Opinion

Content which presents the particular point of view or opinion of the author may be published in *Farrago*. The disclaimer, prescribed in rule 9 of Procedures for Student Representatives shall be sufficient for informing the public that the opinions expressed in *Farrago* are not necessarily those of UMSU. The Media Officers are free to publish an additional disclaimer alongside opinion pieces to remind readers that the opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Media Officers, Media Department or UMSU.

An opinion piece is bound by the same rules relating to Student News except the need to be unbiased and independent. An opinion piece must still present facts accurately, abide by relevant laws and treat interviewees and sources properly.

In making a decision whether or not to publish content which expresses the particular point of view or opinion of the author, the Media Officers shall not discriminate between content based on the opinion which is expressed.⁴

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

Opinions which disagree with or criticise UMSU, its position, actions or conduct may be published in *Farrago*. The publication of diverse and contrary views, even if they question the aims, purposes and objectives of UMSU shall be considered part of the aim of UMSU to “provide a democratic and transparent forum in which Students’ affairs and interests can be governed in an effective and accountable manner.” The publication of diverse and dissenting views is also consistent with the values of balance, independence and the rights of all groups, including the marginalised, to be heard.

5. Topical and Factual Content

Topical and factual content covers a broad range of content which is not news, opinion or creative content. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, research articles, reviews and interviews.

Such articles must abide by the same rules as News content regarding being independent and accurate, the treatment of interviewees or sources and the disclosure of relevant aspects of the author’s background. Topical and factual content may present the particular point of view or opinion of the author.

An extra emphasis shall be placed on accuracy and if the Media Officers deem it necessary, may seek a review from someone with relevant expertise in the area. This may include, but is not limited to, a student undertaking a relevant major or an academic who is an expert in the field.

6. Creative Content

Creative content refers to cartoons, short stories, poems, drawings, paintings and other artistic contributions to *Farrago*.

Creative content may also include satire and parody which may critique the objects which it represents, such as society, the University or UMSU. Such content may be published in the interest of providing a “democratic and transparent forum”. If such satire or parody critiques UMSU, its aims, objectives, purposes, positions, actions or conduct, such content shall be considered part of the aim of UMSU to “provide a democratic and transparent forum” in the same way as Opinion Content.⁵

7. User-generated Content

Content generated by users should be published in *Farrago*, primarily in the form of Letters to the Editor.

A Letter to the Editor or other user-generated content is not bound by the same rules as other types of content. Such content is free to present the view of its author and shall only be edited for legal reasons, grammar or layout (space) considerations. There shall be no guarantee that the facts presented in such content are accurate.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

Publication of a Letter to the Editor shall be a major avenue for anyone exercising a right of reply.

8. Content Standards

Farrago and other Media Department publications may not contravene the aims and purposes of UMSU. A Media Department publication shall not be considered to be in breach of this requirement for simply publishing content which criticises or is in disagreement with UMSU, its purposes, aims, objectives, positions, actions or conduct. The consideration of diverse views is consistent with UMSU's aims to "provide an independent framework for Student social and political activity" and to "provide a democratic and transparent forum in which Students' affairs and interests can be governed in an effective and accountable manner."

In order for material in *Farrago* to contravene this requirement, it must go beyond criticism or dissent from UMSU, its purposes, aims, objectives, positions, actions or conduct.

UMSU recognises that some students contributing to *Farrago* may only be willing to contribute if allowed to remain anonymous or use a pseudonym. In the interests of providing a democratic forum, where all groups have the right to be heard, anonymous or pseudonymous contributions shall be permitted and the Media Officers shall be responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of an anonymous or pseudonymous author's identity. The Media Officers should prevent the use of anonymous or pseudonymous publications from interfering with the values of this policy: truth, balance, independence, respect and the rights of all groups, including the marginalised, to be heard.

The Media Officers may determine as a matter of their discretion, whether to publish content which may be offensive. The Media Officers should include the following considerations in their decision-making process:

- How substantial is the potential of the content to offend?
- What is the contribution of the content to debate or student interest?
- How closely linked is the potential to offend to the substance of the work?
- Will the article cause harm or promote harmful practices?

If an article can be revised so that its substance remains largely intact, but its potential to offend is reduced, then the Media Officers should strongly consider requesting the author to revise it.

