



University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Students’ Council

Student Office Bearer Reports

10:00am, Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 2018

Meeting 9(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)	Late
Education (Public Affairs)	Submitted
Environment	Submitted
Indigenous	Not submitted
Media	Late
People of Colour	Submitted
Queer	Submitted
Welfare	Submitted
Women’s	Submitted
Burnley	Submitted
Victorian College of the Arts	Vacant

*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**

This week (at the time of writing the report) is the first ‘overview week’ for the concept design of the Student Precinct, a period of consultation for all stakeholder groups. The concept design was presented at the Student Precinct Steering Committee meeting I attended on 24/4, and there were a number of issues with how the precinct team had integrated UMSU into the design. I raised these issues at the Steering Committee meeting, and in an individual stakeholder meeting to take place next week, we will be discussing and pushing for improvements to the concept design to better accommodate UMSU in the precinct. As the concept design phase ends, the project will move onto schematic design.

**Respect Student Advisory Group**

On 8/5 I attended the Respect Student Advisory group (to the Respect Taskforce) with a group of other UMSU reps. We discussed some of the university’s plans on rolling out a video about consent (targeted at graduates) and the rates of completion and a potential future evaluation of the university on Consent Matters. A disappointingly low percentage of new students have completed the online module, and we emphasised that improvements of the roll-out of the module must be identified. There was also discussion on the UMSU recommendations to the university on the response to sexual assault and harassment (presented to the Taskforce). Good job to Molly (Women’s officer), in drafting and presenting these recommendations, and spearheading our discussion on them in the Advisory Group.

**Winterfest planning**

The first Winterfest (or mid-year o-week) planning workshop happened on Thursday 3/5. The communications event team has started preparations and ideas for the event, and has encouraged OBs to start planning early. This year, Winterfest will be held inside Union House (rather than outside on soggy concrete lawns as has been done in the past).

**Support for the NTEU industrial action**

The NTEU is taking industrial action this upcoming Wednesday on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. I will be speaking in support of the NTEU strike at their action at 9am on the Wednesday, before heading down with the UMSU/NTEU contingent to the Change the Rules Rally. Congratulations to the Education Department, Conor in particular, for organising lecture bashes, leafletting and other awareness-raising activities about the strike and the importance for student solidarity.

Through President's News, I've also managed to release several statements in support of the NTEU and what they are fighting for in their industrial action. I would encourage all student representatives and councillors to join our contingent to the rally on Wednesday, and not attend class from 9am-1pm on that day.

### **Media-related activities**

I was able to give comment to SBS for a radio package that was being put together about the effectiveness of consent modules and what universities are doing in responding to the issue of sexual assault on campus. This radio package will be available on the internet sometime soon.

### **University of Melbourne Excellence Awards**

In the past two weeks I have participated as a member on the panels to decide the winners of the Melbourne Excellence Awards as a student representative.

### **Weekly Meetings**

Attended weekly management meetings and meetings with Justin to discuss pertinent matters.

### Progress of assigned actions since last report

- Pursue discussion with the university about Special Consideration—Alice is awaiting the return of Neil Robinson, head of Academic services, so we can have a meeting
- Participate in review week for the Student Precinct Concept Design—our meeting as a part of review week got delayed to next week, so keep an eye out for that in next report!
- Continue to support other student reps in campaigns and events—I have been supporting disabilities and welfare in pursuing a CAPS campaign recently

### List of actions by next report

- Student Precinct Concept design review meeting
- Speak and participate in the NTEU action and UMSU/NTEU contingent to the Change the Rules Rally
- Attend meeting with the Academic Services Executive team
- Continue to support student reps in their campaigns

### Budget Expenditure

N/A

**General Secretary  
Daniel Beratis**

**Key Activity 1: Minutes and Agendas**

Folk’s, you wouldn’t believe how many meetings happen.

**Key Activity 2: Policy, Regulations, and Working Groups**

Conflicts of interest policy will not come to Council until Thursday fortnight, due to a slight change in the Standing Orders I want to make to reflect the policy. As such, it will all come at that point. I have also been in communication with staff stakeholders regarding other policy, specifically harm reduction and ethical sponsorship, and that should be en train in due course.

**Key Activity 3: Annual General Meeting**

The AGM has been finalised and all relevant documents despatched to Consumer Affairs. There will be a need for more General Meetings this year, specifically in regards to the appointment of a new auditor and to Special Resolutions put by this Council or by other groups as per the Constitution.

**Key Activity 4: Student Initiative Grants**

Student Initiative Grants are proving to be wildly popular—to the point that I suspect we may run out of money in this budget line to grant to students. I am contemplating a revision of how SIGs are managed in the future, but this is just a thought bubble at this stage.

**Key Activity 5: VCA Vacancy**

I have called a meeting of the VCA Committee for 4pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May—information is or will be distributed via the UMSU mailing list, UMSU website and my.unimelb portal. Hopefully the Committee will actually be quorate and the transition period between Coordinators can soon end.

**Key Activity 6: Financial Counsellor Recruitment**

I sat in on interviews for the Financial Counsellor position and have been very impressed with the calibre of candidates that met with us. Hopefully this program will soon be off the ground!

