

University of Melbourne Student Union

Annual General Meeting

***UNCONFIRMED* Minutes**

12:45 PM, 05.05.2015

Meeting 1/15

**Location: North Court,
Union House**

Meeting opened at 12:46pm by Hana Dalton.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Hana Dalton be elected Chair.

Mover: Hana Dalton

Seconder: Stephen Smith

CARRIED

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged.

1.3 Attendance

The Chair was advised that there were over 400 students in attendance.

1.4 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: To adopt the Agenda as presented.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

2. Minutes

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting on 15 April 2014

Motion 3: To confirm the Minutes from the Annual General Meeting on 15 April 2014 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Mover: Chair

CARRIED

3. Office Bearers' Reports

3.1 President

Written report submitted.

3.2 General Secretary

Written report submitted.

3.3 Media

Written report submitted.

3.4 Activities

Written report submitted.

3.5 Creative Arts

No report submitted.

3.6 Disabilities

Written report submitted.

3.7 Clubs and Societies

Written report submitted.

3.8 Education (Academic Affairs)

Written report submitted.

3.9 Education (Public Affairs)

Written report submitted.

3.10 Environment

Written report submitted.

3.11 Indigenous

Written report submitted.

3.12 UMSU International

Written report submitted.

3.13 Queer

Written report submitted.

3.14 Welfare

Written report submitted.

3.15 Wom*n's

Written report submitted.

3.16 VCAMSA

No report submitted.

Motion 4: To approve the Office Bearer reports <i>en bloc</i> . Mover: Chair CARRIED
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4. Motions on Notice

4.1 2014 Financial Report

Motion 5: To accept the 2014 Financial Report. Mover: Chair CARRIED

5. Other Business

No other business.

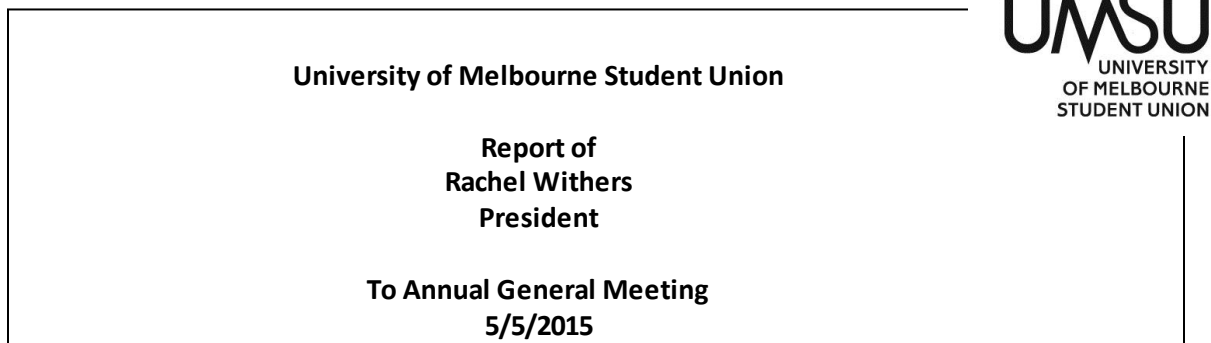
6. Next Meeting

Semester 1 2016 at a date and time to be determined by the 2015/16 General Secretary.

Meeting closed at 12:48pm.

3. Office Bearers' Reports

3.1 President



Introductory meetings with university:

Throughout late last year, I held meetings with various individuals in the university to discuss 2015 and the ways in which UMSU and the university can work together including Glyn Davis (VC) and Margaret Sheil (Provost), Elizabeth Capp (Directors Students and Equity), Dan Persaud (Director Wellbeing) and Paul Duldig (new head of University Services).

Induction:

I organised Office Bearer Induction, which was a great success. I included a new session with Sally Coates, formerly of the university's Safer Community Program and now head of Campus Community (and who has been a great friend to Clubs & Societies in the past), to run a wonderful session on welfare and teambuilding. As a group we established our own non-binding Code of Conduct for 2015.

Isegoria:

Early in my term, I met with a Computing & Information systems PhD student working on an app called Isegoria, aimed at improving student engagement. The app would use students' university login details, and features a news tab, an events tab, a photos tab, a tab about UMSU elections. His intention was for the platform to be paid for by the university, or provide us with it for free if the university refused. I provided the team with a letter of my personal endorsement, however the uni has recently opted not to purchase the app after a long and arduous negotiation. I am working with the creators of the app to establish next steps from here.

O-Week changes:

This year I introduced two new events to the regular program: a recurring UMSU Info session on Wednesday afternoon and a Meet Your Student Reps social event on the Thursday afternoon. The usual O-Week events are well into the planning stages, and O-Week looks to be a great week again.

Since late last year, I made sure all UMSU events would be promoted on university channels, and all our major events were featured on the university's official Orientation 2015 website. I also secured UMSU a small window to speak in each Faculty welcome session.

Colleges:

Hana and I met with members of the Intercollegiate Council to discuss the gap between college students and the rest of the student community, and the ways in which we can get students living at college more engaged in UMSU.

I emailed all the college presidents a form to arrange times for me to come and speak at their colleges. The college presidents have been very receptive and welcoming, and so far this year I have spoken at St Hilda's, St Mary's, Whitley, International House and Medley Hall dinners. I also published a piece in the May edition of the Intercollegiate Magazine about UMSU and my visits.

I also learnt through these visits that the Baptist Union that owns Whitley is considering closing it as a college and turning Whitley into a theological school. This would be a great tragedy in my eyes, and I expressed this directly to Glyn Davis in the hope that the University might consider buying Whitley (in light of the University's desire to acquire more accommodation options, to lose these beds seems counterproductive).

International fees:

I was approached by an international student who has concerns over the way in which their total fees are uncertain at the commencement of their degree (ie: an offer with the upcoming year's fee and an indication of the total cost, subject to massive change). I have been looking into other countries and campaigns that have abolished this uncertainty around international fees, and I am currently researching the levels of awareness of the issue within the Melbourne University community. The same issues applies to non CSP places.

UMSU Mentoring Network:

I established the UMSU Mentoring Network, a new initiative aimed at connecting students with a experienced mentor from within the student body. I spoke to several university staff members late last year and received the university's strong support. I applied for an Equity Innovation Grant for the program, which I was delighted to receive. We hired three student Directors to run the program, and arranged office space through working with MUSUL, who operate Union House. Mentors and mentees have now been matched up, with lots of relationships forged between younger and older students of various faculty-backgrounds.

Presidents' Summit:

I attended the National Union of Students Presidents' Summit at the University of Sydney. This proved a valuable opportunity to network with other student union presidents from around the country, and share both our frustrations and successes.

A great deal of discussion was held around the governments attempted changes to higher education (this came up in almost every session). One of the most interesting things for me to come out of this conference was our comparative lack of revenue outside of SSAF - we are **very** lucky in terms of the SSAF deal we get from the university (in fact ours appears to be one of the best, if not the best, in the country), but unique in our dependence on it.

