



University of Melbourne Student Union
Meeting of the Students’ Council
Student Office Bearer Reports
10:00am, Tuesday, the 10th of April, 2018
Meeting 7(18)
Location: Training Room 1, Third Floor, Union House

Student Office Bearer Reports	
President	Submitted
General Secretary	Submitted
Activities	Submitted
Clubs & Societies	Submitted
Creative Arts	Submitted
Disabilities	Submitted
Education (Academic Affairs)	Submitted
Education (Public Affairs)	Submitted
Environment	Submitted
Indigenous	Submitted
Media	Submitted
People of Colour	Submitted
Queer	Submitted
Welfare	Late
Women’s	Not submitted
Burnley	Submitted
Victorian College of the Arts	Submitted

All Office Bearer Reports are presented as they were received, with only formatting changes.

Late reports are not considered valid.

**President
Desiree Cai**

Key Activities

Student Precinct

I attended the Student Precinct Steering Committee on the 28th of March. The main aspect of that meeting relating to UMSU was the approval of ‘option 4’ for the build of Alice Hoy. The architects presented four options for the renovation/demolition of Alice Hoy at previous meetings, from a light refurbishment to a full demolition and rebuild. Ultimately this fourth option was endorsed first by SEAG, and then by the Steering Committee. This option involves building a completely new Alice Hoy building which is smaller than the current Alice Hoy building, but allows for a larger Arts and Cultural building which would house UMSU Theatre services and other spaces currently in Union House. Option 4 was also favoured as it allowed for better options for the ‘hawker hall’ food/retail space on the ground floor of the new Alice Hoy/UMSU building.

There are currently 8 User groups meeting with the architects involved in the project, and we continue to provide our feedback from UMSU’s perspective on the Arts and Cultural User Group and the Student Facing Services User Group. UMSU management were also able to create and provide a document recording the needs and adjacencies of UMSU offices/spaces/rooms for the architects.

NDA

On the 21st of March I attended the NUS Student Day of Protest with a contingent of Melbourne Uni students and other UMSU Office Bearers. Before the protest, representatives from UMSU, including myself, were able to speak at the speak-out on campus, organised by the UMSU Education department.

The day before the NDA I was also able to release a statement in support of the protest and encouraging students to attend.

Palm Sunday UMSU contingent to the rally

I attended the Palm Sunday Rally with a solid UMSU contingent on Sunday 25th of March. It was great to see so many activists from Melbourne Uni there in solidarity supporting the cause.

Supporting the Bury the Bill campaign

NUS and CAPA has been pushing student unions to get involved in their #BuryTheBill campaign, especially as the Higher Education Support Legislation Amendment (Student Loan

Sustainability) 2018 Bill was up for discussion this week (the week from 26/3). I released a statement in support of the NUS/CAPA campaign and against the proposed changes. I also supported the Education officers in getting petition signatures for the campaign.

Supporting other campaigns

On the 23rd of March, I went down with Toby (Ed Ac) and Conor (Ed Pub) to Burnley to set up a stall and help James (Burnley rep) publicise the cuts to the library on their campus and encourage students down there to attend the meeting that happened this Wednesday (28/3) with library staff about these cuts. We were able to talk to many students, and a lot of them were already quite aware of the changes and cuts happening, which was heartening.

Progress of assigned actions since last report

- Continue to provide information and present the needs of UMSU to the Student precinct team—have continued to attend meetings and do this through providing documents
- Continue to support other student reps in their campaigns and events—as detailed in report

List of actions by next report

- Continue to support other student reps in campaigns and events
- Continue to do Student Precinct things
- Plan about CADMUS/ Academic Integrity Working Group
- Plan for and attend next elected reps meeting (April 18th)

Budget Expenditure

N/A

<p>General Secretary Daniel Beratis</p>

Key Activity 1: Minutes and Agendas

We love minutes, we love agendas. They continue to come in, and I am very thankful to all Office Bearers who continue to be punctual with their recordkeeping.

Key Activity 2: Policy and Regulations

As feared in my last report, Travel and Conferences is not yet back. I hope to have a verbal update on this at Council, however. I have also undertaken some further work on a conflicts of interest policy, and am circulating an early exposure draft here at Council. This policy is also with Legal, whom I adore, and is not yet for adoption.

Key Activity 3: Working Groups

All three working groups thus far established have either met or will meet over the next couple days. I am also continuing to work specifically on the PPFWG outcomes, and hopefully a lot of progress will be made towards the objectives of that working group by its next meeting, tentatively scheduled for week seven.

Key Activity 4: Annual General Meeting

Significant progress has been made in the preparation of the Annual General Meeting. Councillors will note that a motion has been noticed at today’s meeting regarding the holding of the AGM. It is intended that the AGM will be held on a Tuesday in early May in North Court.

