

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 13/09

CONFIRMED

2 PM, 3rd June 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 12 (19-05-2009)

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 3.1 Indigenous Department Vandalism Motion
- 3.2 Cage Free Campus Society
- 3.3 Thank you Candice Motion
- 3.4 Corporate Charges Invoice (MUSUL)
- 3.5 Balance Sheet Transfer (MUSUL)
- 3.6 Food Co-Op and MUSUL
- 3.7 Candidates in Perspective
- 3.8 Tuesday Band and BBQ
- 3.9 Student Newspaper Policy
- 3.10 Book Co-Op

4. 26 May AGM/SGM

- 4.1 VSASU
- 4.2 Application for Extension to hold AGM

5. General Manager Report

- 5.1 Report
- 5.2 Electoral Regulations

6. Office Bearer Reports

- 6.1 President
- 6.2 Secretary

- 6.3 Activities
- 6.4 Arts
- 6.5 Clubs and Societies
- 6.6 Education Academic Affairs
- 6.7 Education Public Affairs
- 6.8 Environment
- 6.9 Indigenous
- 6.10 Media
- 6.11 Queer
- 6.12 Welfare
- 6.13 Wom*ns
- 7 Standing Committee Reports
- 8 Other Reports
- 9 Motions on Notice
 - 9.1 Motion Regarding Indian Students
- 10 Other Business
- 11 Next Meeting
- 12 Close

Meeting opened at: 2.09 PM, by Carla Drakeford

Agenda Item 1: Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Carla Drakeford chair the meeting

Moved: Carla Drakeford

CWD

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So Acknowledged

1.3 Attendance

Students' Council:

Dominique Ottobre, Kaitlin Ferris, Phoebe Kelloway, Josh Schmidt, Liam Byrne, Mark Peart, Dan Musil, Brendan Thomas-Noone, Goldie Pergl, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Rudolph Hosri, James Smith, Clinton Markwell, Sisi Jing.

Office Bearers:

Chris Kloester (Activities), Adelaide Rief (Arts), Carla Drakeford (President), Frances Lewis (Welfare), Nyx Mathews (Wom*n's), Yoshua Wakeham (Media), Tristan Clack (Welfare), Shaun Khoo (Secretary), Katherine Klaus (Clubs and Societies), Tim Arnot (Education –Public). Chris Summers (Arts).

Other

Charlie Goodman
Jonathon Donegan
Lydia Bevege
Justin Bare UMSU Manager

Candice Cranmer- minute taker

Absent

Office Bearers

Laura Harris (Education- Academic), Gemma Leigh-Dodds (Education Academic), Sadia Schneider (Education-Public), David Liubinas (Activities), Stefania Capogreco (Queer), Ezekiel Gould (Queer), Rachel Barrett (Environment), Sam Cossar-Gilbert (Environment), Gillian Kilby (Media), Bhakthi Puvanenthiran (Media), Zoe Sanders (Media), Piper O'Dowd (Clubs and Societies), Kyle Lancaster (Indigenous), Ruby Warber (Indigenous).

1.4 Apologies

Steph Gold, Onagh Bishop, Bianca Parassulo

1.5 Proxies

Steph Gold to Lydia Bevege

Onagh Bishop to Kaitlin Ferris or (in her absence) Dominique Ottobre.

Bianca Parassulo to Dominique Ottobre or (in her absence) Kaitlin Ferris.

1.6 Membership

Secretary Shaun Khoo reports several changes to membership:

- Onagh Bishop resigned as a General Representative and was ticket appointed to Mature Age Representative.
- Kaitlin Ferris was appointed to General Representative
- Bianca Parassulo was appointed to General Representative
- Taylor Kendall resigned from Queer Representative
- Mark Peart was appointed to Queer Representative.

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

The Chair takes a speaking list and discussion of agenda order is initiated.

It is brought the Chair's attention that Agenda Item 1.6 Membership as tabled in the Meeting Papers has not been discussed.

The Chair suspends the speaking list for the primary business of Membership.

Membership –Agenda Item 1.6 Membership

Speaking List is taken and discussion occurs through it.

Shaun Khoo's recommendation is read to Students' Council:

That Students' Council moves \$600 from the Whole of Union line to the Legal Costs line to obtain legal advice on the implementation of rule 51.1(e) of the Constitution.

Discussion regarding Membership continues.

2.20PM Queer Report is circulated.

James Smith and Clinton Markwell arrive at 2.20 PM

Several other motions regarding subsequent Agenda Items are also circulated.

The Chair reads a motion tabled by Chris Kloester:

The motion moved by Onagh Bishop at the last Students' Council meeting about waiting for further information be considered fulfilled. Therefore the Membership report be accepted and Students Council should not seek legal advice.

Moved: Chris Kloester

Seconded: Shaun Khoo

Copies of a letter signed by Queer Officers – Stefania Capogeco and Ezekiel Gould are circulated and tabled.

Discussion continues briefly.

Procedural Motion: To put the motion tabled by Chris Kloester to a vote

Moved: Chris Kloester
LOST – no votes

Sisi Ying arrives at 2.26 PM

Discussion continues via the speaking list.

Chris Kloester leaves at 2.27PM

Queer Committee Meeting minutes are requested. Copies of minutes from the last 3 Queer Committee Meetings are passed around Students' Council by Mark Peart.
Shaun Khoo speaks to his report and reads from the Constitution –section 51.1(e).
Discussion regarding the report continues until extensive speaking list is exhausted.
Justin Baré, UMSU Manager informs Students' Council of the process taken to obtain legal advice.

Discussion regarding the specifics of Chris Kloester's motion and the Secretaries reports –tabled in meeting 12 and 13 occurs.

Discussion regarding possible re-drafting of the above occurs.

Due to confusion, Kaitlin Ferris request Chris Kloester's motion is withdrawn. As seconder of this motion, Shaun Khoo withdraws seconding the motion and it is withdrawn.

The chair reads all tabled motions regarding membership. It is established that accepting the report without the recommendation includes the termination of some Office-Bearers. Further amendments are made.

Motion 2: That the Secretary's Report with recommendation: *That Students' Council moves \$600 from the Whole of Union Line to the Legal Costs line to obtain legal advice on the implementation of rule 51.1(e) of the Constitution* -is accepted.

Moved: from the Chair

LOST For: 6 Against: 11 Abstentions: 0

Motion 3: That the membership report be accepted without the recommendation

Moved: Kaitlin Ferris Seconded: Jesse Overton-Skinner

CARRIED For: 11 Against: 6 Abstentions: 0

Motion 4: That the termination of the Queer Officer's positions be postponed until after student conferences ie 25th July.

Moved: Dan Musil Seconded: Mark Peart

LOST For: 6 Against: 11 Abstentions: 0

Justin Baré leaves at 2.48 PM

1.7Adoption of Agenda

The Chair returns to the suspended speaking list and adds to it.

James Smith leaves at 2.55 PM and proxies to Clinton Markwell

Extensive discussion over agenda order occurs.

Sisi Ying leaves at 3.00 PM and proxies to Goldie Pergl

Quorum count -11, the meeting continues.

Motion 5: That the Agenda now reads:

- 2 Confirmation of Previous Minutes
- 3.1 Motion Regarding Indian Students
- 3.2 Welfare Report – Recommendation (Frances Lewis)
- 3.3 VCASU

3.4 NTEU
3.5 Corporate Charges Invoice (MUSUL)
and returns to all that remains.
Moved: Dominique Ottobre Seconded: Liam Byrne
CWD

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes Meeting 12 (19-05-09).

Dominique Ottobre informs that she did not exercise proxy for Onagh Bishop on Motion 3 and that she moved that all Office Bearer reports without recommendations are moved on block and that a typo has occurred in motion 16.

Motion 6: That the minutes of Meeting 12, held on the 19th of May 2009 be accepted (with corrections) as a true and accurate record.
Moved: Goldie Pergl Seconded: Dominique Ottobre
CARRIED

Agenda Item 3: Matters Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Motion Regarding Indian Students

Motion 7: That standing orders be suspended to table a motion –moved by Dominique Ottobre and seconded by Jesse Overton-Skinner.
Moved: Dominique Ottobre Seconded: Jesse Overton-Skinner
CWD

Frances Lewis speaks to the tabled motion – Motion to Condemn Racist Attacks on Indian Students.

As mover of the tabled motion also regarding the attacks on Indian Students Dominique Ottobre waves her right to speak and passes it to Kaitlin Ferris who speaks to the motion.

Chris Summers arrives at 3.13 PM

Liam Byrne speaks to the motion moved by Frances Lewis as its seconder.

Procedural Motion: To put the tabled motions to a vote.
Moved: Goldie Pergl
LOST For: 8 Against: 9

Jesse Overton-Skinner speaks to the motion moved by Dominique Ottobre as its seconder. Discussion via a speaking list occurs and amendments are suggested.

Motion 8: The University of Melbourne Student Union strongly condemns the racist attacks on Indian students. We condemn the appalling response by the Victorian Police to the attacks in denying the racist nature of the attacks and blaming the victims. We also condemn the National Labour Party Students for not seriously addressing the real issues of racism in Australia, and ignoring the demands of Indian Students. We also condemn the federal and state governments for failing to address the concerns of Indian Students and for fostering racism through their treatment of international students. We call on the government to provide:

- Adequate funding for support services for international students. This includes housing and employment services, counselling, translation etc.
- Affordable and liveable housing for students near universities so they are not forced to live in the outer suburbs
- Increase staff at train stations and on trains, and increased lighting and surveillance cameras
- Transport concession cards for all international students.

Moved: Frances Lewis Seconded: Liam Byrne
CARRIED For: 6 Against: 0 Abstentions: 11

The second motion moved by Dominique Ottobre lapses.

3.2 Recommendation for Welfare Report, Frances Lewis

Frances Lewis speaks to her report regarding the recommendation tabled with the papers.

An amendment to the motion is suggested.

Motion 9: The University of Melbourne Student Union supports the right of all women to choose what happens to their bodies. UMSU stands with pro-choice protestors in Brisbane who are calling for the charges to be dropped. UMSU condemns these charges and demands they be dropped immediately and abortion be de-criminalised.

Moved: from the Chair

CARRIED Abstentions: 1

3.3 VCASU AGM/SGM

VCASU

Carla Drakeford speaks about the AGM held 26th May 2009 and accordingly the position of VCASU.

Discussion surrounding representation at VCA occurs.

Motion 10: That UMSU Student Council under rule 135 of the Constitution, empowers the current elected council and Office Bearers at the VCA to continue in their representative functions until such time as a department can be established on the condition that VCA representatives agree to this course of action.

Moved: Kaitlin Ferris

Seconded: Dominique Ottobre

CWD

AGM

Discussion via a speaking list occurs regarding the date of the next meeting.

Motion 11: That an AGM/SGM (be held) on Tuesday 4th August 1.45PM in a venue to be confirmed. Activities officers to be approached to start Bands and BBQ earlier.

Moved: Kaitlin Ferris

Seconded: Dominique Ottobre

CWD

3.4 NTEU Motion

Quorum count -11

Josh Schmidt speaks to the motion.

Charlie Goodman leaves at 4.02PM

Discussion via speaking list occurs

**Rudolph Hosri leaves at 4.06 PM proxying to Jesse Overton-Skinner
4.07PM Goldie Pergl leaves and returns shortly. Charlie Goodman returns.**

Discussion continues

Procedural Motion: To put the vote

Moved: Dominique Ottobre

CARRIED For: 14 Against: 3

Motion 12: The NTEU has planned a new phase of industrial action, including a four hour work stoppage commencing at 1pm on Monday June 15th and protest outside the Sidney Myer Asia Centre at the opening of the University of Melbourne Festival of Ideas, bans on overtime and from Friday June 12th an indefinite ban on the recording or transmission to the University of student assessment results. UMSU as a fellow union, will show solidarity with the NTEU by supporting these and any other actions the membership of the NTEU deems necessary in its fight against university management. We will actively encourage students to come support staff by joining the rally on June 15th, and to observe the 4-hour work stoppage by not going to class or using the library or any other University of Melbourne facility. We will also produce material ie leaflets and

posters that responsibility for inconveniences caused by such actions ultimately lies with University management and the Vice Chancellor Glyn Davies, in their refusal to honestly negotiate with the NTEU in their contempt and exploitation of staff.