University Engagement Strategy :

I met with Professor Richard James, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Rebecca Starling, Senior Engagement Analyst and Margot Eden Advisor, Social Compact to discuss the University's

new engagement strategy, both in terms of on campus engagement and engagement with the wider community. I asked that they try to frame their strategy around those who are not getting involved for whatever reason, rather than those keen students who were always going to find a way to get involved. We discussed ideas around better promoting engagement, through recognition programs, further use of the portal, making use of lecturers and lecture slides to promote co-curricular engagement as well as the timing of Experience Matters fortnight in Semester 2. I also suggested that were we to run "What is UMSU?" sessions again next O-Week under the title of "How to get the most out of your time here", that we might co-host this with the university, in order to have greater impact (many students might be more interested in attending an info session co-hosted by the University and the Student Union).

Farmers Market:

I met with the University in the early stages of Farmers Market planning and provided my support and a letter of recommendation for the market to Melbourne City Council. UMSU has been welcomed at the market from its very first week, and I organised a weekly UMSU stall for departments to use to disseminate information and promote UMSU at this popular event.

AV@Melb Organisational Changes:

AV@Melbourne is undergoing a restructure, in order to hopefully improve its efficiency and scalability. I have met with various departments that are going to be affected by these changes alongside UMSU General Manager Justin and Corey, a representative from the NTEU. We also held a whole of organisation information session about the process. This process is going to be difficult, and we appreciate everyone's respectful input.

Welcome email:

After agreeing verbally and in writing to send an email from myself to all students (and a separate one from GSA President Steve) since November, the university changed its mind on sending out a whole student email from UMSU after receiving my copy. They cited the university's Student Communications Procedure as the main reason for this, which states that content must be business critical for a whole university broadcast. I suggested this protocol be amended and pointed out the importance of a message such as this. We reached a compromise in the form of a brief email to students co-signed by the Provost, Steve and I, encouraging students to get involved and pointing them in the direction of our extended welcomes on our respective websites.

Social Media:

I am now an admin on the main University of Melbourne Student Union facebook page (after many requests). This has meant I have been able to post about things such as the defeat of deregulation in the senate, even outside of business hours. I feel this is a massive improvement for our social media content capacity.

Burnley campus: As there is no UMSU rep at Burnley this year (as no one ran for the position last year), I have been doing what I can to offer support and UMSU resources to Burnley students. I attended their O-Day and Welcome Lunch to give a presentation about UMSU and make sure they knew that we were there to help them despite not having an official rep within their student body, and we put aside funds for events not at Parkville or the VCA.

After the library opening hours at Burnley were cut for 2015, I helped Burnley students coordinate their campaigns, including an undergraduate and postgraduate petition, and I

sent off an email to our VC Glyn Davis informing him of Council's motion and summarising various concerns of the students at Burnley (many different types of students having been in contact with me). We were pleased to find that the University took these concerns on board and within a few days restored the opening hours to their 2014 levels.

I have helped a student from Burnley named Rory arrange a mid semester drinks to which all Burnley students were invited, and which was a great social event.

Student Accommodation

Hana and I met with Vanessa Campbell who is coordinating the University's Accommodation Portfolio- the Uni is aiming to increase its bed numbers so that it can offer an accommodation guarantee to international, interstate and regional students, as some other universities are. We spoke about the current project of turning the old Salvation Army Training College on Royal Parade into student accommodation- a more independent option to that of a college, with individual rooms but shared cooking spaces and lounge spaces. I have invited Vanessa to speak briefly at our Student Forum on the future of student spaces on this campus.

Student Precinct:

I have attended a few meetings in regard to the Student Precinct, which is in its very early conceptual stages. We have submitted a list of all our different services and required spaces to the University. A Student Precinct Steering Group has been convened, and has met once. I will continue to sit on this steering group through the year alongside the President of the Graduate Student Association. Following the first Steering Group Meeting, I decided to arrange a forum entitled **Student Forum: A New Union House?** as I want to make sure that a) students understand what is happening, b) feel consulted and c) that I am doing my best to represent students in the Student Precinct Steering Group I sit upon. The first stage of this process was an evening session in Union Theatre on Wednesday April 22nd at 5pm, outlining where this process is at, and allowing plenty of time for students to ask the invited University panel their questions. Arranging this event involved working with Communications to develop the branding for the event (which I am going to recommend be used in an ongoing basis for UMSU consultation), the Facebook event, dealing with some of the conflicting ideas that began to emerge around the focus of the event (including clarifying this to the University), liaising with the Steering Group Chair around who would attend on behalf of the University, responding to comments on social media, compiling a list of FAQs, planning the presentation, creating the slideshow and fact checking every piece of "known" information.

Post- event, I have uploaded our list of needs (the ones submitted to the University) to our website for students to view and make suggestions if needed, along with my presentation slides.

We will be holding further events throughout this process. I have also set up an online ideas inbox for students to contribute their feedback and feelings about a student precinct on campus: UMSUnewunionhouse@gmail.com

Volunteering:

I also had some discussions around Volunteering Programs, and Volunteering in general within UMSU. Students are always asking how they can do more volunteering, and we're

trying to bring this side of the Union to life. Look out for directorship roles and opportunities over the coming weeks.

The University has also offered us funding to run Diversity Week again this year. Dates TBA, most likely to line up with Festival of Nations in Semester 2.

Academic Misconduct and Advocacy:

I have acted as the Student Rep in many Academic Misconduct hearings so far this year. In one such occasion, it has come to my attention that it is not a requirement that students are informed about the UMSU Advocacy service in their notice of their hearing (this is usually found in the template that is sent out to students about their hearings and so is not often an issue, but some faculties are not using this template). I have discussed this with Advocacy & Legal Manager Phoebe and she will incorporate this problem into the feedback she is currently compiling about the process.

University Committees:

I sit on the University Selection Procedures Committee and the Building and Estates Committee. In the former we are attempting to address some issues we see in the Access Melbourne scheme, as well as encourage the University to look into some early pathways options. The latter has this year featured a presentation by the City of Melbourne around their plans to improve University Square and make it a much more community-based space.

I also sit on Academic Board. At the most recent Academic Board, Glyn Davis mentioned an upcoming meeting with the Metro CEO regarding the Melbourne Metro Rail Tunnel (and specifically the Parkville Station). I have emailed Glyn asking if I might attend this meeting as a student representative, given how much of an impact this station will have on students. He has offered to ask the Metro CEO to include me in this meeting.

Second Hand Market

I have been making inquiries around the idea of holding a Second hand market in North Court in Week 12. This is intended to be a small pilot to a potential larger market in Semester 2.

Orientation Week Directors

I have established O-Week Student Directors to lead the week and set the tone for Orientation. This is something that has been on UMSU's agenda since we took over the running of O-Week (and specifically the Host Program) from the University a few years ago.