Key Activity 5: Student Initiative Grants

Student Initiative Grants (SIGs, pronounced sigs), have started to be received, and if approved by Council, I will begin the process of administering any payments and collecting reports as required. I have slightly amended the reporting form for 2018, to take into account some concerns of Councillors in previous meetings, but it cannot be stressed enough that if Council wishes to impose additional restrictions on what should be included in a report, it should consider making that specification in approving applications, or otherwise consider directing me to draft a policy using its recommendations.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Action Point 1: Working Groups

As noted above, everything is either meeting or has met and will continue to meet. The meeting never ends.

Action Point 2: Governance

To address the three points included here: preparation for the AGM has commenced and is underway, policy development continues including the development of a conflicts of interest policy, and the PPFWG continues to deal with the framework.

Action Point 3: Travel and Conferences Policy

I am very excited to get this done, and hopefully will have the policy back soon, enabling me to finish work on it.

Action points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1: Annual General Meeting

By next Council, notice should have been given for the AGM and papers, including the financials, should have been circulated to the membership. All Councillors are encouraged to attend!

Action Point 2: Policy

We’re gonna continue developing policy and we’re gonna have lots of fun doing it. Travel and Conferences, conflict of interest (don’t ask about the inconsistent capitalisation going on here), policy and procedure framework, ethical sponsorship and harm reduction (see below),

and student newspaper are all being discussed—I hope to continue to bring things to Council as they come.

Action Point 3: Working Groups

Working groups as mentioned earlier are being called and held, and I will continue to work on them and their suggestions as they come. Council should be aware that there will be a meeting of the ESWG at 3pm on Tuesday the 10th (that is the date of this meeting), and a meeting of the HRWG likewise at 2pm on Thursday the 12th.

Activities

Alex Fielden and Jordan Tochner

Key Activities

Since last council we've had our first Trivia Night and our St Patrick's Day event.

Our trivia night, while not super well attended, was still really fun for the people who went. We had a bit of trouble dealing with the University to get Grand Buffet Hall as we learnt they're now in control of that space. In future, we may have to reconsider whether we hold these events there if we're going to be messed around in this way. However, apart from that it was a good night and we want to thank all the OB's who came and kept up the energy. Using St Patrick's Day tickets as prizes was also an effective way to market that event and get out extra tickets.

St Patrick's Day then came the week after and was a much more involved event. For the first time running it we were really happy with how it went. We sold over 500 tickets and overall had a super positive response. We found it was a nice crossover between an early Semester 1 event that appeals to first years with the allusions to Oktoberfest made it appeal to older students. While writing our handover we found we'd run it pretty similarly next year, probably advising the next Activities OB's to lessen the number of events in the first weeks of semester so they have more time to focus on marketing it effectively. Also, while the slushies and Guinness were super fun for a first time event to draw people in, we would consider cutting the number of kegs of Guinness ordered and perhaps getting rid of the slushies completely. Catering, AV, decorations, music (by the Engineering Music Society and then a DJ) all went off without a hitch and we were really happy with how smoothly this night went for us. Overall, we think this event is a really fun addition to the Activities calendar and we hope it continues to be run in future years.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Not applicable – no report submitted last council

Action Points to be completed by next report

Begin organising Trivia 2 (finalise venue, AV, security, cleaners, volunteers etc)
Finalise finances and finish writing handovers for events thrown so far

Budget Expenditure

Clubs & Societies Nellie Seale and Matthew Simkiss

Key Activities

Email, email, email



Admin

In addition to emails, we have been processing a great deal of paperwork for AGMs and SGMs, as well as minutes from our committee meetings.

Membership Compliance

Membership compliance was checked, and was significantly more compliant overall than in previous years. Non-compliant clubs have been referred to the C&S Committee, who have determined that all clubs with non-compliant lists will be contacted and asked to re-submit, and clubs with no list submitted, or less than 30 members have been petitioned for disaffiliation, as per the regulations.

Asset checking

Clubs have been coming to our office to have their assets inspected and signed off on to ensure that they are being looked after, as per our regulations. This is to ensure they are not wasting SSAF funded grant money on assets that are not being looked after.

Clubs Carnival

We have set a date for the Clubs Carnival and booked South Lawn. We are working with Comms to book all of the infrastructure, but have received all of the design and promo collateral.

Progress on Assigned Actions from last report

Constitutional and Policy workshopping

This has been advertised to all clubs so we are writing up all the proposed changes for the first working group.

Updating Documents

All pressing documents have been completed, with the exception of the guides for events. We are waiting until after the working groups are done before the rest of the documents will be updated, as the working groups will have an impact on this.

Action Points to be Completed by Next Report

Clubs carnival

Send an email out to club to invite them to participate in the Carnival, and prepare a budget for committee so we can pass money for it.

Welfare

Continue to collect and process responses from the camp leaders survey.

Constitutional and Policy Workshopping

Taking signups for the working groups and continuing to draft changes to present to them.

Budget Expenditure

First aid kit restocking - \$153.75 budget line special projects
SummerFest Testing & Tagging - \$460 budget line Orientation

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
3	15/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
4	27/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
5	06/03/2018	Yes, Confirmed
6	19/03/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed
7	26/03/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

Creative Arts
Freya McGrath and Ashleigh Morris

Key Activities

Key Activity 1

Allocated \$2500 from the Creative Arts department budget to support student art projects on campus during our first funding round of Creative Arts Grants.