**Key Activity 7: Tribunal Appointment**

I have received a resignation from the Electoral and Grievance Tribunals from the Vice-Chancellor’s appointee, and will be in contact over the coming days to ensure a new appointment is made.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

**Action Point 1: Annual General Meeting**

It’s done! Thank you to every single attendee who made my year. As noted above, future General Meetings this year will need to occur, but these will take place in Semester 2.

**Action Point 2: Policy**

While Conflicts of Interest did not make it this Council, I will be bringing it to next Council along with an amendment to the Regulations, specifically to the standard form of agenda in the Standing Orders so that it includes a Conflict of Interest Declaration item. Enjoy!

**Action points to be completed by next report**

**Action Point 1: Working Groups**

By next Council, we will be in a position to move forward with various elements of various Working Groups following feedback from some staff stakeholders. Particularly, advice in regarding harm reduction should be available at that time, and ethical sponsorship should also have made some progress.

**Action Point 2: VCA Vacancy**

Nominations have been opened for the position of VCA Campus Coordinator, and I will be coordinating the logistics as noted above of the Committee meeting to decide on those nominations. The meeting, as also noted above, is scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup>, which is also the next meeting of Council.

**Action Point 3: Regulations and Policy**

There will be some tiny amendments to Regulations coming to next Council (as foreshadowed above), but given concerns raised about various sections of various documents to me, this will be something I focus more on in the coming weeks and months.

**Activities**  
**Alex Fielden and Jordan Tochner**

**Key Activities**

Since last council we have not had any major events. We continue to help organise Tuesday Bands, BBQ’s and Bev’s and Thursday BBQ’s. Thursday BBQ’s are increasing in size - which is great!

All finances for St Pats are now paid and finalised (apart from any invoice regarding bar staff and alcohol).

We have had committee meeting to discuss the program for semester 2. Have had meeting with students and committee about bands for sem 2.

Our next major projects coming up are Trivia on May 10.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

Have finish work on organizing Trivia 2. Questions and rounds have been designed and written

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

Follow up meeting with Governance and Compliance Officer and Legal about future policy

**Budget Expenditure**

Passed up to \$1000 for AV for Trivia 2.

<p><b>Clubs &amp; Societies</b> <b>Nellie Seale and Matthew Simkiss</b></p>
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**Key Activities**

**Email and Admin**

The majority of our admin work is focused on assisting clubs with constitutional changes and processing their AGMs. Almost all of the new clubs have registered for an IGM, and between Fiona, the OBs and Committee, we will be assisting all of them through this process as one of the final steps in their affiliation.

**Clubs Carnival**

Clubs Carnival went relatively well overall. There were a few clubs who didn’t show up, but the ones who did had a great time, and the event was very well attended. This was due in part to Activities joining us on South Lawn with their BBQ. We had some small issues with power, and not being fully prepared for some of the bigger items such as popcorn machines. We also discovered that there is no policy for having amplified sound outside of the Tuesday lunchtime at North Court, which resulted in us not being able to have the Fodder tent playing radio or music.

**Progress on Assigned Actions from last report**

**Constitutional and Policy workshopping**

The agenda for the second meeting has been drafted and sent out. There will be a lot of work needed to revise the camp policy and documents.

**Welfare**

We are in discussion with Counselling and Psychological Services around developing a specialised mental health first-aid based training for club executives.

**Action Points to be Completed by Next Report**

**Constitutional and Policy Workshopping**

The second working group occurs at 11:00 today so let’s hope council is finished by then.

### Budget Expenditure

\$706.24 for Comms Casuals at Clubs Carnival.

\$1713.80 for Infrastructure at Clubs Carnival.

### 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, Confirmed
7	26/03/2018	Yes, Confirmed
8	16/04/2018	Yes, Confirmed
9	17/04/2018	Yes, Confirmed
10	01/05/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

**Creative Arts**  
**Freya McGrath and Ashleigh Morris**

### Key Activities

#### Key Activity 1

Organising our “Tricks of the Trade” Workshop on How to write a successful grant application. Date confirmed for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Happy/Healthy Art-Making workshop currently in development. Catering is being organised for both events.

#### Key Activity 2

Ongoing planning for Stress Less Week “Princess Diary Painting Party” in collaboration with the Women’s Department – we’re going to screen the films, provide crafts & snacks to de-stress.

**Key Activity 3**

Hosted our first TOOYA (Talking Out of Your Arts) Post-show Q&A event for Four Letter Word Theatre Company’s production “Everything is Fine” on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Next TOOYA coming up on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for Melbourne University Shakespeare Company.

**Key Activity 4**

Organising our third Pot Luck Open Mic Night for 26th May 2018, including catering, publicity, bar services and technical equipment.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

**Last Action Point 1**

Catering is currently being organised for Tricks of the Trade Workshops. We have decided on Little Cupcakes!

**Last Action Point 2**

Have not contacted Life Model’s Society yet - will do in coming weeks.