If potentially offensive content is highly likely to cause harm or promote harmful practices, it should not be published.

If legal advice is obtained that the publication of potentially offensive content would be in breach of the law, then it should not be published. If the Media Officers decide to disregard legal advice and publish such content, then UMSU will not indemnify the Media Officers or the author from any legal action which arises against them personally from the publication of such content.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

Where errors are discovered, they should be corrected in the next edition of *Farrago*.

9. Student Politics and Elections

UMSU recognises that the student body is free to determine the political alignment of the Media Officers in the annual elections. However, the Media Officers must abide by regulations which forbid the use of UMSU resources not available to all students during an UMSU election. The Media Officers may not use their editorial powers to endorse one or more candidates in the UMSU elections.

Each year an edition of *Farrago* must provide coverage of the UMSU election which shall be available for a period of time that includes the duration of the polling. This edition of *Farrago* must carry candidate policy statements and details of polling in accordance with Electoral Regulations.

Informing the student body about the world of student politics is important. Additional election coverage may be published provided that it is produced by students who do not hold elected positions in UMSU or other student representative associations recognised by the University. This may include but is not necessarily limited to:

- Interviews with candidates
- Reports on candidate debates
- Reports on student political groups
- Opinion pieces

10. Complaints and Grievances

Errors occur at all levels of the Media and Student Media is no different. Where a person feels that they, another person or another group have been treated unfairly, they shall have a right of reply. This right of reply can be exercised by contacting the Media Officers who shall advise what avenues can be taken. These avenues shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the publication of a Letter to the Editor.

If a person feels that their right of reply provides insufficient reparation for the damage caused they may register a complaint. A complaint may only be registered by someone who is affected either as the subject of unfair treatment or as the member of a group which has been treated unfairly.

A complaint in the first instance should be registered with the Media Officers in writing or by email. A complainant is entitled to receive a response and to have their confidentiality respected.

A complaint should be made in a timely manner, no more than five academic days or two weeks, whichever is the lesser, following the release of an edition of *Farrago*. The Media Officers may report on and respond to complaints after this time, but are not required to. Similarly a response to a complaint should be made

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

in a timely manner, which should be no more than five academic days following the receipt of a complaint.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the response received, they may, within five academic days, appeal to the Secretary in writing or by email. The appeal must describe the nature of the complaint and the desired outcome. The Secretary must then convene a meeting of the Media Complaints Committee.

The Media Complaints Committee shall be composed of:

- One Media Officer as a non-voting representative,
- Three voting representatives elected by and from the voting representatives of Students' Council

If a voting representative is the complainant, they will be ineligible to sit on the Media Complaints Committee.

The Media Complaints Committee must meet within five academic days of the appeal being received by the Secretary and may do so electronically or in person. The complainant must be invited to the meeting or included in electronic correspondence. If the membership of the Committee must also be determined, there may be an additional five academic days over which time the Committee must be elected. The Media Complaints Committee may dismiss the complaint, recommend that the Media Officers issue an apology or retraction or refer the matter to Students' Council if it is believed that a more serious penalty is required. In order to make recommend an apology, retraction or more serious penalty, the committee must be convinced that the publication of material mentioned in the complaint constitutes a breach of this policy and/or provisions of the Constitution and Regulations with respect to *Farrago* and Media Department publications. The outcome of the Media Complaints Committee should be reported to Students' Council and if the Media Officers do not comply with the recommendation, Students' Council may direct that they do so.

If the complainant or the Media Officers are not satisfied with the outcome of the Media Complaints Committee, they may appeal to Students' Council by writing to the Secretary.⁶ Students' Council may uphold, overturn or modify the decision. If the complaint remains unresolved then the matter may be referred to a General Meeting called in accordance with rule 16 of the Constitution.

Apart from this process or pursuant to legal advice, Students' Council may not direct the Media Officers to publish or not publish material or otherwise direct the Media Officers with respect to the content of *Farrago*.

11. Supporting Community and Charitable Causes

Farrago may publish content which promotes community and charitable causes. This may be done through publishing opinion or topical and factual pieces written by students or through publishing advertising material from community or charitable groups.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

The Media Officers may waive a part or all of the fees involved in placing advertising material in *Farrago* and may determine if and how much of such fees will be waived. The Media Officers may not provide such waivers for advertising material promoting community or charitable causes in the following circumstances:

- The waiver could be interpreted as an endorsement of a particular religious, political, economic or social point of view.
- The waiver would undermine the aims and purposes of UMSU,
- The waiver would promote a group not in line with UMSU Financial Regulations.