Key Activity 2

Organising events for Radical Education Week. We hosted our Radical Roundtable discussion: “Pushing Boundaries through Performance” and our Radical Arts Collective in the Rad Ed hub. We also commissioned a live performance work to take place during the Radical Art-Making session.

Key Activity 3

Hosting our first Pot Luck Open Mic Night of the year. It was a great success! We had twelve very talented performers showcase their work – including our very own Environment Officer, Callum Simpson! Many of the artistic disciplines were represented on the night – some of the acts included: live performance art, singer-songwriters, monologues, poetry, story-telling and music (including an electric violinist).

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Last Action Point 1

Catering, publicity, bar services and technical equipment were all finalised for our first Pot Luck Open Mic event on 22 March 2018.

Last Action Point 2

All remaining materials for our Screen Printing workshop have been purchased. We are very much looking forward to facilitating this workshop on 12th April 2018.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1

Confirm presenters and catering for our first Tricks of The Trade Workshop.

Action Point 2

Contact Life Model’s Society to hire a model for our Life Drawing Workshop on 10th May.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
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3	21/03/2018	Pot Luck Open Mic Night: Catering and Bar Costs	\$420	Special Projects: PLOM	
3	21/03/2018	Arts Grants	\$2500	Arts Grants	

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	05/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
2	08/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
3	21/03/2018	Yes

Disabilities
Jacinta Dowe and Hien Nguyen

Key Activities

We ran an event called Disability Pride from a Non-Capitalist Perspective for Rad Ed week and a joint event with PoC Department on Mental Illness and Racism, with guest speaker Romile Mokak. We have organised new promotional material for all our events with comms and asked them to promote our collectives more on the LCD screens and posters around campus.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

We have organised with women’s department to run an event on June 7th called “Autism and Relationships” from our own department budget. We are yet to find a speaker to run this event, suggestions are welcome.

We have updated our website and events descriptions to include ‘carers, supporters and friends’ of people with anxiety/disability. Hien wrote a statement for event Disability Pride that establishes our position on disability definitions, taking on the social model rather than the medical model. We will be putting this on our FB page and website as well as in our event descriptions to clarify for students who feel confused or alienated by the term “disability”.

We have contacted SEDS about the issue of wording on their website, and asked them if they would be willing to hand out pamphlets on the services we provide as a department to students who come in for special consideration. We also brought up the low attendance of the info workshop and the idea that we could collaborate on an online-based informational service. We received a positive response and organised a meeting for the 29th.

We also tried incorporating a theme into disability collective by bringing books by disabled authors and encouraging people to come and read them. We may run with this theme for the next two weeks while deciding on the next one, suggestions are welcome.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	21/12/2017	Catering for Disability Collective	Up to \$50 a week	Collective	Spend \$46.50 on pizza from Prontos
1	21/12/2017	Catering for mental wellness collective	Up to \$50 a week	Collective	

Education (Academic Affairs)
Alice Smith and Toby Silcock

Key Activities

Just a week. A productive week. Lightly spiced with dried Burnley, a generous dollop of NDA, served on a soft bed of Stop1. Served with a side of gently cooked GSA. Delicious!

Key Activity 1 – Stop 1 and Academic Services

The tentative name for our Stop1 campaign is currently "Stop1, Students 0". We've been having meetings with Advocacy and other stakeholders about what we do with the data, and how we turn the data into a final report with specific options for making Stop1 functional again (note – the campaign slogan is *not* "Make Stop1 Great Again", it was never great). We have finished the first draft of our survey. By the time of Council, this should be with Comms, without unforeseen complications.

Key Activity 2 – Meeting on LMS

Last week, we met with the people planning the redesign of LMS. The current version of the software, Blackboard, is being phased out, so the University is planning an extensive ground-up redesign of the product. They are consulting with students as part of it, so that's nice.

As we understand it, they are finishing the design of a survey to be rolled out, to get data on essential and non-essential services. We also had a chance to highlight key issues for students, and well as to explain what our function is, and give suggestions on better engagement besides simply a survey (such as focus groups, engagement with the SRN, faculty committees, or faculty clubs, as well as other UMSU departments). But there will be a survey, and we will promote it if it appears well-designed.

Key Activity 3 – Burnley

Toby went down with Conor on Friday 23rd March to run a stall and build opposition to the library cuts. We had excellent conversations with students, handed out flyers, and got a decent number of students to sign the online petition. It was also a good chance for us to meet both James and other members of the BSA.

At time of writing (literally), EdAc and EdPub (and Ash from Media) are heading to Burnley to a meeting with staff and students about campaign planning and next steps. It's a bit early to tell how things will be going with the cuts and with Burnley generally, but at this stage it's as much about building engagement and opposition, and then channelling that into an effective response, and indeed better cross-campus engagement in the future. Most students and staff that have been at Burnley for decades have been talking about consistent white-anting of the campus, so it appears at this stage that the Uni has quite a bit of trust to repair.