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

**Action Point 1**

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

**Action Point 2**

Ongoing grant consultations with student artists for our next \$2000 arts grant-round on 18th May 2018.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
4	3/05/2018	Tott-shops: Workshop facilitator & Catering	\$500	Special Projects	
4	3/05/2018	Visual Art	\$70	Special Projects	
4	3/05/2018	Pot Luck Open Mic Night	\$1580	Special Projects	



4	3/05/2018	TOOYA: Building Extension	\$500	Special Projects	
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**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, Confirmed
4	3/05/2018	Yes

**Disabilities**  
**Jacinta Dowe and Hien Nguyen**

**Key Activities**

We’ve contacted the Effective Altruism Club in response to their email regarding Peter Singer, with the following response:

“Thank you for reaching out to us about this issue. The Disabilities Department strongly condemns Peter Singer’s message for two reasons: one, he conflates disability (particularly intellectual disability) with a lack of agency/humanity, and two, he conflates complex histories of racism and slavery with the treatment of animals in the meat industry. While we understand that philosophy involves exploring ideas and that not all questions raised are reflective of the ultimate conclusion, having studied his work we do not feel that his philosophy reflects an understanding of disabled people’s humanity, or the humanity of people of colour, in a way that is at best easily misconstrued and at worst highly damaging to these communities.

We do not approve of giving Peter Singer a platform without due examination and a critical eye towards his ideas. Our experience with his talks at this university has not done that.”

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

We’ve organised coms promotion for all of our upcoming events and made facebook events for the ones that are coming up in the next month. We’ve also reached out to Autism Self Advocacy Australia to inquire about potential speakers for our event ‘Autism and

Relationships’ but are yet to receive a response. Further updates have also been made to our website under the ‘Mental Health Resources’ section for people experiencing Psychosis.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	21/12/2017	Catering for Disability Collective and ASG	Up to \$50 a week each	Collective	Spend \$98.50 on catering (\$50 each event) on mixed rice paper rolls from chill out for ASG and pizza (\$48.50) for DC
1	21/12/2017	Catering for Disability Collective and ASG	Up to \$50 a week each	Collective	

**Education (Academic Affairs)**  
**Alice Smith and Toby Silcock**  
*Late*

**Key Activities**

**Key Activity 1 – Stop1 and Academic Services**

The Stop1 Survey (this is what Comms branded it as – it’s lit) continues apace. Into the hundreds of responses. We need to get some flyers to hand out, but we’ve started promoting it at Ed Stalls, and through the SRN, and through some other comms we’re trying to break into (VCA newsletters, Law internal communications, and so on).

We also had a meeting with Alistair Ingham, who gave us a breakdown of Stop1’s progress during the peak 4 weeks between the week before O Week and week 2. Much of the data is in confidence, but the basics are that chats are up, the amount of long wait times is down (possibly as students are being redirected), and more staff are being put on to “triage” students. We’ll see how this lines up with the feedback we get through our survey, however, since there may be issues with Stop1’s own metrics.

**Key Activity 2 – Collective**

We held it, although it was a bit muddled by the intervention of the democratic extravaganza that was the AGM.

We’re re-starting weekly emails, the job is logged with Comms to design us an email template. Collective will be a key feature of that, so watch this space.

### **Key Activity 3 – NTEU**

The NTEU has voted to go on strike. This is cool. We’ve been doing some “back-end” work for NTEU solidarity, like checking whether students can be punished for not breaking strikes by refusing to attend classes held in breach of industrial action. We’ve also been helping flyerng, and working with the NUS VEAN to generate solidarity from other campuses.

Strike action was also a key promotion at our Weekly Stall...

### **Key Activity 4 – Weekly Stall**

One of our two stalls was cancelled due to ANZAC day, the other was an excellent chance to roam, explain the Stop1 Survey, and speak to students about NTEU action.

### **Key Activity 5 – EdCon Grants**

The EdCon grant form will be up soon, and open for submissions. The tentative closing date for grants will be the end of May, but that hasn’t been finalised. We want Committee to be able to approve grants in early June.

### **Key Activity 6 – Punitive Student Fees**

We held a meeting with Freddy from Business Intelligence, who’s happy to ask around for sponsors for a project collecting data on punitive student fees. The next step will be emailing key decision makers to put this on their agenda.

### **Key Activity 8 – Stress Less Week**

Happy Feet has been requisitioned from the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra. The Feet are in the mail.

### **Key Activity 9 – VCA**

EdAc and Welfare had a meeting with student engagement at the VCA. We’re absent a Nicholas Lam to run the joint, and there are also concerns about how student BBQ’s were being organised (by paying University staff to run them, instead of staffing them through volunteers). Welfare is committed to more on this – see their report.

Otherwise we’ve been sent a list of key academic contacts in education for us to speak to.

### **Key Activity 10 – University Committees**

Several committees have met.

TALQAC received the Exams Sub-Committee Report referred to in our last report. Toby spoke to the concerns about special consideration, reiterating that changes to special consideration must *not* prejudice students. Staff are always grumbling about students “gaming” the system without evidence, which we must resist. It also received the BA Course Review, which is an excellent resource for us to continue to raise through faculty as key recommendations are implemented. A critical finding is the approx. 22% dropout rate in the BA Extended; we raised concerns that this was simply unacceptable, and rather than collect data, there needed to be actual engagement with students on this. There are three TALQAC sub-committees that we are securing our representation on (namely a Respect sub-committee, an Intensives sub-committee, and another on the SES).