3.2 General Secretary



University of Melbourne Student Union

Report of
Hana Dalton
General Secretary

To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015

Students' Council and Committees

Despite a slow start before semester began, Students' Council is reaching quorum regularly. Members of the Operations Sub-Committee were elected early in the year, and the Sub-Committee is now meeting regularly between Students' Council meetings. I have also been supporting other UMSU Office Bearers in organising and running their committee meetings, to ensure that processes are followed correctly and effectively. This has included assisting Office Bearers in agenda-writing, minute-taking and understanding meeting procedure, as well as calling meetings, booking rooms, monitoring attendance and updating the committee details on the website. Most committees seem to be running smoothly at this point.

Constitutional Working Group

I established a Constitutional Working Group with the approval of Students' Council, which has met once so far, with the second meeting scheduled for Thursday 7th May at 12pm. The Constitutional Working Group is a forum open to all students to discuss the UMSU Constitution and ideas for modifying it. So far a number of ideas have been discussed. Meeting details and minutes can be found on the Secretariat page of the UMSU website.

NUS

At the beginning of the year I met with the President and General Secretary of the National Union of Students to discuss our needs and expectations as a 2015 affiliate organisation. We discussed the importance of transparency and accountability on the part of NUS, as well as ways in which NUS can provide information and support to us where necessary throughout the year, such as support in negotiations with the University.

Conferences

I have attended a number of conferences and workshops so far this year in order to build on my knowledge, skills and networks to complete my role as General Secretary as best as possible. In January, I attended the NUS Presidents' Summit in Sydney, which was a useful way to engage with higher education issues and the NUS-run campaign against fee deregulation, to learn about how to conduct a successful SSAF negotiation, and to share approaches and experiences with other student representatives from across the country. In March I attended the Reshaping the Student Experience Conference to participate on their student panel made up of student representatives from other universities. The panel fielded questions about aspects of the student experience. I spoke on the issue of the feeling of anonymity among students, and the subsequent need for designated student spaces on

campus, as well as the issue of teaching staff being unable to assist students at times due to heavy workloads and very limited paid hours, and the effect this has on students. I was also present for a number of presentations, which provided some useful background knowledge and case studies of particular issues in higher education at the moment, such as online student service systems and the importance of extra-curricular engagement.

In April I attended the Melbourne National Student Leadership Workshop, which discussed the meanings and importance of student leadership in universities, as well as various approaches to student leadership from across Australia and the world.

Meetings with the University

As part of a number of student representative groups, I have attended several meetings with senior University staff. In these meetings we have discussed issues such as lecture recordings, minors on academic transcripts, student consultation and spaces on campus. I am confident that progress is being made on these issues.

UMSU International

I worked with UMSU International and UMSU Welfare to organise the 'Melbourne Mingle' event, which was held on Thursday 23rd April. The event was designed to bring local and international students together for a social evening involving games and food. The event was well-attended.

Union House and the student precinct proposal

I have been involved in a number of discussions about the plans to knock down Union House and re-locate UMSU, as well as other student-facing services, to a new 'student precinct'. I was involved in the student forum on the issue which took place on April 22nd, and was briefed on the preliminary plans through the Student Reference Group. I am interested in hearing as many student opinions on the issue as possible. I am in the process of creating a physical 'ideas box' in Union House for students to submit ideas and questions, and I am hoping to create a survey to gauge student views on the issue.

University fee deregulation

It was wonderful to see the second defeat of university deregulation in the Senate in March. The fact that this policy went from a little-known feature of the 2014 Federal Budget to one of Liberals' most unpopular policies, with about a 80% disapproval rating, is a testament to the hard work of students, education activists and student organisations such as UMSU and NUS over the past 10 months. I believe that student rallies and demonstrations, as well as lobbying and media appearances by student organisations were the driving forces behind the popular disapproval of the policy, which ultimately led the crossbenchers to withhold their support for the measure. All those involved must be congratulated for their efforts. I have been, and will continue to be, involved in promoting student actions against fee deregulation, particularly as we await the 2015 Federal Budget.

University of Melbourne Student Union
Report of
Madeleine Cleeve Gerken, Martin Dittmann, Lynley Eavis & Simon Farley
Media Officers

To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015

We've had a big few months in the Media Office. Our goal has been to have a Media Office that's there for all. A Farrago for all to read and a Fodder for all to listen to. A Media Office that all feel they have the opportunity to contribute to, and get the support they need to make that happen. A Media Office that's not afraid to push boundaries – but that fosters experience, commitment and passion. That's why we've made some of the biggest moves in recent history, building on the work of the last few years – while preserving all that's made this office great.

Initial recruitment

We held a record-breaking recruitment effort, receiving over 200 applications for sub-editors, columnists, graphics contributors, web developers, social media people, radio contributors and video contributors. That's the most seen in recent history, beating even last year's fantastic efforts. We offered more opportunities to get involved than ever before in recent history, reached more places and groups than in decades and conducted a record 120 interviews. It was a difficult process with some difficult decision – we ended up hiring 33 sub-editors, another recent record.

The Fodder

The creation of the Fodder is the biggest thing to happen to Melbourne Uni media since the founding of *Farrago* roughly ninety years ago. After years of people discussing the concept, this collective founded Melbourne Uni's first ever permanent student radio station. Considering the success of student radio stations at universities across the world, the lack of such an institution seemed to be a serious omission. The Fodder broadcasts 24-hours online and includes a wide slate of original programming, with both new and experienced students.

Credit and thanks must especially go out to the The Fodder's Station Manager, Bren Carruthers, who's been a key driver from the very start. Our endless thanks and credit must also go to the rest of The Fodder's hardworking core team – Ash Qama, Patrick Clearwater, Ken Lim and Danielle Bagnato – as well as all the station's new contributors.

Plans for the future? More shows, more people engaged, more listeners and even more outreach. We are optimistic about the capacity for this radio station to become a respected, even beloved, aspect of the Media Department and the Union more broadly – one that will strengthen the ties of our community.

Farrago

We've run a strong Farrago – one that has unprecedented amounts of both contributors and readers being interested. It's a little daunting, especially with some talented editors preceding us, but we've tried to do the task of running Australia's oldest student magazine

justice. Despite ordering even more than last year (over 5000, extremely high by student magazine numbers), our first edition of Farrago sold out in less than four days. We've made design changes to Farrago to make it cleaner and more accessible, building on previous years. We've resectionified Farrago by topic – helping making Farrago better to read and balancing the range of forms of content in it. We've brought back the science section, included more coverage of sport, student theatre and our artists. We've brought both the irreverent and the investigative to Farrago, the creative and the artistic. We've published writers both new and old, and broken topics on everything from science to culture.

Community, outreach, support, diversity and events

We think a student magazine needs to go out there and engage its current and potential readers and contributors. We've placed a strong focus on supporting our contributors and creating a sense of community around Farrago. We've also placed a focus on diversity and ensuring that students from all backgrounds and interests have an opportunity to get involved with Farrago, building on the work of previous years.