UPDATE – At the time of writing, the outcome of the meeting is that library staff are not content with the cuts to staffing but appear to have little power. We aim to bring this matter up in question-time as a question not on notice to Paul Duldig, head of University Services. Updates will be provided for next Council.

Key Activity 4 – SRN

No significant meetings have occurred thus far.

We've received reports on the BA course review, which make for interesting reading.

Aside from that, the next meeting of the SRN will be held in about 3 weeks from today, so Toby has asked for any availability updates. It will be called before next Council.

Key Activity 5 – Lecture Recordings

The report form has some of the best reach of any UMSU Education Facebook Post. The overwhelming majority of this has been organic reach (that is, not sponsored). We have received enough to start contacting academics, but not quite enough systematically to target Associate Deans at this point.

Key Activity 6 – Collective

We had our third Collective on Tuesday 27th March. Attendance was better, not spectacular, but strong, with some students coming along who'd never engaged with the department before.

Promotion will be more aggressive for next Collective, since they're a fantastic way to get feedback on our department's activities, and we want more attendance. Come along 😊

Key Activity 7 – Weekly Stall

Both Week 4 weekly stall was held at Burnley (see Key Activity 3) on the Friday (since Wednesday 21st was the National Day of Action, see Key Activity 9). In lieu of our Week 5 weekly stall, we attended a meeting at Burnley on the library cuts, getting feedback from students and preparing

Key Activity 8 – Punitive Student Fees

There have been no updates on this so far, except more information has come to light that, instead of \$20 as possibly indicated, staff cards may in fact be free. This is obviously just good info to have. We shouldn't be paying a cent, should we...

Key Activity 9 – NDA BBQ

This happened. It was good. It was a bit unclear at the beginning that our BBQ was free, but once kids made the connection we got decent traction. We have sausages left for next NDA. We also attended the NDA itself. It was a fantastic opportunity to bring people new to protests, and to reconnect with people from other campuses. It was also a fantastic opportunity to march in opposition to the government's cuts to education down the streets of Melbourne, and bring public attention to students' consistent and vocal opposition to generational attacks.

Key Activity 10 – Rad Ed Week

Rad Ed week is ongoing at time of writing, but EdAc's presentation on Data Retention was generally successful. A bit early in the morning, but we had a good discussion nonetheless on some of the most cooked things the Uni is doing with our data, and general ways we can start building opposition to them as a Union. The other events have also been excellent. Rad Ed tent has also been a good opportunity to petition on Bury the Bill. And on that...

Key Activity 11 – Bury the Bill

On Friday 23rd in the evening, we heard that the Higher Ed bill, which will basically fuck students over on debt repayments and fee caps, might be debated and voted on Wednesday or Thursday the 28th/29th respectively.

We held two snap stalls to get petitions on NUS' Bury the Bill campaign. The stalls were generally successful, although signing petitions against higher ed cuts is always difficult since students automatically tune them out. That said, we got almost 100 extra signatures at time of writing, which will be passed to NUS. Hopefully the Bill will be voted down, but no information at this stage.

Key Activity 12 – Academic Integrity

Alice and Des had their first meeting of the Academic Integrity Working Group. We found out there will be Cadmus trials in Semester 2 so we will be ramping up that campaign in the back end of Semester 1. Richard James also indicated that the University is considering making academic integrity modules to be completed by all students to make expectations clear.

Key Activity 13 – OB Lyf

The fridge is proving useful in colder climes, since it warms the room, and cools our food (both useful).

Diet Vanilla Coke can now be purchased in the food court, instead of in the problematic vending machines. And it's 50c cheaper! What a time to be alive.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

- 1. Produce and distribute minutes for SRN Meeting 1.**
Not yet done.
- 2. Hold Collective 3, without room booking mix-ups! where possible.**
Done. No room-booking mixups. See Key 6.
- 3. Conduct successful NDA BBQ.**
Done. See Key Activity 9.
- 4. Meet with welfare on VCA engagement.**
Lined up – also planning to set up a meeting with the head of student engagement at VCA.
- 5. Email on status of FAP working group.**
Not done yet, last week proved unduly hectic.
- 6. Take steps to obtain concrete data on cost of punitive student fees.**

See Key Activity 8.