Gregor Kennedy also presented very interesting data on students’ attendance of lectures, and use of lecture capture. The rough figures were only 30% attendance in key lectures, and 50% engagement with lecture recordings. It was reiterated that the data show only an ambivalent relationship between recordings and attendance. We’ll scrutinise this data when it’s presented more fully.

APC considered both the lecture recordings data and the special consideration issue in similar terms. It also approved the course plan for the new Bachelor of Health, which appears to be unproblematic, although there are still concerns about what exactly the degree is targeted at.

SPC?

### **Key Activity 11 – SRN**

We held our second meeting of the SRN 2018. We reported particularly ongoing issues with the Melbourne Model, scholarships, and special considerations. We also discussed at reasonable length punitive student fees, and different models for students accessing official transcripts.

We’re getting new branding for the SRN to refresh it, and are in the process for designing an application form for the VCA/MCM CSC, which we’ve still yet to fill! For lack of anyone we can “tap on the shoulder”, or even much in the way of “ins” into the campus, which we’re still getting a hang of.

### **Key Activity 12 – Lecture Recordings**

We’ve had quite some correspondence arising from students’ reports of unrecorded lectures. Faculty don’t even seem aware of the policy, let alone the reasons for it. At least the ones that are not recording openly misunderstand the relationship between attendance and recording, and the pedagogical value of recording. Rest assured we’re being very firm this year on it.

We’re also in the process of drafting a response to the Law School Dean’s justification, published in 2016, on not recording law school lectures. This most likely should be taken to

Academic Board. The terms of the justification are poor, so it’s disappointing that previous EdAc OB’s were not firmer on this issue. Watch this space.

### Key Activity 12 – OB Lyf

The expired juice is probably undrinkable now. We haven’t yet bought more Chuppa Chups [sp?]. We’ve also been doing endless solidarity photos from within our offices, which is fun.

### Progress on assigned actions from last report

Assigned Action	Progress
1 Launch the Stop1 survey, and promote it through SRN, Collectives, BBQ’s, breakfasts, and other key student-facing channels.	Done, see Key Activity 1. Although this coming few weeks more will be done roaming with iPads at breakfasts and BBQ’s.
2 Meet with VCA, with Welfare, about food banks, student engagement, and course consolidation	Done, see Key Activity 9.
3 Report on progress of the refugee scholarship.	We secured a motion at last Council respecting this, but have yet to present it to Chancellery. Will do this.
4 Determine strategies to boost Collective attendance, including re-commencing regular emails and/or starting “Study with Ed” sessions in non-Collective weeks.	See Key Activity 2. On “Study with Ed”, to be actioned.
5 Organise a meeting with Neil Robinson on special consideration and/or punitive student fees.	We’ve been emailing him, he hasn’t yet responded. Will return as a standing action point until organised.
6 Report on Meeting 2 of the SRN.	Done, see Key Activity 11.
7 Hold a strategy meeting with Burnley students on the key “pain points” respecting the library changes.	Not done, will return as standing action point until completed.

### Action Points to be completed by next report

1. Start new email list.
2. Email key decision-makers responsible for punitive student fees to help collect data and begin the conversation about removing these.
3. Email key VCA academic contacts.
4. Compose letter to academic board and student-facing communications about lecture recordings for law.
5. Begin collecting information to bring to AB committees on hurdles, competitive grading, and excessive weighting.
6. Organise another meeting on refugee scholarships to act on the motion passed at last council.

7. Start holding “Study with Ed” chill study sessions in non-collective weeks to take advantage of our room booking at that time.
8. Continue to press for a meeting with Neil Robinson on student fees and special consideration.
9. Reach out to BSA to organise another strategy meeting.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
None.					

**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, Confirmed
4	28/03/2018	Inquorate
5	10/04/18	Yes, Confirmed
6	01/05/18	Yes, Unconfirmed

**Education (Public Affairs)**  
**Conor Clements**

**Key Activities**

**NTEU Updates**

Lots has happened regarding this! The Protected Action ballot that I mentioned in my last report to council passed all motions forms of industrial action suggested, with 93% voting yes to taking strike action on a turnout of 68%. This is exactly the kind of result the NTEU were hoping for—it gives them a really strong mandate going into the next few months of action.

On the back of this, the NTEU had a member’s meeting on Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, where they put forth a motion suggesting strike action be taken on May the 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm, so as to coincide with the Change the Rules rally organised by the Australian Council of Trade Unions. This will likely be the first of several strike actions taken until the NTEU’s bargaining team and University management can come to a compromise on the new EBA.

I’ve made up a flyer with information specifically directed at students about what the strike action is for, why it’s being taken and what involvement can be for students who want to help out. This has been distributed through lecture announcements and our weekly Education stall. We’re also organising a contingent to be present at the NTEU’s initial speak out (which will be happening from Gate 4, the Monash Rd entrance to the University) before we head to the rally together at Trades Hall. It’s really important that students are present to support staff—I highly encourage all councillors to attend.

If you’re unsure if your teacher is striking during the action, it’s best to check with them—you may be marked as absent for attending the rally if you don’t clear it with them first.