We've brought back Media Collective meetings, another part of helping build a sense of community around this office. We've put everything up for discussion, giving our Collective members the opportunity to discuss how things are going, both in terms of their own work and what they'd like the Media Office to be.

We've made a big change to our sub-editing process – with sub-editors now having a back and forth interaction with their writers. This is designed to mean both more opportunities to learn and develop along the process and an outcome more acceptable to both. We've also made sure to provide all other forms of support – from producing a sub-editors' bible to 1:1 help to our writers.

We've worked across the world of UMSU and student media. Our editors and sub-editors formed a large contingent to the NEWS Conference, Australia's national student editor conference. Our collective members have worked across a range of projects, and we're particularly proud of our sub-editors helping out in Melbourne Uni's first Indigenous publication, *Under Bunjil* from the UMSU Indigenous Department.

We once again held our Wordplay spoken word nights – a great thing started in 2013. We've had some talented writers reading their works to a collective audience, often for the first time. To help build our camps community, we've made our launch parties focussed on campus – holding our first two on campus and our second two near campus, with a preceding on campus event leading in. Our launch parties have had bit attendances, with our joint The Fodder + Farrago Edition 1 launch party attracting the biggest attendance seen in many years.

We've had an unprecedented level of diversity within the collective with regard to degree, campus, ethnocultural background, experience, political beliefs, and age. We've reached out to students at satellite campuses and ensured magazine distribution works there. We've made sure students of all writing backgrounds, including ESL students, have an opportunity to contribute. We've worked to increase the level of both international student contributors and sub-editors we have.

One event we're really excited for is a big ninetieth birthday party, to be held towards the end of the year. We're hoping to make this the biggest Farrago event yet, and an opportunity for both current Farrago people and editors from history to come in.

Above Water

Building on a decade of history, we're about to begin work with the Creative Arts Department on Melbourne Uni's annual creative writing anthology, *Above Water*. We're super excited about it and looking forward to reading all the creative, moving and amazing submissions we get.

Online

We've maintained our strong online presence and continued the hard work done last year. We recorded the second biggest growth by Facebook like numbers of any of Australia's roughly 36-Facebook enabled student magazines (out of a total of roughly 46). We've dramatically increased our amount of online exclusive content –giving people more opportunities, and heavily increasing our opportunity and content rates. We've created a new rolling online content list. That means simplifying the content list cycle and giving people the opportunity to access content ideas and pitch throughout. We're now building our new state of the art website –set to be Australia's best amongst student magazines. Besides hopefully looking great and being easy to use (both from a front and a back end), it'll have some strong interactive and creative features. Thanks must go to our ever-hardworking Web Development Manager, Patrick Clearwater.

Campus reporting

We've made the biggest changes to Farrago news reporting in decades, with our brand new campus reporting team each taking on specific beats (areas) –from education to welfare and social justice to sport. As of writing, we'd just confirmed fourteen new campus reporters, with twenty four more applications going up for interviews. Applications close on Friday 8th May, and we expect quite a few more applications. This'll give us the biggest campus team amongst Australian student magazines, and more opportunities to cover a wide range of news and student issues as they happen.

We believe in covering every campus news and interest story –as well as breaking some big investigations. Our restructured campus section –including a news in brief page and a greater range of formats – is helping make that happen. Our new website will also help deliver this –and give a space for all our new reporters and their articles.

Reviews team

Our new reviews team has also been working hard. We've been taking up opportunities to review countless things, from books to movies to music. We've dealt with some at times difficult publicity agents, but also secured some great stuff to receive genuine, frank student reviews. This has tied in with the work we've been doing on our culture coverage in general – including engagement and interviews of Tuesday bands for a range of potential formats.

Video

Our next front to tackle – video! Work has been progressing carefully on this, as we aspire to launch of video channel over the next few months.

Thanks so far!

Thanks so far must go to the hundreds of members of our collective –as well as to all the other people in UMSU and the Australian student media movement who've supported us, including OBs, councillors, cross-campus student magazine editors and past editors and contributors. We're really, really grateful for all the support you've given us over the start of this year – and we look forward to doing lots more stuff over the next few months!

3.4 Activities

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
James Baker and Hayden Michaelides
Activities Officers**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/15**

Evening Out at Luna Park:

Our first event for 2015, An Evening out at Luna Park, was the first time something like it had been attempted. In conjunction with MSA Activities, we booked out Luna Park for a post O-week celebration. The event was a huge success, with plenty of people turning up, and everyone seemed to have a fun time.

Tuesday Bands and BBQs:

The Tuesday Bands and BBQs have been an enormous success so far this year, with the headline acts; Art vs Science; The Smith Street Band; and The Beards playing to a packed crowd in North Court. As the semester has gone on, we've tried to change things up a bit and schedule a few acts that aren't just bands, with the Lunchbox Laughter having some success, the Wadaiko Rindo Japanese drummers mesmerising the crowd, and Sammy J and Randy performing later on in semester, as well as The League of Sideshow Superstars returning to wow us again.

Start of Uni Party (SoUP):

The annual Start of Uni Party ran again this year, with all tickets selling. We tried to do something different with the entertainment, using the main feature of North Court, it's sail, as the focus of the light show, which worked out really well. Overall the event ran smoothly, with no issues coming up from it.

Cocktail Party 1:

The first Cocktail Party of 2015 was held at The Savoy Tavern on the corner of Bourke and Spencer Streets. We had about 300-350 people attending, and were able to negotiate excellent drink deals from the venue, which everyone was pretty happy with.

Trivia Nights:

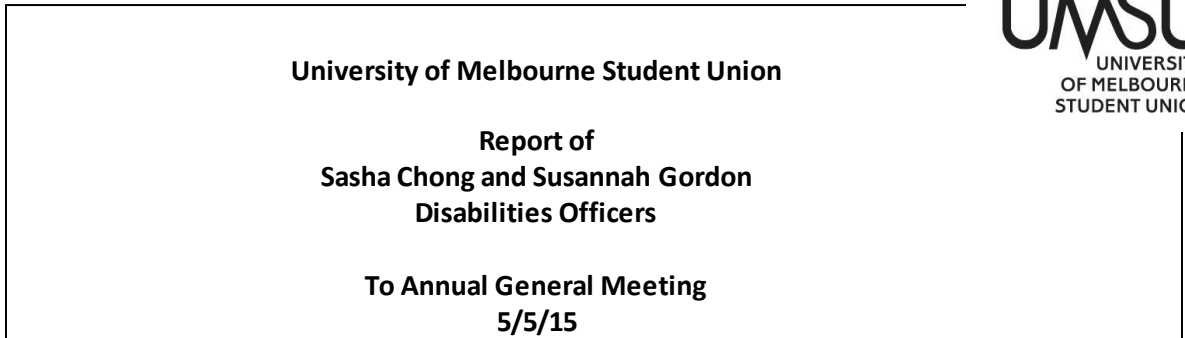
The first trivia night ran in Grand Buffet Hall, and was well attended, with about 250 people coming to the event. We also ran a lip synching competition between the teams in attendance, which everyone really enjoyed. The second one is scheduled to run next week (Wednesday the 13th of May), although this time we will be running it in the Members' Lounge of Union House

Comedy Competition:

The Comedy competition ran on the 22nd of April in Members' Lounge, with the quality of student comics much higher than usual. All those performing had the crowd in stitches, and the event was so well attended that we needed to get more chairs during the night.

