

**University of Melbourne Student Union**

**Meeting of the Disabilities Committee**

**Agenda**

**14<sup>st</sup> September 5pm**

**Meeting 10(18)**

**Location: OB Space**

**Meeting opened: 5:11pm**

**1. Procedural Matters**

1.1 Election of Chair

Hien moved to elect self as chair. Bridie seconded, all in favour.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Acknowledged by chair.

1.3 Attendance

Hien Nguyen

Jacinta Dowe

Russell Wong

Bride Cochrane-Holley

Danielle Rose

Lucy Birch

1.4 Apologies

None.

1.5 Proxies

None.

1.6 Membership

No changes.

1.7 Adoption of Agenda

Hien moved to adopt agenda. All in favour.

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Hien moved to confirm previous minutes. All in favour.

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None.

**4. Correspondence**

None.

**5. OB Reports**

## **Key Activities**

- We have organized to attend the National Disabilities Conference. We passed the money for a grant so that we could attend through Op Sub. This is the motion that was passed:

“The National Union of Students (NUS) Disability and Accessibility Conference will be held at Monash University (Clayton) over the weekend of 28th to 30th September 2018. Considering the current political climate where disabilities rights have been constantly under attack due to budget cuts and slashing support services, it is important that students with disabilities come together to organise and advocate for ourselves.

As UMSU Disabilities OBs, we (Hien Nguyen and Jacinta Dowe) would like to go to the conference to represent the population of students with disabilities at the University of Melbourne which include both of us. However we are both unable to go without financial assistance. The costs for attending the conference are:

With Accommodation: \$76-167

We need to get accommodations for Friday and Saturday nights because 1) the conference starts at 9 AM on Saturday and 2) traveling to Monash Clayton campus using public transport during weekend takes up to 2 hours and 7 minutes from Hien’s place, and up to 2 hours and 16 minutes from Jacinta’s place.

We understand that the official UMSU Student Travel and Conference Attendance policy states that “accommodation subsidies for a travel event or conference entirely held in metropolitan Melbourne with activity (formal or informal) occurring entirely within business hours, unless that is part of a set conference registration fee.” are non-allowable expenses.

However 1) the conference is outside of the 9-5 Monday-Friday business hours and 2) our disabilities make it very difficult to use public transport before 11 AM and for long distance, so we want to keep the number of trips taken to a minimum and travel to Monash Clayton campus on Friday night instead of Saturday morning, and stay in Clayton for Saturday night instead of travelling home and travelling back on Sunday morning.

We will each provide a report on the conference for the Disabilities Committee within one month after the conference ends.

Motion: To pass up to \$246 from the Disabilities Department’s budget line ‘Grants’ for Hien Nguyen and Jacinta Dowe to attend the NUS Disability and Accessibility Conference (2 tickets including accommodations for 2 nights).”

- We are communicating with CAPS and SEDS to improve services to students.
- We are organizing to run events for invisible illness week.

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

- AUSLAN classes are now running, with both Level 1 & 2 classes reaching full registration.
- We ran Sex and Disabilities in Week 4 and #SuckItAbleism in Week 5.

**Budget Expenditure**

<b>Meeting Number</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Amount Passed</b>	<b>Budget Line</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1	21/12/2017	Catering for Disability Collective	Up to \$50 a week	Collective	
1	21/12/2017	Catering for Anxiety Support Group	Up to \$50 a week	Collective	
9	10/08/2018	Catering and AV for Sex and Disabilities	Up to \$300	Special Projects and Events	

Hien moved to adopt OB Reports. All in favour.

**6. Other Reports**

None.

**7. Motions on Notice**

None.

**8. Motions Without Notice**

None.

**9. Other Business**

9.1 Campaign Week

Due to the need for OB's to take leave in order to campaign, Hien and I will both be absent from our positions during campaign week (3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September). Events and Collectives will not be running during this period.

This minute was overdue and should not have been included in agenda. It was therefore not discussed.

9.2 Invisible Illness Week

We will be running events for Invisible Illness Week. We are planning on contacting the Chronic Illness Alliance to send speakers. Recent presentations they have done include topics like:

- ‘Working Together to Improve Health Outcomes of Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the Community’ with speeches by Sahema Saberi on ‘Understanding of mental health in young Hazara refugees and asylum seekers in the south east of Melbourne’, and Amelia Tauoqooqo on ‘Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees in community health.’
- “Changes in Regulations for Opioids: Helping People with Chronic and Persistent Pain” by Julius Ting, Marina Hanna, and Lea Kewish

- “the Value of the Basic Income Guarantee for health and welfare” by Tim Woodruff.

We would be interested to hear what our committee thinks of these potential topics, and if they have any other ideas for presentations.

**Discussion:**

Hien noted that we have at this point heard back from the Chronic Illness Alliance and they are unable to join us. They have reached out to In Sickness and in Stealth, who have agreed to do a call out for potential speakers.

Hien asked for any ideas from committee on events/speakers. Danielle asked if committee were required to answer right away, or if they would be able to email the office bearers ideas later. Hien agreed to being emailed but asked that any suggestions arrive at least two weeks prior to Invisible Illness Week.

The office bearers want to pay speakers a minimum of \$200 for an hour. This was met with general agreement. Hien also noted that there is plenty of money left in the budget line for speakers. Danielle asked how much was left, the answer was at least \$4000, likely more.

There will be an official motion to pass this money in a later meeting.

**10. Next Meeting**

21<sup>st</sup> September, 5pm, OB space.

Hien proposed to amend the next meeting time to 5<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm, OB space. All in agreement.

**11. Close**

Meeting closed at 5:30pm.