**Education Action Group meeting**

On the same day at the NTEU member’s meeting (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) I held an Education Action Group/Syndicate meeting about how we could get involved with the campaign to support the NTEU. We had pretty decent attendance for so late in the semester, and came to a number of actions around scheduling lecture announcements and leafleting that will help ensure that we can

**Syndicate**

As I spoke to last council, the FOI lodged by us to the Fair Work Ombudsman regarding records of complaints into businesses operating in Union House returned 6 related documents, including transcripts of phone calls, but they were all withheld on the grounds that it could cause the businesses concerned undue harm as we may use the information to campaign against them (which, unsurprisingly, is exactly what we intended to use the information for). While this is a disappointing outcome, we did get some idea of what the complaints were about—quote from the letter:

“...the enquiries relate to workplace rights and obligations about the guarantee of hours for permanent employees, hourly rates of pay within Modern Awards, failure to keep adequate time and wage records, and two matters not within the jurisdiction of the FWO, including payment of wages in cash resulting in non-payment of taxation or superannuation, and unfair dismissal matters.”

To be clear, this summarises the content of **three** complaints. If nothing else, this confirms that wage theft has become a business model for at least some of the stores operating in Union House. I’ve attached the FOI letter (which contains the original request as well) as an appendix of this report.

Cameron Doig and I met with Phoebe Churches from UMSU Legal to discuss what our options were around getting an internal review to see whether we could obtain the documents concerning complaints about Union House tenants. It seems unlikely that we’d be able to get anything from Fair Work if we did proceed, but our best line of argument would be that the documents are by default in the public interest since they document instances of wrongdoing by some of these businesses, although given the grounds that they were withheld in the first place, it still seems to be a long shot.

One positive is that this may at least serve to convince people who’ve experienced wage theft at the hands of businesses in Union House to go to the Fair Work Ombudsman to lodge an official complaint—surely this shows that there is no chance that any record of their complaint will get back to their employer, which is one of the many barriers stopping people complaining in the first place.

### **Planned Higher Ed bill amendment phone banking**

We’ll be running a phone banking event next Tuesday where we’ll be calling crossbench Senators in anticipation of the bill that will see a HECS cap be introduced and the repayment threshold lowered be taken to a vote in the Senate on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. It’s unfortunate that this will be coinciding with the NTEU things, but hey, gotta look nationally too. Especially when it’s something this important.

Room and time TBC (at time of writing, obviously it won’t be by the time council is happening).

### **VEAN meeting**

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attended a Victorian Education Action Network meeting, organised by NUS Education Officer Con Karavias. We discussed the NTEU strike at Melbourne Uni and how other campuses could show their support for it, as well as what kinds of things we could be doing to hone our messages to students; we also discussed the No Arts Cuts campaign that’s been taking shape at Monash University, and the lessons that could be taken from it for our own campaigns. It seems that they’ve had a very positive response from the student base down at Monash, so it was good to hear their story and what kinds of tactics they’d used to mobilise concerned students.



We also discussed a potential pre-budget/Higher Education bill amendments stunt down at Derryn Hinch’s office, to be held on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. Hopefully more information will be available on that soon.

The meeting was overall pretty productive, and it was good to actually have one, too—we hadn’t held one since before semester started.

**Progress on action points from previous report**

**Support the NTEU in their Vote Yes to Industrial Action campaign**

Happened! As mentioned above, we’ve been flyering and lecture lovin’ to get the word out to students about what industrial action actually is and why they should be supporting it when it’s taken on Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Begin Syndicate pack distro in Union House/collect and collate Syndicate survey results and figure out what to do with it**

Given everything that has been happening with the NTEU and the release of the budget next week, these activities have been taking a back seat. Once these things are out of the way, we’ll be getting more of an idea of how this will take shape.

**Continue plans for refugee and asylum seeker scholarship programs**

Same as above.

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

1. Attend Change the Rules rally with NTEU members
2. Continue campaigning to get attendance up for said rally
3. Hold phone banking event
4. Continue plans for refugee and asylum seeker scholarship programs

**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, Confirmed
4	27/3/2018	INQUORATE
5	10/4/2018	Yes, Confirmed
6	24/4/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

**Expenditure**

None for current period.

**Environment**  
**Callum Simpson and Lucy Turton**



**Key Activities**

**Play With You Food**

PWYF is going very well. They’re well-attended each fortnight and make delicious food, which is contributing to a good community of interested participants who are learning about delicious vegan cooking and food co-operatives.

**Radical Education week.**

Went magnificently. Rad Ed was very well attended throughout the week. There were many thought-provoking workshops and discussions. We are now reaching out to participants to give feedback on the week for future improvements.

**Fossil Free and SIF**

The Sustainable Investments Framework, published by the university, is a huge disappointment which has very little chance of achieving fossil fuel divestment. Fossil Free has been meeting about the SIF, to discuss how to push the university towards divestment after the SIF.

**Lockout Lockheed**

5 Freedom of Information requests are in the works. We held a BBQ to engage with students on Concrete Lawn about the issue. We’re organising an event where campaigners can get together in Baillieu Library and talk with other campaigners from across the country about a nation-wide campaign against weapons manufacturers on campus.