12. Sponsorship and External Funding

The Media Officers and UMSU Staff may solicit advertising material and set the fees for placing advertising material in *Farrago*. External funding may also be accepted, provided that it does not compromise the independence of *Farrago*.

It must be clear that advertising material is not student content. Where this is not immediately obvious, it should be noted alongside the advertising material, "This is a paid advertisement."

The Media Department may, in accordance with Financial Regulations, give preference to environmentally and socially responsible companies and may refuse association with environmentally or socially irresponsible companies.

Proposed Student Newspaper Policy

Notes

¹ The publication of Officer Reports should not occur where it is in breach of this policy or content standards, based on submission P.O.(04-05-2009).

² Based on submission T.L.(01-05-2009).

³ This point was raised by both S.R.(04-05-2009) and T.L.(01-05-2009).

⁴ This statement has been inserted based on submission T.L.(01-05-2009).

⁵ The paragraph on satire has been modified to take into account submission T.L.(01-05-2009).

⁶ This point of appeal has been modified because it seems inappropriate to appeal directly to the Grievance Tribunal and (as of early May) it remains to be seen whether or not the positions on the Tribunal will be filled.

Draft Student Newspaper Policy Discussion Paper Submissions

Date: 27-04-2009

Author's Initials: L.S.

Submission: I endorse the current draft of the Student Newspaper Policy.

Date: 01-05-2009

Author's Initials: T.L.

Submission: I have 2 comments regarding the suggested UMSU draft regulations of

Farrago. The first is a quibble with what has been suggested the second is a broader issue that is not dealt with in the proposed guidelines.

* Why is only UMSU related satire covered by "independant and accurate" guidelines? Surely EVERYTHING should be covered by this principle or nothing at all! The purpose of satire is to critique society and often this is through innacurate representation. Having UMSU singled out and protected by that is ridiculous and also innaproprate. (this refers to #6 discussing creative content)

* Also, having has issues regarding to submitting to Farrago in the past, i think if you are planning to overhaul the Newspaper policy you should include stuipulations related to submissions of work accordingly.

ie.

1) It may sound stupid - but acknowledging (to the best of the editors capabilites) everything that is submitted.

2) To realise that something submitted on behalf of a club/group has a wider impact than just who wrote the piece and to include that set club/group in the process is appropriate.

i.e. An acknowledgment that if an article is submitted by a particular Club, Society or Group, that the Editors should understand that that changes/not including a submitted piece needs to be dealt with in a way that includes consultation within that Club, Society or Group because it does not just effect the person who submitted it.

3) If a piece is to be significantly altered (not just minor edits) or not included in an edition then the person who has submitted should be given the due courtesy of being notified before the publication of the edition. Also if a club/group is involved they should recieve seperate notification.

The lack of any protocol surrounding submissions just allows for rather cowardly lack of accountability from the editors. As elected and paid representatives they should either draw up a set of guidelines for the media department to adhere to, or follow set ones set down by UMSU.

Date: 04-05-2009

Author's Initials: P.O.

Submission: I think that censorship is wrong, except when the article would cause offence to a large number of students.

While I believe that it is important to get information out about the union through the OB columns, I do not think that they should be able to be used to push an OB's political agenda. If they breach *Farrago* article policy, they should not be published.

Date: 04-05-2009

Author's Initials: S.R.

Submission: I believe that the editors ought to ensure that authors are happy with the work that is credited to them, or at least that they vaguely agree with.

Date: 04-05-2009

Authors' Initials (8): F.W.H.P., L.S., B.B., Z.H., J.H., J.N., J.D., E.R.

Submission: I, the undersigned Member of the Media Collective, have read and support the Student Newspaper Draft Policy prepared by the Secretary in consultation with the Media Officers.

I endorse the values it enshrines – truth, balance, independence, respectful discourse and the rights of all groups to be heard – as central to student media.