3.5 Creative Arts

3.6 Disabilities



Key activities:

Disability Department Video Campaign:

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

All filming for two out of three videos has been completed, and the film makers are currently in the process of making the final edits. These will be released as soon as subtitles are completed.

Eating Disorders Workshop:

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

The Eating Disorders Victoria workshop took place on the 1st and 2nd of April. There were two 2hr sessions over two days.

Film Screening:

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

This was held on the 1st April at 5pm and included a popcorn machine, followed by food and drinks.

Anxiety Support Group Training:

Training for facilitators of Anxiety Support Group.

Susannah Gordon and Cameron Burke were undertook training by Anxiety Recovery Centre (ARCVic) to be facilitators for the support group along with Sasha Chong.

Campaigns

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

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

SMART recovery group:

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

Arun Bharatula has undertaken training for a new program for recovery from substance abuse. This will run in semester two.

Imitation Game Screening:

Screening of The Imitation Game for Neurodiversity Collective.

This took place on Friday 17th at Nova cinema

Rad Sex and Consent Week:

Week 7, exploring the sexual education that you didn't receive in high school.

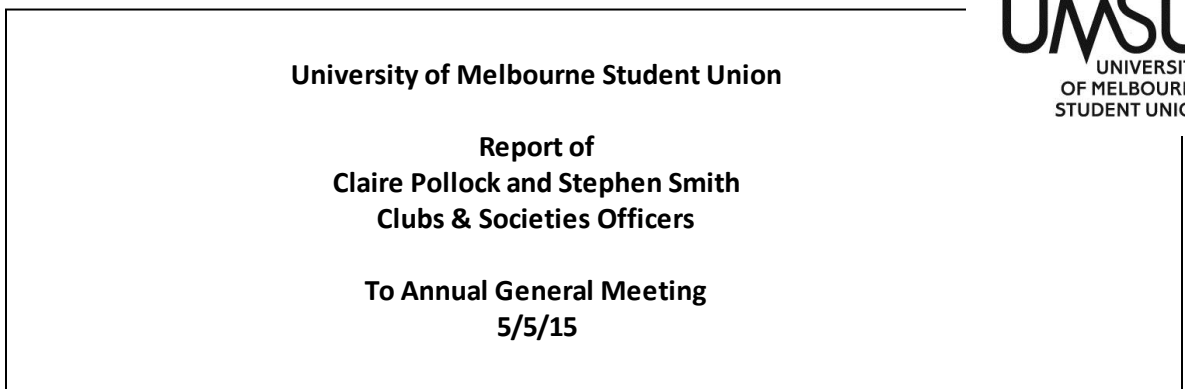
This week included three workshops relevant to our department: A workshop exploring mental illness and relationships, Fuckability (the politics of sex with a non-normative body), and Sexy Sign Language. All of these workshops were run very successfully and the week as a whole ran smoothly.

Access Grants:

In conjunction with the Creative Arts department

We are contributing funds for a few access grants to be awarded to theatre groups who demonstrate a good understanding and plan to make their art more accessible to people with various disabilities. This money can be used to aid accessibility by paying for Auslan Interpreters, consultants, or any other appropriate resource.

3.7 Clubs & Societies



2015 Committee

Hi, we're Claire Pollock and Stephen Smith – the 2015 C&S Officers. 2015 has started as a successful year for the C&S Department with many events, activities, and projects underway!

We elected the 2015 committee at the Meeting of the Clubs & Societies Council on Monday 13th October 2014. The following candidates were elected:

- Yasmine Luu (Science Students' Society)
- Lauren Taylor (Cosmic Hitchhikers Appreciation Society)
- Gulsara Kaplun (Secular Society)
- Eilish Hunt (Engineering Students' Club)
- Steven Connolly (Pirates)
- Ryan Davey (Arts Students' Society)
- Philip Mallis (International Relations Society)

So far in 2015, the C&S Committee has met 10 times. In these meetings we have granted initial approval to affiliate 11 new clubs, disaffiliated 8 clubs (as of 22/04/15), and passed lots of grants!

Clubs Online

Clubs Online is our project dedicated to transitioning a lot of the administrative processes of the C&S Department – such as grant applications, applications for payment, activity reporting, membership lists, etc. – online. We are working hard to implement this project for Semester 2 2015.

Safety in Clubs

Following on from the work that Rachel Withers and Tom Walker (2014 Clubs & Societies Officers) commenced last year in regards to Camp Welfare Training, our Safety in Clubs Project is progressing. Our working group has met a few times already this year. This project aims to implement a grievance procedure for affiliated clubs and societies, and provide better avenues to engage with existing services on and off campus. Further, we aim to develop better training around safety and welfare as a part of this project.

Events and Publications


We redesigned the Clubs Guide for 2015 which saw all clubs featured. It was highly popular during the Clubs Expo is O-Week and has proved to be an invaluable resource for new and returning students. We ran the Clubs Carnival again in Semester 1 with over 40 clubs participating—it was a resounding success and we aim to run it again in Semester 2!

3.8 Education (Academic Affairs)

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Nellie Montague and Shanley Price
Education (Academic Affairs) Officers**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/15**



- **Countercourse** 1500 updated hard copies were handed out at the start of the year and a cumulative online version is being updated. Students will be encouraged to review their subjects at the end of Semester 1
- **Student Representative Network** Applications were received from numerous high quality applicants, from which positions on University Council and Academic Board Committees and Faculty committees have been filled. Governance training was run in conjunction with UMSU Advocacy and a Student Representatives' Handbook has been produced. SRN meetings are to be held regularly throughout the year to share ideas and issues raised in the committees.
- **Special Consideration** Education officers are meeting with the relevant parties to discuss the changes being made to special consideration policy and make sure students' needs are being taken into consideration.
- **BIP** Data is being collected about how changes due to BIP are affecting students on the ground to lobby the University
- **Lecture Recordings** As the process around Opting Out of lecture recordings is developed we will be involved in ensuring the acceptable reasons are not trivial
- **EdCon** Education Conference which is run by NUS will be held from the 6-10th July at the University of New South Wales. All students are invited to attend. Workshops, guest speakers and discussion will be held around educational issues faced in Australia.

- **National Day of Action** The Education Department took part in the National Day of Action on the 25th March.