**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
7	26/04/2018	Food for Lockout Lockheed BBQ	\$416.74	Campaign B	Reimbursement processed
7	26/04/2018	Blackboard paint	\$50	Special Projects	Reimbursement in process
7	26/04/2018	Catering for Play With Your Food for all of semester one	\$2160	Special Projects	Payment processed

**Indigenous  
Alexandra Hohoi**

*No report received.*

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

**Key activities**

**Booking NYWF accommodation**

The National Young Writers’ Festival (NYWF) occurs annually in the city of Newcastle, New South Wales, in late September. NYWF is the country’s largest writer’s festival encompassing both new and traditional forms of media including journalism, spoken word, blogging, podcasting, comedy, zines, comics and prose. The 2018 festival will take place 27–30 September.

It is an annual tradition that the media officers go each year. This year, we have been accepted to host a student media symposium along with other student media outlets across the country. We need to book our accommodation soon because mid-spring is the peak holiday period for Newcastle and places are booking out quickly.

This year, \$4,000 has been set aside for the event. This was a reduction of the \$6,000 set aside by last year’s media office. We are very cognisant of the recent updates made to UMSU’s Student Travel and Conference Attendance Policy and Procedure, and will ensure that all money spent on the event abides with these rules. Of this \$4,000, just over \$3,000 will go towards accommodation. The remainder will be spent mostly on transport to the conference.

Below are a couple of reports from last year’s media contingent at the festival, which reiterate its importance and value.

Maggy Liu:

NYWF was an amazing experience for me, particularly as I’m not from Australia originally, so it was great to have an excuse to check out a part of the country I’ve not been to yet. I enjoyed all the workshops I attended and there were so many to choose from that were all different and useful in their own ways. I got so much out of it including hearing a panel talk about how student media differs across universities, the relationship between politics & pop culture, practical advice on how to monetise my writing as well as poetry workshops that helped me get out of my creative rut. It was also lovely to be able to spend more quality time with people from the media department. It really helped me feel like there is a community there after being (willingly) forced to spend 5 days with them in a new/unfamiliar setting!

Danielle Scrimshaw:

Attending this year’s National Young Writer’s Festival was such a worthwhile experience and I’m extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to go with *Farrago*. The festival offered practical advice and workshops on working within the publishing industry (which university lectures do not necessarily discuss in depth, though as a creative writing major I’m told relentlessly how important networking and connections are) and provided a safe and comfortable space for like-minded individuals and artists to share. I gained some useful advice on editing and writing pitches, and drew a lot of inspiration from the various panels I went to – most of my free time was spent sitting by the water writing in styles I wouldn’t usually write in about things I’d never normally consider.

The trip to Newcastle also served as a great social experience as well, one which I fretted over slightly for a week in advance – travelling interstate with people I don’t know overly well is not something I’d say is within my comfort zone – but ultimately connected me with some amazing, passionate and considerate people who’ve made this year at university infinitely more meaningful than my first year as an undergrad.

### **Wordplay #2**

We held our second Wordplay on 1 May. It was a huge success, with nine performers and probably around 40 people who attended.

### **Progress on assigned actions from last report**

#### **Action point 1: Continue preparing edition four of *Farrago***

Edition four is going well!

#### **Action point 2: Continue reviewing UMSU student newspaper policy**

We are still waiting to hear back from *Woroni* with their policy documents. Jesse last chased this up on 4 May.

#### **Action point 3: Finish drafting the terms of reference for a working group looking at affirmative action for people of colour in the media office**

We have submitted a motion separately about this.

#### **Action point 4: Continue process of digitising *Farrago*’s archives**

We had our last meeting with the university about this process on 30 April. Updates to come.

### **Action points to be completed by next report**

#### **Action point 1: Finish preparing and print edition four of *Farrago***

#### **Action point 2: Continue reviewing UMSU student newspaper policy**

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

**People of Colour**  
**Reem Faiq and Hiruni Walimunige**

**Key Activities**

**Weekly Activities**

Our weekly autonomous events have had good attendance over the past 2 weeks. We have also run several autonomous and non-autonomous Anti-Racism workshops since then and they have had a significant increase in attendance compared to last year’s workshops. We have also provided audio recordings of these events on our social media for those who weren’t able to attend.

**Myriad Magazine**

Applications for editor for Myriad Magazine’s 2018 publication team have closed and candidates have been notified of the outcome of their applications. Applications for subeditor have opened and once the full team is finalised, we will notify others.

**Stress Less Week**

We have been granted funds for our Stress Less Week events, to be held in collaboration with the Welfare Department. We are planning 3 events for the week: a pampering session, a badminton day and a cartoon screening, Tune Out with Toons, to be held on the Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of Week 11, respectively. All events will be autonomous.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

**Open Myriad subeditor applications**

Applications are now open and will close at midnight on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

**Finalise Stress Less Week preparations**

Some further preparation for our Stress Less Week events is required.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
1	08/12/2017	Collective catering	\$7770	People of Colour Collective	Week 9 = \$260
2	28/02/2018	Reading Group catering	\$700	Reading Group	Week 8 = \$131.60

					Week 9 = \$191
2	28/02/2018	Week 9 Reading Group presenter	\$700	Reading Group	Presenter fee = \$200
6	02/05/2018	Anti-racism workshop presenters	\$3250	Special Events: Anti-racism workshops	\$150 x 2 workshops = \$300
6	02/05/2018	Anti-racism workshop catering	\$3250	Special Events: Anti-racism workshops	Workshop 5 = \$190 Workshop 6 = \$75

### 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	Yes, Confirmed
5	18/04/2018	Yes, Confirmed
6	02/05/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed

<b>Queer</b> <b>Elinor Mills and Amelia Reeves</b>
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**Key Activities**

**IDAHOBIT**

Planning with the University is still ongoing.

