



University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Education Committee
2:00PM 13/03/2018
Meeting 3(18)
Location: OB Space, Union House

Meeting opened at 2.19 pm.

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Motion 1: That Conor Clements be elected chair.

Mover: Conor Clements

Seconder: Elizabeth Vu

Carried without dissent ("CWD").

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

1.3 Attendance

Office-bearers: Conor Clements

Alice Smith

Toby Silcock

Committee: Elizabeth Tembo

Ru Bee Chung

Annette Jacobsen

Jonas Larsen

Mindi Suter

Other: Joshua Bruni

Alston Chu

Katie Doherty

1.4 Apologies

We received an apology from Dominic Ilagan

1.5 Membership

Madeleine Sarich-Prince has resigned as Education Public officer.

Jonas Larsen and Mindi Suter have been appointed.

1.6 Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2: That the agenda be adopted as presented.

Mover: Conor Clements

Seconder: Mindi Suter

CWD.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion 3: That the minutes circulated be accepted as a true and accurate record of Education Committee Meeting 2(18).

Mover: Elizabeth

Secunder: Jonas

CWD.

3. Office Bearer Reports

3.1 Academic Affairs OB Report

Alice spoke to the written report, attached below (Appendix B: Education Academic Report as Submitted).

Annette arrived at 2:30pm. Mindi left at 2:59.

Expenditure was as noted in the Budget which was distributed with notice of this meeting.

Discussion generally approved of the campaign plan on Stop1, focused on mobilising existing mass anti-Stop 1 sentiment and the vulnerability of the university, and was supportive of the work Ed Ac was doing.

Alice spoke to Summerfest, noting that this was the first meeting of semester. Alice noted that O-Week went well, with Ed being the only non-VCA department to send an OB, and otherwise conversations on Cadmus and the NDA were effective. The tote bag was well-received.

On Cadmus, Alice noted that the letter was presented to the Academic Board and was well-received. Richard James was to present a written response for next Academic Board in two weeks. The University acknowledged the program was not ready for implementation, and there are no current trials except in one subject (Animal Structure and function).

Mindi asked about the funding of Cadmus. Toby and Alston noted that Cadmus was being produced in-house. Mindi suggested OB's inquire the cost of Cadmus, given other funding cuts.

Elizabeth asked about recommendations of Advocacy on the FlexAP report. Alice Recognised Advocacy's assistance with drafting the letter to Academic Board.

On Elected Reps (with Dept. VC Carolyn Evans, and Elizabeth Capp), Alice spoke to Stop1, that counselling was reported to be "happy" with their move, and that Elizabeth noted (albeit with problems) that the average wait time was "improved" but still at about 45 minutes, with some positive responses from students surveyed after their consultations on touch-screens.

Discussing the commencing Stop1 campaign, Jonas noted that he had waiting 2.5 hours to get course advice. Alice noted that average wait times were biased since a 1 minute inquiry telling students to go online would be recorded. Alston and Toby spoke to data coming out of Business Intelligence and SES surveys potentially being biased.

Alice noted that faculty-specific advice used to be the norm, and that these concerns were all part of a campaign (which the University is vulnerable to).

Mindi noted her opinion it was positive we were running a campaign, and that this was simply a money-saving advice, and that the previous faculty-specific system was superior (including getting text-message updates on your place in the queue). The downsides of the SRN in this space, Stop1 coming out of Chancellery, were noted. Mindi advised the campaign be connected to ongoing cuts at MSA, and NUS campaigns.

Toby and Alice spoke to upcoming comms by next Wednesday for the newsletters. Everyone spoke to tapping into existing mass discontent, potentially through posters and surveys, focusing on qualitative experiences rather than just quantitative data. Alice noted this was what was successful about the Cadmus letter.

Conor recommended parking discussion, and bringing it to the next EAG.

Alice spoke to the SRN meeting happening the following day, and to Academic Board, and potential changes to the Melbourne Model. Toby spoke to Exams subcommittee, including the ProctorU online invigilation tool for use with online-only

open-book subjects. Committee members were very concerned about the tool, in particular the privacy implications of being recorded in a private space doing an exam.

Both Alice and Toby spoke to lecture recordings, including the online reporting form now live, and Alice's meeting with the Assistant Dean (Teaching & Learning) about the only exempted subjects, and having to go to Learning Environments to obtain the list of officially-exempted subjects.

