

University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Disabilities Committee

Agenda

20th March 2pm

Meeting 4(18)

Location: OB Space

Meeting opened at 2:13

1. Procedural Matters

1.1 Election of Chair

Jacinta: Motion to elect myself as chair

Seconder: Ankita

In Favour: All

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Acknowledged by chair.

1.3 Attendance

Committee members: Russell Wong, Ankita Panjratana, Lucy Birchl, Bridie
Cochrane-Holley, Dannielle Thorman.

Non-member: Vanessa Dinner.

1.4 Apologies

none

1.5 Proxies

none

1.6 Membership

No changes

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda: Ankita

Seconder: Dannielle

In Favour: All.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion to confirm previous minutes: Ankita

seconder: Dannielle

In Favour: All

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

none

4. Correspondence

none

5. Office Bearer Report

no comments made.

Progress on assigned actions from last report

We passed funds at student council to print department bookmarks as the meeting was inquorate and we needed to get back to coms about their quote. The money passed was up to \$200 and the quote is \$198 for 100 bookmarks in colour. The bookmarks design is functional for future years and contains information about our collectives.

We've put up flyers around the uni advertising Demand Dignity – a campaign part of the Nation Day of Action focused on fighting for Disabilities Rights in universities. We've also worked with Goldie further on the new Disabilities space and have a design plan sketched out. The plan is still hypothetical as we haven't received the finalised budget yet but we are optimistic.

Our collectives have begun. Anxiety Support Group attracted five people, while Disability Collective only brought in two and Mental Wellness Support Group one. That said, the discussion we had with the students who did attend was worthwhile and highly relevant to our department.

Budget Expenditure

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	21/12/2017	Food for Anxiety Support Group collective	Up to \$2400 (\$50 per collective each week)	Collectives	Spent: \$50
1	21/12/2017	Food for Disability Collective	Up to \$2400 (\$50 per collective each week)	Collectives	Spent: \$50
1	21/12/2017	Food for Mental Wellness collective	Up to \$2400 (\$50 per collective each week)	Collectives	Spent: \$50

Other Reports

None.

6. Motions on Notice

6.1 Autistic Student Support Group

We have been contacted by a student about potentially running a support group for Autistic students as she has experienced a lack of accommodation and support from clubs at large.

Motion: to formulate a strategy for addressing the exclusion of autistic students on campus and create a support and/or social group for autistic students.

Discussion:

Vanessa brought up linking in with Stop 1. Lucy suggested asking the uni to change the wording on the Special Consideration Website and refer to Dept. Discussions about identity and disabilities and framing issues of disabilities to facilitate engagement – lessen stigma. Ankita suggested an event on Autism and Relationships for rad sex & consent week to gauge potential engagement in a social/support group. Discussion on changing the name of Anxiety Support Group. Discussion on including themes to Disability Collective, potentially changing collective events to involve outside activities: cafes, picnics. Pointed out that off-campus activities are unlikely for a weekly event since we will need to clear with insurance. Possibility raised for the Ian Potter Museum – on campus, has a café. Also discussed issues of privacy in public events, timeline for new disabilities space, and rebranding events as being for ‘x and supporters’ to open a door for those uncomfortable with openly identifying as disabled, autistic, etc.

Key action point to start: Updating online resources.

7. **Motions Without Notice**

none

8. **Other Business**

8.1 Rad Sex and Consent Week

This year Rad Sex and Consent Week will be held over several weeks this year so we are planning to run two events that will be covered by whole of union budget. Our ideas are two workshop/discussion sessions on Mental Health and Dating, and Sex and Disabilities. For Sex and Disabilities we will be hiring a guest speaker, Jax Jacki Brown, as she has much experience with this topic. This will take place on the 8th August at 3pm.

8.2 SEDS Info Workshop Semester 2

A few students have come to us expressing interest in the SEDS info workshop despite not having attended. We think that the timing may have contributed to low attendance despite high relevance to a broad range of students: most of the advertisement took place leading up to week one, when not many students were on campus (this is because the event was on the first day of week one).

Jacinta suggested that another workshop should take place in week two, be on the main campus, and involve a recording so that students who don't go can still access it. Danielle suggested a presentation put online so that it's always available to students.

9. **Next Meeting**

3rd April 2pm, OB space.

10. Close: Meeting Closed at 2:54