**Crafts, Beer, and Queer**

This event was a bunch of fun and a great way to engage people with our department, as well as Creative Arts. We had wonderful feedback and lots of requests for the event to run again.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

**Queer Collaborations**

Applications are rolling in for QC. Our committee will be going over the applications in our next meeting where will be doing all the fun number crunching.

**Study Groups**

Comms job is logged, we are yet to get collateral.

**End of Semester Party/CAMP Launch**

Comms job has been logged, and we are collaborating with our editors to create an interactive art space within the launch.

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

**Queer Collaborations**

After our committee meeting on Thursday, it is time to let successful applicants know, and register everyone.

**Study Groups**

Once we have comms collateral we need to advertise these babies.

**End of Semester Party/CAMP Launch**

Continue working with comms and our editorial team to get all the organising done.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
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2	12/1/18	Food for Queer Lunch	up to \$250 weekly and \$2400 a semester	Food & beverages	\$241.70 for week 9.
2	12/1/18	Food for collectives: chips, lollies, etc	up to \$50 weekly and \$250 a semester	Food & beverages	\$55.90 (week 8), \$64.84 (week 9)
3	12/1/18	Queer Space Maintenance	\$1800	Queer Space Maintenance	\$22.50, top up of biscuits and chocolates.
4	18/04/2018	Crafts, Beer, and Queer	\$1500	Special Projects & Events	\$242.23 for craft supplies, \$862.50 for food.

**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, Confirmed
4	18/04/2018	Yes, Unconfirmed
5	09/05/2018	No

## Welfare

### Cecilia Widjojo and Michael Aguilera

#### **Key Activities:**

##### Key Activity 1: Food Bank Program

The program continues to be essential for students. Currently there needs to be more packs made up for UMSU Parkville's Info Desk, Burnley campus and Southbank. We have passed money and will need to organize another food bank run early next week.

##### Key Activity 2: CIP Bonding Event 2#

This event went on quite successfully with around 40 volunteers attending with some of our very own OBs. We had Halal Snack Packs and board games courtesy of Tabletop Gaming Society and VLive! We spent about \$500 on Halal Snack Packs and drinks and cutleries.

##### Key Activity 3: Stress Less Week Planning

Programming is almost finalised! We have been starting the promotion bit of this and hopefully this interdepartmental collaboration will be amazing. We will start finalizing venue and equipment booking after writing this report. In case the council wants to follow up on our planning and tentative budget breakdown, here is the link to the Google document <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QgC9PTRBPimRl0qkb4o5laxM7ax4xhUGVqAlgVqA/edit#gid=0>

##### Key Activity 4: Regular events & collectives

Our Regular wellness classes have been fantastic. Breakfast bars and breakfast BBQs have been amazing as well – with the Week 8 BBQ reaching 400 students serviced. Breakfast BBQs have also garnered attention from Unimelb love letters page which is interesting and has fostered our CIP community. Our department has reached out to UMSU Comms to help us promote breakfasts better as there are some students who are unaware of this essential service. Welfare collectives have been amazing with some of our volunteers taking the initiative to cook for the collective. Wellness Support Group, Zumba, Yoga and Meditation have been running smoothly but will need to keep an eye on them.

##### Key Activity 5: Campaign & Mental Health day

On May 1<sup>st</sup> Welfare contributed to the Universities Mental Health Day. CIP volunteer's could be seen at all the major events in Parkville – mandala, tai chi, free tea & affirmations – which solidified the relationship between Welfare and the Students Services. We have met with Hayley, CAPS councillor working at UMSU on Fridays, to discuss the best way to approach student mental health, have worked extensively with Rebecca to plan elements of Stress Less Week. We will continue to work with Student Services to push for better access to mental health for University of Melbourne Students.

##### Key Activity 6: VCA

Since the unfortunate removal of Nicholas from his position as the VCA Office Bearer both Toby from Education and ourselves have reached out to the various student service's staff. We have and will continue to support events like Mental Health Day, Reconciliation Week as well as the weekly Wednesday Lunches until another OB is instated.

#### **Progress on Assigned action point from last report:**

##### Last Action point 1: Stress Less Week planning

See Key Activity 3. This is still at the top of our minds moving into week eleven. Hopefully by next council we can give you the full evaluation report of the event.

**Action points to be completed by next report**

Action point 1: Stress Less Week

This is the week where our department gets to organize activities to help students relax before week 12 and SWOTVAC begins. Hopefully by this time we can give an evaluation report on how this week goes.

Action point 2: data collection on regular events

We have been trying to collect the number of how many people come at our regular events. We have gotten an approximation on how many attendees at each breakfasts and regular events but we reckon a scary excel sheet with graphs and exact numbers would be fun.