3.9 Education (Public Affairs)



University of Melbourne Student Union

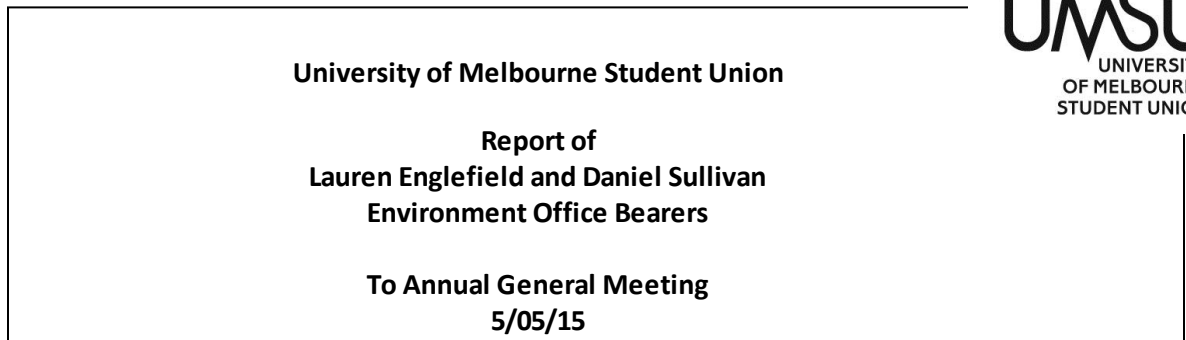
**Report of
Conor Serong
Education (Public Affairs) Officer**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015**

- Alongside the Education (Academic Affairs) Officers, we published the 2015 CounterCourse Handbook, a compilation of student-written, honest reviews of subjects, majors and other university experiences. The final few copies are available from reading stands around campus, and we will probably print another run at the beginning of Semester 2.
- During O-Week we held a stall featuring a “Spin the Wheel” stunt, focused on fee deregulation and the uncertainty surrounding university fees that surrounds it. We gave away free chocolates and our brand new UMSU Education maze pens which are still available at our Collective meetings and other events.
- We ran the UMSU Says NO to Deregulation campaign, which aimed to provide students with information about the Federal Government’s now -failed plan to deregulate university fees.
- We ran a stall to promote the National Day of Action against fee deregulation, where we again gave away our maze pens as well as free cupcakes.
- On 25 March, we ran a free BBQ on South Lawn prior to marching down to the State Library where we joined students from other campuses to oppose fee deregulation and funding cuts to universities. The day before, we also held a banner-painting Collective meeting for students to create banners and posters to bring along to the rally.
- I’ve been invited to sit on a panel discussion at the Human Rights Arts and Film Festival on the evening of Saturday 9 May, alongside the architect of the HECS system, Bruce Chapman, as well as a representative from the Group of Eight – the body of Vice-Chancellors from eight prestigious Australian universities. This event will also feature a screening of *The Ivory Tower*, a documentary on the US education system. We will try to arrange a number of free tickets for students interested in attending this event.

- In May I will be meeting the Glyn Davis, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, to discuss the future of higher education funding. In particular, I will be trying to gain his support for a cooperative campaign to make higher education funding an election issue in the lead-up to the 2016 Federal Election.

3.10 Environment



Regular events- Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday!

We've run really successful Play With Your Food dinners, Bike co-ops (with breakfast), and Environment Collective meetings every week with plenty of students returning in subsequent weeks. The bike co-op has been so well attended that we've even needed to get another bike mechanic in to meet the demand for help. We have also been updating our bike co-op equipment and play with your food materials to ensure we can continue to provide these services successfully.

O-Week- 23rd February-27th March

We ran an info stall on the Carnival Day, promoting the department's regular activities, the Fossil Free Melbourne Uni divestment campaign and a new app aiming to reduce food waste that was brought to us by a Masters of Environment student. We also ran a welcome picnic, with the Community Garden group, on the Thursday and a stall promoting the bike co-op at the sports carnival day on the Friday.

Melbourne Uni Farmers Market Launch- Wednesday 4th March, 10.30am-1pm

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

Earth hour - Thursday 26th March, 5.30-10.30pm, Members Lounge

We hosted a great Earth Hour event in the members lounge from 5.30pm on Thursday 26th March. There was a market style set-up to get info from groups fighting against climate change and film screening of 'Fair Food'. We incorporated this year's 'food and farming' theme as much as possible. We will be investigating the environmental issues surrounding food and food waste further this semester and next.

East Gippsland Trip

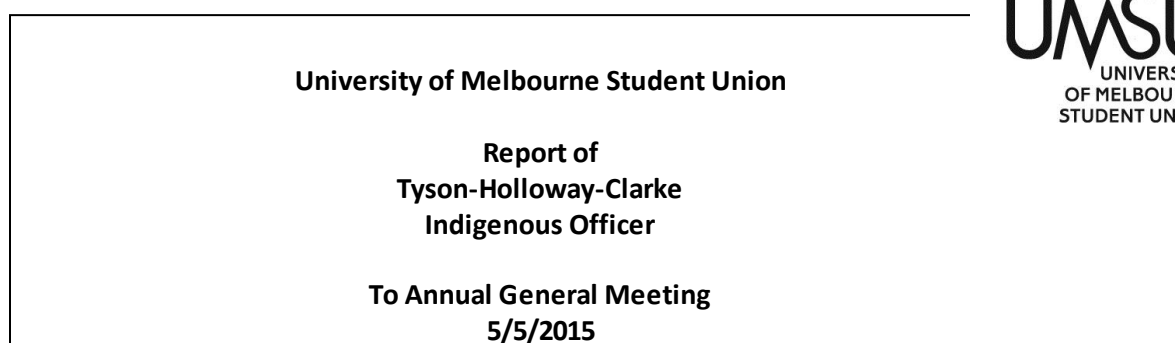
During the study break, the Melbourne Uni Environment Collective visited environmental activists from the Goongerah Environment Centre (GECO) in far East Gippsland. During our stay, we helped uncover *illegal* rainforest logging on the Errinundra Plateau. We are now calling on Victorian Environment Minister Lisa Neville to halt logging in the Hensleigh Creek coupe, and take legal action against VicForests, the state-owned forestry company responsible.

Fossil Free Universities National Day of Action

Wednesday 22 April, 12pm to 1:30pm, South Lawn

Amongst weeks of volunteer recruitment and campaigning, the Fossil Free Melb Uni team worked super hard to make a huge action for the National Day of Fossil Fuel Divestment Action on 22nd April. Thousands of signatures were handed over to the university secretary and we have now received confirmation, from Vice-Chancellor Glyn Davis, that the University's stance on fossil fuel divestment will be reassessed at the next University Council meeting.

3.11 Indigenous



The Indigenous Department has been in full swing this semester with a variety of projects both in the works and close to completion. Engagement with the collective has also been at an all time high across the university. This has led to record participation within the department with a number of projects being undertaken with the support of the Office. The two largest projects have been the organisation for the University of Melbourne Indigenous Games Team and the soon to be released magazine featuring works from our student body.

The Games provides a fantastic opportunity to help build a cohesive and tight-knit community at the University and the opportunity to network with teams at other universities. The team has been hard at work preparing for the games and I must both thank and congratulate the senior players on stepping up and assuming responsibility for the teams organisation. If this office were alone in this endeavour it crash and burn but thanks to their hard work we are on track for another successful year.