Moved: Josh Schmidt

Seconded: Frances Lewis

CARRIED

For: 14

Against: 3

Abstentions: 0

3.5 Corporate Charges

Carla Drakeford speaks about issues surrounding corporate charges.

Justin Baré arrives at 4.21PM

Justin Baré speaks about corporate charges charged to UMSU by MUSU and how previous Students' Council bodies have dealt with them.

Phoebe Kelloway leaves at 4.26PM and returns shortly.

Discussion occurs regarding UMSU's payment to MUSU.

Kaitlin Ferris suggest that all figures discussed regarding payment become 'in camera' or struck from the minutes/ records.

Discussion regarding payment and who is to negotiate such a payment continues.

Motion 13: That UMSU empowers the President to negotiate the terms and amount of the payment up to _____ with the proviso it is approved by Students' Council.

Moved: from the Chair

CWD

Agenda Item 9: Next Meeting

Next meeting on:

Agenda Item 10: Close

Meeting closed at: 4.32 PM by Carla Drakeford

Certified by Chair:

Signed:

Dated:

1.6 Membership

Rule 55.1(e) of the UMSU Constitution states:

“A person ceases to be an Officer or other Representative of the Students’ council or of a Committee if: the person, without leave granted by resolution of the Students’ Council or the Committee to which they are a member, fails on three consecutive occasions to attend at or within thirty minutes after the time specified for the commencement of a meeting (other than a special meeting) of the Students’ Council or the Committee to which they are a member.”

The Secretary has advised Sadia Schneider, Stefania Capogreco, Ezekial Gould and Cosima Nyx Mathews that they have failed on three consecutive occasions to attend at or within 30 minutes of the time specified for the commencement of a regular meeting of the Students’ Council. There are currently no Officers ‘at-risk’.

Direction from Students’ Council

Students’ Council requested documentation of Committee Meetings. Following an email sent to all Education Officers on the 19th of May informing them that only minutes of meetings 1, 2, 3 and 5 were available on the shared drive and requesting minutes from meeting 4, 6 and onwards be made available on the shared drive, meeting 7 was made available on the shared drive. The first two pages show that it occurred on the 12th of May and that Sadia Schneider was absent.

Historical Occasions Involving Officers

During the meeting of Students’ Council on the 19th of May, historical precedent was discussed involving an Officer in 2007. While records are imperfect, it is clear that rule 51.1(e) of the Constitution was enforced during that time.

Iain Finlayson was terminated as an Arts Officer in 2007.

His termination was reported at the SC meeting of 27 November, 2007 (Meeting 20/07). Iain was not included in the attendance of Meeting 19/07 (20 November, 2007).

He is shown to be absent from Meeting 18/07 (Inquorate, Thursday 8 November), Meeting 17/07 (inquorate, Wednesday, 24 October). Iain, however, was present at Meeting 16/07 (Wednesday, 17 October). There were no meetings of the Arts Committee during this period.

Phillipa Kane is not listed as an officebearer from meeting 18/07 (8 November). She was absent from Meeting 17/07 (24 October), Meeting 16/07 (17 October) and Meeting 15/07 (2 October). She is not shown as present or absent from meeting 5/07 (25 October) of the Activities Committee.

Legal Advice

At the last meeting of Students' Council, it was recommended that Students' Council may wish to seek legal advice on the matter. The Secretary asked the General Manager to look into the matter. One respondent advised the General Manager that legal advice would cost \$400-600.

Recommendation:

That Students' Council moves \$600 from the Whole of Union line to the Legal Costs line of the budget and directs the General Manager to use \$600 from the Legal Costs line to obtain legal advice on the implementation of rule 51.1(e) of the Constitution.

Shaun Khoo,
UMSU Secretary

Letter to Student's Council - 3/June/2009

Belittling and derogatory comments accusing us of being "too lazy", "immature" or "unable to attend students' council without having our hands held" were not only inappropriate and but inaccurate - indeed our committee minutes (mark peart has copies with him) and OB report (circulated by mark) demonstrate the contrary. Due to the ease with which member's of student's council questioned our performance and character, we feel that it is in the interests of our emotional well-being that we do not attend this meeting, and so have prepared an open-letter.

Issue of Attendance

- We have consulted numerous times with UMSU advisory, it was acknowledged that our personal circumstances prohibiting both of us from attending student's council were of a serious nature, legitimate and valid – the details of which are confidential, though broadly speaking they pertain to bullying and harassment by a member of student's council / within UMSU.
- Unfortunately there is a clause which prevents us from seeking a retrospective leave of absence (s 6.2 UMSU Procedures for Student Representatives), which would annul our breach of attendance.
- When a union constitution cannot even protect its own workers who have legitimate circumstances for non-attendance, there is obviously a flaw in the constitution – the decision to terminate us may be constitutionally just, yet we feel that it is contrary to the principles of UMSU.

Re-election / filling of casual vacancy

- If students' council decides that we are to be terminated, then we are still keen to continue holding our position following successful re-election into the casual vacancy.
- One of our biggest events of the year is steadily approaching (queer collaborations 2009 in Canberra, 13th of July – 17th of July). This is an important event for queer students, because it is a key arena for networking with other queers, engaging in discussion and debate, and taking action towards fighting queerphobia, heterosexism and other oppressions.

8. Temporary Filling of Officer Positions as per UMSU Procedures for Student Representatives

"8.4 If any other Officer position becomes vacant, the Committee to which that Officer is accountable may appoint a Member or Members to act as the Officer on a temporary basis.

8.5 The vacancy must be notified to Members by the Secretary by:

8.5.1 email for at least one week prior to the appointment;

8.5.2 posting notice on the UMSU website; and

8.5.3 posting notice on a prominent notice board in Union House.

8.6 The Students' Council or the appropriate Committee may not consider the filling of a casual vacancy unless fourteen days notice has been given." (Emphasis our own)

- The process of temporary filling of Officer Positions (8. Temporary Filling of Officer Positions, UMSU Procedures for Student Representatives as above) requires a substantial period of time for notice to be given, etc.
- There is a huge amount of work involved in getting the UMSU bloc all the way up to Canberra, for which most of the registration and paperwork needs to be completed before July 1. For this reason if it is determined we are both to be terminated, we request that this decision be adjourned until after the 19th of July,

post QC09. We believe it would be to the detriment of UMSU Queer Department, and a disservice to Queer Students if our termination were to be enacted so close to the beginning of queer collaborations 2009, in fact, it would be near impossible to successfully organise UMSU queer department participation in qc09.

Motion: In the event that students' council decides we are to be terminated, that the effective date of termination be postponed until after the end of queer collaborations 2009 (18th July 2009).

Moved: Mark Peart

Seconded: Nyx

Ezekiel Gould
3 June 2009

Stefania Capogreco
3 June 2009

Queer Office Bearer's Report to Student's Council

An overview of activities of the Queer Department, semester 1:

Pride March

Pride March, Feb 1st – The Melbourne uni queers marched with NUS and other Victorian universities. We made signs critiquing the increasing commercialisation of gay pride, and how it is to the detriment to the queer community.

Q week

We made one hundred show bags, filled with zines, pamphlets, etc. We made two hundred 'first year queer' zines, focusing on queer issues facing students, they were jam packed with information (36 pages each). We made hundreds of badges as well, which were in hot demand. At the queer stall on Tuesday we gave out all of the showbags and most of the zines with only a few badges left. We also talked to a lot of new people with varying experiences of being queer. We had the Queer luv picnic on Thursday which went quite well, with mostly new people turning up.

Collective(s)

Three collectives have been running weekly throughout semester 1, they include: Queery (reading and discussion group), Gay shame (action collective), Kraffy Kweers (badge-making, banner painting, etc).

Correspondence

There has been a lot of correspondence with outside organisations regarding collaboration on projects and events such as the coming out archives project. We have also had a lot of correspondence with people who wish to talk confidentially – this aspect, we have realised has formed a huge part of the queer officer job.

Zine and Book Library Development

Over the course of semester the queer department has been developing and adding to its library of zines and books. The library will prove to be a valuable resource for queer students individually and for the running of queer collectives this year and in the future. Due to theft, which has been an issue over the years, some books will be kept in the office, and a borrowing scheme will be setup (planned for semester 2) to allow queer students to access these materials and to ensure their return.

Film Screening

The Film Screening offered a less structured way of participating in an official queer department event than the collectives usually do, with mostly new students attending. It was a great way to involve new students to the queer department. The evening was Discussion and debate, food from the food co-op.

Queer Collaborations 2009 (Upcoming event)

The annual queer conference for 2009 will be held from the 13th of July till the 18th of July. In the past the queer department has subsidized the cost of travel and registration for queer students who wish to partake in the conference whilst accommodation has been covered by the delegates, except in the case where a student is not in a financial position to do so – they may seek funding from the queer department or organize billets in this instance. We hope to continue this subsidization for queer collaborations 2009.

Registration costs:

\$45 early-bird student, otherwise \$80 after July 1

Travel arrangements we are looking at:

V/Line – Approx. \$57.00 return for concession.

Greyhound – 20% discount to QC delegates offered by greyhound, awaiting quote.

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Education Committee

Meeting 7/09

UNCONFIRMED

3:15PM at, 12 05 2009

Location: Office Bearer Space, 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 19/2/2009
- 2.2 6/3/2009
- 2.3 13/3/2009

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4. Correspondence

5. Office Bearers' Reports

- 5.1 Education Academic Affairs
- 5.2 Education Public Affairs

6. Motions on Notice

- 6.1 Education Academic
 - 6.1.1 SRN
 - 6.1.2 Book Co-op
 - 6.1.3 Exam Support
 - 6.1.4 Campus Review Subscription
- 6.2 Education Public
 - 6.2.1 Professional Banner
 - 6.2.2 Coloured Paper
 - 6.2.3 Badges

7. Other Business

8. Next Meeting

8.1 Setting a schedule

9. Close

Meeting opened at: 3:32 PM, by Gemma Leigh-Dodds

Agenda Item 1; Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

<p>Motion 1: That Gemma Leigh-Dodds be elected as chair for this Ed meeting. Moved: Gemma Leigh-Dodds Seconded: Laura Harris CWD</p>

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

1.3 Attendance

Tim Arnot (Education Public), Gemma Leigh Dodds (Education Academic), Laura Harris (Ed Academic), Phoebe Kelloway, Liam Byrne, Hannah Hayman, Evan Wallace, Jesse Overton-Skinner, Clara Jordan-Baird.

Absent

Sadia Schneider (Education Public), Onagh Bishop, Nick Baum, Yoni Cukierman.

1.4 Apologies

Onagh Bishop, Nick Baum, Yoni Cukierman.

1.5 Proxies

Onagh Bishop to Hannah Hayman, Nick Baum to Jesse Overton Skinner, Yoni Cukierman to Clara Jordan-Baird.

1.6 Membership

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

<p>Motion 2: That the Agenda is adopted as written Moved: From Chair CARRIED</p>
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Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Previous Minutes

In minutes from meeting on 13/3/2009, Jesse Overton-Skinner was misspelled, as was Antony Loewenstein and Phoebe Kelloway.

Hannah Hayman wanted it clarified in the minutes that she enquired as to whether MUJSS were invited, and, should the people who were in the room be members of MUJSS, whether they would be setting up a stall.

Gemma Leigh-Dodds wanted it clarified that the committee meeting where \$650 was passed for Palestine Solidarity Week, that committee members present were happy that there was a thorough discussion, where the speaking list was exhausted twice, and that the minutes reflected this.

<p>Motion 3: That minutes of previous meetings be confirmed. Moved: from chair. CARRIED</p>

University of Melbourne Student Union

Minutes of the Students' Council

Meeting 12/09

UNCONFIRMED

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).

Other

Katie Grimmer
Lawrence Frawley
Paul Coats -GSA President
Kaitlin Ferris
Bruno Friedel
Charlie Goodman
Matt Incerti
Catherin McInnis

Justin Baré -UMSU Manager
Candice Cranmer –minute taker

**Absent
Students Council**

Office Bearers

Laura Harris (Education-Academic), Adelaide Rief (Arts), Chris Summers (Arts), Katherine Klaus (Clubs and Societies), Ruby Warber (Indigenous), Cosima Nyx Stone (Wom*ns).