Action Points to be completed by next report

1. Hold Collective 4, and note promotion.
2. Meet with VCA, with Welfare, about food banks, student engagement, and course consolidation.
3. Call SRN Meeting 2.
4. Drop the Stop1 survey.
5. Follow up data on punitive student fees. If no news by next Council, look for alternative means of getting data.
6. Develop a letter of Academic Board on Burnley library cuts.
7. Email on status of FAP working group.
8. Develop survey on FAP to consolidate positions on key recommendations emerging from that program.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
3	13/03/2018	Collective 3 Pizzas	\$1200.00	CSP&E	Spent: \$82.50
3	13/03/2018	BBQ for NDA	\$1000.00	CSP&E	Final expenditure being finalised

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	12/1/2017	Yes, Confirmed
2	16/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
3	13/03/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

Education (Public Affairs) Conor Clements

Key Activities

Burnley library campaign

If you haven't heard, the university are trying to cut the hours of staff at the Burnley campus' library to four hours a day for three days a week, and five hours a day for the other two days a week. The Education department have been supporting James (Burnley campus representative) in their efforts to stop this from occurring. At this stage, the university have indicated that they intend to increase the actual opening hours of the library but keep the reduction in staff time, which obviously is still a loss for Burnley students as they have specialist needs for accessing collections which are not available at other university libraries. There is also a strong feeling among students at Burnley that they are not receiving access to even the most basic services that Parkville students take for granted.

There was a meeting at the Burnley campus on Wednesday the 28th of March which featured staff from university libraries explaining the changes. The university staff did not seem at all satisfied with the results of University Services' decision, especially since much of it stemmed from the decision to place a 1.5% "efficiency dividend" (read: 1.5% annual reduction in staff) on employees of university libraries.

I've also aided Burnley students in putting together a survey to be distributed to those at the campus, the data from which will be presented to Academic Board, along with some pointed questions directed at the head of University Services, Paul Duldig. Hopefully this will pressure the university to reconsider its position, although the problem of the efficiency dividend still remains.

At this stage, we have a petition running which at the time of writing has garnered over 320 signatures. This petition has been marketed throughout the Burnley campus with the aid of materials from Comms.

So far, Education have been to Burnley twice, and students there are extremely concerned about these changes, which they see as a continuation of defunding of services that has been seen (and unfortunately not responded to by UMSU in previous years) over the past few years.

National Day of Action

The National Day of Action (organised by the National Union of Students) took place on Wednesday the 21st of March. We held a speak out from 12:30 in South Court encouraging students to join our contingent to meet at the State Library. The Education Academic officers were kind enough to run a barbecue for us, which convinced at least a couple of students to stick around.

Melbourne University had by far the largest contingent of students at the rally. It was unfortunate to see that other campuses did not bring more students with them; this would perhaps be aided with better communication between campuses, ideally through a forum such as a Victorian Education Action Network meeting organised by the NUS Education officer.

Syndicate

We have created a google form that will be distributed soon throughout Union House that will hopefully see us gaining a better idea of working conditions within the businesses in operation there. The information will be used to gain an idea of who may be able to organise in some of the businesses within Union House.

Of note, Young Workers’ Centre are having their annual Young Workers Conference on Friday the 13th of April. I would encourage all office bearers and councillors to register.

Palm Sunday march for Refugees

There was a great turnout of UMSU people present at the Palm Sunday march. The rally itself, which takes place annually, saw an estimated turnout of around 5000 people. It was heartwarming to see so many people who cared about the issues of mandatory detention of asylum seekers on Manus Island and Nauru, and this has caused me to begin plans to communicate with the university to create a scholarship for refugee students. If anyone would wish to aid me in this process, let me know!

Progress on action points from previous report

Hold second Syndicate Collective meeting

Unfortunately, no one came to this meeting. This has caused me to reassess the structure of Syndicate, and how I can encourage more people to help with volunteering.

Be present at Melbourne University’s contingent to the NDA

See above.

Run Radical Education Week event

This event went well; it was less of a workshop on how to blitz in workplaces, and more of an extended team rant on how the university’s corporate structure means that they benefit from the exploitation of workers they employ, but it was cathartic nonetheless.

Action Points to be completed by next report

1. Reconvene with the NTEU
2. Continue planning for Syndicate’s event at the Employability Matters festival
3. Begin planning to lobby the university for scholarship for refugee students

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?

1	12/1/2018	Yes, Confirmed
2	16/2/2018	Yes, Confirmed
3	13/3/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

Environment
Callum Simpson and Lucy Turton



Key Activities

As of the writing of this report, Radical Education Week has just got into the swing of things. We’re so thankful for all the amazing contributions from students, friends and the UMSU departments. There were many gems of workshops in the Rad Ed schedule. It took a great deal of effort from many people, but it is certainly a worthwhile exercise. Already we’ve had a great deal of engagement and some of the workshops were very well attended.

We supported Fossil Free MU in holding an action on Thursday 22nd of March outside the Raymond Priestley administration building. Because the university weren’t telling us the contents of the Sustainable Investments Framework or when the SIF would be released, we decided to hang out the university’s ‘dirty laundry.’ During the action crafternoon, we created soap (given away for free) and made shirts with logos of fossil fuel companies, which we then hung between the arches of the admin with the messages of students and passers-by on them, before holding a speakout. The pressure worked and we now (at the time of

writing) know that the SIF will be release on Wednesday 28th March. Fossil Free MU is now in the process of producing a response.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