Committee noted the length of discussion at more than 40 minutes, but Mindi stated this was positive as many good things were happening in this space.

3.2 Public Affairs OB Report

Alston Chu and Katie Doherty left at 3:11.

Conor spoke to the written report, attached below (Appendix C: Education Public Report as Submitted).

Conor noted that it was not ideal that Madi had resigned, but that most activities could be successfully delegated, including through the EAG. Committee also noted that this happened last year.

Conor also noted that he had spoken to contacts in Sydney about potential strategies for fighting Cadmus, but noted the differences in the software in question and how they limited how much we could draw on Sydney's victory here.

On NTEU collaboration, Conor noted positive movements, particularly in the NTEU's ability to speak with members, and that their priority is currently enterprise bargaining.

Motion 4: That the Education Academic and Education Public Office Bearer reports be accepted en bloc.

Mover: Jonas

Seconder: Ru Bee

CWD.

Procedural: Jonas had to leave, to avoid losing quorum we decided to consider timely motions as a matter of priority.

Motion 5: That motions 5.1 and 5.2 ("Motions not on notice" in the amended minutes) be considered and voted on.

Mover: Chair

Seconder: [Moved from the Chair]

CWD.

4. Motions not on notice

4.1: BBQ for NDA

Alice spoke to the motion. It was common practice in the past for Ed Ac to run a BBQ on the day of an NDA to encourage students to attend, feed students, and have conversations, as a way of supporting the NDA and Ed Pub.

Annette asked whether, if successful, this would be repeated at subsequent NDA's. Alice stated that it would.

Motion 6: That \$1,000 be passed from the Campaigns, Special Projects & Events budget to pay for a BBQ to be held the day of the NDA.

Mover: Alice

Seconder: Elizabeth

CWD.

Procedural

Needed to ensure motion 6.2 on notice of future meetings was passed before Jonas left and quorum was lost. of supporting the NDA and Ed Pub.

Motion 7: That agenda item 7.2 as in the amended Agenda distributed at the meeting (noting future meetings) be considered before quorum is lost.

Mover: Conor Clements

Seconder: [Moved from the chair]

CWD.

5. Notice of Future Meetings

Motion 8: That the future dates noted in Appendix D: Dates of Future Meetings be adopted and called as future meetings of this Committee.

Mover: Conor Clements

Seconder: [Moved from the chair]

CWD.

Jonas left and quorum lost at 3:19pm.

All other business deferred until next meeting.

6. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed at 3:21pm.

Appendix A: Table of Motions Passed

Number	Motion	Mover	Seconded	Carried?
1	That Conor Clements be elected chair.	Conor Clements	Elizabeth Tembo	CWD*
2	That the agenda be adopted as presented.	Conor Clements	Mindi Suter	CWD
3	That the minutes circulated be accepted as a true and accurate record of Education Committee 2(18).	Elizabeth Tembo	Jonas Larsen	CWD
4	That the Education Academic and Education Public Office Bearer reports be accepted en bloc.	Jonas Larsen	Ru Bee Chung	CWD
5	That motions 5.1 and 5.2 (“Motions not on notice” in the amended minutes) be considered and voted on.	Moved from the chair		CWD
6	That \$1,000 be passed from the Campaigns, Special Projects & Events budget to pay for a BBQ to be held the day of the NDA.	Alice Smith	Elizabeth Tembo	CWD
7	That agenda item 7.2 as in the amended Agenda distributed at the meeting (noting future meetings) be considered before quorum is lost.	Moved from the chair		CWD
8	That the future dates noted in Appendix D: Dates of Future Meetings be adopted and called as future meetings of this Committee.	Moved from the chair		CWD

* CDW = Carried without dissent.

Appendix B: Education Academic Report as Submitted

3.1 Education Academic Report

Since last Committee we had ... all of Summerfest. So, intense, to say the least. That combined with the actual commencement of Semester – which means MEETINGS — means that we're wiped and we haven't even started properly yet.

O-Week and Sleepover.