1.4 Apologies

Stephanie Gold, Josh Schmidt

1.5 Proxies

Stephanie Gold to John Shipp
Josh Schmidt to Phoebe Kelloway (or Liam Byrne, in her absence)

James Smith to Clinton Markwell at 2.39 PM
Sisi Ying proxies to Goldie Pergl at 3.00 PM
Onagh Bishop proxies to Dominique Ottobre at 3.04 PM
Rudolph Hosri proxies to Mathew Incerti at 3.59 PM

1.6 Membership

Students' Council is directed to the Attendance and Reporting table, prepared by Secretary Shaun Khoo.

Clarification of the document and its result are requested - Shaun Khoo directly responds.

Dan Musil arrives at 2.13 PM

Several councillors and Office Bearers indicate a desire to speak, a speaking list is initiated and discussion surrounding attendance of Office Bearers occurs.

Sisi Ying arrives at 2.15 PM

Discussion via extensive speaking list continues.

Sam Cossar-Gilbert arrives at 2.20 PM

Speaking list continues. Issues such as attendance of Office Bearers to both Students' Council Meetings and Committee Meetings are discussed and the constitution is referred to.

Dominique Ottobre tables a motion and reads it to Students' Council:

<p>Motion 2: Nyx's "unattendance" 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.</p>
--

<p>Moved: Dominique Ottobre</p>

<p>Seconded: Bhakthi Puvanenthiran</p>
--

Discussion continues.

The Chair reads a motion tabled by Liam Byrnes.

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 via Dominique Ottobre, 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 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
CWD

Seconded: Goldie Pergl

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
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 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 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

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.
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:

<p>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</p>
--

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:

Matters Arising from the Minutes Unresolved Motions

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.*



0411

Application for Extension of Time

Associations Incorporation Act 1981 Section 30(5)

Application fee is \$22.70

There is no GST payable on this fee. Refer to the back page for payment methods.

Please use a black pen to complete this form.

Please print clearly using block letters.

Office use only

Date received

/ /

Initials

You can apply for an extension of time online at <http://online.justice.vic.gov.au>

1. Registration number

Ⓟ A

2. Name of Incorporated Association

Ⓟ _____
_____ Inc.

3. Registered address

Ⓟ _____
_____ State VIC Postcode

4. Type of extension (all extensions are for three months from the date the Annual General Meeting due)

- Extension of time to both hold an Annual General Meeting and lodge an Annual Statement Complete question 5.
- Extension of time to lodge an Annual Statement Complete question 6.

5. Reason you are applying for an extension of time to hold an Annual General Meeting and lodge an Annual Statement (choose one only)

- Absence/illness of key member(s) or public officer
- Auditor has not completed audit
- Dispute or disagreement in the association
- Need extra time to call/arrange meeting
- Key documents or data lost or destroyed
- Financial statements not ready
- Members unable to attend till later date
- Lack of available documents
- Investigation in progress

Other _____

6. Reason you are applying for an extension of time to lodge an Annual Statement (choose one only)

- Absence/illness of key member(s) or public officer
- Dispute or disagreement in the association
- Unavoidable delay in completing return
- Key documents or data lost or destroyed
- Return not lodged as a result of oversight
- Lack of available documents
- Investigation in progress

Other _____

Signature of public officer

- Pursuant to section 30(5) of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981*, I hereby apply for a three month extension of time to hold an Annual General Meeting or lodge an Annual Statement.
- I certify that the particulars contained in this application are true and correct. I acknowledge that it is an offence under section 49 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* to make a false or misleading statement in relation to an application for an extension of time.

Signature

X

Printed name

Date

/ /

Contact email address

Daytime telephone no.

Refer to the back of this form to see how to lodge and pay for this application

Privacy – CAV is committed to responsible and fair handling of your personal information, consistent with the laws we administer and the *Information Privacy Act 2000*. The information marked with a 'Ⓟ' on this form will be placed on the public register in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981*. We may be unable to process this form if you do not provide the required information. You can contact us at any time to request access to the personal information we hold about you. In exceptional circumstances, you may apply to have public access to your personal information restricted. Our privacy statement, and other privacy information is available at www.consumer.vic.gov.au or on request.



Memorandum



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

From: Justin Baré, UMSU Manager

Date: June 1, 2009

Subject: Report to Students' Council

1. Electoral Regulations

In 2008 the Returning Officers made a number of recommendations in relation to changes to the UMSU Electoral Regulations. Attached to this report is a revised set of Electoral Regulations that would give effect to some of the proposed recommendations. The key changes are:

- Extending polling to 5 pm on Friday
- Allowing vote counting to commence at 12 pm on Friday
- Allowing the Returning Officer to disallow ticket registration of tickets with names similar to an existing ticket name
- Introduction of the ability to indicate preferences for above the line voting so that voters can preference tickets as they see fit
- Clarification of the jurisdiction of the Returning Officer to enable them to handle complaints lodged prior to the provisional declaration of the poll

Additional changes proposed include establishing a polling station at the VCA, as proposed in 2008. It is also proposed to preclude students who have created a casual vacancy from being renominated to fill that vacancy via the ticket appointment process.

There may also be a need to introduce some interim measure to allow for the election of positions in any new UMSU department at the Faculty of VCA and Music, dependent on the outcomes of the proposed merger.

Students' Council should note that the UMSU Electoral Tribunal is responsible for amending the UMSU Electoral Regulations; however, it will typically act on the advice of Students' Council.

2. Insurance

UMSU is in the process of renewing its insurance cover for the period June 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010.

UMSU has four types of insurance:

1. Public Liability – provides cover to UMSU for costs up to \$10 million arising from personal injury or bodily harm sustained during participation in a sanctioned UMSU activity, including Clubs and Societies. This includes cover for costs associated with defending any legal claims that may arise.
2. Professional Indemnity – provides cover to UMSU in relation to advice given (for example, by the Advocacy Service) and for the publication of *Farrago*. This cover also includes legal defense costs.
3. Travel Policy – travel insurance for student representatives and staff undertaking union-related travel.
4. Voluntary Workers – provides insurance cover to UMSU for costs incurred as a result of injury or loss to a volunteer working on behalf of UMSU. Includes payment of medical costs not covered by Medicare and a weekly injury benefit.

Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance account for 97% of the total cost of insurance for UMSU. The total cost of insurance for the relevant period will be \$81 370. This figure includes GST so the total expenditure will be within the budget allocation.

3. Correspondence regarding Entertainment Programme

UMSU recently received correspondence in relation to its scheduled Entertainment programme which included a query regarding any cancellation of scheduled performances.

As part of the UMSU Budget process for 2009 the Entertainment department received a reduced allocation compared with 2008. As part of this process it was agreed that there be no performances scheduled for the final three weeks in either semester. Accordingly, no performances have been cancelled.

The Entertainment Co-ordinator, Tony Ennis, advises that the cost of reinstating performances for the final three weeks of Semester 2, 2009, would be \$13 500.

Justin Baré

UMSU Manager



UMSU Electoral Regulations

UMSU Inc

The University of Melbourne

MU Student Union Ltd

UMSU Electoral Regulations

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. The definitions in C2.1 of the Constitution, and rules of construction in C2.2 of the Constitution, are applicable to these Regulations.
- 1.2. "Candidate" means any person nominating for any position in the elections.
- 1.3. "Constitution" means the current constitution of the UMSU Incorporated, and any reference to "C" immediately followed by a number refers to that section or subsection of the constitution.
- 1.4. "Election Material" means any material or method commenting literally or figuratively, on any candidates, or group of candidates, in an election, or on any part of the electoral process, excluding material produced by the Returning Officer.
- 1.5. "Election Website" means the website established by the Returning Officer under R12.2.1, on which is posted all information relevant to the election.
- 1.6. "Electoral Official" includes the Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer, Poll Clerks, Poll Supervisors, Count Assistants, and any other person officially appointed by the Returning Officer in accordance with these Regulations to assist in the electoral process.
- 1.7. "Electoral Roll" means a roll of currently enrolled students, noting those students' names and student numbers, as well as whether or not those students are International Students and/or Women, obtained from the University by the Returning Officer.
- 1.8. "Mature-Age Student" means any Student who identifies as mature-age.
- 1.9. "MUSUI" means Melbourne University Student Union Incorporated.
- 1.10. "MUSUL" means MU Student Union Ltd.
- 1.11. "Polling Booth" means a private enclave in which to fill out ballot papers which is housed within the area deemed to be the polling place.
- 1.12. "Regulation" means these electoral regulations, and any reference to "R" immediately followed by a number refers to that regulation or subregulation of these election regulations.
- 1.13. "Returning Officer" refers to the individual providing supervision and management of elections, as described in R4.
- 1.14. "Student Union" or "UMSU" means UMSU Incorporated.

2. INTERPRETATION

- 2.1. From the time of the appointment of the Returning Officer and until the declaration of provisional results, interpretation of these Regulations are within the jurisdiction of the Returning Officer or, upon appeal, within the jurisdiction of the Electoral Tribunal.
- 2.2. Where these Regulations are inconsistent with the Constitution, the latter prevails and the former to the extent of inconsistency is invalid. The inconsistent Regulation remains valid for all other purposes. All procedures, definitions and actions contained and allowed for in these Regulations are not considered unfair for the purpose of these Regulations.
- 2.3. Where relevant and subject always to R2.2, these Regulations shall be taken to interpret those parts of the Constitution coming within the scope of elections.
- 2.4. Words or expressions defined in the Constitution have the same meaning or effect as set out in the Constitution, unless the context otherwise requires.
- 2.5. Provisions in the Constitution dealing with the Electoral Tribunal are incorporated by reference into these Regulations and have the same operation and effect as if set out in these Regulations in the form which they appear in the Constitution.

- 2.6. Provisions in the Constitution dealing with the Returning Officer are incorporated by reference into these Regulations and have the same operation and effect as if set out in these Regulations in the form which they appear in the Constitution.

3. TIMETABLE

- 3.1. No act or decision is invalid only because it was done, made, or held after the time required by these Regulations.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

4.1. The Returning Officer:

- 4.1.1. Is responsible for the conduct of the election;
 - 4.1.2. Is responsible from the commencement of the election period until the declaration of provisional results, for interpreting these Regulations;
 - 4.1.3. Must act at all times in accordance with these Regulations and the Constitution;
 - 4.1.4. May act and make such determinations with respect to the elections as they see fit, where not otherwise provided for in these Regulations or in the Constitution, provided that they act fairly and their actions do not bring the conduct of the poll into disrepute.
 - 4.1.5. May refer issues of a disciplinary nature regarding the behaviour of Students to the appropriate University bodies.
 - 4.1.6. Must decide questions of fact on the balance of probabilities.
- 4.2. The Returning Officer may, if satisfied that it is warranted, because any person involved in the elections has breached these Regulations, committed an act of prohibited conduct, or in any other way acted improperly, dishonestly, or unfairly:
- 4.2.1. Require a person or group of persons to cease and desist from any form of campaigning for any period of time the Returning Officer deems appropriate;
 - 4.2.2. Recommend the removal of a person or group of persons from the campus, or a specific part of the campus, for any period of time the Returning Officer recommends to the appropriate body; and
 - 4.2.3. Charge any person or group of persons for the expenses resulting from any prohibited conduct on their part;
- 4.3. The Returning Officer must ensure that sanctions listed in R4.2 are applied such that the sanction is in proportion to the action(s) or inaction(s) of the person or group of persons in question.
- 4.4. The Returning Officer may only exercise the power specified in R4.2.2 where a person has been warned that their continued behaviour may result in their removal from the campus, or a part of the campus.
- 4.5. A written determination of the Returning Officer is conclusive, and may only be appealed to the Electoral Tribunal in accordance with R46.1.3. The Returning Officer must post the decision on the election website and on a prominent notice board in Union House.
- 4.6. Any determination of the Returning Officer may be appealed to the Electoral Tribunal at any time before the provisional declaration of results by the procedure specified in R46.1.3. Such appeals must specify reasoning for the appeal, including reasoning as to how the Returning Officer has made a faulty determination.

5. ASSISTANT RETURNING OFFICERS AND POLL CLERKS

- 5.1. Deputy and Assistant Returning Officers and poll clerks are subject to the direction of and have the duties determined by the Returning Officer and the Electoral Tribunal, however where directions of the Electoral Tribunal and the Returning Officer conflict, the directions of the Electoral Tribunal shall prevail.
- 5.2. The Returning Officer may delegate any or all responsibilities of these Regulations to a Deputy or Assistant Returning Officer. Such delegation must be made in writing, posted on the Election Website and provided to the Electoral Tribunal.
- 5.3. No person may be considered for the position of Polling Clerk, Count Assistant, Deputy and Assistant Returning Officer if:
 - 5.3.1. he or she holds or has held within the last three years any elected position or office of UMSU, any elected position or office of MUSUI, or any elected position or office of MUSUL; and/or
 - 5.3.2. a member of his/her immediate family is a candidate for the election; and/or
 - 5.3.3. he/she is deemed by the Returning Officer to be involved with a candidate or group of candidates to the extent that his/her integrity may be impaired.

6. POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED

The following positions are to be elected in all annual elections:

- 6.1. The following voting members of Students' Council, as provided for in C42.1:
 - 6.1.1. one member elected by each of the following Restricted Constituencies:
 - 6.1.1.1. Queer Students
 - 6.1.1.2. Indigenous Students
 - 6.1.1.3. International Students
 - 6.1.1.4. Mature Age Students
 - 6.1.2. fourteen general members elected by all Students, of whom at least seven must be Women. If at least seven candidates for election are not Women, those places not filled by Women may be filled by other candidates.
- 6.2. The following Officers, as provided for in C45:
 - 6.2.1. President;
 - 6.2.2. Secretary;
 - 6.2.3. Education (Academic Affairs) Officer;
 - 6.2.4. Education (Public Affairs) Officer;
 - 6.2.5. Welfare Officer;
 - 6.2.6. Wom*n's Officer;
 - 6.2.7. Arts Officer;
 - 6.2.8. Activities Officer;
 - 6.2.9. Queer Officer;
 - 6.2.10. Environment Officer;
 - 6.2.11. Media Officers;

- 6.2.12. Clubs & Societies Officer; and
- 6.2.13. Indigenous Officer
- 6.3. Members of the following Committees, as established by C60. Each Committee consists of seven voting Representatives, of whom at least three must be Women. If at least three candidates for each Committee are not Women, those places not filled by Women may be filled by other candidates.
 - 6.3.1. Activities Committee
 - 6.3.2. Arts Committee
 - 6.3.3. Education Committee
 - 6.3.4. Environment Committee
 - 6.3.5. Indigenous Committee
 - 6.3.6. Queer Committee
 - 6.3.7. Welfare Committee
 - 6.3.8. Wom*n's Committee
- 6.4. The member of the Council of the University of Melbourne elected by and from Students.
- 6.5. The members of the board of MU Student Union Ltd elected by and from Students. The MU Student Union Ltd board includes three members who are Students, of whom at least one must be a Postgraduate Student. If at least one candidate is not a Postgraduate Student, that place not filled by a Postgraduate Student may be filled by other candidates who are Students.
- 6.6. The Delegates to the National Conference of the National Union of Students Incorporated as laid out in the National Union of Students' Constitution, Regulations and By-laws.
- 6.7. The officers and committee of the Burnley Student Association Department, as set out in C60(j) & C 70, elected by Students enrolled at the Burnley Campus.

7. JOINT OFFICE

- 7.1. Any Officer position may be held by two persons jointly except the positions of President, Secretary and Media Officer.
- 7.2. If more than one person holds the office of Queer Officer, one of them must be a Woman.
- 7.3. The position of Media Officer shall be held jointly by no less than three and no more than four persons.

8. RESTRICTIONS ON STANDING FOR ELECTION

- 8.1. There are restrictions on standing for election to the following positions:
- 8.1.1. The Wom*n's Officer and each member of the Wom*n's Committee must be a Woman.
 - 8.1.2. The member of the Students' Council elected by Queer Students, the Queer Officer and the voting members of the Queer Committee must be Queer Students.
 - 8.1.3. If the position of Queer Officer is not held jointly, the Queer Officer must be a Woman.
 - 8.1.4. If the position of Queer Officer is held jointly, one of the persons holding the position must be a Woman.
 - 8.1.5. The member of the Students' Council elected by Indigenous Students, the Indigenous Officer and the voting members of the Indigenous Committee must be Indigenous Students, as evidenced by a roll kept at the Centre for Indigenous Education.
 - 8.1.6. The member of the Students' Council elected by International Students must be a person who is an International Student.
 - 8.1.7. The member of the Students' Council elected by Mature Age Students must be a person who is a Mature Age Student.
- 8.2. A person who is employed in at least a .5 position by:
- 8.2.1. the University;
 - 8.2.2. any body corporate controlled by the University;
 - 8.2.3. MU Student Union Limited;
 - 8.2.4. UMSU, other than an UMSU Office Bearer;
 - 8.2.5. any tenant of MU Student Union Limited; or
 - 8.2.6. a combination of these entities,
cannot stand for election to any position.
- 8.3. A person who has been an Officer (in one or more positions) for two terms of Office (excluding casual vacancies) cannot stand for an Officer position.
- 8.4. A person who has been suspended or banned from standing for election by the Electoral Tribunal cannot stand for election during the period of the suspension or ban.
- 8.5. The officers and committee representatives of the Burnley Student Association Department must be Students at the Burnley Campus.
- 8.6. A person standing for election to any position must be a member of UMSU at the close of nominations. This rule does not apply for election to the Council of the University of Melbourne or the MU Student Union Ltd Board.

9. RESTRICTIONS ON VOTING IN ELECTIONS

- 9.1. The following positions have restricted electorates:

- 9.1.1. The Wom*n's Officer and each member of the Wom*n's Committee are elected by Students who are Women. Polling clerks must only give ballot papers for these positions to Women Students.
 - 9.1.2. The member of the Students' Council elected by Queer Students, the Queer Officer and the voting member of the Queer Committee are elected by Students who are Queer Students. Polling clerks must give ballot papers for these positions to all Students, with a verbal instruction that any Student who identifies as queer can vote for these positions.
 - 9.1.3. The member of the Students' Council elected by Indigenous Students, the Indigenous Officer and the voting members of the Indigenous Committee are elected by Students who are Indigenous Students, as evidenced by a roll kept at the Centre for Indigenous Education. Polling clerks must only give ballot papers for these positions to Indigenous Students.
 - 9.1.4. The member of the Students' Council elected by International Students is elected by Students who are International Students. Polling clerks must only give ballot papers for this position to International Students.
 - 9.1.5. The member of the Students' Council elected by Mature Age Students is elected by Students who are Mature Age Students. Polling clerks must give ballot papers for these positions to all Students, with a verbal instruction that any Student who identifies as mature-age can vote for these positions.
- 9.2. All Students are entitled to vote for other positions to be elected, whether standing for election to any position or not.

10. RESTRICTIONS ON ELECTION

- 10.1. A person cannot hold
- 10.1.1. more than one voting position on the Students' Council;
 - 10.1.2. more than one Officer position;
 - 10.1.3. an Officer position and a voting position on the Students' Council;
 - 10.1.4. an Officer position and a voting position on any Committee;
 - 10.1.5. voting positions on the Students' Council and more than one Committee; or
 - 10.1.6. voting positions on more than two Committees.
- 10.2. At least:
- 10.2.1. seven general members of the Students' Council; and
 - 10.2.2. three voting members of each Committee,
- must be Students who are Women. If there are insufficient Women candidates to satisfy this requirement, any shortfall may be made up by Students who are not Women.
- 10.3. If a person stands for a position or number of positions which could result in that person being elected to a number of positions in breach of R10.1, that person must lodge with the Returning Officer at the time of nomination a list giving, in order, the position or positions which that person wishes to hold, and the Returning Officer shall declare the person elected in accordance with that list. If the person does not provide such a list by the close of nominations, then the Returning Officer shall determine randomly the order of preference of election before the start of the ballot count.
- 10.4. A person cannot hold an Officer position in UMSU and an officer position in the Burnley Student Association Department. The Burnley Student Association Department committee is considered a Committee for the purposes of the restrictions laid out in R10.1.

- 10.5. A person must be an UMSU Member at the close of nominations in order to be elected to any position. This rule does not apply for election to the Council of the University of Melbourne or the MU Student Union Ltd Board.

11. SEPARATE BALLOTS

- 11.1. There must be a separate ballot for:
- 11.1.1. each Officer position;
 - 11.1.2. the general members of the Students' Council;
 - 11.1.3. each member elected to the Students' Council from a Restricted Constituency as listed in R6.1.1;
 - 11.1.4. each Committee, including the committee of the Burnley Student Association Department;
 - 11.1.5. the position on the Council of the University;
 - 11.1.6. the Student members of the MU Student Union Ltd board;
 - 11.1.7. the delegates to the National Union of Students; and
 - 11.1.8. each officer position of the Burnley Student Association Department.
- 11.2. Each voter must vote separately for:
- 11.2.1. each Officer position;
 - 11.2.2. the position on the Council of the University;
 - 11.2.3. the positions on the MU Student Union Ltd board; and
 - 11.2.4. if eligible, for each member elected to the Students' Council from a Restricted Constituency as listed in R6.1.1.
- 11.3. Each voter:
- 11.3.1. may vote separately for each candidate to be a general member of the Students' Council and for each candidate to be an elected member of each Committee; or
 - 11.3.2. may indicate their preference in relation to:
 - 11.3.2.1. the general members of the Students' Council by voting "above the line" for a ticket; or
 - 11.3.2.2. each Committee by voting "above the line" for a ticket in relation to that Committee.
- 11.4. A voter may not indicate with one vote "above the line" their preference in relation to more than one multi-member body.

11.5. Subject to rules 11.3.2 and 11.3.3 a voter may separately indicate preferences for tickets when voting "above the line."

11.5.1. a number against the name of a ticket indicates a preference for that ticket ahead of all tickets with higher numbers, and tickets with numbers shall be taken as preferences ahead of those with no number against their name.

11.5.2. A voter who has voted for a ticket in accordance with R11.5 is deemed to have voted as if they had placed the number 1 against the name of the first candidate on the ticket and consecutive higher numbers against the names of any other candidates on the ticket, and subsequent tickets, in order.

11.6. R35.5 does not apply to votes cast subject to R11.5

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12. NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

- 12.1. For all elections, the Returning Officer must ensure that an appropriate notice advertising the elections and calling for nominations is prepared. This notice must include:-
 - 12.1.1. a list of all positions to be elected
 - 12.1.2. notification of the date and time nominations open
 - 12.1.3. notification of the date and time nominations close
 - 12.1.4. notification of where all electoral forms may be obtained or lodged
 - 12.1.5. anything else the Returning Officer deems appropriate.
- 12.2. Copies of this notice must be placed:
 - 12.2.1. on the Election Website;
 - 12.2.2. on a prominent noticeboard in Union House;
 - 12.2.3. on e-mail accounts of Students where practicable; and
 - 12.2.4. in each edition of Farrago published during the period between the opening and closing of nominations.

13. OPENING AND FORM OF NOMINATIONS

- 13.1. Nominations must open no later than 12 midday, six weeks before the first day of polling for an annual election, and three weeks before the first day of polling for a by-election.
- 13.2. All nominations must be signed by the Student nominating for the relevant position.
- 13.3. The Returning Officer must make nomination forms available on the Election Website. Nomination forms must be made available to any Student who requests them in person, or who writes to the Returning Officer.

14. RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS

- 14.1. Nominations must be given in person to the Returning Officer, or a person authorised by the Returning Officer to receive nominations, before the close of nominations. Nominations may also be sent by registered mail to the Returning Officer provided the nominations are received by the close of nominations. The Returning Officer may make provisions for nominations to be deposited in a secure location.
- 14.2. The Returning Officer must, within five academic days, give, send or email the Student nominating:
 - 14.2.1. an acknowledgment of receipt of the nomination;
 - 14.2.2. a copy of these Regulations, and the constitution (or its web link).
- 14.3. The Returning Officer, or any person authorised by the Returning Officer to receive nominations, must not, prior to the close of nominations, make available or cause to be made available to any other person any information about nominations received. This does not apply to the acknowledgment of receipt of nomination to a nominee personally.

15. POLICY STATEMENTS

- 15.1. A candidate may submit with her/his nomination form a policy statement not exceeding three hundred words for all positions listed in R6.2 or one hundred words for all other positions. If the number of words in a policy statement exceeds the limit, the excess words must not be published, or in any other way made available by the Returning Officer. This policy statement must be supplied in any format deemed appropriate by the Returning Officer and submitted at the same time as the candidate's nomination form. Where a candidate has nominated for more than one position, the candidate should submit a different policy statement for each position for which they have nominated. Each policy statement must be clearly identified and include the candidate's name and the position for which he/she is standing.
- 15.2. Subject to R15.1, the Returning Officer must make copies of all duly received policy statements available:
 - 15.2.1. on the Election Website;
 - 15.2.2. on a prominent noticeboard in Union House;
 - 15.2.3. to the Media Officers for publication, to the satisfaction of the Returning Officer, in an edition of Farrago released before or during the week of the relevant elections.