No previously assigned actions

Action Points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
5	5/3	Pots, straw bale, seedlings for share-house gardening workshop	\$270	Special Projects	
5	5/3	Vegan Pizza for Co-op Day from the Food Co-op	\$270	Special Projects	Being processed
5	5/3	New hose and reel; resources for pickling workshop	\$120	Community Garden	Some of the receipts have been received, to be processed
6	19/3	Marquee and weights for Rad Ed Week	\$600	Special Projects	Bill yet to be received
6	19/3	Rad Ed Week catering from the Food Co-op	\$1500	Special Projects	Bill to be drawn up by the co-op after Rad Ed week

Indigenous Alexandra Hohoi

Key Activities

Key Activity 1: Indigenous University Games (IUG)

Since the last council, much progress has been made with the IUG Melbourne University Team. The squad had been announced to the broader collective. We have managed to register our two teams. We have also been continuing with training and social events, we meet at least three times/week. Soon we will look into booking flights and accommodation.

Key Activity 2: Spreading fire

A member of our collective has started a performing arts group called, Spreading Fire. Part of the purpose behind this group is to give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at the University an opportunity to participate in cultural workshops and to engage students with performing arts on campus. The Indigenous department is very excited to work with Spreading Fire and this week conversations have been had about what the working relationship will look like going into the future

Key Activity 3: Yearly Wall Calendars

I have been working with comms on creating yearly wall calendars for my students to help them keep on track with dates and to get organised. I am excited to say that they have been given out to everyone.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Last Action Point 1: Meet with MU Sports Student Rep

I had another meeting with the MU Sport student rep and we are finally figuring out how we can work together to best provide my students with support. Going forward we are working on Indigenous University Games together.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1: Deliver the Friday 13th party

We are hosting a “Friday 13th” trivia and board games night for our collective. This was decided at the most recent committee meeting.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?

1	16/02/18	Yes, Confirmed
2	05/03/18	Yes, Confirmed
3	26/03/18	No

Media
Ashleigh Barraclough, Esther Le Couteur,
Monique O’Rafferty and Jesse Paris-Jourdan

Key activities

Making improvements to the Radio Fodder studio

Isaac from AVMelbourne has delivered a quote for his work making improvements to the Radio Fodder studio. As mentioned in a previous report, Isaac is installing a new desk to organise the cords, which are a mess and a safety hazard at the moment. He is installing the desk in such a way that it will be able to be flat-packed and moved easily to the new student precinct when Union House is no longer operational.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Action point 1: Continue preparation of edition three of *Farrago* & continue to run shows on Radio Fodder

Today is edition three proofreading (hence the two amounts we are passing for food for volunteers helping out with proofreading). The need to purchase this food has been somewhat augmented by a small mountain of chocolate that was deposited in our office recently by a previous *Farrago* editor, who now works for a prominent chocolate company. We would like to take this opportunity publicly to thank this previous *Farrago* editor— although, since we do not know whether their company endorses this generosity, we will keep proper nouns out of our thanks, and we will post it in the one place no-one will ever read it (a mid-semester OB report).

In terms of Radio Fodder, things are pretty on track! Kudos as always to our Radio Fodder station managers, Carolyn and Conor. They are putting aside some money to reimburse students who take the initiative to host their shows on sometimes-expensive podcast-hosting services such as Libsyn.

Action point 2: Review UMSU media governance including student newspaper policy and other potential constitutional changes

We have begun the process of reviewing and redrafting the UMSU student newspaper policy. A number of important issues stand out. “Student newspaper policy” is itself a dated phrase.

The media office produces a whole lot of things—a magazine, a website, a YouTube channel, a full-time radio station—none of which are mentioned in the policy. The one thing we no longer produce, however, is a newspaper (a fact that causes one or two members of the editorial team to shed a single tear).

Also standing out is the section on letters to the editor. Letters are a potentially outdated concept in an age when readers can make their thoughts known to a wide audience in the comments sections on Facebook and the *Farrago* website. What is missing from the policy, however, is a sophisticated approach to the moderation of comments and engagement with readers on social media. Recent events surrounding the spicy campus article about neo-Nazis on campus and comments thereon have made the need for this clear to us.

Action point 3: Begin process of digitising *Farrago*’s archives

Not much to report on this yet, but there will be movement soon.

Action points to be completed by next report

Action point 1: Complete edition three of *Farrago* and start preparing edition four

Action point 2: Continue reviewing UMSU media governance including student newspaper policy and other potential constitutional changes

Action point 3: Continue process of digitising *Farrago*’s archives

<p>People of Colour Reem Faiq and Hiruni Walimunige</p>

Key Activities

Radical Education Week

For our first Radical Education Week event, we invited Dr Yassir Morsi back to discuss and develop an action plan on the topic ‘Curriculums of Colour: a discussion on academia & reading lists’.

Our second event was a repeat of the 2017 Diversity Week Workshop titled ‘How privilege manifests in tutorials’. We used it as an opportunity for reporting on the experiences of students of colour in learning space, so that we could take this information to staff training opportunities in the future.

Both events were autonomous, and we were very happy with the attendance for both. Overall, this was a successful collaboration with the Environment Department.