I agree with the operational framework it establishes for the running of the Media Office and the publishing of *Farrago*, and believe that the policy will resolve some of the tensions in the current Media Department regulatory framework provided by UMSU.

I support this document becoming official policy of UMSU.

Date: 04-05-2009

Authors' Initials (4): G.K., B.P., Z.S., Y.W.

Submission: The Media Office supports the Student Newspaper Draft Policy. We feel that the Policy in its current form establishes clear and fair guidelines for the publishing of *Farrago* and the operation of the Media Department, within the existing regulatory framework laid out by the UMSU Constitution.

Chief among the policy's aims is easing the ambiguity regarding who exactly has jurisdiction over *Farrago* (and other Media Department publications). Given that *Farrago* is a publication of UMSU, it *must* be accountable—both to students and to Students' Council—yet in order for the Media Department to function, the Media Officers must be able to exercise their judgement in running the magazine, and must be able to act free from fear of censorship and other forms of editorial restriction. We feel that the policy outlines appeal and grievance procedures that significantly improve the clarity of the Media Department's relationship with UMSU.

Furthermore, we strongly endorse the values that this policy would enshrine as fundamental to student media at Melbourne University: truth,

balance, independence, respectful discourse, and the rights of all students to be heard. We think it's appropriate that these values become part of official UMSU policy, ensuring that future Media Officers adhere to these basic standards in running *Farrago*.

Despite our endorsement of this policy in its current form, we understand that the student body as a whole has greater power and right to determine the form and function of *Farrago* than any one team of Media Officers. As such, we will work with the Secretary to ensure all feedback received on the policy is heard and incorporated into an amended form of the policy for submission to Students' Council.

Signed,
GK, BP, ZS, YW
Media Officers

UMSU BOOK CO-OPERATIVE PROPOSAL

5th May, 2009

Background:

Unlike many other universities, Melbourne University does not have a book co-operative or second-hand bookshop. The need for a second-hand book service is filled by ad hoc services such as the MUOSS Book Fair and online exchange services run by student societies such as the Commerce Student Society and Law Students Society. While these are important in addressing the high cost of new textbooks and the need for cheaper second-hand alternatives, they fall short of a sustainable, well organised public service that is available to all students, and which occupies an accessible physical space on campus.

There is a great opportunity to expand and complement these services by having a permanent on-campus space for a book exchange. There is a desperate need for student run initiatives that support fellow students in their studies. The current situation forces the majority of students to purchase expensive new books (the average full time student spends over \$500 per year), which are then discarded at the end of semester. This is a waste of useful textbooks, and a burden on both the environment and on student finances.

The idea of a student run book co-operative is not new and similar proposals have appeared before, with substantial student support. With the vacancy of the 'Marketing and Research' office in union house there is a great opportunity to realise the longstanding idea of having a second hand book co-op.

Vision:

We aim to start up a small book co-operative at Melbourne University that provides students with a space to exchange second hand books and course materials, making them more affordable. It would also minimise environmental impact and wastage. The co-operative would be student controlled and contribute to creating a vibrant student community on campus.

Implementation and Timeline:

Phase One: Set up (May-June 30th)

- Book Exchange System: Simple 1 for 1 book swap will be initially used.
- Bring in portable and demountable shelving.
- Source books, zines and course materials.
- Establish volunteer roster and organising group, with regular Book Co-op meetings fortnightly.
- Book Co-op opening hours will be four days a week (Monday – Thursday) for lunchtimes only between 12.30-2.30pm.
- Promote and publicise the Book Co-op on campus and in union materials.

Phase Two: Consolidation (commencing at the start of second semester)

- Begin to facilitate a system that allows students to re-sell and buy old text books and readers based on the MUOSS book fair model and other successful book co-ops. Our current ideas about how this system would function are:
 1. Students who want to sell books write their name, the price of the book, and contact details on an envelope, which is then attached to the cover of the book. The student will receive no money until the book is sold.
 2. A student who wishes to buy a book brings it to the desk, pays for the set price. The volunteer puts the cash inside the envelope for the seller and keeps it safe and secure in the lock box.
 3. The volunteer then contacts the seller to let them know they can pick up their money.
 4. Second hand books must be priced at a maximum of 75% of current full price.
- Work with MUOSS book fair.
- Will continue to be run by student volunteers.
- Install more shelving
- Hold Book Co-op events, such as book club and readings to increase the community aspect and support network.
- Have regular Book Co-op meetings fortnightly.
- Opening hours will be four days a week (Monday – Thursday) for lunchtimes only between 12.30-2.30pm.
- Further publicise and promote the Book Co-op on campus, in union materials and online.