The soon to be released publication serves one purpose, to provide a platform and voice for the Indigenous student body here at the University of Melbourne. In close consultation with the Media Office, the Indigenous Office has organised for the graphic and text contributions, editing, layout and printing of the inaugural publication. I am extremely excited to be able to share this project with the wider University. Having read and edited the works I am

extremely proud of the student's that have contributed. A very big thankyou must go out to the Media Office for their support and expertise in the area. They have proven incredibly knowledgeable and willing to share and furthermore incredibly supportive of Indigenous messages.

The relationship with Murrup Barak has drastically improved on previous years and the centre has agreed to support student initiatives in direct consultation with the Indigenous Office here at UMSU. This ensures that the funds Murrup Barak has available are being allocated to well organised projects and there is an extra degree of accountability. The centre has agreed to provide a sizeable amount to the two main projects we have in operation, the Games and the publication, with an informal commitment to provide more support in the future.

While this is good news, it is a product of the centres now reduced capacity in student engagement. This whole has been filled by the Union as a necessity and ideally should be a role with the centre. However due to the new Reconciliation Action Plan and the decentralisation of services it puts Murrup Barak in a difficult position where their capacity has crippled their ability to support students. The Reconciliation Action Plan has been a product of the Business Improvement Plan and in the view of this office has put more pressure on the Union to provide student engagement opportunities and reduced our capacity for activism. While the engagement has been a successful enterprise the new load thanks to the shortfalls of the University has reduced the breadth of the projects this office can undertake.

Reconciliation Week falls during an incredibly personally difficult time for all of the returning Indigenous students. As a result the events held by this office during the period will be relatively low-key and aimed at the non-Indigenous student body. We are working in consultation with Murrup Barak to provide an informative week.

Second semester sees the exciting Mudfest return to campus and the Creative Arts Office has been incredibly supportive of bringing in more Indigenous art and culture to the campus. Stay tuned for some of the exciting projects.

The department will also be looking towards strengthening and formalising ties between organisations outside of UMSU that support Indigenous students and promote Indigenous campaigns.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Tony Wen Kai Wang
President, UMSU International**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015**

As the official international student representative on campus, this year UMSU International is mainly focus on developing a good collaboration and connection between UMSU International and external organizations such as MUISS (Monash University International Student Services) and VUISA (Victoria University International Student Association). Within the campus, we strive to promote the importance of cultural diversity and integration on campus through our enjoyable traditional events such as Night Market last week and Semester 2's Festival of Nations. We also act to improve the welfare of international students through programs such as Melbourne Adventure to build up the friendship between the current students and new coming international students, Moving to Melbourne to let the students know what kind of student welfare provided by the university. The most important development for this year is the Melbourne Mingle which is collaborated with both UMSU Welfare department and UMSU International Education and Welfare Department. To overcome the cultural barrier between the domestic students and international students is not only what both of our organizations are aiming for, but also are the international students would like to experience during their university life. UMSU International will look forward to collaborate with the relevant UMSU departments for this year in order to achieve this final goal.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
Lloyd Rouse & Andrea Bozic
Queer Officers**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015**

Key activities:

- **Free Lunch with the Queer Bunch** – Our weekly free lunch in the Queer Space has been a continual success this year with attendance increasing and increased community within the space.
- **Queer Thursdays** – This event has a differing schedule of social activities aimed at fostering community and encouraging more interaction within the queer space. Activities have included movies, parties with night outs, board games, and a visit to a gaming café.
- **Autonomous Collectives** – We’ve continued to foster autonomous collectives aimed at providing a safe space for a variety of intersectional identities to discuss issues and collectively address them. These have included a weekly Trans collective and Ace collective.
- **Rad Sex + Consent Week** – The annual Rad Sex Consent Week is a week dedicated to providing the University of Melbourne community an educational and informative experience of sex education and wellbeing. This year’s was a great success with focus on providing the wider community with accessible introductions to consent and safe sex.
- **Pride Ball** – The Pride Ball is an annual premiere event that will be held at Bobby McGee’s. It is shaping up to be one of the most successful Ball’s in years with attendance increasingly promising and preparations coming into place to make it an enjoyable and extravagant event.
- **Queer Collaborations** – Queer Collaborations is an annual conference for Queer Students around the country to meet, discuss and collate ideas, experiences and issues. This year’s QC will be held in Canberra at ANU and preparations are in place to send a contingent from the University of Melbourne.

University of Melbourne Student Union

**Report of
James Bashford
Welfare Officer**

**To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015**

Food Bank and other Support Services:

This I have brought a renewed focus to ensuring the Welfare Department offers practical services for students in need. This has involved the establishment of a well-stocked food bank stored in my office. The service has been needed on a regular basis however awareness of the service is low amongst students and there is a need for more promotion.

The same is true of the Household Goods Service I have established this year. Despite attracting significant interest in O-Week it has not been used significantly during semester. This is also a result of having to store the goods in my office making it somewhat difficult for students to access the service. Later this year I hope to secure a more public space in Union House to accommodate both the household goods service and food bank which will be a significant improvement to the services.

In addition to the above I have established emergency packs for students in urgent need. These packs contain staples such as long life milk and other food staples as well as hygiene products and have been made available at the UMSU Info Desk on the ground floor of Union House. These packs have also been discussed with the University's Campus Community Team, who know to refer students in need to the service. The emergency packs are an incredibly important service to offer students and are something UMSU can be proud to be adding to its services for students this year.

Weekly Breakfast:

The Weekly Breakfast has been a very popular event this year, as always. By consistently holding the breakfast in a more visible location (South Court as opposed to North Court) and through better promotion over our own and other student social media like Unimelb Adventures (with many thanks to Daphane!), attendance has actually increased over the semester so far. This is a fantastic result given the typical drop off in attendance over the course of the semester.

The breakfasts are expensive events which take up a significant chunk of the Welfare budget. I've tried to minimise this by experimenting with different supermarkets and buying in bulk where possible. Nonetheless, the biggest cost is the hiring of BBQs, despite the fact this is done through AV@Melbourne which is a part of UMSU. This may ultimately lead to the department having to hire BBQs elsewhere which is a highly undesirable situation compared to hiring in house.

Fitness Classes:

This semester the Welfare Department has hosted free yoga classes on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings, taught by a self-employed instructor, as well as a Zumba class every

Thursday afternoon taught by a Melbourne Uni Sport instructor. These classes are very popular amongst students and demand has been high, requiring a time consuming registration process. These classes will be continued next semester where the budget can afford them but I'll hopefully be able to secure larger venues to remove the need for sign-ups.

Volunteer Collective:

The department's activities, in particular the weekly breakfast, have only been possible thanks to the many volunteers who have gotten involved in our collective. One volunteer has been getting up at 6am every Thursday to come in from Ballarat to help at breakfasts. I'm incredibly grateful for their support! To encourage volunteers, I've been providing them with vouchers and will hopefully be able to offer training opportunities over the year. Volunteers have also been instrumental in providing me feedback and ideas for other activities to run and on improving the breakfasts.