15.3 In conjunction with the Media Officers, the Returning Officer shall organise no less than two occasions to allow candidate photographs to be taken for publication, in conjunction with policy statements, in an edition of Farrago released before or during the week of the relevant elections

15.3.1 Subject to consultation with the Media Officers the Returning Officer may determine any technical or other requirements in relation to candidate photographs.

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16. CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS

- 16.1. Nominations must be received by the Returning officer no later than 12 midday on the Friday four weeks before the Friday in the week of the annual elections.
- 16.2. For by-elections, nominations must be received no later than 12 midday on the day two weeks before the final day of polling of the by-election.

16A. BY-ELECTIONS

- 16A.1 Any casual vacancy (as determined by C51) prior to twenty-one days before the start of polling shall be elected at a by-election in the manner laid out in these Regulations. A by-election may also be held to elect members to positions which were not filled for any reason at a preceding annual or by-election.
- 16A.2 Where a by-election is held concurrently with an Annual Election the timelines and polling hours for the by-election will be the same as those for the Annual Election; unless the Electoral Tribunal determines to use the separate by-election timeline set out in these regulations.

17. UNCONTESTED POSITIONS

- 17.1. If the number of candidates for any position does not exceed the number to be elected, the Returning Officer must declare those candidates provisionally elected as soon as their eligibility has been verified. Their election to such positions shall be confirmed at the time when the results for contested positions are finally declared, whether or not reference to such uncontested positions has been made at that time.

18. FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES BY TICKET RECOMMENDATION

- 18.1 Any casual vacancy (as determined by C51) of a voting representative on Students' Council or a Committee prior to twenty one days before the start of polling for a by-election or annual election may be filled in the manner prescribed in this regulation.
- 18.2 This regulation shall only be used for casual vacancies of voting representatives elected in an annual election or by-election as an endorsed Ticket candidate.
- 18.3 The Senior Staff Member shall contact the Ticket registrant within three academic days from the date of the casual vacancy, and request that the Ticket registrant recommend to the Electoral Tribunal a candidate to fill the casual vacancy.
- 18.4 The Ticket registrant may recommend to the Electoral Tribunal a replacement to fill the casual vacancy, and must make any such recommendation within five academic days from being notified of the casual vacancy by the Senior Staff Member. The Senior Staff Member shall collect the recommendation and present it to the Electoral Tribunal.
- 18.5 The Electoral Tribunal shall have the power to fill the casual vacancy with the recommended candidate, by simple majority vote. The Electoral Tribunal shall only fill this vacancy upon recommendation.
- 18.6 The Electoral Tribunal may only fill casual vacancies that fulfil the requirements set out in R8 and R10. If the recommended candidate does not fulfil the requirements as laid out in these Regulations and the Constitution, the Electoral Tribunal must request that the Ticket registrant recommend an eligible candidate.
- 18.7 If the Ticket registrant does not make a recommendation to the Electoral Tribunal within five academic days, the casual vacancy shall be filled by the process set out in R19, left vacant if R19 cannot be applied, or be filled at a by-election (if possible).
- 18.8 The Electoral Tribunal shall declare the election of the successful candidate within five academic days of the vote referred to in R18.4, and the Senior Staff Member shall inform the elected candidate, and the Secretary.
- ~~18.9 A student who has caused a casual vacancy, subject to R18.1, shall be ineligible for any subsequent appointment to that position by the ticket recommendation process.~~
- ~~18.10 The Senior Staff Member shall be responsible for the administration of this regulation, as required by the Electoral Tribunal.~~

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19. FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES BY COUNTBACK ELECTION

- 19.1 Any casual vacancy (as determined by C51) of a voting representative on Students' Council or a Committee prior to twenty one days before the start of polling for a by-election or annual election may be filled in the manner prescribed in this regulation, unless it can first use R18.
- 19.2 This regulation shall only be used for casual vacancies of voting representatives elected in an annual election or by-election who were elected not as a Ticket candidate. If the casual vacancy occurs from a voting representative elected as a Ticket candidate, R18 must first be used to fill the vacancy.
- 19.3 The Electoral Tribunal has the power to fill the casual vacancy by a countback, using the vote sheets prepared by the Returning Officer for the election in which the vacating representative originally ran.
 - 19.3.1 In the event of a vacancy or vacancies, all candidates of the election cycle that are eligible to assume the elected representative position and that are not otherwise ineligible to be elected, as per R8 and R10, shall be contacted by the Senior Staff Member within five academic days from the time at which the vacancy or vacancies occurred.
 - 19.3.2 All contacted candidates will be given five academic days from the time at which they were contacted to respond as to whether or not they are willing to accept the vacant

position should they be elected during the Countback Election. All candidates who decline to serve, or do not respond within the five academic days period shall be excluded from the Countback Election.

- 19.3.3 The Senior Staff Member shall provide a public list, on the UMSU Website and noticeboard of all candidates participating in the Countback Election prior to the Countback Election.
- 19.3.4 After the five academic days response period, or once all candidates have responded, the Senior Staff Member shall conduct a count, within three (3) academic days, in which the last eligible candidate(s) who had a highest value at the last stage of counting that there were still candidate(s) eligible to be elected, will be declared elected. The number of elected candidates for this process shall equal the number of vacancies to fill.
- 19.3.5 Each winning candidate will be declared elected by the Electoral Tribunal, and the Senior Staff Member will inform the winning candidate(s), and the Secretary, of the results of the Countback Election within five academic days.
- 19.3.6 The winning candidate(s) shall assume their representative role five academic days after the declaration of the Electoral Tribunal.
- 19.4 If there are no eligible candidates to fill the casual vacancy, then the positions shall remain vacant until filled by a by-election (if possible), or left vacant.
- 19.5 The Senior Staff Member shall be responsible for the administration of this regulation, as required by the Electoral Tribunal.

20. FILLING COORDINATOR VACANCIES

- 20.1 Any casual vacancy (as determined by C51) of a Burnley Students Association Department Coordinator prior to twenty one days before the start of polling for a by-election or annual election may be filled in the manner prescribed in this regulation, unless it can first use R18 or R19.
- 20.2 The Secretary shall be responsible for the drawing up of advertising for casual vacancies arising amongst Coordinators and the advertising of such vacancies on the UMSU Website, notice boards, and any other places that the Secretary sees fit.
 - 20.2.1 There shall be two academic weeks notice given for a casual vacancy of a Coordinator.
- 20.3 The Burnley Students Association Department Committee shall meet within three academic days after the final day of notice for the casual vacancy to recommend a candidate to the Electoral Tribunal to fill the casual vacancy.
- 20.4 The Committee shall only recommend a candidate that is eligible to hold the Coordinator position, and all recommendations must be by simple majority vote if no consensus exists.
- 20.5 The Electoral Tribunal shall have the power to fill the casual vacancy with the recommended candidate, by simple majority vote.
- 20.6 If the Committee does not make a recommendation to the Electoral Tribunal, the casual vacancy shall be filled by the process set out in R19, left vacant if R19 cannot be applied, or be filled at a by-election (if possible).
- 20.7 The Electoral Tribunal shall declare the election of the successful candidate within five academic days of the vote referred to in R18.5 and inform the elected candidate, and the Secretary.
- 20.8 The Senior Staff Member shall be responsible for the administration of this regulation, as directed by the Electoral Tribunal and Secretary.

21. TICKETS

- 21.1 If a number of Members wish to stand for election on a common platform, one of those Members may apply to register a ticket name with the Returning Officer.
- 21.2 The application must contain the signatures of at least fifteen Members.
- 21.3 No Member may sign more than one application and no candidate standing on a ticket may sign an application for a different ticket.
- 21.4 If the proposed name of a ticket includes the name of a club or society affiliated with UMSU or MUSUL, the application must include:
 - 21.4.1 the terms of a resolution of that club or society approving the use of the name; and
 - 21.4.2 the signature of the president or secretary of that club or society certifying the passing of the resolution.
- 21.5 If the proposed name of a ticket includes the name of a ticket used in any UMSU election in the past three years, the application must include the consent of the person who most recently registered the ticket.
- 21.6 The Returning Officer may refuse to permit a ticket name which is misleading or offensive, and shall give the applicant the option of choosing another name.
- 21.7 If a ticket name which is not the name of a club or society is proposed by more than one person, the person who first submitted the name may be approved, all other criteria being in order as determined by the Returning officer.

21.7.1 Where more than one ticket name is proposed that is so similar to other proposed ticket name or names, as to cause confusion amongst voters, the ticket name that was submitted first will be approved, all other criteria being in order as determined by the Returning Officer.

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- 21.8 The Returning Officer must afford the same rights and responsibilities to all tickets.
- 21.9 Each Member standing on a ticket must sign and give to the Returning Officer an acknowledgement that their name is included on a ticket.
 - 21.9.1 This acknowledgement must also be signed by the person who registered the ticket for the purposes of that election.
- 21.10 A Member may not stand on more than one ticket in the same ballot. This does not prevent other candidates or tickets supporting the candidature of that Member in election material.
- 21.11 The list of names of candidates standing on each ticket must be prominently displayed at each polling booth and in other election publicity. Ballot papers must also display the ticket a candidate is standing on, if any, next to that candidate's name.
- 21.12 Ticket applications must be received by the Returning Officer no later than 12 midday on the Friday four weeks before the Friday in the week of the annual election, or two weeks before the final day of polling of the by-election.

22. STATEMENTS OF DISTRIBUTION OF PREFERENCES

- 22.1 A ticket may lodge a statement setting out the order in which preferences are to be distributed after being distributed to the ticket in accordance with R35.2.
- 22.2 Preferences may not be split.
- 22.3 Each ticket must preference candidates registered with their own ticket before another candidate.

- 22.4 Statements must be received by the Returning Officer by 12 (midday) on the Friday two weeks before the Friday during the week of the elections, or one week before the day of the last day of polling for a by-election.
- 22.5 The Returning Officer must make the statements available for inspection on the Election Website and in each polling booth.
- 22.6 The Returning Officer must provide a form for preferences submitted by a ticket.

23. DRAW FOR BALLOT PAPER

- 23.1 If the number of candidates exceeds the number to be elected, the Returning Officer must, after the close of nominations, determine by random draw the order of those candidates and tickets where appropriate on the ballot paper.
- 23.2 For multimember ballots, the order that the tickets appear on the ballot paper shall be determined by random draw. The ticket may submit their preferred order of candidates acknowledged to be on that ticket, which shall appear below the name of the ticket on the ballot page.

24. VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

- 24.1 The Returning Officer must verify that each person who has nominated is eligible to stand no later than 5.00pm three academic days after the day nominations close, and that each ticket name is approved by such time.

25. LIST OF CANDIDATES

- 25.1 For annual elections, or by-elections, the Returning Officer must, no later than 5.00pm four academic days after the day nominations close, place a poster that lists the names of all accepted nominations:
 - 25.2 on the Student Union noticeboard in Union House;
 - 25.3 on the Election Website;

26. WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATION

- 26.1 A candidate may withdraw at any time prior to the commencement of counting of the ballots for that position. Withdrawals must be signed by the candidate. A withdrawal will take effect upon its receipt by the Returning Officer. If a candidate withdraws, the Returning Officer must proceed as if that Student had never nominated. Notwithstanding this, any preferences shall be distributed accordingly.
- 26.2 Notice of the candidate's withdrawal shall be prominently displayed on the Election Website, at polling places and on the candidate's or ticket's publicity (if any). Where a ticket has no candidates contesting any position (due to withdrawal), Students shall be prohibited from distributing material in support of, or otherwise encouraging Students to vote for, that ticket.
- 26.3 If in a multi-member ballot (as set out in R11.3.2) all candidates for a registered ticket are withdrawn, then preferences of above-the-line votes for that ticket (in accordance with R35.2.2) will still be distributed to other candidates as per the preference schedule of that ticket.