Phase Three: Long term sustainability (2010 and onwards)

- Evaluate and assess the project to establish long term goals, systems and services, some of these could be:
 1. Become a registered co-operative
 2. Take a 10% commission on sales to pay staff.

Materials:

- Book shelves
- Books, zines and course materials
- Envelopes
- Shelving
- Information and publicity materials
- Money box
- Display stand

For both Phase One and Phase Two of this project we need no materials or assistance from MUSUL, as the departments of UMSU would provide all of the funding. We estimate the cost will be under \$500, as most of the material will be second hand or donated.

Location:

We would like the Book Co-operative to be in the currently vacant 'Marketing and Research' office on the first floor of union house. This space would be ideal for setting up a Book Co-op. It is perfectly situated opposite the food co-op, where there is a high volume of student traffic, making it visible and accessible to students. The space is small and will not pose a large burden to MUSUL's resources.

We understand that the space is to be used during certain times of the year to run the 'student tax help service'. We envisage that this would not be a problem and that we could come to an arrangement that would be amenable to both parties. This could involve modifying the opening hours of the Book Co-op during the tax period. The only ongoing requirement would be that the books continue to be stored in that space. We understand the importance of formalising a mutual understanding as to how we will share the space.

Potential challenges:

1. *Lack of student support and involvement*- We think this is unlikely given the location and the large need of cheap second hand books. The success of the food co-op and other student initiatives is a promising indicator. Furthermore, it is a small and inexpensive project, so in the unlikely case of failure, no burden will have been placed on Union resources.
2. *Difficulty Sourcing books*- We do not believe this will be a problem as we have already contacted second hand shops who are willing to donate books. The popularity of the MUOSS book fair and online book selling services demonstrate that students want to sell their second hand textbooks.
3. *Monetary Issues (Books or money being lost or stolen)*- The transfer of money will not happen until we are well established. The system we are proposing (see Phase Two) is very simple. People who volunteer at a book co-op are unlikely to steal money and it is a system based on good will, like any other enterprise. We will train our volunteers to understand the proper processes. It is a similar system to that used by the MUOSS book fair, which is effective and well established.

Organisation:

The establishment and implementation of this task will be completely organised by students. This is a collaborative project between the Environment, Arts and Education Academic departments. We will establish a specific Book Co-op organising group with regular fortnightly meetings, to provide ongoing direction.

MUSUL's role:

This project would not require any resources or financial support from MUSUL. We simply require usage of the 'Marketing and Resource' office.

Membership:

A Book Co-op would provide a valuable Union service that directly involves students, for the direct benefit of students. This could be beneficial in encouraging students to join UMSU.

*This proposal represents a broad outline of a vision for a UMSU Book Co-operative.
We welcome further discussion, consultation and amendments.*

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 Coucnillors 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.

Secretary's Report



1. Procedural Matters

Students' Council Membership

During the week following the third regular meeting of Students' Council on 8 May I tallied the attendance and reporting records of Officers and voting representatives of Students' Council. I then discussed the consequences and procedures with Justin Baré. I notified the following members of Students' Council that their attendance record qualified them for termination under rule 51.1(e) of the Constitution for failing to attend at or within thirty minutes of the specified start time (2pm) of three consecutive regular meetings of Students' Council (31 March, 22 April, 8 May): Zoe Edwards, Scott Bloodworth, Sadia Schneider, Stefania Capogreco and Ezekial Gould. I also notified Nyx Matthews that her reporting record disqualified her from remuneration under rule 4.2 of Procedures for Student Representatives.

All representatives who received these notifications were invited to discuss matters further with Justin and myself. It was assumed that all Officers were aware of obligations following Induction.

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. MUOSS

I have met with the current President & Secretary and the incoming President & Secretary to discuss the resolution of MUOSS' legal status. At present, MUOSS is an unincorporated association, which (like UMSU-affiliated clubs), leaves the executive personally liable if issues arise. MUOSS Officers are currently investigating and considering solutions (retention of status quo, independent incorporation, inclusion in UMSU Constitution).