Action point 3: CIP administration

New volunteers continue to apply for the program We have yet to come up with our official guide book or evaluate the pilot program moving into next semester. We will do it as soon as we have space to breathe.

**Committee meetings and budget expenditure**

Committee meeting	Date	Minutes confirmed
1	19/12/2017	Yes
2	24/01/2018	Yes
3	8/02/2018	Yes
4	6/03/2018	Yes
5	21/03/2018	Yes
6	9/04/2018	Yes
7	30/04/2018	Unconfirmed

- Funding for CIP Bonding Event - \$500
- Funding for Stress Less Week out of Welfare Department - \$1500
- Funding for vacuum cleaner - \$100
- Funding for Breakfast Bar and Breakfast BBQ -\$750

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

**Key Activities**

**NOWSA**

Grants for the 31<sup>st</sup> Network of Women Students Australia Conference have been opened by the UMSU Women’s Department. The exact amount of each grant is yet to be determined as we are awaiting confirmation from conference organisers as to registrations costs. The grants will be decided by committee in the first week of June for the conference in the last week of the Winter Break. These grants will cover flights, rego, and accom, and are open to all women identifying students. Comms is dealing with grant applications so we receive the anonymised as members of committee and other officer bearers have expressed their interest in

attending. We will be liaising with DB In what is best practice to make this a fair, accessible, and transparent process.

As for the conference, it's going to be at Newcastle Uni. We're really excited to mingle with all the other womens officers and activists around the country. We're also going to be presenting a workshop! Still not quite sure what it's going to be about, but coming out of brainstorming it looks like it's gonna be staunccccchhhhhhhh!!

### **The Hunting Ground Screening**

We had our screening of The Hunting Ground on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. This is such an important event for the UMSU Women's Department to do, and we'll be advising future Women's Officers to keep doing this as it is a constant reminder of the issues in the safety on campus campaign.

Following, we had a panel with us, Rose Wilson Scott, Nina Funnell (Journalist & End Rape on Campus Ambassador), and NUS Women's Officer Kate Crossin. The panel was good, we talked about a range of issues in relation to the safety on campus campaign at Melbourne Uni and nationally. Thanks to everyone who came, it was such a fulfilling event

### **Respect Taskforce SAG Update**

Molly, Queer, Disabilities, and Des the Pres went to the respect taskforce working group. We had a discussion about what has been done in the space in the past year.

We also began talking about our recommendations, we went through the majority of them and are leaving the last two till the next meeting. Discussion is ongoing on all items

### **Weekly Collectives**

Weekly collectives are going swell! Attendance is down as is the mood during this time of year.

### **Judy's Punch Collective**

Kareena ran the second JPC in Week 8. The discussion around representation and inclusiveness was great, and the collective came up with lots of great points to include in the guidelines.

### **Progress on assigned actions from last report**

#### **Buy Beans**

We have ordered 4 x 100-litre bags of bean bag beans. Thanks for following the bean saga.

#### **Run the screening of The Hunting Ground**

As detailed earlier in the report, this happened on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May.

#### **Run the first networking night**

This event will run on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May in the Ida Bar. We have collaborated with WISE (Women In Science and Engineering) and the event will focus on women’s and non-binary people’s experiences in the very men-dominated STEMM fields.

**Action points to be completed by next report**

Open applications for Judy’s Punch editors

Run our Stress Less Week event in collaboration with the Creative Arts department.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Spent	Budget Line	Comment
3	5.3.18	Food for WoC collective, week 9	\$50	Collectives	
3	5.3.18	Food for Women’s collective, week 9	\$50	Collectives	
4	27.3.18	Bean bag beans	\$72.15	Women’s Room Maintenance	
3	5.3.18	The Hunting Ground – Speaker Fees	\$100	Special Projects ad Events	
3	5.3.18	The Hunting Ground - AV	\$1,479.32	Special Projects ad Events	
3	5.3.18	The Hunting Ground - Guild Hire	\$255.00	Special Projects ad Events	

**Burnley  
James Barclay**

**Key Activities**

**OffGrid Living Festival**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of May Burnley students travelled to Eldorado Victoria to attend the OffGrid Living Festival where they learnt about methods of sustainable living, the skills necessary and upcoming tools & technology associated.

**New Microwave**

The Student Amenity Microwave broke down and was promptly occupied by maggots. A new sleek Samsung replacement was installed yesterday.

**Progress on assigned actions from last report**

**Campus Events**

Due to lack of quorum a rescheduled meeting of the BSA Council is taking place Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of May to discuss expenditure for a mid-year party and trip.

**Action Points to be completed by next report**

Secure funding and begin preparing for mid-year events.

**Budget Expenditure**

Meeting Number	Meeting Date	Item Description	Amount Passed	Budget Line	Comment
Op Sub	09/02/2018	Bus Charter	\$1000.00	Activities & Events	Travel to the Off Grid Living Festival
3	08/03/2018	Groceries	\$1000.00	General Operations	Currently spent \$879
3	08/03/2018	Farewell Gift	\$200	General Operations	Currently spent \$215

**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, Confirmed
4	1/05/2018	No

Victorian College of the Arts  
Nicholas Lam  
*Vacant*