27. PERMITTED ELECTION MATERIAL

- 27.1 Permitted election material shall include the following:
 - 27.1.1 advertising, where the Returning Officer has approved the content;
 - 27.1.2 websites;
 - 27.1.3 clothing;
 - 27.1.4 leaflets;

- 27.1.5 badges;
 - 27.1.6 chalking (solid block) in areas exposed to the weather on horizontal surfaces;
 - 27.1.7 other types of material, where they have been specifically permitted by the Returning Officer.
- 27.2 Unless specifically permitted by the Returning Officer all other types of material will be prohibited.
- 27.3 Notwithstanding R27.2 the following material can never be permitted election material:
- 27.3.1 stickers
 - 27.3.2 publicity reproduced on paper larger than A3 size (297mm x 420mm);
 - 27.3.3 any material distributed in libraries, tutorial rooms, computer laboratories and lecture theatres or other places of tuition or study that is not taken directly by a Student from the campaigner;
- 27.4 All paper used as election material must be recycled and recyclable.
- 27.5 The Returning Officer must provide facilities at the polling booth for election material to be recycled or re-used.
- 27.6 The Returning Officer may allocate spaces for, or in any other way control the placement of election material, in any way that the Returning Officer sees fit.

28. AUTHORISATION OF ELECTION MATERIAL

- 28.1 Any material concerning the elections, produced, displayed, or distributed during the election period, that either explicitly mentions, or comments visually, literally, or figuratively on the elections, the candidates, or the issues involved, must be authorised by the Returning Officer before that material is displayed or distributed. Only permitted election material may be authorised by the Returning Officer.
- 28.2 Material which is deemed to be sexist, racist, militaristic or queerphobic must not be authorised by Returning Officer.
- 28.3 Any material not contravening R27.3, R27.4 or R28.2, and which is not otherwise deemed by the Returning Officer in his sole discretion to be misleading or deceptive in any way, shall be authorised by the Returning Officer.
- 28.4 The Returning Officer may require any person submitting material for authorisation to sign an indemnity in such forms as may be required by the Returning Officer, before the Returning Officer authorises that material.
- 28.5 All material authorised by the Returning Officer must have the words "Authorised by the Returning Officer" displayed on it and every copy made of it. One copy, or a facsimile, of any authorised material must be kept and reproduced by the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer must make this material accessible for Students to inspect as soon as possible after it is authorised.
- 28.6 All material authorised by the Returning Officer must have the words 'Please Recycle' and 'Published by' followed by the name and Student number of a Student who is to be publisher displayed on it and every copy of it that is distributed or displayed.
- 28.7 In the case that material for which authorisation has not been given, or for which authorisation has been withdrawn, has been circulated, the Returning Officer may, if satisfied that it is warranted, require that the material be taken down and/or removed from circulation by a candidate or ticket.

- 28.8 Where the Returning Officer considers that the size or nature of any publicity makes it impractical to allow the words as stated in R28.5 and R28.6, the Returning Officer may grant a waiver provided that the publisher provides a detailed written description of the publicity to the Returning Officer, and allows the Returning Officer to inspect the publicity. All such material provided to the Returning Officer can be inspected by, and referred to by, other candidates or publishers, provided any such references are not misleading or deceptive in any way. Any ruling granting such a waiver shall also apply to other material of a similar nature, whether referable to the same candidate or publisher, or not.

29. DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS OF POLLING

- 29.1 The annual elections are to be held in the week commencing two weeks before the mid-semester non-instruction period in Second Semester.
- 29.2 A by-election, if held in First Semester, is to be held no later than the week commencing one week before the mid-semester non-instruction period.
- 29.3 Polling during an annual election is to be open as follows:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 am until 5:00 pm,
Tuesday 10:00 am until 6:30 pm,
Friday 10:00 am until 5.00 pm.

Deleted: 2:30

- 29.3.1 Polling for a by-election held in First Semester shall be open on Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and on Wednesday from 9:00 am until 12 midday.
- 29.4 Polling is to be conducted in or near the ground level of:
- 29.4.1 Union House;
- 29.4.2 An area in or near the Burnley Student Association Campus Centre;
- 29.4.3 An area at or near the South Lawn and the Baillieu Library; and
- 29.4.4 An area at or near the Education Resource Centre.

29.4.5 An area at or near the cafeteria on the Southbank (formerly the VCA) Campus

- 29.5 Notwithstanding R29.3 and R29.3.1, the hours of voting may be restricted in the polling places named in R29.4.2, R29.4.3, R29.4.4., and 29.4.5 but shall not be fewer than three consecutive hours at no less than two of the locations, excepting for a by-election.

Deleted: and

30. VOTING

- 30.1 Persons entitled to vote in elections may only vote once in each election. All votes of a Student who votes or attempts to vote more than once are invalid.
- 30.2 Votes cast at a polling place other than where the master electoral roll is kept must be sealed in an unmarked envelope, which shall be placed a separate envelope with the Student's name and Student number upon it, and shall be treated as a provisional vote.
- 30.2.1 This name and Student number shall then be reconciled against the master roll at the end of the polling period.
- 30.2.2 If the Student has not already cast a vote in the election, the vote shall be counted.

31. POSTAL VOTES

- 31.1 Any Student may apply in writing to the Returning Officer for a postal vote. The Returning Officer is obliged to accept all postal vote applications where the postal vote application has been completed correctly.
- 31.2 Applications for postal votes must be received by 5:00pm, at least 3 academic days before the first day of polling.
- 31.3 The Returning Officer must send a ballot paper, return postage paid envelope by post or any other reasonable method, to any person eligible to vote by postal vote, who applies in accordance with these Regulations for a postal vote, as soon as practicable after that application is received.
- 31.4 The name of each Student who has been sent a postal vote must be marked as a postal voter on every electoral roll.
- 31.5 Postal votes must be received by the close of polling on the last day of voting. Postal votes received after this time will be invalid.

32. BALLOT PAPERS

- 32.1 The form of ballot papers for each election shall be determined by the Returning Officer subject to requirements of these Regulations.
- 32.2 Elections for more than one position may be included on one page of the ballot paper.
- 32.3 The Returning Officer must arrange for the printing of ballot papers. A count must be kept of all ballot papers distributed to polling booths and issued to postal voters.

33. ISSUING OF BALLOT PAPERS

- 33.1 Before a voter is issued with a ballot paper, the Polling Clerk must:
 - 33.1.1 obtain the voter's Student number and check it against the roll;
 - 33.1.2 ask to see photographic identification of the voter;
 - 33.1.3 initial the ballot paper;
 - 33.1.4 cross the voter's name off the electoral roll;
- 33.2 Once a voter has been crossed off the electoral roll they will be issued with a ballot paper.
- 33.3 The voter must complete the ballot paper within the polling station and place it in the ballot box.
- 33.4 Where a person is unable to provide adequate photographic identification to a Polling Clerk, that person may not vote.
- 33.5 A person who does not appear on the electoral roll or whose name has been marked off the electoral roll may be issued with a provisional vote, which will be included in the count only if their eligibility to vote is verified by the Returning Officer.

34. SPOILT BALLOT PAPERS

- 34.1 If a voter spoils her/his ballot paper, and still wishes to record a vote, he/she must surrender the spoilt ballot paper to the polling clerk.
- 34.2 The Polling Clerk must mark the ballot papers as 'Spoilt' and place it in the ballot box, and then issue a fresh ballot paper to the voter in accordance with these Regulations.

35. METHOD OF VOTING

- 35.1 In accordance with C112(a) elections must be conducted using optional preferential proportional representation.
- 35.2 Voters must indicate their order of preference for candidates either:
- 35.2.1 by placing the number 1 against the name of the candidate of first preference and consecutive higher numbers commencing from the number 2 upwards as applicable, against the names of as many other candidates of lower preference in order as they wish (whether or not they choose to allocate a preference to all candidates); or
- 35.2.2 where permitted by R11.3.2, by placing the number 1 against the name of a ticket.
- 35.3 For the purposes of R35.2:
- 35.3.1 a number against the name of a candidate indicates a preference for that candidate ahead of all candidates with higher numbers, and candidates with numbers shall be taken as preferences ahead of those with no number against their name;
- 35.3.2 a tick against the name of a candidate or ticket where there is no number 1 against the name of another candidate or ticket is deemed to be the number 1;
- 35.3.3 a cross or any other distinct identifying mark against the name of a candidate or ticket where there is no number 1 or tick or other distinct identifying mark against the name of another candidate is deemed to be the number 1.
- 35.4 A voter who has voted for a ticket in accordance with R35.2.2 is deemed to have voted as if they had placed the number 1 against the name of the first candidate on the ticket and consecutive higher numbers against the names of any other candidates on the ticket in order.
- 35.5 If a ticket has lodged a statement of preferences in accordance with R21, voters who have voted for that ticket are deemed to have voted for other candidates in that election in accordance with that statement.

36. CASTING OF VOTES

- 36.1 Votes (other than postal votes) must be cast by the voter personally placing the ballot papers in a locked/sealed ballot box provided for that purpose at each polling place.

37. SECURITY OF BALLOT PAPERS AND VOTERS' ROLLS

- 37.1 Ballot boxes may only be unlocked/unsealed by the Returning Officer.
- 37.2 The Returning Officer must, whenever a ballot box becomes full, remove the ballot papers and lock them in a secure place.
- 37.3 Immediately after the end of polling, the Returning Officer must lock all unissued ballot papers and voters' rolls in a secure place.

38 COUNTING OF VOTES

- 38.1 Counting must commence as soon as is practicable after 12pm on the final day of voting.
- 38.2 Ballot papers must only be removed from ballot boxes under the direct supervision of the Returning Officer.
- 38.3 The only persons who may be present during counting are:
- 38.3.1 any election staff employed for the purposes of counting and supervision of counting;

Deleted: the close of voting

- 38.3.2 any member of the Electoral Tribunal;
- 38.3.3 scrutineers for the positions being counted at that time; and,
- 38.3.4 others specifically authorised by and under the supervision of the Returning Officer.

38.3.5 where counting is taking place prior to the close of voting scrutineers present for the counting of the vote may not leave the venue prior to the close of voting.

- 38.4 The Returning Officer may exclude from the place of counting any person disrupting or not assisting with counting other than members of the Electoral Tribunal.
- 38.5 If counting of any election is adjourned, the Returning Officer must place a notice on or near an entrance to the count room stating when and where counting in that election will resume.

39. SCRUTINEERS

- 39.1 Each candidate who is not part of a ticket is able to nominate two scrutineers, who must in each case be Students, to observe the vote counting process on behalf of the candidate.
- 39.2 The person who has registered a ticket may nominate two scrutineers, who must be Students, to observe all vote counts in which the ticket has an acknowledged candidate on behalf of the ticket and its candidates.
- 39.3 A candidate may be appointed as a scrutineer, for a position for which they are not standing, by another candidate.
- 39.4 Scrutineer nominations must be submitted to the Returning Officer prior to their entry to the count room.
- 39.5 Scrutineers must be clearly identifiable as such whilst in the vote counting area, and must wear such identifying marks as determined by the Returning Officer for that purpose.
- 39.6 Under no circumstances can a scrutineer touch or handle either the ballot box, ballot papers or other material assisting in the conduct of the count.
- 39.7 No cameras or other recording equipment shall be allowed in the counting room.
- 39.8 No alcohol shall be allowed in the counting room.

40. INFORMAL VOTES

- 40.1 A vote is informal only when it does not comply with R35 or the voter's intention is not clear.

41. METHOD OF COUNTING –

OPTIONAL PREFERENTIAL PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

- 41.1 Each ballot paper must first be given the value of 1.
- 41.2 Votes must then be counted in accordance with the following procedure:
 - 41.2.1 The value of each ballot paper must be allocated to the continuing candidate that the voter has indicated their highest preference.
 - 41.2.2 If a ballot paper
 - 41.2.2.1 shows an equal highest preference to more than one continuing candidate, or,
 - 41.2.2.2 does not show a consecutive preference for at least one continuing candidate,
 - 41.2.2.3 that ballot paper is exhausted and may not be allocated or reallocated to any further candidates.