Anti-Racism Workshops

We have found 6 students to present for our Anti-Racism Workshops. They put forward some engaging topic proposals and are frequent attendees at our events. We look forward to their presentations.

Myriad Magazine

We are in the process of finding editors for our department publication, Myriad Magazine.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Finalise Radical Education Week preparations

Radical Education Week planning went smoothly and we were happy with the overall running of events over the two days.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Continue planning for Anti-Racism Workshops

Further preparation of details needed.

Continue planning for Myriad

Further preparation and planning needed.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	08/12/2017	Catering for Week 5 PoC Collective	\$7770	People of Colour Collective	Catering for Week 5 = \$338
2	28/02/2018	Catering for Week 4 Reading Group	\$700	Reading Group	Catering for Week 4 Reading Group = \$77

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	08/12/2017	Yes, Confirmed
2	28/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed

3	14/03/2018	Yes, Confirmed
4	28/03/2018	No

Queer
Elinor Mills and Amelia Reeves

Key Activities

Regular Collectives

We have enjoyed a lot of success with our regular collectives the past few weeks. As noted last report, Queer People of Colour Collective has had a massive influx of attendees compared to last year. The collectives have been a great space to promote the department, as well as help students engage with each other.

CAMP

We now have a team of subeditors for CAMP, who have undertaken subbie training on the 28/3. Submissions are rolling in.

Diversity Week/Rad Ed Week

We ran special edition collectives for Respect and Diversity week which went really well. For Rad Ed week we ran our first Queer Political Action Collective (see below) as well as a facilitated discussion on how transgender people engage with, and are engaged by, the university.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

QPAC

Our first Queer Political Action Collective was run on the Monday of Rad Ed week. We had about a dozen people come and chat about queer activism and possible campaigns for the year! We’ve made a Facebook group for people to join, and have booked Graham Cornish B for every second Monday of the semester to keep the collective going.

Expenditure

We’re still waiting on these receipts.

Newsletter

Comms got back to us and we have a bunch of double passes to give away in our Newsletter. Our first one will have been sent out on 29/3.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Queer Crafts and Beer

We have this all booked in, the next thing to do is to have a meeting with Creative Arts over budget and specific activities/supplies.

Study Groups

This year, we’re hosting three study groups at the end of the Semester. We have the Level 3 Training Rooms booked, but have yet to log the basecamp job and get the ball rolling for the actual activation. We also need to contact someone who has therapy dogs, as this is something we want to have as part of the group.

Newsletter

We want to keep sending out regular (fortnightly) newsletters in order to promote our department, and cross-departmental events.

Coming Out Support Group

We need to log a comms job to update the collateral for COSG, a weekly meeting that is funded by us.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
2	12/1/18	Food for Queer Lunch	up to \$250 weekly and \$2400 a semester	Food & beverages	\$200.56 (week 3), \$139.76 (week 4), \$58.50 + Prontos Order (week 5)
2	12/1/18	Food for collectives: chips, lollies, etc	up to \$50 weekly and \$250 a semester	Food & beverages	\$22.75 (week 3), \$40.17 (week 5) combined for Trans and QPoC Collectives. Total \$62.92

NA	NA	Respect And Diversity Week Collectives	\$5000 to whole of UMSU from the Uni	NA	We spent \$329 from the R+D Week budget on our collectives.
3	7/3/18	Coming Out Support Group	\$1000	Grants	\$50.38

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	06/12/2017	Yes, Confirmed
2	12/01/2018	Yes, Confirmed
3	07/03/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

Welfare
Cecilia Widjojo and Michael Aguilera
Submitted Late

Key Activities

Key Activity 1: Food Bank Program

This fortnight it became apparent that our Food Bank was beginning to be essential to students at this time of the semester. At Parkville the number of students that enquired, either at our office or the information desk, after a Food Pack reached more than a dozen. Two students even travelled from the VCA Southbank. They pointed to the lack of food options on their campus as putting a strain on their food budget and flexibility. Our current stockpile of Food Packs were not enough to cater this influx.

We then promptly took three trips to ALDI and put together a total of 100 Food Packs. We utilised volunteers from the CIP program to help. 50 were promptly sent to Stop One at VCA, on request from their Student Services Team, 20-30 were driven down to the Burnley

campus. The rest were split between our Office and the Information Desk. We will be doing another trip or two in Week 6 of Semester.

Key Activity 2: CIP Bonding Event

After the success of the Induction Session and the CIP Launch party have led to a strong volunteering base of 30-40 students, with another 40 or so that come to occasional events and more sign ups by the day. We have been strengthening this community through social media, group Slurpie Trips and our Welfare Collectives, but though it was time for another large event. Cecilia and the VHive team worked on setting up a Scavenger hunt around campus for the 26th of March.

The event ran out of the members lounge. Each of our CIP supervisors ran introduction/speed friending games until everyone had arrived. We then split everyone in their teams – made up of two supervisors each. They were required to take selfies at each of the locations hinted at by a page of clues. The race went for 30 minutes or so. The winners were Dom and Andrew's team in the end. But with the dinner that Welfare provided and real friendships starting to form in the group, everyone stayed, chatted and played card games until 7.30pm. The event being a success we are planning on a CIP Party in the second half of the semester.