Relationship with the University:

From the start of my term I've endeavoured to build a strong working relationship with the University. I've met with several staff members such as Sally Coates and Dan Persaud and have worked closely with Danielle Clayman from Wellness@Melbourne in particular. This led to us co-hosting a very successful BBQ early in the semester to promote Vichealth's No Excuse Needed campaign to promote responsible drinking. We had earlier planned to co-host Stress Less Week as well, but unfortunately the University was not ultimately able to partner with us for this event.

In working with the University, the repercussions of last year's Business Improvement Program (BIP) and subsequent 500 job losses have been clear. It has been disappointing that while the University administration has maintained that there would be no impact on the student experience there has been a clear impact on the services available for students. Obvious examples of this include the hours long waits for student cards in O-Week. Less obvious has been the difficulty in running welfare activities due to the reluctance of University staff who are overworked or focussed on trying to maintain services under significant strain.

Stress Less Week:

Stress Less Week is to be held from May 11th to 15th. This semester's week will be the largest held so far with a crowded timetable including events from various UMSU departments including UMSU Intl, events from the University's Campus Community team, Headspace, the GSA and several clubs and societies. Highlights of the week will include the first ever Stress Less Bean Bag Cinema showing the Lion King on Tuesday May 12 and the Stress Less Carnival on Thursday 14th with a petting zoo and significant involvement from clubs. While organising the event has taken many hours and a lot of work, it looks set to pay off and be a fantastic week for the students and UMSU.

New Student Precinct:

The University's move to create a new student precinct will have important implications for the welfare of students. The relocation of the health and counselling services is incredibly important to get right to ensure these services are accessible but still maintain anonymity. This relocation also offers opportunities for colocation with other services and a pharmacy. If the new location or building for the Union offers more space, there is also a great opportunity to establish a Survival Centre or Welfare Lounge which can house the department's food bank and household goods service.

The current uncertainty of the situation, however, poses several issues for the Union. The current food court and indoor eating space in Union House, for example, are incredibly valued by students. It is also vital that student spaces such as the Wom*ns Room, Queer Space, North Court, theatres and Food Co-op are maintained.

This issue has been discussed with the welfare collective, whose feedback has been passed on to the President.

Future Plans:

Going into the rest of this year, I have several priorities to build on the Welfare Department's work so far this semester. These include:

- Establishing an English Language Program, potentially as a student directorship, to assist students for whom English is a Second Language
- Finding a more accessible space for the food bank and household goods service
- Improved promotion of welfare services such as the food bank and household goods service
- Providing tea and coffee at libraries during the exam period
- Publishing a guide to welfare services on the UMSU website
- Campaigning for better concession card rights for international and postgraduate students and against any regressive plans to cut welfare services by the Abbott government

3.15 Wom*n's



University of Melbourne Student Union

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

To Annual General Meeting
5/5/2015

Key activities:

Orientation Week

Orientation Week was a busy time for our department. Our key activities included:

- putting together a Wom*n's Department zine to tell students about our department
- having Wom*n's Department calico bags printed to promote our department, and then filling these with resources/free stuff
- running our stall on Carnival Day
- hosting an O-week picnic in the Wom*n's Room

Women's Mentoring Network

The Women's Mentoring Network has been running quite successfully since the beginning of the semester. Our key activities in co-ordinating the Women's Mentoring Network have included:

- setting up registration for mentors/mentees who wish to participate
- pairing mentees and mentors to form mentoring groups
- running 2 training sessions for mentors and meeting up with mentors individually to discuss the nature of the program
- communicating with both mentors and mentees to provide support with the program
- running networking nights (there have been 2 so far this semester and will be a third in May), which involves inviting 3 panellists to speak
- doing follow-ups with mentees/mentors who haven't been in touch

Regular Events

Our department runs a number of autonomous events weekly/fortnightly which take place in the Wom*n's Room. These have been quite well-attended this semester and include:

- Wom*n of Colour Collective
- Wom*n's Collective
- Femme Afternoons
- Queer and Questioning QTs
- Crafternoons

Rad Sex and Consent Week

Rad Sex and Consent Week took place in week 7 and was a week of educational workshops concerning safe sex, healthy relationships and consent. In conjunction with the Queer Department and the Disabilities Department, we sourced a range of external speakers to

come and run workshops on pertinent topics. The week also featured a free film screening of 'The Purity Myth' and a closing party on the Thursday night.

Special events: film night and panel

We've hosted several special events throughout the semester in addition to our networking nights and our regular events. These were a film night in recognition of International Women's Day – a screening of *Belle* in the Rowden White Library – and a panel event entitled 'What the Feminism!?', which featured 3 feminist organisers as guest speakers. The aim of the panel event was to stimulate feminist debate and discussion among students who might not previously have had much exposure to the movement.

NOWSA

Registration for the 2015 Network of Women Students Australia Conference is open, and information about it has been posted on our website, on Facebook and sent out through our newsletter. We will be providing subsidies to students from the University of Melbourne who wish to attend the conference based on financial need.

Judy's Punch

This year we will be publishing a hard copy of Judy's Punch, the annual Wom*n's Department magazine. We have opened up submissions at set a closing date of August 2. We have been advertising editorial and design positions which will give students who are selected the chance to put together the publication.

Advocacy

We have been meeting with the Safety in Clubs working Group to discuss changes to club regulations, including mediation processes which will affect women students, as well a number of other groups, with the intention of ensuring that there is proper recourse for students who experience harassment or other forms of inappropriate conduct within clubs. We have also met with the Safer Community Program to discuss women's safety on campus and possible collaboration.

3.16 VCAMSA

University of Melbourne Student Union

Annual General Meeting

***CONFIRMED* Minutes**

12:30 PM, 15.04.2014

Meeting 1/14

**Location: North Court,
Union House**

Meeting opened at 12:48pm by Sam Donnelly

7. Procedural Matters

a. Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Sam Donnelly be elected Chair

Mover: Sam Donnelly

Seconded: Adam Galvin

CARRIED

It was asked that it be minuted that Sam Donnelly commented, referring to Adam Galvin "what a babe".

b. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

So acknowledged

c. Attendance

Over 400 people were in attendance.

d. Proxies

No proxies

e. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda as presented be adopted

Mover: Sam Donnelly (Chair)

CARRIED

8. Minutes

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting on 23rd April 2013

Minutes from the Special General Meetings 14th May 2013 & 8th October 2013

Motion 3: That the previous minutes of the 23rd April, 2013; the 14th May 2013 and the 8th October 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record

Mover: Sam Donnelly (Chair)

CARRIED

9. Motions on Notice

4.1 2013 Financial Report

Motion 4: To accept the 2013 Financial Report

Mover: Sam Donnelly (Chair)

CARRIED

10. Other Business

No other business

11. Next Meeting

TBC

12. Close

Meeting closed at 12:50pm