- 41.2.2.4 4A quota must be calculated by dividing the total value of ballot papers allocated to continuing candidates by one more than the number of position remaining to be filled.
 - 41.2.2.5 If there are withdrawn candidates who have votes assigned to them, then they are all eliminated simultaneously and steps R38.2.5 and R38.2.6 are initially omitted. Any such ballot papers for withdrawn candidates must then be reallocated to the continuing candidate for which the voter has indicated the highest preference.
 - 41.2.2.6 If any continuing candidates are allocated a value in excess of the quota, all such candidates are provisionally elected in order of descending number of votes. Each ballot paper allocated to the candidate who is elected earliest must be given a new value obtained by multiplying its current value by the candidate's transfer value.
 - 41.2.2.7 If no continuing candidate is allocated a value in excess of the quota, the candidate with the lowest value must be eliminated and their ballot papers reallocated to the continuing candidate to whom the voter has indicated the highest preference.
- 41.3 The procedure in R41.2 must be repeated in order until the number of positions to be filled is filled.
- 41.4 In this Regulation:
- 41.4.1 "continuing candidate" means a candidate who has neither been provisionally elected nor eliminated;
 - 41.4.2 "candidate's transfer value" is the provisionally elected candidate's value, less the quota at that stage of counting, all divided by the elected candidate's value.
 - 41.4.3 "preference" means a preference for a continuing candidate, as defined in R38.4.1.
- 41.5 For the purpose of this Regulation, all calculations are to be performed to an accuracy of six decimal places or a greater level of accuracy if it is determined appropriate by the Returning Officer.
- 41.6 If there are two or more candidates with an equal value who are to be eliminated or elected, the candidate who had the higher value at the last stage of counting that their value differed will be deemed to have the higher number of votes. If any candidates have had an equal value at each previous stage of counting, the Returning Officer must determine by lot which of these candidates is deemed to have the higher value.

42. METHOD OF COUNTING FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

- 42.1 All candidates must be given the opportunity to be elected in their own right before affirmative action applies.
- 42.2 If ever the next step in the count would result in the election of fewer Women or Postgraduate Students than is required under the relevant affirmative action requirement, and there are candidates who are Women or Postgraduate Students, as appropriate, who have not yet been elected, then the following steps must be taken:
 - 42.2.1 Reintroduce to the count, with zero votes, all candidates who are Women or Postgraduate Students who have previously been excluded;
 - 42.2.2 Exclude all remaining candidates who are not Women or Postgraduate Students, including the candidate who would have been next elected without the affirmative action requirement;
 - 42.2.3 The value of any ballot paper distributed from a candidate excluded by affirmative action will be distributed to the remaining Women or Postgraduate candidates with the highest preference on that ballot paper.

43. DECLARATION OF PROVISIONAL RESULTS

- 43.1 The Returning Officer must immediately after counting an election, provisionally declare the results.
- 43.2 The Returning Officer must, as soon as possible after the results of all elections to be counted have been provisionally declared, place a notice of the declaration of provisional results on the Election Website and on a noticeboard in Union House.

44. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- 44.1 Any dishonest conduct in an election is prohibited.
- 44.2 Candidates are responsible for the conduct of their campaigners.
- 44.3 Any conduct intended or likely to mislead or deceive a voter is prohibited.
- 44.4 Any inducement, whether financial or otherwise, to encourage a Member to vote or to vote in a particular way, is prohibited.
- 44.5 Without limiting the generality of R44, the following are specifically prohibited:
 - 44.5.1 Providing false information in or interfering with any form lodged with the Returning Officer;
 - 44.5.2 Impersonating another person;
 - 44.5.3 Distributing misleading, false, or defamatory statements;
 - 44.5.4 Casting a vote with the intention to defraud;
 - 44.5.5 Destroying or defacing a ballot paper, ballot box, or election notice; defacing does not mean making comments on an otherwise valid ballot paper.
 - 44.5.6 Removing a ballot paper from the polling place;
 - 44.5.7 Interfering with ballot papers, ballot boxes, or voters' rolls;
 - 44.5.8 Violating the secrecy of the ballot;
 - 44.5.9 Supplying ballot papers without authority;
 - 44.5.10 Attempting to vote more than once at the same election;
 - 44.5.11 Defacing, mutilating, destroying or removing any notice, list or other document affixed or posted by the Returning Officer;
 - 44.5.12 Defacing, mutilating, destroying or removing any election material without the authority of the publisher of that material;
 - 44.5.13 Producing, distributing, or causing in any way to be made available any publicity not in accordance with R28;
 - 44.5.14 Unfairly interfering with a candidates' publicity;
 - 44.5.15 Campaigning within the defined area of a polling place;
 - 44.5.16 Paying a person to campaign;
 - 44.5.17 Offering gifts or bribes or attempting to exert undue influence, including but not limited to attempting to influence the actions of the Returning Officer or other electoral officials, offering bribes to a voter, and offering bribes or gifts to entice a person to nominate as a candidate in any elections held in accordance with these Regulations;

- 44.5.18 Using for campaign purposes any facilities of UMSU or MUSUL not generally available to all Students, including, but not limited to, office space, computers, photocopiers, stationery, cars, telephones and facsimile machines;
 - 44.5.19 Damaging UMSU, MUSUL or University property;
 - 44.5.20 Failing to comply with a direction of the Returning Officer or Electoral Tribunal;
 - 44.5.21 Obstructing a meeting of the Electoral Tribunal
 - 44.5.22 Impeding the conduct of the election;
 - 44.5.23 Marking any ballot paper issued to another person, other than at the specific direction of the Returning Officer;
 - 44.5.24 Making a false statement in any form, claim, application, return or declaration, or in answer to a question asked in accordance with these Regulations;
 - 44.5.25 Engaging in disruptive conduct at a polling place or counting centre;
 - 44.5.26 Physically or verbally harassing a person.
 - 44.5.27 Engaging in sexist, racist, homophobic or militaristic intimidation or abuse.
 - 44.5.28 Assaulting or attempting to assault a person.
 - 44.5.29 Campaigning, directly or indirectly, or aiding in campaigning in the elections, by any persons who are not current Students of the University.
 - 44.5.30 Without limiting R12 of the Procedures for Student Representatives, UMSU Office bearers in receipt of a full-time or part-time honorarium, and who have not taken a leave of absence for the duration of the poll, may not campaign in an UMSU Election in any capacity.
- 44.6 For the purposes of R44.5, a Polling Place will be an area around the ballot boxes of no less than six metres distance from the ballot box. An area defining the polling place will be allocated at the Returning Officer's discretion, and wherever practicable the Returning Officer must mark a line defining the polling place.
- 44.7 The Returning Officer may direct any person breaching any part of these Regulations to cease doing so. The Returning Officer may make any additional directions within the scope of these Regulations.
- 44.8 The Returning Officer may report any acts of alleged prohibited conduct to the Electoral Tribunal.

45. REPORTS OF MISCONDUCT BY THE RETURNING OFFICER

- 45.1 If it is perceived that the Returning Officer has in any determination, action, or lack of action, committed an act of serious misconduct, an individual or individuals may at any time make a report of misconduct by the Returning Officer to the Electoral Tribunal.
- 45.2 Such reports must be in writing, and must contain substantiating material.
- 45.3 If satisfied that it is warranted, a member of the Electoral Tribunal may call a meeting of the Electoral Tribunal to consider the report of misconduct by the Returning Officer.
- 45.4 The Electoral Tribunal may, if satisfied that serious electoral misconduct has occurred, dismiss the Returning Officer, and appoint a new Returning Officer.

46. REPORTS OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- 46.1 Candidates may make reports of prohibited conduct to the Returning Officer at any time before the declaration of provisional results.
- 46.1.1 Such reports must be in writing and contain substantiating material.
- 46.1.2 The Returning Officer may act within his or her powers in relation to such reports.
- 46.1.3 Candidates may appeal any decision of the Returning Officer to the Electoral Tribunal. Candidates must do so in writing and provide substantiating material regarding how it is alleged the Returning Officer has made a faulty decision.
- 46.1.4 Notwithstanding Rule 4.1.2, the Returning Officer may act within his or her powers in relation to any report made prior to the declaration of provisional results.
- 46.2 After the declaration of provisional results, candidates may make reports of prohibited conduct to the Electoral Tribunal.
- 46.2.1 Such reports must be in writing, and must contain substantiating material.
- 46.2.2 Before declaring the poll, the Electoral Tribunal must investigate all reported incidents of prohibited conduct, and conduct such hearings as the Electoral Tribunal deems necessary.
- 46.2.3 The Electoral Tribunal may, whether it finds there has been a breach of these Regulations or not, give such directions as it sees fit.
- 46.2.4 If the Electoral Tribunal finds there has been a breach, it may formally reprimand the person reported.
- 46.2.5 If the Electoral Tribunal finds there has been a serious breach, it may disqualify the person from standing in that and future elections, and may as a result declare that candidate not be elected.

47. APPEALS AGAINST RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

- 47.1 Candidates wishing to request a recount of any election may lodge a written request for a recount with the Returning Officer within three working days of the declaration of provisional results. The Returning Officer will only act upon such a request if satisfied that it is warranted. The Returning Officer must conduct the recount within seven working days of the request being approved.
- 47.2 After the declaration of provisional results, Students may appeal against the result of the election by making a written submission to the Electoral Tribunal within three working days of the declaration of provisional results or within three working days of the recount of an election, whichever is the latter.
- 47.3 Before declaring the poll, the Electoral Tribunal must investigate all such appeals, and conduct such hearings as the Electoral Tribunal deems necessary. The student appealing must be given an opportunity to present their case before the Tribunal. The onus of proof in any such appeal must lie with the complainant or complainants. A complainant may be assisted by one other individual who must be a Student.
- 47.4 If satisfied that there has been a defect in the conduct of the election which has materially affected the result, the tribunal may:
- 47.4.1 Order the Returning Officer to conduct a recount or recounts;
- 47.4.2 Declare that a candidate not be elected;
- 47.4.3 Declare that another candidate be elected;
- 47.4.4 Declare that a new poll be conducted.

48. DECLARATION OF THE POLL

- 48.1 The Returning Officer must prepare a written report on the conduct of the elections and the result, and provide the report to the Electoral Tribunal, the MUSUL Chief Executive Officer, the University Secretary, and the Students' Council. The Returning Officer's report must contain:
- 48.1.1 A list of the candidates declared provisionally elected to each position and the order in which they obtained quota;
 - 48.1.2 A summary showing the number of votes for each candidate at each level of the count;
 - 48.1.3 Details of the conduct of the elections;
 - 48.1.4 Any recommendations of the Returning Officer; and
 - 48.1.5 Such other information the Electoral Tribunal may require.
- 48.2 A meeting of the Electoral Tribunal must be convened not less than seven days and not more than fourteen days after the results of all elections to be counted have been provisionally declared, to consider the Returning Officer's report and consider any reports of prohibited conduct, or any appeals against the results of the elections.
- 48.3 The Electoral Tribunal must deal with any reports of prohibited conduct according to the procedure specified in R43.
- 48.4 The Electoral Tribunal must deal with any appeals against the results of the elections according to the procedure specified in R44.
- 48.5 The Electoral Tribunal must declare the final result of the election within four weeks of the declaration of provisional results.
- 48.6 If matters are still pending before the Electoral Tribunal after four weeks from the declaration of provisional results the matters automatically lapse and cannot be heard.
- 48.7 A copy of the official Election Report must be stored in the archives of the Student Union and made accessible to Students.

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.

Clubs and Societies OB report 5

In bullet format, for an easier read!

What C & S has been up to...

- C & S has had a busy year so far with a number of new clubs seeking to start up with C & S while on the other hand a number of clubs have unfortunately been disaffiliated. A lot of new clubs are happily going through the process of affiliation. Unfortunately this resulted in us having to make up many new club packs (which have since been made). Thanks to Shaun Khoo for helping be Fiona's slave on this task.
- Both of us have been RO-ing for various clubs and Kath has been steadily going through the AGM's from previous years.
- Clubs have been applying for a steady stream of grants and have held many a successful event.
- Here is a Budget update:
So far this year we have spent \$20,700 on grants, \$9,289 on Orientation, \$31.60 from the Special Projects line for a locksmith to make keys for Club lockers which will soon be made available, \$55.25 from the Special Projects line for BBQ equipment, and \$91.80 from the Stationery line for the New Clubs Packs.
- Our committee has had a few membership changes that has seen Jason Ball leave us and be replaced by Jonathan Donagan. While Jonathan Hunt is to be replaced by John Harris on the 15th of June since Jonathan is leaving for far greener pastures. Clubs Council has kindly decided to continue with the 'J' name theme.

We don't really have much to report this time, but Students' council has managed to approve our last report. We've also attached the regulations that we need to submit to council at the bottom of this report.

Regulations

The Clubs and Societies committee recommends that the following regulation amendments:

C&S Committee Meeting 8 (April 2 2009)

Compulsory Training Regulations

6.1.r. fails to attend training or information sessions deemed by a motion of the C&S Committee as compulsory.