Carnival day was very successful for Ed Ac. Students loved our tote bag design, there was significant interest in the workings of the department and activism and advocacy generally. The Cadmus petition was pushed hard, and other departments (including Womens and Environment) were distributing flyers and having conversations about the campaign. Students being aware of what Cadmus is and will mean for them will be critical throughout the year (see below).

We ran stalls in both Parkville and the VCA. Engaging with VCA students throughout the year will be a focus of the department, since it is apparent from conversations with VCA students that there is significant frustration with continuing course cuts and centralisation of services on Parkville campus.

Sleepover...happened. Given that Alice also moved house the day after, and also the fact that most OB's spent more than 24 hours at Uni, most OB's were thoroughly wiped by it (it's a good thing we're not employees, the overtime would bankrupt the Union).

We didn't have a chance to engage with many students on Education issues, but reports from students were that the event was a lot of fun, with good activities, music, food, and general vibes.

Our Great Debate was under-promoted and since students seemed happy to continue watching Ronnie Chieng International Student which was screening where we were holding the event, in fact it didn't happen.

If Sleepover happens again next year, there should be a strong focus on activities that encourage productive conversations with students about what we do and how to get involved.

Cadmus

Desiree and Alice had a meeting with Richard James about the academic integrity working group, which is investigating the viability of Cadmus and alternative methods for combating contract cheating. We are also building on the response to our letter to Academic Board, which by most accounts has very effectively put student opposition to Cadmus as a critical issue in the program's development.

Cadmus was also discussed at Elected Reps. Chancellery provided us with an invaluable update on the University's plans to

Stop 1 and Academic Services

The department is also in the planning stages of a campaign about how utterly shit the academic service provisions of the Uni are. This will focus mainly Stop 1 and Academic Skills. Stay tuned. We're starting to collect data on Stop1 and Academic Services (which also was discussed at Elected Reps).

SRN

Most major Academic Board and other senior committee meetings have met at this point. So, the first meeting of the SRN has been called for Wednesday 14th March 2018, 1:15-3:15pm.

Discussion of committees will be brief here, since that's the point of the SRN Meeting 1. In short:

- Academic Board discussed potential Melbourne Model changes, which will be the subject of a working group on which Alice will sit. Students' concerns about Cadmus were also directly put on the agenda (see "Cadmus").

- The Exams Subcommittee gave rise to particular issues in both APC and TALQAC about a proposed new "proctoring" tool for online-only subjects, so that students can do invigilated exams remotely while being watched from their laptop cameras. We are keeping our eyes on this, since it overlaps with our general concerns on student data.
- SES results from last year have been summarised, showing (in short) minor decreases in student satisfaction, and a significantly low response rate, which is of concern to academics particularly.

Lecture Recordings

Alice had a meeting with the Parshia Lee-Stecum which gave valuable insight on the scale of exceptions in Arts (and how many lectures are unrecorded "illegally"), as well as general background on the implications for Arts of FAP.

Toby has developed a self-reporting tool for unrecorded lectures which should be live in time for Committee.

Collectives

Our Week 1 Collective was under advertised, and also not in our usual location. Attendance was less than spectacular. This can partly be put down to (i) the fact that Ed Collective is being restarted, and starting new collectives is difficult; and (ii) it getting "lost" in the mass of planning for Summerfest.

Our next Collective will be our first formal, discussion-focused Collective, and has been called for Tuesday 12:30-2pm next week. At the moment, the tentative topic is discussion of FlexAP (or "FAP").

Weekly Stall

The first (ever!) Education Weekly Stall was held 1-2pm on Concrete Lawns. Engagement was strong (and Facebook traction was excellent), and interestingly most inquiries were about what Ed did and how they can help out. This will clearly be invaluable for engagement in the coming semester (and year), particularly concerning university services, Cadmus, Flexap, and NDA campaigns.

The second Weekly Stall was held the same time last Wednesday. We built on conversations from last week, particularly promoting the Cadmus petition and the petition against the library cuts at Burnley.

Syndicate

Although an Ed Pub thing, both Alice and Toby have been low-key involved in making sure that the Syndicate Social Night and Launch was a roaring success, which by most accounts it was.

OB Lyf

We got a fridge. Our megaphone was recaptured from the Science Students Society. OB's are practicing their Bane impressions.