- 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.

Ed Ac Report – May 14th, 2009

SRN

We have spent the last few weeks finalising the SRN nominations and running an induction for all the Student Reps who are to sit on University Committees this year. We had Geoff Stevens, Michael Coyle, Onagh Bishop and Hannah Hayman speak about the importance of committees, University governance structure and how to be the most effective student representative. We feel the induction was a great success. There were some details that we did not get around to covering, as we ran short of time, so we are following them up with an 'Info Pack' to be emailed around to all student reps, including those who were unable to attend the induction. We hope to have another SRN meeting before the end of semester. We have also had some positive feedback from University secretaries about the student representatives

Book Co-op/Book Exchange

The Ed Ac, Arts, Environment and Welfare Department have been collaborating on the set up of a Book Co-operative. We have been in discussion with Justin Bare and Lowan Sist about the possibility of starting a Book Exchange. The proposed site is Marissa's old office, the office between the Environment office and the lifts, as it has recently become available. Lowan is very open to the idea, and so after spending some time discussing amongst ourselves different models and the technicalities, we drafted a proposal. We have heard from Lowan that it is an almost certain go ahead, and we are waiting on word to 'move in'. In the meantime, we are sourcing second hand books and readers. The proposal is attached.

Exam Support Stalls

As the end of the semester is drawing closer, we are turning our attention to the running of the Exam Support Stall. We have been meeting with Philippa Riley from Advocacy to see how Ed Ac and Advocacy can collaborate on this. It will be our focus for the coming weeks as we secure materials and supplies for the Stall. We will also be getting a custom made sign printed so that the Stall is better promoted on the Royal Exhibition Building (REB) site. We have written a submission to the Coursework Examination Sub-committee, which Laura sits on, that reports to Academic Board, and it will be discussed at the Sub-committee's meeting on Monday. The submission is essentially asking that the sub-committee recommend that Student Management Services liaise with the REB on behalf of the Education Academic office for their cooperation during the operation of the Stall.

University Committees

We have been attending various university committees this month including TALQAC, Academic Programs Committee, Coursework Examinations Committee, Selection Procedures Committee and Arts Faculty Board. There are many issues that are coming up at these meetings to do with new changes to existing postgraduate courses. In particular, there were concerns for changes made to entry requirements for honours under the Melbourne Model. Other issues include the delivery, or rather lack thereof, of 'customer service' to students in the form of course advice and

general assistance with academic issues. There is also currently discussion across different committees of the deliverance of DELA, the Diagnostic English Language Assessment and the concerns that DELA brings to light about international students in terms of their language capabilities and limitations, and how the university is to deal with these. We are also currently following up on policies that the university passed through committees last year and looking at the consequences of those policies for students this year, for example changes to the Special Consideration Policy. If any Student Councillors, or any students are interested in more details, we are happy to discuss any of the above mentioned.

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. 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 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.

OB Report – 13-05-2009

5.1 International No Diet Day

- It went exceedingly well despite the timetabling clash that saw the snowboard/skiing club putting on a demonstration right beside us.
- All the banners (particularly the ones that mentioned free cake) were very successful in drawing a crowd; the Facebook group seemed to be similarly useful, though (predictably) it drew more from union demographic where posterage seemed to reach a wider audience.
- The use of leaflets on the day was also good; plenty of people wanted to know what was going on and why and the day prompted many good discussions.
- The outlay of funds was also very successful: making our own cake allowed the department to cater to a wide variety of dietary requirements (for example gluten and dairy free) with relatively little trouble, and by the end of the day all but 5 of the hundred+ cupcakes (not to mention the extra food brought by committee and collective members) were gone.

5.2 Paid Parental Leave petition

- In light of the 2009 Budget the original petition is not as useful as it was -
- Hence I intend to coordinate with the CCWN OBs and Kaitlin Ferris to orchestrate a new approach tailored around the government's paid leave scheme; clearly that paid parental leave made it into the budget can be seen as a win but it is also a very small step to take in order to fix a rather substantial problem.

5.3 Wom*n's Room access and signposting

- I have contacted Lauren Henderson about making a time to meet and discuss these things but have not, to date, been able to organise a suitable time. Failing this I have suggested a conference via email.