Key Activity 3: Mental Health

The university workload has picked up at this time of the semester, and so has our need to focus on the mental health of students. Our Wellness program has been running efficiently; Yoga, Zumba, Meditation and the Free Daily Breakfasts. We have added to this the UMSU Welfare Mental Health and Wellness Collective. With the help of the Disabilities Department we have talked with students about the sorts of issues that they have been dealing with recently, and strategies to address them. These will be running bi-monthly. Also we collaborated with the Rowden Library to run the 'Dogs in the Rowdy' event. It was almost too popular and will definitely need to be run again!

This week Michael met with the University to discuss the planning of University Mental Health Day. This is a yearly event, to be held on the 1st May, established in Britain and the University has run it in the past to great success. We offered the running of our regular wellness events, as well as the use of our Community Involvement Program. It was useful to see the different roles and faculties that want to be involved. Out of this meeting we have gotten in touch with Aaron from the Department of veterinary Studies to help support some of his students that are/have been struggling with mental health issues. Additionally Michael is meeting with Orania from CAPS to discuss better communication and running of these services.

Additionally, Cecilia has met with Tenant's Victoria to facilitate a relationship between the service and UMSU. Michael ran an event – the A-B-C's of House Squatting – as part of Radical Education Week.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Last Action Point 1: CIP Organisation

As discussed in Key Activity 2, we have made great progress on improving our Community Involvement Program and making it as organized as possible. We have also created a central Google Doc to coordinate the times, places of all events and simplifying the signing up process.

Last Action Point 2: Breakfast Bar

We have been successful in expanding Breakfast Bar to include Tuesdays and in are adding coffee and tea to the menu. This was only possible because of our fantastic CIP Volunteers that have been coming day-in-day-out. Tom from the Ida Bar has been extremely accommodating and has organised with us to make use of the storage closet. We are looking into options to make this more accessible to supervisors and volunteers.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Action Point 1

Moving into the second half of semester one we would like to establish a comprehensive process to document all of the different breakfast supplies, food bank supplies and estimate the use of them moving forward.

Action Point 2

Stress Less Week. Its upon us again. No rest for the wicked I guess. By next council we will have a complete event plan for the week 14th-19th May.

Budget Expenditure

Breakfast Bar & BBQ - \$1,500 approximately

CIP Bonding Day - \$200

Food Bank - \$1,000

**Women’s
Kareena Dhaliwal and Molly Willmott**

No report received.

**Burnley
James Barclay**

Key Activities

Library Cuts

Students met with library staff on the 28/3/18 regarding cuts to the library. Some were placated by the assurances offered to them by library staff, others not. UMSU representatives from the Education Department were also present. The BSA would like to extend a massive thank you to Connor and Toby for their continued efforts in the Library Campaign

Mid Semester Celebration

Students will be attending a drinks session to mark the mid semester break as we all leave for Easter. \$500 was passed by the Op Sub Committee to afford this.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Spread Awareness

The Library Petition has almost doubled its signatures since the last report.

Action Points to be completed by next report

Organise Campus Events

Campus events for the second half of semester need to be organised. A hiking trip and ski trip are preliminary ideas.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
2	15/02/2018	Off Grid Living Fest Tickets	\$300.00	Activities & Events	NA
3	08/03/2018	Groceries	\$1000.00	General Operations	Currently spent \$198
3	08/03/2018	Farewell Gift	\$200	General Operations	Currently spent \$160

Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?

1	24/01/2018	Yes, Confirmed
2	15/02/2018	Yes, Confirmed
3	25/01/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed
4	TBC	No

**Victorian College of the Arts
Nicholas Lam**

Key Activities

Two new food and beverage outlets to be up and running by Easter.

After multiple correspondences and meetings, I have been informed that there will finally be more food options available after Easter break. Two new outlets are scheduled to be up and running by Easter, one of which is already operational; the other is awaiting health inspection approval from city council.

They will start out with a limited selection of food items with the understanding that they will expand over time once the owners better understand the needs of the students. I will be keeping an eye on them so that they adhere to the agreement that food costs should be kept low.

Free Yoga Classes

Bi-weekly yoga classes continue as scheduled.

VCASA Weekly BBQs.

As an apology to the student body for the tardy response to the food and beverage situation in Southbank, the Space Management department of the Uni has sponsored an additional \$1,000 to this week’s lunch, enabling us to feed approx. 500 students, the vast majority of students that has class on campus on the 29th March.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

Action Points to be completed by next report

-NIL-

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
4 (council)	23/2/2018	VCA Summerfest – PA system and setup	\$10,000.00	Orientation	Spent \$1,200
4 (council)	23/2/2018	VCA Summerfest -	\$10,000.00	Orientation	Spent \$3,056.63

Committee Meetings

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Minutes Written?
1	23 rd March 2018	-