Appendix C: Education Public Report as Submitted

My god, the last couple of weeks have been incredibly busy. A brief summary of what you're about to read:

- Madi's resignation as co-Education Public officer
- The events of Summerfest
- Education Action Group re: Cadmus
- Syndicate launch planning and execution
- Syndicate events going forward

Where to start!

Madi's resignation as co-Education Public officer

Throughout her time as my co-office bearer, Madi was balancing work as an organiser at the Australian Services Union. Recently, she learned that her 6-month contract there was going to be extended – as a result, she has resigned.

Summerfest stall

On the 20th of February, the Education Department had their Summerfest stall on South Lawn. It was a great opportunity to interact with many first-time (and some returning) students, who seemed genuinely interested in the campaigns being run by the Education department over the course of this year. This was a very welcome change to the other major instances I've had with interacting with students over UMSU-related issues, namely during election time. At the stall we received a large amount of signatures on our petition against Cadmus, as well as interest from students who had heard about our workers' rights campaigns we will be running this year and either wanted to learn more about whether they were being paid appropriately or how they could get involved. The only limitation of the stall was how we set up – we should have taken a leaf out of the books of other departments and had a table at the front of the stall, rather than an open-plan thing with students able to come and take things as they pleased. Having said that, this was only really a drawback during the busier periods.

As mentioned above, students were incredibly worried by the university's Cadmus program. This was true both for new students, who were concerned by the privacy issues, and returning students, who had often already heard about it. This is a good sign for the year ahead.

A huge thanks is required for all the volunteers who came and helped us out, both with packing totes and talking with students at the stall.

Education Action Group re: Cadmus

Our second Education Action Group meeting for the year was held on the 19th of February. Attendance was decent considering the amount happening at UMSU. We discussed campaign against Cadmus for the year ahead, which included establishing who we thought would be good allies and who would be most likely to oppose our efforts, as well as how different strategies would be useful.

Since then, I've been in contact with the last year's University of Sydney Student Representative Council (SRC, kind of their equivalent of UMSU) president Isabella Brook, about the steps they took in defeating Cadmus. It seems that the pivotal thing in their campaign was the distrust felt by staff members towards the software. This underpins the need for UMSU to work in close contact with the NTEU branch we have on campus.

Syndicate

We've finalised a schedule for the collective meetings of Syndicate – they will be held fortnightly from the 12th of March and mainly be held in Training Room 2, except for the 26th of March, which will be held in Joe Nap A. At the time of writing, the first collective will be held the day before Committee, on the 12th of March (so we'll discuss how it went then).

Our launch was a huge success – we estimate that there were around 70 people there at the most busy time, and there was heaps of engagement with the union representatives and activists who were present. We had people from the Retail and Fast Food Workers Union

(RAFFWU), the Young Workers' Centre, United Voice (specifically from the hospitality division) and the NTEU.

A condition of entry for the event was that each attendee sign up to our mailing list, so we have a heap of people who are going to be receiving regular updates on the activities of the Education Department.

We spent more money than we budgeted for at previous committees, which is why we have motions to pass today for that expenditure, but I'm confident that this was money well spent, and that this kind of expenditure will not be common to every event.

Careers Fair Stall

Our stall at the Careers Fair on the 7th of March did not go as well as we'd hoped – the idea was that we'd have students able to approach us with queries, but our stall was placed right at the back of MacFarland Court, so that became unrealistic pretty quickly. Fortunately, myself and Cameron Doig (who was helping out) spent time flyering for the Syndicate launch that night instead.

Other events

Before this meeting takes place, Education Collective will have convened for the second time! Please come/hope you attended!

Syndicate's second event is shaping up to be a panel talk with Dylan Goldsworthy of the Young Workers Centre and Gabrielle Marchetti of Jobwatch. Gabrielle is an expert in issues faced by international students – her advice will prove invaluable to attendees. I highly advise that you all attend – it's going to be on the 20th of March in the Baldwin Spencer lecture theatre, from 6-7:30PM.

Appendix D: Dates of Future Meetings

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
4(18)	28 th March	2:30 pm	OB Space, Union House
5(18)	10 th April	2:00 pm	OB Space, Union House
6(18)	25 th April	2:30 pm	OB Space, Union House
7(18)	8 th May	2:00 pm	OB Space, Union House
8(18)	23 rd May	2:30 pm	OB Space, Union House