Motion 5: That the compulsory training regulation be recommended to Students' Council.

Moved: Jono Hunt Seconded: Sam Rankin

CWD

C&S Committee Meeting 11 (May 15 2009)

Motion 16: That the Officers recommend new regulation 5.6.k to Students' Council. The regulation reads: 5.6.k Clubs that fail to submit the membership list containing the information and using the format stipulated by a motion of the Clubs and Societies Committee will receive no funding until such time as they submit the membership list in the correct format.

Moved: Jono Donagan Seconded: Jesse Overton-Skinner

CWD

Club statistics

Number of Completed Affiliations: 1

Education Students Association

Number of clubs in the process of Affiliation: 14

Number of clubs disaffiliated this year: 6

Breakfirst

Cross-culture Dialogue Society

Turkish Students on Campus

Urban Yoga

Department of Forestry and Ecosystems Science Student Club

Mechanical Engineering Society

Tea Statistics

Number of teas (max): 15

Number of teas (current):11

Number of tea pots: 2

Education Report

1/6/09:

Recently we have been organizing more in preparation for the Exam Support Stalls and also trying to improve SRN.

Exam Support Stalls

In the last couple of weeks we have worked hard to secure financial support for hiring the marquee, which will allow us to spend more of the money allocated for the support stall on supplies for students. We have been working on a roster for keeping watch at the stall (and volunteers!??) which has been quite logistically difficult given the early starts!

We are in the process of creating an FAQ sheet and helpful hints guide for volunteers to ensure the support stall is as engaging and helpful as possible. We have also designed and ordered a new sign to be made so that the exam support stall will be more visible and clear on what service the union is providing.

Education Conference 2009

We published a short article about ed con and the student subsidy available for union members in the last edition of Farrago. This week we will be publicizing widely on posters around the universities, on the ed ac web site page, and leaving applications ready to be picked up at reception and info desk.

This year the itinerary is set for a fascinating debate and policy fest on higher education in Australia. Applications are due in time for the subsidy offer by June 12th.

SRN

We have opened up an online avenue for SRN members to communicate to one another on facebook and on the Union twitter site. The idea is that any information from university meetings will be uploaded and online for students to see, with the exception of a couple of committees that deal with sensitive and private information.

We also held a meeting last week to discuss how SRN members felt they were going and to nut out any problems, as well as distribute info about ed conference.

Summary of University Committee meetings:

As always, we have also been attending various university committees. Here is a short summary of just a couple...for more info please let us know!

SPC:

- Significant debate around access for international students and whether the university should adopt a new English test that is done entirely by computer. We disagreed with this, pointing out the nuances in spoken English that are essential to effective communication
- The enter scores for indigenous students and other special entrant students was discussed, and a change to the targeted group so that less privileged schools manage to get the most applications through by using an anomaly or loophole, ie, Ballarat Grammar School being classified as disadvantaged because it is a regional school, which falls into the same category as for instance, Shepparton High.
- Potential scope for university making a profit from selling their curriculum 'packages' to overseas universities...watch this space....

TALQAC:

- Debated the pro's and con's of having merely an optional online survey for students to give feedback on how they felt their degree as a whole was going as opposed to compulsory QOTs
- The strain on student centre's and lack of direction was made clear
- Noted relative contentment with level of feedback on QOTS, (averaging mostly 4). This is obviously skewed because many non-plussed students put 4 as an 'average'.

Semester 2...

- We will be following up University Bookshop to ensure the student discount is viable and that the percentage profit for the university is not excessive compared to other universities. We have reason to believe that the Melbourne Uni Bookshop is making a killing on students buying its books for a very small discount in comparison to other universities, where union members receive a 20-25% discount. Hmmmmmm
- Success!!! MUSIL officially gave the green light for the proposal put together for a book co-op on level one. The Book co-op will become one of our central projects for semester two. We hope to make the space as effective as possible and create another student hub on level one whilst working closely with other departments and the with the food co-op. We have attached the co-op proposal for your reference.
- Peer Support Program

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.

Education (Public Affairs) Report for Students Council 3/6/2009

Save the Victorian College of the Arts Campaign

Last Monday 25th May Tim headed down to the VCA to participate in a meeting called around defending the VCA from subject, course and staff cuts that Melbourne University is proposing. Since the takeover of the VCA by Melbourne University, the administration here at MU have been planning to 'streamline' the VCA much like they have done with the Arts faculty under the auspices of the Melbourne Model. Here we saw massive cuts to courses and subjects, particularly specialist subjects, and whole majors such as gender studies. It was also accompanied with large numbers of staff redundancies, as well as increasing the workloads of existing staff without remuneration.

It is clear that Melbourne University plans a similar attack on the VCA, with talk of demands that they slash up to 48% of their total budget! Whole courses are looking at being scrapped, while undergrad courses will be turned over to being broad degree factories, with any hope of specialization reserved for post-graduate study, which is of course much more expensive.

Melbourne Uni is about to implement this within the next 18 months, and it has shaken up a large number of new students who were not aware, but now realise that their courses are in jeopardy. Last Monday 18th an emergency meeting was called which attracted between 80-100 VCA students, approx 10% of the whole campus! At the meeting Tim attended, it was decided that there will be a performance piece coupled with a mini-speakout/ awareness raising event, next Friday 5th June at 3:30pm at Federation Square. They will be getting former alumni to speak in defence of the college, and are hoping to attract more media attention and build some momentum coming into next semester.

NTEU strike

The National Tertiary Education Union strike last Thursday 21st was a great first step for the NTEU on Melbourne Uni and indeed throughout Victoria, as teachers and staff, having been ignored by administrations around the state took action to demand long-deserved basic working rights.

It was a great experience for us office-bearers to be on a picket where we actually work, and get the chance to talk to students about the need to show solidarity with the staff and in support of their own education not come onto campus for that day. We had limited success in turning students away, but the real highlight of the day was the centralized rally itself down outside the State Library in the afternoon, which got around 450 people along to it.

It was very unfortunate that the union itself did not shut down on Thursday to show solidarity with the staff in helping keep the campus as dead as possible. Office Bearers coming onto campus certainly showed their allegiance that day. They sent a message that they are on the side of the university administration, that is forcing down wages and conditions, rather than with the university staff, teachers and their union who were fighting for basic rights such as better staff-student ratios, greater job security and decent pay.

Al Nakba

Friday 15th was the 61st commemoration of Al-Nakba, or the catastrophe, remembering the displacement of 750,000 innocent Palestinians because of the establishment of Israel in 1948. Students for Palestine held a highly successful teach-in that afternoon which attracted 150 people who heard from La Trobe academic Patrick Wolfe, and Palestinian nurse Riyad al-Adassi.

We then went across to the rally outside the State Library. This was a great, loud and passionate show of support for Palestine and outrage at Israel's continued aggression towards the Palestinian people. It really highlighted the truth of one of the most popular slogans, "you can kill, you can lie, but Palestine will never die."

Haneen Zoabi

On Tuesday 19th Students for Palestine were please to host Haneen Zoabi, the first woman elected from an Arab party to the Israeli government, the Knesset. Around 250 people came to hear Haneen speak about the inbuilt racism of the Israeli state, and the day to day humiliation Palestinians face. It was great to hear such a courageous, outspoken critic of Israel, fighting for Palestinian rights from within Israel. The event was a great success which really helped solidify and

raise the profile of the group as a serious organization that takes a defiant stand in support of the Palestinians.

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.

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.

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 – 1st June 2009
Tristan Clack

I have now reached the mid-point of my term as welfare officer and the following is a list of recent activities

- Meetings continue with University officials and other interested parties concerning affordable and accessible student housing. There was also a forum (which I attended) called *Transnational and Temporary: students, community, and place-making in central Melbourne*, which was hosted by the Melbourne city council and many ideas were expressed concerning housing and the improvements that are needed not only to affordability but better integration between local and international students which involves everything from better apartment design to facilitate improved communal living through to breaking down the administrative divide between the two groups as in most institutions they are treated separately
- Sexual health campaigns still continue as this is an issue that won't go away. Through consultation with interested parties the campaign will be taken into second semester by postering known "hotspots", articles in student journals as well as advocating for more condom vending machines around campus. Plus the continuing sexual health awareness days where information and contraceptives are distributed using anonymous bags, as these methods have been proven to be effective as a means of getting the message across and do not cost the welfare department a single cent to operate
- Welfare committee has been consistently inquorate since my last report and as such no money has been approved or spent.
- Concession cards for all students campaign is continuing with events that are currently being planned for next semester. These include but not limited to badge making and having stalls to distribute them; a forum where students can come and ask questions directly to public officials (this event is subject to government personnel availability).

I will be continuing to work vigorously through the winter break by working together with housing associations, DHS and the university on affordable housing solutions; advocating for more sexual health promotions and continuing the good fight for concession cards for all students.

Welfare Report for Students Council, 3 June 2009

Over the weekend I attended the demonstration called by the Federation of Indian Students Australia to protest the recent violent racist attacks on Indian students. Upwards of 5000 Indian students came out to protest against the attacks. Their anger was mainly at the police, and the fact they are denying that these attacks are racist, and have actually blamed the victims. They suggest that students should just not draw attention to themselves, and that the problem is they make themselves targets by talking loudly in their native language and carrying luxury items like laptops, iPods and mobile phones. This really is a disgusting, racist, response, and it is great to see the clear rejection of this.

It is no surprise that these attacks have been happening given the way international students are treated. They are treated as cash cows by the universities and the government. The response of Universities Australia was that the attacks were terrible because it would impact on the international student market as it would turn students off from coming to Australia. It was good to see there was a lot of anger about this at the demo, with lots of speeches and placards stating how much money they bring to Australia, and about how Universities are happy to take their fees but don't care about their welfare, and how the government as well. For example, "I pay tax, I pay fees, I get stabbed... in Australia." And the protestor's anger towards the police proved justified as police moved in and brutally attacked the protestors, leaving several hospitalised.

I have been attempting to get in touch with MUOSS and the Melbourne University Indian Club to organise a forum and to discuss other ways that the Student Union, and particularly the Welfare Department, should respond. I think it is also now even more important the student union force the government to address some of the material inequalities that International students face such as lack of concession cards, manipulation and exploitation by housing agents and employers, and manipulation by universities and colleges. These factors combined mean students face poverty, are forced to live in outer suburbs with unsafe train stations as there is no affordable and liveable student housing close to universities, and made to feel as if they are less important and less worthy than other students.

I also staffed the NTEU picket line as staff struck to demand better working conditions and better pay. It was outrageous to see Office Bearers of the student union cross the picket line. It seems that some people clearly have no idea what unionism is, and do not understand the basic principle of showing solidarity and supporting strikes. Supporting a strike does not involve just saying you support it, but means respecting a picket line and not undermining a strike.

Platform:

International students, especially Indian students, are increasingly victims of racist attacks. Students have been beaten unconscious on trains, and others stabbed in the chest and head with screwdrivers by racists who gatecrashed a party. At least two have died of their injuries. These were clearly racially motivated, yet the Victorian Police have claimed they were not racist attacks, and have instead blamed the victims, saying they should just not draw attention to themselves and not travel on trains late at night. This is a reprehensible and racist response that lets the attackers off the hook. Similarly, the state government has refused to act on the issue, and refused to address the material inequalities that international students face, such as lack of concession cards, manipulation and exploitation by housing agents and employers, and manipulation by universities and colleges. Even the National Union of Students president David Barrow said that Australia is not a racist country and dismissed that the attacks were racist.

It was inspiring to see over 5000 students protest on Sunday against these attacks, with their anger targeted at the police and their dismissive attitude towards the attack. They were also angry about the way the government and universities purely use them as an easy way to make money, taking their money without any concern for their welfare. It is therefore vital that the Student Union stands with Indian students as they demand to be heard and to be treated with respect.

Motion

The University of Melbourne Student Union strongly condemns the racist attacks on Indian Students. We also condemn the appalling response by the Victorian Police to the attacks in denying the racist nature of the attacks and blaming the victims. We call on the government to provide:

- adequate funding for support services for international students. This includes housing and employment services, counselling, translation etc.
- affordable and liveable housing for students near universities so they are not forced to live in the outer suburbs
- increased staff at train stations and on trains, and increased lighting and surveillance cameras
- Transport concession cards for all international students